

APRIL 2006

HPARC NEWSLETTER

High Point
Amateur Radio
Club



APRIL MEETING

John Coleman, KF4QDS, will speak to us at the April meeting. John is a volunteer with the Red Cross.

Last month, we had a very interesting program. David McDonald, N5WNB, spoke to us on his experiences as communications operator with the US Navy at McMurdo Station

on the continent of Antarctica.

The article this month on the 'Hello campaign' talks about the best way to make a person want to become a Ham is through their relationship with a Ham. Last month in an article published in this newsletter, John Covington encouraged us to come up with

our own sound bite for the media on why should a person want to be a Ham. Come up with your own short answer to "why Ham Radio." Be sure your reply answers the 'why.'

We had a good crowd at the March meeting. Hope to see you in the crowd at the April meeting. Bring a friend.

THE ARRL SAYS ITS TIME TO SAY "HELLO"

The ARRL has embarked on a major campaign to publicize Ham Radio. A campaign based on one simple word. That word is "hello."

Allen Pitts, W1AGP, the American Radio Relay League's media and public relations manager, says his vision is simple - getting people to know what Amateur Radio is and what kind of people Hams are.

"We are launching a campaign which is intentionally going to be very friendly, very open and celebrating the friendships and the fun that can be happening on Amateur Radio," Pitts says.

Pitts, who has a background in psychology, says he put together a simple exercise which he administered to groups to test his theory that people really couldn't put a face

on Amateur Radio.

"I had a set of flash cards built up kind of like the kind school children use. And each one had a different activity or occupation on it," Pitts explains. "And I would ask the groups not to tell me what the person looked like but what their personality was. And there were teachers and ministers and lawyers and carpenters.

"The last card was Amateur Radio operator or Ham Radio. And, it was interesting, the groups could always tell me what they imagined the personality of each of these people was until we got to the last card."

So, Pitts says he came up with a basic mission.

"The 'Hello Campaign' is designed to create the image of Amateur Radio being friendly and being able to make friends

through Amateur Radio around the country and indeed, around the world," Pitts says.

To attract a wider audience, Pitts says he needed a "hook" or an event to help draw attention. He found it in the 100th anniversary of the first voice transmissions over radio.

"Christmas Eve 1906, a guy named Reginald Fessenden, who normally was transmitting in Morse Code weather reports to ships up and down the East
see Hello continued inside...

**HPARC Meeting
April 3, 2006
at Golden Corral,
Hartley Drive,
Oak Hollow Mall**

KB2GSD HONORED BY NASA WITH MOON ROCK

Veteran CBS newsmen Walter Cronkite, KB2GSD, has been honored by NASA with a moon rock. This, in recognition of his decades covering the space program.

The moon rock is part of 842 pounds of samples brought back to Earth during the six Apollo lunar expeditions from 1969 to 1972. Cronkite, who anchored the CBS Evening News from 1962 until his retirement in 1981, is the first

non-astronaut and only non-NASA individual to receive the Ambassador of Exploration Award. KB2GSD plans to donate the lunar sample to University of Texas at Austin's Center for American History, which houses the Walter Cronkite papers. The rock will be displayed in the center's exhibit gallery.

Cronkite covered the Mercury, Gemini and Apollo missions, including Apollo 11

and subsequent moon landings. His marathon, live coverage on July 20, 1969, of the first moon landing brought the event into the homes of millions of Americans and observers around the world. In recent years he donated his talent to the American Radio Relay League to host a pair of videos about Ham Radio.

—Amateur Radio Newsline, Report 1492, March 17, 2006

TIPS FROM THE CONTESTER'S RATE SHEET

Putting up some wire antennas? K2ZR says, "For whatever antenna applications that require a 'pulley', I strongly recommend a 'sheet/bullet block.' These are used on sailboats and go way beyond the quality of anything you'll find in a hardware store. There are many sizes and styles. I find the #083 (with a becket - to provide a pull down loop) works great with just about any wire antenna installation." You "do" know what a 'becket' is, don't you?

Here's another helpful set of directions, this one for getting multiple open-wire feed lines through a wall and easily switched.

1) Terminate each parallel feedline with a 5-ft section of shielded parallel line (see ARRL Antenna Book) made from 2 5-ft lengths of RG-8X or RG-213, each terminated with

a PL-259.

2) At a grounded entrance panel or grounding strip, install four UHF bulkhead connectors and connect the shielded parallel feed lines to them outside.

3) Manufacture another shielded parallel feedline jumper long enough to reach from your tuner to the entrance panel. Connect it permanently to the tuner and terminate the other end with quick-disconnect, push-on PL-259's.

4) When ready to operate, plug the shielded parallel jumper from the tuner into the bulkhead connectors for whichever antenna you desire to use.

5) When not operating, disconnect the tuner from the entrance panel, and short the UHF bulkhead terminals to ground using PL-259 push-on plugs that have been converted

with short circuits inside them. (Thanks, Mark N1LO)

Whoops! You've got to get coax or a radial wire or ??? across a concrete walkway in your yard? How about a little water fun from Bob W9GE? "Build a water drill out of a piece of plastic pipe a bit bigger than what you want to bury. Use some fittings to connect a water hose to one end. Turn on the water and work your way under the walkway. When you reach the other side just disconnect the water and run the coax or wire through the pipe that is now under the walk."

Other contributors note that special nozzles are available for installing irrigation or sprinkler pipes in just this way. You'll also need to dig out a small sump pit on each end.

—Contester's Rate Sheet, March 8, 2006

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. Subscriptions are available to non-members for \$8.00 a year. An email version of the HPARC Newsletter is also available. Contributions and letters 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.

The High Point Amateur Radio Club meets the first Monday of each month at 6:30 pm at the Golden Corral on Hartley Drive, High Point (beside Oak Hollow Mall). The business meeting starts at 7:30 pm 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).

...Hello continued from cover

Coast - the radio operators aboard the ships had been told to expect something unusual," Pitts says. "But nobody expected what he was about to do. And, what he was able to do was to actually broadcast and say hello and wish them Merry Christmas."

"He played the violin, he played some off the Edison cylinder phonograph. He wife was supposed to talk but the wife got mike fright. But it was the very first broadcast of voice over radio."

Pitts says the campaign is now relying on those on the front-line in Amateur Radio who can and do deal with the public.

"We've prepared an incredible set of tools for the public information officers, group leaders, club leaders, other Hams to be able to take to their local television and radio stations, newspapers and promote Amateur Radio," Pitts says.

While the first goal of the campaign is to raise public

HPARC 2006 BOARD MEMBERS

Chris Horne, W4CKH — president	869-1295
Sam Hall, K4AME — vice-president	431-8940
Mark McMahan, KB4MFP — secretary	887-3039
Mark McMahan, KB4MFP — treasurer	887-3039

COMMITTEES

Education — David Montgomery, WD4MKS	883-2792
Finance — Mark McMahan, KB4MFP	887-3039
Hamfest — Mark McMahan, KB4MFP	887-3039
House — Scott Carmichael, W1SJC	472-4749
Membership — Rogers Albertson, WA4BPL	431-7371
Program — Chris Horne, W4CKH	869-1295
Public Relations — Chris Horne, W4CKH	869-1295
Repeater — Sam Hall, K4AME	431-8940
Special Activities — Rogers Albertson, WA4BPL . . .	431-7371

awareness, Pitts says there is another motive.

"Bring interested people into contact with their local Amateur Radio groups or a Ham," Pitts says. "The way you make a new Ham is through some relationship with a person who already is a Ham. And, on the special website which is www.hello-radio.org.

"One section there is specific to bring people into contact with local groups who are either spe-

cial service clubs or mentoring groups or groups that have said yes, they absolutely do want to have new people referred to them and they will give a warm welcome and a hello."

The Hello campaign began March 15 and will climax with the centennial of the very first radio broadcast during all of Christmas week.

—Amateur Radio Newline, Report 1492, March 17, 2006

DAYTON HAMVENTION 2006 AWARD WINNERS

Dayton Hamvention has announced its 2006 award winners. Being honored for their contributions to the Amateur Radio Service are Gordon West, WB6NOA—Amateur of the Year; Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH—Special Achievement Award, and Dick Illman, AH6EZ—Technical Excellence Award.

West, of Costa Mesa, California, was named Amateur of the Year for his efforts in recruiting and training many new Amateurs, in addition to his nearly lifelong involvement in Ham Radio.

Hollingsworth, who's Special

Counsel in the FCC Enforcement Bureau at the Commission's Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, office, will receive Hamvention's Special Achievement Award. Hamvention is recognizing Hollingsworth's efforts, begun in 1998, to resurrect the FCC's Amateur Radio enforcement program. Radio Amateurs across the US have credited Hollingsworth with reducing malicious interference and other problem behavior on the air.

Illman, who lives in St Charles, Illinois, was picked to receive the 2006 Technical Excellence Award. The honor recognizes his work as principal

staff engineer at Motorola in developing the company's patent-pending Powerline LV broadband over power line (BPL) system, which essentially eliminates HF interference.

Held this year from May 19 until May 21, Dayton Hamvention, the world's largest Amateur Radio gathering, annually attracts more than 25,000 people to the greater Dayton area. The event includes exhibits, a flea market, forums and educational sessions.

—The ARRL Letter Online, Volume 25, Number 12, March 24, 2006



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

HPARC APRIL CALENDAR

- 1 — April Fool's Day
- 2 — Kinston, NC Hamfest
- 3 — Daylight Saving Time begins
- 3 — HPARC Club Meeting
- 15 — Morganton, NC Hamfest
- 22 — EARTH DAY
- 23 — Raleigh Hamfest
- 23 — HPARC Newsletter Deadline
- 26 — Professional Secretaries Day
- 27-May 3 — International Home
 Furnishings Market, High Point
- 28 — National Arbor Day

BIRTHDAYS

- Sam Hall — April 21
- Rogers Albertson — April 27

2006 HPARC OFFICERS

Chris Horne, W4CKH — President — 869-1295 — chorne@nscom.com
 Sam Hall, K4AME — Vice-president — 431-8940 — k4ame@arrl.net
 Mark McMahan, KB4MFP — Secretary — 887-3039 — kb4mfp@arrl.net
 Mark McMahan, KB4MFP — Treasurer — 887-3039 — kb4mfp@arrl.net
 Newsletter Editor — Mark McMahan — 887-3039
 (e-mail — kb4mfp@arrl.net)

HPARC Web page: <http://www.qsl.net/w4ua> • w4ua@qsl.net

Breakfast
every Saturday
 —
8:00 am
 —
Mrs. Winner's,
South Main St.