



ARASWF

Newsletter



Vol. MMXVII No. 2 - The Journal of the Amateur Radio Association of Southwest Florida
February 23, 2017

In This Issue:

- Nickels & Dimes
- January Board Meeting Minutes
- January Membership Meeting Minutes
- Upcoming Contest Calendar
-

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

Nickels & Dimes

Just finished unpacking my car from our annual Oil Well Outing. Rich – K4AOR once again organized and hosted another great event! I always find it a lot of fun to drive out to the far reaches of eastern Collier County, early in the morning, grass and picnic tables still covered with dew... and setup a radio for some impromptu QSO's with the world and other club members.

Several members attending this outing indicated an interest in having another similar event before the end of season. The Board discussed and agreed to schedule another weekend, perhaps at Veterans Park (closer to Naples). Stay tuned to our website and/or next month's Newsletter for more details.

These are the very activities that pull us together as a technical community to share our knowledge and interest in amateur radio. I always learn something from these outings, what works and perhaps more importantly, what doesn't work. These minor failures might be a very critical lesson when operating conditions are not so ideal (think named storm!).

While we had a very good attendance for this event, there are many not taking full advantage of these educational opportunities. There will be few more *classes* coming up in the next semester.

The first item on the curriculum is a special *Digitally Schooled* workshop scheduled this Saturday at the Red Cross. Mark – AC4ZM will provide members a basic 101 class covering Digital Mobile Radio (DMR) technology basics. Graduates of this workshop will be better prepared for a more advanced meeting presentation scheduled later this season.

DMR given its unique digital voice stream forward error correction, offers superior performance over traditional FM modes and other competitive digital modes.

Also, we now have a DMR linked connection to Ft. Myers... While D-Star may have been the first on the block, DMR with a competitive edge might be the next killer app!

Moving forward, there is a scheduled field trip to the National Weather Service Facility in Miami for March 18th. Members could carpool over together and learn about the facility and our role in reporting local weather conditions. We will discuss this at the next meeting.

Just a reminder, our Club meets once a week on the air every Wednesday evening at 7:00pm. We would like to develop more participation, with a lively round table discussion. This involves pulling out your mobile rig or HT, selecting the frequency (146.670 MHz), adjusting the PL to 136.5 Hz, and showing up on frequency.

We welcome fresh ideas to keep this net interesting every week. Please check-in and share your ideas with Net Control.

Very 73,

Ken-W9KB

Amateur Radio Association of Southwest Florida

**Executive Board Meeting held at Apollo, Naples, FL
Monday – January 17, 2017**

Present: Uli Altvater, AG0X – President
Frank Halas, W4RBW – Vice President
Ken Bills, W9KB – Secretary
Mark Harms, AC4ZM – Director
Craig Henning, NC2H – Director
Chris Taylor, KM4UJI - Director

Absent: Gary Lee, K8YMN – Director
Larry Kielasa, N4LAK – Treasurer

MEETING MINUTES

Meeting called to order: The meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm.

President's Report – Uli-AG0X welcomed group to his QTH.

Treasurer's Report – Ken-W9KB reported the Club checking and PayPal balance was \$4,094.30. This includes our club liability insurance (\$200) and Florida SunBiz filing (\$61.25)

Old Business:

Repeater Updates: The Macro Island Radio Club (MIRC) eight bay UHF folded dipole was reworked at Uli's shop. A combo VHF/UHF folded dipole (4 bays UHF/2 bays VHF) from this and parts our Club has in storage. The rebuilt antenna was installed at the Marbella site and is operational. The DMR UHF frequency is 444.9875 MHZ +5 MHZ and the D-Star frequency is 146.670 MHZ +600.

Website Updates: Craig-NC2H reported that he has added a few new pictures from the recent club events.

EmComm Updates: Mark-AC4ZM reported that he has planned a mini SET event for January 28th and plans to operate several modes. He also mentioned that the group continues to meet at 7PM on the second Tuesday of the month at the Red Cross. The ARES group just completed the 2017 Naples Daily News 1/2 Marathon Event.

VE Testing: Mark-AC4ZM reported that VE test team was busy all year, with at least one candidate for every month. He estimated we had 20-24 successful candidates for 2916.

Naples Daily News 1/2 Marathon: Chris-KM4UJI reported that the events was successful, all our members were deployed to their stations and communication links established. The club repeater (146.670 MHZ) was used to bring everyone online then simplex links (146.400 MHZ) employed to pass local net traffic. The weather was prefect for the event and no emergencies were reported this year.

New Business:

Upcoming Events:

- Winter Field Day – January 28-29th

Walk-In Items:

- Mark-AC4ZM encouraged Club net check-in's on Wednesday 8pm
- Chris-KM4UJI spoke about the need for an Immokalee repeater and will follow-up with contacts. He also volunteered to look for more biking or running events that may need EmComm support.
- Mark-AC4ZM reported he would run his Digitally Schooled program this year. The first topic will be a DMR-101 workshop.
- Mark-AC4ZM mentioned that Paul-KK4TPO expressed a desire for a low speed weekly CW net for over-the-air practice.

Next Board Meeting – February 21st (7pm at Uli's business QTH)

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Ken-W9KB
Secretary

Amateur Radio Association of Southwest Florida

Regular Membership Meeting held at the Naples American Red Cross.
Tuesday, January 24, 2017

Officers and	Uli Altvater, AG0X – President
Directors present:	Frank Halas – W4RBW -Vice President
	Ken Bills, W9KB – Secretary
	Mark Harms, AC4ZM – Director
	Craig Henning, NC2H - Director
	Chris Taylor, KM4UJI - Director

Absent:	Larry Kiesala, N4LAK - Treasurer
	Gary Lee, K8YMN – Director

Meeting called to order: Uli-AG0X welcomed the members and guests and called the meeting to order, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Introduction: All attendees were introduced by name and call sign. Thirty members were present and six guests: Jack Parker-W8ISH, Dave Nelson-W1FGN, Ron Stuckey-KA4PNT, Brian Hemmis-K3USC, and Dave Schaaf-W9ZR.

Treasurer's Report: Ken-W9KB reported that Club checking balance was \$4,214.15 including the Club PayPal balance. There were \$125 dues revenue collected during through this morning (several members paid after the meeting).

Old Business: Uli-AG0X reported that Craig, NC2H and he completed the rebuilt of a dual band VHF/UHF and it was installed at the Marbella site the end of December. This antenna now supports a new DMR repeater and the D-Star repeater which are collated at that site.

Mark-AC4ZM reported that the EmComm Net meets on the air every Thursday at 8pm (146.670MHZ). The next CERT exercise will be held sometime in March.

Mark also reported that no VE candidates test this past month.

Ed-KU1Q reported that the 2017 Naples Daily News ½ Marathon was a success. ED-KU1Q, Craig-NC2H, John-W4PYZ, Mark-AC4ZM, Al-KM4QYL, Chris-KM4UJI, Rich-K4AOR, and Ken-W9KB all arrived early (before sunrise) and supported the event.

Craig-NC2H reported that he made minor website updates this past month. NC2H encouraged members to check the website calendar for upcoming activity dates.

New Business:

Mark-AC4ZM mentioned that Winter Field Day will again be held at Larry-N4LAK's QTH on January 14th. An email blast will be sent prior to the event.

Mark will also conduct another "Digitally Schooled" workshop on February 25th from 1-3pm at the Naples Red Cross facility. This month's session will cover DMR101 basics.

The annual Oil Well Outing will be hosted by Rich-K4AOR on February 18th. An email blast will be sent one week prior to the event with details and a map.

The National Weather Service will hold an open house on March 18th at their Miami facility (No need to RSVP). Details will be in the February Newsletter.

Social Break:

50/50 Raffle was won by Ken-W9KB (\$55).

Presentation: Vertical Collinear Antennas (better than dipoles?) – Dr. Al Torres, KP4AQI gave a very interesting presentation describing and detailing construction techniques of this very effective antenna type. Dr. Al's presentation will be available on the website, along with all his previous topics.

Adjourn: The meeting adjourned at 9:05pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Ken-W9KB, Secretary

Contest Calendar

February 2017

+ CQ 160-Meter Contest, SSB	2200Z, Feb 24 to 2159Z, Feb 26
+ REF Contest, SSB	0600Z, Feb 25 to 1800Z, Feb 26
+ UBA DX Contest, CW	1300Z, Feb 25 to 1300Z, Feb 26
+ North American QSO Party, RTTY	1800Z, Feb 25 to 0600Z, Feb 26
+ High Speed Club CW Contest	0900Z-1700Z, Feb 26

March 2017

+ ARRL Inter. DX Contest, SSB	0000Z, Mar 4 to 2400Z, Mar 5
+ Wake-Up! QRP Sprint	0600Z-0800Z, Mar 4
+ DARC 10-Meter Digital Contest	1100Z-1700Z, Mar 5
+ SARL Hamnet 40m Simulated Emerg Contest	1200Z-1400Z, Mar 5
+ AGCW YL-CW Party	1900Z-2100Z, Mar 7
+ SKCC Weekend Sprintathon	1200Z, Mar 11 to 2359Z, Mar 12
+ AGCW QRP Contest	1400Z-2000Z, Mar 11
+ EA PSK63 Contest	1600Z, Mar 11 to 1600Z, Mar 12
+ Idaho QSO Party	1900Z, Mar 11 to 1900Z, Mar 12
+ North American Sprint, RTTY	0000Z-0400Z, Mar 12
+ Wisconsin QSO Party	1800Z, Mar 12 to 0100Z, Mar 13
+ SARL VHF/UHF Analogue/Digital Contest	1600Z, Mar 17 to 1000Z, Mar 19
+ BARTG HF RTTY Contest	0200Z, Mar 18 to 0200Z, Mar 20
+ Russian DX Contest	1200Z, Mar 18 to 1200Z, Mar 19
+ Run for the Bacon QRP Contest	0100Z-0300Z, Mar 20
+ SKCC Sprint	0000Z-0200Z, Mar 22
+ FOC QSO Party	0000Z-2359Z, Mar 25
+ CQ WW WPX Contest, SSB	0000Z, Mar 25 to 2400Z, Mar 26



Digitally Schooled

DMR-101

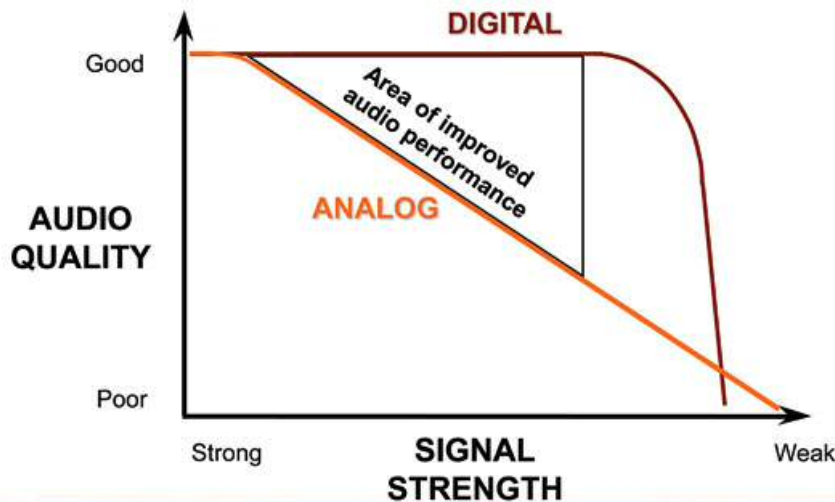
at the

Red Cross

Saturday, March 22nd 1-3:00pm

Digital Delivers:
Improved Performance & Extended Range

 Vertex Standard



Learn about the fastest growing digital mode in town!

Orlando Hamcation® ARRL/ARES Forum

The Orlando Hamcation was packed this past weekend, reflecting the overall growth and health of the amateur service community in the country. The weather was perfect for the mammoth outdoor flea market, and the big tents were crowded with exhibitors and enthusiastic hams toting bulging plastic bags of goodies. There were many luminaries in attendance: ARRL CEO Tom Gallagher, NY2RF, and QCWA President Ken Oelke, VE6AFO, other notables such as Bob Heil, K9EID, Carole Perry, WB2MGP, and Gordon West, WB6NOA, and ARRL legends including longtime Southeastern Division Director Frank Butler, W4RH, who at 92, drove all the way from the western end of the Florida panhandle to enjoy the show.

The forums were also standing room only. The ARRL Section/Division Forum was held on Saturday morning, with audience members overflowing to the outside of the tent entrance. ARRL Southeastern Division Director Greg Sarratt, W4OZK, and ARRL Northern Florida Section Manager Steve Szabo, WB4OMM, summarized Division and Section activity respectively, with ARRL CEO Tom Gallagher, NY2RF,

discussing ARRL HQ plans and goals. Szabo introduced other League officials including Southeastern Division Vice Director Joe Tiritilli, N4ZUW; Southern Florida Section Manager Jeff Beals, WA4AW; West Central Florida Section Manager Darrell Davis, KT4WX; and Alabama Section Manager Jvann Martin, W4JVM. Many ARES members, SECs, DECs and ECs were also present and introduced, preceding the lively discourse.

While discussion focused on how to gain more interest and attention of younger people and hams, there was also discussion of Hurricane Matthew responses, fresh from the monster storm that attacked the region last Fall. After action stories and lessons learned were discussed. Comments from the audience ran the gamut of interests, but the one comment that struck me the most came from a member of the [Lakeland Amateur Radio Club](#) who said that the club had faced



Volusia County, Florida, EC Karl Martin, KG4HBN (left) chats with Northern Florida Section Emergency Coordinator Strait Hollis, KT4YA. (K1CE photo)



ARRL leadership at the ARRL Forum, Orlando Hamcation, February 11, 2017. L to r,

N4ZUW; Northern Florida SM Steve Szabo, WB4OMM; Southeastern Division Director Greg Sarratt, W4OZK; West Central Florida SM Darrell Davis, KT4WX; Alabama SM Jvann Martin, W4JVM; and Southern Florida SM Jeff Beals, WA4AW. (K1CE photo)

declining attendance at club meetings and membership until they eliminated the business portions of the meetings in favor of more hands-on, show and tell demonstrations of equipment, modes and antennas, which turned into big hits. Membership and attendance soared from a modest 33 members to over one hundred. That seemed to me a magic bullet that could spur memberships and meetings attendance for all clubs and ARES groups.

The forum was all positive; there was no negative discussion, nor politics. I enjoyed the forum very much, hosted by the always animated, enthusiastic Steve Szabo, WB4OMM, who did a masterful job as MC. Put the 2018 Orlando Hamcation on your agenda for next year. -- *K1CE*



HAARP Experiments to Get Under Way on February 20 UTC, Reports Invited

02/18/2017

On February 20 (UTC), Alaska's High Frequency Active Auroral Research Program (**HAARP**) will launch its first scientific research campaign since the facility was taken over by the University of Alaska Fairbanks (UAF) Geophysical Institute 18 months ago. UAF Space Physics Group Assistant Research Professor Chris Fallen, KL3WX, reports that he will be ready to go starting Monday, February 20, at 0330 UTC (Sunday, February 19, in US times zones). His campaign will run through February 23 (transmissions will start 1 hour later on February 22 UTC).

Fallen plans to start and stop each experiment block with an audio broadcast, transmitting AM carriers at 2.8 and 3.3 MHz, with the resulting skywave signal — the "Luxembourg Effect" — being a mix of both frequencies. He told ARRL that he will transmit a short, simple piece of music, composed locally, specifically to help demonstrate the Luxembourg effect.

Transmissions to create radio-induced airglow or "aurora" that potentially can be photographed from nearly anywhere in Alaska will take place afterward; Fallen said on February 18 that he wasn't quite ready to announce precise frequencies for that experiment.

"Initially the airglow experiments will be a silent carrier, but if things go well the first night I may try a single AM-modulated tone to make the broadcast easier to hear," Fallen told ARRL. He said net radiated power would be in the 2 MW range.

Fallen is working under a National Science Foundation **grant**. He's posting additional information on his "Gakona HAARPoon 2017" **blog**. He points out that exact times, transmit frequencies, and experiment modes "are subject to change in response to a variety of factors." Selected updates will be posted via **Twitter**.

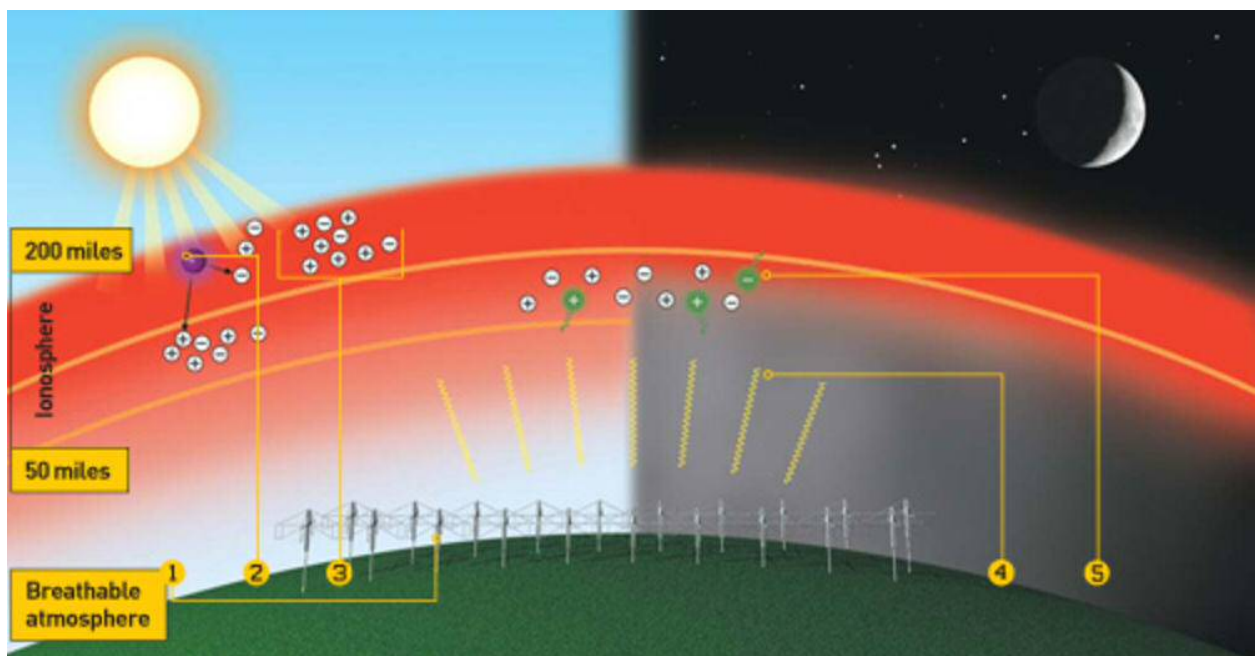
Fallen encourages radio amateurs and SWLs to record the events they hear and post reports to social media or **e-mail** him.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/High_Frequency_Active_Auroral_Research_Program



A view of the vast HAARP antenna array. [Chris Fallen, KL3WX, photo]

CLOSE X





**The National Weather Service cordially invites the
South Florida community to:**

2017 Open House

Saturday, March 18th, 2017

10 AM – 2 PM

Address: 11691 SW 17th Street

Miami, FL 33165

Learn how meteorologists at the National Weather Service Miami Forecast Office and the National Hurricane Center inform and keep the public safe from weather threats year-round. Tours of the facility are available, plus static displays from our partners in Emergency Management, Fire-Rescue, and others!

For more information, contact

Robert Molleda

305-229-4522, Ext 223 or Robert.Molleda@noaa.gov

ITEMS FOR SALE

Because of medical and personal reasons I have decided to put this hobby on indefinite hold, especially the HF part of it. I am local and have been a member of ARASWF.

All of the items are used but in good condition and work well. Offers considered and will take cash or check (if member of ARASWF).

- \$550.00 **Kenwood TS-570S (G)** multiband HF transceiver (includes mic, manual)
- \$50.00 **Astron RS-20A** linear power supply
- \$175.00 **MFJ-269** analyzer (includes cover and AC adapter but can also run on batteries)
- \$40.00 **Maha MH-A102** VHF linear power amplifier
- \$60.00 **Kenwood TM-261** mobile 2 meter FM transceiver (includes manual, mic and fan)



73,

Jim Bova - K4JGB

1936 Tarpon Bay Dr N
Naples, FL
614-638-6613
jgbova@gmail.com

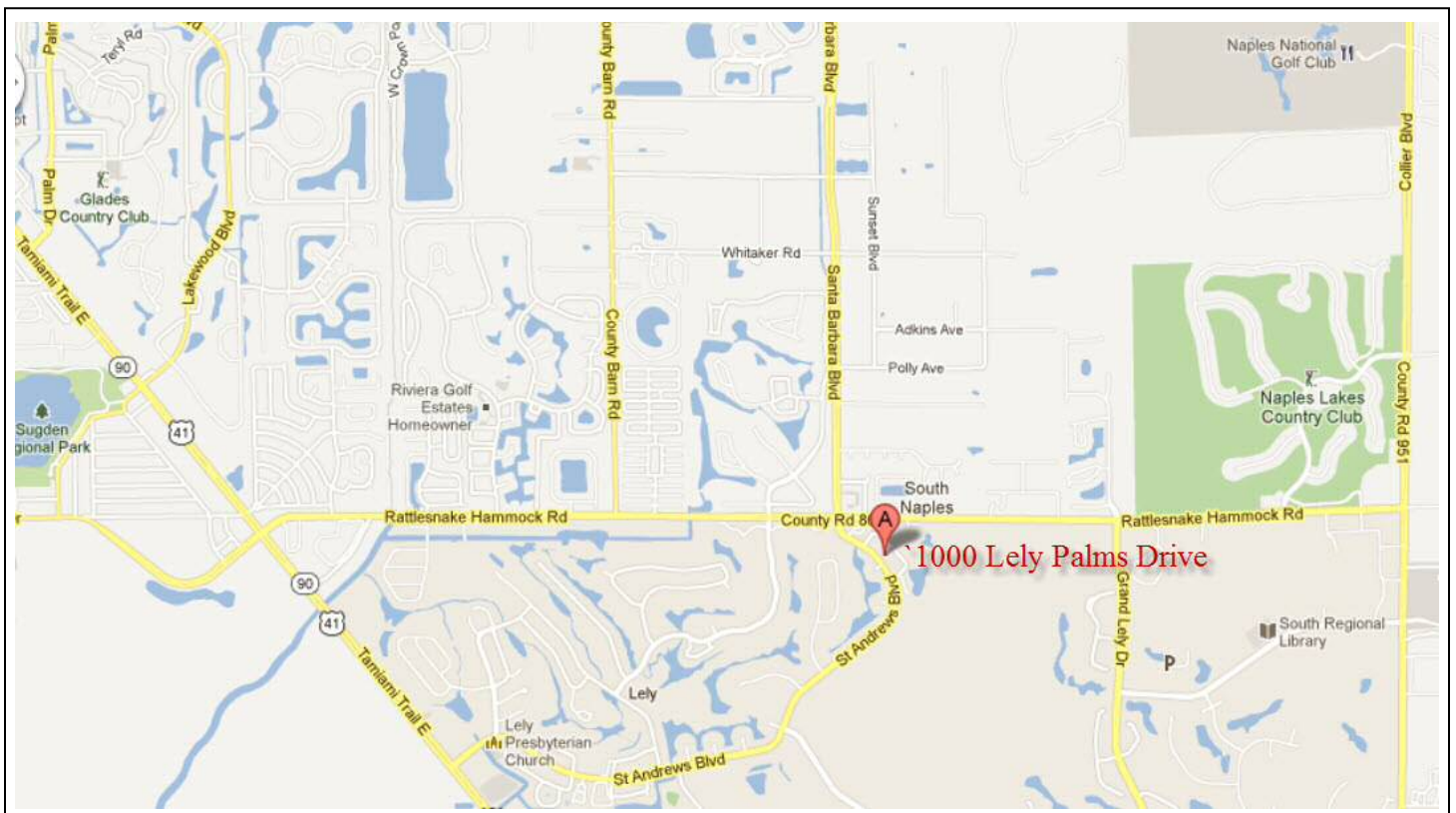


Royal Palm Chapter 152 meets every second Thursday of the month

at the Lely Palms Manor, Next Luncheon Meeting: March 9th 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 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
Director: Craig Henning - NC2H@araswf.org
Director: Gary Lee – K8YMN@araswf.org
Newsletter Editor: Larry Kielasa – N4LAK@araswf.org
Webmaster: Craig Henning – NC2H@araswf.org

Club Website:

<http://www.araswf.org>

Visit
the



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

Web Site

www.araswf.org