



Tallahassee Amateur Radio Society April, 2010



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

We will not have a program tonight. We will be making plans for **Field Day as well as forming the **Nomination Committee**, for the election of officers in the June meeting.**
In addition, we need to discuss the events for the rest of the year.
Hope to see you at the meeting!!!!

Minutes of the February TARS Membership Meeting
TARS - Tallahassee Amateur Radio Society
Thursday, February 4, 2010

The TARS February Meeting was held at the Publix on Ocala Rd. on Thursday, February 4, 2010.

CALL to ORDER at 7:05 p.m.

President Dan Moniz KI4HGO welcomed the 33 members and guests who signed in.

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

INTRODUCTION of GUESTS and PROGRAM

Dan introduced Art VE2AHH/W4 and wife Suzan of Canada, who were "snowbird" participants in TARS and ARES activities while volunteering at Wakulla Springs State Park during the winter of 2008-09. Art and Suzan gave a humorous and informative presentation, "Life on the Road: How two people can live in a sardine can without killing each other." They have traveled throughout the US and Canada in their camper since 2001, and their tales sparkled with details on "boondocking" and volunteering in unexpected ways (e.g. pastry chef, chainsawing) in a wide variety of locations. Art shared views of out-of-the-way hamfests, useful and historic communications equipment, cultures both ancient and quirky-modern, and beautiful scenery. Art and Suzan were heartily applauded for their entertaining tales.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Marathon - Alan W1ABT and Larry KI4MAJ asked for volunteers at 7:30 a.m. Sunday, February 7, to provide radio communications during the Gulf Winds Track Club Marathon and Half-marathon, starting on FSU campus and extending down the St. Mark's bike trail. Four operators were confirmed, and more were needed. Alan W1ABT asked volunteers to contact him.

2. New Ham of the Year 2009 - Dan KI4HGO read a statement on behalf of the AE4S Repeater Group, Jerry Kessler N4JL and Bill Jordan AE4S, recognizing Mike Maynard K4ICY as "New Ham of the Year" for 2009. The award reflects the accomplishments of a recently licensed radio operator who shows true love for the hobby and amateur service, who has contributed to the local ham community, and demonstrates potential for continued growth in the hobby. The statement highlighted Mike's work as a capable volunteer at many events, his keen interest in the Scout Jamboree on the Air, and his willingness to coordinate the 2009 TARS Field Day. Mike graciously accepted a round of applause and his congratulatory new toy: a handy Diehard Portable Power supply. (Jerry N4JL who was delayed by travel congratulated Mike in person when he arrived as the meeting closed.)

BREAK - Dan KI4HGO had lady luck on his side for the first drawing. Nick W4EAF kindly donated an heirloom item for a second drawing.

ANNOUNCEMENTS (continued)

Paul KJ4G and Dave W4SKG announced the D-Star Academy, Saturday Feb 6th, starting at 08:30 EST through 17:00 at the Tallahassee Auto Museum [6800 Mahan Drive, Tallahassee.] Paul said

ICOM will have its booth there, as well as the creator of the DV dongle, and many other attractions. Details have been announced on ARES nets and via email [see <http://www.arrl.org/sections/NFL.html>] Over 150 attendees are expected. Paul also announced an associated social event Friday, February 5th, 7 pm. EST in the data complex on the east side of I-10/90 intersection east of Tallahassee - - all presenters will attend the social, and Paul urged area hams to attend. Don W4DSW was available to sell tickets for \$8 per person.

Paul KJ4G also announced that the Sedan node is again functioning, and another antenna now is serving as a digipeter for the 145.03 to improve service across the area.

OFFICERS' REPORTS

TREASURER'S REPORT and MINUTES are usually printed in the Newsletter. Dan reported problems with issuing the Newsletter, so a motion was approved to table consideration of the February Treasurer's Report and January Minutes to a future meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Repeater -

Trustee Randy Pierce AG4UU reported that the 146.91 has a brand new p25 (for interoperability) but now has no squelch tone (no courtesy beep.) If you go in analog, the signal will come out analog; in digital, out digital. The 03 is doing ok. Doug KD4MOJ is relocating some equipment from Bloxham to TMH. The 6 meters equipment seems to be working well. The 147.000 will probably be a 2m to 60 m permanent link at Wacissa. Ten meters is still a struggle. Randy was thanked for his continued efforts with the repeater system. We all wish the Pierce family well, as they await a new addition to the family very, very soon!

Testing -

Alan Terrell N4KGT said the test session Tuesday was a success. All 5 applicants passed a test, yielding 2 new Generals (one of whom also passed the Technician test) and 3 new Technicians. The new hams were congratulated in absentia for their achievements.

Education and Website - No reports.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Field Day - Mike K4ICY said next month it is time to start planning. Mike was proposed as coordinator for the 2010 Field Day and approved by acclamation.

2. American Red Cross - Bob NS4G asked if there was any news on the new building and radio facilities. Update pending.

3. TARS Auction - Richard W1AAO asked if the event could be filmed; there was no objection. Randy AG4UU said hams should bring their items, and Alan W1ABT will check on availability of a pavilion at the usual Tom Brown Park-Tallahassee site. An announcement will be sent via Dan's email list and announced on the Sunday 8 p.m. ARES net.

4. March meeting cancelled - It was proposed and voted that the March meeting should be cancelled, replaced by the TARS Auction at Tom Brown Park

5. Alan W1ABT reiterated the need for more hams to help with communications for the marathon on Sunday, Feb. 7, and gave more details of the work and locations.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion to close the meeting was approved at 8:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Chantal Blanton, KI4NBU

TARS Treasurer's Report

March and April 2010

Beginning balance February 1, 2010

Checking Account:	\$ 491.25
Savings Account:	<u>\$2927.80</u>
Total	\$3419.05

Receipts deposited in checking account: \$563.52

Receipts deposited in savings account: 0.00

Receipts derived from the following:

\$207.50	Member Dues
9.00	50/50
84.02	SPARC payment for Sept, Oct, Nov 2009 Talquin Bills
258.00	Auction Proceeds (\$32.10 went to TARS, \$225.90 went to Sellers)
<u>5.00</u>	Member Donation
\$563.52	Total

Expenditures:

\$ 22.16	Talquin Electric, Bethel Road Tower, 2-8-10 bill
96.70	Talquin Electric, Bethel Road Tower, 3-8-10 bill
164.00	Used GE Voter Selector & Cards
74.99	Food for Auction Event
<u>225.90</u>	Payment to Sellers at Auction
\$ 583.75	Total

Outstanding Expenses:

None

Ending Balance, March 31, 2009

Checking Account:	\$ 471.02
Savings Account:	<u>\$2927.80</u>
Total	\$3398.82

14 members renewed or joined since last report.

12 individuals

2 family members

0 students

Dues for renewing individuals, as well as family members are \$15.00.

Membership fee for new members joining in April is \$11.25.

An Open Invitation to the Radio Reunion!

TARC will be hosting the **3rd Annual Radio Reunion** on Saturday, April 24th, at 1pm.

For those who aren't familiar with this event, the Radio Reunion started in 2008 as an event to get several local clubs together for an afternoon of fellowship, which includes our families.

One of our former members, Sandy Donahue, W4RU (SK) dubbed it "Just like a Hamfest...with chicken!" There is one further deviation from a Ham-Fest...with the exception of a talk-in station, there are **NO** radios...that's right none!

As we want this to be a "family friendly" event, we leave the radios at home so the non-ham members will also want to attend. And that idea has been very successful as the attendance has been over 100 hams and their families for the first two years.

In addition, we've timed the event this year to coincide with Thomasville's 89th Annual Rose Festival, so you can bring the family to see the various Rose Festival events and join us for lunch and fellowship afterwards.

The club handles the main dish, which is BBQ chicken and we ask that you bring a covered dish to fill out the table. A jar for donations will be available if you want to contribute to help offset the cost, but it's strictly voluntary.

The important part is that we need to know beforehand if you're coming and how many are coming with you. We don't want to risk anyone going home hungry, plus we don't want to buy so much that we'll all be eating chicken for several weeks afterwards.

The deadline for that is April 16th, which gives us a week to place an order for the chickens.

Please email that information the club email address, w4ucj@arrl.net. In addition, we need to know what your side dish is so we don't run the risk of having BBQ chicken and a LOT of chocolate cake.

Because of high attendance, the facility we used the first year got a little bit close, so we are moving to First Newark Baptist Church, which is located east of Thomasville on US 84, about 2 miles east of the last location. The physical address is 225 Russell Road. And again, the time will be 1pm.

So mark your calendars for April 24th, and plan on bringing your family to the premier ham radio event in this area...the **Annual Radio Reunion**...

We all hope to see you there!

Ham Radio Operators Support Police Bike Race

As tired bicyclists wound their way through scenic northern Florida and southern Georgia Sunday, March 28th, a force of amateur radio operators was watching over them.

The Blue Line 100 Bike Ride, sponsored by the Police Unity Tour Chapter 8 - Tallahassee Group, was a 100 mile loop route that left from the Florida Public Safety Institute (formerly the Pat Thomas Law Enforcement Academy) located on Highway 90 Northwest of Tallahassee and rode north to Climax, GA and then returned back through Havana and Quincy and to the Academy.

Twelve hams from the Tallahassee Amateur Radio Society volunteered to provide communications support to this annual event. This included eight hams that shadowed the athletes in their radio-equipped vehicles, providing directions, ensuring riders' safety and, of course, reporting the lead rider's position back to the race officials. After the last exhausted biker crossed the finish line, he remarked, "It was comforting to know that someone was right behind me if I needed him."



Hospital Exercise: Here are some pictures from the exercise



FIELD DAY 2010 June 26-27 - Always the fourth full weekend in June!

The ARRL Field Day is the most popular Amateur Radio on-the-air operating event in North America.

On the fourth full weekend in June, tens of thousands of Amateur Radio operators in the US and Canada gather for a demonstration of our service.

Field Day is part educational event, part operating event, part public relations event -- and all about fun!

Hams will come together in outdoor locations, setup shelters, hang antennas, provide meals and run exclusively from generator and battery power; all in an emergency event style environment.

We look forward to your attendance and participation on Saturday, June 26th through Sunday June 27th at a to-be-announced location. When announced, visit the ARRL Field Day Locator for directions.

<http://www.arrl.org/contests/announcements/fd/locator.php>

Talk in will be on the AE4S repeater, 146.655 MHz (-600 KHz) CTCSS(PL): 94.8 Hz.

This is a wonderful chance to show the non-hams and the community at large our hobby in action. New hams and inexperienced ones alike will have a golden opportunity to be taught by the best "Elmers" around - a chance to try out HF and other exciting modes for themselves. A 24-hour on-air contest with ample operating opportunities will be available to any ham throughout the event. So spend the night!

TARS will host a "class 2A station" with a GOTA station and will run from 8:00 AM EDT Saturday to 5:00 PM Sunday. Contest starts at 2:00 PM Saturday and runs till 2:00 PM Sunday with operator and logging station spots available.

Sandwiches and wraps will feed the hard working setup crew on Saturday with a supper served that evening. A simple breakfast and lunch will be provided Sunday. Snacks and water provided throughout.

A lot of fun is to be had. There's something for everyone -- See if one of the following interests you:

Food & Friends - Meet your friends and ham acquaintances from long ago... put that call to a face.

Station Setup - Install antennas and get radio equipment up and running.

GOTA Station - Get On The Air! If you're new to ham radio or haven't been on in a while... here's your chance! Kind assistance is there to guide you.

Test Session - Ready to upgrade? Know someone ready to get their ticket?

An ARRL VE administered test session will be held at 11 am on Saturday the 26th.

Educational Sessions

- Learn how build and install basic dipole antennas! 10-11 AM Saturday

- Learn about digital communications - See fantastic demonstrations of D-STAR and PSK-31 in action.

The future of radio with crystal-clear voice and data is here!

- Get On The Air yourself! - Learn radio operating procedures and techniques first-hand. Get to talk to hams across the country and the world!

Operate a Station - Though not an official ARRL contest, there'll be plenty of on-air action, making contacts all over the country, and racking up points for the TARS club too.

- **An HF Phone** (Single Sideband Voice) Station

- **An HF CW** (Morse Code) Station

- **A VHF/UHF** (6 meters and above SSB / FM) Station

- **GOTA** (Get On The Air) Station

- **Digital** Demonstration Station

WE NEED YOUR HELP! In the spirit of volunteerism that hams are well known for, TARS is looking for a few good hams to donate their time and equipment toward running a successful Field Day event.

Please look over the items on the provided sign-up list that you may be able to offer. (You do not need to be present for the entire Field Day event.)

We'll see you there! 73!

Mike Maynard K4ICY, 2010 Field Day Chairman/Coordinator Tallahassee Amateur Radio Society

email: k4icy@arrl.net

phone: 320-1676 or leave message at (Classic Shirts, Inc.) 875-2200 Ext. #32

talk-in: AE4S repeater, 146.655 (-600 KHz) CTCSS(PL): 94.8 Hz

New Membership or Renewal Form



2010 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; except after July, dues become \$7.50.

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 B. Torledsky - W1ABT
Secretary: Chantal Blanton - KI4NBU
Treasurer: Larry Pushor - KI4MAJ

TARS Committees:

Repeater Trustee #1: Randy Pierce AG4UU
Repeater Trustee #2: Vacant
Newsletter Editor: Dan Moniz KI4HGO
Historian: Shawn Wilson AG4VE
Equipment Manager: Steve AD4E
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 on or before the 20th 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). The editor is Dan Moniz KI4HGO. Submissions for The Printed Circuit may be emailed to: KI4HGO@arrl.net

