

President's QSO

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Special points of interest:

- Amateur Radio Training Class finishes up with testing session on March 5.
- Tune in to the Sunday ARES nets on 146.655 MHz and keep up to date with Amateur Radio in our area.
- Please visit our web site! It has a great forums section, and lots of other good amateur radio related information and links. Point your web browser software to <http://www.k4tlh.net>.

For April, our meeting program will be the "Annual Equipment Auction." I've already nominated Randy Pierce as the auctioneer since I enjoy his humor. Proceeds from the auction is used to supplement our treasury, so it's requested that sellers donate 10% of the selling price to the club.

Saturday and Sunday, April 12-13, we will be supporting the Capital City Cyclists (<http://www.cccyclists.org>) for the 22nd annual riding of the "Tour of Springtime Rural Vistas South" also known as TOSRV. In a nutshell, bicyclists ride from Quincy to Albany and back over the two days. Radio operators are *urgently* needed for this event. If you can spare even an hour or two, that's fine—we need you! Although some operators are re-

quested to be on-site at the start, we realize this isn't always possible nor "required". Just call us on the repeater when you become available, and the net control operator will assign you as needed. The start (and finish) location is at the Quincy Recreation Center, 122 North Graves St, in Quincy (See http://www.cccyclists.org/map_quincy.php). More information will be forthcoming as details become available. This is a good opportunity for us to work with the folks associated with our nearby radio clubs, the Thomasville Amateur Radio Club (<http://home.rose.net/~w4ucj/w4ucj.htm>) and the Albany Amateur Radio Club (<http://www.qsl.net/w4mm>). Anyone with GPS position reporting capabilities (i.e., APRS) is especially needed. If you care to contact me directly, I can be reached weekdays at 414-7235 or via e-mail

at ad4e@arrl.net

We will have our Spring Cookout on the regular meeting evening in May. The cookout will be at **Tom Brown Park**, and begin at 5:45-6:00 p.m. and go until sundown. Please join us and bring the family.

Field Day will be the last full weekend in June—June 28 and 29. We already have volunteers to be station captains for one HF station and the GOTA station. Shaun Hancock (AF400) will coordinate the effort itself, however volunteers are needed for power-source, logging, food, and related support functions. To Assist, or share any comments or suggestions, contact Shaun at shaun@tfn.net. More information about Field Day is at the ARRL web page <http://www.arrl.org/contests/rules/2003/rules-fd-2003.html>.

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VP's Corner

No column submitted for this issue.

Meeting Minutes—March 2003

There were 31 individuals in attendance, three of which were guests.

Program

Randy Pierce (AG4UU) provided an excellent presentation about all the club-owned VHF & UHF repeaters. Look for the PowerPoint file to be added to the web site in the very near future.

Treasurer's Report

The Capital City Cyclists have once again made a generous cash donation of \$200 to the club in appreciation of our on-going support of their annual cycling events. Many thanks for your generosity!

Randy Pierce (AG4UU) settled up his \$150 payment to the club for the log periodic antenna that was donated to the club by Jim Rozzelle (WB4GTY).

Testing

Some 15 people either passed exams and qualified for the Technician exams, or upgraded their ticket at the March testing session at the American Red Cross chapter house following the TARS-

sponsored amateur radio training. Many thanks to all who helped present the material to the students, and administer the test. The high pass rate just goes to show how good a job you did!

The next regular testing session will be held May 6 at 7:00 p. m. at the regular site. Please visit the web site for more details, or check into the Sunday ARES net on 146.655 MHz at 8:00 p. m., and make your inquiry.

Old Business

Williams Communications, Inc donated some radio equipment to the club/ Randy Pierce. The equipment consisted of some GE Phoenix radios, and some other stuff, most of which was given out at the February meeting. The radios have been cleaned up and made ready for use at emergency shelters by the Red Cross. Also, Carl Wells (AG4UT), has been busy homebrewing some antennae for use with these rigs at the shelters, which may be suitable for temporary and/or permanent installations. Thank

you for your assistance Randy and Carl!

Publicity: Rhett White (KB4CTV) is looking into getting notices of the club meetings published in the Democrat. Brett Wellman (KG4KLR) mentioned that the ARRL has a professionally produced 30-second broadcast TV spot that is available to clubs. We should follow up with this.

800 MHz Public Safety radios: David Myers (W4USA) transferred the radios to Carlton Wells (AG4UT) just prior to the meeting start. Carlton will be checking out the units, cataloging, and evaluating them.

New Business

The April meeting will be the annual equipment auction. Proceeds are to benefit the club's treasury, and 10% of your total sales is the customary donation. Randy Pierce will be the auctioneer.

The annual Spring Cookout & Potluck will be in May this year, after the conversion to Daylight Saving

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Testing session date changed to March 5, 2003. See the club Home Page for more info.

Meeting Minutes

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Time. The location will be Tom Brown Park, on May 1, beginning around 5:45 p. m.

Please bear in mind that elections are coming up in the near future.

Field Day is just a few months away, June 28 – 29. A chairperson for the event is needed. If you're interested in being a station captain or the event coordinator, please contact Steve Welsh (AD4E).

Last but not least is TOSRV South coming up April 12 – 13. Calling all hams, your assistance is requested – forty to fifty volunteers are needed to pull off this event. TOSRV is great training for emergency communications! If you can only devote just a couple of hours on Saturday or Sunday, please check in with the net control on 146.655 when you're available for an assignment. Due to an unforeseen scheduling conflict, Brett Wellman will be unable to coordinate the event. Steve Welsh (AD4E) will be coordinating the event now.

Operation Dark Cloud is also seeking volunteers. This is a mass casualty exercise running from 10:00 a. m. – 4:00 p. m. Wednesday, March 12, 2003. The exercise is to simulate an explosion at the St. Marks Oil Refinery in St. Marks, in conjunction with an explosion and Haz-Mat situation at Doak Campbell Stadium in Tallahassee.

The Challenger Learning Center Special Event has been rescheduled for March 22. The club is sponsoring a special event station operating under the K4TLH call sign. The ultimate goal is to try and arrange for a contact with the International Space Station. Some of the logistics were discussed, but were later deferred to a committee that met after the TARS meeting.

Kent Hutchinson is looking for some missing club-owned equipment which includes an MFJ antenna analyzer, at least one generator, and some other stuff. If you have anything that belongs to the club, please let Kent know, or

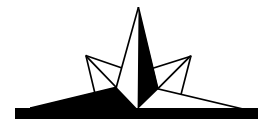
better yet, return it to Kent. Further, Kent and Steve will be taking an equipment inventory and the goal will be to have a web-based check-out system for club-owned gear.

New Members

Please check the TARS web site for up-to-date information on new and renewing members. Follow the Member Roster link after clicking the About Us link off the Home Page.

Hellooooo Radiooooo

Check your audio on the 147.03 repeater. By keying in 725*, you have up to 7 seconds to record a quick message that the repeater will instantly play back one time. Use this feature to check your audio or signal strength into the system.



Major events
occurring over
the next two
months—
Operation Dark
Cloud, and
TOSRV

President's QSO

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Also, April 26 will be the Gainesville Hamfest at the

Alachua County Fairgrounds. More info can be found at <http://www.gars.net/hamfest>.

73, Steve – AD4E



Amateur Radio
Around the
World

We're on the Web!
<http://www.k4tlh.net>



<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/tars>

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Upcoming Events/Nets

Testing Session:
7:00 p. m. EDT on the
first Tuesday of odd
numbered months, at
2631 Municipal Way in
Tallahassee. For more
information, visit [http://
www.k4tlh.net/testing.
htm](http://www.k4tlh.net/testing.htm).

TARS Meetings: Every
first Thursday of the
month at 7:00 p. m.
EST, unless otherwise
announced.

Friday Lunch: Every
Friday, 11:30 a. m. EST
at Golden Corral on
North Monroe St.

Saturday Breakfasts:
Every Saturday, 8:00
a. m. EST at Golden
Corral on Monroe St.

**Capital District ARES
Net:** Every Sunday,
8:00 p. m. EST on the
AE4S repeater
(146.655).

**North Florida ARES
Net:** Every morning,
except Sunday on 3950
KHz at 9:00 a. m. EST.

**North Florida Phone
Net:** Every evening,
except Sunday on 3950
KHz at 2330 UTC.

Editorial Policy

Submitted material re-
ceived by the editor
from dues-paying mem-
bers in good standing,
on or before the 15th of
the month will appear in
the following month's
newsletter as space per-
mits. Articles published
in *The Printed Circuit*
are not representative
of the views or opinions
of the whole organiza-
tion, and such views
and opinions are of the
individual author(s).
Currently, the editor is
David A. Heupel,
WE4RA.