



August  
2023

# HPARC NEWSLETTER

High Point  
Amateur Radio  
Club



## FCC ULS System Restored

Source: ARRL Letter June 29, 2023

The FCC Universal Licensing System (ULS) has resumed operations, including the Electronic Batch Filing (EBF) system.

As of June 27, 2023, all systems have been reported to be working. However, visitors to the website will see a message referring them to Public Notice DA-23-529 for additional information and guidance on filing deadline extensions.

The systems were first reported unavailable on June 9, 2023. On Friday afternoon, June 23, the EBF system was restored. All VEC organizations use that system for filing exam sessions, individual applications, and club license applications. ARRL VEC staff worked late



into Friday night to ensure all backlogged sessions and application files were transmitted to the FCC before the weekend. Approximately 350 backlogged files were successfully submitted to and processed by the FCC before the system's normal shutdown at 8 PM.

ARRL is still monitoring the ULS, and any further updates will be available at ARRL News.

## Techs: Now is the Time to Upgrade to General!

Source: ARRL Letter July 6, 2023

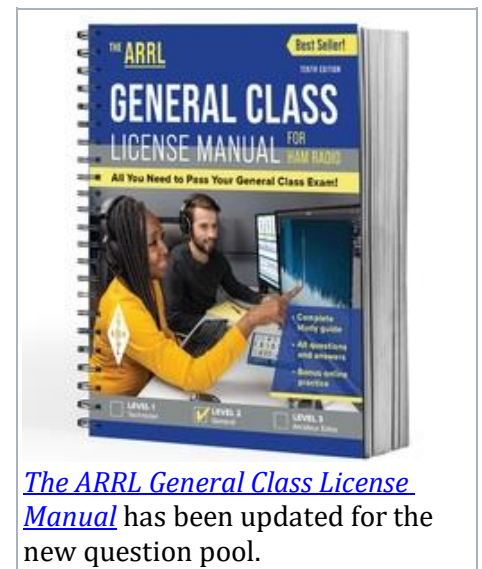
A new question pool took effect on July 1, 2023, for General-class license exams. ARRL has released new editions of its popular study resources including the 10th edition of [The ARRL General Class License Manual](#) and the 7th edition of [ARRL's General Q&A](#).

ARRL has also updated its free online review and practice resource, [ARRL Exam Review for Ham Radio](#).

"ARRL Volunteer Examiners (VEs) are already administering the new General-class exams," said ARRL VEC Manager Maria Somma, AB1FM. Somma suggests that candidates first take a practice test

using ARRL Exam Review. "If you're already passing online practice exams, then you're ready to search for an in-person exam session team, or you can take the exam online via a remote video-supervised session." Visit the [exam session search page](#) on the ARRL website.

The new General-class question pool is valid for examinations taken between July 1, 2023, and June 30, 2027. "Upgrading from a Technician-class license to General-class significantly opens more operating privileges on HF bands," added Somma.



[The ARRL General Class License Manual](#) has been updated for the new question pool.

**HPARC Meeting**  
**August 7, 2023**  
**6:30 p.m.**



**Mario's Pizza & Zoom**  
2645 N. Main St.  
High Point, NC 27265

# Sign Up Or Renew Your ARRL Membership

By: Peter Kapetanakis, KN4OCX

Are you an ARRL member? Would you like to be? Whether you wish to sign up as a new member, or simply renew your membership, consider doing that through the club. By doing so, the club gets to keep \$15 of new ARRL memberships and \$2 of ARRL renewals.

As an ARRL member, you will benefit from getting the QST Magazine or the On The Air magazine, plus digital access to all four ARRL magazines such as QEX, technical articles, and the National Contest Journal. ARRL members have access to The Learning Center and product reviews, along with e-newsletters. Other benefits include Technical

Information Service, outgoing QSL Service, ARRL E-mail forwarding service, and the availability to Ham Radio equipment insurance; as well as, supporting the ARRL which represents Ham Radio in Washington, DC. To start your ARRL membership or renew, please contact the HPARC Treasurer at [Treasurer@W4UA.org](mailto:Treasurer@W4UA.org).

## A Message from ARRL President Rick Roderick, K5UR

Source:

Rick Roderick, K5UR, *ARRL Member Bulletin*  
July 23, 2023

Dear ARRL members,

Yesterday, the ARRL Board of Directors completed their second annual meeting. I'm writing to let you know that they made the tough, but necessary, decision to increase the regular membership dues rate to \$59 a year starting January 1, 2024 (see [2024 Dues Rates](#)). Additionally, we have chosen to separate the printed, mailed magazine from regular membership. Members will be able to choose whether they want to add-on a print subscription to any of our magazines including *QST*, *On the Air*, *QEX*, and *NCJ*. All members will continue to have online, digital access to each of these four magazines and the digital archive as part of their regular membership benefits.

This is only the second time in 22 years that ARRL has raised our dues. It is a necessary part of ensuring ARRL is supported so we can continue to promote and fight hard for our Amateur Radio Service, while providing benefits and services for our members that increase your knowledge and enjoyment of ham radio.

To help us make this decision, we invited every ARRL member to participate in a survey in May. Over 20,000 members responded (you can view the survey results [here](#)). We know from the survey results that most of you will find the new rate reasonable, or even ask why we didn't set it higher. We also know that some may find the rate is

too high. As I've shared with many of you during my visits at hamfests and conventions, each of us has a responsibility to be active participants, and to support ARRL if we want to increase our ranks and ensure a lasting legacy for amateur radio's future.

You told us that you value ARRL's advocacy efforts, including spectrum defense, standing up to regulators and policymakers, and our work in other areas that defend, promote, and grow amateur radio - including STEM outreach to schools, teachers, and youth. **There is no other organization that is working harder to advance a vision that allows any citizen to explore, develop, and practice radio communications and radio technology.**

Your feedback showed us the many benefits, services, and programs you use - from Logbook of The World, to the work done by the ARRL Lab to test equipment for product reviews. While our magazines topped the list of benefits, many of you also shared that your reading preferences have changed. Some of you prefer print, and increasingly members prefer digital. As a result, for those who prefer print, you will be able to subscribe to *QST* and/or *On the Air* magazine. Again, all members will continue to have access to the digital editions of all four ARRL magazines.

Have you ever heard a Life Member say, "I got a good deal when I signed up for Life Membership 25 (or 30, or 40...) years ago." They're right! They got a good deal, but continuing to serve Life members is not sustainable without

making some changes. So, we're going to freeze new applications for the program, not adding any new Life Memberships until we can price the offering to be revenue neutral over its term. And, again, as more members prefer digital, we'll be asking current Life Members to opt-in if they want to continue to receive *QST* by mail.

The cost of doing business goes up every year. During the last couple of years, the costs associated with printing and postage have increased significantly. We've cut and delayed hiring for some positions on our professional staff - one of the smallest teams we've had staffing our headquarters in Newington, Connecticut, in years. We are also continuing to examine other cost-saving measures, but we cannot go further without reducing or eliminating benefits and programs which our members have told us are important to them.

I can assure you that the ARRL Board exercises due diligence and oversight in making sure your association is a good steward of your membership dollars. The reality is that ARRL does a lot - in fact much more than dues cover.

ARRL shares your passion for amateur radio. We are committed to strengthening and growing our community, and protecting our rights to use and experiment on our amateur radio spectrum. We have a 109-year track record that includes YOU as part of that ongoing legacy of support for amateur radio and ARRL.

73

Rick Roderick, K5UR

# Slow-Scan TV Experiment with ARRL Planned for Amateur Radio on the International Space Station

Source: ARRL Letter July 20, 2023

Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS), in collaboration with [ARRL](#), plans to carry out a special slow-scan TV (SSTV) experiment from the ISS on Wednesday, July 26, 2023. During the event, the Columbus Module Repeater, transmitting at 437.800 MHz, will carry a message to be received by teachers attending the [ARRL Teachers Institute on Wireless Technology](#) professional development class.

The pass will be over the Mid-Atlantic and New England area, with transmissions scheduled to begin at 20:05 UTC (16:05 ET) and end at 20:20 UTC (16:20 ET). If necessary, a backup window is scheduled from 21:40 UTC (17:40 ET) to 21:55 UTC (17:55 ET).

Radio enthusiasts are welcome to download the message and follow along with the event, but it is asked that all hams refrain from using the repeater for voice contacts during the event. This is a special experiment conducted through ARISS and ARRL. After the experiment has concluded, normal operations of the repeater should resume in voice mode only.

The ARRL Teachers Institute on Wireless Technology is a donor-



NASA Astronaut Kjell Lindgren, KO5MOS, participates in ARRL Field Day 2022 aboard the International Space Station. [NASA photo]



funded professional development program designed to help classroom teachers elevate their STEM programs through the use of wireless technology. As a part of the ARRL [Education & Technology Program](#), several sessions are conducted each year, and the program continues to grow.

The primary goal of the ARISS program is to promote exploration of science, technology, engineering, the arts, and mathematics topics

(STEM/STEAM). ARISS does this by organizing scheduled contacts via amateur radio between crew members aboard the ISS and students. The next scheduled ARISS contact is with scouts at Camp William B. Snyder in Prince William County, Virginia. The contact is scheduled for Friday, July



21, 2023 at 1754 UTC (13:54 EDT). Scouts will ask their questions of Astronaut Sultan Al Neyadi, amateur radio call sign KI5VTV, who will use the ARISS radio station on the ISS to talk. The downlink frequency for this contact is 145.800 MHz and may be heard by listeners within the ISS footprint.

ARISS is a cooperative venture of international amateur radio societies and the space agencies that support the ISS. In the US, participating organizations include NASA's Space Communications and Navigation program (SCaN), the ISS National Laboratory -- Space Station Explorers, [ARRL](#), and AMSAT.

## Summits on the Air 2023: North America

Source: ARRL Letter July 20, 2023

Summits on the Air (SOTA) in North America has three events scheduled between August 4 - 7, 2023. The [Colorado 14er](#) annual event will run from August 4 - 7, the [SoCal SOTAFest](#) in Southern California will run from August 4 - 6, and the [Pacific Northwest Not-Quite-Fourteener](#) event will run from August 5 - 6, and includes climbers in Washington and Oregon.

SOTA is an award scheme for radio amateurs that encourages portable operation in mountainous areas. It

provides opportunities for summit climbers (known as activators) to scale some of the highest peaks in North America and contact amateur radio stations locally and around the world.



Many different frequencies and modes will be used during the

August events, but the recommended

2-meter FM frequencies have been changed to 146.58, 146.55, and 146.49 MHz to align with the use of the North America Adventure Frequency for SOTA (146.58 MHz). Operation is also permitted on select HF frequencies. The National Simplex Frequency (146.52 MHz) may also be used. Each event website provides a list of operating frequencies. All amateur radio operators and shortwave listeners are invited to participate.

Read more about [SOTA](#) at their website.

# Ham Radio Classes

By: Peter Kapetanakis, KN4OCX

The Tri-County ARC, High Point ARC, and GARA (Greensboro Amateur Radio Association) have formed a partnership to provide online (Zoom) classes for those seeking to acquire their Technician Class operator's license, or to upgrade to a General Class license.

Each course is comprised of 4 class sessions. Each class session is held via Zoom on Wednesday evenings from 6:30 –

9:30pm ET and is free of charge.

The Technician & General classes are held in alternating months. The next course is the General Course scheduled to begin August 9th. Please note, that the courses are meant to prepare you for the FCC license exam, but do not include the license exam itself.

Pre-registration is required for each course. Please contact Richard Weinbaum, KK4RR at 336-687-8001 or

[KK4RR@mac.com](mailto:KK4RR@mac.com) to register.

The starting dates for each course in 2023 are as follows:

## Technician Course:

~~January 4, March 1, May 3, July 12~~  
September 6

## General Course:

~~February 1, April 5, June 7, August 9,~~  
October 4

## HPARC AUGUST CALENDAR

- 7 — **HPARC Meeting**
- 12 — W4VEC Greensboro VE session  
(Hinshaw United Methodist Church)
- 20 — HPARC Newsletter Deadline
- 26 — W4VEC High Point VE session  
(Hickory Chapel Wesleyan Church, Fellowship Bldg)

## AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

- Terence Crandall, N4TLC – 1
- Peter Kapetanakis, KN4OCX – 4
- Bob Witt, KN4LMH – 6
- Chris Riewe, AE4TI – 13
- Derek Brown, W4FI – 14
- Nicole Penn, KQ4BPC – 18
- Craig Bondy, N8STA – 22
- Mike Cumbo, ND4S – 23
- Jim Sexton, KO4BEG – 25
- Warren Gallemore, KA4LOQ – 27

For W4VEC Test information, call or email Keith Thomas, KA4JAH, (336) 906-2469, [KA4JAH@Aol.com](mailto:KA4JAH@Aol.com)

### 2023 HPARC OFFICERS

David Macchiarolo, AJ4TF — President — Please contact other officers at this time.

Terence Crandall, N4TLC — Vice-President — 336-413-9589 — [VicePresident@W4UA.org](mailto:VicePresident@W4UA.org)

Keith Thomas, KA4JAH — Secretary — 336-906-2469 — [Secretary@W4UA.org](mailto:Secretary@W4UA.org)

Peter Kapetanakis, KN4OCX — Treasurer — 336-978-2337 — [Treasurer@W4UA.org](mailto:Treasurer@W4UA.org)

Newsletter Editor — Peter Kapetanakis KN4OCX — 336 978 2337 — [Kn4ocx@arrl.net](mailto:Kn4ocx@arrl.net)

HPARC – [www.w4ua.org](http://www.w4ua.org) – [w4ua@arrl.net](mailto:w4ua@arrl.net) – 147.165 (67 Hz Tone) – 443.900

**Breakfast every  
Saturday**

—  
**8:00 a.m.**

—  
**Biscuitville,  
2709 S. Main St.**

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. Material in this Newsletter 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](mailto:w4ua@arrl.net). Membership in the HPARC is open 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.

The High Point Amateur Radio Club meets the first Monday of each month (except for holidays) at a local restaurant announced in the newsletter. Come early to enjoy dinner. The business meeting starts at 6:30 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. Contributions and letters/emails to the editor are welcome.