

MAY 2019

HPARC NEWSLETTER

High Point
Amateur Radio
Club



MAY MEETING

Bob McClellan gave the program for April on "Homebrewing: Engineering for Ham Radio Operator." Bob had lots of gear he had made himself from antennas to a

portable 2-meter "go station." At the May meeting, David Macchiarolo will discuss preparations for Field Day. We need everyone who will to come out and help us make this a great

event. Field Day will be on June 22 and 23, 2019. Please make your plans now to help out the HPARC.

Hope to see everyone at the meeting.

ARRL AND FCC SIGN MEMORANDUM TO IMPLEMENT NEW VOLUNTEER MONITOR PROGRAM

ARRL and the FCC have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that paves the way to implement the new and enhanced Volunteer Monitor program. The memorandum establishes the Volunteer Monitors as a replacement for the Official Observers (OO) program. Current OOs have been encouraged to participate in the new program.

"We are excited by the opportunity to codify our partnership with the FCC and to work together to achieve our mutual interests of protecting the integrity of our Amateur Radio bands," said ARRL President Rick Roderick, K5UR. "This Memorandum of Understanding will serve as the foundation for a new level of partnership on this

very important issue."

ARRL has contracted with retired FCC special counsel and former Atlantic Division Vice Director Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH, to oversee the ARRL's role in the development and implementation of the Volunteer Monitor program.

Approved by the ARRL Board of Directors at its July 2018 meeting, the new Volunteer Monitor program is a formal agreement between the FCC and ARRL in which volunteers trained and vetted by the ARRL will monitor the airwaves and collect evidence that can be used both to correct misconduct or recognize exemplary on-air operation. Cases of flagrant violations will be referred to the FCC by the ARRL for action in accor-

dance with FCC guidelines.

The intent of this program is to re-energize enforcement efforts in the Amateur Radio bands. It was proposed by the FCC in the wake of several FCC regional office closures and a reduction in field staff.

ARRL officials estimate that the first Volunteer Monitors will be in place and ready to begin their duties within 6 to 9 months.

—*The ARRL Letter*,

April 18, 2019

Rick Lindquist, WW1ME, Ed.

**HPARC Meeting
May 6, 2019**

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

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

OUTGOING QSL BUREAU RATES ROLLED BACK

ARRL has rolled back Outgoing QSL Bureau rates to 2011 levels. Effective May 15, 2019, the new rates will be: \$2 for 10 or fewer cards in one envelope; \$3 for 11 - 20 cards in one envelope, or 75 cents per ounce for packages with

21 or more cards. For example, a package containing 1.5 pounds of cards — 24 ounces, or about 225 cards — will cost \$18. There are no transaction service fees. Any cards received before May 15 will be charged the current rate.

There will be no adjustments for cards received before May 15. More information is on the ARRL website.

—*The ARRL Letter*,

April 18, 2019

Rick Lindquist, WW1ME,
Editor

BATTERIES AND THE AIRLINES

I travel frequently to QRP/ Hiking places around the world. To date I have completed the Appalachian Trail, the John Muir Trail and 11 peaks over 14,000 feet in Colorado. I use a Elecraft KX-1 or the KX-3 with a simple MFJ vertical antenna and of course my 7 amp/hr battery. To carry the gear I use a Tamerack Expedition 10 camera backpack. It has enough padding and pockets plus I have external holders for two water bottles. There is plenty of room for my accessories including the small antenna tuner and my Begali key.

Some Amateurs have resorted to just buying a new battery at the destination

[than to] deal with the hassle of carrying a battery. Using a bunch of AAA or AA batteries is just a waste if you are out for a few days.

I am always asked just what can you carry on a plane in the way of batteries. Being a pilot I have done some research and found out that the nonspillable wet batteries (absorbed electrolyte) are permissible up to 12 volt and 100 watt hours can be carried. Those battery types include gel cells, AGM, etc. Batteries must be in a strong outer case and terminals protected from shorting out with non-conductive caps, tape and etc. These 7 amp/hr batteries can be carried in a carry-on

or checked baggage.

You are limited to two batteries. The way that watt hours are calculated is 12 volts times the rated amp hour (7 amp hr) of the battery. That gives us 84 watts so it's permissible.

While this is the federal rule, the airlines can impose a stricter rule. I have not had any problems with U.S. air carriers. But check with them before leaving home. When traveling on foreign air carriers check [with] them directly, but from what I have heard, there are no problems.

[For more information, check out www.faa.gov/Go/PackSafe.]

—Tom Mills. AF4NC

SIGN UP OR RENEW YOUR ARRL MEMBERSHIP

If you haven't signed up for the ARRL membership or need to renew your membership, do so through the club. By doing so, the club gets to keep \$15 of new memberships and \$2 of renewals.

As an ARRL member, you will benefit from getting the

QST Magazine, online services such as QST online monthly digital edition and archive, product reviews, email forwarding, e-newsletters, availability to Ham Radio equipment insurance, outgoing foreign QSL service, as well as supporting the

ARRL which represents Ham Radio in Washington, plus many other services.

To start your ARRL membership or renew, make your checks out to the HPARC and see our treasurer. If you are renewing, bring your renewal form to get proper credit.

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 OPENING GATES TO ALL ON FINAL DAY OF 2019 SHOW

Hamvention has announced that it will open the gates to all, without charge, on Sunday, May 19, the final day of the annual gathering at Greene County Fairgrounds and Expo Center in Xenia, Ohio. Hamvention 2019 General Chair Jack Gerbs, WB8SCT, said the idea is to encourage the curious to see what attracts some 30,000 visitors to Hamvention each spring.

"This will make it a little easier and cheaper for someone with just a little interest in Hamvention to see what all the excitement is about," Gerbs said.

In addition to the features and equipment that attract radio amateurs, non-ham visi-

tors will get to see vendors selling a variety of other electronic equipment, including computers and accessories, security devices, networking supplies, tools, and other items of interest to the general public. Those visiting the flea market area may be surprised at what's available, often at a small fraction of its original cost.

Gerbs pointed out that Sunday is Hamvention's lightest traffic day, making it convenient for anyone who just wants check out what's there. Hamvention will be open on Sunday from 9 AM until 1 PM.

Greene County Sheriff Gene Fischer, KX8GCS, has arranged to make text alerts

possible again this year for those wanting up-to-the-minute mobile phone alerts regarding weather, traffic, parking, and other useful information affecting the event. Text "Hamvention19" to 888777 to sign up. Those who signed up for the text alerts in 2018 already are registered for this year's event.

The text alerts supplement the Hamvention talk-in station that has operated for many years on the Dayton Amateur Radio Association 146.94 repeater (123.0 Hz tone) to give directions and other assistance.

—*The ARRL Letter*,

April 18, 2019

Rick Lindquist, WW1ME, Ed.

FORMER ARRL NC SECTION MANAGER, JOHN COVINGTON, W4CC, SK

Former ARRL North Carolina Section Manager John Covington, W4CC, of Charlotte, died on April 17 after a long illness. An ARRL Life Member, he was 58. Covington served as North Carolina SM from 2000 until 2006. First licensed

in 1972, Covington mainly enjoyed CW and some digital modes, but operated phone on the National Traffic System, where he was very active, and on occasional public service nets, special events, and QSO parties. He also served as the

North Carolina Affiliated Club Coordinator from 1997 until 2002, and he was an Official Relay Station.

—*The ARRL Letter*,

April 25, 2019

Rick Lindquist, WW1ME, Editor

ASTRONAUT OWEN GARRIOTT, W5LFL, SK

Owen K. Garriott, W5LFL, the US astronaut who pioneered the use of Amateur Radio to make contacts from space, died April 15 at his home in Huntsville, Alabama. He was 88. Garriott's Ham Radio activity ushered in the formal establishment of Amateur Radio in space, first as SAREX (the Shuttle Amateur Radio Experiment), and later as ARISS (Amateur Radio on the International

Space Station).

Garriott, an Oklahoma native, thrilled radio amateurs around the world by making the first contacts from space during 10 days aboard Spacelab-1 during a 1983 Space Shuttle Columbia mission. Thousands of hams listened on 2-meter FM, hoping to hear him or to make a contact. Garriott ended up contacting stations around the globe, among them such

notables as the late King Hussein, JY1, of Jordan, and the late US Senator Barry Goldwater, K7UGA.

Garriott shared a Hamvention Special Achievement Award in 2002 with fellow Amateur Radio astronaut Tony England, W0ORE.

—*The ARRL Letter*,

April 18, 2019

Rick Lindquist, WW1ME, Editor



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

HPARC MAY CALENDAR

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| 2 — National Day of Prayer | 25 — W4VEC High Point session (Hickory Chapel Wesleyan Church, Fellowship Bldg.) |
| 5 — Cinco de Mayo | 25 — DurHamFest, Durham, NC |
| 6 — HPARC Club Meeting | 26 — HPARC Newsletter Deadline |
| 7 — National Teacher's Day | 27 — MEMORIAL DAY |
| 8 — VE Day
(Germany surrenders WWII 1945) | 29 — John F. Kennedy's Birthday |
| 11 — Rockingham County Swapfest | |
| 12 — MOTHER'S DAY | |
| 17-19 — Dayton, OH Hamvention | |
| 18 — ARMED FORCES DAY | |

BIRTHDAYS
 Lynn Flyer — May 29

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

2019 HPARC OFFICERS

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