

# HPARC NEWSLETTER

*High Point Amateur Radio Club*



## DECEMBER MEETING

The December HPARC meeting/Christmas party will be held on SATURDAY, December 4, 2021. Please mark your calendar!

We will have our business meeting at 6:00 p.m. so that we can begin eating close to 6:30 p.m. We will need to vote on officers for 2021 for our business section. Business will be kept brief to allow more time for socializing with members.

The program will be eating and festivities! This is a time

for club members to just enjoy each others company.

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**HPARC Meeting**  
**Saturday Dec. 4, 2021**  
**Business meeting: 6:00 pm**  
**Meal: 6:30 pm**  
**Hickory Chapel Wesleyan**  
**Church Fellowship Building**  
**301 Hickory Chapel Rd, HP**  
**NO ZOOM MEETING**

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The meal will be potluck from the club members. Email David Macchiarolo if you have

not done so yet, to tell him what dish you may be bringing.

At the November meeting, David presented a program on solar activity and HF radio propagation.

Please send your club dues directly to Warren Gallemore, HPARC Treasurer. His email address is listed in this newsletter if you need to contact him.

This is the first time we have had our Christmas party since the pandemic. Should be fun. Hope to see everyone there!

## OFFICER ELECTIONS FOR 2021

The HPARC Nominating Committee has made their recommendations for officers for 2021. Their selections are: David Macchiarolo, AJ4TF, for President; Terence Crandall, N4TLC, for Vice-president; Keith Thomas, KA4JAH, for Secretary; and Peter Kapetanakis, KN4OCX, for Treasurer.

According to the By-Laws, no further nominations may be made at the December meeting.

I have been asked by some members what is the process for voting for officers if you don't intend to attend the December meeting. The following comes

from the HPARC By-Laws:

Article IV – Officers, Section 6 states that requests for proxy ballots must be received at least two weeks prior to the December meeting and must be returned no later than two days prior to the annual meeting.

Now of course, we have passed those deadlines for requesting a proxy ballot. My apologies. Never understood why we do the voting this way. No nominations can be made at the December meeting. So those nominated at the November meeting will be voted in unless they decide to move out of state or are locked up for some criminal activity.

However, if you would like to

vote by proxy ballot, I will make one final executive order. If you send your vote in to David Macchiarolo, HPARC Secretary by mail or email and it is received by midnight, Friday, December 3, then we will count your vote for the 2022 officers.

Because there can be no nom-

*Elections continued inside...*

**HPARC Meeting**  
**December 4, 2021**  
**Hickory Chapel Wesleyan**  
**Church Fellowship Building,**  
**301 Hickory Chapel Road,**  
**High Point**

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

# TEN TIPS FOR NEW CONTESTERS AND THOSE WITH MODEST STATIONS

Former ARRL Headquarters employee turned Ham Radio retailer John “Bee” Bartscherer, N1GNV, considers himself a casual contester with a 100W transceiver and a wire antenna. As the fall and winter contest season begins, he shared 10 operating tips for new contesters and those with modest stations.

1. Read the contest rules. Know which bands are in play, your entry category, and the contest exchange.

2. Use a logging program. Quite a few options are out there. Bee’s personal choice is N1MM Logger+. It’s free, has an amazing array of features, and it’s updated regularly. Most current logging software will interface with just about any modern HF radio.

3. More operating time means more contacts. Get rid of any distractions, such as texting, TV, and email, and concentrate on making contacts. However, Bee does suggest taking breaks. For 5 minutes each hour, get up, stretch, hydrate, and get some fresh air.

4. Set achievable goals. If you’re not an experienced contester with a well-equipped station (yet), it’s not likely that you’ll win a contest. Instead of trying to win, aim to beat your score from last year’s contest, try to work

DXCC in a weekend, or try to outscore fellow club members.

5. Study propagation forecasts. Get a sense of what bands are likely to be open to areas you want to work and when. This will help you come up with a basic operating strategy. Band openings can occur at any time, so, if you’re operating in a category that allows it, keep an eye on the DX cluster to find out when a DX station is on the air.

6. Don’t waste time in pileups. Early on in a contest, don’t waste a lot of time trying to break the pileup. Try a call or two, but if you don’t succeed, move on and try again later.

7. Work multipliers. Most contests include multipliers in their scoring system, which can help to boost your score. Typically, you multiply your contact points by the number of multipliers (Sections, states, DXCC entities, grid squares) to determine your total score.

8. Know your radio’s knobs. Familiarize yourself with your radio’s front-panel controls, as well as any functions that may be hidden in a menu. Just about every radio has an attenuator, preamplifier, RF gain control, noise blanker, and, frequently, noise reduction. Most will also include an IF shift or

passband tuning. Try turning off the preamplifier and turning on some attenuation. This may seem counterintuitive, but if a station sounds loud, chances are you’re also loud to them. Reducing RF gain can also knock down strong, close-in interference, so you can hear (and contact) weaker stations that may be drowned out by stronger ones.

9. Use standard phonetics. Cute phonetics might be okay to use on your local repeater, but in a contest, other stations will be listening for standard phonetics. Even though phonetics can vary, it’s important to be consistent.

10. Listen before calling. Make sure you correctly copy the other station’s call sign and exchange, which you can enter in your log while waiting in line (this is especially valuable during the ARRL November Sweepstakes, where the exchange is more than a simple signal report). Listen to the other operator’s pattern (saying “QRZ?” after each contact, for example). Make sure you’re transmitting when the other station is listening.

— *The ARRL Letter*,

Adapted from

*The ARRL Contest Update*

November 12, 2021

Rick Lindquist, WW1ME,  
Editor

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 5:00 p.m. at a local restaurant announced in the newsletter. The business meeting starts at 6:00 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.

...Elections continued from cover

inations made, your vote will simply be YES for the slate of officers as nominated by the Nominating Committee or NO against the slate of proposed

officers. Anything other than YES or NO will be considered as an incorrect response and will be rejected as a proxy ballot.

However, I highly recommend you show up at the meeting to

cast your vote. Business will be light and we will have our Christmas party. Bring your spouse and friends. This is a time to fellowship with other club members. Should be fun.

## ONLINE FORUM CELEBRATES CLASSIC HENRY AMPS

If you're a fan of classic old tube amplifiers and like to spend time talking ABOUT them as much as you enjoy using them, there's an online forum made just for you.

Mat Breton, N8TW, and Alan MacNabb II, W0ARM, share a love of the classics—in this case, the classic old Henry Radio tube amplifiers. The amps add power, of course, but there's also a warm glow partly because of the amps' treasured history that dates back to the company's roots in 1927. Mat and Alan are co-owners of a groups.io forum devoted to these beloved workhorses of the shack. Although the Henry company is still in

business, the advent of solid-state amps has made owners of the oldtime models, such as the 3K-Classic and 3K-A, treasure them even more. Alan told Newsline that the groups.io forum provides fans and owners of Henry amps an opportunity to share stories, tips and admiration for what Alan calls the amp with the "big and beefy" power supply. Alan himself owns a 3K-Classic and 3K-A and expects to add a 2K-classic desktop to his growing collection soon. He told Newsline

that he and Mat hope to "keep the Henry legacy alive for another generation of Hams." In their day, he said, Henry amps were "definitely the Cadillacs of amplifiers."

—*Amateur Radio Newsline*,  
Report 2296,  
October 29th, 2021

*And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name, JESUS; for he shall save his people from their sins.*

—*Matthew 1:21 KJV*

## FIRST WOMAN NOMINATED TO HEAD U.S. FCC

President Joe Biden has made it official: He has nominated Jessica Rosenworcel to become the 35th permanent leader of the FCC. With the approval of the Senate on Capitol Hill, she would become the first woman at the helm of the agency on a permanent basis.

She has been serving as acting chair since January, following the departure of Trump appointee, Ajit Pai. Meanwhile, the president has nominated Gigi Sohn to fill the vacancy created on the five-member commission when he chose Rosenworcel to step in as chair at

that time. Gigi Sohn had previously served as a counselor to Tom Wheeler, who chaired the FCC during the tenure of President Obama.

—*Amateur Radio Newsline*,  
Report 2296,  
October 29th, 2021

## DAYTON HAMVENTION IS A 'GO'

Dayton Hamvention 2022 is not just going to be a premier Hamfest but a reunion, as organizers prepare for the first gathering at the Xenia Fairground and Expo Center in Ohio after two years of cancellations. Hamvention's general chairman Rick Allnut WS8G told Newsline in a phone interview that commit-

tees have been meeting and volunteers are committed to making up for the time lost to pandemic cancellations.

Hamvention will be happening on Friday, May 20th through Sunday, May 22nd with an international reception scheduled on Thursday, May 19th. Rick said the registration site is already taking

bookings from vendors and inside exhibitors and individual visitors can already buy their tickets. All details are available on the hamvention.org website. Rick said: "Tickets are all printed and ready to go."

—*Amateur Radio Newsline*,  
Report 2298,  
November 12th, 2021



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

## HPARC DECEMBER CALENDAR

3-5 — ARRL 160-Meter Contest  
**4 — HPARC Club Meeting**  
 7 — Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day  
 11-12 — ARRL 10-Meter Contest  
 11 — Greensboro VE Session, Hinshaw  
 United Methodist Church  
 17 — Wright Brother's Day  
 18-19 — EME - 50 to 1296 MHz  
 19 — ARRL Rookie Roundup-CW  
 21 — First Day of Winter  
**25 — CHRISTMAS**  
 (Don't forget the HPARC

Christmas Day Roll Call)  
 26 — Newsletter deadline  
**31 — NEW YEAR'S EVE**

### BIRTHDAYS

Dean Wilson — December 1  
 George McCormick — December 6  
 Brian Simpson — December 7  
 Ken Worland — December 11  
 Mark Pegram — December 18  
 Cliff Sconce — December 19  
 Vasti Forrest — December 31

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

### 2021 HPARC OFFICERS

Mark McMahan — President — 336-887-3039 — [kb4mfp@arrl.net](mailto:kb4mfp@arrl.net)  
 Tom Bertolino — Vice-President — 781-608-6186 — [kb1p@arrl.net](mailto:kb1p@arrl.net)  
 David Macchiarolo, AJ4TF — Secretary — 336-869-2894 — [aj4tf@arrl.net](mailto:aj4tf@arrl.net)  
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**Breakfast**  
**every Saturday**  
 —  
**8:00 a.m.**  
 —  
**Biscuitville,**  
**2709 S. Main St.**