

# QRZ NEWS

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF  
SOUTHERN PENNSYLVANIA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC  
PO BOX 1033 - LANCASTER, PA 17608-1033

(Founded June 1960)

AN AFFILIATED SPECIAL SERVICE CLUB OF THE ARRL, INC.

*"Public Service through Communication"*

Website: [www.K3IR.org](http://www.K3IR.org)

Email address: **\*\*pending\*\***

Repeaters: 145.230 - 146.715 - 449.975 - Packet 145.030 - ATV 902.145

**April 2007**

## Membership Meetings

### **Condensed Minutes of the March 2007 Meeting of the Southern Pennsylvania Amateur Radio Club (SPARC)**

## **Southern Pennsylvania Amateur Radio Club**

Minutes of the Regular Membership Meeting Held on 21 March 2007

The meeting was opened by President Mike Warner at 19:05. The following members and guests were present:

Mike Warner N3XPD

Clive Buttermere, KB4NCP

Max Peters, KI6NJ

Frank Coleman, KB3GMZ

Ross Kauffman W3ZKU

Roger Colvin, W3PWH

Jim Silvius KW3G

Harry Bauder, WA3FFK

Ted Freedman, K3KSA

Dave Sarraf, N3NDJ

Gerald Wilson, KB3GNB

The meeting began with a welcome by Mike and a round robin by name and callsign.

## **Minutes**

Dave Sarraf read the minutes from the February membership meeting and discussed the minutes from the February BOD meeting. Upon a motion by Clive Buttermere and a second by Frank Coleman the membership meeting minutes were accepted as read.

## Treasurer's Report

Ted Freedman provided a treasurer's report.

Mike asked for volunteers to conduct an audit this year. Ross Kauffman and Roger Colvin volunteered. Upon a motion by Harry and a second by Clive the treasurer's report was accepted as read pending review by the audit committee.

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## **Membership**

Two renewals were received.

## **Old Business**

The pending site cleanup and open house were discussed. No Trespassing signs are needed. Dave Payne was to get signs from Grainger's. (This task had been assigned to Grant however he did not renew and was no longer participating).

## New Business / Other

Clive asked for help in diagnosing a problem with his HF rig. It will receive but he cannot transmit on voice USB. Harry volunteered to help and suggested that it may be due to a failing computer backup battery.

Mike noted that SPARC has some surplus equipment that could be sold at one of the upcoming hamfests. Any funds received would be put toward paying down the mortgage.

The county truck (pulling vehicle for the FSV) has multiple problems and is currently sitting unused. Roger to call the county to attempt to get it sold and off the books. The equipment inside the truck was procured through various grants but belongs to SPARC. It would be removed prior to turning it back to the county.

The repeater coordination dues are payable. Max stated that we are required to use coordinated frequencies or they may be lost.

Roger donated two TNCs to the club to sell. Harry received a lot of 5 TNCS from Gregg Martell. These were originally SPARC property and had been slated for use in portable or suitcase stations.

## Paper

We turned in 4900 pounds of paper today, which is a daily record. A mortgage payment is 15260 pounds of paper. (secretary note: This translates to 181,000 pounds or 91 tons per year).

The 911 call center has paper, which needs to be picked up.

## **Events**

- The Timonium hamfest will be held on March 31 and April 1.
- The York hamfest is on April 22
- The Bressler hamfest is on July 4.
- The MS Walk will be held on April 22. Forms were distributed to the membership.
- Rapho recycling is April 14<sup>th</sup>.

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- Adopt-a-highway will be held soon, most likely at the same time as the Rapho recycle event.

On a motion by Harry Bauder and a second by Ross Kauffman the business portion of the meeting was adjourned at 8:40 PM.

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Here is a map and directions to the meeting location at the Rapho Township Office Building.

Meeting location

*Picture removed to save web space, N3XPD*

Directions to Township office

From Route 772 (Mount Joy-Manheim Road) turn north on Esbenshade Road to stop sign. Turn north on Fairview to intersection at Hossler Road. Cross Hossler onto North Colebrook Road. Township building is approximately 1/4 mile on right.

From Route 72 south, turn west on Elizabethtown Road. Turn south on North Colebrook Road. Township building is approximately 1-1/2 miles on left.

From Route 283 take the Manheim-Mount Joy (Route 772) exit and turn towards Manheim. Turn left onto Breneman road at the John Deer dealer. Stay on Breneman Road until reaching the T at North Colebrook Road. Turn Right onto North Colebrook Road and the Rapho Township building is on the left in about 1/2 mile.

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### ARES/RACES



As part of the clubs commitment to emergency communications, the SPARC repeater system is maintained as available for linking with other area repeaters.

Lancaster County VHF Net is held on the first Tuesday of the month at 2030 hours local time. Presently being held on the 147.015 MHz repeater with minus offset and 118.8 PL.

Pennsylvania RACES HF Nets are held at 3993.5 kHz LSB on all Sundays except holidays. The statewide net is on the first Sunday of the month at 0800 hours local time. The Central Area (including Lancaster County) net is at 08:30 local time.

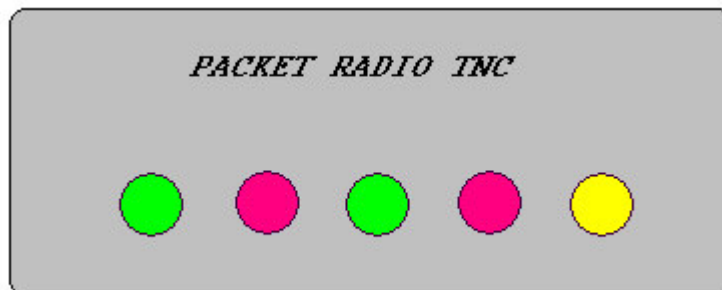
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**Tech Section:  
From ARRL's Technical Information website.**

*Picture removed to save web space, N3XPD*

**Digital Modes:**

*A "bit" about Digital Radio*



- The SPARC packet radio mail-drop mailbox continues to operate as K3IR-1. On VHF 145.030 MHz, 1200bps FSK.

**What is Project 25?**

Project 25 (P25) is a standard for the manufacturing of interoperable digital two-way wireless communications products. Developed in North America under state, local and federal representatives and Telecommunications Industry Association (TIA) governance, P25 is gaining worldwide acceptance for public safety, security, public service, and commercial applications. The published P25 standards suite is administered by the Telecommunications Industry Association (TIA Mobile and Personal Private Radio Standards Committee TR-8). Radio equipment that demonstrates compliance with P25 is able to meet a set of minimum requirements to fit the needs of public safety. These include the ability to interoperate with other P25 equipment, so that users on different systems can talk via direct radio contact.

The P25 standard was created by and for public safety professionals.

P25 systems are available today and being deployed globally. Many organizations have mandated that new land mobile radio system purchases follow P25 standards. P25 is ongoing. The standard continues to evolve as the needs of users and the capabilities of new technology advance. Both users and manufacturers have an important role to play in shaping P25.

More info at,  
<http://www.p25.com/resources/P25TrainingGuide.pdf>

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### General News:

- VE TESTING 1900 HRS LANCO EMGC TRAIN CENTER.  
EXAMS ARE ON EVEN NUMBERED MONTHS THIRD THURSDAY AT 7 PM 1900 HRS.

- The SPARC operating building is available to all club members for use. While it is still a work in progress, the building does have several operating positions with power supplies and a pretty good antenna farm. You will however have to supply your own radios. If you don't have a radio or other equipment for a particular use maybe you can work with another club member that does and make a team effort of it. A membership meeting would be a good place to make these types of arrangements.

Keys to access the building will be available at club membership meetings.  
There is a one time \$5.00 donation to SPARC to cover the cost of the key making required.

The club is providing this as a benefit to its members in the hopes that it will encourage some to get on the air.  
It may even help some to proceed in the amateur radio license upgrade process.

So anyone who would like to work some DX or just get on the bands to rag chew, practice a mode, participate in a contest or whatever, here is a place you can operate without concern for antenna restrictions, space limitations or other obstacles to operating.

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## Hamfests this month:

### *Welcome to SPARC's Newsletter Hamfest!*

**If you have anything for sale, trade, buy, donate, let me know and we can list it here.**

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Still for sale are the following items.

For Sale by [n3xpd@comcast.net](mailto:n3xpd@comcast.net)

MFJ Deluxe Electronic Keyer.

Model MFJ-407C

Price is \$40.00.

Electric Radio Antenna Tuning Meter

This device allows you to tune your HF rigs antenna at low power to prevent QRM.

For more info, See April 2002 QST review.

Price is \$40.00.

In case you haven't heard the news.

I am sponsoring a raffle of a brand new, still in the box, Vertex Standard (Yaesu) VX-150 Handie Talkie 2-meter FM transceiver.

There will only be 24 chances sold at \$10.00 each, so your odds of winning are 1 in 24 for each ticket you purchase, (compare that to powerball odds). At the present time I still have 5 chances available. The drawing will be held at the first membership meeting after all chances are sold.

NOTE that no SPARC money was used in funding this raffle and SPARC's only involvement is that the net proceeds of this drawing will be donated to SPARC's mortgage fund.

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## QRZ News – April 2007

### **2007 OFFICERS**

President: Mike Warner, N3XPD  
Vice President: Rick Watson, N3SWJ  
Secretary: Dave Sarraf, N3NDJ  
Treasurer: Ted Freedman, K3KSA  
Past President: Dave Payne, N3LOM  
Directors: Harry Bauder, WA3FFK; Max Peters, KI6NJ

### **APPOINTMENTS**

#### **Repeater Trustee**

Dave Payne, N3LOM

#### **Web site**

Dave Sarraf N3NDJ; Rick Watson, N3SWJ; Mike Warner, N3XPD

#### **Training Committee**

Max Peters, KI6NJ; Dave Payne, N3LOM; Jim Ibaugh, AA3C.

#### **Tech Committee**

Harry Bauder, WA3FFK; Dave Payne, N3LOM; Mike Warner, N3XPD

#### **Newsletter:**

Mike Warner, N3XPD

Email: [n3xpd@comcast.net](mailto:n3xpd@comcast.net)

#### **SPARC Nets**

SPARC holds nets on the 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> Tuesday (every Tuesday except the first) at 2030 local time on 145.230 MHz minus offset and a PL of 118.8.

*Comments are most welcome.*

*I would also like to make note that if anyone has information that they would like to have added to the newsletter, all are welcome to make submissions to the editor.*

*This can include just about anything that could be related to club activities or about amateur radio, electronics or science in general.*

*So any of you would be authors out there can use this forum to get your word out!*

*That's all for now,*

*Hope to hear you all on the air and see you at a meeting or club event.*

*73,*

*Mike Warner, N3XPD*