

JULY 2006

HPARC NEWSLETTER

High Point
Amateur Radio
Club



JULY MEETING

As of this writing, I am not sure what the program for July will be.

The program for June was planning for Field Day.

As you may already know, Field Day was a washout. With the heavy rains on Friday night, it was feared that Mr. Moore's place would be too wet, and the forecast

was for more rain on Saturday. Work commitments, weather and sickness were reasons for canceling this year's Field Day. Sorry if anyone tried to find the site and found no one. There's always next year...

You may also have heard about Rogers Albertson. Rogers has a bad case of pneumonia which put him in the

intensive care at Asheboro Hospital for a while. He is still in the hospital but out of intensive care. If you believe in the power of prayer, I am sure he would appreciate any directed his way.

The crowds seem to be growing at the meetings. Hope to see YOU in the crowd. Catch you at the meeting.

ALBERTO PROVIDES TRIAL RUN FOR AMATEUR RADIO WEATHER NETS, VOLUNTEERS

While Tropical Storm Alberto didn't turn into a hurricane as first forecast, the first named storm of the 2006 hurricane season did serve as a valuable trial run for weather spotters, weather nets and ham radio emergency communication volunteers. In the early going, the Hurricane Watch Net (HWN) <<http://www.hwn.org/>> anticipated activating June 12 on 14.325 MHz. When it became obvious that Alberto was losing strength with no potential to intensify prior to landfall, HWN Manager Mike Pilgrim, K5MP, told net members they could relax for the time being.

"Thank you all for your assistance as we attempted to gear up for our first test of the year,"

Pilgrim said. "Thank goodness it was a false alarm."

The HWN works in cooperation with WX4NHC <<http://www.wx4nhc.org/>> at the National Hurricane Center (NHC) to gather real-time, ground-level weather data during storms. NHC forecasters use the reports to help fine-tune their predictions of a storm's behavior.

Amateur Radio emergency communication volunteers in northern Florida also stood by as Alberto approached landfall on the Gulf Coast. The storm came ashore the afternoon of June 13 at Keaton Beach. Apparently not taking any chances, the NHC maintained a hurricane warning along the

Florida Gulf Coast until late that same morning.

ARRL's North Florida Section Emergency Coordinator Joe Bushel, W2DWR, notified District Emergency Coordinators June 12 to put Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) jump teams on alert and to advise all Emergency Coordinators to pay

see Alberto continued on inside...

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

CBS - JACKSON INDECENCY CASE MAY BE HEADED TO COURT

CBS isn't budging in its belief that the 2004 Super Bowl half-time show in which Janet Jackson unexpectedly bared her breast does not meet the FCC's legal standard for broadcast indecency.

Reacting to the FCC's decision last week to uphold the original indecency fine against several CBS owned television

stations, the network issued a statement saying it still disagrees with the commission and will continue to pursue all remedies necessary to affirm its legal rights.

The network has exhausted all appeals at the agency and its only remedy now would be to take the case into the Federal court system

which CBS has not yet said that it will do. CBS notes that it has apologized to the American people many times for the inappropriate and unexpected half-time incident. It says has taken steps to make certain it will never happen again.

—Amateur Radio Newsline,
Report 1505, June 16, 2006

HELP CLEAN UP 40 METERS

Alright, its time to help to clean up 40 meters, and this is a world-wide call that has gone out. Many stations not licensed to operate on the Amateur portion of the 40m band use the spectrum. IARU Monitoring System groups around the world are monitoring and reporting the intruders.

In South Africa the word has gone out from the SARL: "We now need your assistance to get a perspective from Southern Africa, as soon as possible."

The SARL IARUMS group is looking for Amateurs and short-wave listeners who can monitor the spectrum 7000

- 7100 kHz and log intruders. To help, guidelines are available on the SARL at www.sarl.org.za

In the United States, reports of intruders on any band go to our national society, the American Radio Relay League.

—Amateur Radio Newsline,
Report 1505, June 16, 2006

WIN-98 TO FADE AWAY - MAYBE

It's time to say farewell to an old friend. More specifically a computer operating system that many Hams still rely on for their day to day on the air operations.

Many Amateur Radio shacks use computers and Windows 98 has been a popular operating system in many, but time and technology have marched on and the life cycle for Windows 98 has come to an end according to Microsoft. They have announced that as of July 11 2006, they will no longer sup-

port Windows 98, 98 Second Edition and Windows ME.

Microsoft on its Australian website state "Microsoft will retire public and technical support including security updates by this date.

However, existing support documents and content will continue to be available through the Microsoft Support Product Solution Center website.

So what now I hear you ask? Well of course you can update to the latest and greatest from that software company or

maybe look at the variety of favors of Linux available free of charge via the open source community. They run fine on older machines and can probably do most of what an Amateur requires. Or of course they're more than enough supporters of the fruity machine — the Apple.

I'm Grant Stowell VK3HFS. Now where are those old DOS disks I know they're around here somewhere!

—Amateur Radio Newsline,
Report 1505, June 16, 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).

...*Alberto continued from cover*

close attention to the storm. No nets activated, however.

North Florida West Central District Emergency Coordinator Dixie Steinberg, K2BEV, reported that shelters for possible storm evacuees were set to open in Citrus, Hernando and Sumter counties, and ARES and RACES personnel, as well as CERT and SKYWARN teams, were standing by. West Central Florida SEC Neil Lauritsen, W4NHL, said Pinellas County had three shelters on standby.

Rob Macedo, KD1CY, the

Speaking of space, ever wonder how one writes in zero gravity? Well two nations involved in the exploration of the final frontier had to solve that problem many years ago. Each took a different path.

When NASA began the launch of astronauts into space, they found out that the pens wouldn't

director of operations for the VoIP Hurricane Net <<http://www.voipwx.net/>> says his organization activated Monday evening on predictions that Alberto would attain Category 1 hurricane strength.

"The net was a good dress rehearsal for more significant tropical systems later in the 2006 hurricane season," Macedo said.

Alberto's maximum sustained winds peaked out at almost 70 MPH with higher gusts—not quite a Category 1 hurricane—but decreased to about 50 MPH as the storm hit the coast and

PENS IN SPACE

work at zero gravity (ink won't flow down to the writing surface). To solve this problem, it took them one decade and \$12 million.

They developed a pen that worked at zero gravity, upside down, underwater, in practically any surface including crystal and in a temperature range from

dropped even further as it passed over land. Nonetheless, it generated coastal storm surge flooding along Florida's Gulf Coast and spawned torrential rainfall as it passed up the southeastern US coastline.

The storm came just weeks after the State of Florida's annual Emergency Management Hurricane and Terrorism Exercise, May 22-26. The exercise scenario was a hurricane-spawned F4 tornado striking a power plant.

—The ARRL Letter Online, Volume 25, Number 24, June 16, 2006

below freezing to over 300 degrees C.

And what did the Russians do...?? They used a pencil.

Reporting the weird and wonderful, I'm John Williams, VK2BUI.

—Amateur Radio Newsline, Report 1498, April 28, 2006

DONATED SET BRINGS \$10000 BEFORE IT IS ON THE BLOCK

Members of the New Jersey Antique Radio Club did the right thing when they found a thick envelope containing \$10,000 beneath the lid of an old Crawford three-dialer from the 1920's.

The Asbury Park Press reports the New Jersey Antique Radio Club had planned to auction off the radios for the deceased collector's sister. One of its members called the woman to inform her of the situation. The next day club president Phil Vourtsis delivered the envelope to her, and the story of how the money ended up in the radio began to unfold.

The newspaper quotes Ray Chase, as saying the donor's brother was known for having money around the house. He had kept some in a dresser by his bed. One day it was gone, with no sign of a break-in and was distressed to discover a large sum of money missing.

This occurred shortly before he died. After talking with the donor, it was determined that with his failing memory the brother must have mistakenly placed the envelope in the Crawford radio next to his dresser and simply forgot he had put it there. The sister said it didn't surprise her very much

that money was discovered in the radio. But the honesty of the members of the New Jersey Antique Radio Club brought the money back where it belonged. Talk about a happy ending.

The New Jersey Antique Radio Club maintains a museum and headquarters at the Info Age Science and History Learning Center. A club spokesman says the auction of the \$10,000 Radio will be announced on its Web site, where photos of the radio also can currently be seen. It's in cyberspace at www.njarc.org

—Amateur Radio Newsline, Report 1447, June 23, 2006



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

HPARC JULY CALENDAR

- 3 — HPARC Club Meeting
- 4 — INDEPENDENCE DAY
- 8 — Salisbury Hamfest
- 8-9 — IARU HF World Championship
- 15 — Cary Swapfest
- 29 — Waynesville Hamfest
- 23 — PARENTS' DAY
- 30 — HPARC Newsletter deadline

BIRTHDAYS

Richard Bivins — July 10
 Tom Mills — July 26

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.**