

APRIL 2020

HPARC NEWSLETTER

High Point
Amateur Radio
Club



APRIL MEETING

What strange times we are living through. Are you hunkered down with your 72 packs of toilet paper, 17 loaves of bread, 15 gallons of milk, and 20 cases of hand sanitizer? I hope and pray this newsletter finds you safe and sane (unlike those raiding the shelves at the stores). I know we will get through this and things will go back to normal. The sooner the better for all of us.

As HPARC President and after discussing it with several Board members, I made the decision to cancel the April meeting. Actually the decision had been made for us. With business closings and restrictions on how many people could be in one place, it was not pos-

sible to hold our regular meeting. Hopefully this will change soon. We will let you know.

**No HPARC meeting
for April
See you on-the-air
April 6th 7:00 pm**

There has been some talk about having a club meeting on-the-air. The GAS group decided to do this for their meeting. I have heard positive response for having such a meeting. We will probably have some sort of "meeting" on April 6 at 7:00 pm on 147.165. Unless I get something set up, I will be operating from an handi, and I don't think I can do a long club meeting. But even if it doesn't qualify as

a business meeting, it would be good to get most of our members on the repeater. Remember the tone is 67 Hz, so set up your radio accordingly.

Tommie Lauer, K4MTL, joined the HPARC meeting at the last meeting. Tommie lives in Greensboro and is an Extra Class. Welcome to the HPARC!

Ran into Steve Moore at the grocery store. Our usual Field Day site is still available if the event is still to be held.

I hope this newsletter finds everyone well and in good spirits. I miss seeing you at the meetings and Saturday breakfasts. Let's pray for a quick return to normalcy so we can get back to our meetings. See you when I see you. Take care.

DAYTON HAMVENTION CANCELS 2020 SHOW

For the first time in its 68-year history, Dayton Hamvention will not take place this year, due to concerns about the coronavirus outbreak. The glum news was not entirely unexpected, given widespread cancellations of public gatherings and a national state of emergency.

"The Hamvention Executive Committee has been monitoring the COVID-19 pandemic. We have worked very closely

with our local and state health departments. It is with a very heavy heart the Hamvention Executive Committee has decided to cancel Hamvention for this year," Hamvention General Chair Jack Gerbs, WB8SCT, said in announcing the cancellation on March 15. "This decision is extremely difficult for us, but with around 2 months until the Great Gathering we felt this action necessary. More specific details

regarding the closure will soon be posted. Thank you for your understanding in this time of

Dayton continued inside...

**HPARC Meeting
canceled for April**

Meet us on-the-air

on 147.165

7:00 p.m.

IT'S NEVER TOO LATE TO UPGRADE

George "Buck" Miner, K6RFE, of Sun City, Arizona, has been an active Ham since earning his first license in 1956, upgrading to a General-class license 10 months later. It wasn't until January 26, however, that he upgraded to Amateur Extra — at the age of 94.

Miner began losing his sight at a young age and became totally blind when he was 27. That never slowed him down, however. Over the intervening years, he repaired TVs and sold,

repaired, and installed two-way radios. He even managed a 200-acre ranch on the northern California coast, where he fished and dived for abalone.

Miner was a local celebrity, too, producing and hosting a live radio show in Eureka, California — "Chuck Star and his Rambling Guitar" — on which he told stories, sang, and played guitar. To facilitate living alone, he learned to cook for himself and has produced several "Buck's Miracle Kitchen"

YouTube videos that humorously demonstrate how he cooks without sight.

Miner has written several books, including an autobiography, *My Darkness under the Sun*. He's also composed hundreds of songs, including "CQ Boogie," and he continues to play his guitar and sing for fun and profit. — Thanks to Bob Ringwald, K6YBV

—*The ARRL Letter*,
February 27, 2020

Rick Lindquist, WW1ME, Ed.

TOWER-MOUNTED CHRISTMAS LIGHTS CHEER CALIFORNIA NEIGHBORHOOD

According to media reports, some Southern California residents have been turning their Christmas lights back on to bolster the mood of the neighborhood during the coronavirus pandemic.

"That caught my eye," Chip Margelli, K7JA, of Garden Grove, told ARRL. "Every year, I put lights up on my 70-foot fixed tower, turning it into the tallest Christmas tree in

Garden Grove; it is quite a beacon in the neighborhood."

Because of knee replacement surgery last December, Margelli had not yet taken down his Christmas lights, so he re-lit them and put an announcement on the local Neighborhood Watch Facebook page. Margelli said a lot of positive comments indicated his neighbors would follow suit.

"So, Hams everywhere can

use Amateur Radio to do something to increase the cheer factor in their neighborhoods, even though it's not over the air," Margelli suggested. "Spreading goodwill like this can surely only improve our image in the community." — Thanks to Chip Margelli, K7JA

—*The ARRL Letter*,
March 26, 2020

Rick Lindquist, WW1ME,
Editor

TECHNICIAN, GENERAL, AND EXTRA CLASS CLASSES ON YOUTUBE

Although nothing beats the "personal touch" in learning Ham Radio topics, such as the classes that KK4RR is teaching, in this time of social distancing, that isn't always possible.

However, Derek, WF4I, pointed me to a series of Youtube videos from Gary, W4EEY (from

South Carolina), where he and his friends had been teaching the Technician, General, and Extra ARRL manuals, and recorded all of the classes.

So if you're looking for something to get you over the edge for that license upgrade, and your stuck sitting at home wait-

ing for the craziness to blow through, here's some material to make that time worthwhile: youtube.com/channel/UCI3DKjqB4OLY2UXm2KqDpwQ.

Thanks to Derek for pointing this out!

73, keep your hands clean.

—David Macchiarolo, AJ4TF

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 6:00 p.m. at a local restaurant announced in the newsletter. The business meeting starts at 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.

...Dayton continued from cover international crisis.”

The Dayton Hamvention cancellation comes less than a week after the International DX Convention in Visalia, California, called off this year’s show. The Dayton Amateur Radio Association (DARA) sponsors Hamvention.

Since 2017, Hamvention has been held each May at the Greene County Fairgrounds

and Expo Center in Xenia, Ohio. The international gathering attracted more than 32,000 visitors in 2019.

Hamvention’s announcement has caused the cancellation of other associated events. These include Contest University, the Contest Dinner, and the Top Band Dinner. The QRP Amateur Radio Club International’s “Four Days in May” event has also been canceled. Presumably,

the DX Dinner, sponsored by the SouthWest Ohio DX Association (SWODXA) and AMSAT Academy have also been called off, although no formal announcements have been made.

—*The ARRL Letter*,
March 19, 2020
Rick Lindquist, WW1ME,
Editor

[Ed. note: The Raleigh Hamfest scheduled for April 11, 2020 has also been canceled.]

PANDEMIC STIRS NEW INTEREST IN HAM RADIO

It’s worth noting that in the current pandemic, the value of Amateur Radio is not being lost on people, especially in the United States. In a press release from HamRadioPrep.com on the Digital Journal website, HRP report that the number of people now studying to pass the qualifying FCC exam has increased by more than 700 percent since news of COVID-19 broke.

At the same time, the FCC shows a 7.1 percent uptick in new Amateur licensees in the first week of March in 2020 versus the same week in 2019. Some groups, including the Anchorage Amateur Radio Club in Alaska, have expanded their remote test sessions to areas where people cannot attend tests in person for various reasons. According to its website, the Alaska club has been doing remote testing since February.

—*Amateur Radio Newslines*, Report 2212, March 20th 2020

***For God hath not given us
the spirit of fear,
but of power,
and of love,
and of a sound mind.***

—2 Timothy 1:7 KJV

13-YEAR-OLD CW OPERATOR

WOW!

This 13-year-old rocks. From Skyland NC in Henderson County. CW Op Member too! Are you (contesting) guys aware that apparently AA4LS is only 13 years old !?! Practically out of the gate he’s kicking our butts. (LOL!)

I’m not worried....I’m only occasionally top 10, but this guy has it goin’ on ! N6MJ—watch out !

Single Op HP

Call	SO2R	Remote	QSOs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
AA4LS(@W2/SUMMIT)	x	x	246	221	1	54,366	AOCC
AA3B	x		241	222	1	53,502	FRC
K3WW	x		236	216	1	50,976	FRC
N3RD	x		205	191	1	39,155	FRC
AD4EB	x		194	185	1	35,890	TCG
K4RO	x		202	177	1	35,754	TCG
K3WJV	x		189	174	1	32,886	FRC
K9ZO			170	170	1	28,900	SMC
VE3EJ	x		176	163	01:00	28,688	CCO
W8FJ			176	160	1	28,160	FRC

—Mike VE9AA (from Tom Mills, AF4NC, Life Member ARRL, Assistant Section Manager EPa Section)



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

HPARC APRIL CALENDAR

- 1 — April Fool's Day**
- 6 — HPARC Club Meeting**
(online at 147.165)
- 12 — EASTER**
- 19 — ARRL Rookie Roundup – Phone
- 22 — EARTH DAY
- 24 — National Arbor Day
- 26 — HPARC Newsletter Deadline
- 29 — Administrative Professionals' Day

BIRTHDAYS

- Keith Thomas — April 11
- David Macchiarolo — April 25
- Dan Bly — April 27

W4VEC has officially canceled all Ham Radio exams through April 15, 2020.

2020 HPARC OFFICERS

Mark McMahan — President — 336-887-3039 — kb4mfp@arrl.net
 Tom Bertolino — Vice-President — 781-608-6186 — kb1p@arrl.net
 David Macchiarolo, AJ4TF — Secretary — 336-869-2894 — aj4tf@arrl.net
 Warren Gallemore, KA4LOQ — Treasurer — 336-883-4944 — warreng960@mac.com
 Newsletter Editor — Mark McMahan — 336-887-3039 — kb4mfp@arrl.net
 HPARC — www.w4ua.org — w4ua@arrl.net — 147.165 (67 Hz Tone) — 443.900

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