



QRZ NEWS

A QUARTERLY PUBLICATION OF
SOUTHERN PENNSYLVANIA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC
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AN AFFILIATED SPECIAL SERVICE CLUB OF THE ARRL, INC.
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APRIL, MAY, JUNE 2003

SPARC ON THE MOVE

For the last number of months SPARC has been dealing with the W. Hempfield Twp over the use of the former engine bays as a location for our club. Several meetings did not produce any conclusions. An unused microwave facility became available in Rapho Township and the Board of Directors investigated the possibility of purchase. In meetings with the broker and Way Point Bank the possibilities were encouraging and meetings with the club membership received the approval for the purchase. The transaction was completed and the club was the owner of one acre of land, a 110' tower and an equipment building containing a 25 kw generator.

Work began in earnest due to a date when the equipment, antennas, tower and buildings had to be moved from the Ironville property. As the weather improved members turned to for painting the interior of the cement block building, trim the weeds from inside the chain link fence enclosure and prepare for the final moving day which took place on March 29. Using members pick-up trucks the electronic equipment, monitors, transceivers, duplexers and other fragile equipment was transported and installed in the new building. The final transfers included the two sheds, and all the contents which had to be removed from the sheds and brought by truck. The sheds were transported commercially and placed inside the fence enclosure. The fence had to be enlarged in order to allow for the emergency communication van and truck storage.

Since a meeting place was no longer available at the Ironville site as all building were to be abolished, the Rapho Township Supervisors gener-

ously have granted permission for the club to hold their monthly meetings in the township building which is located one mile from the club site. The Supervisors have been exceptionally helpful to the club during this time of moving to Rapho Township.

A great deal of credit needs to be given to many people who worked tirelessly on all paperwork, climbing the tower to remove unneeded materials and replace with our antennas. The 2 meter repeater was only off the air for a brief period. Tim, W3PLC, (and Matt) are recognized for the hours taken to install the equipment and run the wiring.

All the equipment is installed and ready for operation. The main 2 meter system is up and running and the Packet System is operational on 146.03, with the exception of a 220 transfer link. When climbers are available for coaxial and additional placement the entire package will be up and running.

Thanks to Phil Theis and Pat Campbell for work on the tower. Hopefully we have not missed someone but the following have done a lot of work. Greg Martell, Dave Payne, Tim and Matt Davidson, Roger Colvin, Harry Bauder, Jim and Sherri Ibaugh, John

2002 SPARC CLUB OFFICERS

President.....J. Yogi Bear, WB3FQY
V. President..... Dave Payne, N3LOM
Secretary..... Dave Sarraf, N3NDJ
Treasurer Fred Pickard, WA3JJM
Directors..... Ken Manning, N3ABC
Greg Martell, KB3GMV

APPOINTMENTS

Website..... Dave Sarraf,
N3NDJ
Training Committee..... Max Peters,
KI6NJ Dave Payne, N3LOM, Roger Colvin,
W3PWH. Hal Hartman, AD3X, Jim Ibaugh, AA3C
Tech Committee..... Dave Payne, N3LOM
Tim Davidson, W3PLC, Pat Campbell,
WA3UOE, Max Peters, KI6NJ
NEWSLETTER Editor: Roger Colvin, W3PWH
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Frimenko, Dave Sarraff, Fred Pickard, Jack Thomas, Mike and David Warner, Mike Arbenz, Charlie Arnold, Dave Sarraf, Ted Freedman, Meany, Rick Watson and Charles Vance, There were other tower climbers but the editor does not have their names as yet.

FIELD DAY , JUNE 28/29

The Annual Field Day is planned for this year and will take on a different look from what we have had in the past. Members had the opportunity to order a special Field Day T-shirt with the deadline of March 26.

Plans are preliminary but will require a lot of help in erecting antennas, etc. The location has not been determined as yet.



RACES MEETING - APRIL 7TH

All RACES members are notified of the meeting at the Lancaster County Emergency Management building in Manheim to begin at 7:00 PM. This meeting is essential for the Three Mile Island Exercise to be held on April 22/23. Assignments will be made for the various sites. We anticipate having all modes in operation, 2 meter voice, packet, SSTV and possibly ATV. The equipment at the RACES Net Control has been tested and ready for operation. Information relative to log keeping and message preparation will be reviewed. NOTE: Bring your RACES ID badges with you

RECYCLING

Recycling paper and magazine has become more important than ever as these are the funds which will be used toward the payments on the new property. A list of the Turkey Hill Stores has been distributed as a logical source of newspaper. Contact the manager and if no one else is collecting the out of date newspapers, offer your services.

Even check with neighbors and family members for a regular collection. Old telephone books are sometimes hard to get rid of. We can accept them. Since we will not have a collection site as we did at Ironville, you will be informed as to where they can be taken.

ASSESSMENT FUND

At the special meeting of the club membership in February it was voted to have an assessment to which members would contribute \$100.00 as a Reserve. This could be paid in installment at a rate with which the member would be comfortable. Many members have paid more. The lender has obligated the club to have this escrow account as a part of our mortgage program. If you have a problem, speak with one of the Board Members. We do not want to lose anyone as your membership is important to us.

SPARC CALENDAR

April 2nd	Board of Directors
7th	RACES Net
16th	Membership Meeting
17th	VE Testing
May 5th	RACES Net
7th	Board of Directors
21st	Membership Meeting
June 3rd	RACES Net]
4th	Board of Directors
18th	Membership Meeting
19th	VE Testing
28-29th	Field Day

The SPARC net is held Tuesday at 8:30 PM excepting the first Tuesday when the RACES

VE Tests and Club Meetings

VE Tests are now given at McCaskey High School in Lancaster on Reservoir Street adjacent to Franklin Street. Persons desiring to take the test must be in the school main lobby by 1845 hours (6:45 PM). This requirement is for security reasons. The current class to take the test are Edward Albright, Shawn Bear, William Herskowitz, E. Charles Nesbitt, Harry Strother and David Warner. Good luck!

Any new class sessions will be held at a new location. Contacts are now being made.

MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

Out meetings are now held at the Rapho Twp Municipal Building on Colebrook Road at 7:00 PM. Two directions may be taken depending on your location. From Manheim-Mount Joy Road turn on Breneman Road, left or right depending where you are coming from, continue on Breneman Road (past the club tower site) to Colebrook Road, turn right approximately 1 mile. The building is on the left. From Elizabethtown area, take Elizabethtown Road until you come to Colebrook Road, turn right and continue for 1 1/2 miles to the Township Building on the left. You might find a better route depending on your location in the Lancaster County Map Book.

COOKED GOOSE OR BARBECUED CHICKEN?

At the March meeting of the club there was approval to hold a BBQ during the month of April or May. Rick Watson and Harry Bauder agreed to co-chair this event. The date and location will be announced. All of the members assistance will be needed especially in the area of getting orders (remember your family, relatives and friends). As the plans become final, set aside the dates and give us your help, help, help!

UNFINISHED WORK!

While the move to the new site has been made and all there is still work to be done. On Saturday, April 5th, workers will be needed at 0900 hours to complete the expanded security fence. Time should take about 3 hours. There is also need to stake out the parking lot before more stones are added and TOWER CLIMBERS to finish the installation of antennas.

ARRL COURSES

A number of members have taken the Emergency Communication Courses to prepare amateurs to participate in emergency situations effectively. Go to the ARRL website and go to the EOC pages. There are different dates when you can register. The course will cost \$45.00 which you can pay by credit card. Upon successful completion of the course, the \$45.00 is refunded to you. A course book is available for each level at \$10.00 each. While not necessary, you would need to download the material for each lesson. This is an "online course" so access to the internet is required. A mentor is assigned to each student who assists you through the course. A period of about two months is given to complete the course which has around 20 lessons for each level. Completion of Level 1 is required for the next level.



Adios Ironville



Hello Rapho



First we get ready



A little paint



Too much supervision



Tim and his toys. It works!



A moving moment!



Does it fit??



Close your eyes!