

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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John Frazzola Presentation

The October 2nd fall kickoff meeting was highlighted by guest speaker and Kings Point resident John Frazzola. John is a semi retired meteorologist. But don't let the semi retired designation fool you. He is also a professor of meteorology at Hillsborough Community College, Ruskin/Sun City Center campus.

The presentation titled Weather Conditions in West Central Florida covered sub-topics such as: Which city has the most days of sunshine; How weather might have played a major part in the decision

not to have the Republican Convention in Tampa; Insight on hurricanes and finally Global Warming— Truth or Fiction.

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

From The President

Greetings to KPARC Members,

Many thanks to Sam for conducting the October meeting on very short notice. I have been told that the program presented by John Frizzola was excellent. As we get into the fall and winter meeting season, we need to be aware of changes in our meeting attendance. The new meeting time of 3:00 p.m. may present a problem for a few members. We had 17 at our last meeting. WCI keeps tabs on club's attendance.

The club room activity should pick up as we get into winter. I would like each of us to do a better job of the signing in when visiting the radio room. The sign-in sheet is hanging on the side of the cabinet just inside the door. I see that finger print, ID software is getting pretty cheap. What do you think about going high tech? Saturday mornings from 10:00 to 12:00 noon continues to be a fun time to visit the club room. There is usually a project going on plus VHF/HF radio work.

Current Saturday club room projects include: SSTV trouble shooting, International Space Station SSTV monitoring, trouble shooting a back up power supply for a PC, and planning club improvements. Our October 7th get together, Sam and I checked into the ARES emergency net while on battery power. Is there any interest in opening our club room one morning or afternoon during the week for more project work or instruction?

At the last meeting of the Kings Point Federation it was announced that their intent



November Program

Have you watched Channel 95? Kings Point Federation meetings and more.

Dick Marshall will provide some interesting information on the new Kings Point information channel.

Report of Nominating Committee

November Events

Radio Operators needed for the AAUW Walk-A-Thon
Saturday November 18th
7:30 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.

Brown Bag Picnic

Saturday, November 18th
11:00 a.m. at he SCC
Horse Shoe Pits behind
Community Hall.

From The President Continued

to have a meeting on emergency preparedness. Several Kings Point Condo associations have expressed interest in an emergency plan patterned after the one developed by the Grantham association. We will be kept in the loop through William Moody our contact in Grantham.

I've been kicking around the possibility of having our meetings "go live" on 2 meters. I suspect we have a few members that would tune-in even if they cannot attend the meeting. What do you think? There are several ways to get the audio into the repeater. This would make it possible to hear our meeting over the internet via Echolink. Pass along your ideas. We can make it happen in NOVEMBER!

73's

Dick, W4NWD

Holiday Party News



The annual Amateur Radio Clubs of Sun City Center Holiday Party will be hosted by the Kings Point Amateur Radio Club. The gala event will be celebrated in the spacious Kings Point Banquet Room on Saturday, December 2nd at 5:30 PM. Epicurean masters and co-chairman Dick Marshal and Rita Hale announced that by popular acclimation the main course will once again be the delicious roasted chicken quarters which have been so popular in the past. To further delight the palate, Each participant will be asked to bring something for the meal. In order to have an assortment of side dishes and desserts we are developing a plan on how to

"assign" the type of dish to bring. Further information will follow. The search for outstanding entertainment continues; rest assure it will add to the festivities of the evening. So, stay tuned more information will follow.

New From ARRL



A new law formally makes amateur radio part of emergency communications community. A section of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) 2007 Appropriations Act, HR 5441 formally includes Amateur Radio operators as a part of the emergency communications community. President Bush signed the bill into law October 4. Amateur Radio is included within the legislation's Subtitle D, Section 671, known as the "21st Century Emergency Communications Act." Radio amateurs are among the entities with which a Regional Emergency Communications Coordination Working Group (RECC Working Group) must coordinate its activities. Included within the DHS's Office of Emergency Communications -- which the measure also

creates -- RECC Working Groups attached to each regional DHS office will advise federal and state homeland security officials.

In addition to Amateur Radio operators, RECC Working Groups also will coordinate with communications equipment manufacturers and vendors -- including broadband data service providers, local exchange carriers, local broadcast media, wireless carriers, satellite communications services, cable operators, hospitals, public utility services, emergency evacuation transit services, ambulance services, and representatives from other private sector entities and nongovernmental organizations

.The RECC Working Groups will assess the survivability, sustainability and interoperability of local emergency communication systems to meet the goals of the National Emergency Communications Report. That report would recommend how the US could "accelerate the deployment of interoperable emergency communications nationwide." They also will coordinate the establishment of "effective multi-jurisdictional, multi-agency emergency communications networks" that could be brought into play in an emergency or disaster.

In light of the new law, the ARRL plans to follow up to determine how it can interact with the DHS and its

Office of Emergency Communications. - excerpted from a report in the ARRL Letter

Thanksgiving 2006



Following a nineteenth century tradition, most Americans believe that the first American Thanksgiving was a feast that took place on an unremembered date, sometime in the autumn of 1621, at Plymouth Plantation, Massachusetts. In 1620, a group led by separatists from the Church of England, who were heading for Virginia, instead landed at modern-day Plymouth, Massachusetts, on account of unforeseen wind and weather conditions. In the autumn of 1621, they celebrated a three-day harvest feast with the native Wampanoag people, without whom they would not have survived the winter of 1620. This event was not viewed as a thanksgiving celebration at the time; the colony would not have a Thanksgiving observance until 1623 — and that was a

religious observance rather than a feast. The nineteenth century reinterpretation of the 1621 festival has since become a model for the U.S. version of Thanksgiving, but it was an established tradition before the popularization of the Pilgrim mythology.

The tradition of thanking the divine for the year's harvest at autumn was already a well developed practice in Europe during medieval times. A part of this practice included lighting up bonfires, dancing and eating in order to be fit for the winter to come. In direct connection to thanksgiving, Protestants celebrated what was called Bonfire night in England during the 1500s. However it was not until the political turbulence of the early 1600-hundreds in England that the formal origins of Thanksgiving presented itself. A catholic rebel of the prevailing Anglican order at the time, Guy Fawkes, intended to blow up the parliament in 1605 November 5, however failed in this attempt. It was in the following year, when the government issued an edict of Thanksgiving to celebrate for managing the break down of the rebellion and keeping the parliament intact, that Thanksgiving was first mentioned. The Thanksgiving was then applied to the already existing tradition of Bonfire night and the seed of a much celebrated occasion saw its first light. It is most probable that the pilgrims took this tradition with them to form what is today a thorough American tradition. Notably, in Britain however, the occasion has become what is a completely different, Guy Fawkes Night, and is celebrated on a different date.

The first known thanksgiving feast or festival in North America was celebrated by Francisco Vasquez de Coronado and the people he called "Tejas" (members of the Hasinai group of Caddo-speaking Native Americans) on 23 May 1541 in Palo Duro Canyon, Texas, to celebrate his expedition's discovery of food supplies. In the sense of a feast in gratitude to God celebrated by Europeans in North America, this has a claim to be the true first North American Thanksgiving. The next was apparently celebrated a quarter-century later on September 8, 1565 in St. Augustine, Florida. When Pedro Menéndez de Avilés landed, he and his men shared a feast with the aboriginal peoples. Later, the aboriginal people called themselves "apple-tangerines" (which may or may not indicate those fruits were on the menu at that "Thanksgiving"). Another candidate for the first true Thanksgiving in territory now part of the United States is the feast that the party of Don Juan de Oñate

Thanksgiving is related to harvest festivals that had long been a traditional holiday in much of Europe. The first North American celebration of these traditional festivals by Europeans was held in Newfoundland by Martin Frobisher and the Frobisher Expedition to find the Northwest Passage in 1578, and Canadians trace their Thanksgiving to that festival.

Happenings Around Town



Most everyone anticipates and prepares for the festivities of holiday season. The special time with family and friends. The excitement of shopping for that perfect gift and pondering the holiday dinner menu. After all the hustle its time to take a break. Saturday, December 2nd is the grand and glorious 2006 Holiday Decorated Golf Cart Parade. A stupendous parade was held in July and was quite successful. The Amateur Radio Clubs of Sun City Center and Kings Point provided communications as well as valuable assistance in staging the parade. Once again we will be asking for help for a few hours in the morning. Get in the spirit by lending your assistance . Call Dick

Marshall at 633-3338 an say I'll help.

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED
THE SUN CITY CENTER EMERGENCY SQUAD
IS IN NEED OF DISPATCHERS**



**For More Information Call The Squad Office
633-1411**

From The Treasurer



It's that time of year when the leaves are changing, the frost is on the pumpkins and your **DUES** are DUE!! It's only 5 bucks for the year to help support your club and very worthwhile organization. The Treasurer will be collecting dues at the

next few meetings. Don't lose out on this fabulous newsletter. Please pay your dues.

Saturday Morning At The Shack

President Dick Bishop will introduce a new Saturday morning program. Beginning in November, we will spend one hour on such things as correct HF, UHF, VHF operating procedures, PSK, ATV, et al. All members are encouraged to attend and become familiar with all our radio room equipment.

REMINDER

Next Meeting is November 6th at 3:00 p.m.

celebrated April 30, 1598 near the site of San Elizario, Texas with the Manso Indians (Adams and Kendrick).