

# Kings Point

## Amateur Radio Club Newsletter

25 Years Of Voluntary Emergency Communications Service To Our Community

[www.kparc.org](http://www.kparc.org)

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

Volume 4 Issue 5

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Dick Bishop, W4NWD

### From The President

As you know, it has finally started to rain in Sun City Center. Hopefully this is related to HF band openings which we also anticipate this spring. We have seen some 10 meter activity recently which may indicate more upcoming HF activity. Let's tune up our rigs and log some contacts on the "under 30 MHz bands". Remember the old adage "Use it or lose it". Our club is open to all members to log a few hours on HF, so get checked out on the equipment if you need it, and you are ready to get "ON THE AIR".

New Flash: Legislation in the US House may help amateur radio. Contact your congressman and request support for HR 2160 -- The Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Enhancement Act of 2009.

This bill will eliminate the restrictions on antenna erection in our subdivisions, so let's get behind it!

Our club encourages communication in any format and the use of amateur radio in any of its many modes. In keeping with this mission, we have assisted in bringing ten more APRS tracking units into Sun City Center. The purchase of 10 Byonic.com, Micro-Trak AIO units added a unique tracking capability to our local CERT emergency preparedness. In addition, five of our members purchased units to use on trips, local mobile and special events. Tracking your friends via APRS signals using FindU.com, UIView32, or Google MAP APRS can be a lot of fun and helps prepare us for possible emergencies. Learning how to use the units, how to receive and decipher the data, and how to build your own APRS capability is knowledge well worth the effort. So, get in touch with me or one of the new users to inquire about this fascinating part of amateur radio.

Our club needs volunteers to do small jobs around the club room so let one of the board members know you are available, and we will find a suitable job that will be satisfying and very helpful in improving our club.

As we get into the summer travel season, please be safe and stay in touch when you are out of town. Try using Echolink; just sign up in advance and learn how to use proxies. Our KPARC node no. is 278318. To use CQ 100, sign up and be ready for that unexpected WiFi hotspot. Utilize Skype, many of your fellow members monitor Skype to receive free internet calls. Join HF nets on 20 meters or try D-Star using W4RNT and Ni4CE local gateways. Submit your position reports using UIView 32 or APRS. And if things really get tough, use the trusty old cell phone.

Things to watch for: New net activity on 147.090; Stay tuned!

Have a great summer,

73 Dick - W4NWD

**MEETING NOTICE**  
**WE ARE NOT ON VACATION**

**THE REGULAR KPARC MEETING**  
**WILL BE IN THE MAIN CLUBHOUSE**  
**CRAFT ROOM**  
**JUNE 1, 2009 @ 2:00 p.m.**

**SOCIAL ACTIVITY**

**The Annual NI4CE Picnic Will Be Held**

**On June 20th Beginning @ 12:00 Noon**

**At Simmons Park, Ruskin**

**Everyone Is Invited**