



The March meeting--the **TARS ANNUAL AUCTION** with **Jim Giles, Auctioneer Extraordinaire**--will be held at the Claude Pepper Building, 111 West Madison Street beginning at 7:30 p.m. Bring STUFF!!!

For more information about TARS, and directions to the meeting, go to: [www.K4TLH.org](http://www.K4TLH.org).

**Please note!!!!** If you have not paid your dues, this is the last newsletter you will receive by mail. If you would prefer to continue receiving *The Printed Circuit*, send your e-mail address to David Heupel at [kg4acf@arrl.net](mailto:kg4acf@arrl.net).

## PRESIDENT'S CORNER

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

Spring is in the air, and Solar Cycle 23 appears to be nearing its peak as the Sun's magnetic field is inverting. There has been a lot of solar activity lately, with coronal mass ejections occurring frequently. This makes for some interesting operating conditions on HF.

I had the opportunity to help John Ryan, KD2NL, put up his antenna last month. Randy Bishop, KD6UAN, and John Reynolds, AD4DO, along with his daughter, Pauline, completed the ground crew. We had fun helping John get his antenna on his tower. I'm sure it will provide him many years of radio enjoyment. It certainly was a learning experience for me. I have a couple of tower projects to complete (this year, hopefully), and the knowledge gained will be put to good use.

Mark your calendars for upcoming events. We have the Triathlon event, the March of Dimes, and of course, TOSRV all within the next couple of months. Certainly don't make plans for the last weekend of June, unless they are for ARRL Field Day 2001. Don't forget that April's meeting will be the Spring Picnic. Check the VP's column for more details.

Also coming up in May is the 50<sup>th</sup> annual Dayton Hamvention, and ARRL National Convention in Dayton, OH. The event is May 18<sup>th</sup> - 20<sup>th</sup>. I have secured lodging, and have at least two, perhaps three beds to share. If I can fill all the beds, the split cost will be \$57.00 per person. So, if you have been considering going to Dayton this year, but were concerned about lodging, maybe we can work something out. Talk to me at the next club meeting, shoot me an e-mail, or give me a ring and we'll talk about it. You can find my contact information in this newsletter, and on the club's web site.

The program for this month's meeting is, of course, the annual TARS Auction. Clean out your closets and bring those boat-anchors, because your trash is another man's treasure! See you then.

Until next month, 73!  
Dave, KG4ACF  
[kg4acf@arrl.net](mailto:kg4acf@arrl.net)  
850.877.4046 (home) or 850.321.3217 (cell)

### CONTENTS:

|                                      |          |
|--------------------------------------|----------|
| <b>PRESIDENT'S CORNER .....</b>      | <b>1</b> |
| <b>CURRENT EVENTS.....</b>           | <b>2</b> |
| <b>FEBRUARY MEETING MINUTES.....</b> | <b>2</b> |
| <b>SO-35 SATELLITE FAILURE.....</b>  | <b>3</b> |
| <b>MEMBERSHIP INFO.....</b>          | <b>3</b> |
| <b>EDITORIAL POLICY.....</b>         | <b>3</b> |
| <b>ACTIVITIES/EVENTS.....</b>        | <b>4</b> |

## CURRENT EVENTS

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

Well, let me begin this month by again thanking Lt. David Myers (W4USA) for an awesome presentation on identification fraud. For those of you who were not at the meeting, you missed a very informative and interesting presentation.

Just a reminder that this coming meeting is the annual TARS auction, so please bring anything you would like to sell. The meeting will again be in the Claude Pepper Building at 7:30 PM sharp.

TOSRV is fast approaching in March! We need all possible hams for this event. I have been disappointed with participation in recent past events. Please take a few minutes and remember what amateur radio is all about... community service.

Hopefully everyone that went to the Orlando Hamcation had a great time this month. I look forward to seeing all the "new toys" that everyone came back with!

As always I am always looking for new ideas for programs! I cannot come up with all the ideas for programs! Please let me know what you would like to learn more about and let the club work for you!

That is all for me this month. Take care and I will see you March 1st!

David Pienta  
219-6247 (home)  
[weatherman\\_fsu@yahoo.com](mailto:weatherman_fsu@yahoo.com)

## FEBRUARY 1 MEETING MINUTES

**Carliane Johnson, KG4CJT**

There were 18 members and two visitors, Bill Mapoles, KG4LFT and David Myers, W4USA.

**Program:** Identity Theft, by Lt. David Myers, W4USA, of the Division of Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco.

**Drawing:** The money pot (\$15.00) went to Fred Hay, KF4WHF, with the remainder (\$16.00) to the club's coffers.

**Meeting Minutes:** The January minutes were approved.

### **Committee reports:**

Repeaters – David Heupel, KG4ACF, reports that all machines are working and there was a nice band opening on 2m (~250 mile radius) a couple of days ago.

Treasurer – Kent Hutchinson, KC4TOC, provided a proposed budget. As of the end of January, there was \$330.86 in checking, \$1319.87 in savings and about \$500 needs to be deposited.

Testing – Alan Terrell, N4KGT, noted there is no testing session in February. Next testing session is scheduled for March 6 at the same place beginning at 7:00 p.m. The ARRL is now charging \$10.00 for the fee (check is preferred). Please bring a copy of your license if you have one. Alan also announced that John Decoteau, KG4GXT, passed the General exam at the last testing session.

*Congratulations on the upgrade, John! - Prez*

**Old Business:** None.

**New Business:** David, KG4ACF, suggested that the club consider getting a gasoline card for the van so that those who use it for club events would not need to use their own money and wait for reimbursement.

If anyone has any comments regarding the proposed budget, contact David, KG4ACF.

David asked whether Alan, N4KGT, could provide a special testing session for Fred Heitzman who is the medic during TOSRV and Spaghetti 100. It is hoped that if Fred can get licensed in time for TOSRV, then that would free up an operator who would otherwise be assigned to the medic vehicle. Alan said he'd speak with Fred about possible dates.

David Pienta, KG4DVW, reported on the Tallahassee Marathon which had 11 operators but APRS didn't work as planned. There also continues to be a lot of excitement about the National Weather Service weather stations.

March Auction – Jim Giles, K4VRT, has agreed to be our auctioneer. A suggestion was made to contact other clubs such as Panama City, Lynn Haven, Jacksonville, and Thomasville to see if they would like to participate.

CONGRATULATIONS TO STEVE, AD4E, AND TERSHA WELSH, K4HIM, who had a baby boy on Jan 11, 2001, named Christopher, who coincidentally (or not?!) shares the initials CW!

Kent, KC4TOC – The Springtime Tallahassee parade is March 31. If anyone is willing to stay after the parade while the van is being displayed, let Kent know.

Meeting adjourned at 9:30 p. m.

## **SO-35 SATELLITE FAILURE BELIEVED PERMANENT**

**News excerpted from ARRL, Feb. 2, 2001**

On January 19, the last contact with the SUNSAT satellite, SO-35, was made and ground controllers at South Africa's Stellenbosch University where the satellite was built say SO-35 appears to be off-the-air for good. The satellite had served as a popular and easily accessible FM-mode repeater. "Unfortunately, little hope remains after two weeks of recovery attempts," said Stellenbosch University's Johann Lochner, ZR1CBC, in a posting to the AMSAT bulletin board. "Thanks to all who shared in our fun. Your feedback and encouragement made most of it happen."

Built by graduate students at Stellenbosch, SO-35 was launched February 23, 1999, from Vandenberg Air Force Base in California aboard a Delta II rocket.

A statement from Stellenbosch University's Electronic Systems Laboratory said, "we are certain, after having performed several tests since the last contact, that an irreversible, probably physical, failure has occurred on the satellite. It is therefore unlikely that we will have any further contact with SUNSAT, apart from the occasional visual sighting by telescope!"

Sponsors believe the failure may have been the result of multiple internal problems or possible collision with an external object resulting in major physical damage. The SUNSAT package included digital store-and-forward capability and a voice "parrot" repeater as well as two VHF and two UHF transmit-receive systems. SUNSAT also carried two NASA experiments and an experimental pushbroom imager capable of taking pictures of Earth. For more information, visit the SUNSAT Web site at <http://sunsat.ee.sun.ac.za>.

## **MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION**

***IT'S TIME TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP OR BECOME A MEMBER OF THE TALLAHASSEE AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY.***

Please remit \$25 for single membership or \$35 for the whole family to: Kent Hutchinson, 911 San Luis Road, Tallahassee, FL 32304. Make checks payable to "TARS" and include your call sign, mail and e-mail addresses, and phone number. We also need to know whether you would prefer to receive the newsletter via e-mail or snail mail. For further information, contact Kent Hutchinson, KC4TOC, at 574-4200 or [KC4TOC@earthlink.net](mailto:KC4TOC@earthlink.net).

## **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).



TO:

## Activities/Events/Info

| <b>DATE/TIME</b>      | <b>WHAT</b>                 | <b>WHERE - WHO</b>  |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------|---|
| March 1, 7:30 p.m.    | TARS Auction                | Claude Pepper Building  |
| March 17 (?)          | Tallahassee Triathlon       | Maclay Gardens – Steve Welsh, AD4E  |
| March 24              | Walk America                | Winthrop Park – Randy Bishop, KD6UAN  |
| March 31              | Springtime Tallahassee      | Downtown – Kent, KC4TOC   |
| April 14-15           | Tour of Scenic Rural Vistas | North Florida/South Georgia<br>Contact Dave, KG4DVW or Tim, KF4ROI                  |
| 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                       | Golden Corral, N. Monroe Street   |
| Saturdays, 8:30 a.m.  | Breakfast                   | Golden Corral, N. Monroe Street   |
| Any Time Chat         | TARS E-Group                | <a href="http://groups.yahoo.com/group/tars">http://groups.yahoo.com/group/tars</a> |
| Capital District ARES | Web Site                    | <a href="http://latenight.net/ares">http://latenight.net/ares</a>                   |