

DECEMBER 2017

HPARC NEWSLETTER

High Point
Amateur Radio
Club



DECEMBER MEETING

The program for the December meeting will be fun and festivities. Well, we do have a little business of electing officers. For December, we will reverse things around by having our business meeting first. That way we can get our business out of the way and spend the rest of the evening eating and enjoying each other's fellowship.

We will try to have our business meeting at or close to 6:30 p.m. so that we can begin eating at 7:00 p.m. The only item I know of on the agenda will be the election of officers. According to By-Laws, no more nominations will be accepted.

The meal will be potluck from the club members. If you are planning on attending and have not yet committed to bringing a dish, con-

tact Denny Wojnar or David Macchiarolo to tell what you might be bringing (or email w4ua@arrl.net). Otherwise bring a soft drink that we will leave for the church. If you need directions, contact one of the club officers.

**HPARC meeting on
Saturday,
December 2, 2017**

David Macchiarolo reports that Field Day results are in and that W4UA was #7 in the USA in our category (3AC). By the way, we were #5 last year. I received my ARRL NC Section Newsletter today. Although they failed to mention us, they listed clubs in the Roanoke and NC section. Listing our club as they did in the NC ARRL Newsletter,

we ranked #1 in the Roanoke Division and #1 in the NC Section in our class. I like being #1.

Most of you got the email that Foy Flowers, passed away on November 21. Foy was a blind Ham from Greensboro and was well known by many.

I remind you that the HPARC is now a non-profit. If you are looking to make a donation to a worth while group for a tax exemption, you might consider the HPARC.

Remember the Christmas Day Roll Call on Christmas morning. Roll Call will start at 8:00 a.m. Please make an effort to participate.

Remember, our Christmas Party/Meeting will be December 2, 2017, Saturday. Bring the better half and kids. Should be fun!

OFFICER ELECTIONS FOR 2018

The Nominating Committee has met and made their recommendations for officers for 2018. They are: Dan Bly, KB8TLF, for President; Matt Flyer, KM4WON, for Vice-president; David Macchiarolo, AJ4TF, for Secretary; and Warren Gallemore, KA4LOQ, for Treasurer.

This year's Nominating Committee was: Mike Cumbo ND4S, Matt Flyer KM4WON, Mark McMahan, KB4MFP, David Macchiarolo AJ4TF, and Dwight Sledge W4EIO.

As stated in the HPARC bylaws, no further nominations may be made at the December meeting.

**HPARC Meeting
December 2, 2015**
Hickory Chapel Wesleyan
Church Fellowship Building,
301 Hickory Chapel Road,
High Point

Business meeting at 6:30 p.m.
Meal at 7:00 p.m.

HPARC CHRISTMAS PARTY/MEETING

The HPARC Christmas Party/Meeting will be on December 2, 2017, Saturday at the Hickory Chapel Wesleyan Fellowship Building. If you need directions, please contact one of the officers listed on the back of this newsletter.

As stated before, we are going back to a potluck style dinner. Bring what you want

whether a dessert or main dish (or two). If you haven't yet committed to what dish you will bring, contact Denny Wojnar or David Macchiarolo to tell them. Or just email the club's email address.

This meeting is more of a party than a meeting. We only have to elect officers. Don't worry. We have already

selected our slate of officers for next year. If you have not been nominated (and you know if you were), then you won't be nominated at this meeting. So you can just come out and enjoy yourself. No pressure.

Plan on attending. Bring family and/or friends. We should have a grand ole time.

MORSE CODE TO THE RESCUE

Now here's a twist on the saying: "When all else fails, there's Amateur Radio." This version says: "When all else fails, there's Morse Code." A yacht sailing off the coast of Cornwall recently was observed as being on a collision course with the Dales rocks which are submerged at high tide and not visible. The rocks posed a definite risk for grounding.

A watchkeeper at the National Coastwatch Institute at Bass Point, however, could

not reach the crew. They did not have an Automatic Identification System beacon and could not be reached on VHF radio to be warned of the danger ahead.

The watchkeeper turned to an old relic – an Aldis lamp, which emits pulsing light, and he flashed the crew a Morse Code message – the letter "U" – which warns of danger. The craft had come within 10 boat lengths of the rocks when it was seen to respond by changing its course to head south

where it resumed its journey to Falmouth.

Bass point NCI station manager Peter Clements was quoted in news reports afterward as saying that such flashing lamps are more commonly seen these days in vintage movies about the Second World War. But in this case, an old wartime tool turned out to take on a hero's role in peacetime too.

—*Amateur Radio Newsline*,
Report 2089,
November 10, 2017

FCC CHAIRMAN COMMITS TO FEWER DELAYS

FCC chairman Ajit Pai has pledged to change the FCC's reputation for long delays in approving new technology, especially in the field of wireless. Approval often takes years, but in a speech he gave November 17 in New York, the chairman said decisions for such approvals would now be made within a year.

Pai said that his priority for the past 10 months at the FCC has been to review regulations so they reflect the market, even if that means streamlining or even eliminating some rules. He said the purpose of the move is to get government out of the way of private enterprise and innovation.

He said "one of the most powerful forces in government is inertia. To ensure that innova-

tors don't get sandbagged, we're implementing a new process. If someone seeks approval of a new technology or service that falls within our jurisdiction, we'll make a decision within one year." In other words, there will be less waiting for everyone – or so we hope.

—*Amateur Radio Newsline*,
Report 2089,
November 24, 2017

The HPARC Newsletter is published monthly by the High Point Amateur Radio Club (HPARC) for its members. The HPARC Newsletter serves as a source of information about Club activities, and general news items of interest to Amateur Radio. Opinions expressed herein are not necessarily those of the HPARC or its officers. Material in this newsletter may be reproduced provided the HPARC is properly credited.

Complimentary issues of the HPARC Newsletter are available by writing to the HPARC Newsletter at PO Box 4941, High Point, NC 27263 or emailing your request to w4ua@arrl.net. Subscriptions are available to non-members for \$12.00 a year. Contributions and letters/emails to the editor are welcome.

Membership is open in the HPARC to all licensed Amateur Radio operators. Membership is \$24.00 a year. Associate membership is also available to those who are interested in Amateur Radio but who do not currently hold a license. Associate membership is \$12.00 a year. Student membership is also available for \$12.00 a year.

The High Point Amateur Radio Club meets the first Monday of each month (except for holidays) at 6:30 p.m. at a local restaurant announced in the newsletter. The business meeting starts around 7:00 p.m. followed by a short program of interest. Family and visitors are welcome to attend. For more information, please call or email one of the HPARC officers listed in this newsletter.

CHRISTMAS DAY ROLL CALL 2017

For those who don't know, Christmas Day Roll Call was started 36 years ago by Fred Browning. Back then, he was K4CUJ (later W1HLP). This tradition of calling roll call on Christmas morning was Fred's everlasting contribution to the HPARC. It has been carried on and handed down through the years by several Hams from the HPARC. On Christmas morning, net control manager will call the roll

call of the High Point Amateur Radio Club. They will pause briefly to let the club member give their call and shout any greetings they wish to other Hams on the club's repeater, 147.165. Afterwards, late calls will be accepted as well as any visitors who happen to be listening.

Matt Flyer, KM4WON, will again be our net control for the HPARC Christmas Day Roll Call. Matt will start call-

ing names at 8:00 a.m. Be sure to dust off that old 2-meter you haven't used in a while and make sure the batteries are charged.

We would love hearing from more of our club members this year as well as any other Hams listening on our repeater. It helps burn out the cobwebs in the repeater cabinet and gets club members to use their equipment. Hope to hear you Christmas morning.

RADIO CAROLINE HEARD TESTING ON 648 kHz AS IT PREPARES ITS (LEGAL) RETURN TO THE AIRWAVES

Medium-wave broadcast listeners (BCLers) recently reported a signal with continuous music and announcements on 648 kHz — the frequency of the former pirate broadcaster and soon-to-be reconstituted Radio Caroline. BCLers from the UK, The Netherlands, Belgium, France, and Austria reported hearing the signal. Some reports, according to Mike Terry of The SWLing Post, referred to a co-channel Romanian or Slovenian station. Terry said he believed the testing was done at a lower power level than the permitted 1 kW.

"Our initial engineering tests on 648 have now finished," Radio Caroline announced on its website. Full tests and programmes will commence in due course and will be announced here. We are grateful for the many reception reports sent. So many were received that it will take some time to assess them all."

The latter-day incarnation of the famous shipboard pirate

radio station that beamed rock music to the UK in the 1960s and 1970s, has gone legal and obtained a license to operate permanently on 648 kHz at 1 kW ERP. That channel falls between the 10 kHz-spaced AM Standard Broadcast Band frequencies in the US.

"It's taken Radio Caroline 53 years to get an AM license,

and it was perceived as a threat to the BBC for many years," Radio Caroline said on its website. "Ironically 648 kHz was best known for transmitting the BBC World Service in English." BBC dropped that service in 2011.

—*The ARRL Letter*,
November 16, 2017
Rick Lindquist, WW1ME, Ed.

*"And the angel said unto them,
Fear not:
for, behold, I bring you good tidings
of great joy, which shall be to all people.
For unto you is born this day
in the city of David
a Saviour,
which is Christ the Lord."*

—Luke 2:10-11 King James version



High Point Amateur Radio Club
PO Box 4941
High Point, NC 27263

HPARC DECEMBER CALENDAR

- 1-3— ARRL 160-Meter Contest
- 2 — HPARC Club Meeting (Saturday)**
- 7 — Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day
- 9-10 — ARRL 10-Meter Contest
- 17 — Wright Brother's Day
- 21 — First Day of Winter
- 17 — ARRL Rookie Roundup—CW
- 25 — CHRISTMAS**
 (Don't forget the HPARC
 Christmas Day Roll Call)

- 24 — Newsletter deadline
- 31 — NEW YEAR'S EVE**

BIRTHDAYS

- Roland Wright — December 9
- Chris Horne — December 12
- Cliff Sconce — December 19

2017 HPARC OFFICERS

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**Breakfast
 every Saturday**
 —
8:00 a.m.
 —
**Biscuitville,
 2709 S. Main St.**