

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

Volume 3 Issue 4

Sun City Center, Florida

April, 2008

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The Kings Point Amateur Radio Club meets the first Monday of the month from October through May at 2:00 p.m. in the Main Club-house Craft Room.



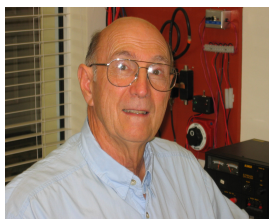
Rita Hale W1UZR

Rita Hale, W1UZR, March Member of the Month

Rita began her amateur career in 1949. She had no experience in radio, electricity or electronics so everything was totally foreign to her. However, Rita heard about this "ham radio" stuff and it sounded very interesting. Her search to find out more about this new electronic marvel Rita met an amateur radio operator who was able to demonstrate the operation of his station. At that time 10 and 20 meters was wide open with ham calls being answered one right after the other. That was it; Rita purchased a license manual and began studying. She found a vintage instruct-a-graph from World War II days and listened to CW over and over until she was able to pass the code test.

Rita and Rodney married in 1957 and moved to Massachusetts. About a year later they built a home which included a tower and an inverted 80 and 40 meter long wire antenna.

To this day Rita is still a dedicated ham operator. At her Sun City Center home she has her HF, UHF and VHF rigs close by where she participates in a number of nets across the country. Since moving to Sun City Center in 1989 Rita has been active in SCCARC and KPARC and is the originator of the KPARC and SCCARC Ladies day out luncheon group. **From all of us, thank you Rita.**



Dick Bishop, W4NWD

From The President

Another month has slipped by, but not without some good things happening in our radio community. To mention a few, the general license class was completed resulting in eight new general class hams, Mike Fletcher, district 4 repeater council coordinator, spoke at our last meeting giving us an update on ARES/ RACES and D-Star, and the third Kings Point CERT class began in March. The CERT class is being taught in the KP South Club House.

There are two things that have contributed to our growth this year. They are that many CERT members are introduced to amateur radio during the classes and then seek a license, and the women's activities have resulted in many more women getting a license. Hats off to Bill W1WAB for keeping CERT growing, and Rita W1UZR and Anita KI4YV for making the women's programs so active.

The next two months will bring more activity and publicity for our radio club. Preparation for the Kings Point Festival on May 1 and the Hillsborough County CERT disaster simulation on May 24 will keep us busy.

We have a table reserved for the KP Festival and should set up a radio demonstration like we did last year. The Hillsborough County CERT drill will be held at the Kings Point Main Club House. We will need net operators throughout the day, plus tour guides for our club room. Several events planned by CERT will involve radio communications, and APRS/ GPS tracking and reporting so we will need to gear up for this simulated emergency in our back yard. This is an opportunity to demonstrate to the public and media our KPARC capabili

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From The President Continued

ties. Please plan to spend the day observing and working this event.

In preparation for these upcoming events, Anita KI4YV has suggested that we host a radio operations clinic in our club room. This clinic will cover topics such as, HT ownership, operations, and uses, emergency net operations and simulations, and HF equipment demo and operation. The format of these clinics is being worked out and the times will be announced soon.

I propose that we also run a clinic on ARES/ RACES requirements and catch our members up on the Incident Command on line classes 100, 200, & 700. So we all have RACES certifications.

There will be a KPARC board meeting about a week before the April 7 regular meeting. I hope to see all of you at the April 7 meeting.

73's

Dick W4NWD

April Meeting Program Bar Codes



Vice President and Program Chairman Russell Akridge will introduce Oscar Kramer, KA300K to be our guest speaker for the KPARC March 3rd meeting.

Most of us have experienced super-market clerks, hardware cashiers, etc. swiping your purchase over a glass panel in the counter or a gun type gadget to read the multiple lines. Yes, we are talking Bar Codes.

Oscar has worked with Bar Codes for many years and will give us insight on how they work and the benefit they provide to the variety of business and corporations that use them.

Note This Program was rescheduled from March

NI4CE Picnic



Mark May 10th at 11 a.m. on your calendar for the second annual NI4CE Picnic! It will once again be at group shelter in E.G. Simmons Park. The park is located at 2401 19th Avenue N.W.,

Ruskin FL 33570. That is just off U.S. 41 in South Hillsborough County between Apollo Beach and Ruskin. A map of how to get there is online via [MapQuest](#). Talk in will be on the NI4CE repeater network. They will be serving up hamburgers and hot dogs with all the trimmings for free to show their appreciation to the Amateur community of West Central Florida in supporting their efforts.

KPARC is a contributing member of NI4CE

CERT CLASS GRADUATION



Sun City Center CERT Class March 2008

The first Sun City Center Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Class for 2008 graduated on March 22nd at the Kings Point South Clubhouse. The four Saturday course program educates class members about disaster preparedness for hazards that may impact our area and trains them in basic disaster response skills, such as fire safety, light search and rescue, team organization, and disaster medical operations. Using the training learned in the classroom and during exercises, CERT members can assist others in our neighborhood following an event when professional responders are not immediately available to help. CERT members also are encouraged to support

emergency response agencies by taking a more active role in emergency preparedness projects in their community.