



ARASWF

Newsletter



Vol. MMXVII No. 11 - The Journal of the Amateur Radio Association of Southwest Florida
November 15, 2017

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- Board Meeting Minutes (No quorum this month)
- October Membership Meeting Minutes
- Upcoming Contest Calendar
- Christmas Party – December 2nd 6pm at Foxfire Country Club

The next Club Meeting will be held November 28th at 7:00pm
at the Red Cross - 2610 Northbrooke Plaza Drive - Naples, FL

Nickels & Dimes

This month evaporated like so many of our summer popcorn rain showers...

With close to 100 inches of rainfall this year (most of it since June), one would have thought flooding would have been a bigger problem. However, it was the hurricane force winds of Irma in September that damaged many of our repeater antennas.

We have repaired the broken 146.670 repeater mast and its coverage is now much better. A new mast and gin pole system for the D-Star & DMR antenna system was fabricated by Larry Kielasa, N4LAK over the summer. It was also transported to the rooftop of Marbella last week and as is now ready for installation. We need a few hands to complete this project. See Larry at the November meeting if you are available.

Repair of the 147.030 repeater antenna will have to wait until we can leverage a tower climber working on one of the county systems.

Club elections are this month... we have a very capable and contented Board this year and not many changes are expected. Frank Halas, W4RBW – this year's nominations chair and will handle any inquiries or questions.

While Thanksgiving dinner is next week, this year's Christmas party is just around the corner... hardly time to recover an appetite! Like a quick contest exchange, doesn't this year's Holiday timing seem a bit compressed?

Christmas Party details are included in this month's ALERT Newsletter and it will be held at Foxfire Country Club December 2nd. It's important to RSVP as soon as possible, since we are just two weeks out on this event.

On an unfortunate note - Dick Pettijohn, W0MIA passed away November 7th. Dick led a very colorful life and was reported 'missing in action' during WWII thus explaining his call sign. He also served as Mr. QCWA calling everyone and taking monthly lunch orders for years. Dick travelled frequently, and his last trip was to Washington DC with the Collier County Honor Flight on October 21st.

The family is planning a memorial service December 9th (2pm) for family and friends who wish to attend. Rest in peace good friend.

That covers everything this month... Our next club meeting is November 28th. As usual, we will have no meetings in December, so until January I would like to wish all the ARASWF members and their families the very best for this Holiday season!

73,
Ken-W9KB
ARASWF Secretary

ARASWF Membership Meeting Minutes

October 24, 2017

- President's Remarks – AG0X
- The Pledge of Allegiance – All
- Introductions – All
 - Nineteen members and three guests were in attendance.
- Treasurer's Report – N4LAK
 - Larry reported the club treasury balance was \$3020.58
- Old Business
 - Repeater Updates – AG0X
 - Uli reported the 146.670 and 147.030 repeater had hurricane damage.
 - Website Update – NC2H
 - Craig is concerned about the recent increase in hacker activity he has seen on the websites he manages. He has put in increased protection and advises all members to be especially careful of all their passwords.
 - Summer Luncheon Meetings – N4LAK
 - Larry reported that we had three well attended luncheon meetings at Perkins (July), Olive Garden (August), and Red Robin (September).
 - EmComm Updates – AC4ZM
 - Mark reported that the 147.030 repeater has the best post hurricane coverage, the 146.670 repeater, while still operational has poor coverage (Marbella maintenance personnel reported antenna TBD damage).
 - Next SET Exercise planned for October 21st.
 - VE Testing – AC4ZM
 - Mark reported that three individuals tested and passed at the VE session held immediately before the meeting.

- New Business
 - Elections – W4RBW
 - Frank reported that club elections will be held at the November meeting. Members interested should contact Frank.
 - Christmas Party – W9KB
 - Ken reported that the Christmas Party will be held December 2nd at Foxfire Country Club. They will offer a similar menu and pricing: Prime rib - \$35, Chicken & Salmon - \$30.
 - Walk-In's
 - Larry-N4LAK reported the club antenna trailers survived the hurricane, however, they are still covered with trees and limbs.
 - 50/50 Raffle - \$35 paid to XYZ with \$35 paid to club treasury
- Social Break
 - Presentation – FT-8 “A Hot New Digital Mode” – Jerry Smith, NW9H
 - Jerry provided a very interesting presentation of FT-8, discussing the required software, operation, and advantages of this weak signal mode. Given the waning solar cycle and his HOA antenna setup, he reported this mode has opened the world to successful DXing. His lively Q&A session answered many members questions.
- Adjourn

Respectfully Submitted,
Ken Bills-W9KB

Contest Calendar

November 2018

+ SARL Field Day Contest	1000Z, Nov 17 to 1000Z, Nov 18
+ LZ DX Contest	1200Z, Nov 17 to 1200Z, Nov 18
+ All Austrian 160-Meter Contest	1600Z, Nov 17 to 0700Z, Nov 18
+ ARRL Sweepstakes Contest, SSB	2100Z, Nov 17 to 0300Z, Nov 19
+ Run for the Bacon QRP Contest	0200Z-0400Z, Nov 19
+ CQ Worldwide DX Contest, CW	0000Z, Nov 24 to 2400Z, Nov 25
+ SKCC Sprint	0000Z-0200Z, Nov 28
+ ARRL 160-Meter Contest	2200Z, Nov 30 to 1600Z, Dec 2

December 2018

+ Wake-Up! QRP Sprint	0600Z-0800Z, Dec 1
+ TOPS Activity Contest	1600Z, Dec 1 to 1559Z, Dec 2
+ Ten-Meter RTTY Contest	0000Z-2400Z, Dec 2
+ ARRL 10-Meter Contest	0000Z, Dec 8 to 2359Z, Dec 9
+ SKCC Weekend Sprintathon	1200Z, Dec 8 to 2359Z, Dec 9
+ OK DX RTTY Contest	0000Z-2400Z, Dec 15
+ Croatian CW Contest	1400Z, Dec 15 to 1400Z, Dec 16
+ Run for the Bacon QRP Contest	0200Z-0400Z, Dec 17
+ AGB-Party Contest	2100Z-2400Z, Dec 21
+ RAEM Contest	0000Z-1159Z, Dec 23
+ SKCC Sprint	0000Z-0200Z, Dec 26
+ DARC Christmas Contest	0830Z-1059Z, Dec 26
+ RAC Winter Contest	0000Z-2359Z, Dec 29
+ Stew Perry Topband Challenge	1500Z, Dec 29 to 1500Z, Dec 30



ARASWF Christmas Dinner

December 2nd at the Foxfire CC

When:

- 5:30 pm cocktails (Visa or Master Card)
- 6:00 pm dinner

Menu Selections:

- **Grilled Salmon** - w/sweet sauce, au gratin potato & vegetable medley
- **Chicken Alfredo** – w/angel hair pasta
- **Prime Rib** (12 oz) – served medium, w/au gratin potato & vegetable medley. Horseradish sauce on the side.

All dinners include a salad, drink, and desert

\$30/person (Chicken or Salmon) \$35/person (Prime Rib)

We need (40) people to make this a financial success, please mark your calendars and make this event a priority.

Please RSVP as soon as possible @ w9kb@comcast.net and include your menu selection. I will accept payment at the door if you reply prior to November 24th.

Contest Reminders: Round 2 of Sweepstakes Plus the ARRL 160 Meter Contest Just Ahead

The phone portion of the [ARRL November Sweepstakes](#) is this weekend, November 18-20 (UTC), on all bands 160, 75, 40, 20, 15, and 10 meters. The exchange is serial number + Precedence (Q/A/B/U/M/S) + Your Call Sign + Check (usually year first licensed) + ARRL/RAC Section. It's *that* simple, and it's lots of fun! (See "[Aiming for a Clean Sweep is Big Part of ARRL November Sweepstakes](#)" for more details and information. SS phone logs are due by November 25.



The beginning of December will herald the return of the [ARRL 160 Meter Contest](#). The action gets under way at 2200 UTC on Friday, December 1, and wraps up at 1559 UTC on Sunday, December 3. This 42-hour event has no operating time limit. If you have ever yearned to try your hand at Top Band contesting, this is the perfect opportunity.

The ARRL 160 Meter Contest is an all-CW event, with ARRL/RAC Sections plus DXCC entities as multipliers. If you live in a rare Section, you will be popular, even if don't have a killer signal on Top Band. Some intrepid operators even venture forth each year running just 5 W! Any participant can work Alaska (KL7) and Hawaii (KH6), as well as the US Caribbean (KP1-KP5) and Pacific territories (KH0-KH9). Contacts with US/Canada stations are worth 2 points, while DX contacts are worth 5 points. Keep 1.830 to 1.835 MHz available for intercontinental contacts.

No 160-meter antenna? No problem! Put up something temporary or load up whatever antenna you already have using a suitable antenna tuner. A lot of hams repurpose HF dipoles for 160, using the vertical feed line as a single-wire radiating element and the horizontal portion as top loading, plus a few radials (temporarily) laid out on the ground below and connected to the shield side of your coax feed line. Even one *elevated* quarter-wave radial will make a big difference, if you have room. (The book [Short Antennas for 160 Meter Radio](#) by Grant Bingeman, KM5KG, might provide some ideas.)

You may even be able to put out enough signal to make a few contacts simply by loading up your existing 40- or 80-meter dipole. Improvise!

Participants now submit Cabrillo-formatted contest logs using a new [online log submission web page](#) to upload your log as a file, or by copy-and-pasting the log text into a text window. -- *Thanks to Brian Moran, N9ADG, for some information*

Force of 50 Volunteers Puerto Rico Hurricane Recovery Mission Ends

The 22 *Force of 50* radio amateurs who deployed to Puerto Rico earlier this month as American Red Cross volunteers have ended their mission and will be back on the US mainland by week's end. They had been in Puerto Rico for about 3 weeks.

"The *Force of 50* volunteers demonstrated an extraordinary range of skills possessed by this accomplished team," said ARRL CEO Tom Gallagher, NY2RF. "There was no task that they wouldn't tackle. It also demonstrated the generosity of these volunteers, who not only performed their roles as communicators, but also engaged the population with their many acts of personal kindness."

Val Hotzfeld, NV9L, who filed situation reports documenting the team's activities, said the volunteers accomplished everything they went to Puerto Rico to do, "and then some." She said that the Red Cross felt they had exceeded all expectations. "We opened a lot of peoples' eyes when we started going to the ESF-2 communications task force meetings. They had no idea of our capabilities," Hotzfeld told ARRL. "When they heard what we'd accomplished, we were swarmed; everybody was wanting us."

Hotzfeld said the volunteers' initial mission was to provide a way to gather outbound health and welfare messages and put them into the Red Cross's Safe and Well System using *Winlink*. However, the mission changed once they were on the ground when they discovered the needs were much greater.

"No one had any communications, so the mission morphed to communications," she said. "But, we did both." She said the Red Cross recognized the value of ensuring communication for hospitals, and other volunteers handled Safe and Well messages.

She said the volunteers possessed a wide range of talents, from medical to mechanical, not just communications. For example, Andy Anderson, KE0AYJ, set up the helicopter landing pad at Guajataca Dam, Hotzfeld said, and provided communications where there was none.

Ten **SHARES** (Shared Resources) HF Radio Program operators will replace the Amateur Radio volunteers who had worked on behalf of the Red Cross. These SHARES operators are federal employees who happen to be radio amateurs and volunteered for the duty in Puerto Rico. Hotzfeld said they will be stationed in four different zones, with two operators at headquarters in the San Juan Convention Center. "The hospitals did not want us to leave," Hotzfeld said. "They were begging us to stay." She noted, though, that the hospitals also have access to satellite telephones.

"I was so proud of our guys," Hotzfeld said in summary. "They were rock stars."

Netherlands - Dropping the "N" in Iceland

Netherlands telecommunications regulator Agentschap Telecom reports that radio amateurs who fail to use their call signs correctly have been fined or issued formal warnings -- called "yellow cards" in the Netherlands. The regulator announced on November 9 that it had imposed an administrative fine on a radio amateur who did not use his call sign or did not identify at required intervals. Despite warnings, the behavior did not change, the regulator said, resulting in a fine.

The agency also distributed several yellow cards for failure to identify and for "improper use" of Amateur Radio call signs when making contacts on frequencies not authorized to the operator.

Agentschap Telecom also advised that, while amateurs in The Netherlands have been doing a good job resolving problems among themselves, the agency wanted to emphasize several points. Among these: the 6-MHz band (specifically 6635 kHz) is not an amateur band; hams may not transmit music; hams may not communicate using amateur equipment on frequencies allocated for unlicensed use, and Amateur Service licensees may only contact other Amateur Service licensees.



The regulator further asserted that transmitting broadband television on the 70-centimeter band "is not a good choice," because of the likelihood of interference with 433-MHz unlicensed applications, such as garage door openers, remote controls, wireless weather stations, and other devices. The regulator has said that other users of the spectrum also "have rights," and that having primary status does not mean that other users have to accept all interference.

Novice Call Sign "Stigma" May End in Iceland

Iceland's Ministry of Transport and Local Government has invited comments on draft changes to the Radio Regulations in that country. IARU member society Icelandic Radio Amateurs (IRA) had proposed ending the practice of issuing distinctive "N" call signs for Novice-class radio amateurs. The IRA also has proposed ending the requirement that Amateur Radio call signs reflect the geographic call district of the station, something still in place in Canada and other countries.

The Post and Telecom Administration's draft regulations incorporate the IRA's requests and also update the table of frequency allocations to include the 630- and 60-meter bands.



FT-991	\$900
Icom IC-7000	\$1000
w/LDG Tuner	

Contact George-AA4GT
(239) 774-1759

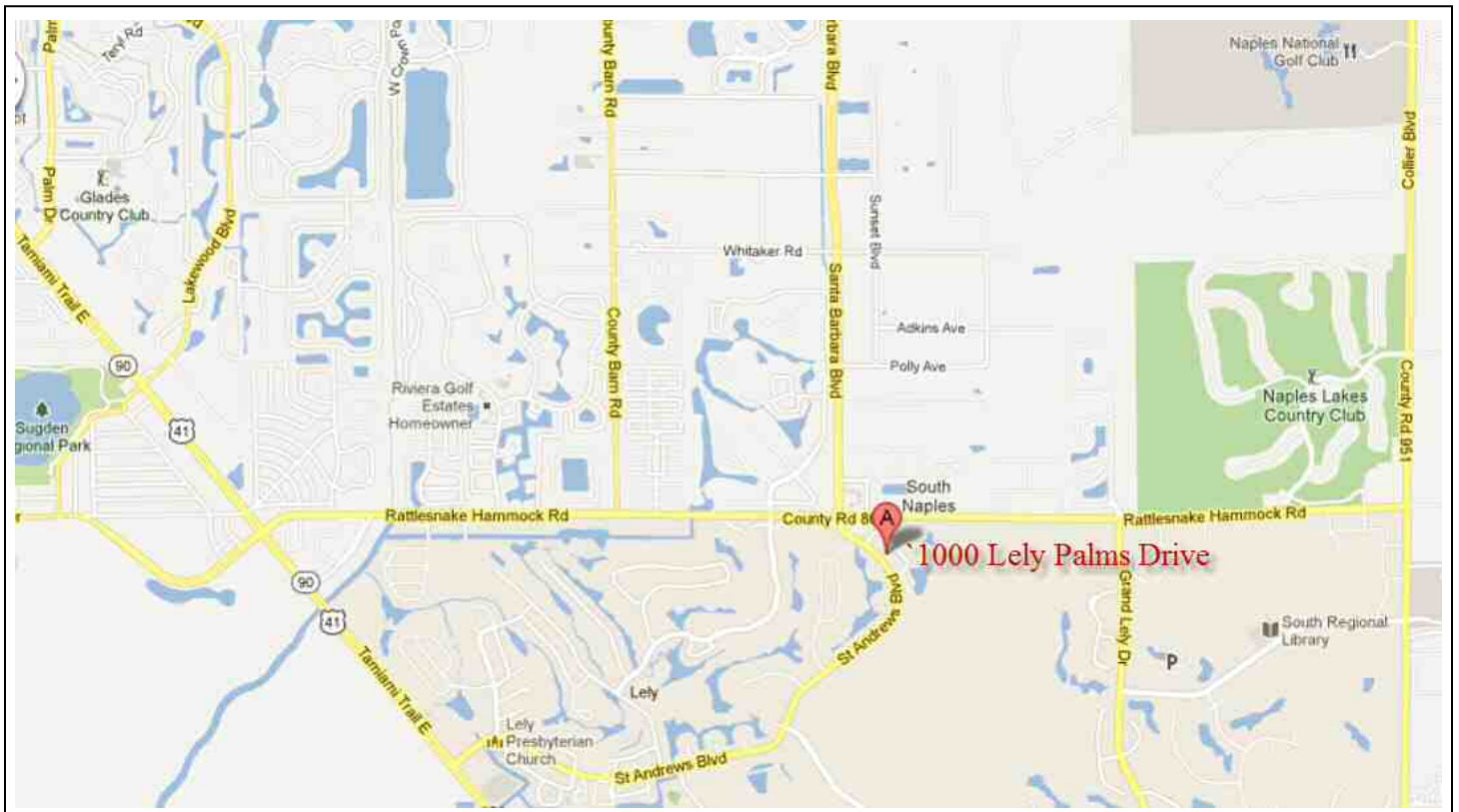


Royal Palm Chapter 152 meets every second Thursday of the month

at the Lely Palms Manor, Next Luncheon Meeting: December 14th 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: November 28th @ 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)
- ARASWF D-Star – AB4NP 145.270 MHz (-600kHz)
- ARASWF EmComm – K4YHB 147.030 MHz (+600 kHz)
- ARASWF DMR – AB4NP 444.9875 MHz (+5 MHz)

2017 Club Officers:

President: Uli Altvater – AG0X@araswf.org
Vice President: Frank Halas – W4RBW@araswf.org
Treasurer: Larry Kielasa – N4LAK@araswf.org
Secretary: Ken Bills – W9KB@araswf.org
Director: Mark Harms – AC4ZM@araswf.org
Director: Chris Taylor – KM4UJI@araswf.org
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Webmaster: Craig Henning – NC2H@araswf.org

Club Website:

<http://www.araswf.org>

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the



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of Southwest Florida, Inc.**

Web Site

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