

Tallahassee Amateur Radio Society

March 2012



Next Meeting
March 1, 2012, 7:00 p.m.

**St. Francis of Assisi Episcopal Church, Fellowship Hall,
3413 Old Bainbridge Road,
North of I-10**

The Tallahassee Amateur Radio Society meets at 7:00 p. m. on the first Thursday of every month.

Our primary meeting location is the St. Francis of Assisi Episcopal Church, Fellowship Hall, 3413 Old Bainbridge Road, North of I-10 in Tallahassee in Tallahassee. Talk-in on the AE4S repeater 146.655 (-.600, tone 94.8), or 146.520 simplex.

TARS Officers

President: Stan Zawrotny – K4SBZ
Vice President: Mike Maynard – K4ICY
Secretary: John Sample – K4ZNC
Treasurer: Larry Pushor – K14MAJ

TARS Committees:

Repeater Trustee #1: Randy Pierce AG4UU
Repeater Trustee #2: Vacant
Newsletter Editor: Elizabeth Zawrotny K4EAZ
Equipment Manager: Steve Welsh AD4E
Education: Phil Ashler N4IPH
Testing Coordinator: Alan Terrell N4KGT
Webmaster: Melissa Raulston
Public Information Officer: Vacant

Upcoming Events

March

Mar 1 (Thu) – TARS Meeting
Mar 24 (Sat) – Blue Line 100

April

Apr 3 (Tue) – License Testing
Apr 5 (Thu) – TARS Meeting
Apr 14-15 (Sat/Sun) – TOSRV
Apr 28 (Sat) – Radio Reunion

May

May 3 (Thu) – TARS Meeting
May 19-20 (Fri-Sun) – Dayton Hamfest
May 28 (Mon) – Memorial Day

June

Jun 5 (Tue) – License Testing
Jun 7 (Thu) – TARS Meeting
Jun 23-24 (Sat/Sun) – Field Day

President's Message



Looking at the calendar above and the articles below, we have a lot to keep us busy in the coming months – the Blue Line 100, TOSRV, the Radio Reunion, a hamfest/tailgate party and, of course, Field Day in June. All of these require a lot of work by volunteers. But that is why we have a club – to get together and do things as a group. And have fun while doing it!

You probably get tired of our constant call for volunteers for this event or that. But

anyone who has volunteered for any of these events will attest to the fact that they are fun to do. And when you go home afterwards, tired, you do so feeling good knowing that you have contributed to the community. In the meantime, you have honed your emergency preparedness skills a bit too. But the main thing is that you probably made a few new friends or renewed some friendships and had some fun for a few hours. And that's what a hobby is supposed to be all about.

73,

Stan, K4SBZ

Club News

Blue Line 100

The Annual Blue Line 100 will take place on March 24. It is sponsored by the Tallahassee Police Department to honor those who died in the line of duty. We have been asked once again to provide communications support for this bicycle ride. There will be a 100 mile (Century) road loop route and a Metric road loop, as well as a 40-mile off road loop. The ride will follow the Spaghetti 100 routes.

Our support of bicycle events is of great importance to bicycle riders because of the likelihood of the riders to have injuries or need mechanical support. We also provide organizational support to the race officials by keeping track of the riders and often by keeping riders on course. For us, these are great practice exercises for providing emergency support.

David Miner, W4SKG, will be the Event Coordinator for this event. Stan Zawrotny,

K4SBZ, K4SBZ.Stan@gmail.com will be handling the registrations.

Radio Reunion

One of our regular traditions is the annual Radio Reunion, a dinner where members of several of the local clubs get together for dinner and eye-ball QSOs. This year it is TARS' turn to host the Reunion. A committee, chaired by Sal Martocci, K4YFW, has been developing dinner options which will be discussed at the March meeting. The dinner will be held on Saturday, April 28.

Tallahassee Marathon

On February 5th 12 radio amateurs helped a record number of finishers complete the Tallahassee Marathon. There were 269 runners in the Full Marathon and 608 in the Half – both record numbers of runners.

Amateurs who provided communications vital to ensuring the safety of those athletes running in the events included Ivan Cook, W4FWL, Robert Lakin, W4MMW, Robert Lyons, KI4BLI, Ryan Whitney, KK4BOF, Robert Fernandez, KK4BOA, Madison Moore, KJ4WRO, Brady Lyon, KJ4YSP, Larry Pushur, KI4MAJ, Chuck Basham, AI4KA, Richard Schmitt, KJ4ZOC, Chief Fusilier, KA5USN and Stan Zawrotny, K4SBZ (Net Control).

TOSRV COMETH

We know that the month of March is a busy one for the club, but I want to remind everyone that **TOSRV SOUTH** is coming on April 14 and 15. We need four people who are able to spend both days at the event and stay over in Albany

on Saturday night. One person would stay with the medic, another with the mechanic, another with the ride director and finally, Tail-end Charlie.

Additional hams are needed throughout both days to staff points along the route for a limited amount of time. Hams will be able to spot safety concerns as well as alert the medic or mechanic when there is an injury or breakdown of a bike. The ride starts and ends in Quincy this year.

Please look ahead and let me know if you will be able to help with this event. You can email me at ki4maj@arrl.net. – Larry, KI4MAJ.

Proposed Amendments to TARS Bylaws



The TARS bylaws were written about 20 years ago and may have become out-of-date. At the February meeting, a committee was formed, chaired by Kent Hutchinson, KC4TOC, to review the bylaws for possible revisions. The committee will present their findings at the March meeting. Members are urged to attend this meeting to voice their opinions on any proposed changes.

You may find the complete by-laws on the TARS website at www.K4TLH.net.

New Rules for 5 MHz (60 Meters) To Go Into Effect March 5

On November 18, the FCC released a Report and Order (R&O), defining new rules for the 60 meter (5 MHz) band. These rules are in response to a Petition for Rulemaking (PRM) filed by the ARRL more than five years ago and a June

2010 Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM). In the February 3 edition of the Federal Register, the FCC announced that these new rules will go into effect at 12:01 AM (EST) on March 5, 2012.

In summarizing the new rules, the FCC explained that the new rules amend the current rules to facilitate more efficient and effective use by the Amateur Radio Service of five channels in the 5330.5-5406.4 kHz band (the 60 meter band): “Specifically, and consistent with our proposals in the *Notice of Proposed Rulemaking* in this proceeding, the Commission replaces one of the channels with a less encumbered one, increases the maximum authorized power amateur stations may transmit in this band and authorizes amateur stations to transmit three additional emission designators. The Commission also adopts an additional operational rule that prohibits the use of automatically controlled digital stations and makes editorial revisions to the relevant portions of the Table of Frequency Allocations and our service rules.”

The Amateur Radio Service in the United States has a secondary allocation on 60 meters. Only those amateurs who hold General, Advanced or Amateur Extra class licenses may operate on this band. Amateur stations must not cause harmful interference to -- and must accept interference from -- stations authorized by any administration in the fixed service, as well as mobile (except aeronautical mobile) stations authorized by the administrations of other countries.

New Repeater – Wakulla County

There is a new repeater in Wakulla County. It is a SPARC club repeater on 444.450 + with a PL tone of

94.8. It is at a height of 400 feet and can run under emergency power. The new repeater is open for general ham use and to any EmComm needs.

**Next Meeting – Speaker:
Dave Davis, WA4WES
Topic: Off the Grid:
Powering an Amateur Radio
Station Using Solar Power**



For the past 15 years I have used an 11 watt solar panel to power my HF and VHF radios relying exclusively on solar power. During power outages, my radios have been the only lights on in the house. Using the sun's energy is not particularly difficult, and with some small effort, most radio amateurs can run their rigs with sunlight-even at night. *Dave Davis, WA4WES*

The meeting will be held on March 1 at 7 pm at the St. Francis of Assisi Episcopal Church, Fellowship Hall, 3413 Old Bainbridge Road.

The April Meeting – Kits & QRP

BTW, our April meeting presentation will highlight kits and QRP with Dave Barton in the spotlight. We are letting everyone know early as an invitation for attendees to bring something home-brewed to that meeting, making it a veritable "show-n-tell".

The Lunch Bunches

Every Friday about 11:30 a.m., the parking lot of the Golden Corral on Monroe Street fills with vehicles with radio antennas attached. Many members of

TARS and even non-members get together for lunch and lively conversation about Amateur Radio and any other topic that might come up. Frequently someone will bring a new HT that they are having trouble programming.



Another "Lunch Bunch," calling themselves STARS (South TARS), has been meeting in recent months at the Hobbit American Grill at 5032 Capital Circle SW and Crawfordville Hwy. This group meets at 12 noon on Wednesdays.

With two luncheons, members can now choose their day, choose their location and choose their dining companions. Or they can attend both and double their eyeball QSOs. (We have to eat, don't we?)

A number of local amateurs are unable to attend the monthly meetings, so these luncheons are their contact with other club members. Others attend both the luncheons and the regular meetings. Although no business is conducted, the president attends many luncheons so that members can discuss items of interest. Everyone is welcome.

Some Local Nets

North Florida Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Net: Dailey, 9 a. m.: except Sunday, 3950 kHz



Capital District EmComm Training Net:
Sunday, 7:30 p. m.: 146.655 MHz

Capital District ARES: Sunday,
8 p. m.: 146.655 MHz



SKYWARN

The first Sunday of every month, we have three special ARES/SKYWARN nets. One on 75 meters, on or near 3958KHz (+/-) at 1930 hours Eastern time. At the conclusion of this net, most everyone moves to 7245KHz (+/-), and picks up the round table there. At 2000 hours Eastern, the regular weekly Capital District ARES net meets on 146.655MHz, and we are joined by station WX4TAE, at the National Weather Service Office in Tallahassee. During the first portion of this net, one of the staff meteorologists joins us on the air and provides a retrospective of the previous month's weather patterns, a brief forecast of what we might expect for the coming month, and also takes specific questions from stations who have checked in to the net. Please join us for these very informative ARES/SKYWARN nets - the first Sunday of every month.

Florida Phone Traffic Net: Daily, 6:55 am:
3940 kHz

Florida Midday Traffic Net: Daily, Noon: 7242
kHz

North Florida Phone Net: Daily,
2330Z: 3950 kHz,

Thomasville Amateur Radio Club Thursday
Night Net - 8pm local every Thursday
night, 147.195 repeater, + offset, with
141.3 tone

Sportsman's Paradise Amateur Radio Club:
Monday, 8:00 pm, 145.450 MHz, PL 94.8

Jefferson County Net: Monday, 8:00 pm on
the Monticello, WX4JEF, 145.43 MHz, PL
94.8

Our Neighbors

Thomasville Amateur Radio Club (TARC)

Meetings: The first Saturday of each
month at 7:30 pm at the Plaza
Restaurant in downtown Thomasville.



Net: TARC Thursday Night Net - 8pm
local every Thursday night, 147.195
repeater, + offset, with 141.3 tone

South West GA ARES

Net - 9pm every Thursday night, 147.195
Repeater, + offset, 141.3 tone.

Sportsman's Paradise Amateur Radio Club (SPARC)

Meetings: Third Thursday of each month
at the Wakulla County Emergency
Management Facility at 7:30 pm

Jefferson County

Net: Monday evening at 8:00 pm on the
Monticello, WX4JEF, 145.43 repeater; PL
94.8.



Trading Post



ICOM IC-80AD – A dualband 2 meter/440 HT with **D*STAR**. Up to 5 watts on each band. Car charger and cloning cables included. \$300. Stan, K4SBZ.Stan@gmail.com or 590-6617.



If you have personal amateur radio items that you would like to sell or need, we will publish short requests in the newsletter, subject to editorial review. Please send your requests to the newsletter editor at TallyAmateurRadio@gGmail.com by the 20th of the month.



CQ Newsroom
Breaking - Current News
de Phil N4IPH

While wandering around the more popular Amateur Radio websites: ARRL, QRZ, eHam, HamUniverse, DXZone, I came across the CQ Amateur Radio website and noticed a new link. It may have been there in the past, but this was the first time I had noticed it. In the past, I would go to the CQ website and then take a link to the WorldRadio Online magazine and see what articles were of interest. I was a subscriber to WorldRadio for many years (early 70's until 2008). In fact I have

written several articles for the newsletter from the information found in the WorldRadio magazine, both in print and online.

It was interesting that the first news story I started to read was a notice that Armond Noble, N6WR, founder and publisher of *WorldRadio* magazine for 37 years, died February 1 in Sacramento, California after a short illness. Noble had a long history in communications including VHF Relays in the mid 50's and for a time a foreign correspondent for a number of radio & TV stations and Time-Life magazine.

Checking back a few days later, there was a short article about the magnitude 6.7 earthquake struck the central Philippines and how Ham operators had set up a communication net.

Another article was discussing the agreement that CQ and the ARRL signed to allow the LoTW (Logbook of The World) to allow CQ's WPX applicants to use the LoTW to register their contacts starting around April 1, 2012. There were a number of additional articles about the cooperation of CQ and the ARRL to allow interaction between the two groups. I can remember that a number of ham magazines had taken issue with the ARRL in some of its decisions in the past. It's nice to see these two groups working together for the benefits of Amateur Radio operators.

There are a number of websites that list everything from the latest DXpedition and Contests to the reviews of new equipment in the area of Amateur Radio. Since TARS is in the process of re-doing the club's website. This may be a good time to have a section on Amateur Radio

Resources. Members could e-mail the link of a website to the webmaster with a brief description and have it posted as part of the content. I know we have a number of hams in the area that spend many hours wandering around the internet trying to find information on Amateur Radio topics. It would be nice to have a central place for local hams to find this information.



Topics of Interest

Have an idea you would like to share with your fellow hams? Interested in one of the new exotic digital modes and would like to get others interested in it too? Found a blog somewhere that you think others would find interesting?

Members are encouraged to submit items of interest for publication. Items should be brief and may be edited for spelling, grammar, punctuation, etc. The President and Newsletter Editor reserve the right to determine which items will be included in the Newsletter. The deadline for publication is the 15th of the month.



Pictures, too. If you have taken pictures at an event and would like to submit them for possible inclusion in the newsletter,

forward them to the Newsletter Editor or to the President. Please send action shots, if possible, and try to avoid pictures of the backs of people's heads.

Disclaimer



The Printed Circuit is not representative of the views or opinions of the whole organization, and such views and opinions expressed herein are of the individual author(s).

Updates of Information



If you are aware of any updates, changes or corrections to any of the information in this newsletter such as information about Our Neighbors, Local Nets or Repeaters, please forward that information to us at TallyAmateurRadio@Gmail.com for inclusion in future newsletters.

E-mail Addresses



Please forward any additions or changes of e-mail addresses for delivery of the Newsletter to

TallyAmateurRadio@Gmail.com .

Also notify us if you do not wish to continue to receive the newsletter.

Minutes of Previous Meeting

TARS - Tallahassee Amateur Radio Society

February 2, 2012

7:05 PM Call to Order

Introduction of Guests: Two first time guests introduced themselves (Jimmy DeLoach, KK4FSH and Robert Lyon).

7:10 Guest Speaker: Ivan Cook, W4FWL, discussed the development and construction of VHF and UHF j-pole (or j-wire) antennas. He passed around several examples of his completed antennas so that members could note how these of antennas are constructed.

7:40 PM OFFICER REPORTS

Approval of minutes: The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted with no changes noted.

Treasurer's Report: The current budget has \$2,207, with \$179 in revenues and \$29 in expenditures. See included treasurer's report for details.

Repeater Report: Randy Pierce, KK4UU, reported that all TARS affiliated repeaters were operating satisfactorily.

Education and Testing Report: Alan, N4JGT, reported that 3 junior high school students and 1 adult sat for their technician examination, but that none of them passed the test. The Thomasville Amateur Radio Club (TARC) will hold test sessions on February 18 and 25 at the Thomas County EOC followed with a VE test.

Equipment Report: Stan, K4SBZ, indicated that Bob Parker, AA4JR, has donated an MFJ 949C tuner and other equipment to TARS.

7:55 PM Break

Tickets were sold during the break for 50/50 drawing. A gift of a lanyard worth \$5.00 was provided if the members would contribute a total \$20.00. Members were reminded that refreshments were available and that donations to cover costs were appreciated.

8:05 PM Open Discussion

TARS Website. Stan, K4SBZ, and David, W4SKG, met with the FSU team for an update on the development of a new website for TARS. Stan indicated that content will have to be developed for the various web pages. This project should be completed by the end of the school semester.

Tallahassee Marathon, February 5. There were still openings for TARS members to assist with the Tallahassee Marathon. All that is required is a HT and a car.

Fox hunting - GOTA Day. A fox hunting GOTA Day is scheduled for Saturday, February 18, at the church, beginning a 9:00 AM. During the morning, participants will build a handheld antenna and will be instructed in the basics of a fox hunt. A fox hunt will be held in the vicinity of the church after lunch.

TOSRV, April 14-15. TARS have agreed to provide communications support again for TOSRV. Stan, K4SBZ, asked for a volunteer to coordinate TARS members with this event. Please contact Stan if you are willing to be this year's TARS representative coordinator for TOSRV.

Youth Council. Members asked for an update on who is involved with the TARS Youth Council. Stan, K4SBZ, indicated that two young men, one in high school and the other a student at FSU, composed the Youth Council with Stan as the primary contact person. The Youth Council has a Facebook page.

Radio Reunion on April 28. TARS will host this years Radio Reunion with Thomasville ARC. Sal, K4YFW, Art, KG4YZE, and John, K4ZNC, will form a committee with Sal as the coordinator. The event will be held at the church meeting room.

Swap Meet. TARS will host a hamfest/swap meet sometime in early May that will be held at the church.

8:20 PM Old Business

Neighborhood Hamwatch. No one reported that they were currently involved with a Neighborhood Hamwatch program.

Update on the TARS Trailer and Van. Randy Pierce reported that he contacted Kent Hutchinson, KC4TOC, and requested that he attend the meeting. Kent explained the current situation with the trailer and van and indicated that he would pursue an update with Leon County regarding title, insurance, and ownership. Randy, KK4UU, and Kent agreed to form a workgroup to recommend how these two vehicles can be rehabilitated by TARS.

8:40 PM New Business

Motion # 1. After discussion with TARS members regarding a revision of the bylaws, Kent, KC4TOC moved that discussion and voting on the pending changes be tabled until the following month. Don, W4DSW, made a second to the motion and the motion was carried by a voice vote. Stan, K4SBZ, asked if Kent would agree to form a committee to review the bylaws and he agreed to chair a bylaws revision committee. Anyone wishing to assist Kent is encouraged to contact him directly.

Motion # 2. Chief, KA5USN, moved that all paid members of TARS be accepted as members of TARS as required by the current bylaws. The motion was seconded by Kent, KC4TOC. David, W4SKG, offered an amendment to the motion stating that all TARS paid members, present or not present, be admitted to TARS. The amendment was seconded by Chief, KA5USN. Both the motion and the amendment to the motion passed with a voice vote.

8:55 PM Meeting Adjourned

TARS Treasurer's Report

TARS Treasurer's Report

March 2012

Beginning balance January 15, 2012

 Checking Account: \$ 417.80

 Savings Account: 1790.19

 \$2207.99

Summary of month's activities:

 Total Receipts deposited in Checking Account \$170.00

 Total Expenses for the month \$ 90.20

Receipts derived from the following:

 \$ 10.00 50/50

 10.00 Member donation

160.00 Member dues

 \$170.00 Total

Expenditures:

 61.25 Secretary of State, Corporation Filing for 2012

28.95 Talquin Electric for Bethel Rd Tower, 2-8-2012 billing

 \$ 90.20 Total

Outstanding Expenses:

 None

Ending Balances on February 15, 2012:

 Checking Account: \$ 497.60

 Savings Account: 1790.19

 \$2287.79

10 Members renewed or joined since last report.

 10 Individuals

 0 Family member

 0 Students

Dues for renewing individuals, as well as family members, is \$15.00. Membership fee for new members joining in March is \$12.50.

The Radio Amateur is...

CONSIDERATE... never knowingly operates in such a way as to lessen the pleasure of others.

LOYAL... offers loyalty, encouragement, and support to other amateurs, local clubs, and the American Radio Relay League, through which Amateur Radio in the United States is represented nationally and internationally.

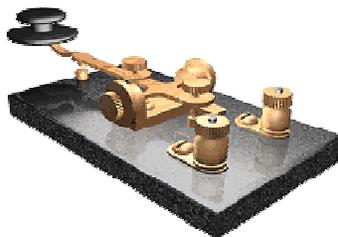
PROGRESSIVE... with knowledge abreast of science, a well-built and efficient station and operation above reproach.

FRIENDLY... slow and patient operating when requested; friendly advice and counsel to the beginner; kindly assistance, cooperation and consideration for the interest of others. These are the hallmarks of the amateur service.

BALANCED... radio is an avocation, never interfering with duties owed to family, job, school or community.

PATRIOTIC... station and skill always ready for service to country and community.

-- The original Amateur's Code was written by Paul M. Segal, W9EEA, in 1928.



Repeaters

x

Location	County	Call Sign	Emergency Power	Digital Mode	Output Freq	CTCSS Encode	Aux or Remote Site	Antenna Height
Crawfordville	Wakulla	K4WAK	No		145.450 -	94.8		300
Crawfordville	Wakulla	K4WAK	Yes		444.450 +	94.8		400
Greensboro	Gadsden	K4GFD	Unk		147.39+	94.8		Unk
Monticello	Jefferson	WX4JEF	Unk		145.430 -	94.8		Unk
Monticello	Jefferson	KA3FZO	Unk	D-Star	444.05+			Unk
Quincy	Gadsden	W4EAF	Yes		147.165+	94.8		250
Tallahassee	Leon	N4PG	Yes		146.610 -	203.5		200
Tallahassee	Leon	AE4S	Yes		146.655 -	94.8		600
Tallahassee	Leon	K4TLH	Yes	P-25	146.910 -	94.8		375
Tallahassee	Leon	K4TLH	Yes		147.030 +	94.8		750
Tallahassee	Leon	KA4EOC	Yes		147.285+	94.8		350
Tallahassee	Leon	K4TLH	Yes		442.100 +	94.8	State Statewide links with: Lake City 444.9 / 110.9 Yulee 442.9 / 127.3 Jacksonville xxx.x / Madison 444.3 / 94.8	600
Tallahassee	Leon	K4TLH	No		442.850 +	94.8		275
Tallahassee	Leon	KJ4G	Yes		443.400 +	131.8	Host of Echolink Node #3950	575
Tallahassee	Leon	AE4S	Yes		443.950 +	94.8		500
Tallahassee	Leon	N4NKV	Yes		444.400 +	131.8		CRMC (200)
Tallahassee	Leon	KD4MOJ	Yes		444.0	94.8		TMH (200)
Tallahassee	Leon	NF4DG	Yes	D-Star	146.835 -	DV		180
Tallahassee	Leon	NF4DG	Yes	D-Star	443.45 +	DV		180
Tallahassee	Leon	NF4DG	Yes	D-Star	1293 -	DV		180
Tallahassee	Leon	NF4DG	Yes	D-Star	1253	DD		180
Wacissa	Jefferson	K4TLH	No		147.00	94.8		300



New Membership or Renewal Form

This form can be used for new members or for renewals. If you have not changed any information from last year, merely make payment to TARS. Complete the form with your name and indicate your member type and ARRL membership status. For Family status, complete a form for each member.

Name: _____ Call Sign: _____
Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____ - _____

Member type: Individual Family Student (check one)

Home Phone () _____ - _____ Work Phone: () _____ - _____

Cell Phone () _____ - _____

E-Mail Address: _____

ARRL member (y/n) _____ TARS Van trained (y/n) _____

You need not be a licensed amateur radio operator to join the Society. An interest in radio communications is all that is required.

Membership dues for the Tallahassee Amateur Radio Society run \$15 annually per individual or family.

Students (with valid ID) **can join for free!**

New members pay pro-rata based on the number of months remaining in the calendar year (\$1.25 per month). Renewing members pay \$15 dues; except after July, dues become \$7.50. After September, they drop to \$5.00.

Please make your dues check payable to the Tallahassee Amateur Radio Society (or TARS). Bring your check with the additional information to the next monthly meeting of the Society and give it to the Treasurer, or mail your check and this form to the Tallahassee Amateur Radio Society, C/O Treasurer, P. O. Box 37127, Tallahassee, FL, 32315.

If you are interested in becoming a member of the American Radio Relay League (ARRL), their dues are \$39 annually and includes a subscription to *QST*, their monthly magazine. Go to <http://www.arrl.org/join.html> for membership in the ARRL. TARS is an ARRL sanctioned organization.

