



April  
2024

# HPARC NEWSLETTER

High Point  
Amateur Radio  
Club



W4UA

## The Central Western Traffic Net April 2024 Traffic Handler Training Course

Source: Tom Bertolina, KB1P & John Trull, N4CNX

CWTN is offering a ZOOM traffic handler training course. The course consists of three two-hour sessions and a fourth session if required. The course is scheduled for 1930 hrs. (7:30 pm) or at the end of the traffic net on April the 9<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup>, and 30<sup>th</sup>, if needed. The course is limited to 10 attendees, on a first come first served basis. Priority will be given first

to Hams in the CWTN area. If not all the slots are taken, they will be opened to Hams outside the CWTN area on a first come first served basis.

The course is open to anyone who holds a valid amateur radio license. The course requirements are to attend all sessions, complete all homework assignments before the next session, and send three radiograms on a traffic net after the end of the course to receive a

certificate of completion.

If you are interested in attending this course, please send an email: to John Trull, N4CNX, at [232trull@gmail.com](mailto:232trull@gmail.com) or Tom Bertolino, KB1P at [thbe125@yahoo.com](mailto:thbe125@yahoo.com).

John, N4CNX, Central  
Western Traffic Net  
Manager



## 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 provided 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 6 class sessions. Each class session is held via Zoom on Tuesday evenings from 7:00 –

9:00pm ET and is free of charge.

The Technician & General classes are held in an alternating sequence. The next course is the Technician Course scheduled to begin April 2<sup>nd</sup>. 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 2024 are as follows:

### Technician Course:

January 9, April 2, July 9, October 8

### General Course:

February 20, May 14, August 20

### HPARC Meeting

### Mario's Pizza & Zoom

2645 N. Main St.  
High Point, NC27265

April 1, 2024  
6:30 p.m.

# FCC to Require Two Factor Authentication for CORES Users

Source: ARRL Letter March 21, 2024

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) has announced an upcoming change to the [Commission Registration System \(CORES\)](#) that licensees use to pay any application or regulatory fees, manage or reset a password on an existing FRN, or request a new FRN. Beginning March 29, 2024, multifactor authentication will be implemented. Users will be prompted to request a six-digit secondary verification code, which will be sent to the email address(es) associated

with each username. The user will then need to enter the code into CORES before they can continue.



In a [public notice](#), the FCC said this change will make the system more secure. "This additional layer of security will further safeguard against unauthorized access, thereby enhancing the overall integrity of information contained within the CORES system and improving the security of user data," it read.

The FCC recommends that users confirm they have access to their username account email and to add a secondary email address, if need be.

Resources are available for those who need assistance with the system. For inquiries or assistance regarding the implementation of multifactor authentication on CORES, submit a help request at <https://www.fcc.gov/wtbhelp>, or call the FCC at 877-480-3201 (Monday through Friday, 8 AM to 6 PM ET).

## 2024 ARRL Field Day Theme: Be Radio Active

Source: ARRL Letter March 14, 2024

The theme for 2024 ARRL Field Day is "Be Radio Active." The event will run on June 22 - 23, and it will be one-part contest, one-part emergency communications exercise, and one-part open house -- and a great time. The theme encourages radio amateurs to take advantage of the peak of Solar Cycle 25, which we are nearing. Activity this year is likely to be extremely high thanks to favorable solar conditions. The upper HF bands, such as 15 and 10 meters, should

benefit most from the Cycle's peak.

There are resources available already for clubs and individuals to make their Field Day plans. ARRL will publish more information and tools so that hams can make the most of the event as it draws near. Amateurs interested in learning more are invited to join the [Field Day Facebook](#) group to connect with others who are planning for the big weekend.

Find links to all of the resources on the ARRL Field Day web page at [www.arrl.org/field-day](http://www.arrl.org/field-day).



## International Marconi Day 2024

Source: ARRL Letter March 21, 2024

This year, International Marconi Day (IMD) is on April 27. Italian inventor and electrical engineer Guglielmo Giovanni Maria Marconi was born on April 25, 1874, and is credited for inventing the radiotelegraph system, creating Marconi's law, and sending the first wireless transmission over the open sea.

IMD was created to honor Marconi and is hosted annually by the [Cornish Radio Amateur Club](#), GX4CRC. The purpose of the day is for amateur radio enthusiasts around the world to contact historic Marconi sites using communication techniques similar to those that he would have used.

The 24-hour event will operate from 0000 UTC to 2359 UTC, and registration is required. Participants can register at [GX4CRC's registration web page](#).

Stations in the United States, including Marconi Cape Cod Radio Club, KM1CC, in Massachusetts, are already registering for the event. KM1CC hosts several on-air events each year to keep the accomplishments and story of Marconi and his wireless station site in South Wellfleet alive. In 1975, the Wellfleet station was listed as a National Historic Landmark on the National Register of

Historic Places and is now part of Cape Cod National Seashore, a unit of the National Park Service. When possible, KM1CC sets up a temporary radio station inside the park. More information about KM1CC is available on their [Facebook](#) page.



# Amateur Radio Stands Ready to Support Eclipse Operations

Source: ARRL Letter March 14, 2024

The upcoming April 8, 2024, solar eclipse has many excited about the opportunity to witness the darkness of totality. Spectators from across the country are traveling to the path of total darkness that will stretch from South Texas to Northeastern Maine.

Some states are anticipating more than a million travelers for the event. In the impacted areas, schools will be letting students out early for the day, and residents are being encouraged to avoid driving on the day of the event. Emergency response organizations are adding staff for the event in many areas. The eclipse is expected to directly impact parts of 14 states as it moves

across the country. The travel impact alone could be substantial.

In preparation for the event, many state emergency management

organizations have called on local hams to provide communication services via HF nets and locally on VHF/UHF frequencies. There

have been numerous planning meetings, exercises, and preparations across the country. The [ARRL Emergency Management department](#) has worked with ARRL Section



The second "diamond ring" phase of the 2017 Great American Eclipse, as seen in Madras, Oregon. [Sierra Harrop, W5DX, photo]

Emergency Coordinators and Section Managers in the directly affected areas to collect the frequencies each Section plans to utilize, and to assist in any frequency conflicts. Hams across multiple states and ARRL Sections have been practicing their communications capabilities via Winlink, SSB, and CW. "It is great to see Sections along the path working together to be prepared to assist in any emergency, should it occur during the event," said ARRL Director of Emergency Management Josh Johnston,

KE5MHV. "Heavy traffic is the major concern, but [anything can happen] during such a large event," he added.

Johnston went on to say, "There will be several on-air operating events on the day of the eclipse, but please give some space for any emergency traffic that may be taking place as well."

Ham Radio Science Citizen Investigation (HamSCI) is leading the [Solar Eclipse QSO Party](#) which will allow radio amateurs to participate in propagation research by operating during the eclipse and submitting



their logs. Much of that activity will be focused on the FT8 frequencies of the non-World Administrative Radio Conference (WARC) HF bands, but all modes will be welcome during the event.



# World Amateur Radio Day is April 18, 2024

Source: ARRL Letter March 28, 2024

[World Amateur Radio Day](#) (WARD) is celebrated each year on April 18.

The theme for 2024 is, "A Century of Connections: Celebrating 100 Years of Amateur Radio Innovation, Community, and Advocacy." The global event covers all of the [International Amateur Radio Union](#) (IARU) regions and spans 2 days: Thursday, April 18, 2024, 0000 UTC to Friday, April 19, 2024, 0000 UTC.

On April 18, 1925, the IARU was formed in Paris and will celebrate its centenary in 2025. American Radio Relay League (ARRL) Co-Founder Hiram Percy Maxim was the

organization's first president.

All radio amateurs are invited to take to the airwaves to enjoy the global friendship with other amateurs and to show their skills and capabilities to the public. WARD is not a contest but rather an opportunity to talk about the value of amateur radio to the public and fellow amateur colleagues. It is also a great opportunity to talk about local radio clubs and amateur radio in local media as a lead-up to [ARRL Field Day](#), which is held each year during the fourth full weekend in June. You can also promote your personal WARD activities on social media platforms like X and Facebook by using the hashtag

#WorldAmateurRadioDay.

For more ideas and information, visit [World Amateur Radio Day \(arrl.org\)](#).





# Amateur Radio Importance Highlighted at National Hurricane Conference

Source: ARRL Letter March 28, 2024

The [National Hurricane Conference](#) was held March 25 - 28, 2024, in Orlando, Florida.



Amateur radio was well represented at the event. A series of workshops were held that focused on amateur radio's involvement in hurricane tracking, coverage, and recovery.

Among the presenters was the Assistant Amateur Radio Coordinator of [WX4NHC at the National Hurricane Center](#) (NHC) Julio Ripoll, WD4R.

Ripoll gave a history of amateur radio's



Julio Ripoll, WD4R, serves as the Assistant Amateur Radio Coordinator for WX4NHC. [Jim Palmer, KB1KQW, photo.]

involvement in NHC, including the use of tube radios in the 1980s and the Yaesu FTDX-1200 used today. WX4NHC is also equipped with VHF/UHF radios to access the Florida Statewide Amateur Radio Network (SARnet), as well as digital equipment to communicate with the [VoIP Hurricane Net](#), IRLP, and Winlink to receive emails via amateur radio.

"We were the only means of communication between the National Hurricane Center and the National Weather Service Field Office in Slidell, Louisiana, during Hurricane Katrina," Ripoll said. He went on to highlight other instances of reports given by ham radio that provided mission-critical information that had a major impact on the way NHC handled a storm.

ARRL Director of Emergency Management Josh Johnston, KE5MHV, gave a presentation to the crowd of hurricane experts, meteorologists, and emergency managers about the Amateur Radio Emergency Service® (ARES®).

He spoke of ARRL's role on the board of



ARRL Director of Emergency Management Josh Johnston, KE5MHV. [Jim Palmer, KB1KQW, photo.]

SAFECOM, a program managed by the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) that sets the standards of interoperability procedures. Being a part of the group solidifies the Amateur Radio Service as a robust resource before and during times of crisis.

Johnston shared that in 2023, ARES volunteers contributed at least \$21.8 million in volunteer hours to their local communities. "Is amateur radio still

relevant? Absolutely! Are we still involved in the places that are doing things the right way? Amateur radio absolutely is," he said.

Johnston highlighted [the relationship between ARRL and the Federal Emergency Management Agency \(FEMA\)](#), as well as ARRL's position as a net control station within the [SHARED RESOURCES High Frequency Radio Program \(SHARES\)](#) managed by CISA.

Among other presenters was ARRL's [The ARES Letter](#) Editor Rick Palm, K1CE.

He shared a harrowing tale of his family



The ARRL ARES Letter Editor Rick Palm, K1CE. [Jim Palmer, KB1KQW, photo.]

riding out a direct hit from Hurricane Idalia in August 2023. The damage and impact he felt gave him a new perspective on emergency communications, as he went from a volunteer communicator to a storm victim. Read more about his experience in the "Public Service" column in the January 2024 issue of *QST*.

Watch a [video of the amateur radio workshops](#) at the 2024 National Hurricane Conference on YouTube, courtesy of Jim Palmer, KB1KQW.

## Get Ready for the 2024 ARRL National Convention and Youth Rally

Source: ARRL Letter March 21, 2024

A full slate of programming has been committed for the 2024 ARRL National

Convention, which will be hosted by Dayton Hamvention®, May 17 - 19, in Xenia, Ohio. Hamvention is the largest annual gathering



of radio amateurs in the world. Coupled with the National Convention, this year promises to be a Hamvention not to miss. Building on a yearlong theme to "Be Radio Active," ARRL has planned exhibits, forums, panels, and activities that promise to engage and inspire attendees in a wide range of amateur radio interests.

Hamvention has committed one of its four forum rooms to a track of ARRL National Convention presentations with topics that span public service, technology, on-air activities, instruction, and youth outreach.

- In the **Amateur Radio Emergency Service® (ARES®)** forum, ARRL Director of Emergency Management Josh Johnston, KE5MHV, will discuss the role of SAFECOM in supporting the public safety community to improve the emergency communications ecosystem, as well as the importance of building mutually beneficial relationships with local emergency management officials.
- ARRL National Instructor Gordon

West, WB6NOA, will lead an **Instructor Academy**, showing off many new training tools to help lead lively ham radio license classes.

- ARRL Education and Learning Manager Steve Goodgame, K5ATA, will cover **Youth Outreach through Amateur Radio STEM Education**, covering ways to inspire students to pursue higher education and careers in technological fields.
- **Enhancing Transmitter Performance** will examine the ARRL Clean Signal Initiative, and presenters include ARRL Second Vice President Mike Ritz, W7VO; Rob Sherwood, NCOB, of Sherwood Engineering Inc., and ARRL Laboratory Manager George Spatta, W1GKS.
- Kyle Krieg, AA0Z, will present, **How to Control Your Ham Shack with A Node-RED Dashboard**, offering a tutorial for this easy-to-learn flow-based programming language that ham radio operators can use to build simple web-based dashboards that provide command, control, and automation in their ham shack.
- ARRL First Vice President Kristen McIntyre, K6WX, will examine the theory of ground, discussing dc grounds, RF grounds, and even talking about gravity, in her presentation, **Ground is a Myth!**
- ARRL CEO David A. Minster, NA2AA, will delve into the world of **Gaming the Amateur Radio Modes**, offering tips and tricks covering station design, operating, instruction, and mastering the art of amateur radio modes, including FT8.
- **Five Steps to a Successful POTA (Parks on the Air®) Activation** will be presented by Michael Martens,

KB9VBR, of KB9VBR Antennas on YouTube.

- ARRL Regulatory Information Manager Bart Jahnke, W9JJ, will moderate a panel on **Good Operators and Interference** that includes Lark Hadley, KA4A, Director, Region Three, FCC Enforcement Bureau; ARRL Volunteer Monitor Program Administrator Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH, and ARRL Laboratory Manager George Spatta, W1GKS.
- ARRL Field Services Manager Mike Walters, W8ZY, will present, **Tips for Successful Radio Clubs**.
- ARRL Radiosport Manager Bart Jahnke, W9JJ, and Contest Program Manager Paul Bourque, N1SFE, will provide an **ARRL Contest Program Update**.
- Explore the full scope of operating privileges and ham radio activities that can be done with a Technician - class license, in the forum **Beyond Repeaters: See How Far Your Tech License Will Take You**, presented by ARRL Laboratory Digital RF Engineer John McAuliffe, KD2ZWN.

Additionally, an ARRL Membership Forum will be held on Saturday, May 18, covering several key areas of membership interest. The forum will be moderated by ARRL Great Lakes Division Director Scott Yonally, N8SY, and panelists include ARRL President Rick Roderick, K5UR; First Vice President Kristen McIntyre, K6WX, and CEO David A. Minster, NA2AA.

On Saturday, May 18, a **2024 ARRL Youth**

**Rally** will be a special feature of the National Convention at Hamvention. The Youth Rally is intended for students who are 11 to 21 years of age. While Hamvention offers free tickets for youth aged 12 through 18, advance registration for the Youth Rally is recommended. A preliminary Youth Rally agenda and registration instructions are on the ARRL website, at [www.arrl.org/expo](http://www.arrl.org/expo). The Youth Rally registration fee is \$20 and includes a tee shirt (to wear on Saturday), badge, lanyard, and reusable tote bag.

Youth Rally participants will enjoy a full day of activities, discovery, sharing, and fun. Rally day begins at 9:15 AM on Saturday with the annual Dayton Youth Forum -- open to all Hamvention attendees -- moderated by well-known amateur radio educator Carole Perry, WB2MGP. The forum includes presentations from young hams covering a variety of amateur radio activities, topics, and technology. After lunch (on your own) Youth Rally registrants will gather in Forum Room 3 to get know each other and to explore a variety of amateur radio interests and activities. Learn about satellite communications, participate in a short sprint contest, contact a parachute mobile station, and participate in other fun! Bring a 2-meter handheld radio if you have one.

The Youth Rally will wrap up on Saturday with a presentation from the ARRL Collegiate Amateur Radio Program (CARP).

Learn more about the 2024 ARRL National Convention at [www.arrl.org/expo](http://www.arrl.org/expo), where you can find the full listing of ARRL-sponsored forums, exhibits, and activities.

Hamvention is held in Xenia, Ohio, on the sprawling grounds of the Greene County Fairgrounds and Expo Center. Visit the event's website a [www.hamvention.org](http://www.hamvention.org), where you can also purchase tickets, find the complete list of Hamvention forums, and learn more about the event.



## ARRL Announcements

**April that might be of interest.** [Georgia State Parks on the Air](#) begins at 1200 UTC on Saturday, April 6, and concludes at 2359 UTC on Sunday, April 7. Also, [Florida State Parks on the](#)

[Air](#) begins at 1400 UTC on Saturday, April 6, and concludes at 2200 UTC on Sunday, April 7. For more information, visit the individual sponsors' websites.

Source: ARRL Letter March 28, 2024

**If you're a Parks on the Air activator or hunter, there are two events occurring the first week of**

# Blind amateur radio operator, tower climber, and [Southeastern Repeater Association \(SERA\)](#) President Wade "Danny" Hampton Jr., K4ITL, passed away February 28, 2024.

Source: ARRL Letter In Brief March 28, 2024

While attending the North Carolina State School for the Blind (now known as Governor Morehead School for the Blind) in Raleigh, Hampton met several sighted friends involved in the amateur radio community and began attending radio club meetings with them. As a result, he became a licensed amateur radio operator at the age of 12, despite the requirement that an operator must be able to read, copy, and send Morse code, all of which he learned by ear. After graduation from Wake Technical Community College, Hampton founded a company that maintained commercial two-way radio systems across the southeastern US. For many years, he was a broadcast engineer for

WRAL-TV in Raleigh, often working at the top of the station's 2,000-foot tower. Hampton made his last climb in 2023 at the age of 79. He was named Hamvention® Amateur of the Year in 2009 for his design of the Piedmont Coastal Repeater Network, which links more than 40 repeaters. He was also awarded North Carolina's highest civilian award, The Order of the Long Leaf Pine, in recognition for adding broadcast translators to the fringe service area of the Raleigh National Weather Service office. He leaves behind his wife Rose, six children, 11 grandchildren, and five great grandchildren.



Wade "Danny" Hampton Jr. K4ITL, (SK) [Photo courtesy of Bill Morine, N2COP]

## HPARC APRIL CALENDAR

- 1 — **HPARC Meeting**
- 13 — W4VEC Greensboro VE Session  
(Hinshaw United Methodist Church, Fellowship Bldg)
- 13 — Thomas Jefferson Birthday (Observed)
- 15 — Tax Day
- 21 — HPARC Newsletter Deadline
- 23 — Passover Begins
- 27 — W4VEC High Point VE Session  
(Hickory Chapel Wesleyan Church, Fellowship Bldg)
- 30 — Passover Ends

## APRIL BIRTHDAYS

- Keith Thomas, KA4JAH — 11
- Phil Simmons, KU4GP — 14
- Douglas Bateman, N4DUH — 17
- David Macchiarolo, AJ4TF — 25

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

### 2024 HPARC OFFICERS

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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. 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.