

Kings Point

Amateur Radio Club Newsletter

Bringing together all levels of ham operators, both newcomers and veterans, to share in the enjoyment of shortwave radio and emergency communications

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The Kings Point Amateur Radio Club meets the first Monday of the month from October through May at 3:00 p.m. in the Main Club House Craft Room

Kings Point Festival



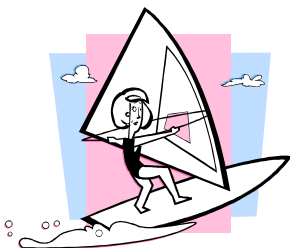
March 8th was a memorable day for residents and friends of Kings Point when the first Kings Point Festival Day was held. As hundreds of folks enjoyed hours of local entertainment, cookout style food and a variety of exhibits the KPARC members erected HF and UHF antennas set up emergency power to demonstrate to the Festival goers the value and versatility of amateur radio. As one member

commented, "setting up this emergency station reminds me of the good old days when we worked at Field Day". It was a little warm with the sun beating down on members manning the radios so Dick Marshall, K1KTK came through with a beach umbrella. Jim Malinowski, W3SKI engineered the method to secure the umbrella to the equipment table.

Meanwhile, KPARC members joined up with SCCARC and CERT to assist in the Kings Point Festival Day Walk-A-Thon. Volunteers were positioned at strategic locations in accordance with the plan developed by Don Nathan, K2GPM and Dick Marshall. All posts reported in to Bill Barron, W1WAB who was Net Control. Thankfully, all walk-a-thon participants completed the walk without any problem.

To all who helped a very big THANK YOU!!!!

From The President



Well, St Patties Day has come and gone but not without fanfare! Our request for relocation of our KPARC club room has finally been approved. Although it has been a long wait, I'm sure it will all be worth the many improvements we will experience. We are not wasting time in getting the contractors started on the cabinets, and antenna mounting frame.

A few weeks ago we purchased a new tower and beam. Today we picked the location for the new tower and once the check for buried cables and pipes is completed we will start erection. We have to wait until the antenna frame is mounted on the roof to move antennas. WCI will have a roofing contractor anchor the frame to the roof and provide a path for coax to enter our new room. This will take several weeks. Following this, the VHF and UHF antennas can be relocated.

I'll keep you posted on our progress via e-mail. If you would like to "adopt a rig" for the move and be responsible for its power, antenna, and set up just let Sam or I know. We have eight rigs and three computers to move and would like to share the wealth so to speak!.

Kings Point Community Day was a great success on March the 8th. Estimates were that over 2000 people attended. Our radio club table was visited by a many residents. It is fun to show off our hobby and radio skills. The walk-a-thon and swim a-thon came off without a hitch, but we were well represented during both events,

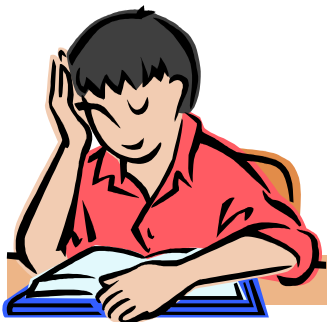
just in case of an emergency. Many thanks to the hams that got up early to participate. And a special thanks to Jim and Tom who provided antennas and rigs for our club table. In the afternoon many of our members sat around in the shade and just enjoyed the our door comradeship. This sparked a renewed interest in field day. Let's see what happens this year.

April is the month I will leave SCC and go to my other abode. Sam and Joe will take good care of the club in my absence. I hope to return by Sept, and expect to use Echolink and e-mail to stay in touch. Have a great summer.

73,

Dick - W4NWD

Join The Volunteer Examiners Corps



We have had a very successful series of VE examination sessions after the Technician class and the General review class which was held for those previously holding a CSCE of element 3. The next two classes are for the General and the Extra class license. This means two more VE exam sessions.

Who is eligible and what does it take to become a certified VE with the ARRL? Anyone with a General class license or higher is eligible. One must review the manual and take an open-book exam, fill out the application and mail it to the ARRL. What is the cost? If you do it soon it is 39 cents; later it will be 41 cents when the price of a first class stamp increases.

What is involved in the exam? As is done with the question pools where all of the questions and answers are published, the answers to the questions are contained within the 80-page manual. Since it is highly unlikely that people will want to print the full manual, I have put together a 9 page document which contains the application, the blank exam and an exam sheet with the answers that were taken from the VE manual. Read the question and the answers and fill in the exam with those answers. Review sections of the manual that are pertinent. The manual link can be found at <http://www.arrl.org/arrlvec/become-a-ve.html>

The goal of the Amateur Radio Clubs of Sun City Center is that EVERY member who is eligible will become a certified ARRL VE. Have questions? Call Dick Marshall K1KTK at 633-3338. Need the paperwork? Log onto <http://www.kparc.org>, scroll down to the links section and click on the VE Application to get the 9 page document. All ARRL certified VEs in our program will receive a shoulder patch as shown on the ARRLVEC website.

Extra Class License Course

The Amateur Radio **EXTRA CLASS** license course will begin on April 16, 2007 from **1:00 PM - 5:00 PM** in the Sun City Center Conference Room next to the Radio Room. All General Class and Advance Class license holders are encouraged to attend.

There are opportunities for Extra Class license holders to serve as instructors. Anyone interested in teaching should contact Robert Goldberg, WA4M 813 634-8277.

Mass Casualty Drill

On Wednesday morning, March 28th a mass casualty drill will be held for Hillsborough County. The SCCARC and Kings Point Radio Clubs will be participating. We intend to man the Hospital, Emergency Squad, Security Patrol, Cypress Creek Elementary School, Home Depot POD, Sheriff's Office, Engine 28, SCCARC Club Station, and Kings Point Club Station. Participants will be assigned to each of these locations. They will travel to their assigned location via auto or golf cart and establish communication with KE4ZIP as per a forthcoming plan. Each participant will provide their own radios and transportation. We will be in contact with Hillsborough EOC and BEARS as in our disaster plan.

Those interested in becoming part of the drill should email **Rick Sochon** or enroll on the Tuesday night

REMINDER

**THE APRIL MEETING OF THE
KINGS POINT AMATEUR CLUB
WILL BE HELD ON APRIL 2, 2007**