

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

Email address: k3ir@arrl.net

Repeaters: 145.230 - 449.975 - Packet 145.030 - ATV 923.250

May 2007

Membership Meetings

Condensed Minutes of the April 2007 Meeting of the Southern Pennsylvania Amateur Radio Club (SPARC)

Present:

Dave Payne N3LOM

Frank Coleman KB3GMZ

Paul Herr KD8WY

Rick Watson N3SWJ

Jim Silvius KW3E

Ted Freedman K3KSA

Ross Kauffman W3ZKU

Mike Warner N3XPD

The meeting was called to order by President Mike Warner at 19:07.

Rick Watson volunteered to serve as secretary for the meeting since Dave Sarraf was participating in the 2007 TMI Emergency Drill and therefore unable to attend.

We did a round robin of introductions.

Minutes of the March club and April Board of Directors meetings were read. There was one correction to the March club minutes. Harry Bauder, not Mike Warner, stated that we turned in 4900 pounds of paper today, which is a daily record. Ross Kauffman moved to approve the minutes with corrections. Paul Herr seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Ted Freedman provided a treasurer's report.

Ted contacted D&E Communications about reducing the club's telephone bill. He had long distance service removed, which saves a few dollars each month. Since we no longer use the phone patch, we may have the phone disconnected in the future.

Ted contacted the bank about the interest rate on the money market account. The bank agreed to increase the rate, but we are still getting a poor return on our deposit.

Ted reported that we received a \$100 donation from Burma Leasing, LLC, P.O. Box 69, Marietta, PA 17547. Ted or Mike will send them a Thank You note.

Frank Coleman moved to approve the treasurer's report pending the annual audit. Paul Herr seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

We did not receive any new requests for membership since the last meeting.

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Old Business

Ross Kauffman reported that the annual audit of the club's financial records has been completed. He has the report, but it is lacking the signature of one of the participants (Roger Colvin) so he will keep it until it has been signed by all participants. Ross commented that the Treasurer, Ted Freedman, had everything in order for the audit and was able to produce all requested records quickly. The Audit Committee checked all of the large transfers of funds in and out of the club's accounts. They also verified all checks written to individuals. Everything was found to be satisfactory.

Mike Warner reported that Secretary Dave Sarraf filed corporation papers with the PA Corporation Bureau to change the list of officers and the club's address to make the records current. Dave received confirmation of the filing from the PA Corporation Bureau. Mike asked Rick Watson to add this filing to the list of regular tasks the club needs to perform.

Mike Warner reported the club did the semi-monthly recycling of paper for Rapho Township on Saturday, April 14.

Ted and Mike also did the first Adopt-a-Highway clean-up of 2007. We need to do three more clean-ups before the end of the year.

Mike noted that the site clean-up still needs to be done.

Dave Payne reported that the deadbolt on the Repeater Building has been changed. Dave gave keys to the members of the Board of Directors and the repeater Trustee. Dave also installed nine "No Trespassing" signs around the repeater site.

New Business:

Dues (\$25) have been paid to the Area Repeater Coordinating Council (ARCC) for 2007. Mike asked Rick Watson to add this filing to the list of regular tasks the club needs to perform.

Mike reported there are upcoming hamfests at Bloomsburg (sponsored by the Columbia-Montour ARC) on June 9, and Stroudsburg (sponsored by Pocono ARC) on September 8. The Bloomsburg hamfest is offering a free table to clubs.

(Secretary's note: there is also an EmComm Conference on June 9 at Selinsgrove. More information is available at <http://www.midatlantem.com>.)

Dave Payne reported the following paper collections:

January 42,380#

February 32,660#

March 20,880#

Mike suggested we change the name of the Audit Committee to the Financial Review Committee. This was in response to a suggestion by Rick Watson. The term "audit" carries some legal implications that our "audit" does not meet. What we do is more properly called a financial review. The suggestion was tabled until the next Board of Directors meeting.

Upcoming Events:

The MS Walk is Sunday, April 22. The walk will start and end at Clipper Stadium. Volunteers should arrive at 11:00 AM. All walk-related operations will take place on the 147.015 repeater.

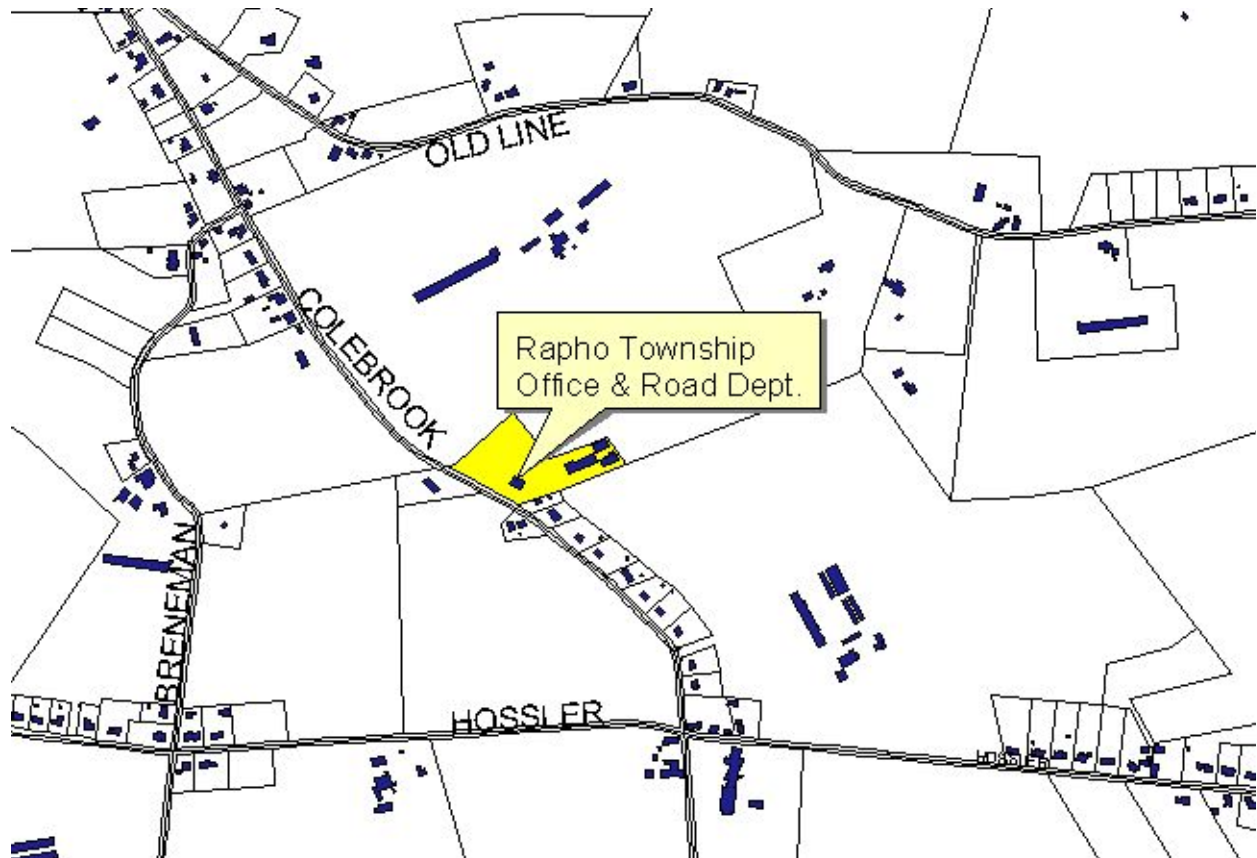
The Heart Walk will be Saturday, October 13, at the F&M Sports Complex.

Ross Kauffman moved to adjourn the meeting at 20:15. Jim Silvius seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

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

Meeting location



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.

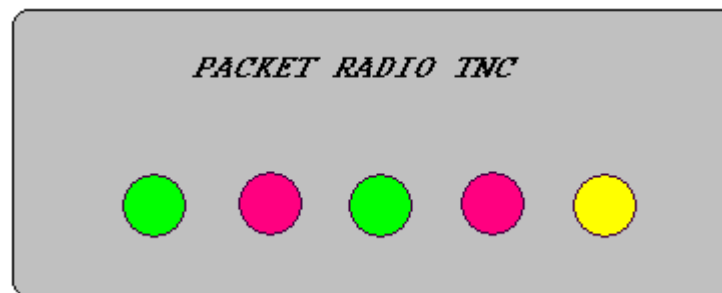
Pennsylvania RACES HF Nets are held at 3993.5 kHz LSB on all Sundays except holidays. The statewide net is on the first Sunday of the month at 0800 hours local time. The Central Area (including Lancaster County) net is at 08:30 local time.

Tech Section:

From ARRL's Technical Information website.

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.

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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 dont 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 hope 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.

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.

Still for sale are the following items.

For Sale by n3xpd@comcast.net

MFJ Deluxe Electronic Keyer.

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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.

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

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SPARC Nets

SPARC holds nets on the 2nd, 3rd, 4th, and 5th 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