



ARASWF

News Letter



**Vol. MMXXVI No. 11 - The Journal of the Amateur Radio Association of Southwest Florida
November 4th, 2026**

The November 4th Meeting will be held at
Veterans Park; 1895 Veterans Park Drive, Naples, FL.
off Immokalee Road in the small building by the dog park. Time is 6:00 pm

Link to balloon site <http://sites.google.com/view/blueoceanadventures>

updated site, new location.

The 146.670 repeater has Echo link reinstalled. W9PCI-R Node 385956

Club Nets are held on the 146.670 -136.5 or the 147.030 +136.5 repeaters.

ARESCC Nets will be when called for.

ARASWF Information Net is Tuesday at 7:30 pm. please volunteer

And are in need of Net Control operators,

Sunday's Backwoods Net on 147.030 Mhz +136.5 at 7:30pm

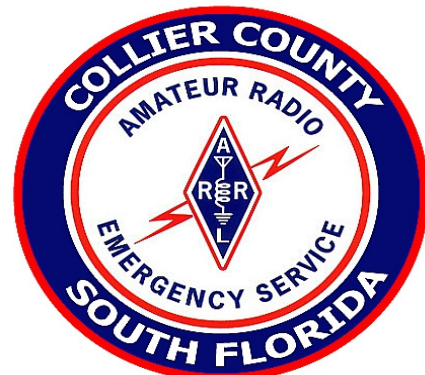
Allstar node 41860. See <http://stats.allstarlink.org/nodeinfo.cgi?node=41860>

Net coordinator:

Foster Kawaler K4FEK

efraim1@juno.com

Amateur License Exams
Monthly, 1st Tuesday, 5:30 pm
Doors open at 5 pm
appointment required
text, phone, or email
for information and location
Mark Harms
239 331-9616
AC4ZM@ARASWF.ORG



Meetings now held at
Naples Aviation Pilot's Lounge
250 Aviation Dr. South
Naples, FL. 34104

CLUB OFFICERS

New member alert from passing an Amateur License Test

President	AC4ZM	Mark	Director	K4FEK	Foster	Riley J. Chila	KR4PLS	Technition
VP		OPEN	Director		OPEN	Vincent Mileto	KR4PLT	Technition
Finance	KBOJL	Rob	Director	WA2FHX	Dennis	Cary Stolarczyk	W9CPS	Extra
Secretary		OPEN	Director	N4YE	John			
VE Testing	AC4ZM	Mark	Web Master	NC2H	Craig	In Person	Online computer testing	

We have tested 8 people for 2026

NEW 145.300 -136.5 K1NEW Repeater on the
NEW 145.150 -141.3 CCSO Repeater on the

“ BES Building “ Give it a try – often.
“SAR tower near US-29 & US 41

Thank you from the President
AC4ZM Mark

If anyone is aware of other members who are not well or in the hospital please notify

AC4ZM Mark so we can reach out to them.

Also if anyone would like to donate their equipment to the club :

Text or phone (239)-331-9616

Email AC4ZM@hotmail.com

South of the orange tree !

VE, ARASWF, Board, and ARESCC Meeting Dates (2026-2027)

VE Testing
5:00 pm Doors open
By Appointment

Tuesday
Year 2026

09/01/26
10/06/26
11/03/26
12/01/26

Year 2027

01/05/27
02/02/27
03/02/27
04/06/27
05/04/27
06/01/27
07/06/27
08/03/27

ARASWF Club Meeting
6:00 pm – 8:00 pm
Veterans Community Park
Off Immokalee Road
Wednesday

09/02/26
10/07/26
11/04/26
12/02/26 (Restaurant)

01/06/27
02/03/27
03/03/27
04/07/02
05/05/02
06/02/27 Perkins
07/07/27 Perkins
08/04/27 Perkins

Board Meeting
12:00 noon – 1:00 pm
Perkins Restaurant
Pine Ridge Road
Wednesday

09/23/26
10/21/26
11/18/26
12/16/26

01/20/27
02/17/27
03/24/27
04/21/27
05/19/27
06/23/27
07/21/27
07/18/27

ARESCC Meeting
3:00 pm – 4:30 pm
Naples Airport
250 Aviation Drive S
Thursday

09/24/26
10/29/26
11/19/26
12/17/26

01/28/27
02/25/27
03/25/27
04/29/27
05/27/27
06/24/27
07/29/27
08/26/27

If you haven't done so already, please renew your membership dues for 2027.

The ARASWF Radio Club needs your support.

<http://www.araswf.org/join-renew-araswf/> Pay multiple years if you like (3)

**A VP, Secretary, Director, and
A few "Project Leaders" are needed !!**

***Join in on the club's fun activities
and radio practices.***

Time is ticking

Sign up for the Christmas Party

or text Mark AC4ZM (239) 331-9616

6:00 AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION OF SWFL

SIGN-IN SHEET	DATE: DEC 2 Christmas Party
NAME	CALL SIGN amount
1 Mark Harms	AC4ZM (1)
2 John Beattie	N4YE (2)
3 Arlen Antlestad	W4PC1 (2)
4 Bud HOWARD	N1B4D (2)
5	
6	
7	
8	





January Winter Field Day



January Half Marathon



AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION OF SWFL		
SIGN-IN SHEET DATE: <u>October 7, 2026</u>		
	NAME	CALL SIGN
1	Damien Noffs	KQ4PVU
2	Mark Harms	AC4ZM
3	John Beattie	N4YE
4	Rob Tonn	KB0TL
5	Layne Jones	IS0417MS
6	Vince Mileto	TECH - NO call
7	Alex Nattleson	W9PCI
8	Evan Anderson	K66QDY
9	Mark Ferras	K24N20
10	Tom Chiodini	KM4ZVE
11	Gregory Richard	N4GPR
12	Bud Nostrad	N1BUD
13	WAYNE PAULY	K8NPD
14	SCOTT Krell	K1SMK
15	RAY CONRAD	NM20

Christmas Party at Perkins
3585 Pine Ridge Rd, Naples, FL 34109
December 2nd, 2026 From 6 till 8 pm



Year end party

ARESCC Suggested Radio Preset Frequencies

4/13/2026 Rev C

<u>Ch.</u>	<u>Freq.</u>	<u>Offset</u>	<u>Tone</u>	<u>Description</u>
1	146.670	-0.6 MHz	136.5 Hz	WB2QLP, Pelican Bay, Echolink Node 389568
2	147.030	+0.6 MHz	136.5 Hz	W4SFL, Golden Gate Blvd & 13 th St SW
3	146.850	-0.6 MHz	141.3 Hz	County Barn
4	146.775	-2.0 MHz	136.5 Hz	ARESCC Emergency Repeater
5	146.400	Simplex		ARESCC Simplex (Secondary)
6	146.500	Simplex		ARESCC Simplex (Tertiary)
7	146.520	Simplex		National Simplex
8	146.775	Simplex		ARESCC Emergency Repeater Output
9	145.300	-0.6 MHz	136.5 Hz	ARESCC K1NEW BES Repeater
10	145.150	-0.6 MHz	141.3 Hz	CCSO K4CCS Repeater
11	147.165	+0.6 MHz	127.3 Hz	Lee County EOC
12	146.820	-0.6 MHz	136.5 Hz	Ft. Myers, at FGCU
13				
14				
15	147.550	Simplex		New ARESCC Simplex (Primary)
16	147.060	+0.6MHz	136.5	W9PCT REPEATER

Meshtastic versus Meshcore

[Meshtastic – QST, pages 58-60, October 2026](#)

[Florida CoreScope](#)

Popular Mesh Devices

1. [Sensecap T-1000E](#)
2. [Wio Tracker L1 Pro](#)
3. [WisMesh Tag](#)
4. [T-Echo](#)
5. [T-Deck](#) (MeshCore Ripple UI not user friendly)

Vendors

Rokland -- <https://store.rokland.com/>

[Muzi Works](#)

	Meshtastic [repeater]	MeshCore repeater
What you flash	Same firmware as a handheld; set role to ROUTER or REPEATER	Separate repeater firmware image
Who relays	Every client, unless users set CLIENT_MUTE	Only repeaters and room servers
Hops	Default 3, max 7	Up to 64
If the site dies	Nearby clients still relay; coverage degrades	Reach beyond radio line-of-sight mostly disappears
Handheld battery	Shorter if clients are relaying	Longer by design
Dense neighborhood	Channel fills as node count climbs	Stays quieter
Apps	Free, open, Android and iOS	Separate app; some remote-admin features are paid unlocks
License	GPL throughout	MIT firmware; official apps are not fully open
MQTT / map gateways	Built in	Observer role, separate from the repeater
Position beacons	First-class	Secondary to messaging
Ham mode	Yes: callsign, encryption off, power limits lifted in software	No equivalent switch; encryption is structural

Amazon – Embedded links in products

Flashing <https://flasher.meshtastic.org/> and <https://flasher.meshcore.io/>

MeshCore Thought (AI/SI enabled)

A MeshCore repeater at the WB2QLP site should cover most of coastal Collier County to an outdoor companion, and a useful slice of inland Naples to a node near a window. It will not match the 2-meter footprint. ARASWF puts WB2QLP at about 200 feet at the north end of Pelican Bay. A LoRa node co-located there gets the height, not the Telewave pattern. Use its own 915 MHz omni.

What the height is worth

At 915 MHz the limit is clutter and Fresnel clearance, not free-space path loss. A 200-foot site to a 5-foot companion has a 4/3-earth radio horizon of about 23 miles:

Free-space loss at 20 miles is only about 122 dB. With roughly 22 dBm and a 5 dBi omni on the roof, and a companion at 14–22 dBm with a 2 dBi whip, the link still has tens of dB of margin in clear air even at SF7. Real range is whatever stays line-of-sight over the oaks, condos, and stucco.

Expected range to a Companion

Assume a US MeshCore preset (narrow LoRa, not Short Turbo), a 3–6 dBi omni at the site, and conducted power held inside the Part 15 EIRP cap.

- West and northwest are the good paths. Open water to Vanderbilt, Barefoot Beach, and Bonita is close to the horizon case. A companion on the beach or a balcony should hear this site from well into southern Lee County.
- South along the coast is mixed. Gulf-front towers in Park Shore and Naples throw shadows. Expect solid coverage through central Naples, patchy coverage once you are behind a high-rise, and a weaker path to Marco at about 20 miles unless the companion is elevated.

Companion situation	Reliable	Occasional
Pocket or car, stock antenna, indoors on the ground floor	2–5 miles	6–8 if a window faces Pelican Bay
Standing outside, short whip, body in the way	6–12 miles	15 miles on a clear street
Outside, whip clear of the body, or a car-roof node	10–18 miles	20+ over open ground
Over the Gulf, or a high balcony facing the site	15–25 miles	Out to the horizon on a still path

- East is the short direction. Golden Gate and the estates east of US 41 are 6–12 miles of canopy. Outdoor nodes should work; indoor pocket nodes get unreliable past a few miles.

A companion never relays, so these are direct ranges only. A second repeater is what extends past the radio horizon, not another handheld.

Trailer upgrade Project comming in cooler weather

Add struts to support 3/16 aluminum diamond plate.

Supports to enforce the extra long tongue. "A" frame style.

Wire brush and Paint the trailer (paint the tower different).

Bolt the unpainted diamond plate down.

Add club letters (" ARASWF W4SFL ") or full name

Bolt on the old diamond box.

Check all wiring.

Contact Mark AC4ZM

Text (239) 331-9616 or email AC4ZM@HOTMAIL.COM



Stephen KR4DDF, Eric W4EPS, and John N4YE Removing old flooring



Some wire brushing and removal of old rusty bolts and small hook brackets

