



May 2022

HPARC NEWSLETTER

High Point Amateur Radio Club



FCC Not Processing New License Applications

Source: ARRL.Org/News
04/27/2022

On Wednesday, April 27, in a notice to all VECs, the FCC again asked them to refrain from submitting any amateur radio exam session or license application files while the Commission works to resolve an issue with the Universal Licensing System (ULS) application filing system. The ULS application filing system was not functioning properly last week and then the FCC indicated the problem was resolved, as previously reported by ARRL. However, this was not the case, as no new amateur radio call signs and

licenses have been issued since Monday, April 18, 2022. Tuesday, April 19 is the day the FCC application fees became effective for amateur radio. ARRL VEC Manager Maria Somma, AB1FM, reports that new call signs are not being assigned by the FCC even if the applicant has paid the FCC application fee. The FCC was processing upgrade applications through the system without an issue because there are no fees required for those applications. In addition to new call signs not being issued even if the applicant has paid the FCC fee, some

applicants are also having issues paying and logging into the system. Other types of license application transactions may also be experiencing problems. Applicants should expect delays with license, call sign, and application processing associated with individuals and amateur radio clubs. Amateur radio license filings are currently on hold until further notice and FCC did not estimate how long the system would be down. We will update the public as information from the FCC becomes available.

Out Of This World

ARRL Letter 4/28/22

Astronaut Kayla Barron, KI5LAL, completed a successful, scheduled ham radio contact on April 21, 2022, with students from Bellefontaine High School in Bellefontaine, Ohio via Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS). The radio contact was streamed on [YouTube](#). The students were supported by members of the Champaign Logan Amateur Radio Club Inc., W8FTV, an ARRL-affiliated radio club. The school's STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) curriculum supports the newly formed Bellefontaine High School Amateur Radio Club, W8BCS. Barron is currently serving as mission specialist of the NASA SpaceX Crew-3 mission to the ISS, which launched on November 10, 2021. [ARRL](#), an ARISS supporter, has information for schools and student groups interested in hosting a future amateur radio contact with a crew member on board the ISS.



Astronaut Kayla Barron, KI5LAL [Photo courtesy of SpaceX]

HPARC Meeting
6:30 p.m.

May 2, 2022

Mario's Pizza
2645 N.Main St.
High Point, NC 27265

& Zoom

HPARC HISTORY: FIELD DAY—THE DOGWOOD BANDIT

Submitted by: Mark McMahan, KB4MFP

One year Rogers Albertson, WA4BPL, brought his young grandson, Michael, to Field Day to spend the night. Upon hearing they were staying overnight, one Ham commented, "You need to be aware of the boog-a-boos if you are staying overnight. They come by and grab you by the toe and drag you out into the woods."

Michael asked rather wide-eyed, "That's not true is it?" Other Hams listening in on this chime in: "Oh, yes." "They're mean!" "Didn't they get a club member a couple of years back?" Well as they head off to sleep in the back of Rogers truck, Michael is still not sure what to believe.

As usual, I am awake most of the night to operate and keep an eye on our camp. About midnight I began to hear noises coming from the woods about 200 yards from my tent. I see a light flashing around and hear

metal clanking noises.

I'm thinking Michael has slipped out of Rogers' truck with the idea he will scare me. I get a flashlight and unzip the back of the tent. I head towards the noise and light being careful not to make much noise. When I get to within 15 feet, I turn on my flashlight. It was not Michael. Standing in front of me is a guy with a hoe, shovel and post hole digger and fumbling with a flashlight.

"What are you doing?" I ask.

"Oh," the guy replies, "I'm looking for Dogwoods."

"Don't you think you need to get Mr. Moore's permission to do that?" (Willard Moore being the owner of the property).

"Oh, do you think he would mind?"

I replied, "I think that is a question you should ask Mr. Moore — in the morning. Where do you live?"

"Over there," the man answers pointing behind me and coming forward to shake my hand.

I take a step back and tell him, "I think you need to go home and come back to talk to Mr. Moore — in the morning."

I walk away from this guy and look back. He has cut his flashlight off, and he is not heading "over there." I don't know where he went.

Being concerned, I go wake Rogers and Michael to stay awake for a while just to be safe. In the morning Mr. Moore observes where the Dogwoods were dug up. "They do this all the time — they don't dig deep enough to get the root. The tree won't live."

So goes the story of the "Dogwood Bandit" who created a little more than QRM on a Field Day weekend.

ARRL Youth Licensing Grant Program

ARRL Letter 4/28/22

The ARRL Youth Licensing Grant Program, in effect since April 19, 2022, will cover the one-time \$35 application fee for new amateur radio license candidates younger than 18 years old for tests administered under the ARRL Volunteer Examiner Coordinator (VEC) program.

"We are thrilled that we are able to provide this opportunity to our youth candidates," said ARRL VEC Manager Maria Somma, AB1FM.

The \$35 Federal Communications Commission (FCC) application fee will be reimbursed after the ARRL VEC receives the completed reimbursement form and after the new license has been issued. The reimbursement check will be mailed

to the fee payer. Also, candidates younger than 18 years old would pay a reduced exam session fee of \$5 to the ARRL VEC team at the time of the exam. The \$5 fee is for all candidates under the age of 18, regardless of the exam level taken. Proof of under 18 status is required at the session.

The ARRL Board approved the Youth Licensing Grant Program at its July 2021 meeting in Hartford, Connecticut, expanding on the scope of the original motion proposed by ARRL Southeastern Division Director Mickey Baker, N4MB.



The Board believes the recruitment and training of young amateur radio operators is a necessary and proper mission of the ARRL and subsidization of the \$35 fee will reduce the number of new amateurs that would otherwise be lost from these groups. Initially the new program would serve up to 1,000 new license applicants under 18 years old. The program length is indefinite; it may be renewed or terminated by the Administration and Finance Committee or by the Board of Directors.

Visit the ARRL website for the program instructions and reimbursement form at www.arrl.org/youth-licensing-grant-program.

HPARC Newsletter Contributions

Peter Kapetanakis

As many of you may have realized the HPARC Newsletter is primarily comprised of articles previously published by ARRL. While many of these articles contain stories of various interests, they are not focused on local activities. Therefore, if at anytime you see something you think would be a good story, please feel free to write and submit a story of your own. Please submit those articles to Peter Kapetanakis by emailing Kn4ocx@arrl.com for consideration of inclusion into the HPARC newsletter.

Amateur Radio Helps Rescue Injured California Outdoorsman

ARRL Letter 4/14/2022

A relaxing weekend of camping and fishing did not go as planned last Friday when a member of a California outdoors club fell and broke his hip.

The Old Goats Mountain Club (OGMC) had worked their way along an old Forest Service Road into a rugged, off grid location in the foothills of the Cascade Mountains. Dave Johnson, KL7DJ, said his friend slipped and fell while trying reel in a catch. The injury was so severe that the man could not be moved safely with a trip that could take at least 2 hours over the rough terrain.

Johnson is the only licensed amateur radio operator in the group and using the California Amateur Linking Radio Association (CARLA) system, he was able to call for emergency help from this vehicle. Greg Stamback, KD6VEN, located in the San Francisco Bay area

responded and contacted the Shasta County EMS which dispatched a REACH 5 rescue helicopter from their base in Redding, California.

The entire rescue took about 1 hour and before the helicopter landed a local ambulance company arrived and was able to stabilize the injured camper. After surgery and 3 days in the hospital he is now at home recovering.

Johnson's wife Linda, KL7ISN, helped coordinate getting their friend's vehicle back to Redding. Using pre-planned contact schedules for Friday and Saturday and, after several makeshift auto-patches, the car was driven to a nearby highway where two other club members were able to take the car safely back home.

But the weekend was not over for amateur radio help. While the rest of the group was making their way out of the

mountains on Sunday they were flagged down by a stranded motorist. His car's gas tank had been punctured and his cell phone would not work. He was taken to a small community along the way where there was a landline, and he was able to call for help from AAA.

Johnson said the motorist was thankful for the help and another member of the OGMC suggested the motorist might want to consider getting an amateur radio license.

While waiting for a tow truck to arrive, Johnson and a couple of OGMC members talked about amateur radio and how it had helped over the last few days. One member suggested maybe even he should have a transceiver installed in his vehicle. Johnson plans to make sure his friend, and the motorist, get a complete demonstration.

HPARC MAY CALENDAR

- 1 — May Day
- 2 — **HPARC Club Meeting**
- 4 — Star Wars Day
- 5— Cinco De Mayo
- 8 — Mother's Day & Victory in Europe Day (WWII)
- 14 — Greensboro VE Session, Hinshaw United Methodist Church
- 21 — Armed Forces Day
- 28 — W4VEC High Point session (Hickory Chapel Wesleyan Church, Fellowship Bldg)
- 30 — Memorial Day & HPARC Newsletter Deadline

BIRTHDAYS

- Steve Brannon – May 7
- Richard Weinbaum – May 18
- Robyn Pegram – May 21
- Lynn Flyer – May 29

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

2022 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 Membership is open in the HPARC to all licensed Amateur Radio operators. (HPARC) for its members. The HPARC Newsletter serves as a source of information about Membership is \$24.00 a year. Associate membership is also available to those who are Club activities, and general news items of interest to Amateur Radio. Opinions expressed interested in Amateur Radio but who do not currently hold a license. Associate member- herein are not necessarily those of the HPARC or its officers. Material in this newsletter ship is \$12.00 a year. Student membership is also available for \$12.00 a year.

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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.

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 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.