



Tallahassee Amateur Radio Society

June 2007



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

Ken Reecy AC4TO and Steve Welsh AD4E will wrap up preparations for Field Day
Please remember the June 7th meeting is the annual meeting, the election of officers will take place immediately after the business meeting.

It's hard to believe how fast this year has passed. Looking back, I am amazed at the activity that took place during a year which had very few emergency events, in our area. There was record participation in Ham related activities such as: numerous practice exercises conducted by ARES, ARC, and local area hospitals, not to mention a few SKYWARN activations at the NWS. Let's not forget the many events we provided communications: bike rides, foot races, air fest, and a host of other events. These events helped sharpen our skills and reflexes.

Education was the buzz word of the year. Attendance at numerous emergency communications classes, message handling classes, as well as message handling practice traffic nets, reached all time highs. The CAP CommCamp was extremely successful and made a tremendous impact on those that became Hams. Tech classes along with an abundance of testing sessions helped to increase the number of new hams and those hams that upgraded. And then there were the practical "build it yourself classes" including long wire antennas beam antennas, as well as J-Poles and digital equipment. Also, let's not forget all the many simplex and repeater testing nets that were conducted. I am also impressed with the attendance at our monthly meetings this past year.

Last, but not least, I am in awe of the many Hams that reached out to help those Hams that could not do for themselves. I have witnessed incredible acts of generosity from Hams in our club towards other Hams in our area.

I salute you all for helping to make this club an organization that we can all be proud of. As I have said several times, **all of you** bring the very best out of the hobby and the club.

73

Dan KI 4HGO

Minutes of the May 2007 TARS Membership Meeting
TARS - Tallahassee Amateur Radio Society
Thursday, May 3, 2007

The TARS May Meeting was held at Publix on Ocala Rd. on Thursday, May 3, 2007.

CALL to ORDER at 7:00 p.m.

President Dan Moniz KI 4HGO welcomed the 36 members and guests who signed in.

INTRODUCTION of GUESTS

A warm greeting was given to: Mike Maynard who visited in April and tonight joined TARS as a newly minted Technician, KI 4VML; Dorothy Ardin, XYL of Jim, K4NKZ; and new member Hugh Cowart KD4LFV.

ANNOUNCEMENTS (in part)

Dan KI 4HGO announced with regret that Carlton AG4UT is resigning the Treasurer's position. Carlton has done a fine job, and the membership appreciates his efforts. Dan asked members to consider running for the office. The prerequisites are experience in keeping basic records and books. Duties of the position might be shared, with a property/inventory manager assisting under supervision of the Treasurer.

Dan gave a hearty thanks to all who worked on TOSRV, noting a great job by all the Net Control operators, stations that aided with weather reports and communications back to Tallahassee, field personnel, and an amazing performance by John KD4QKL , Bobby KD4QKI , John KI 4EWB, and Kent KC4TOC and his mechanic who resurrected the Van. The KE4URL machine operated beautifully in the outlying areas - - a special thanks to Nirmal Singh of Cairo, Georgia for making this great new asset available to the North Florida - South Georgia ham community.

Jim K4NKZ asked for volunteers to assist with putting up the new HF antenna he ordered. Several members offered help, and Jim can be contacted through his email on QRZ.com.

Art W1FJI alerted members of an auction of ham equipment, including a 50-ft tower, May 5 and 6 at 551 Mashas Sand Rd. on Ochlockonee Bay, starting 8 a.m. each day. Basic equipment and components are available. Contact w1fji@arrl.net for details.

ARES

Dave Davis WA4WES said Paul Duval of the National Weather Service is arranging for someone to talk about the upcoming hurricane season. Preparation includes:

- 1) Hurricane Zeus exercise May 12 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. The Red Cross has promised plenty of challenges, using multiple modes, doing communications and damage assessment, and this will be a joint exercise with surrounding counties and south Georgia. Participants should take their radios and report to their county's EOC; Tallahassee hams will report to the ARC Chapter House.
- 2) Jump Teams are being formed. See or email John Swindel KI 4EWB for more information.

3) New Modes - The Digital Group is moving aggressively into Echolink, Winlink, and various other modes, and members are eager to teach anyone who is interested. Dave has several old Thinkpad laptops with programs loaded for hams willing to learn and participate.

4) Any ham who wishes to be included in Dave's database should email Dave at wa4wes@arrl.net.

ANNOUNCEMENTS (in part)

Dan announced that TARS Annual Meeting and Elections are June 7, 2007. If you wish to nominate someone, be sure they will accept, and please notify Alan at W1ABT@hotmail.com. Nominations may also be made at the meeting.

Saturday May 5, 2007, 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., a Remote-Control Fly-In will take place at the Seminole Airfield, behind Leon Co. landfill off US 27-South about 4 miles east of Capital Circle.

PROGRAM

Ken Reecy AC4TO and Steve Welsh AD4E led a lively discussion on plans for Field Day, June 23-24, 2007. Ken's philosophy is: "Field day is about fellowship, food, emergency preparedness, and a bit of competition, making as many contacts as possible." Field Day is a great way for the many new General Class hams to transition into HF, and it's an opportunity for more experienced hams to share their tricks of the trade. Ken proposed holding learning sessions early Saturday on dipole-building, HF operating, and logging; and said it was important for all hams to be good students of propagation - knowing which band or mode is most likely to work under various conditions. The location is expected to be Lee Vause Park, for which Alan W1ABT obtained a fee waiver; but Mission San Luis was also mentioned as an option. Volunteers to head up various activities included the following: Kent KC4TOC - media coverage; Ted W1XO, Steve AD4E and others - CW; Phil N4IPH - GOTA station on 10m that can operate on battery; VHF-6m - Ken AC4TO; Bobby KD4QKI - food, with Saturday supper planned for late afternoon; Don WA4DSW will look at Field Day rules for digital modes. There was interest in a satellite station and trying to contact the International Space Station. Loan of materials or equipment included: Dave WA4WES - use of a generator, and laptops with logging software installed by Dave WE4RA; Carl NN5I - wire for antennas, and the use of a generator; Red Cross will be asked to supply a trailer with AC.

BREAK to 8:30 p.m.

OFFICERS' REPORTS

TREASURER'S REPORT and MINUTES were approved as printed in the May Newsletter.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Education -

Phil N4IPH plans a General Class Upgrade course on May 16, 23, and 30 from 6 to 9 p.m. at the Red Cross Chapter House, with testing the following Tuesday, June 5th at the Fox49 studio in Midway. Participants should call the Red Cross to get their names on the list. Phil said he will go through the question bank and explain answers to questions. He reminded members that General Class examinations after July 1, 2007 will use the new test.

Stefan KI 4JTA requested volunteer instructors to help Gene AI 4KK with the Civil Air Patrol Comm Camp on May 26-June 3. Testing (Technician Class only) is planned for May 29 in Woodville.

Testing -

Alan Terrell N4KGT announced that there will also be a test session at Field Day, Saturday June 23, 2007. He asked VEs to let him know if they can help with that session

Repeater - No news.

Website -

Webmaster David Heupel WE4RA reported good news - - 99% uptime recently. He invites anyone wishing to submit content or help administer to email him.

Newsletter -

Dan KI 4HGO sent the May Newsletter to all members on his list. Any member who did not receive an electronic copy should email Dan at ki4hgo@arrl.net. Dan highlighted the article by Madison County EC Pat Lightcap, K4NRD in this month's QST, on the recent communications emergency in Madison County. He encouraged members to submit articles for the Newsletter on amateur radio topics that interest them.

ANNOUNCEMENTS (in part)

Dave KG4YZI announced:

- 1) Participants in the May 12 Red Cross Hurricane Zeus exercise can listen to the conference call on Thursday May 10 at 7:30 p.m. at 866-742-0344; the passcode is on the ARC website.
 - 2) ARC Volunteer recognition party is 6-9 p.m. Monday, June 4, 2007 at the Moon; please register on the ARC website.
 - 3) Tax Free Holiday for hurricane supplies is June 1-12, 2007.
 - 4) Airfest is May 19-20, 2007 with entry at Gate 28. Please email your availability to Dave.
- Wednesday May 9 at 6 p.m. there will be an air marshalling refresher course. Free BBQ supper for volunteers will be 6 p.m. Friday May 18 at the Airfest location. Water will be provided to all volunteers, but bring sunscreen. Saturday hours are 8-5, Sunday 9-4.

NEW BUSINESS

Richard W1AAO reminded members that May 19, 2007 is Armed Forces Day. He showed a brochure from the World War II museum at FSU, and invited members to contribute any pictures of loved ones who served in the military that could be displayed during Airfest.

ADJOURNMENT

Following a brief discussion, the meeting closed at 8:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Chantal Blanton, KI 4NBU

TARS Treasurer's Report May 2007

As of 4/29/07:

Checking Account Balance: \$250.88
Savings Account Balance: \$2875.06

Receipts deposited in checking account: \$0.00
Receipts deposited in savings account: \$465.53

Receipts derived from the following:

\$185.00	Dues
180.00	Carryover receipts (reported at April mtg.)
90.00	TARS Auction (\$90.00 install payment pending)
1.50	Donations (Chantal)
8.50	50/50
<u>0.53</u>	Savings Interest
\$465.53	Total

15 members renewed or joined last month.

11 individual(s)
4 family member(s)
0 student(s)

Expenses:*

- \$65.15 to John Swindel for TARS van gas (TOSRV).
- \$45.00 to Dan Moniz for TARS van service and battery repair.

Outstanding expenses:

- \$38.97 to Dan Moniz for TARS van spare keys (3 sets).

Donations:

-

ARC (~\$202.00, less \$134.55) 2004 TARS Auction proceeds.

*Reimbursement request for 2004 hurricane-related expenses submitted to State of Florida, Division of Emergency Management (Ivan Tracker #1819 and Charlie Tracker #4757). John Fleming, FDEM is looking into to the status of request. John Fleming reminded again. Copy of completed reimbursement forms were provided to Chantal, TARS Secretary for formal follow-up with FDEM.

Remote-Control Fly-In at Seminole Airfield

Saturday May 5, 2007, 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., a Remote-Control Fly-In took place at the Seminole Airfield, behind Leon Co. landfill off US 27-South about 4 miles east of Capital Circle. Here are some pictures from the event.



Mission Statement from the Articles of Incorporation

1. For charitable, educational, and scientific purposes;
2. To provide amateur radio service to the public as a voluntary non-commercial communications service, particularly with respect to providing emergency communications to the public and governmental agencies;
3. To continue and extend the amateur's proven ability to contribute to the advancement of the radio art;
4. To provide education and training classes for the general public, not only to qualify for amateur radio licenses under Part 97 of the Federal Communications Commission Regulations, but also to advance skills in both the communications and technical phases of the radio art;
5. To help expand the existing reservoir within the amateur radio service of trained operators, technicians, and electronics experts; and,
6. To further the amateur's ability to enhance international goodwill.

KØBG's Mobile Amateur Webpage de Phil N4IPH

While I was working on the slide presentation for the upcoming General Class license course...I happened to come across an excellent site for mobile operators....or ones that would like to become mobile operators. Alan Applegate KØBG lives in Roswell, NM and covers just about everything you need to know about mobile HF or VHF. There informative articles about instillation, noise suppression, antennas, antenna matching, antenna mounts, selection of proper coax, PL259 connector assembly and grounding. There is an index frame to the left of the main webpage www.KØBG.comso making your selection is just a click away. There are also several articles on www.eham.com written by Alan...one a few years ago concerned the "proper method for a safe mobile instillation" [EHam Article](#) ...it is a good summary of what Alan has on the main webpage...You might want to read this first..then head on over to the main site for more in depth reading...I'm sure that there are a number of other sites available...but this is probably one of the more informative..

The Lunch bunch at the Corral



AIRFEST 2007



SILENT KEYS

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

KB2EH Steinberg, Richard M., Brooksville, FL
K4RUW Frizzell, Clifford H. Sr, Ocala, FL
K4YBB Kelley, James M., Fruitland Park, FL

**IT'S NOT WHAT YOU GATHER IN LIFE, BUT WHAT YOU SCATTER
THAT TELLS WHAT KIND OF LIFE YOU HAVE LIVED!**

Web Master Notice

We would like to get information on what you would like to see made/changed on the K4TLH site. Any suggestions are accepted ranging from layout, to color scheme, to new content. This is your web site and we are here to make it your way. Please e-mail suggestions to ki4pzs@yahoo.com (subject: Web Site) and be sure to be descriptive. Results will be posted in the next newsletter for all to see what we will be doing.

SPARC Meeting April 17, 2007

The main topic was where to locate the club's 2-meter repeater. The two sites under consideration were on Greg's property and Doug's property. Considerable discussion on the pros and cons of each were discussed and it was decided to go ahead with plans to set it up at Doug's. Greg would have access to the outbuilding that will house the repeater for maintenance purposes. The club approved spending an amount not to exceed \$500 (which was to include the cost of an antenna) to get the repeater back operating. Warner was to investigate the cost of procuring equipment insurance for the club equipment.



TARC Meeting

The main topic of discussion centered on this years Field Day operation.



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.

General License Class..Completed

de Phil N4IPH

The first "General License Class" (for a number of years...) sponsored by TARS and Chris at the American Red Cross was completed on May 30th. We had about 17 that started the class..three of which were new to Amateur Radio...going for the entry level Technician and hopefully the General license. The class was a mixture of newly licensed and current Technician class operators that wanted to upgrade and get on HF. We covered quite a bit of material in the three Wednesday night...three hour sessions at the Red Cross Chapter House..we may want to spread the next class out to four meetings because of the volume of material to cover....600+ PowerPoint slides is a lot to take in after a long day at school or work!

Just a reminder that Field Day will be the last testing session using the "current" General Class question pool...A new pool of questions will go into effect on July 1, 2007..you can download the new set of questions from either the ARRL (www.arrl.org) or the Nation Council of Volunteer Examiner Coordinators (www.ncvec.org). I haven't looked over the new questions...so I'm not sure if any major change has been made..except to cover the frequency changes that took effect on February 23 and the dropping of the "morse code" requirement to get on HF.

The next Technician License class will probably start in September and possibly another General up-grade class later in the fall. I want to thank Chris Floyd and the Red Cross again for sponsoring the class..This has been an on-going effort for a number of years to increase the number of trained operators available..not only for the Red Cross...but the other agencies & organizations the local Amateur community provide support.

Hopefully we'll have a number of new Technicians & General up-grades at the June 5 and Field Day testing sessions. This is just in time to "get on the air" with the GOTA station at Field Day on June 23rd.

Local Net News:

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. **Temporarily now using 145.17MHz Duplex - tone 141.3**

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.

Morse Code Practice Net: This net meets Monday through Friday on 28.250 (cw) at approximately 8pm or at the conclusion of the North Florida Phone Traffic Net.

UHF Nets:

The "Friday Friendly Net": It is moderated by Mary, KI 4JOO. 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 what to talk about. Everyone is invited to participate.

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.

CommCamp" Sponsored by the Tallahassee CAP

Just a few words regarding "CommCamp" sponsored by the Tallahassee CAP with primary coordination handled by the Floyd family of hams: Gene - AI 4KK, & Bonnie - KI 4JOL, Stefan - KI 4JTA, & Josh - KI 4NGO.

Those few words are: it was easy, it was fun & it was rewarding for me. All i had to do was show up & know how to use a remote control (uh, that's ez for us guys right?!). Really--it was.

Gene had the subjects i was to teach pre-loaded as Power-point presentations; the kids, ages about 8 through 16 were mostly interested & attentive; & it was very rewarding for me to "give back to hobby" & hopefully see a few of these youngsters get their own call-sign. I f you can help next time, you'll see what i mean. I hope they do it again.

Thanks to the Floyd family--job well done!
73, steve - AD4E

[These people took and passed the Tech test.](#)

Dan McGee
Parry Thomas
Robert Lowery
Kevin Holliday
Michael Davidson
Daniel Boyce
Josiah Saly
Amber Young
Ishmael Santiago
Hunter Limb

Not a bad percentage, 10 of the 11 that took the Tech test passed.
De Alan n4kgt

Results from Tuesdays' Testing Session:

New Generals: Roberta Maddox, Michael Maynard, Vickie Miner, Keith Wood, John Thompson, Robert "Bobby" Guris, William Boyle

New Technician: James Henry

New Membership or Renewal Form



2007 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; 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 - KI 4HGO
Vice President: Alan B. Torledsky - W1ABT
Secretary: Chantal Blanton - KI 4NBU
Treasurer: Carlton W. Wells - AG4UT

TARS Committees:

Repeater Trustee #1: Randy Pierce AG4UU
Repeater Trustee #2: Vacant
Newsletter Editor: Dan Moniz KI 4HGO
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 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 KI 4HGO. Submissions for The Printed Circuit may be emailed to: KI4HGO@arrl.net

