

DECEMBER 2019

# HPARC NEWSLETTER

*High Point  
Amateur Radio  
Club*



## DECEMBER MEETING

The December HPARC meeting/Christmas party will be held on SATURDAY, December 7, 2019. Please mark your calendar!

We will have our business meeting at 6:30 p.m. so that we can begin eating close to 7:00 p.m. We will need to vote on officers for 2020 for our business section.

The program will be eating and festivities! This is a time for club members to just enjoy each others company.

The meal will be pot-luck from the club members. No one has responded to the recent email as to what members are bringing, so I can't give an update on that. Email the club address or contact David Macchiarolo if you what to tell what dish you may be bringing.

David Macchiarolo reports

that Field Day results are in and that W4UA was #5 in the USA in our category (3AC).

At the last meeting, the HPARC voted to move our January meeting to J&S Cafeteria at the Palladium. The address is 5835 Samet Drive, High Point. It is located in the shopping area between Wendover Drive, Penny Road and Highway 68.

**HPARC meeting on  
Saturday,  
December 7, 2019**

J&S Cafeteria has Six Buck Monday. You can choose from Stuffed Bell Pepper, Chop Steak, Chicken Ranch Casserole, Salmon Cake, Chicken Liver, Baked Spaghetti or Chicken Pan Pie. Your entree with two hot

vegetables will be \$6.00 (tax included). What Ham doesn't like a deal?

I remind you that the HPARC is now a non-profit. If you are looking to make a year-end 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. on 147.165. Members names will be called out by the roster and then visitors may at the end check in as well as late risers. Please make an effort to participate.

Again, don't forget our meeting is on Saturday. Bring your significant other, friends and neighbors. Oh, and a main dish or dessert. Hope to see you there.

## OFFICER NOMINATIONS FOR 2020

The Nominating Committee has met and made their recommendations for officers for 2020. They are: Mark McMahan, KB4MFP, for President; Tom Bertolino, KB1P, for Vice-President; David Macchiarolo, AJ4TF, for Secretary; and Warren Gallemore, KA4LOQ, for Treasurer.

The Nominating Committee for 2020 consists of: David Macchiarolo, AJ4TF; Mike Cumbo, ND4S; George McCormick, KN4JPB; Lacey Armistead, KN4JOX, and Cliff Scronce, KC4ANQ.

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

meeting.

**HPARC Meeting  
December 7, 2018**  
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.

# MORE THAN 1 MILLION CONTACTS LOGGED DURING 2019 ARRL FIELD DAY

ARRL Contest Program Manager Paul Bourque, N1SFE, reports that nearly 1.1 million contacts were made during the 2019 ARRL Field Day — the most popular operating event in North America. Bourque reported the 2019 ARRL Field Day results, which are available starting on page 64 of the digital edition of the December 2019 issue of QST.

Bourque says in his article that more than 36,000 Radio Amateurs took part in 2019 Field Day across all 83 ARRL/Radio Amateurs of Canada Sections, up slightly from the 35,250 reported last year. The total number of contacts was down by about 7% from 2018's 1.18 million contacts.

"This year, 3,113 entries were received from local clubs and emergency oper-

ations centers (EOCs), as well as individual portable, mobile, and home stations," Bourque wrote in QST. Most entries were in Class A — club or non-club groups of three or more.

Of the nearly 1.1 million contacts, approximately 46% were made on phone, and 456,000 (42%) of contacts were made on CW. The remaining 138,000+ (12%) of the contacts were made on digital modes, such as FT8 and RTTY.

"This is a substantial increase compared to 2018, when total QSOs on the digital modes numbered just over 56,000," Bourque reported. "With the late 2018 release of WSJT-X (which now supports Field Day exchanges), many participants made use of FT8's ability to communicate when band conditions weren't

being cooperative."

Top 10 scores ranged between W3AO's Class 14A entry from Maryland-DC, with 32,356 points, to W1NVT's 14,876-point Class 2A entry from Vermont.

Bourque said that 95% of the 3,113 entries received came through the Field Day web applet.

"Not only is ARRL Field Day an opportunity to sharpen operating skills in temporary and portable locations, it's also an occasion to showcase Amateur Radio to the local community," Bourque wrote.

Soapbox comments for Field Day 2019 are available on the ARRL website. ARRL Field Day 2020 will take place June 27 – 28.

—*The ARRL Letter*,  
November 14, 2019  
Rick Lindquist, WW1ME,  
Editor

## TURNING 'BLACK FRIDAY' INTO 'FISTS FRIDAY'

Why shop when you can sit home and send code? Some Hams are thinking the same thing.

In the United States, the Thanksgiving holiday — which is a Thursday — has come to be followed by a holiday shopping free-for-all known as "Black Friday." Well now that day gained has yet another name: "FISTS Friday." The CW operators' worldwide

group known as FISTS has reserved the 24 hours following November 28th to encourage operators to get on the air in a noncompetitive event and start pounding out their gratitude using their keys. Organizers encourage operators to make at least one QSO and beat the holiday rush.

Hams who participate will be able to download a "FISTS Friday" certificate from the

website where it will be available until the 1st of December. Operators are being asked to send an email to the FISTS awards manager at awards@fistsna.org, describing their QSO.

So once you've finished your feast, why not start with your FIST?

—*Amateur Radio Newsline*,  
Report 2194,  
November 15, 2019

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.

## TECHNICIAN LICENSE CLASS

Rick Weinbaum, KK4RR, has announced that he will be conducting a Technician class for those interested in getting their Ham Radio license.

The class will start December 10 and go through January 14 for four sessions (December

10, 17, January 7, 14). Time will be 7:00-10:00 pm. Pre-registration is required. There is no cost for the class, but students are urged to enroll in HamTestOnline at a cost of \$24.99.

Exam date will be January

18, 2020 at 9:30 am.

The location will be The Radio Shack of the Tri-County Amateur Club, 331 Woodrow Avenue, High Point, NC 27262.

If interested, contact Rick Weinbaum, KK4RR, at (336) 687-8001 or KK4RR@mac.com.

## CHRISTMAS DAY ROLL CALL 2019

Christmas Day Roll Call is a roll call of all HPARC members on Christmas Day. It is a tradition that was started 38 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.

On Christmas morning, the 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.

I am not sure who will be our net control for the HPARC Christmas Day Roll Call (we will decide at the December meeting). Net Control will start calling 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. Remember the tone on 147.165 is 67 Hz.

Look forward to

hearing you on Christmas morning.

And she shall bring  
forth a son, and thou  
shall call his name  
Jesus:  
for He shall save His  
people from their sins.

—Matthew 1:21 KJV

## A HAM RADIO GIFT WITH HEART

As the holiday season approaches, we are reminded that Hams aren't just technicians and communicators but givers with big hearts too. Kent Peterson KC0DGY shares our closing story this week.

There's thanks...and then there's giving. This is a story of both. Ervin Sweet WA9ERT struck it lucky at Hamfest Chattanooga last month as a lucky Grand Prize winner taking home an Icom IC-7300 SDR radio.

This month, however, the Chattanooga Amateur Radio Club felt like a Grand Prize winner too: It seems Ervin already had a 7300 at home, one he'd unboxed less than 2 years ago. Having welcomed the new 7300 into his shack, Ervin donated its gently used predecessor to the club at its November monthly meeting. Ervin knew that after the theft of its communications trailer on July 4th, the club was still suffering the heavy loss of some of its

HF radios.

In a November 8th Facebook post, president Gary Ownsby AK4ZX wrote: "Our club is honored by Mister Sweet's donation. We'll all remember his generosity when his donated radio is fired up for club events."

It's not just the spirit of the season but the spirit of Ham Radio too.

—*Amateur Radio Newsline*,  
Report 2194,  
November 15, 2019



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

## HPARC DECEMBER CALENDAR

6-8 — ARRL 160-Meter Contest  
**7 — HPARC Club Meeting (Saturday)**  
 7 — Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day  
 13-15 — ARRL 10-Meter Contest  
 17 — Wright Brother's Day  
 21 — First Day of Winter  
 22 — ARRL Rookie Roundup-CW  
**25 — CHRISTMAS**  
 (Don't forget the HPARC  
 Christmas Day Roll Call)

29 — Newsletter deadline  
**31 — NEW YEAR'S EVE**

### BIRTHDAYS

George McCormick — December 6  
 Brian Simpson — December 7  
 Ken Worland — December 11  
 Cliff Sconce — December 19

For W4VEC Test information, call or email David Macchiarolo, AJ4TF, (336) 420-9424, [aj4tf@arrl.net](mailto:aj4tf@arrl.net)

### 2019 HPARC OFFICERS

Dan Bly, KB8TLF — President — 336-259-1203 — [kb8tlf@gmail.com](mailto:kb8tlf@gmail.com)  
 Matt Flyer, KM4WON — Vice-President — 336-491-3448 — [matt@noway2.net](mailto:matt@noway2.net)  
 David Macchiarolo, AJ4TF — Secretary — 336-869-2894 — [aj4tf@arrl.net](mailto:aj4tf@arrl.net)  
 Warren Gallemore, KA4LOQ — Treasurer — 336-883-4944 — [warreng960@mac.com](mailto:warreng960@mac.com)  
 Newsletter Editor — Mark McMahan — 336-887-3039 — [kb4mfp@arrl.net](mailto:kb4mfp@arrl.net)  
 HPARC — [www.w4ua.org](http://www.w4ua.org) — [w4ua@arrl.net](mailto:w4ua@arrl.net) — 147.165 (67 Hz Tone)

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