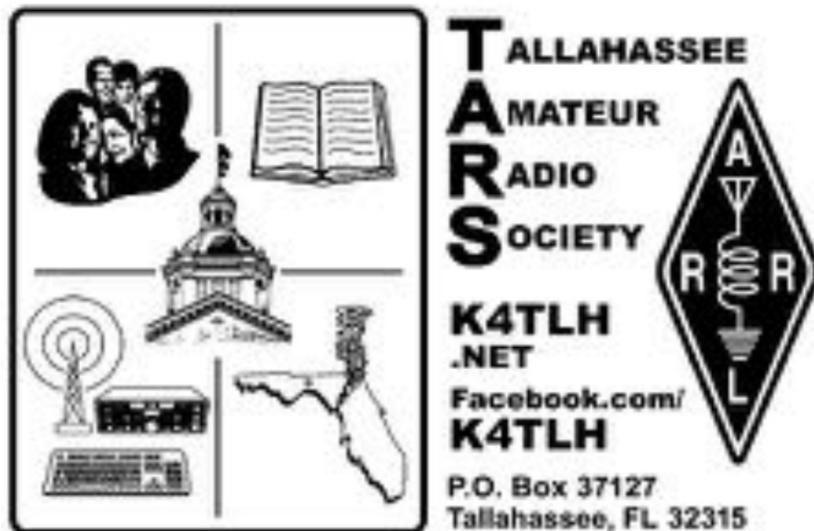


Please see the meeting minutes from the May 2021 club meeting provided below and the most recent Treasurer's Report.



Minutes of the May 6, 2021 TARS Meeting

Compiled and Submitted by: Todd Clark (KN4FCC) – TARS Secretary

(Note: The business portion of the meeting was conducted via radio net due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The program portion of the meeting was conducted via video teleconference following the business meeting)

Call to Order: Gerry Gross (WA6POZ), as net control, opened the meeting net at 7PM local time on the 147.03 MHz repeater. Check-ins from:

KA5USN – Chief

KN4FCC – Todd

K4TB – Tom

KN4WOW – Ed
W4LCR – Clark
WA6POZ – Gerry
WA4WES – Dave
AG4UU – Randy
AI4KA – Chuck
KC4EMS – Jack
N4JL—Jerry

KN4TRT – Paul
K4SQL – Hutch
KQ30 – Justin
KD4MOJ – Doug
K4NRD – Pat
WA4TEO – Richard
KO4KSV – Bob
K4GFD – Norm
KN4UXJ – Larry
N4IPH – Phil
KB2NUI – David
KN4WFH – Stephen

Business Meeting:

Tom (K4TB) opened the meeting at 7:03 after check-ins. Tom was chairing the meeting as Don (KK4SIH)

was an excused absence.

Approval of minutes: The minutes were approved as printed in the Printed Circuit. There were no corrections and no objections.

Committee Reports

Treasurer's Report – Doug – KD4MOJ: Report published in the Printed Circuit. DOS corporation fee and the storage facility rent was paid in April 2021. One other expense, soon, will be a repeater expense in the next report. Send an email to KD4MOJ@arrl.net to be added to the list for the newsletter and the Zoom meeting links.

Education – Phil - N4IPH

The club does not have any sessions coming up due to COVID-19. We cannot get into the Red Cross building to hold classes. We will plan to hold training courses as soon as the Red Cross opens up for public meetings.

Testing Coordinator – Norm – K4GFD – testing on Saturday at 10AM with 5 applicants. None for the afternoon session. Norm will let the club know the results at the next meeting. Chuck checked to see that we have enough VEs for testing and Norm said that we had enough for testing this weekend.

Repeater Committee – Randy – AG4UU: Currently working with TLH for installation, but the weather predictions did not allow us to install yesterday 5/5. We will work to install the 6m repeater soon. The backup for the 147.03 repeater required a repair, a computer board and the cost was about \$70, so the back up system is fully capable. All other stations are working fine. There were no questions for Randy.

Old Business

- Web Site certificate, not updated, but the website is operational. Don will continue to work on get the certificate updated if needed.
- Parks on the Air event was held. Any comments? Nothing heard.
- Field Day – ARRL will use the same contest rules as last year. But TARS is trying

to set up a site at Tom Brown Park. We are still looking for additional volunteers. Great learning experience for new Hams. Still looking for volunteers. We could use a chairman for the event; we also need team chiefs for CW, Voice, Digital, VHF/UHF, satellites, and GOTA/education. Any team volunteers are welcome. It would be good to know of any volunteers. KA5USN did said that the city of Tallahassee approved the request to use TBP for Field Day and we can use the current CDC guidelines for COVID.

- K4TB also said that we need a PIO, Safety Officer (to include COVID), logistics, and scorer / log sheet keeper and collector to submit the report to ARRL. Again, let us know if you are interested by emailing at tallyamateurradio@gmail.com. AG4UU, Randy, stated that 26 and 27 June is the correct dates. Tom confirmed this. We will have 3 weeks after the June meeting to prepare for Field Day. Randy will have a generator and an RV at the event. We can use the RV for which ever station we need and the generator will provide power to the A/C for the RV and additional power for other uses as needed. Dave WA4WES also said that he had an HF radio that could be used. K4TB also volunteered to run the satellite station. WA6POZ, Gerry, stated that there are 3 laptops in the storage facility that could be used for logging software during field day. He is also willing to join the group that will inspect the storage facility.

New Business

- Printed Circuit Editor – We need a new editor to replace Dave, WA4WES as editor. We are looking for volunteers to serve as the editor for the monthly newsletter. It takes about 3 to 4 hours each month. All you have to do is cut and paste the reports and add some additional materials.
- Spaghetti 100 bike race on October 16. Looking for a coordinator. Anybody interested. Stan has coordinated this in the past, so he may have some good resources to use for the coordinator.
- KN4TNT, from Jack: He is willing to volunteer to assist with Field Day. KD4MOJ, Doug, also said that we had received 2 donations to TARS.

Tom, K4TB ended the meeting at 7:35pm. Net Control, WA6POZ secured the net at 7:36.

Zoom Meeting:

Meeting started at 7:40. Dave Davis presented on preparations for the upcoming hurricane season. Ham radio can assist with floods, tornados, and other natural disasters. ARES is the group that coordinates these efforts. Hurricanes are the major emergency that ARES responds to. Hurricane Michael was the closest hurricane that hit near our area. 2020 had 30 named storms and 6 major hurricanes (Category 3 or higher). The intensity can increase rapidly, like it did with Hurricane Michael in 2019. 2020 was our 5th consecutive above normal season. Now we have a “new normal”. Now 14 named storms, 7 hurricanes, and 3 major storms. NWS is predicting slightly above average system for 2021. NWS is good at predicting the path of the storm, but less good at predicting the intensity of the storm. Season starts in early June (usually), but may start on May 15 in 2021. Season goes through Nov. 30, 2021. Early in the season, storms start in the Gulf of Mexico. Major activity picks up again in mid-August through October starting from Cape Verde and moving across the Atlantic and curving north. These tend to be the major storms of the season. After mid-October, the storm intensity is usually less for these late season storms.

Ham operators are trained and experienced. They usually are personally prepared and can be used to provide emergency communications. Ham radio operators cannot be paid for their services. Leon County nets include 3.950 MHz on weekdays and Saturdays. NFL phone net at 1930 local time also on 3.950 MHz. VHF nets on Sunday and Tuesday evenings. You can get good experience with operating your radio by checking into these weekly nets.

ARES has a national level organization, a section level (3 sections in FL: NFL – for TLH, and a district level which includes Gadsden, Leon, Liberty, Jefferson, and Wakulla counties. Each county has an Emergency Coordinator. Leon County EC is Erik Brooks, KC4NVU. There will be a local pre-hurricane exercise for the Leon County ARES group on Saturday, May 22 from 9AM to noon. A chance for operators to ensure they and their equipment are ready for the 2021 hurricane season. ARRL and FEMA provide training courses for HAM operators. There is a list of courses from ARRL and FEMA

specifically designed for HAM operators. Red Cross, SkyWarn with NWS also offer good training.

Operators in the affected areas are not usually asked to volunteer. But outside of the area, volunteers can be deployed into an effected area. Need to be able to take care of yourself, your family, and your job before you can be a helpful volunteer. You want to be part of the solution and not part of the problem.

Go kits should include personal stuff and radio stuff (radios, antennas, power supplies). Take away is that amateur radio is used in a communications emergency and most operators are prepared for dealing with most natural emergencies.

Tom shared that for Hurricane Kate, the local Army National Guard did not have enough supplies communications without HAM radio. Dave shared that you need to have a trained operator, not just lots of radios.

The Zoom meeting ended at 8:06 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Todd, KN4FCC