

# KINGS POINT AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

*More Than 25 Years of Voluntary Emergency Communications Service to Our Community  
ARRL AFFILIATED CLUB*

## Officers

### President

Dick Bishop, W4NWD  
633-7157

### Vice President

Sam Brandes, N2OF  
601-0843

### Secretary

Monica Miller, N1KEQ  
642-3538

### Treasurer

Bill Love, W2LOV  
634-2749

## Committee Chairpersons

### Club Room Manager

Joe White, KA1KO

### KPARC Web Master

Bill Barron, W1WAB

### Antenna Managers

Lew Merrill, N4LD

Jim Malanowski, W3SKI

### Weather Station Manager

Alan Blackwell, K9YI

### Program Chairman

Mike Burks, KG4TGP  
Alan Blackwell, K9YI

## KPARC Repeaters

### 2 Meter

147.090 PL 146.2

### 70 CM

442.450 PL 146.2

### Echo Link Node

311633

### Meetings

Second Monday of every  
month in the main  
clubhouse craft room at  
2:00 p.m.

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



**Dick Bishop, W4NWD**

## From The President

It's time to take stock of where KPARC is now and where we want go in the future. Our 2010/2011 winter season went by very fast. During the past few months we accomplished a few things worthy of remembering. Don Nathan's class on the use of hand tools in

electronics was a great lead into Tom Cooney's club project which resulted in 12 members building 40 meter transceivers. Mikes Burks led the weekly QRP outings which taught us a lot about portable HF operation, and low power QSOs. Dottie Love organized then took us on some very interesting Club field trips. All in all it has been a very active and rewarding 2011 winter season.

Summer approaching signals a slowing of club activities, and allows us time to look at our status, club room condition, equipment and future objectives. Taking time to think and plan is important to keep us on track for more banner years. Our next few board meetings will focus on club planning. Here are a few thought starters, but I hope each member will make suggestions regarding club needs and goals.

1. I see our club as being well equipped, but needing more depth in the operation of our equipment. This suggests more training and practice. Documentation of the operating parameters of each station will also help.
2. KPARC has great D-Star and Digital HF /VHF capability, but how we would use these abilities in an emergency is not clear to most members.
3. Our goals of having fun, learning, furthering amateur radio and being prepared to support communication needs during emergencies, are pretty much on track, but we need to plan and support each goal for the up coming year.

Well that should give you an idea of the theme of our next few board discussions. One missing element in our planning is more input and participation from our membership. As president, I'll take this on and see if we can get more member input to help make each successive year more rewarding than the one before.

73's,

Dick W4NWD

## Where Has All The Vinyl Gone?

### Broadcast Radio and TV Has Changed from the Days of Vinyl and Live TV

By Dotty Love, W2DOT



On Thursday, March 31st, a group of 19 from the Kings Point & Sun City Center ARC visited the WUSF television and radio studios at the University of South Florida campus. It was "THAT" day when the rains came in buckets, the tornadoes were touching down, and the winds were horrific!! We met Dustin our tour guide who took us on a tour of the television studio being set up for use and the studio where Dillard's had come to film a television commercial. We also visited the radio studios and control rooms, that

were mostly unoccupied. One radio studio, however, was set up for a membership campaign.



All equipment we saw was much different than what many of us had used many years ago. What amazed most of us was the amount of automation and prerecording techniques that were in use.

When the tour was over, we were instructed to sit and wait in the radio studio for the rain to slack up and the tornado warnings to clear. While there we watched and listened as the emergency weather reports were being broadcast.

After the storms cleared, we all went to Perkins for a great lunch and conversation and then traveled back to Sun City Center.



### NEXT KPARC MEETING

**MAY 9, 2011 at 2:00 p.m.**

**MAIN CLUB HOUSE  
CRAFT ROOM**

### SNOWBIRD ECHOLINK NET

**EVERY SATURDAY**

**9:30 a.m.**

**KPARC REPEATER**

**147.090**

## Calling all QSL Cards!

By Bill Barron W1WAB

My email sounded an alert last Sunday ... heralding the arrival of another QSL card addressed to W4KPR. The beautiful card came from Alexandr Sterzhanov, UX3MZ of the Ukraine; confirming a 15M QSO with Wayne Conklin W8QG; one of the radio operators at W4KPR on March 18.



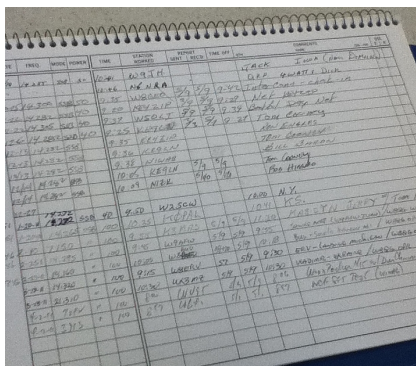
Amateur radio operators exchange QSL cards to confirm two-way radio contact (commonly called QSO) between stations. Each QSL card includes the call sign of both stations, the time (usually specified in UTC) and date when the contact occurred, the radio frequency or band used, the mode of transmission, a signal report and perhaps information about the sender's station equipment and operator. The ARRL recommends a QSL card size of 3½ by 5½ inches (89 mm by 140 mm).

QSL cards are a ham radio operator's calling card and frequently are an expression of individual creativity — from a photo of the operator at his station to original artwork, images of the operator's hometown or surrounding countryside, etc. Collecting of QSL cards can be a hobby unto itself.

Cards can be sent either direct to an individual's address, or via a country's centralized amateur radio association QSL bureau; which collects and distributes cards in bulk for that country. This saves postage fees for the sender by sending several cards destined for a single country in one envelope.

Computer and web-based programs such as eQSL also enable the exchange of “electronic” QSLs; containing jpeg or gif picture images which can then be displayed and printed as cards on the recipient's home PC. eQsl provides this service free of charge; although there are charges for those wishing to send customized QSL card images. Many logging programs — such as the free Ham Radio Deluxe — also have direct electronic interfaces to transmit QSO details in real-time into the eQSL.cc database or to the ARRL's Logbook of The World (LoTW).

Shortwave listeners also collect QSL cards — and issue a type of QSL card generally known as SWL (Short Wave Listener) cards; confirming reception of two-way amateur radio communications or commercial radio operators using HF frequencies.



Bill Barron W1WAB serves as the QSL manager for W4KPR — responding to QSL card requests received by the club. All QSL cards received — whether in hard-copy or electronic form — are posted on the club's web page under “The Club Shack” or at <http://www.kparc.org/qs/qs.htm>. Received cards are matched to the W4KPR logbook at the KPARC HF operating stations, details confirmed, and either hard-copy QSL or eQsl cards sent out. Why not try out the great equipment and antennas at the KPARC

clubhouse and collect a few QSL cards for the club? Just be sure to write down your contacts in the log. If you want to send out a W4KPR QSL card, see Bill Barron W1WAB

Other information on the web:

- eQsl cards: [www.eqsl.cc](http://www.eqsl.cc)
- LoTW: <http://www.arrl.org/logbook-of-the-world>
- one QSL card vendor: <http://www.cheapqsls.com/>

## ATTENTION ALL KP/SCCARC MEMBERS

RICK SOCHON, N1OV NEEDS YOU  
TO ASSIST IN THE  
50th SCC/KP ANNIVERSARY PARADE  
ON SUNDAY MAY 1, 2011

AMATEUR RADIO OPERATORS ARE NEEDED FOR POSTING AT VARIOUS  
PLACES ALONG THE PARADE ROUTE

PLEASE CONTACT RICK VIA EMAIL

[Sochon@netzero.net](mailto:Sochon@netzero.net)

OR

634-3678

VOLUNTEERS WILL MEET AT THE SCCARC CLUB ROOM AT 12:00 NOON FOR  
POST ASSIGNMENT

REFLECTIVE VESTS WILL BE DISTRIBUTED

FOR THOSE WITHOUT HT's, RADIOS WILL BE ASSIGNED