



The November meeting will be held at the Claude Pepper Building beginning at 7:00 p.m. Also, visit the TARS website at: <http://k4tlh.org>, and the E-Groups site at: <http://www.egroups.com/group/tars>.

## PRESIDENT’S CORNER

**David Heupel, KG4ACF**  
**TARS President**

October’s events are done, and they both went off without a hitch. Kent Hutchinson, KC4TOC, reported to me that the second annual October Trek went very well, and everyone had a good time. The Spaghetti 100, our long-standing bike ride event went very smoothly as well. I believe the most serious happening of the Spaghetti 100 was a skinned knee – and that’s the way we like it – everyone had a good time, and nobody got seriously injured. We had excellent cooperation with amateur operators from the Thomasville, Georgia club – and we thank you very much for your support. As always, the Capital City Cyclists were very appreciative of seeing us along the routes. One of the riders even told me a story of a ride in Pensacola he participated in several years ago, which Amateur Radio provided communications and logistics support. Apparently, a rider in that event had a heart attack. A radio operator was in the area, and medical attention was quickly dispatched to the

scene. The person I spoke with mentioned that if Amateur Radio were not available at this particular event, the fate of that rider could have been much worse (the victim survived), and again expressed his thanks to me, and all the other radio ops that participated. I told him I would pass along the sentiment.

It is important that we support events like this, as we are not only watching out for our neighbors’ health and welfare, but it is also excellent practice for emergency communications. Events such as these allow us to hone our operating skills. I would like to personally thank everyone that assisted with these two events last month, and a special thank you to Elizabeth Moss, KD4VQQ, for coordinating the Spaghetti 100 event. You did a fine job, Elizabeth. I also encourage everyone to prepare for our big event coming up in April, the Tour of Scenic Rural Vistas (TOSRV).

Coming up this month is the second annual Tallahassee Tailgate & Hamfest. This year, the event will be held at Gilchrist Elementary School on Timberlane Road, on Saturday, November 11 at 8:00 a. m. local time. Admission is *free*, so come socialize and/or peddle your wares at the `fest. A good time is surely to be had by all that show up, and you might even find a few good deals too!

More exciting news: The Phase3D satellite project is scheduled for launch this month, on the 14<sup>th</sup>. A victim of several delays, amateur operators worldwide may begin to enjoy using the new satellite as soon as next spring, or earlier. As long as everything goes well with remaining tests being

### CONTENTS:

<b>PRESIDENT’S CORNER .....</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>CURRENT EVENTS.....</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>OCTOBER 5 MEETING MINUTES.....</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>TALLAHASSEE TAILGATE.....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>FOR SALE .....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>SPAGHETTI 100 KUDOS.....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>MOXON MADNESS.....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>SHARED AMATEUR ALLOCATIONS.....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>EDITORIAL POLICY.....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>ACTIVITIES/EVENTS.....</b>	<b>6</b>

run on other commercial payloads of the Arianespace 5 rocket, Phase3D will go up on the 11/14 launch. Phase3D is the largest Amateur Radio satellite to ever be placed in orbit. The spacecraft will have an elliptical orbit that will put it approximately 2500 miles from Earth at its perigee, and nearly 30,000 miles out at its apogee. After the spacecraft is jettisoned from the Arianespace 5 rocket/deployment vehicle, it is expected to take 60 – 90 days to place the satellite in its permanent orbit, and program its equipment before it is commissioned for use by the amateur radio community worldwide. For more information on the Phase3D satellite project, and for up/downlink frequencies, check the AMSAT web site at <http://www.amsat.org>.

Remember that our Christmas Dinner will be coming up next month. I really hope to see all of you there, especially some of you that haven't made it to a meeting for a while. We should have a good time with excellent food, door prizes, and awards. Come to the November meeting for more up-to-date details about the Christmas Dinner – and more information will be provided on the Sunday ARES nets in the upcoming weeks.

Until next month,  
73!

Dave, KG4ACF  
850.877.4046 – home  
850.321.3217 – cell  
[kg4acf@arrl.net](mailto:kg4acf@arrl.net)

## **CURRENT EVENTS**

**David Pienta, KG4DVW**  
**TARS Vice-President**

The only current event is the ARES meeting on Nov. 4th at the EOC. This is by invitation only but you may send your request to Kent Hutchinson.

I am working on the Christmas Party... please tell everyone to stay tuned to their email and the K4TLH website for further information. This should be taken care of by the end of this week (fingers crossed).

Also, please note that anyone needing SKYWARN training should contact me at my home phone or email address below.

David Pienta, KG4DVW  
219-6247 – home  
556-4025 – cell  
[weatherman\\_fsu@yahoo.com](mailto:weatherman_fsu@yahoo.com)

## **OCTOBER 5 MEETING MINUTES**

**Randall Bishop, KD6UAN**  
**TARS Secretary**

**Committee reports:** Repeater report: 442.85 is working great and please ID the repeater. 147.03 is working fine except for noise level. In the process of moving the receiver side of the repeater to the Blairstone site, 146.91, we lost the power amp and it has since been repaired. The shuttle ops will be broadcast for the next mission. Six meter has been put on hold until these projects are complete.

**New business:** The tower site for 146.655 has been sold. Jerry Kessler owns the repeater and the former owners of the site let the repeater reside on this site. The new owners want \$1100.00 per month for the space and antennas on the site. The proposition is to place the location “only” under the club’s umbrella and offer Jerry Kessler’s group the club’s 501(c) 3 tax status. This will allow the new owners of the tower to write off the cost of the rental on their taxes. Under this proposition the club will not take ownership of the equipment and will not be responsible for upkeep or other costs incurred by the new management company. A motion was brought before the group, seconded and passed.

Elizabeth Moss KD4VQQ made a short announcement for the spaghetti 100 and brought up some final points and asked for volunteers.

Kent Hutchinson KC4TOC made a short announcement on the 5k run on the same day. He also asked for volunteers for this event.

**Old Business:** Randy Pierce KC4YWP brought up a request to pay for some gear that he purchased in

order to connect the current 147.03 machine to the new receive site at Blairstone. \$107.00 was motioned and seconded, and passed.

Meeting minutes for Sept. were accepted.

## TALLAHASSEE TAILGATE

Amateurs in Tallahassee will host this free event Saturday, November 11 at 8:00 a.m. The tailgate will be held at Gilchrist Elementary School adjacent to I-10 & US319 for easy access. Talk-in will be on 46.655 & 146.52 simplex. The school is located on Timberlane Road behind the Dixie Oil convenience store. As this is a grass-roots effort, you should bring your own tables, chairs, etc. If you have any questions, contact Steve Welsh, AD4E at [ad4e@arrl.net](mailto:ad4e@arrl.net)

### FOR SALE:

Command Technologies HF-1250 Amplifier with QSK option, in excellent condition, non-smoker, \$1300. A single Eimac 3CX800A7 provides 1,250 watts output; 160 thru 10 meters including bandswitch taps for 12 & 17 meters. Wired for 220 volts. Comes with original box & manual. Will bring to the Tallahassee Tailgate November 11. Contact: [ad4e@arrl.net](mailto:ad4e@arrl.net) or 850-414-7235 (days).

### THANKS, THANKS, THANKS!!!!!!

Elizabeth Moss, KD4VQQ

I would like to take this opportunity to THANK everyone that participated, hunted down or provided equipment for the Spaghetti 100. Both Clubs' members worked hard to make the ride an outstanding success. Riders and support staff both expressed their thanks for our continued support of this event. Mike Brown, KE4FGF, summed up the operators' participation very well in an e-mail to me following the event, "It's also good to see the two clubs come together on a project and work as one smoothly functioning unit."

I would like to say a word of special thanks to Cathy Gurka, KA0PIW, for contacting club members to provide equipment, (we actually had

more equipment than we needed); Wynona Sadler, KF4HSM, for coordinating the Thomasville Contingency; Alan Terrell, N4KGT, Mike Brown, KE4FGH, and Dave Pienta, KG4DVW, for acting as net control. Also thanks to Dave for driving the communications van, and setting up operations at the Miccosukee Community Center.

Last but not least, here is a roll call of those who helped to make this event a success or provided equipment. If I've omitted anyone, or made a mistake on the call, please forgive me!

N4KXL  
KC4LYC  
KD4BTB  
KD4WQR, and his XYL, Dawn  
KE4FGF & W4UCJ (the mysterious operator)  
KF4AON  
KF4CLE  
KG4BIS  
KG4CND  
KG4CNE  
KG4FXS  
NN5I  
KN4DX  
KC4WCG  
KD6UAN  
KG4ACF  
KG4CJT  
KG4CZX  
KG4DVW  
KG4GXT  
KG4GXU

Again, thanks for crawling out of your warm bed at the crazy hour to volunteer your time.

### MOXON MADNESS

John Sample, K4ZNC

Part of the ham radio experience is building something that works! Since building a sophisticated SSB transceiver with DSP is a bit out of my league, I decided to look for an alternative. Maybe building a beam antenna for 17 meters had some potential!

L. B. Cebik, W4RNL, recently wrote an article for QST that described a wire version of the Moxon for field day operation. Other articles surfaced by L. B. that peaked my curiosity even more. In his May 2000 article titled *Using Moxon Rectangles for WARC-Band Antennas*, he notes, "The width of the Moxon is only about 70% that of a full size Yagi with a driver and reflector, and the Moxon uses no loading to achieve the shortening. Instead, it bends the elements around to point toward each other. By selecting the correct proportions and tip-to-tip spacing, one can obtain a parasitic driver-reflector array with nearly the gain of the full-size Yagi and considerably improved front-to-back ratio over the Yagi." He further claims that computer modeling of the Moxon predicts a 6 dBi free-space gain, better than 20 dB front-to-back ratio, and a direct feedpoint of 50 ohms. Now I have to tell you that this simple quote from his article really got my attention!

With dimensions in hand (*see* figure on page 5), I scrounged the garage for some of those ill-fated projects that didn't work. I located a nice piece of leftover aluminum tubing that would do nicely for the boom. Further search behavior resulted in two pieces of Plexiglas from another one of the projects that didn't work. They would make good insulators to separate elements from the boom. And finally, a sturdy mast mount surfaced! All I need now was some tubing and I bought that from Home Depot.

This was an easy project to build. L. B. Cebik suggests using a fiberglass rod to separate the tip-to-tip junction at point C. This will help to maintain the tip-to-tip measurement, which is somewhat critical. I used a wooden dowel cut about six inches longer than the width of C (0.86'). By the way, you have to convert the decimal portion of each measurement to convert to inches. Thus, 19.54' = 19' 6.48" (.54 X 12 = 6.48"). - *Ed.: See diagram on page 5*

Well, the Moxon is now proudly flying above the Force Twelve by eight or so feet. I don't know the extent of interaction between these two beams; I rather imagine there must be some. It's fed with RG-213 coax and there is an RF choke visible to the observer. I can't tell any degradation of

performance from the C19XR, however, I do want to get the SWR of 1.8 down to a more acceptable level on the Moxon. Yes, there is some gain (I don't know how much yet) and I do know there is some really nice front-to-back!

Well, this project works, and we like it when things work! So does Jerry, N4JL, who gets all my whines and grumbles when things don't work. If you would like a looksee, drive by 2922 Shamrock South and look to the end of the driveway. Stop by if the Ford Ranger is in the driveway and we will discuss the finer points of Moxon Madness.

## SHARED AMATEUR ALLOCATIONS

*excerpted from:* ARRL Letter, October 20

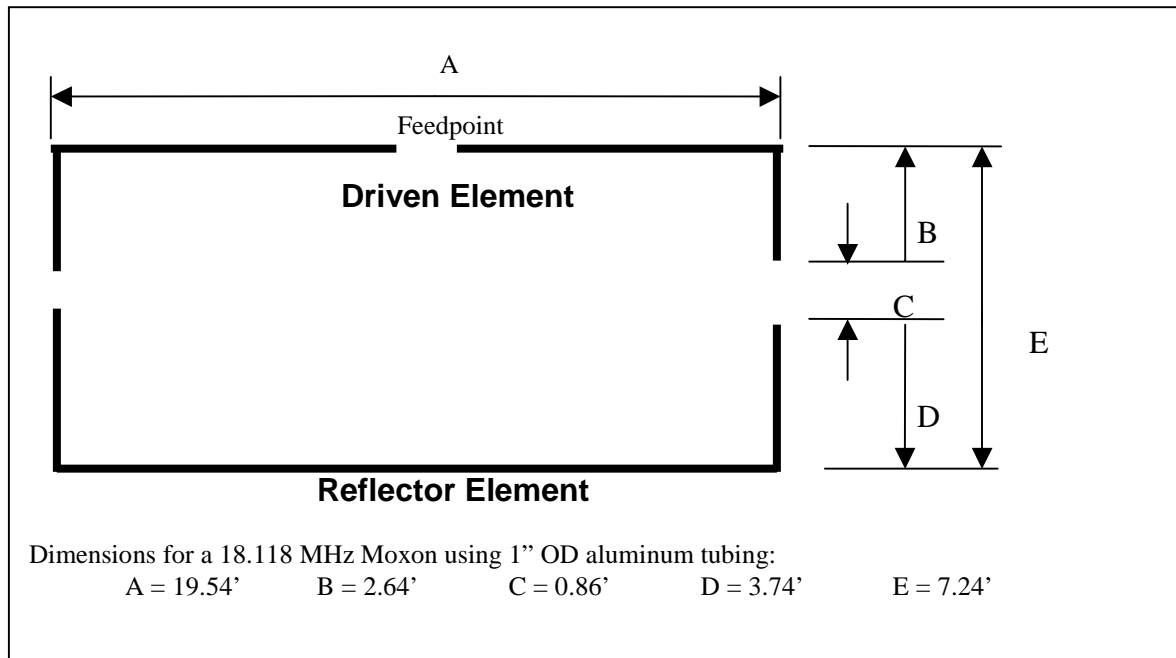
A White House announcement directing federal agencies to work with the FCC and the private sector to identify spectrum for next-generation wireless services will not likely have any impact on amateur allocations. The October 13 Executive Memorandum issued by President Bill Clinton follows the path agreed to during the World Radiocommunication Conference earlier this year to make frequencies available for so-called 3G (third-generation) or IMT (International Mobile Telecommunications)-2000 portable wireless devices.

"It's nothing for amateurs to get excited about," ARRL Executive Vice President David Sumner, K1ZZ, said. Sumner points out that the memorandum merely implements previously announced plans to reallocate frequencies spelled out at WRC-2000.

## EDITORIAL POLICY

ANY and ALL submissions made by members in good standing will be printed as space permits. These articles are in NO way to be taken as representing the opinions of the group as a whole but only as the opinions of the author whose name and call will be clearly stated in each article. Submissions for *The Printed Circuit* may be emailed to: [carliane@msn.com](mailto:carliane@msn.com).

**MOXON MADNESS** *continued:*







TO:

## Activities/Events/Info

<b>DATE/TIME</b>	<b>WHAT</b>	<b>WHERE</b>
November 2, 7:00 p.m.	Monthly Meeting	Claude Pepper Building
November 11, 8:00 a.m.	Tallahassee Tail Gate	Gilchrist Elementary School
Sundays, 8 p.m.	ARES Net	Freq.: 146.655
Sundays, 8:45 p.m.	APRS Net	Freq.: 144.390
Fridays, 11:30 a.m.	Lunch	Kosta's Subs & Salads, S. Adams & Oakland
Saturdays, 8:30 a.m.	Breakfast	Golden Corral, N. Monroe Street
Any Time Chat	TARS E-Group	<a href="http://www.egroups.com/group/tars">http://www.egroups.com/group/tars</a> .