

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 7

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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 Clubhouse Craft Room.

From The President



Dick Bishop, W4NWD

Greetings to all KPARC Members.

July crept up without much warning. Field day comes up at the end of June and Hurricane season is underway. Where does time go? Our meeting attendance dropped by two thirds between May and June as many members began their migration north. So, we must rely on e-mail and news letters to let everyone know what is happening around the club.

First off, for about six months we have been working on acquiring a 2 meter repeater frequency for KPARC. It looks like it is finally official. A favorable review by the Florida Repeater Council has granted KPARC the 147.090 + freq.. Although it is an adjacent freq to the TARC 147.105 the TARC board has signed off on the required Close-Space Agreement.

Our plans are to build a repeater as a club project and operate it from our Kings Point Club House.

We are establishing a repeater committee to find, suggest, acquire components, and build the repeater. The committee is open to all interested hams. There probably will be sub committees working on antennas, controllers, linking and maintenance. The committee will report to the KPARC Board of Directors for organization and consistency. The Board will retain operation parameter control with suggestions

from the committee and membership.

To fund the repeater project, the club has set up a way to accept contributions anonymously. Our treasurer, Bill Love, will accept contributions and ear mark them for the repeater project, and keep the funds separate from the general fund. The contributed amounts will be kept confidential. Moreover, we are looking for members to serve on the repeater committee; so let the Board members know you want to be on the committee so we can keep you posted on meetings, project status and assignments. As always, the Board is open to suggestions and ideas.

Echolink has been moved from the 70 cm to the 147.090 simplex frequency. This change will give more of our members a chance to operate Echolink from their HTs. We hope to have an Echolink practice session some time in July. Interestingly, a few hours after switching to our new 2 meter frequency an XYL (Marsha KC2SHA) from Sun City, Hilton Head called and wanted to make contact with hams in Sun City Center, FL. Also, our good friend Virgil, KG4FCD called and chatted for about 10 minutes. So keep an ear on 147.090 around SCC, and you can have a lot of fun.

We have a wealth of club projects so drop buy the club room and pitch in., No experience necessary,
73's Dick

**NEXT KPARC MEETING IS JULY 7, 2008 AT 2:00 p.m.
MAIN CLUBHOUSE CRAFT ROOM**

KPARC REPEATER



At long last we have received the good news that the Coordination Letter for the Kings Point Repeater will be issued in the next few weeks. The delay was waiting for the Trustee of the Tampa Amateur Radio Club to sign off on the Short-Space Agreement required by the Florida Repeater Council. We have been informed that the agreement has been

signed and forwarded to the Council.

While awaiting for the final coordination, the Board has been busy researching the purchase of a repeater and its associated equipment. The type of repeater has been finalized and will be ordered shortly. However, research continues on the controller, duplexer and antenna. Members are interested in serving on the Repeater Committee should contact Dick Bishop.

The cost of the repeater and associated equipment is estimated to be about \$1500.00. This amount is far above what our treasury can afford. Fortunately however, we have members who strongly support the repeater project and have made donations to our newly established Repeater Fund Account. Needless-to-say, the donations received will not cover all the expenses. Therefore, KPARC President Dick Bishop is calling upon all members to consider making a donation to the fund. Our Treasurer, Bill Love, W2LOV, will accept all donations, large or small, in private. You can mail your donation to Bill Love, 2007 Grantham Greens, SCC, 33573.

Now that the process is at its completion, amateur operators are encouraged to use the frequency 147.090 in its present simplex setup. Meanwhile, the committee will continue to work towards a cut-over to repeater operation.

YL Net News



According to Anita Akridge, the YL Net is taking time off for the summer. However, with a little encouragement the ladies could set up an informal net on 147.090 simplex.

During breakfast at the Sun City Café one Saturday morning some talk was heard on this very subject. The ladies who are here year round still enjoy the camaraderie of fellow lady hams no matter what time of the year it is.

20 METER MALICIOUS INTERFEARANCE

The so-called Firedrake intruder is back on 20 meter. ARRL Field and Regulatory Correspondent Chuck Skolaut, K0BOG, says that he has received reports from Intruder Watch monitors in Texas, Montana, West Virginia, Massachusetts, Colorado, Washington, Nevada and Pennsylvania hearing the mainland-China based jammer on 14.010 and 14.070 MHz. Hams in IARU Region 1 have heard the jammer on 14.000, 14.005, 14.010, 14.030, 14.050, 14.050 and 14.090 MHz.

According to one Region 1 monitor, the jammer originates from Chinese government transmitters in an attempt to block out the Sound of Hope short wave broadcasts. Skolaut said he heard it on 14.070 at 1500 Eastern time on June 6th from ARRL HQ.

The FCC's High Frequency Direction Finding facility in Columbia, Maryland, also has heard the Firedrake jammer. It has sent a harmful interference report to the Chinese government but has no authority to make intruder stations outside the US to stop transmitting on Amateur Radio frequencies. Such situations typically are dealt with through diplomatic channels. The last time the Firedrake jammer was heard in the ham bands was about two years ago.

REAL 911 CALLS

Dispatcher: 911

Caller: Yeah, I'm having trouble breathing. I'm all out of breath. Darn....I think I'm going to pass out.

Dispatcher: Sir, where are you calling from?

Caller: I'm at a pay phone. North and Foster.

Dispatcher: ! Sir, an ambulance is on the way. Are you an asthmatic?

Caller: No

Dispatcher: What were you doing before you started having trouble breathing?

Caller: Running from the Police.