

Tallahassee Amateur Radio Society February 2005



The Tallahassee Amateur Radio Society meets at 7:00 p. m. on the first Thursday of every month. Our primary meeting location is the conference room on the upper floor of the Publix on Ocala Road in Tallahassee. Talk-in on the AE4S repeater 146.655 (down .600, tone 94.8), or 146.520 simplex if you require entry into the building

The Presidents Corner:

CQ TARS CQ TARS CQ TARS de AI4AI...

It's February, and already 2005 is moving at a frenetic pace! We have a number of events coming up fairly soon, and the time to begin planning is NOW!

As evidenced by the material you're reading right now, TARS now has a new newsletter editor. Please welcome Dan Moniz as our new editor, and please assist him in any way you can as he produces our monthly newsletters for you.

If you haven't already submitted your 2005 dues, here's a friendly reminder. Several members handed me their membership checks at the conclusion of January's meeting, and the club thanks you! Remember that individual and family dues are \$15.00 per year, and student membership is free! Please submit your dues payments to our treasurer, Carlton Wells, AG4UT.

This spring offers us the opportunity to serve the Capital City Cyclists again, supporting their annual TOSRV ride. Dave Davis, WA4WES is coordinating our effort again this year - please contact Dave if you'd like to participate.

Also this spring, just a couple weeks before TOSRV, we'll be supporting Bike Florida as they host a ride through our area. Please contact Alan, W1ABT if you can help in the effort there.

Last year, several members were hoping to provide significant APRS support during TOSRV, but due (I think) to the late date at which we began planning for that event, the APRS implementation was a bit less than we had hoped for. I'd love to see us try that effort again this year, and perhaps by starting our planning a bit earlier, we can do a little better this time around. If you have APRS experience and/or equipment, I would encourage you to contact Dave Davis and/or Alan Torledsky who are acting as the coordinating individuals for these two events. Don't forget that the Florida hamfest season is fast approaching!! I hope to attend, and look forward to seeing many of you folks there, too!
73 de AI4AI

Upcoming Special Events

Volunteer and Participation Opportunities:

2nd Annual Shamrock Scurry 5K Race

"2nd Annual Shamrock Scurry 5K Race on Saturday, March 5th, at Celebration Baptist Church - drew over 175 runners last year and we're aiming for 300 this year - would you and some of your amateur radio buddies like to take care of communications? Will probably need 6-8 of them around the course, finish and start lines, registration, etc"

Maps to follow.

To Volunteer:

Contact Kent kc4toc at kc4toc@arrl.net



TOSRV (Tour of Springtime Rural Vistas)

TARS has been requested to help out again for this year's TOSRV event (200 miles/km in 2 days, Quincy-Cairo-Albany). It will take place **April 16 & 17, 2005**, beginning in Quincy, FL and the high school in Cairo, GA. Larry Pushor will in touch with TARS to see if we can volunteer our ham radio support.

Larry's letter will be passed around at the next TARS meeting for all to see the appreciation he has for TARS volunteers for the Spaghetti 100 and TOSRV. Additionally, Capital City Cyclists donated \$300 to TARS, \$50 of which is entrusted "...to cover gas expense of TARS members who traveled some considerable distance the day of the Spaghetti 100."

Contact: Dave Davis 488 2458 ext 726 (w) 562-3660 (h).

The Foundation for Amateur Radio, Inc.

The Foundation for Amateur Radio is accepting applications for 55 scholarships for the academic year 2005-2006. A copy of the news release requested from aa3of@arrl.net. A copy will also be passed around at the next TARS meeting.

Additional information and an application form may be requested by letter or QSL card, postmarked prior to April 30, 2005 from: FAR Scholarships - Post Office Box 831 - Riverdale, MD 20738

Orlando HamCation

The 58th Orlando HamCation Amateur Radio & Computer Show will take place February 11, 12, & 13, 2005. It will be at the Central Florida Fairgrounds on 4603 W. Colonial Drive (SR 50), Orlando, Florida. For more information go to www.hamcation.com, call 407-273-1406, or email hamcation@oarc.org.

Charleston Hamfest

The 32nd Annual and Original Charleston Hamfest & Computer Show will take place February 5, 2005. It will be at the Exchange Park Fairgrounds on 9850 Hwy 98, Charleston, South Carolina. For more information contact Jenny Myers, WA4NGV by calling 843-747-2324 or emailing brycemyers@aol.com.

Bike Florida 2005: Red Hills to the Sea

Bike Florida is a state wide, nonprofit cycling organization and we're currently planning a Panhandle ride for next spring. It will take place from March 19th through the 25th

ABOUT THE RIDE

Bike Florida 2005: Red Hills to the Sea is a 7-day fully-supported bicycle and tent camping tour that will pedal between 315-385 miles among the rolling hills and along the beautiful Gulf Coast of the Florida Panhandle.

DAILY MILEAGE

This year's ride will start and end in Monticello, Florida and cyclists will ride between 45-75 miles daily, with no shorter routes available. There will be a century option one day and a lay over day mid week with an optional ride of up to 45 miles. The daily mileage will be approximately as follows:

- *Saturday: 12-40 miles around Monticello
- *Sunday: Monticello to Quincy - 68 Miles
- *Monday: Quincy to Blountstown - 55 miles
- *Tuesday: Blountstown to Apalachicola - 75-100 miles (this will be the century option)
- *Wednesday: Apalachicola lay-over day - 0-45 miles
- *Thursday: Apalachicola to Sopchoppy - 55 miles
- *Friday: Sopchoppy to Monticello - 60 miles

The final mileages will vary somewhat as we finalize the details of the route. The Sunday and Monday rides will be through some hilly north Florida countryside. Tuesday through Friday will be relatively flat with some rolling hills.

Website: www.bikeflorida.org

Volunteer support from HAM Radio Operators is needed.

CONTACT: Alan B. Torledsky (W1ABT) at w1abt@hotmail.com or 850.933.2081

TARS Meeting January 9, 2005

The meeting of the Tallahassee Amateur Radio Society was called to order by President Brian AI4AI at 7:10pm at Publix's Conference room on Ocala Rd. Approximately 32 were in attendance.

Brian reported that our current newsletter editor, Ryan has accepted a position in Washington D.C. and will no longer be able to edit the TARS newsletter. Kimo, K4IMO advised Brian that Dan, KI4HGO has agreed to take over the editor's job. Dan asked if anyone in the group had information or any articles that might be of interest to Amateur Radio Operators to please e-mail him at KI4HGO@arrl.net

Brian announced that operators are needed to assist with the T.O.S.R.O.V. event on April 16th and 17th.

Copies of the Treasurer's report were distributed by John, NZ4QJ in the absence of Carlton AG4UT.

A motion was moved, second and passed by the members to accept the treasurer's report. 50/50 netted \$15.00 for the club.

A motion was moved, second and passed to reimburse Kent KC4TOC \$61.25 for filing fees to the state for corporation renewal.

Bill, KI4EBD announced that lap-top computers from the Dept. of Revenue are available for use by the club.

A motion was moved, second and passed to adjourn at 8:30pm.

Silent Keys

From ARRL Headquarters, January 2005/February 2005

It is with deep regret that we record the passing of these amateurs:

W4IRO, Eugene M. Floyd, Tallahassee, FL
W4AAA, Henry R. Propst, Fort Myers, FL
KD4HGU, John P. Galaidier, Margate, FL
AB4MA, Michael J. Madigan, Largo, FL
N4OK, Richard M. Talbot, Ocala, FL
W4RDD, Adelbert De Stwolinska, Pensacola, FL
WA4WIW, James N. Nichols, Edgewater, FL

WB0WLU, Carol M. Rosson, Santa Rosa Beach, FL
W2CFX, George W. Berry, Palmetto, FL
W4EAB, Larry L. Wherry, Pompano Beach, FL
W4HCG, Thomas E. Dingman, Lake City, FL
W4TQL, Donald E. Crenshaw, Belleview, FL
Jerry Knight, Englewood, FL
Ex-WN9BZK, K9ERO, James H. Burns, Tavares, FL



TARS Treasurer's Report

January 2005

Note: The December 2004 report is included in this report due to TARS Holiday Dinner for December meeting.

As of 01/05/05:

Checking Account Balance: \$431.01
Savings Account Balance: \$3677.35

Receipts deposited in checking account: \$80.00 (\$28.75 derived from previous receipts)

Receipts deposited in savings account: \$0.00

Receipts derived from the following:

\$51.25 Dues (K4TLH 2004 Roster updated to the webmaster)
0.00 Donations 0.00 50/50
00.00 TARS Auction proceeds*
\$51.25 Total

500.00 Transfer Savings to Checking

Four members renewed or joined as of the last TARS meeting.

4 individuals

0 family members

0 students

Expenses:**

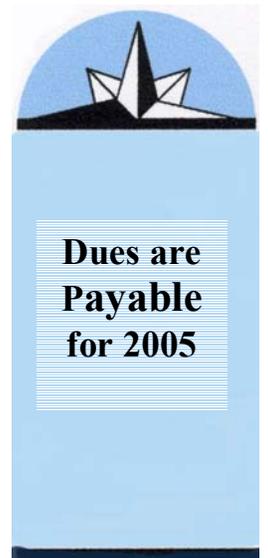
\$339.00 - Marsh-Seabury & Smith, for TARS insurance policy

Outstanding expenses:

\$8.95 - Reimbursement to Dave Heupel, WE4RA for domain name renewal for K4TLH.NET. **(Motion to reimburse Dave without copy of receipt)**

*ARC (~\$202.00) and any other outstanding TARS Auction settlements will affect (add or subtract) net TARS Auction proceeds. See AG4UT for TARS Auction records.

**Reimbursement request for hurricane-related expenses submitted to State of Florida, Division of Emergency Management (Ivan Tracker #1819 and Charlie Tracker #4757)



Membership Renewal

A new year has arrived and so has TARS membership renewal. Make the form easy on yourself. 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: _____ Callsign: _____
 Address: _____

 City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____-_____
 Member type: Individ. _____ Family _____ Student _____ (check one)
 Home Phone () _____-_____
 Work Phone: () _____-_____
 Cell Phone () _____-_____
 E-Mail Address: _____
 ARRL member (y/n) _____ TARS Van trained (y/n) _____

Membership dues for the Tallahassee Amateur Radio Society run \$15 annually per individual or family. **Students** (with valid ID) **can join for free!** You need not be a licensed amateur radio operator to join the Society. An interest in radio communications is all that is required. 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 anytime throughout the calendar year.

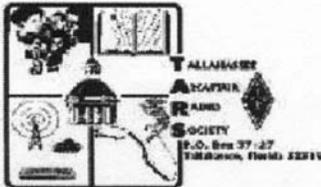
Please make your dues check payable to the Tallahassee Amateur Radio Society (or TARS). Bring your check with the additional information to the next monthly meeting of the Society and give it to the Treasurer, or mail your check and information to the Tallahassee Amateur Radio Society, C/O Treasurer, 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. TARS is an ARRL sanctioned organization. Go to <http://www.arrl.org/join.html> for more membership information.

FCC Chairman Michael K. Powell announced January 21 that he'll step down, effective 'sometime in March.'

Amateur Radio License Class

Starting February 23, 2005



The Capital Area Chapter of the American Red Cross, the Amateur Radio Emergency Service and the Tallahassee Amateur Radio Society will sponsor an Amateur Radio License Class starting **February 23, 2005**. The class will run from 6 PM to 9 PM at the Red Cross Offices, 187 Office Plaza Drive. There is no charge for the class. We will meet each Wednesday night for about 5 - 6 weeks and conclude with a ARRL Volunteer Examiner test session (\$14 test fee). FCC Exams will be given on April 5, 2005 by our local ARRL-VE team... The course will cover the necessary FCC rules & regulations, electronic theory, operating practices and Morse Code (5 wpm) instruction for the **FCC Technician Class Amateur Radio License**.

To register for the Amateur Radio License Class:
Call the American Red Cross Office at (850) 878-6080.

Our THANKS to Phil Ashler (N4IPH) and John Reynolds (AD4DO) for teaching the class.

Testing Information:

The ARRL/VEC administered FCC Amateur Radio License Examinations are provided in Tallahassee the first Tuesday of EVEN numbered months (February, April, June, etc.) in the conference room located at 2631 Municipal Way at 7:00 p. m.

Net News:

Here are two fairly new nets to the Tallahassee area:

2 METERS

The Seven hills two meter side band net meets every Sunday night at 8:45pm.
The frequency is: 144.208 USB
Everyone is welcomed.

73's
John KG4GXT

6 METERS

The Big Bend Six Meter Net meets Wednesday evenings at 8:30 p.m. Eastern Time or at the conclusion of the Sportsman's Paradise Amateur Radio Club Two Meter Simplex Net - - whichever is later.

The Big Bend Six Meter Net meets on 50.150 MHz upper sideband.
The custom on VHF sideband is to use a horizontally polarized antenna. Use whatever antenna you have, but try to get around to using a horizontally polarized antenna.

73's
IVAN (K4SRB)

Other nets are listed on the K4TLH website. All the new ham radio operators are welcomed to use the repeaters and join in on the nets.



New User Tips For VHF-UHF Operations-by Dave Schulthis WB6KHP

Be sure the frequency (or "channel") is "clear" before you transmit. Think how you would like it if someone interrupted your conversation.

- **Recommendation:** when you turn to a repeater or a simplex frequency, listen for at least thirty seconds before transmitting.

NEED A 6 METERS ANTENNA

Ivan, K4SRB, can help you with building a simple and inexpensive full-wave wire loop antenna for six meters. This loop antenna is made from readily available material. Materials cost should be less than \$15.00. For another \$20.00 (i.e., \$35.00 total) Ivan will build you one of these loop antennas.

A loop antenna is one step above a dipole. It has 1 to 2 dB gain over a dipole and is only slightly more directional than a dipole. The loop is designed to be resonant in the lower part of the 6 meter band. The 2:1 SWR bandwidth very easily covers the CW and SSB portions of the 6 meter band.

This loop antenna is in a 4-sided, diamond configuration. The feedpoint is at the bottom of the antenna. The height of the antenna is about 7' 6" and the width is about 7' 6".

This antenna has a 75 ohm coax "pigtail" terminated with a PL-259 coax connector and a PL-259 barrel connector. The pigtail matches the impedance of the antenna feedpoint with the impedance of standard 50 ohm coax. So, you can hook your standard 50 ohm coax right up to this antenna.

73

Ivan, K4SRB

K4TLH Meetings

The Tallahassee ARS meets at 7:00 p. m. on the first Thursday of every month. Our primary meeting location is the conference room on the upper floor of the Publix on Ocala Road in Tallahassee.

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TARS Officers

President: Brian Dunworth - AI4AI

*Vice President: VACANT

Secretary: John Love - NZ4QJ

Treasurer: Carlton W. Wells - AG4UT

TARS Committees

Repeater Trustee #1: Randy Pierce AG4UU

Repeater Trustee #2: Vacant

Newsletter Editor: Dan Moniz KI4HGO

Historian: Shawn Wilson AG4VE

Equipment Manager: Carlton Wells AG4UT

Special Events: Carliane Johnson KG4CJT

Webmaster: David A. Heupel WE4RA

*Note: We bid a warmhearted farewell to Patrick W4TQI, Vice President, who has recently left us to accept a position with PBS television in the Washington, DC area.

Upcoming Events:

TARS Meetings: Every first Thursday of the month at 7:00 p.m. EDT at Puvlix at Ocala Rd.

Friday Lunch 11:30 a. m. EDT at Barnhills on Apalachee Pkwy and Magnolia St. Saturday Breakfast: Every Saturday, 8:00 a. m. TBD

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

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

The Seven hills two meter side band net meets every Sunday night at 8:45pm. on 144.208 USB

The Big Bend Six Meter Net meets Wednesday evenings at 8:30 p.m. on 50.150 MHz upper sideband.

EDITORIAL POLICY

Submitted material received by the editor from dues paying members in good standing, on or before the 15th of the month will appear in the following month's newsletter as space permits. Comments and/or suggestions to improve the newsletter are welcomed. The Printed Circuit is not representative of the views or opinions of the whole organization, and such views and opinions are of the individual author(s). Currently, the editor is Dan Moniz KI4HGO. Submissions for The Printed Circuit may be emailed to: **KI4HGO@arrl.net**

