



ARASWF

Newsletter



Vol. MMXV No. 2 - The Journal of the Amateur Radio Association of Southwest Florida
February 15, 2015

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Upcoming Events

**The next Club Meeting will be held February 24th 2015 at 7:00pm
at the Red Cross - 2610 Northbrooke Plaza Drive Naples, FL**

Nickels & Dimes

K1N Navassa has finally gone QRT with 138,409 Q's in the log. Hopefully, you made it through all the QRN, bad operators, and sometimes deliberate QRM. Although not a particularly difficult island to work, just a chip shot away (690 miles); it will be at least 10 years before you can work this one again.

Here on the home front we have been working to improve the WB2QLP repeater. The duplexers have been retuned and the range and signal quality improved. However, the new AllStar system continues to be problematic. The root cause is our available (free) Internet connection. We do not have access to the router to open the necessary ports and make both AllStar & Echolink happy. Therefore, we have established a VPN tunnel back to AG0X's QTH. While we can establish a connection to the repeater site, AllStar seems to stubbornly resist entering the tunnel due to some 'phobia' not yet diagnosed. Plan B involves setting up a Proxy server at AG0X's business QTH. Hopefully, this will abate any fears AllStar may still have, and everyone will be happy.

This project, like many others in life, is a 'learn by doing experience'. This is the essence of Amateur Radio. If we never made mistakes, we would not move the hobby forward. For example, Thomas Edison's teachers said he was "too stupid to learn anything." He was fired from his first two jobs for being "non-productive." As an inventor, Edison made 1,000 unsuccessful attempts at inventing the light bulb. When a reporter once asked, "How did it feel to fail 1,000 times?" Edison replied, "I didn't fail 1,000 times...the light bulb was an invention requiring 1,000 steps."

I encourage everyone to try something new. We have quite a few new activities planned for Club members. There are many special interest groups and weekend workshops in the works: SDR, Fldigi, remote ham radio, and antenna workshops to name a few.... Get involved and make a few mistakes!

Next up, is our annual Oil Well Outing schedule for this Saturday, February 21. Rich-KK4IOY is leading this year's event and promises a good time to all who attend. If you missed Orlando, this is your chance to catch up with the members who did make the trip and get the latest news. Details are included later in the Newsletter.

To fully appreciate what we are doing, please plan to attend a Club meeting. This month we will Dr. Al Torres-KP4AQI give a presentation about antenna construction. Dr. Al hails from Dayton, OH and was a Past President of the Dayton Amateur Radio Association (DARA). I am sure you will find his program very interesting and informative.

Hope to see you all soon!

Ken-W9KB
ARASWF Secretary/Treasurer

Amateur Radio Association of Southwest Florida

**Executive Board Meeting held at Apollo, Naples, FL
Monday, January 19, 2015**

Present: Uli Altvater, AG0X – President
Ken Bills, W9KB – Secretary/Treasurer
Dave Ducett, WB8VQU – Director
Gary Lee, K8YMN – Director
Larry Kielasa, KC8JCB – Director

Absent: Eric Gissendaner, KF4IXA – Vice President
Mark Harms, AC4ZM – Director

MEETING MINUTES

Meeting called to order: The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm.

President's Report – Uli-AG0X welcomed the Board and gave a brief update.

Treasurer's Report – Ken-W9KB reported that the Club checking account has a current balance of \$5,041.88. The beginning 2015 balance of \$4,753.13 was \$217.81 better than year 2014, indicating a balanced budget for 2014. W9KB also proposed a balanced budget for 2015 which was accepted by the Board.

Old Business: Uli-AG0X indicated there are ongoing Echolink issues with the WB2QLP repeater. Gary-K8YMN reported he has an AllStar server ready for installation, which will resolve the Echolink audio issues. A work party will address this issue and others later this month.

Ken-W9KB gave a brief update on the EmComm activities last weekend at the Naples Daily News Half Marathon. Ed-K1UQU had a team of eight manning the various check points around the course. 2400 plus runners attended this year and the team's presence around the course was noticed and appreciated. Kudo's for Ed and his team!

VE Testing – W9KB reported that testing will resume in 2015 prior our regular membership meeting. Our Club gained 22 new members through the VE program last year and we hope continue the trend this year.

New Business: The Board reviewed the Club members feedback gathered at the November meeting. The intention is use that list to better align our meeting presentations and weekend workshops. Uli-AG0X suggested we put the list into a spreadsheet format and have the members sign-up for different areas at the next meeting.

Oil Well – Ken reported that Rich-K4AOR has tentatively scheduled this event for February 21st. Details will be forthcoming and presented at the next membership meeting.

The next Board meeting was set for February 16th at 7:00pm (AG0X's business QTH).

The Board discussed at set the agenda for the next membership meeting.

Specific assignments that were taken out of the meeting:

- AG0X – Fabricate 25 pin connector cable assembly
- K8YMN – Test & verify AllStar computer setup
- W9KB – Develop membership interest spreadsheet

Next Board Meeting – February 16th 7:00pm at Apollo.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Ken Bills, W9KB
Secretary

Amateur Radio Association of Southwest Florida

Regular Membership Meeting held at the Naples American Red Cross.
Tuesday, January 27, 2015

Officers and	Uli Altvater, AG0X – President
Directors present:	Ken Bills, W9KB – Secretary/Treasurer
	Mark Harms, AC4ZM – Director
	Gary Lee, K8YMN – Director
	Larry Kielasa, KC8JCB - Director
	Dave Ducett, WB8VQU – Director

Absent: Eric Gissendaner, KF4IXA – Vice President

Meeting called to order: at 7:00 p.m. by president Uli-AG0X, the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Introduction: All attendees were introduced by name and call sign, also an attendance sheet was passed for all to sign-in. 30 members were in attendance and one guest Egon-DK8FZ. Egon plans on eventually making the Naples his full time residence.

Treasurer's Report: Ken-W9KB reported that Club checking balance was \$5,041.88 including \$350 in dues receipts for the month. About 60% of our members have renewed (including eight at this meeting).

Old Business: Uli-AG0X reported that he will lead a work group at the Marbella site this weekend. Improvements and a new gateway computer with Echolink & Allstar will be installed.

Ed-K1UQE reported that the EmComm group participated in the Naples Daily News Marathon. Several members including AA4GT, AC4ZM, KA1JVN & KU1Q, KD4JMV, K\$AOR, W1ERE, and W9KB all were involved in the exercise. All went well and the weather was significantly better than last's year event.

Mark-AC4ZM reported that the Winter Field Day group made 218 contacts with 27 multipliers. The exchange passed out was the outside temperature. A low of -13F was received from Michigan and local area operators reported 68F here in Collier County.

AC4ZM also reported that (5) candidates tested before the meeting at the VE session. Four were successful, including one candidate who passed all three elements to become an Extra class.

New Business: Uli-AG0X discussed the summary of the member's interest as discussed and recorded at the last (November) meeting. A few new special interest groups will be added this year, including:

- Microcontrollers – WB8VQU & K2ZEL
- Remote Radio Station – AG0X & W9KB
- Fldigi – AC4ZM
- Antenna Workshop – KP4AQI

Other groups may be formed if any member wishes to lead a group.

Orlando HamCation (February 13-15th) was mentioned. If you plan to attend, rooms are getting hard to find.

Rich-K4AOR reported that the annual Oil Well Park Outing will be scheduled for Saturday February 21st. He encouraged all members and families to attend. Hot dogs and hamburgers are the fare. Members can bring their own rigs and portable antenna as well. Details and a map will be included in The January ARASWF Newsletter.

50/50 Raffle (\$63) was won by Dr. Al – KP4QAI which he graciously donated back to the club.

Presentation: Dr. Al Torres-KP4QAI discussed the mystery of VSWR and importance of having good antenna system efficiency, rather than a low SWR. He debunked the many myths and 'traps' that some operators have held regarding this misunderstood subject. Dr. Al certainly held the groups attention and we all had a better understanding of the subject when he concluded his very information and humorous presentation. If you were unable to attend this month's meeting and missed Dr. Al - he will be back next month to discuss more about antennas, including a hands-on building project.

Adjourn: Motion to adjourn meeting at 9:02 p.m. made and seconded. Motion passed by all present.

Respectfully submitted,
Ken-W9KB, Secretary

Contest Calendar

February 2015

CQ WW RTTY WPX Contest	0000Z, Feb 14 to 2400Z, Feb 15
+ SARL Field Day Contest	1000Z, Feb 14 to 1000Z, Feb 15
Asia-Pacific Spring Sprint, CW	1100Z-1300Z, Feb 14
+ Dutch PACC Contest	1200Z, Feb 14 to 1200Z, Feb 15
New Hampshire QSO Party	1600Z, Feb 14 to 2200Z, Feb 15
+ FISTS Winter Unlimited Sprint	1700Z-2100Z, Feb 14
Run for the Bacon QRP Contest	0200Z-0400Z, Feb 16
+ AGCW Semi-Automatic Key Evening	1900Z-2030Z, Feb 18
ARRL Inter. DX Contest, CW	0000Z, Feb 21 to 2400Z, Feb 22
+ REF Contest, SSB	0600Z, Feb 21 to 1800Z, Feb 22
High Speed Club CW Contest	0900Z-1700Z, Feb 22
+ SKCC Sprint	0000Z-0200Z, Feb 25
CWops Mini-CWT Test	1300Z, Feb 25 to 0400Z, Feb 26
+ CQ 160-Meter Contest, SSB	2200Z, Feb 27 to 2159Z, Mar 1
UBA DX Contest, CW	1300Z, Feb 28 to 1300Z, Mar 1
+ North American QSO Party, RTTY	1800Z, Feb 28 to 0600Z, Mar 1

March 2015

SARL Hamnet 40m Simulated Emerg Contest	1200Z-1400Z, Mar 1
+ AGCW YL-CW Party	1900Z-2100Z, Mar 3
ARRL Inter. DX Contest, SSB	0000Z, Mar 7 to 2400Z, Mar 8
+ Wake-Up! QRP Sprint	0600Z-0800Z, Mar 7
SKCC Weekend Sprintathon	1200Z, Mar 7 to 2359Z, Mar 8
+ DARC 10-Meter Digital Contest	1100Z-1700Z, Mar 8
CWops Mini-CWT Test	1300Z, Mar 11 to 0400Z, Mar 12
+ AGCW QRP Contest	1400Z-2000Z, Mar 14
EA PSK63 Contest	1600Z, Mar 14 to 1600Z, Mar 15
+ Idaho QSO Party	1900Z, Mar 14 to 1900Z, Mar 15
North American Sprint, RTTY	0000Z-0400Z, Mar 15
+ Wisconsin QSO Party	1800Z, Mar 15 to 0100Z, Mar 16
Run for the Bacon QRP Contest	0100Z-0300Z, Mar 16
+ SARL VHF/UHF Analogue/Digital Contest	1600Z, Mar 20 to 1000Z, Mar 22
BARTG HF RTTY Contest	0200Z, Mar 21 to 0200Z, Mar 23
+ Russian DX Contest	1200Z, Mar 21 to 1200Z, Mar 22
SKCC Sprint	0000Z-0200Z, Mar 25
+ CWops Mini-CWT Test	1300Z, Mar 25 to 0400Z, Mar 26
CQ WW WPX Contest, SSB	0000Z, Mar 28 to 2400Z, Mar 29



NEW MEMBER ALERT

Please welcome our recently minted members

Lee L Elmore - KM4HPS Technician

Jonathan W Riger - KW4FN Extra

Please welcome new upgrdes

James G Bova - KM4DIL General

John D Gill - K4JDG Extra

**Amateur License Exams
Monthly, 4th Tuesday, 5:30 pm
No December Exam**

**American Red Cross
2610 Northbrooke Plaza Drive
Naples, FL**

**Mark Harms
AC4ZM@ARASWF.ORG**



DIGITALLY SCHOOLED SESSION

March 07, 2015 from 12 noon till 2:00 pm

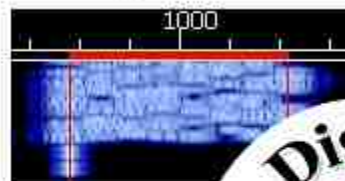
Line up: Naming conventions, Macro Mania, and Form Messages

This is an invitation to join us in a Digital Round Table Practice. Bring a laptop computer with speaker and mic or just a headset with mic, and Fldigi software loaded. WiFi available for downloading

COST IS FREE AND OPEN TO ALL !
LEARN DIGITAL COMMUNICATON !

Meetings Location:

American Red Cross
2610 Northbrooke Drive
Naples, FL 34119



Saturday
Mar. 07, 2015
12 noon - 2 pm

Digitally



Collier County
A.R.E.S.

Schooled

DOWNLOAD YOUR FREE COPY OF FLDIGI AND FLMSG FROM

<http://www.w1hkj.com/download.html>

Most Recent: Fldigi-3.22.05 and Flmsg-2.0.7



Meetings Location

Collier County Emergency Management
8075 Lely Cultural Parkway
Naples, FL 34113

Fourth Thursday of each month at 2:00 pm

This month's meeting is February 26, 2015

Nets every Thursday at 8:00 pm on 146.670 -600 offset, 136.5 tone

Digital practice follows the regular 8:00pm voice net every Thursday on the Club Repeater 146.670 -600 Offset 136.5 Tone

One need not be a member, all are welcome !

**Thank you
AC4ZM Mark**

Naples Daily News Half Marathon 2015 Wrap-Up

Setup time for this event is 6:00 AM and the biggest plus this year was the temperature was 20 degrees warmer than last year. 57 degrees feel a whole lot better than 37 degrees any day.

All operators were to check in at 6:15 AM to the NCS location in front of the Naples City Hall on the corner of 7TH avenue and 8th Street and were all prompt. There were 6 checkpoints or water stations along the route and all were manned by either one or two operators. A talk in frequency using the club repeater on 146.67 MHz was used initially and during the actual run the simplex frequency of 146.40 MHz was used. Communications were good over the entire 13.8 mile course.

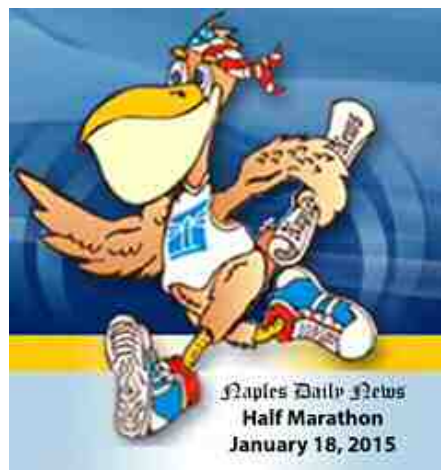
Special thanks go to Henrietta, KA1JVN, who assisted me at the NCS station, Mark, AC4ZM, and Larry, KC8JCB at check point 1; George, AA4GT, and Rich, K4AOR, at check point 2; Harry, KD4JMV, and Bob, WA1IDA, at check point 3; Irv, W1ERE at check point 4/6; Walt, KU1Q, at check point 5 and Ken, W9KB, who acted as our liaison or rover between us and the run organizers.

The run was well attended and consisted of over 2,700 runners of all ages.

The lead runner finished in 1 hour and 3 minutes and except for a very few, all were off the road by the official end time of 10:00 AM.

We received a hearty thank you from the organizers and looks like we will be invited back once again.

Respectfully,
Ed Esborn, K1UQE
EC Collier County



VSWR: Why It Does Not Mean As Much As You Think

By Dr. Al Torres, KP4AQI

Most hams are obsessed with the Voltage Standing Wave Ratio (VSWR) of their antennas. It drives them crazy not having a very good VSWR. So let us take a look at the VSWR concept. In order for proper radiation from an antenna, two essential items must take place. You must feed the antenna with RF Power and then the RF Power must be transferred to free space. How good you transfer the RF Power to the antenna is what we call VSWR; how well the antenna transfers the RF Power to free space we call Antenna Efficiency. So let us first address VSWR. What is a good VSWR? Is 2:1 good enough? Most hams will say no. They want a number better than 2:1. So how much "RF power" have we transferred with a VSWR of 2:1? The power transferred is shown by Table 1.

Table 1: VSWR vs Power Transfer Percentage

VSWR	POWER TRANSFER (%)
1.0:1	100
1.25:1	99
1.5:1	96
1.75:1	93
2.0:1	89
2.25:1	85
2.50:1	82
2.75:1	78
3.0:1	75

A 2:1 VSWR is approximately 89% (not bad); even at 3:1 we are transferring approximately 75% of the transmitter power. If you do not want 2:1 how about 1.5:1 which is approximately 96% power transfer. Unfortunately, VSWR is also dependent on the antenna frequency bandwidth so it is not going to be same for all the frequencies over the antenna frequency domain. Even broadband antennas have a small VSWR variability.

The second area of consideration is "antenna efficiency". Antenna Efficiency is for most hams very hard to measure or estimate. A very simple way for measuring antenna efficiency is to use the "Wheeler Cap" method, which I have used many times. The explanation of the Wheeler Cap method is outside the scope of this article but it can be best summarized by saying that you want to have the higher radiation resistance with the lowest ohmic resistance. High ohmic resistance makes the antenna very inefficient while high radiation resistance makes the antenna very efficient. Antennas made from good low loss materials (like Copper) are more efficient than antennas made from

Aluminum. Antennas with traps are less efficient than antennas with no traps. Some examples of antenna efficiency are shown by Table 2:

Table 2: Typical Antennas and Antenna Efficiency

Antenna Type	Efficiency
Monopole: Copper Wire	93%
Dipole: Copper Wire	92%
Most Antennas: Aluminum	50-60%
Rubber Ducks:	15-20%
Dummy Load:	1%

So if you have a $\frac{1}{4}$ wave 2 meters monopole made from Copper with a VSWR of 2:1, and then you have a Rubber Duck antenna with a VSWR of 1.5:1, and finally you have a Dummy Load with a VSWR of 1.0:1, which do you think will perform the best? The 2 meters $\frac{1}{4}$ wave is 93% efficient x VSWR of 2:1 (89%) which gives you a total efficiency of 83%. The Rubber Duck is 20% efficient x a VSWR of 1.5:1 (96%) for a total efficiency of 19%. The Dummy Load is 1% efficient x a VSWR of 1.0:1 (100%) for a total efficiency of 1%. So the conclusion here is that VSWR does not mean as much as you think; you must take into account the radiation efficiency of the antenna in addition to the VSWR uniquely. ***A word of caution: the lowest VSWR will not produce the best antenna performance; the optimum value is very close to the lowest VSWR. You can determine this value by using a field strength meter for peak radiation value while adjusting the VSWR with a matching unit. It will not be the lowest VSWR!***

So start with a good efficient antenna (Copper material or Silver if you can afford it). Eliminate lossy components (baluns, right angle connectors e.g. elbows, etc.); select the best performing feedline, adjust the antenna for a low VSWR but not the lowest and measure the performance with a field strength meter. **Now, declare victory!**



ARASWF Annual Oil Well Park Outing



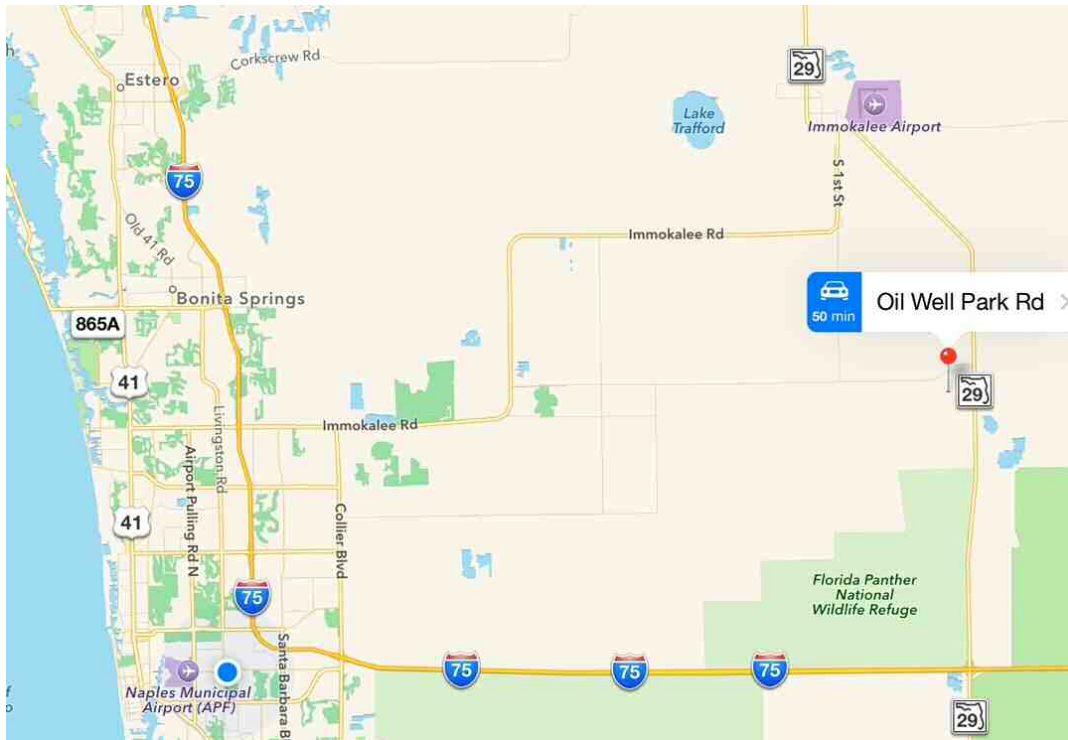
Where: Oil Well Park (see attached map)

When: February 21st this Saturday morning, setup starts at 9:00am.
We will operate until mid-afternoon or longer depending upon propagation... it's ARRL DX Contest Weekend, plenty of activity!

Why: To enjoy Ham Radio, friends, and hot dogs at a special historical place in south Florida. Plan to attend and enjoy good times

Oil Well Park Maps

North



North





Collier County Emergency Management Department

FREE SKYWARN Spotter Certification

FREE Spotter certification & refresher training is being offered in Collier County:

The National Weather Service Miami will provide FREE Skywarn certification training **Saturday, March 7th, 2015**, at **South Regional Library, 8065 Lely Cultural Parkway, Naples 34113**. Training will be presented by a meteorologist from the Miami National Weather Service (NWS) Office. **Skywarn storm spotters are the "eyes in the field" for the National Weather Service.**

The Skywarn Certification training is straightforward...and fun. The class will **begin at 10 am and conclude about 2 pm with breaks during the day.** (NOTE: As there will be no formal lunch break, please bring snacks should you require some nourishment.) The training includes information and the reporting criteria necessary to report hazardous weather development and/or conditions to the Miami weather forecast office. This class is designed to provide a deeper understanding of hazardous weather in South Florida by providing meteorological tools necessary to help you evaluate the hazardous weather environment developing. Some of the subjects include thunderstorm classifications, tornadic thunderstorm schematic, and optimum Severe Weather locations within storm cells.

FAQs...

What is the Skywarn Spotter Program?

The Skywarn spotter program is a nationwide network of volunteers trained by the National Weather Service (NWS) to report significant weather. Anyone is welcome to participate.

Who can attend?

Anyone at least 18 years old can be a certified weather spotter.

Why Skywarn?

The NWS's mission is to **protect lives and property**. When weather conditions are favorable for severe thunderstorms or tornadoes are expected to develop, a severe thunderstorm or tornado WATCH is issued. A Severe Thunderstorm or Tornado WARNING is issued when severe

weather has been reported by a Skywarn spotter or indicated by Doppler radar. Skywarn volunteers become the NWS's and local Emergency Management's eyes and ears, helping to provide better weather watch and warning services.

Who will activate Skywarn?

The NWS and/or the local emergency management authorities may activate the Skywarn net whenever there is a threat of severe weather or the NWS issues a severe thunderstorm or tornado watch.

What about dual area spotter certification?

If you live or work in an area covered by the Tampa weather office, this training will also certify you to report hazardous weather conditions to that office as well.



E-mail your request to register to:
EmergMan@CollierGov.net

Home Page: www.CollierEM.org



Collier Board of County Commissioners

8075 Lely Cultural Parkway, Fourth Floor
Naples, FL 34113

Phone: 239-252-3600

Fax: 239-252-6735

Email: RichardZyvoloski@CollierGov.net



ARRL International DX Contest 2015 CW Event is February 21-22

CW, DXing, and contesting come together and go global February 21-22 for the 2015 ARRL International DX CW contest. This HF contest season has seen incredible high-band conditions and record entry numbers, and as it draws to a close, this is a terrific opportunity to get on the air and get in on the fun. It's the US and Canada working the world in this event.

If you have never operated in a CW contest, the event's short and simple exchange, combined with abundant stations on the air, makes it an ideal opportunity to try something new. Participating in the ARRL DX CW is a fantastic way to hone your CW operating skills and expand your knowledge of HF propagation. DX stations around the world will be looking to work US and Canadian stations, so don't miss this chance to put a "new one" in your log.

Think your station is too small to operate in one of the largest contests of the year? Think again. There are Low Power and QRP categories, and, if the improved solar conditions we saw at the end of 2014 continue, there will be plenty of stations for "Little Pistols" to work. Keep an eye on 10 meters, which can be a great place to find a quiet slice of spectrum to run on low power.

Stations in the US and Canada work only DX stations (Alaska and Hawaii are considered DX for this contest), while DX stations work only the US and Canada. The contest exchange is simple: US and Canadian stations send a signal report and their state or province, while DX stations send a signal report and their power output.

The contest gets under way at 0000 UTC on Saturday, February 21 (the evening of Friday, February 20, in US time zones) and continues through through 2359 UTC on Sunday, February 22, 2015.

Complete rules and forms are on the ARRL website. E-mail electronic logs (Cabrillo format). Mail paper logs to ARRL DX CW Contest, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111. *Logs must be received or postmarked no later than 2359 UTC on Tuesday, March 24, 2015.*



At the top-scoring K3LR MM in 2014, W5OV (L) and K3UA seem to be enjoying themselves working the pileups.



Hamvention Week AuxComm Course Registration Now Open

The Department of Homeland Security's Office of Emergency Communications will offer its Auxiliary Communications (AuxComm) course May 12-14 prior to Hamvention® 2015 in Dayton, Ohio. More than 1000 Amateur Radio operators have completed the course, which trains qualified hams to assist local, county, and state government with emergency backup communication. The AuxComm course covers emergency communication in a public safety



context within the National Incident Management framework. It also introduces the auxiliary communicator to the Communications Unit Leader function. Details and registration requirements are available on the Hamvention website.

Applicants *must* meet all prerequisites and provide documentation to attend this class. The class is limited to 50 qualified students. The intensive 3-day course provides facilitated lectures, student exercises, and interactive discussions.

The AuxComm workshop is designed for auxiliary emergency communicators who volunteer to provide backup emergency radio communication support to public safety and emergency response professionals and their agencies.-- Thanks to Henry Ruminski, W8HJR, Hamvention Media Chair.

May 15-17, 2015



'Gray Radio Gang' Reactivates Vintage Battleship *Iowa* HF Transmitter

It's a massive project on a number of levels, but the so-called "Gray Radio Gang" that's been working to restore some of the vintage US Navy radio gear on board the Battleship *Iowa* (BB-61), docked in Los Angeles, recently fired up one of the vessel's transmitters for the first time in about 25 years. Restoration team member Jim Jerzycke, KQ6EA, recounted on his "Every Blade of Grass" blog how the group was finally able to get 950 W into a dummy antenna from one transmitter on 20 meters.



One of the Battleship *Iowa*'s AN/URT-23(C) transmitters. The exciter is at the top, the PA is in the middle, and the amplifier power supply is on the bottom. [Jim Jerzycke, KQ6EA, photo]

radio gear dating from the 1950s to the 1980s, when most of them served in the Navy. "At 63 years old, I'm one of the 'youngsters' in that group," he added. The team has been trying to get the original receivers, transmitters, RTTY gear, and antennas working again, Jerzycke said. "We are very fortunate in having the guys from the aircraft carrier *Midway* in San Diego and the Battleship *New Jersey* in Camden, New Jersey, who have provided us with technical help, documents, and spare parts."

The AN/URT-23(C) transmitters, he joked, are "built like a battleship," with a pair of 4CX1500Bs in the final and nominally capable of putting out a couple of kilowatts. He noted that once the Gray Radio Gang has confirmed the signal paths for the various shipboard transmitters and receivers, it will be able to put a transmitter/receiver pair in operation for certain special events. "At this time it's unlikely that we will use the original radio equipment for 'routine' Amateur Radio operations, as it's very manpower intensive, requiring at least six people to operate," Jerzycke explained.

"It's an honor and a privilege to be able to work on the *Iowa*, and I enjoy every minute of it!"

"We still have quite a way to go before we attempt to put one [transmitter] on the air, but the results were quite encouraging for at transmitter that was last powered up sometime in 1990," Jerzycke said in his blog. "BB-61 should be on the air later this year with a *big* voice!"

He told ARRL that, once transmitters are deemed operational, they probably would not be used very often on the ham bands. The *Iowa* already has a ham radio station, NI6BB, under the auspices of the Battleship *Iowa* Amateur Radio Association (BIARA), an ARRL-affiliated club. BIARA's president is Doug Dowds, W6HB. NI6BB has more modern gear but makes use of the ship's own antennas.

The BIARA is active from the *Iowa* most Wednesdays and for many national holidays, such as Veterans Day, Pearl Harbor Day, and Memorial Day, and for operating events such as the Museum Ships Weekend and International Lighthouse/Lightship Weekend. The station also has hosted Boy Scouts' Jamboree On The Air (JOTA) groups each fall.

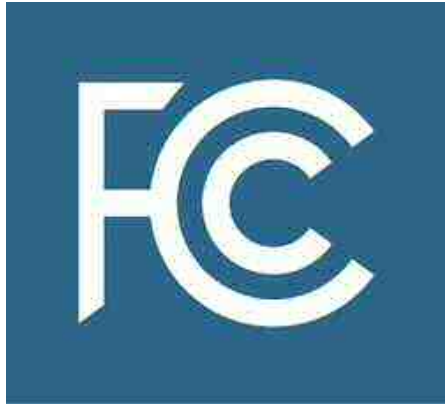
Jerzycke said the Gray Radio Gang is composed of about 10 individuals with experience on various types of US Navy



Arnold Shatz, N6HC, at the helm of the *Iowa*'s NI6BB club station.

FCC Station Inspection Nets Florida CBer a \$3000 Fine

The FCC Enforcement Bureau has imposed a reduced fine of \$3000 on a Florida, CB operator for failing to allow FCC agents inspect his station. The Commission issued Tommie Salter of Jacksonville a *Forfeiture Order* on February 5. Last August the FCC had proposed fining Salter \$14,000 for denying agents from the FCC's Tampa Office permission to check out his station in the wake of renewed complaints of interference to a neighbor's "home electronic equipment." In March 2014, agents monitored radio transmissions on 27.245 MHz and used radio direction-finding techniques to track the signal's source to Salter's residence. The FCC said it agreed to reduce the proposed forfeiture based on Salter's financial circumstances.



"Mr Salter does not deny that he refused to allow the agents to inspect his CB station but alleges he could not stay for the inspection, because he had a doctor's appointment," the FCC *Forfeiture Order* said. The Enforcement Bureau said it was unable to substantiate Salter's appointment claim but said that he could have asked to reschedule the inspection in such a situation. The Bureau concluded that it could "find no reason to reduce the forfeiture based on his alleged appointment."

The FCC said financial documents that Salter provided offered "sufficient basis" to reduce the forfeiture to \$3000. "We have previously rejected inability to pay claims in cases of repeated or otherwise egregious violations," the Commission added. "Therefore, future violations of this kind may result in significantly higher forfeitures that may not be reduced due to Mr Salter's financial circumstances."

The FCC's *Forfeiture Policy Statement* and its rules set a base forfeiture amount of \$7000 for failure to permit inspection. Salter had previously received a *Notice of Violation* for refusing an inspection request in 2004, the *Notice of Apparent Liability for Forfeiture (NAL)* in the case noted, and he also had been fined for operating with a non-certificated transmitter during restricted hours the Commission had imposed following similar interference complaints.



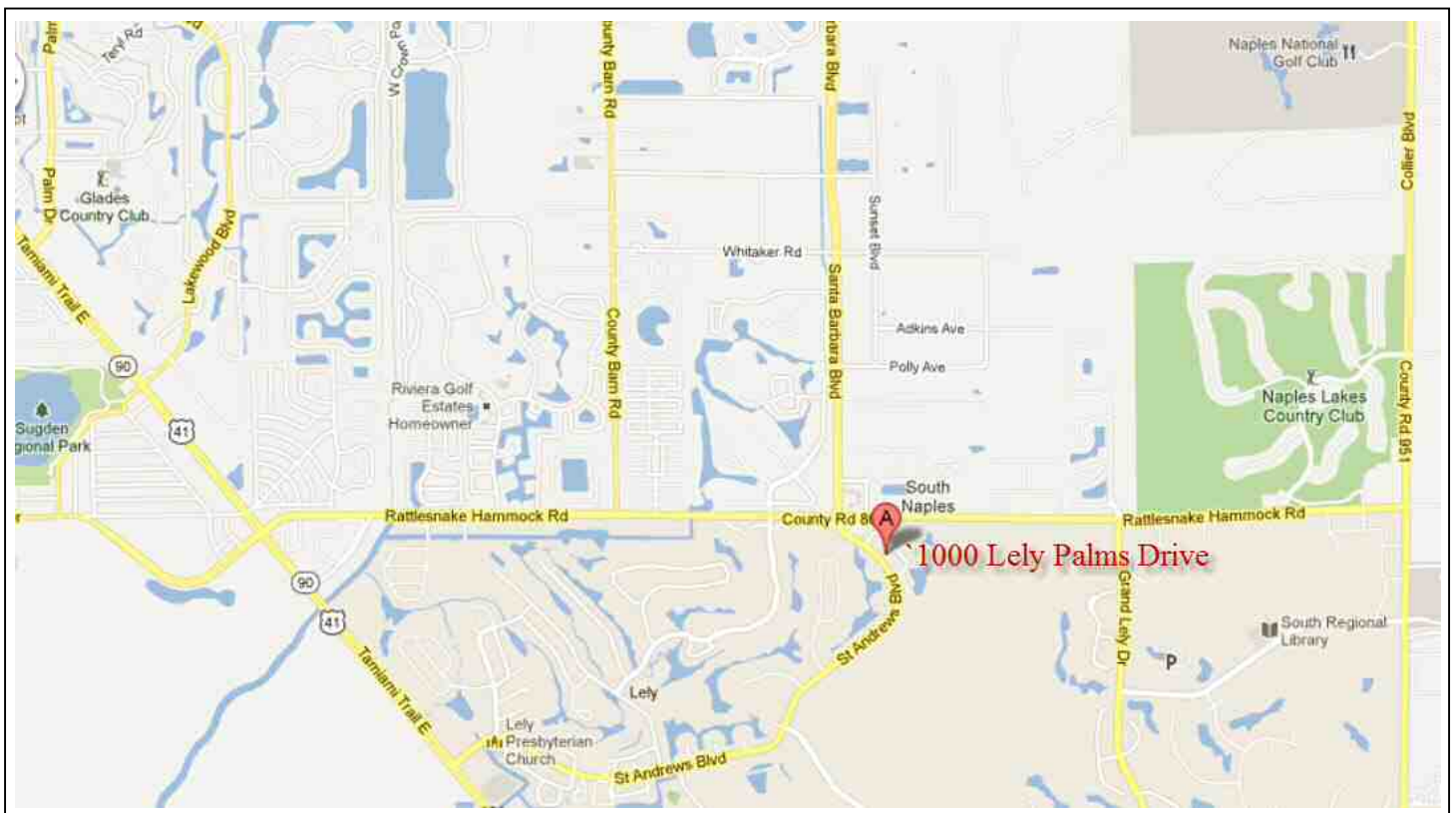


Royal Palm Chapter 152 meets every second Thursday of the month

at the Lely Palms Manor, Next Luncheon Meeting: March 12th at 12:15 pm

1000 Lely Palms Blvd.

Naples, FL 34114



**AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION
OF SOUTHWEST FLORIDA, INC.**

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

I hereby petition the officers and members of the AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHWEST FLORIDA, INC. for membership. I attest that I hold a current FCC issued Amateur Radio License, and that I will follow legal procedures and protocol, and conduct myself in a manner that will further Amateur Radio.

NAME: _____ **CALL:** _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ **STATE:** _____ **ZIP:** _____

PHONE: _____ **EMAIL:** _____

LICENSE CLASS: _____ **ARRL MEMBER:** ☐ YES ☐ NO

HAVE YOU EVER PREVIOUSLY BEEN A MEMBER OF ARASWF ☐ NO ☐ YES - Year _____

SPOUSE'S NAME: _____

SPOUSE'S CALL (If Applicable): _____ **SPOUSE'S LICENSE CLASS:** _____

OUT OF AREA ADDRESS (If Applicable): _____

OUT OF AREA PHONE (If Applicable): _____

This Application must be filed prior to the Membership Business Meeting at which time action will be taken. It is not mandatory that the applicant be in attendance.

The Membership Business Meetings are held the fourth Tuesday of every month at 7:00 PM (except June, July, August and December) at the American Red Cross Building at 2610 Northbrooke Plaza Drive, Naples, Florida.

The ARASWF Newsletter is distributed monthly by e-mail prior to the monthly Membership Business Meeting and contains meeting dates, location and other information, and will be sent to the e-mail address indicated on this Application. If you do not have an e-mail address, the please notify us and request that the Newsletter be sent to you via U.S. Mail.

Please mail this Application with a copy of your Amateur Radio License and a check or money order in the amount of \$25.00 (annual membership dues), to the ARASWF at the address below. Paid membership is valid for one calendar year. If a new member's Application is dated after July 1st, the annual membership dues are one-half the annual dues amount, and a check or money order in the amount of \$12.50 should accompany this application.

Please make checks or money orders payable to "Amateur Radio Assn. of Southwest Florida", or to "ARASWF".

**Amateur Radio Assn. of Southwest Florida
P.O. Box 111604
Naples, FL 34108**



Amateur Radio Emergency Service®

ARES® Registration Form

Name:	
Call Sign:	
Mailing Address:	
City, State, ZIP code:	
e-mail address(es):	
Home phone number:	
Work phone number:	
Cell phone number:	
License Class:	

Check bands and modes that you can operate:

MODE	HF	6 meters	2 meters	222 MHz	440 MHz	Others	
SSB							
CW							
FM							
DATA							
PACKET							
Other modes (specify below)							
Mobile Operation							

Can your home station be operated without commercial power? Yes [] No []

Signature _____ Date _____

Contact ARES® and ARRL Section Leaders in your area: www.arrl.org/sections/.

Learn about ARRL-sponsored Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Courses:

www.arrl.org/online-course-catalog

Club Information

Next Meeting Time: February 24th @ 7:00PM

Meeting Location:
American Red Cross
2610 Northbrooke Plaza Drive
Naples, FL

Club Repeaters:

- ARASWF FM - WB2QLP 146.670 mHz (-600 kHz) PL 136.5 HZ
- ARASWF D-Star – AA4PP 145.490 mHz (-600 kHz)/441.5 mHz (5.0kHz)
- Collier EOC – WB2WPA 147.030 mHz (+600 kHz)

2015 Club Officers Elect:

President: Uli Altvater – AG0X@araswf.org
Vice President: Eric Gissendaner – KF4IXA@gmail.com
Secretary/Treasurer: Ken Bills – W9KB@araswf.org
Director: Dave Ducett – WB8VQU@araswf.org
Director: Mark Harms – AC4ZM@araswf.org
Director: Larry Kielasa – KC8JCB@araswf.org
Director: Gary Lee – K8YMN@araswf.org
Newsletter Editor: Ken Bills – W9KB@araswf.org
Webmaster: Eric Gissendaner – KF4IXA@araswf.org

Club Website:

<http://www.araswf.org>

Visit
the



**Amateur Radio Association
of Southwest Florida, Inc.**

Web Site

www.araswf.org