



ARASWF

Newsletter



March 1999 - Vol.XV no.3

The Journal of The Amateur Radio Association of Southwest Florida

Club Repeater – 146.67 (K4YHB) Club Packet Cluster Node – 145.070 (N1DL) Club Chat Node – 144.970 (CHAT)

Club Home Page – <http://www.naplesfl.net/~araswf> - or - <http://www.naples.net/clubs/amradio>

News Letter to go e-mail

Following a through discussion at the February meeting of the ARASWF, the membership voted to distribute the news letter monthly by e-mail to all members that have suitable e-mail accounts and to print only enough hard copies necessary to distribute to members without the computer capability and for those complimentary copies to other editors and ARRL representatives. This will begin with the April issue.

The news letter is the single largest expenditure in the club budget. In its present format the newsletter costs the club about \$70.00 each month with the larger portion for the postage. The present format limits the kind and amount of information that may be presented to the membership each month. As editor, with concurrence of the officers, the following types of material has had the priority for each issue. (1). The current club status as reported by the club president. (2). Club activities and meeting program topics with comment by the vice president. (3). Meeting minutes and financial reports for the past month by the secretary/treasurer. (4) EOC/ RACES reports and activities by the county EOC/RACES coordinator. (5). Active Committee reports. (6). An Event Schedule and Want Ads by members.

Space permitting additional timely material of general interest has been included when the item would fit in the space available without having to add additional pages or press costs.

If the number of hard copies to be printed each month is small relative to the total number of copies to be distributed then the expansion of each issue to six or eight pages be comes feasible and practical. The postage cost for the eight is the same as it is for four pages. The additional space could be used to support a column on contesting, a column on DX, a technical column, a column on digital modes, etc. It would also allow the publication of endeavors of our membership on event summaries, nostalgia, building projects, operating skills and habits, etc.

How many hard copies will we have to print? At this point we don't know. We need everyone the has an e-mail address to sent two email messages, one each to the following address - Gary Randall - 'kd4vrz@arr.net' , and Bill Reynolds - 'nfn06232@naples.net' . This is necessary to allow us to build an electronic address data base for the club membership which will be complete and which is up to date. With this information then we can determine the number that can be mailed as pdf attachments to e-mail; the number which would have to be converted to plain text without pictures or graphics for e-mail to the members whose e-mail service does not permit attachments; and the number of hard copies that would have to be printed and mailed snail mail. The electronic distribution of the newsletter can not be accomplished without this information. If the distribution of the numbers is such that not is not practical at this time, then the newsletter publication policy will have to be re-addressed in a future club business meeting. Therefore, **e-mail Gary** and **e-mail Bill ASAP!!!!**

The President's Comment:

I just got done working the ARRL DX contest. I had a lot of fun but was disappointed with my results. I wasted a couple of hours Sunday on 15 meters calling CQ with poor results. I later found out that there had been a solar flare. Lesson learned. If you are going to contest watch the WWV solar numbers! A group of us is getting together to work the CQ WPX contests as a multi multi the last weekend of the month at my house. We have work to prepare for this effort. I currently plan to change out my TH5 beam with a TH7 and set up the tower trailers and beams on Sunday, March 21st. We will need a crew here to get all the work done. Food and refreshments will be supplied. Anyone interested in helping prepare for the contest effort or in working the contest please contact of me. We need operators and a preparation crew. We hope to post an impressive score. Maybe show those Big guns in the Northeast a thing or two. Hi Hi. 73 de Martin

EOC/RACES News:

Public Safety Advisories via Email...Hurricane in April?

As we move into severe weather season, then hurricane season, the ability to get timely weather warnings becomes ever more critical. We can surf the net, we have NOAA Weather Radio now (162.525, remember!), and now we have CollierEMAlert. For years, Emergency Management has sent Public Safety Advisories via blast fax to public safety and local government agencies, the media, hospitals, nursing homes, mobile home parks, large businesses and the like. Now the same information is available via email. All you have to do is subscribe!

CollierEMAlert is a listserver. You subscribe, we send the email when necessary. This is an "announce only" list, meaning subscribers (and spammers!) cannot send mail to the list members. The only messages you will receive from the list will be from the EOC.

To subscribe, simply go to the EM Website at <http://www.collierem.org/> and click on the link to CollierEMAlert, near the top of the page. Follow the instructions on the screens that follow, and the information will begin to flow. Don't expect us to overflow your inbox: we've only sent a dozen or so in the past three months. If weather is bad, or something else is happening that needs to be known, you'll get it, within 2-3 minutes of issuance if you're on line!

We know south Florida will be impacted by a hurricane in April of this year, unless some other disaster causes it to be cancelled. Cancel a hurricane? Sure...if it's the annual Florida Statewide Hurricane Exercise. For the fourth straight year, southwest Florida will take the worst of the exercise storm. Pre-landfall events will actually be exercised in April, with post storm recovery events exercised in May.

An estimated 40,000-50,000 staff and volunteers in all walks of life participate in the exercise statewide, from ARES/RACES volunteers to the Florida Division of Emergency Management, FEMA and all 67 counties. This year's track is similar to last year's 'Georges' event, except that the exercise turns the storm toward the northeast and into Florida.

Over the next couple of months we'll be developing our local plans for the exercise, and will work on our amateur radio participation plans at our monthly meetings on March 9 and April 13.

Dinner Meeting Notes:

Dinner Meeting Anniversary.

Five years ago in March 1994, we held our first Dinner meeting in the Pacific 41 Restaurant. Since then we have never missed a Month without the Dinner meeting. We never had to complain about the food, or for the accommodations, or the service, or the price for the dinners.

We have also celebrated five Xmas parties in this Restaurant.

On March 3, 1999, we had 36 OM's and XYL's attending the Dinner.

The Hams from Illinois, gathered themselves around their friends from Illinois, and the conversation seemed to be endless. (I wonder what they were talking about?)

Birthdays were announced and recognized were;

N4GHN Wayne. - XYL from WA8LPQ, Isidora. - W4VQE Myron. - XYL from AA1KI, Ruth. -

Wedding anniversary from K2VMD Paul and Fran Guenther Mohr for more than 54 years togetherness, was announced and recognized by the group.

After a major problem with the Airline, K4FA Matt and Evelyn, were able to welcome there Daughter and son in law from Ohio.

The next Dinner Meeting will be on April 7, 1999, its always on the first Wednesday in the month. For reservations, please call me at: 598-1353. TNX to all that attended.

73 de Sigi

From the Secretary/ Treasurer:

Minutes of Meeting, 23 February 1999

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM by President Martin Pelt, AD4TR. Club Officers and all attendees were introduced. Sign in Sheet is attached to these minutes of all attending members.

The Following Officers or Officials were present:

President Martin Pelt, AD4TR

Secretary/Treasure Gary Randall, KD4VRZ

Field Day Chairman Jordan Mash, WB2QLP

Newsletter Editor, W Reynolds, K2ZEL

The Secretary/Treasure verified that a quorum was present and that the Officers present were qualified.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING: Motion was made that the minutes, having been reviewed be accepted as published. Seconded and unanimously approved.

TREASURE'S REPORT: The ARA of SWF account is held by the SunTrust Bank of Naples. Attached to these minutes is the current P & L report ending Jan.1999. Below is a brief report of our current balance.

Beginning Balance	\$576.22
Expenses	\$297.75
Income	\$326.00
Current Balance	\$604.47

Dues Status:

Unpaid: 13 (\$325.00)

Past Due More than 30 days: 5

Motion was made and seconded to accept the Treasure's Report. Unanimously approved.

Membership Status:

Current Members: 120

Paid up Members: 103

Life Members: 3

Unknown Status: 9

NEW BUSINESS:

1.) Mr. President introduced the idea to email the Club Newsletter to all those who have an email address to reduce the cost to the club on publishing the Newsletter, which at the moment is over sixty percent of the yearly budget. The motion was brought to the floor by Fred KF4MJJ and Seconded by KE4KTZ. The Motion was voted on and passed with no dissention. This will be a gradual progression, next month will be a normal Newsletter, and April will be the first electronic mailing.

2.) The Club thanked Glenn Neisen KE4KTZ for his work on the new format for the Club Webpage.

3.) Two new committees were formed.

Technical Committee to find new projects for the club to increase the performance of club held assets (Repeater, N1DL, etc.) Chairman is Mark Fadden WA1QDP and Bill Stearns

Program Committee, Chairman is the VP and Bill Reynolds K2ZEL to assist. This committee will be looking to members to provide our monthly programs on subjects of interest.

4.) The Inventory of club held assets is not up to date and this should be corrected soon. Bill Sterns and Martin Pelt will bring this up to date and forward a copy to the Club Secretary and the Technical Chairman.

Al VE3PAW presented a program on stealth or condo antennae. This was very informative. Al also donated a CD-ROM and Sound Card to the club that was raffled off and won by Jordan Mash WB2QLP.

President is looking for Contesters to participate in the CQ WPX the 27th and 28th of March, please contact Martin AD4TR.

The 50/50 draw was won by Dick Pettijohn W0MIA \$14.00 to him and the Club.

The meeting was adjourned by President Martin Pelt, AD4TR at 8:30 PM.

President Martin Pelt reminded the members that the next meeting of the Amateur Radio Association of Southwest Florida would be held at 7:30 PM on March 23, 1999.

Respectfully submitted,

Gary Randall, KD4VRZ

For Sale, Trade, Wanted

Wanted: a 15" or 17" SVGA Monitor by Gary Randall - KDE4VRZ

For Sale: one HP660C Hewlett Packard Laser Jet Printer - \$100.00 - KD4VRZ, Gary Randall

Announcements

Club Meeting - 7:30 pm 23 March, 1999 at the Shepherd of the Glades Church on Rattlesnake Hammock Road, Naples, FL

CQ - WPX Contest -28 & 29 March, 1999 - Group from club working from the QTH of AD4TR
Drop in and encourage the crowd. Bring your own SW

Dinner Meeting - 6:30 pm, 7 April, 1999 - Call Sigi at 598 -1353 for reservations

Club Meeting - 7:30 pm, 27 April, 1999 at Shepherd of The Glades Church

e-mail Gary at kd4vrz@arr.net

and

e-mail Bill at nfn06232@naples.net

to update the mailing address list!!!!!!

Amateur Radio Association of Southwest Florida
P.O. Box 990146, Naples, FL 34116
Published Monthly

President

AD4TR - Martin Pelt

Vice President

KE4JZT - A. D. Randolph

Secretary/ Treasurer

KD4VRZ - Gary Randall

Past President

KE4RGH - Bill Sterns

Repeater Trustee

WB2QLP - Jordan Mash

DX Packet Cluster Node

KD4VRZ - Gary Randall

Webmaster

KE4KTZ - Glenn Niesen

Newsletter Editor

K2ZEL - Bill Reynolds

Training Committee

AD4TR - Martin Pelt, chm.

TO: