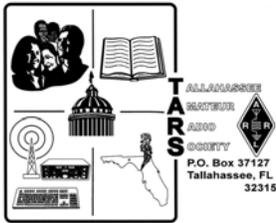


# Tallahassee Amateur Radio Society

## October 2006



<http://www.k4tlh.net/>

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 program for the October meeting will be presented by our own Theo Titus K4MVL, DON'T MISS THIS ONE**

\*\*\*\*\*

### Just a few words:

For those of you who missed the last TARS meeting, really missed a good one. Richard Smith presented a very informative program regarding the County EOC operations. I want to thank all of you for participating, the discussions were informative as well as productive, the atmosphere was relaxed and it really felt like one big family. We are making good progress with the By-Laws project, thanks to Carl NN5I. John KI4EWB and his committee are making good progress toward finding a replacement for the TARS Van. Sheri KI4LHI is working hard to find a restaurant for the December holiday party. David KI4LHH and Gene AI4KK have successfully completed several months of intense training, for local hams. The digital group has reached out to many hams that needed help in erecting antenna, setting up computers, adjusting equipment, and mentoring.

Don't forget the Spaghetti 100 is being held this Saturday, October 7. On Sunday the 8<sup>th</sup> after the net, the "contact all ECs & AECs contest" will be held. The Boy Scout "Jamboree On The Air" (JOTA) Amateur Radio will set-up on Saturday, October 21, 2006. The Tallahassee Museum Halloween Howl is being held on October 27<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup>.

One last thing, the newsletter has a new feature: **THE SWAPP, BUY, SELL, and/or TRADE SHOPPE**. See you at the meeting

73  
Dan KI4HGO

# TARS Meeting

## Minutes of the September TARS Membership Meeting Thursday, September 7, 2006

The Tallahassee Amateur Radio Society Meeting was held at Publix on Ocala Rd.

### **CALL to ORDER at 7:00 p.m.**

President Dan Moniz KI4HGO welcomed all the members and guests who signed in.

\* *The sheet listing those in attendance is made a part of these minutes.*

### **INTRODUCTION of GUESTS**

Dan and the members gave a warm welcome to:

- Everett Ogilvie N4CXI, a member since April 2006, and his wife Sharon. They moved to Tallahassee from West Palm Beach.
- Sally Moniz, Dan's XYL

A motion was approved to waive the usual order of business.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

#### **1. Proposal Preparation**

Dan KI4HGO reported that Chuck Hall of Hospital Corporation of America (HCA) recommended the club prepare proposals for 3 levels of support: low, medium, and high. By the end of the year, TARS is to submit the proposals to Chuck Hall for consideration by HCA. John KI4EWB had already advanced research into trailers and has graciously agreed to work on the project. Discussion centered on determining the purpose of the equipment and what TARS actually needs. Consensus is toward eventual replacement of the van by a portable repeater and/or communications vehicle or trailer. Volunteers willing to assist with the proposal research and preparation are asked to email Dan. (See item 1 in Open Discussion)

#### **2. HCA Book about Katrina Response**

Dan announced that HCA is publishing a book about the evacuation of their hospitals in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, and that TARS members who participated in the radio team may receive a copy.

### **PROGRAM**

Alan W1ABT introduced guest speaker, Richard Smith, Director of Leon County Emergency Management.

Richard Smith's fine presentation emphasized that the Leon County Board of County Commissioners has fully adopted the National Incident Management System (NIMS). Ham radio is part of the plan. All participants are required to take the introductory FEMA courses IS700 and IS100, with IS800 and IS200 required for more advanced positions. Mr. Smith was pleased to see that many TARS members are already trained in NIMS.

Leon County Emergency Management was transferred to the Sheriff's Office in 1999. The county Emergency Operations Center (EOC) is located in a sturdy structure with good security and a large commercial generator; but more space is required. Leon County coordinates 13 counties in Region 2 of

the Florida Division of Emergency Management and has established cross-border links with Georgia. In a communications emergency, the EOC depends on hams for assistance and has a small communications room with 2m and 70cm capability. Hams would be the final line of communications for priority locations: the EOC, two hospitals, Tallahassee Police Department, and others as needed. Hams involved in emergency services may be able to obtain credentials through the HR Section at the Sheriff's office. Richard Smith said he and the Leon County EOC greatly appreciate hams' service

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS** (continued)

3. Dan invited members to come up during the break and see various printed materials that Richard W1AAO had brought, regarding discharge techniques, grounding, and related topics.
4. Dan reported that the usual location for the Christmas party is unavailable. He asked for suggestions on a new location. Sheri KI4LHI offered to round up suggestions, verify availability and suitability of venues, and report at the next meeting.
5. Dan reported on behalf of Dave WA4WES that the antenna-building session on August 26 was a great success and several new antennas were on the air the same day. Thanks to Theo K4MVL for his very informative lecture and elmering, and to all who participated.
6. Hams are asked to assist with the Halloween festivities at the Tallahassee Museum of History and Natural Science ("Junior Museum") on October 27 and 28. This is an excellent activity for the "Hamsters". Dan asked volunteers to email him with their availability.
7. The Spaghetti 100 bicycle race is Oct. 7<sup>th</sup>, 2006. Volunteers please email Dan with availability. Support from the digital group will be very helpful, and Paul KJ4G was invited to assist with arrangements.
8. Carl NN5I has worked on the Bylaws, Dan has a copy on a CD and will try to put it on the website. The code is red = deleted, green = added.
9. Paul KJ4G reminded members to be very careful when raising a tower or working at heights on antennas. Greg W4GJM was hurt in an accident when the ladder flipped. Paul encouraged members to contact Greg and wish him a quick recovery.

### **BUSINESS MEETING**

#### **TREASURER'S REPORT**

Carlton AG4UT reported that the TARS van windshield had been shot out, and an unexpected expense to repair it was to be reimbursed by the shooter. Carlton will vigorously pursue the outstanding Ivan and Charlie trackers from 2004 that are still due to be reimbursed. *A copy of the Treasurer's Report is made a part of these Minutes.*

#### **MINUTES**

The Minutes of August 2006 and Treasurer's report were approved as printed in the Newsletter

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

Testing - Alan N4KGT announced upcoming testing sessions: SPARC's will be held at the Shriners' Club south of Crawfordville on Tuesday, September 12. TARC's will be in the Thomasville Library on Saturday, September 16 at 1 p.m. The next TARS session will be Tuesday, October 3 at 7 p.m. at the Channel 49 facility in the 10/90 Park at Midway. A map is in the Newsletter. (Also see Open Discussion #6, below.)

Education - Phil N4IPH announced that Technician classes start at the Red Cross Chapter House on Wednesday, November 1, 2006 and will continue for 5 weeks. Testing will be on the first Tuesday, December 5<sup>th</sup>, 2006. The question pool has changed as of June, and Phil is not yet sure what materials the Red Cross will be able to provide. People in emergency services, in particular, are urged to attend the classes.

Repeaters - Randy AG4UT reported that the team got the 6-meters up on the O3, and Doug KD4MOJ says it is working well. There is a problem with noise on the O3 machine, and the crew will be working at the site at Blainstone and Old St. Augustine. The team is continuing to rotate through the repeaters for maintenance as time permits. Discussion focused on difficulties some have had with 6-meters on the O3. Randy pointed out that 6-meters is always a bit difficult. The team intends to get the 10-meter up, but wants to resolve problems with the O3 first.

Website - No report.

Newsletter - The September Newsletter was sent out to all members. Please email Dan if you failed to receive your copy or if your email address changes. Responding to Dan's request for ideas last month, Don WA4DSW proposed adding a Swap/Buy/Sell section to the Newsletter. Dan asked for a show of interest via email.

### Follow-up to Last Month's Third-Party Traffic:

Everyone gave a warm welcome to Jerry W4EFM and Shirley K4EFM. Jerry thanked TARS members for their support during his recent stint in the hospital and their fellowship during his years in the Tallahassee area. He said he and Shirley will miss everyone when they move north in October.

BREAK 8:15-8:25 p.m.

## APPRECIATION

Dan presented Certificates of Appreciation to Paul KJ4G, Mary KI4JOO, and Don WA4DSW, for their excellent presentation on digital communications.

## OPEN DISCUSSION

1. On the HCA proposals, it was agreed that John KI4EWB, Jerry N4JL, and Randy AG4UU will take the lead on formulating proposals.
2. Steve AD4E offered to help organize a list of the club's equipment, to make it more available to members. Especially with the renewed interest in antennas, there are items such as an MFJ Analyzer that could really help people improve their stations.

3. John KG4GXT reminded everyone that interested people and new hams can get a copy of the Newsletter by email.
4. Richard W1AAO offered the idea of a TARS business card with some basic information as a starting point for introducing the hobby and the club to prospective hams and potential served organizations. The cards could be generic, and hams could write in their name and contacts as needed.
5. Kerry, formerly KG4IXK, is now AI4CW.
6. Dave KI4LHH announced that EMCOMM testing will be held September 27<sup>th</sup> at Affiliated Computer Services. A map is in the Newsletter.

With no further business to conduct, the meeting was closed at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Chantal Blanton, KI4NBU

### TARS Treasurer's Report September 2006

**(See Last Month's Treasurer's Report)**

#### **2006 TARS Membership Roster**

By Carlton Wells

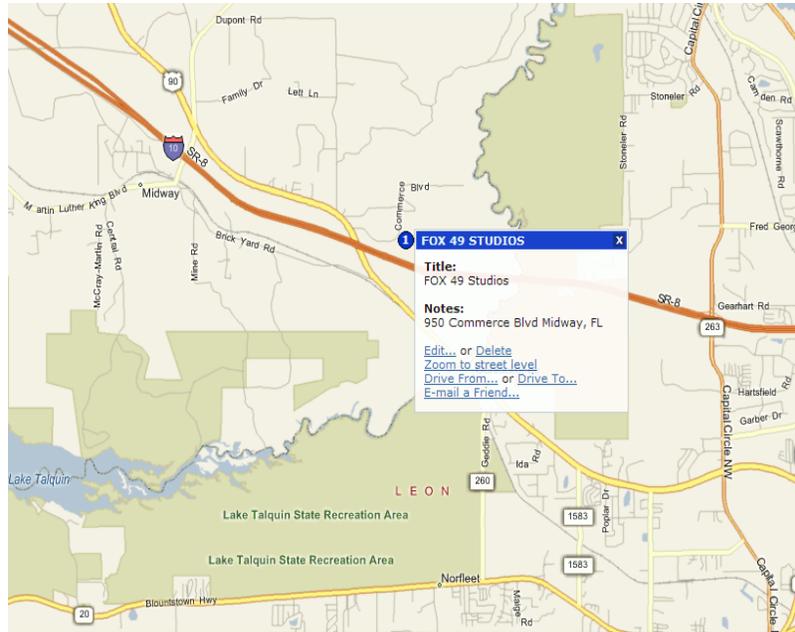
The 2006 TARS Membership Roster has been posted the TARS web site, <http://www.K4TLH.net>. Please check the roster for proper spelling of your name and call sign. Email the Treasurer, [ag4ut@arrl.net](mailto:ag4ut@arrl.net) with any comments or questions.

If your name is missing from the roster, it indicates your dues payment has not been received. If you are a student and your name is missing from the roster, it indicates your renewal form has not been received (dues for students are free). Use the form in this newsletter for mailing your renewal to the Treasurer or see him at the next TARS meeting.

\*\*\*\*\*

## Testing Information

The ARRL/VEC administered FCC Amateur Radio License Examinations are provided in Midway, Florida at 7:00 p.m. on the first Tuesday of **EVEN** numbered months (February, April, June, etc.) in the conference room of the FOX-49 (WTLH) studios located at 950 Commerce Blvd, in Midway, FL. The phone number at the facility is 850.576.4990.



[Click me to view/print me full size. \(74KB\)](#)

There is also usually a testing session at our Field Day operations, which is always the fourth full weekend in June.

There is a \$14 non-refundable examination fee that is payable to the ARRL for the administration of the test. Please bring your checkbook to the testing session, along with two forms of identification, with at least one being a photo ID.

There is a new Technician Question Pool as of July 1st 2006...No Block Diagrams...No Electronic Symbols.. and more "user friendly" ??? questions Both ARRL and Gordon West have new study guides....The new question pool can be downloaded from ARRL and other locations on the internet..  
De Phil

# Amateur Radio License Class



This course will cover the necessary Federal Communications Commission rules and regulations, electronic theory, operating practices and Morse Code (Five Words Per Minute) for the Federal Communications Commission's Technician Class Amateur Radio License. The Amateur Radio Relay League publication "The ARRL Ham Radio License Manual" will be used during this course and will be provided at no charge to participants.

This course will be offered at the Capital Area Chapter's Headquarters located at 187 Office Plaza Drive in Tallahassee over five Wednesday evenings between 6:00PM and 9:00PM beginning November 1st 2006 and run until November 29<sup>th</sup> (5 weeks).

The class should finish just before the regular VE testing scheduled for Tuesday December 5th at the FOX49 studios in Midway (the new testing site).

To register please call the Capital Area Chapter of the American Red Cross in Tallahassee at 894-6741 or visit our web site at: [www.tallytown.com/redcross/training.html](http://www.tallytown.com/redcross/training.html)

SPONSORED BY  
Capital Area Chapter of the American Red Cross  
Tallahassee Amateur Radio Society

\*\*\*\*\*

There will be a SPARC testing session next week, Sept 12, at the Shriners club in Wakulla County. TARS will be conducting a testing session Nov 1 at the Red Cross Chapter House. Two chances to upgrade, do not miss this great opportunity! Good Luck!

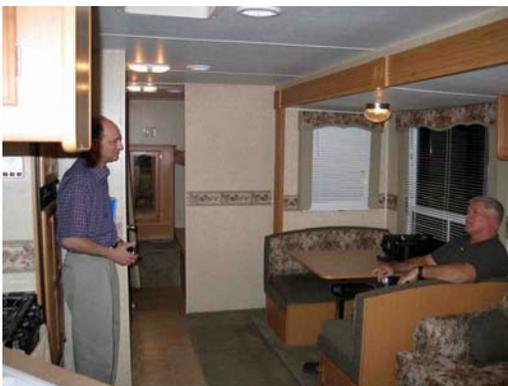
73 Ed KC4MHM

## In Search of a communications' vehicle to replace the TARS Van

The committee working on the HCA project has been meeting regularly looking, researching for a suitable replacement for the TARS Van. Last week they inspected the County's EMS emergency vehicles they received from FEMA. Vernon (KI4PRX) gave the committee an up-close detailed inspection of the vehicles and equipment. The committee has one more location before the next meeting to inspect another communication vehicle. We are looking forward for the committees' report at the next meeting.



Williams Communications site (a slightly different variation)





**One Stop for Free Assistive Technology!**

de Phil N4IPH (From HandiHam.org Website August 9<sup>th</sup> 2006 Newsletter)

*Checking the HandiHam ([www.HandiHam.org](http://www.HandiHam.org)) website a few days ago I happened to see the following article that may apply to some of our prospective amateurs in the Tallahassee and surrounding area. Please pass on the article to anyone you think may need this type of assistance....Phil*

**Assistive Tech is "AT", or assistive technology for people with disabilities. It may be loosely defined as any kind of device or technology that helps a person with a disability to perform a task.** It could be a special spoon that is easier to hold, a speech chip in an amateur radio transceiver, or a software program that allows a blind user to hear what is displayed on a computer screen. We have decided to feature a new AT idea in this space on a regular basis, so let us know if you hear about some new technology, however simple or complicated, that may help people with disabilities to get things done!

**One Stop for Free Assistive Technology!** This is an extensive list of free programs for individuals with disabilities. I like free - lots of times that's all I can afford. Too many times people with disabilities who could benefit by technology are just teased by the prospect, since the price is far out of reach. You won't have that problem with this list:

<http://www.onlineconferencingsystems.com/at.htm>



# J O T A



Come visit the Boy Scout "Jamboree On The Air" Amateur Radio set-up Saturday October 21<sup>st</sup> 2006. We will be located in the front parking lot of the Council Office on Thomasville Road. Operating times are from 9 AM until 1 PM. We will have information on getting your Amateur Radio License and will be making contacts with other Scout groups in the US and around the world. Patches for the event may be ordered from BSA National for \$4.00 each as long as they are available. For more information contact Phil N4IPH

## SILENT KEYS

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

4W4AMJ Lester, Frank I., Venice, FL

N4BGH Flagg, David N., Winter Park, FL

W4BJN WlcCloud, Darell E., Naples, FL

KC4JNM Hill, Willie L, Dania, FL

KS4MK Ward, Richard M., Spring Hill, FL

N4PPZ Cook, Russell J., Defuniak Springs, FL

W4PQA McDougall, Arthur, Ormond Beach, FL

K4RLH Nurkiewicz, Henry M., Casselberry, FL

N4SGT, Vernon Lamar Burt, Sr. Tallahassee, FL

N4JDL, Joel H. Britt, Greensborough, FL



The Passing of two local area Hams

### **VERNON LAMAR BURT, SR., N4SGT:**

Vernon Lamar Burt, Sr., 84, of Tallahassee, FL, past away on September 25th, 2006. Vernon served in the United States Coast Guard during World War II as Radio Technician, First Class, and was honorably discharged in 1945. Vernon is survived by his grandson, Keith C. Burt of Panama City, FL; grandson, Mark McMillian of Prattville, AL; grandson, Ross McMillian of Prattville, AL; granddaughter, Michele Davis of Crawfordville, FL; granddaughter, Kai Page of Crawfordville, FL; and various loving great-grandchildren. The family received friends on Saturday, September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2006 from 1 to 2 p.m. at Lawrence Brown - Service Funeral Home in Selma, AL followed by a graveside service at New Live Oak Cemetery.

### **JOEL BRITT, N4JDL:**

Joel had been battling cancer and lost his fight on the morning of September 20<sup>th</sup>. Joel was a fine operator, a good friend to Amateur Radio. Joel lived in Greensboro, FL and traveled to Thomasville for the Thomasville Amateur Radio Club on the first Saturday of each month.

Joel was in the Navy and retired as a Lieutenant Commander after 24 years and had been a Radar man, Electronics Repair Officer, a Communications Officer and had been in command of MOTU-2 (Mobile Ordinance Test Unit) which was based in Norfolk. Three of the ships he was on had storied careers, The **USS Bennington**, an aircraft carrier whose air group helped sink the Japanese super-battleship **Yamato**, the **USS Neches**, a fleet oiler that was the only support ship of that type to shoot down a Japanese Kamikaze, and the **USS Annapolis**, which was a "Jeep Carrier" (known during WWII as the "USS Gilbert Islands") that had been converted into a serious communications relay ship.

Originally from Iowa, Joel's upbringing was in Tallahassee, and he had attended FSU, the University of Florida, and the University of Miami. He also had his private pilot's license.

## THE SWAPP, BUY, SELL, &/or TRADE SHOPPE

### Interested in a used beam antenna:

One Thunderbird Jr Tri-band beam with 30 or 40 ft of 213 coax. It's been up on a push up mast for the past 12 years, it can be tried out before anyone buys it.  
Contact: Art (W1FJI)

### Looking for a great HF transceiver:

As part of down-sizing everything around the house that's not being used on a regular basis, I have for sale a Yaesu FT-1000MP MarkV "Field". The radio is in excellent condition & works perfect. I'm the original owner. It is box-stock, no modifications, & the top cover has never been off. This is a base station HF transceiver covering 160 thru 10 meters with built-in power-supply, 500 Hz CW filter, & antenna tuner.

The owner's manual, all supplied accessories (including hand microphone), shipping carton & so-on are included. Non-smoker. \$1350.

73, Steve - AD4E

414-7235 or [ad4e@arrl.net](mailto:ad4e@arrl.net)

### WANTED:

A basic 2 meter mobile transceiver, if you have one please contact Ray Prim KD4VQS

E-mail: Ray Prim Kd4vqs ([rayprim@istal.com](mailto:rayprim@istal.com))

Phone:

**I you are interest in placing a notice in the newsletter, please e-mail me at KI4HGO, with accurate description and contact information.**

## Restrictive Community Antennas

(from CQ-Amateur Radio September 2006)

de Phil N4IPH

Are you having trouble getting on the air because of CC&R's (Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions)? Do you have a neighbor that can't stand having a tower next door...or wires hanging from trees? You might want to pick up a copy of this month's CQ-Amateur Radio and turn to page 44. Dave Ingram K4TWJ in Alabama may have your solution with his article "Hamming From The Shadows". Even with the help of PRB-1..there are a number of interpretations of "Reasonable Accommodations" by municipal governments. This is the first of two articles covering "hidden" and "disguised" antennas to appear in CQ.

The first antenna is manufactured by Force12 ([www.force12inc.com](http://www.force12inc.com)) is a sixteen foot aluminum flagpole which will cover 40-10 meters..it takes about an hour to dig an 18 inch hole and filling it with quick-set concrete...running a few radials..and placing the antenna on it's base. The antenna is "resonant on 20 meters (SWR 1.2 : 1 across the band) and with the help of an antenna tuner can work 17, 15, 12 and 10 meters.



If you add the optional base-loading coil (on right) to the setup you can add 40 meters to the system...from the picture in the article you probably need to put some type of cover so the coil & wires can't be seen.

Another "flag-pole disguised antenna" is the IAC's Model SB-40 ([www.iacantennas.com](http://www.iacantennas.com)) which is enclosed in a 2.3 inch x 17.5 foot furniture grade UV stabilized PVC. The antenna covers 40 and 20 meters without a antenna tuner...other bands with a tuner. With it's high-gloss white finish...very few neighbors (or CC&R Boards) would know it's an HF antenna! I checked the website but could only find wire antennas so you may want to give them a call at 888-268-4214..You might also ask them to update their website to show their "flag-pole antennas since a major Amateur Radio magazine covered their product.

SteppIR ([www.steppir.com](http://www.steppir.com)) which also makes the popular motor-tuned Yagi antennas..has two versions or models. One is 18 feet..which remotely tunes/resonates between 20 and 6 meters..and a 32 footer that remotely tunes/resonates between 40 and 6 meters. Although they don't advertise their antennas as "flag-pole" ..Dave states "they do a very good job.." The key to tuning the different frequencies is a "Stepper motor" and a spool of flat perforated copper. The motor adjusts the copper strip to the correct length for the desired frequency and minimum SWR. All you do is push a button..the motor can quickly adjust (4.4 seconds from 20 to 17 meters)..



If these ideas for a "stealth antenna" exceed your ham radio budget..you might try a trick Brian AI4AI used while he was in an apartment...He simply connected a short piece of feed-line to the "rain gutter" outside his window...The other end of the feed-line was connected to an antenna tuner and Brian was able to check into various HF nets and work a little DX !

## SPARC Meeting

### SPARC Meeting Minutes

August 18, 2006

The secretary's minutes were accepted as circulated.

The treasury has a balance of \$1157.93.

With regard to the repeater and mounting the antenna on the River Sink water tower - Randy Pierce informed us that nothing could be fastened to the ladder on the water tower. As a result of this, we are back to the need to locate another site. There is a tower on 267 approximately one mile east of the water tower. It is owed by American Tower and already has a building, AC and cabling. Inquires will be made into this site as well as the WAKU tower at Oyster Bay.

The next testing session in Crawfordville will be September 12th.

Scott Nelson, Wakulla County new emergency manager, was introduced at the meeting.

The certificate of appreciation and SPARC lifetime membership for Bob Routa was shown and approved at the meeting and will be presented to him.

Brett announced that he had registered us to participate in the Lighthouse/Light Ship weekend. We can operate all mode, all bands and will set up in the vicinity of the St. Marks lighthouse. Our number will be USA801.

Paul, KJ4G, gave an up-date report on the most recent accomplishments of the digital group.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30. Respectfully submitted, Judy Miller  
73 Ed KC4M



# Thomasville Amateur Radio Club

## Meeting Minutes

From 09/9/2006

The August TARC meeting was called to order by President Mike Brown, KE4FGF at 7:30 pm on September 9, 2006, with 30 people in attendance including 6 visitors.

1. Mike, KE4FGF made the following announcements...
  - A. There would be a test session at the Thomas County Public Library, September 16<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 pm. At the last testing session, Sarah Hunt laid claim to a technician license and is now KI4QYQ
  - B. Mid month breakfast is scheduled for September 16 at 8:30 am at the Plaza Restaurant.
  - C. September Net Control is Jorden, KI4NBW. October Net Control will be Sarah, KI4QYQ.
  - D. The Jefferson County Hamsters are collecting cans for resale. If you have any, please let the Hunts know so they can be collected.
  - E. Mike gave an update on the condition of Dot Lewis and also Ray and Bobbie Phillips.
2. The Treasurers Report was delivered by Bobby Cooper, N4KXL.
3. The Secretary's minutes were presented in the Reflector.
4. There was a call for discussion, on these reports, being none, they were approved as published.
5. Under the topic "Old Business" Mike, KE4FGF reported
  - A. Walter Childs, KQ4SF still needs help with his tower. We'll make plans for helping him as soon as possible.
  - B. The new .195 repeater system is in place and needs to be used. There are some reception issues but these are being worked on. We are waiting on the availability of the folks working on the antenna.
  - C. The .06 machine will be moved to the EOC and be placed in service on the new antenna. We are waiting on the installation of a lightening arrestor.
  - D. The Pavo Community Center has been secured for the fish fry on November 11<sup>th</sup>.
6. The following items were discussed for New Business.
  - A. The Spaghetti 100 will be held October 7<sup>th</sup>. Jon Sewell of the Capital City Cyclists came and made a presentation on the event.
  - B. It was presented to the group to support the Boy Scout, Jamboree On The Air (JOTA), which will be held October 21<sup>st</sup>. A motion was made to drop the Fly- In Special Event Station and take on the JOTA event by Mike Green, KE4BZG and seconded by Buddy Peoples. WD4CJI. The vote carried unanimously.
  - C. The Thomas County EOC is encouraging us to hold a meeting in their new conference room, to gain familiarity with the facility. Mike, KE4FGF will check on this for the January or February timeframe.
7. Following a brief program by KE4FGF on his "Jump Kit" radio set-up, the meeting was adjourned at 9:05pm

Respectfully Submitted,  
Terry Hunt, K4HNT



**Meet Sarah**  
**Thomasville's**  
**Newest and youngest**  
**Net control operator,**  
**Ham/Hamster**  
**KI4QYQ**



## *October 2006 Reflector*

Mike ke4fgf

Hi Folks,

Fast turn-around this time as the meeting was a week delayed last month. We had a really good turnout, about 30 people all told. I hope we can hold on to those kinds of numbers. As you know, I always refer to this month as "October Madness" because of all the events that will be going on. This October is no exception. We start off with the Spaghetti 100 and the meeting both on the same day, October 7<sup>th</sup>. We'll meet at Ryan's for breakfast at 7:30am and fan out from there to cover the bike race. We'll need 10 stations to make this easy so please try and make yourself available to help. The race will leave Miccosukee at 8am, so 7:30 should give ample time to eat and deploy. We'll cover the rest of the events that night at the meeting. There will be two, the first of which is a new event for us, **JOTA**, which stands for **Jamboree On The Air**, a Boy Scout function which happens on October 21st. We discussed whether to do this event or the Fly-In at the last meeting and the overwhelming response was to help the kids, and just be free to look at airplanes without a radio for the Fly-In (that event is on Oct. 14<sup>th</sup> for those so inclined). Finally, we'll be watching runners compete in the annual Boston Mini-Marathon on October 28<sup>th</sup>. So, if you want to play radio, there will be plenty of chances in October.

Now, once the madness is over, we'll have a Saturday in the clear, November 4<sup>th</sup> and then the meeting/fish fry will be on November 11<sup>th</sup> in Pavo. However, if you want to look at radios, new ones that is, the Lawrenceville Hamfest will happen the weekend of Nov. 4<sup>th</sup>, and that one is worth the drive. You can look at old ones too, as the "boneyard" up there is pretty extensive.

At the last meeting, when I asked for a volunteer for a Tuesday Night Net Control for October, Sarah, KI4QYQ, immediately raised her hand. You have to admire an 8 year old, who is very new at this, but is willing to give the NCS duties a shot. So, please make an effort to check in with her during the month of October. It'd be nice to see a record number of check-ins each week.

The month of October also brings on the need for the club VP, Wynona, to form a nominations committee for the purpose of electing officers for calendar year 2007. They'll come up with a slate to be presented at the November meeting, at which time you can also make nominations from the floor, and then the election will take place at the December meeting.

I've been contacted by Chris Edwards, AE4XO, who is with the Georgia Baptist Relief communications team. He's planning to join us for this meeting and give a presentation on what their group is doing. I know Bobby has sat through one of their sessions in Moultrie and if you recall, a while back, the Moultrie radio club brought down a trailer they were outfitting for this group. I don't know where things went from there, as neither Dale, W1BPP, nor JD, AA4P, appear to be involved with them anymore. It should be informative though, and if you ever gave thought to helping in this capacity, this program should be well worth seeing.

We've all been wondering where Joel, N4JDL, has been and why we haven't heard him on the Tuesday Night Net in a good little while. I regret to tell you that I received a call from his son, Page, KE4WKL, and Joel had been battling cancer and lost his fight on the morning of September 20<sup>th</sup>. We all knew Joel as both a fine operator and good friend. A memorial to Joel follows on the back page. Another silent key that several of our readers know is Vernon Burt, N4SGT, of Tallahassee. I met Vernon a few months back at a Monday lunch "meeting" in Tallahassee, which is populated by a number of hams from all over the area. Vernon had just lost his wife of many years and was not in the best of health himself. I was impressed that he was out among friends so quickly after laying her to rest but, while handling it well; I think I saw a vital spark missing in his eyes. Vernon was a Radio Tech for the US Coast Guard during WWII. Returning to civilian life, he spent a long time on the road managing the Electronics Departments for all the Sears stores in the southeast. I had hoped that maybe he would attend a club meeting with his closest friend, Ray, KD4VQS, because I think he would have enjoyed it and we would have been blessed by meeting him. Unfortunately for us, that is now not to be. I will add that Both Joel and Vernon's passing should remind us that we're losing our older operators and military vets at an ever

increasing rate. You can find out a lot about history and life in general by sharing a few minutes of your time with these special people. I always remind you of this in the December **Reflector**, but please don't think you have to wait until Christmas to pay a visit...the sands of time are quickly slipping by...

I had planned on another installment of "Summer of Lessons Learned" but honestly, with all that is going on with work, there just wasn't time. Next month, I'll tell you about my HT choices when things calm down a bit.

So, please make plans to be at the meeting on October 7<sup>th</sup>, and help with the Spaghetti 100 that morning if you possibly can. Plan to arrive at 6 for supper and then the meeting will commence at 7:30pm. And as always, we are at the Plaza in downtown Thomasville. Come prepared for discussing the upcoming events and help "stop the madness" of October. I look forward to seeing You and your family there...

73 de Mike

## The Amateur's Code

### 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 interests of others. These are the hallmarks of the amateur spirit.

**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.



## Local Net News:

We are sorry to announce the **Seven Hills Two Meter Side Band Net** has been discontinued indefinitely.

**Sportsman's Paradise Amateur Radio Club** meetings are every 3rd Thursday of each month at the Wakulla County Emergency Management Facility (Sheriff's Department) at 7:30pm. **Wednesday Night Net Meeting 2000 Hours 146.550 MHz Simplex**

**Thomasville Amateur Radio Club:** This net meets every **Tuesday night at 8:00pm on 147.195MHZ Duplex**. Club meetings on the first Saturday of each month at the Plaza Restaurant at 7:30pm

### 6 METERS SSB:

The **Big Bend Six Meter Net** meets **Monday evenings at 7:30 p.m.** Eastern Time. The Net meets on 50.150 MHz upper sideband. Use whatever antenna you have, but try to get around to using a horizontally polarized antenna. *This net is in need of net control operators, if you are interested please contact:* IVAN (K4SRB) at [ivancook@peoplepc.com](mailto:ivancook@peoplepc.com)

**Capital District ARES Net:** Every Sunday, 8:00 p. m. Eastern on the AE4S repeater 146.655 (tone 94.8)

**The Big Bend Hamster Net:** This net meets on Tuesday nights at 7:30pm Eastern on the AE4S repeater 146.655 (tone 94.8). Call 574-7965 for more detail information.

### A Few New UHF Nets:

**The "Friday Friendly Net":** It is moderated by Mary, KI4JOO. This net meets on Friday evenings on the 443.400 UHF repeater. The offset is 5 Mc plus and the PL encode/decode tone is 131.8. Check-ins can also join in via echolink by connecting to Node #3950 from other areas or from their PC. This net is scheduled for 1 hour. It's very informal and we discuss anything callers want to talk about.

**The "Winlink Conference":** This net is held every Wednesday evening starting around 8PM. This is moderated by Al, W3YVQ, out of Baltimore, Md. Hams can connect direct to "Fred's happy serve" on node #129799, or tune into 443.400 UHF repeater to participate. This is a loosely directed net and pertains solely about digital communications. Regulars check in from around the USA and discuss all issues of Em Comms using digital equipment. It's mostly a technical group. A large amount of the success of the TLH DIGITAL GROUP comes from the elmering from this group. This net can be lengthy in time, sometimes lasting up to 3 hours.

**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.

## *Please Support AE4S Repeater...*

For the past 28 years, Bill Jordan (AE4S) and I have operated AE4S Repeater. It is the product of Bill's vision to establish a high quality, wide area communications system providing daily benefit to the local amateur community and a valuable technical resource to aid the public during periods of emergency and natural disaster. In order to accomplish this feat, we decided to mix business with pleasure. Out of a couple of communications-related commercial activities came a 600-foot tower, communications equipment building, and emergency power generator. And, the repeater antenna was placed very prominently at the top of the tower.

As a result of the antenna site changing hands a couple of times, we have lost much of the autonomy we enjoyed over the years with our repeater system. As of five years ago, the current owner asked us to pay monthly rent. Since Bill and I still had certain extracurricular business interests, we continued to fund the repeater from our profits along with a few contributions from local amateurs. Unfortunately, the major source of our funding has declined to the point where we must ask the local amateur community to shoulder more of the burden so that we may preserve this valuable communications resource for our amateur community.

The annual rent for the antenna site is \$2,000. The autopatch line adds another \$300 annually; resulting in a combined monthly outlay of almost \$200. Add to this the expense of equipment maintenance and renewal, the cost of operating the repeater becomes a bit daunting for the amateur budget. But it's worth it! There are few communications sites in our local community that rival the performance of the AE4S repeater system. With your help, Bill and I will endeavor to maintain the quality of AE4S Repeater in the tradition you've experienced since its inception.

Contributions to the AE4S Repeater operating fund may be mailed to me directly or via PayPal to e-mail [N4JL@att.net](mailto:N4JL@att.net). Your support is greatly appreciated.

Jerry Kessler (N4JL)  
6628 Tim Tam Trail  
Tallahassee, FL 32309-1937

## 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: Indiv. \_\_\_\_\_ 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.

## TARS Officers

President: Dan Moniz - KI4HGO

Vice President: Alan Torledsky - W1ABT

Secretary: Chantal Blanton - KI4NBU

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

Education: Phil Ashler N4IPH

Special Events: Carliane Johnson KG4CJT

Webmaster: David A. Heupel WE4RA

### Upcoming Events:

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

Friday Lunch 11:30 a. m. EDT at Golden Coral on No. Monroe St.

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.

## EDITORIAL POLICY

Submitted material received by the editor from dues paying members in good standing, on or before the 20<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:KI4HGO@arrl.net)

