

MARCH 2018

HPARC NEWSLETTER

High Point
Amateur Radio
Club



MARCH MEETING

Last month David Macchiarolo gave a program on Grounding and Noise Reduction Part 1. David was given permission to use this material by Jim Brown, K9YC, who created the Power Point, but because of the amount of information, David has decided to slice the presentation into multiple parts. Part 2 of Grounding and Noise Reduction will be presented for the March meeting.

It is rare, but occasionally I know the programs for a couple of months in advance. Tom Evans will give the April program on "Tom's Software Defined Radios (SDR)."

Welcome a new Associate Member, Bruce Berk. Bruce is interested in getting his Ham license. He lives in High Point with his wife Sharon. Bruce contacted us through email looking for a Ham club and

joined at the February meeting. Make Bruce feel welcome.

Meetings have been a little off as of late, and I know we have some members who have been under the weather. Know we miss you. We hope and pray that you will soon be able to rejoin us at a club meeting. Remember our sick and pray/reach out to them. Hope to see many of you at the March meeting.

ANTICIPATED NEW BUILDING WON'T BE READY FOR HAMVENTION 2018

Due to circumstances beyond their control, Hamvention® 2018 organizers are reluctantly walking back an earlier announcement that a new building would be available for this year's event at the Greene County Fairgrounds and Expo Center in Xenia, Ohio.

"Despite all of the best efforts and intentions by Greene County, the Greene County Agricultural Society, and Hamvention, we have learned the anticipated new building will not be constructed in time for Hamvention 2018," Hamvention General Chair Ron Cramer, KD8ENJ, said. "The prefab sections bid on

and architecturally required are currently backlogged. We expect construction to be delayed until after our show and the Greene County Fair." Cramer said construction should be completed this year in time for Hamvention 2019. "We regret this; however, it is well out of our control," Cramer said.

On the plus side, he continued, Hamvention 2018 will have more room for inside exhibits, with the addition of the vacated Furniture Building, and the Flea Market may gain new space as well.

"After consultation with professionals, we are in the pro-

cess of solving the mud issue in the Flea Market area," Cramer said. "We anticipate work to start as soon as weather allows. We are rearranging the soccer field parking to eliminate use of the low areas where we had problems last year."

Hamvention continued inside...

**HPARC Meeting
March 5, 2018**

**Rancho's,
10463 North Main St,
Archdale, NC**

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

HPARC MEMBERS' RESPONSIBILITIES

With the HPARC changing repeater trustee, I thought it might be good time to remind the club members of their responsibilities.

"What responsibilities?" you might say. Glad you asked. As a club member (of any club by the way), you are responsible when you use or even just

monitor the club's repeaters. If you hear any illegal activity as defined by the FCC's rules and regulations, it is your responsibility to report such activity.

The trustee of any repeater is held responsible for any illegal activity on the repeater. As a club member, we hope you help protect the repeater

trustee from actions that would land them (and the club) into hot water with the FCC. So, please monitor the repeater. If you hear anything that may be illegal or if the repeater is not operating properly, contact the repeater trustee, the repeater chairman or one of the club officers. Thank you.

NBC NEWS 'HAMS "COULD SAVE OUR LIVES"

A recent NBC News Left Field report asserted that Hams "could save our lives" in a disaster. A team from NBC News' nascent digital news unit Left Field was in Hawaii to visit with some Radio Amateurs to produce a report when the false nuclear missile alert happened on January 13. Left Field's report points out how much we rely on cell phones and 21st century technology...and what we would do if these suddenly were no

longer available. Amateur Radio operators "are standing at the ready and may save us all," NBC Left Field said in the tease to its YouTube version of its report. Accessible directly from NBC News, the report, with Left Field's Jacob Soboroff, runs 7:22. "Ham radio is one of the ways you'd be able to hear what's happening," when conventional telecommunications systems fail, Soboroff told his viewers. Among those

interviewed in the piece are ARRL Section Manager Joe Speroni, AH0A, and Assistant Section Manager Kevin Bogan, AH6QO. NBC News says its Left Field unit "is a new internationally minded video troupe that makes short, creative documentaries and features specially designed for social media and set-top boxes."

—*The ARRL Letter*,

February 15, 2018

Rick Lindquist, WW1ME, Ed.

ALIVE AND STILL KICKING

Scott Tilley VE7TIL is almost always in search of a somewhat unusual QSO: He's often listening for secret military satellites. One of his more recent attempts to sniff out something interesting put him on the trail of the Zuma satellite. Zuma was a secret U.S. government payload that had gone missing shortly after its launch in January.

No one really knows what happened to Zuma – it was a secret mission, after all – but that didn't stop Scott, an Amateur

Radio astronomer, from trying. Enroute to his hoped-for contact with the super-secret spy in the sky, Scott instead came across from what he believed was the NASA satellite called IMAGE. The only thing is this: IMAGE had long since severed communications with NASA back in 2005. The satellite had gone high above the Earth in 2000 in the hopes of studying the magnetosphere but NASA believed a power malfunction took it out of service permanently.

Scott soon realized this could

indeed be IMAGE and it was still transmitting quite actively. He even successfully matched its rotation rate to the rate associated with the IMAGE satellite. That, of course, piqued NASA's interest. NASA told the aerospace website AmericaSpace that if this is indeed IMAGE, it would like to put the satellite back on the job. In other words, death is no excuse for not showing up to work - even after 13 years.

—*Amateur Radio Newslines*,

Report 2102, Feb. 9, 2018

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.

...*Hamvention continued from cover*

A revised exit plan and additional off-site parking are also in the works, along with easy-to-use maps to help visitors navigate. Parking and shuttles will be free. Talk-in also has

new equipment and a taller tower to extend its reach.

“There are many new ideas we are working on to make your stay with us more enjoyable,” Cramer added. “Keep watching our website

for updates.” — Thanks to Hamvention General Chair Ron Cramer, KD8ENJ

—*The ARRL Letter*,

February 1, 2018

Rick Lindquist, WW1ME,
Editor

BAKER ISLAND DXPEDITION TO HONOR EARHART

American aviatrix Amelia Earhart still captures the imagination of the world and certainly the world of Amateur Radio. This year, the pilot is being remembered as part of a larger commemoration on a major DXpedition.

Most of us remember the American Amateur Brian Lloyd WB6RQN who last year commemorated Amelia Earhart’s final flight by piloting his single-engine plane around the globe along what was Earhart’s final route. This year the Baker Island DXpedition KH1/KH7Z is

staging its own tribute, marking the 81st anniversary of Earhart’s disappearance on that flight.

At the same time, the DXpedition is also honoring the colony of students who were living on those islands at the time of her flight and who had helped prepare for her arrival. Earhart went missing on July 2, 1937 near Baker and Howland islands.

An airstrip had been built for her much-anticipated landing by Hui Panala’au students from Hawaii who were living on the islands at the time. The

students were living there as part of a colonization project designed to help legitimize the islands as U.S. territories. They awaited the pilot’s landing, which never came. The location is the fourth most-wanted DX entity.

The DXpedition is expected to cost an estimated \$400,000 in U.S. currency with the operator team contributing about half. For more details, visit baker2018.net

—*Amateur Radio Newslines*,

Report 2104,

February 23, 2018

HAM RADIO “A SPECIAL HOBBY,” YOUNG ARRL MEMBER TELLS COLLEGE PUBLICATION

A rising star in the Amateur Radio world — 19-year-old Ruth Willet, KM4LAO, of Lawrenceville, Georgia — has caught the eye of her school, Kettering University in Michigan, where she is majoring in mechanical engineering and engineering physics. Willet already has attracted attention through her Ham Radio activities.

Kettering University News took notice of Willet in a February 12 article, “Kettering University Student Brings Ham Radio Hobby, Expertise to Campus,” by Sarah Schuch. The article explains how an early fascination with Morse code led Willet into Ham

Radio and inspired her to obtain her license in 2015. She now holds an Amateur Extra-class license.

“I would encourage people to consider exploring Amateur Radio, because it’s a hobby that allows you to explore anything from technical electronics to international friendships,” Willet is quoted as saying in the article. “It’s such a special hobby because there’s so many people that want to get to know you and want to help you learn and grow. It really has enabled me to mature into who I am today.”

Set to graduate in 2021, Willet said her Ham Radio experiences have taught her

a lot, some of which she is able to apply to her studies, and vice versa. She hopes to start an Amateur Radio club on campus this spring to get more students interested. In the article, Willet also pointed to Amateur Radio’s public service role, citing the devastating 2017 hurricanes, where Ham Radio sometimes was the only available communication resource.

“It’s a stress relief for me,” Willet said of Ham Radio. “I really enjoy sharing this hobby with other students.”

—*The ARRL Letter*,

February 22, 2018

Rick Lindquist, WW1ME,
Editor



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

HPARC MARCH CALENDAR

- 5 — HPARC Club Meeting**
- 3-4 — ARRL International DX Contest,
phone
- 10-11 — Charlotte Hamfest
(Cabarrus Arena)
- 11 — Daylight Savings Time begins**
- 17 — St. Patrick's Day**
- 20 — First Day of Spring
- 25 — HPARC Newsletter Deadline

BIRTHDAYS

Art Johnson — March 27

2018 HPARC OFFICERS

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