

Tallahassee Amateur Radio Society

October 2011



Next Meeting

October 6, 2011, 7:00 p.m.

**St. Francis of Assisi Episcopal Church, Fellowship Hall,
3413 Old Bainbridge Road,
North of I-10**

The Tallahassee Amateur Radio Society meets at 7:00 p. m. on the first Thursday of every month.

Our primary meeting location is the St. Francis of Assisi Episcopal Church, Fellowship Hall, 3413 Old Bainbridge Road, North of I-10 in Tallahassee in Tallahassee. Talk-in on the AE4S repeater 146.655 (-.600, tone 94.8), or 146.520 simplex.

TARS Officers

President: Stan Zawrotny – K4SBZ
Vice President: Mike Maynard – K4ICY
Secretary: Vacant
Treasurer: Larry Pushor - KI4MAJ

TARS Committees:

Repeater Trustee #1: Randy Pierce AG4UU
Repeater Trustee #2: Vacant
Newsletter Editor: Elizabeth Zawrotny K4EAZ
Historian: Vacant
Equipment Manager: Steve Welsh AD4E
Education: Phil Ashler N4IPH
Testing Coordinator: Alan Terrell N4KGT
Special Events: Vacant
Webmaster: Melissa Raulston (FSU)
Public Information Officer: Vacant

Upcoming Events

October	1	SET
October	4	License Testing
October	6	TARS Meeting
October	15	Spaghetti 100
October	15	Conley Yellow Jacket Swarm
October	15	JOTA
November	3	TARS Meeting
December	1	Holiday Party

President's Message

On October 15th, the Radio Amateurs of Tallahassee will be confronted with a real challenge – we will have three events to support. But I look at it as an opportunity – an opportunity to show how we can support our community in a variety of ways.

The three events are the Spaghetti 100 bicycle race, the Swarm 10K, 5K, 1 mile fun run sponsored by the Conley Elementary School in Southwood and the Boy Scouts Jamboree on the Air (JOTA). All three are fun events that can be staffed by volunteers of all skill levels. The three events are different in many ways: a bike race, a foot race and an on-the-air station demonstration; short events and a

longer event; mobile events and a stationary event; events where you sit alone in your car and an event where you meet people. There really is something for everyone. You can pick your fun. And if you have never done any of these before, no problem – they are all easy. (But we need you experts, too!)

And if you don't feel like communicating on that day, the church where we hold our meetings, training and testing is having an event that day and needs help parking cars at about 11:30 am. That would be a great way to say "Thanks" to our hosts for letting us use their facility. Contact David Miner, W4SKG, if you are available.

The individual events are described in articles below along with their contacts. Sign up early to show your interest.

Stan, K4SBZ

Club News

Spaghetti 100

Once again TARS will be supporting the popular Spaghetti 100 bicycle race sponsored by the Capital City Cyclists. This year's race will be held on Saturday, October 15 and will leave from the Miccosukee Community Center. The routes take riders through historic Thomasville and Boston, Georgia, then through Monticello, Florida.

As we do each year, TARS will work with Thomasville Amateur Radio Club to provide communications support, as well as someone to ride with a medic

and mechanic to ensure the safety of the riders.

This is a popular event with all hams, partly due to the spaghetti dinner at the end of the race. Don't miss this one! Contact Alan Torledsky, W1ABT, at torledsky@msn.com now to offer your support.

Conley Yellow Jacket Swarm

TARS is also providing radio support to a 10K, 5K, 1 mile fun run sponsored by the Conley Elementary School in Southwood on October 15. This will be a great opportunity for Amateurs who want to gain experience with a race-type event, but don't have the time to devote to a longer event such as the Spaghetti 100. The 5K and 10K start at 8:30 and should be over before noon. Anyone interested in participating in this fun community service event, helping ensure the safety of these runners, should contact Brady Lyon, KJ4YSP, at brady.lyon@gmail.com.

JOTA

The Boy Scouts of America also scheduled their national 54th Jamboree On the Air (JOTA) on October 15th. This year's theme is: Peace, Environment and Natural Disasters. For more information about the national event see: http://scout.org/en/information_events/events/jota/the_54th_jota_2011.

Each year TARS sets up a "Get on the Air" station so that local scouts can experience amateur radio by talking to other scouts around the country and,

sometimes, around the world. If you would like to help out with getting scouts and other interested youngsters on the air, please contact James Ryder, KG4YZM at KG4YZM@ARRL.net.

Next Meeting - Speaker Topic: Doug Ferrell, KD4MOJ: An HF Digital Mode Primer

Our October speaker will be Doug Ferrell, KD4MOJ, who will present an HF Digital Mode Primer. He will have a short PowerPoint explaining the different modes, as well as how to setup a HF digital station, followed by a hands-on demo.

He will have two HF stations, one on a dummy load for local demo to the second HF rig. The second HF rig will be on a 20m antenna setup in the yard next to the facility so we can capture some live QSOs. In addition to PSK-31, Doug will demo two of his favorite modes, Hellschreiber and JT-65, along with other modes, time permitting. Doug will rely heavily on audience participation for the structure of the demo.

The meeting will be held on October 6 at 7 pm at the St. Francis of Assisi Episcopal Church, Fellowship Hall, 3413 Old Bainbridge Road.



The Lunch Bunch

Every Friday about 11:30 a.m., the parking lot of the Golden Corral on Monroe Street fills with vehicles with radio antennas attached. Many members of TARS and even non-members get together for lunch and lively conversation about Amateur Radio and any other topic that might come up. Frequently someone will bring a new HT that they are having trouble programming.



A number of local amateurs are unable to attend the monthly meetings, so this is their contact with other club members. Others attend both the luncheons and the regular meetings. Although no business is conducted, the president tries to attend as many luncheons as possible so that members can discuss issues of interest. Everyone is welcome.



ARES News



Radiogram Forms

Frequently we are called upon to pass a radiogram. Do you have a radiogram form handy? If not, the ARRL link for radiograms is

<http://www.arrl.org/files/file/Public%20Service/radiogram2.pdf>. Two ARRL radiogram forms appear on one page. These are used for day-to-day Amateur Radio use.

If there is an emergency event operating under NIMS, the ICS Form 213 is probably going to be used by the served agencies for exchange of messages. It can be downloaded from <http://training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/IS/ICSResource/assets/ics213.pdf>. A copy of the ICS Form 213 – NIMS Message Format, modified for Amateur Radio use, is available on the North Florida Section website at https://www.arrl-nfl.org/Forms/213_form.pdf.

STANDARD NATO PHONETIC ALPHABET

The ARRL and many other national entities recommend the NATO phonetics for Amateur Radio use as most hams around the world recognize them. This alphabet dates from about 1955 and is approved by the International Civil Aviation Organization, the FAA and

the International Telecommunication Union, and many National Amateur Leagues/Societies/Orgs. Note that different bodies prefer different spellings, so one also sees: Alfa Juliet Juliette Oskar Viktor.

The NATO phonetic alphabet was developed in the 1950s to be intelligible (and pronounceable) to all NATO allies. It replaced other phonetic alphabets, for example the US military Joint Army/Navy Phonetic Alphabet ("able baker") and several versions of RAF phonetic alphabets. It is sometimes inappropriately referred to as International Phonetic Alphabet, which is actually the official name of an alphabet used in linguistics created in the late nineteenth century.

The NATO phonetic alphabet is now widely used in business and telecommunications in Europe and North America, and has been approved by ICAO for use in international civil aviation. It has been adopted by the ITU, (many radio operators will refer to the NATO phonetics as ITU phonetics). Although it consists of English words, its letter codewords can easily be recognized by speakers of languages other than English.

The NATO phonetic alphabet is generally understood by Amateurs in all countries. Used when giving your callsign or passing information that must be spelled out for clarity. For example, AC6V should sign ALPHA CHARLIE SIX VICTOR.

A - Alfa	N - November
B - Bravo	O - Oscar
C - Charlie	P - Papa
D - Delta	Q - Quebec
E - Echo	R - Romeo
F - Foxtrot	S - Sierra
G - Golf	T - Tango
H - Hotel	U - Uniform
I - India	V - Victor
J - Juliet	W - Whiskey
K - Kilo	X - X-Ray
L - Lima	Y - Yankee
M - Mike	Z - Zulu

Red Cross Update



**American
Red Cross**

Over the past few months the number of hams that have become ARC Volunteers has increased to the point where we now have a strong Communications Team at the local Chapter.

Five members attended a two day class (Sat/Sun) in Jacksonville on Disaster Service Technology. The ARC also had a Memorial 5K run in Southwood over the Labor Day weekend and it was staffed by some of the TARS Club hams.

We are about halfway through the Hurricane Season and we are better positioned to respond to an emergency than we have been in a long time. I want to thank everyone who has made the commitment to get involved. Your local Chapter has deployed about 6 people to the Carolina's and N.J. to help folks cope with the aftermath of

Hurricane Irene. Some will be returning this week.

Any ham interested in becoming a Red Cross volunteer, please contact Sal, K4YFW.

Some Local Nets

North Florida Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Net: Dailey,
9 a. m.: except Sunday, 3950 kHz

Capital District EmComm Training Net:
Sunday, 7:30 p. m.: 146.655 MHz

Capital District ARES: Sunday,
8 p. m.: 146.655 MHz

The first Sunday of every month, we have three special ARES nets. One on 75 meters, on or near 3958KHz (+/-) at 1930 hours Eastern time. At the conclusion of this net, most everyone moves to 7245KHz (+/-), and picks up the round table there. At 2000 hours Eastern, the regular weekly Capital District ARES net meets on 146.655MHz, and we are joined by station WX4TAE, at the National Weather Service Office in Tallahassee. During the first portion of this net, one of the staff meteorologists joins us on the air and provides a retrospective of the previous month's weather patterns, a brief forecast of what we might expect for the coming month, and also takes specific questions from stations who have checked in to the net. Please join us for these very informative ARES nets - the first Sunday of every month.

Florida Phone Traffic Net: Daily, 6:55 am:
3940 kHz

Florida Midday Traffic Net: Daily, Noon:
7242 kHz

North Florida Phone Net: Daily,
2330Z: 3950 kHz,

Thomasville Amateur Radio Club

Thursday, 8:00 pm, 145.17 MHz Duplex, PL 141.3, --600

Sportsman's Paradise Amateur Radio Club

Monday, 8:00 pm, 145.450 MHz, PL 94.8

Jefferson County Net: Monday, 8:00 pm on the Monticello, WX4JEF, 145.43 MHz, PL 94.8

Our Neighbors

Thomasville Amateur Radio Club (TARC)

Meetings: The first Saturday of each month at 7:30 pm at the Plaza Restaurant in downtown Thomasville.



Net: TARC Thursday Night Net - 8pm local every Thursday night, 147.195 repeater, + offset, with 141.3 tone

South West GA ARES

Net - 9pm every Thursday night, 147.195 Repeater, + offset, 141.3 tone.

Sportsman's Paradise Amateur Radio Club (SPARC)

Meetings: Third Thursday of each month at the Wakulla County Emergency Management Facility at 7:30 pm

Net: Monday Night at 8:00 pm on 145.450 MHz, pl 94.8

Jefferson County

Net: Monday evening at 8:00 pm on the Monticello, WX4JEF, 145.43 repeater; PL 94.8.

Trading Post

For Sale

Dentron Antenna Tuner, Will handle up to 300 watts 160 thru 10 meters. w/manual. \$26, Paul W4HVD 893-4309

Power Supply, variable 1 to 18 VDC at 1 amp max output. Great for testing. \$20. Paul W4HVD 893-4309

For Loan

TARS Equipment available to members (short/long term):

MFJ 259 Antenna Analyzer

Heathkit SB-220 80 thru 10 meter amplifier

Contact Steve, AD4E, ad4e@arrl.net, for more info

If you have personal amateur radio items that you would like to sell or need, we will publish short requests in the newsletter, subject to editorial review. Please send your requests to the newsletter editor at K4EAZ.Elizabeth@gmail.com by the 15th of the month.

What's the Best Way to Work DX "By the Numbers?"

(from WorldRadio Online-DX World Article
by Kelly Jones NøVD)
de Phil N4IPH



Several months ago I had a short article on the WorldRadio "online" magazine which is available at no charge from CQ-Amateur Radio publications. Looking over the September 2011 edition I found a very good article by Kelly Jones, NøVD, on operating from an area with a different "number" in your callsign. Many DX'ers use a variety of techniques to reduce the confusion and work as many stations in as many areas as they can.

One of the techniques is to work stations by the "number" in your callsign. If the DX'er is calling stations in the US and requests only the "4" call area to call, everyone else should wait until their area is called, and let only the "4" call area to try and make a contact. What do you do if you live in area "6" and have a callsign WD9DPK? Do you try and make a call when the "6's" are being called, or wait until the "9's" are being called? Either way, you sound out of place and are not following the instructions of the DX station operator.

Kelly brings up a good argument. Since the FCC no longer requires hams to change their callsigns when they move to a different callsign district, there is confusion when working a DX station by "the number". Do you call when "9" are requested or when "6's", or a combination

of both? Another alternative is to give your "9" call and append a "/6". One thing for sure, if the DX station is calling for "8's" or the "8" call area -- Don't Transmit!! Wait until all the "8's" have had a chance, then try and sneak in your callsign before the DX station makes a request for another area. The DX station controls the game and decides who he going to work next. If he is trying to work "Papa Charlie" for a reasonable amount of time, it signals that he isn't going to work any other station until everyone hushes and lets him pick up "Papa Charlie". Some DX stations will call out the "interlopers" -- "W9###...I called for threes and you're not a three. If you want a contact, you'll have to wait your turn like everyone else".

Kelly remembers an instance in the 1999-2000's when Alan Chesire, VKøMM, was a part of a sub-Antarctic Research team on Macquarie Island and was a very rare contact. He was not part of a DXpedition -- he just wanted to provide the opportunity to fellow hams to work part of the word. When the pile-ups became too unruly, Alan would warn the stations that if they didn't behave, he would QRT. The bad part was, you didn't know when he was going to get back on the air! After a few days the pileups became very "pleasant" and a number of hams were able to work the rare island.

There are a number of things you can do to increase your chances of working some "good DX". Follow the hints found at www.dx-code.org and "listen..listen ..listen."

Topics of Interest

Have an idea you would like to share with your fellow hams? Interested in one of the new exotic digital modes and would like to get others interested in it too? Found a blog somewhere that you think others would find interesting?

Pictures, too. If you have taken pictures at an event and would like to submit them for possible inclusion in the newsletter, please forward them to the Newsletter Editor or to the President.

Members are encouraged to submit items of interest for publication. Items should be brief and may be edited for spelling, grammar, punctuation, etc. The President and Newsletter Editor reserve the right to determine which items will be included in the Newsletter. The deadline for publication is the 15th of the month.

Disclaimer

The Printed Circuit is not representative of the views or opinions of the whole organization, and such views and opinions expressed herein are of the individual author(s).

E-mail Addresses

Please forward any additions or changes of e-mail addresses for delivery of the Newsletter to K4EAZ.Elizabeth@Gmail.com .

Also notify me if you do not wish to continue to receive the newsletter.

Minutes of Previous Meeting

Minutes of the August TARS Membership Meeting Thursday, September 1st, 2011

19:09 Call to order

Guest Speaker: Leon County Sheriff Larry Campbell

Our speaker for the evening was Leon County Sheriff and public servant with 50 plus years of law-enforcement experience, Larry Campbell. Larry, with a warm welcome, regaled our meeting with experiences of serving during hurricanes and other past natural disasters. He expressed gratitude for the assistance that amateur radio operators provide readily during such events. We were assured of our role and relationship with the county and sheriff's department when a communications emergency arises.

20:10 Break

- The "50/50" was held, where the winner was Stan, K4SBZ, whom donated the winnings to the club.

20:24 Officer Reports

- Treasurer's Report – Larry, KI4MAJ
- Minutes from July's Meeting - As Approved

20:26 Committee Reports

- Education – Phil, N4IPH,: Discussion of the upcoming JOTA
JOTA (Jamboree On The Air) Boy Scout event to be held Oct. 15
Scoutmaster meeting proposal, participation request.
Madison, KJ4WRO, to join James, KG4YZM, to head up the event.
- Testing - To be held on the 1st Tuesday of October, the 4th, at St. Francis of Assisi.

20:36 Business

- Brady, KJ4YSP, has been appointed to serve as ARES liaison for TARS
- Club Badges - An account is being set up with "The Sign Man". \$10 will order you a custom call sign badge with the club logo
- October 15th Ham Radio Events: 3 Events Scheduled
 - 1) JOTA - Jamboree On The Air
 - 2) Spaghetti 100 - 100 mile bike race through Florida and Georgia
 - 3) Conley Elementary "Yellow Jacket SWARM" 10K/5k race, and 1 mile fun run/walk, Brady, KJ4YSP, to head up the event
- Safety Seminar - September 14th at Capital Regional Medical Center
- Capital Area Red Cross "Fun Raiser" Run - Labor Day the 5th at Southwood
- Obsolete Motorola Programming Cables, RIB Box adapters donation proposal from the state

21:03 Adjournment

Submitted by Mike Maynard, K4ICY

TARS Treasurer's Report

TARS Treasurer's Report

October 2011

Beginning balance August 15, 2011

Checking Account:	\$ 393.79
Savings Account:	<u>1789.73</u>
	\$2183.52

Summary of month's activities:

Receipts deposited in Checking Account	\$45.00
Expenditures for the month	\$27.86

Receipts into checking account derived from the following:

\$5.00	Member Dues
27.50	Member Donations
<u>12.50</u>	50/50 Drawing
\$45.00	Total

Expenditures:

\$ 0.38	Bank Statement Correction
<u>27.48</u>	Talquin Electric for Bethel Rd Tower, 9-8-11 billing
\$27.86	Total

Outstanding Expenses:

None

Ending Balances on September 15, 2011:

Checking Account:	\$ 410.93
Savings Account:	<u>1789.73</u>
Total	\$2200.66

1 Member renewed or joined since last report.

1 individual

0 family member

1 student

Dues for renewing individuals, as well as family members are \$7.50. Membership fee for new members joining in October is \$3.75.

The Radio 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.

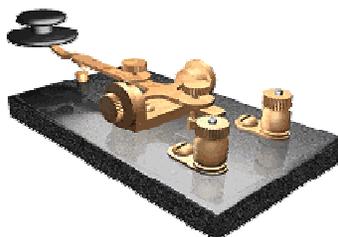
PROGRESSIVE... with knowledge abreast of science, a well-built and efficient station and operation above reproach.

FRIENDLY... slow and patient operating when requested; friendly advice and counsel to the beginner; kindly assistance, cooperation and consideration for the interest of others. These are the hallmarks of the amateur service.

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.



Repeaters

	Location	County	Call Sign	For Emerg Mgt Use	D-Star	Output Freq	Encode	Aux or Remote Site
1	Crawfordville	Wakulla	K4WAK	Yes		145.450 -	94.8	
2	Crawfordville	Wakulla	KD4MOJ	Yes		444.000	None	
3	Greensboro	Gadsden	K4GFD	Yes		147.390	94.8 Tsq	
4	Monticello	Jefferson	WX4JEF	Yes		145.430 -	94.8	
5	Monticello	Jefferson	KA3FZO	Yes	D-Star	444.050	None	
6	Quincy	Gadsden	W4EAF	Yes		147.165	94.8	
7	Tallahassee	Leon	N4PG	Yes		146.610 -	203.5	
8	Tallahassee	Leon	AE4S	Yes		146.655 -	94.8 Tsq	
10	Tallahassee	Leon	K4TLH	Yes		146.910 -	94.8	
11	Tallahassee	Leon	K4TLH	Yes		147.030 +	94.8	
12	Tallahassee	Leon	KA4EOC	Yes		147.285	94.8 Tsq	
14	Tallahassee	Leon	K4TLH	Yes		442.100 +	94.8	
15	Tallahassee	Leon	K4TLH	Yes		442.850 +	94.8	
16	Tallahassee	Leon	KJ4G	Yes		443.400 +	131.8 Tsq	LK. TALQUIN; 147.495 smplx, Tsq 146.2 PANACEA; 146.505 smplx, Tsq 131.8 CRAWFORDVILLE; 147.555, smplx, Tsq 88.5 APALACHICOLA; 147.435, smplex, Tsq 100.0
17	Tallahassee	Leon	AE4S	Yes		443.950 +	94.8 Tsq	
18	Tallahassee	Leon	N4NKV	Yes		444.400 +	131.8	
19	Tallahassee	Leon	K4WAK	Yes	D-Star	146.835	DNA	
20	Tallahassee	Leon	K4WAK	Yes	D-Star	443.450	DNA	
21	Tallahassee	Leon	K4WAK	Yes	D-Star	1293.000	DNA	
22	Tallahassee	Leon	K4WAK	Yes	D-Star	1253.000	DNA	
23	Wacissa	Jefferson	K4TLH			147.000	94.8	



New Membership or Renewal Form

This form can be used for new members or for renewals. 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: _____ Call Sign: _____
Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____ - _____

Member type: Individual Family Student (check one)

Home Phone () _____ - _____ Work Phone: () _____ - _____

Cell Phone () _____ - _____

E-Mail Address: _____

ARRL member (y/n) _____ TARS Van trained (y/n) _____

You need not be a licensed amateur radio operator to join the Society. An interest in radio communications is all that is required.

Membership dues for the Tallahassee Amateur Radio Society run \$15 annually per individual or family.

Students (with valid ID) can join for free!

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; except after July, dues become \$7.50. After September, they drop to \$5.00.

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

