



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

HPARC OCTOBER CALENDAR

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| 2 — HPARC Club Meeting | 21 — Lexington, NC BBQ Festival |
| 7 — Rock Hill, SC Hamfest | 22 — Mother-In-Law Day |
| 7-8 — ARRL Simulated Emergency Test | 28 — NC Simulated Emergency Test |
| 8 — Maysville, NC Hamfest | 28-29 — CQ World-Wide Contest, Phone |
| 10 — COLUMBUS DAY | 29 — Daylight Savings Ends (fall back) |
| 13-22 — NC State Fair | 29 — HPARC Newsletter deadline |
| 14 — Forsyth ARC Pfafftown Swapfest | 31 — HALLOWEEN |
| 16-22 — High Point Furniture Market | |
| 16 — National Boss Day | |
| 16 — Sweetest Day | |
| 21-22 — Jamboree On The Air (JOTA) | |

BIRTHDAYS

- Coy Hennis — October 4
 Bart Stofferis — October 17

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.**

OCTOBER 2006

HPARC NEWSLETTER

High Point
Amateur Radio
Club



OCTOBER MEETING

The October program is still in the planning stages. Join us for an interesting meeting.

There was no program last month.

Election of officers will be coming soon. Please stand ready to help by making yourself available if called to serve as a club officer. If you have any

suggestions, please contact the HPARC board.

Hope to see all of you at the October meeting. Please plan to be present. See you there.

SINGLE MOLECULE TRANSISTOR

University of Arizona physicists have discovered how to turn single molecules into working transistors and have applied for a patent on their device called the Quantum Interference Effect Transistor.

Nicknamed "QuIE," Technology Report says the University of Arizona physicists propose making transistors as small as a single nanometer, or one billionth of a meter. They say that this is

likely the breakthrough needed to make the next-generation of tiny, powerful computers that nano-technologists could only dream of a few short years ago.

—Amateur Radio Newsline,
Report 1517, Sept. 8, 2006

SURVEY SAYS USA IS RADIO READY FOR EMERGENCIES

Nearly nearly four out of five American adults say they have taken some precaution to prepare for an emergency in the year since hurricane Katrina devastated the Gulf coast. A survey commissioned by American Media Services found that only 21% say they have not yet taken any precautions.

The survey found that 62% of have bought candles or flashlights, 54% claim they have checked the batteries for their emergency equipment and 46% claim that they have stockpiled food and water. An

amazing 43% say that they have either bought or checked a battery-powered radio.

The survey found that 77% have a battery-powered radio in their homes, and 82% of those with a radio said they've checked the batteries at some point within the past year.

The survey found that more than four out of five said they are confident their local radio stations would be able to provide the information they need to get through the emergency. Nearly two-thirds say they know which radio station to tune to in an emergency.

Omnitel Inc. conducted the telephone survey of 1,008 adults from August 11th to the 13th.

—Amateur Radio Newsline,
Report 1516,
September 1, 2006

**HPARC Meeting
October 2, 2006
at Golden Corral,
Hartley Drive,
Oak Hollow Mall**

SUIT-SAT IS DEAD

A Ham Radio satellite built in a Russian space suit and kicked out of the International Space Station has met a fiery end. SuitSat — the makeshift satellite that enthralled the Amateur Radio community earlier in the year — has finally returned to Earth. The satellite burnt up during atmospheric re-entry 1,400km south west of Australia at 1500UTC on September 7.

Made by converting an old Cosmonaut space suit, SuitSat caught the world's attention

when it was launched from the International Space Station on 3 February. Radio Amateurs across the world sought to detect the weak signals the satellite was transmitting. The wider community was also entranced by the project, with many schools following the progress of the satellite. The SuitSat website attracted a remarkable nine million hits during February.

The satellite was initially only expected to transmit for a few days after its launch. But a tech-

nical fault significantly reduced the power output of the transmissions, allowing SuitSat to remain on the air for more than two weeks after its launch.

Suit-Sat 1 may be history but during its short life span the bird raised the profile of both space and Amateur Radio. Because of this, serious consideration is being given to launching a second SuitSat in coming years. More is on the web at www.suitsat.org —Amateur Radio Newline, Report 1519, Sept. 22, 2006

WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA SECTION CONVENTION HOST CANCELS FUTURE HAMFESTS

Just two days after hosting the ARRL Western Pennsylvania Section Convention September 10, the Butler County Amateur Radio Association voted to throw in the towel and get out of the hamfest business. The main reason, cited in the September issue of the club's Tell-A-Ham newsletter, is a lack of member involvement.

"The few, dependable workers have burned out," wrote BCARA Treasurer Kevin

Berry, KF4RMA, who edits the newsletter and took on tasks this year as hamfest vendor chairman, parking chairman, treasurer and flyer preparation, among others. According to the newsletter, fewer than one-quarter of the club's 80 members pitched in to make the hamfest happen this year, and nearly all handled multiple duties during the event.

The September 10 gathering at the Butler County Farm Show Fairgrounds was the

club's 29th annual hamfest. Whether it's also the last, BCARA President Jim Love, W1JHL, told ARRL, is in the hands of the membership.

"If we can get the manpower that is required to support the hamfest we will continue the tradition," he said. "However, this year, as in the recent past, we have not received the needed help."

—The ARRL Letter Online, Volume 25, Number 38, September 22, 2006

2006 SIMULATED EMERGENCY TEST

The ARRL Simulated Emergency Test is a nationwide exercise in emergency communications, administered by the ARRL field organization. The SET weekend gives communicators the opportunity to focus on the emer-

gency-communications capability within your community while interacting with NTS nets. This year's North Carolina Section SET will be held on October 28 from 8am to 12noon. The test scenario will be announced later by our

Section Emergency Coordinator, Bernie Nobles, WA4MOK. Your local area may choose to hold an SET anytime during the fall season, just make sure your report reaches ARRL headquarters by January 31, 2007.

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).

EX-KG6IRO DSENTENCED TO 7 YEARS IN PRISON

United States District Judge R. Gary Klausner, minced no words when he told Jack Gerritsen that he would spend the next 84 months confined to a Federal prison. Before learning his fate, Gerritsen even offered a formal apology to the government, to the FCC, and the Amateur Radio community.

But Gerritsen's request for forgiveness fell on deaf ears. Judge Klausner, took the position that the public had to be protected against people like the former

KG6IRO. Judge Klausner then sentenced Gerritsen to 7 years in a federal prison. He also imposed a \$250 immediate fine and another \$15,000.00 fine to be paid through the Probation Department.

But that's not all. After he gets out of jail, Gerritsen will be on an additional 2 years of supervised probation. He must also participate in substance abuse treatment program, paid for at his own expense.

Gerritsen had passed his

Amateur Radio exam and was granted the call sign KG6IRO. But within a week of issuing him a license, the FCC set it aside after learning of his California state conviction. Gerritsen seemingly refused to recognize the FCC order to stay off the air and continued to operate without a license until he was arrested on the Federal charges for which he's now headed off to jail.

—Amateur Radio Newslines, Report 1519, Sept. 22, 2006

TWO RADIO AMATEURS DIE DURING MOBILE HIDDEN TRANSMITTER HUNT

Two ARRL members from California are dead after the vehicle in which they were riding during a mobile hidden transmitter hunt May 27 went over a cliff in rugged terrain near Lake Isabella in Kern County. They were identified as Michael G. Obermeier, K6SNE, of Anaheim, and David A. Gordon-Ross, N6IDF, of Yucaipa. Obermeier, an ARRL Official Observer in Orange County, was 46. Gordon-Ross was 35.

"Mike and Dave were some of the best T-hunters in the biz," said Scott Press, N6SAP, calling both "true assets to this hobby." In his role as an OO, Obermeier reportedly had participated in the infamous Jack Gerritsen radio jamming case in the Los Angeles area.

According to media accounts, a Kern County Sheriff's Department search-and-rescue team located the victims early Monday, May 29. Obermeier was driving the 1991 4-wheel-drive Jeep Cherokee that apparently went out of control

on Cook Peak Road while the pair was proceeding to the next hidden transmitter site. After caroming off a rock wall, the vehicle crossed the road and plunged down a 900-foot cliff. They were reported missing after failing to check in with T-hunt organizers.

Greg Pitta, KF6DBJ, reports Obermeier and Gordon-Ross were on a half-day multiple-transmitter T-hunt. "Both K6SNE and N6IDF were expert transmitter hunters, each with hundreds of hunts completed, ranking with top scores in most," he said.

ARRL Amateur Radio Direction Finding (ARDF) Coordinator Joe Moell, K0OV, knew both men. He notes that Obermeier had suffered a sports-related spinal cord injury that left him a paraplegic. "He did all the adaptive work on his vehicles, of which he had quite a few that he used over time for RDF," Moell said. Despite his physical limitations, Obermeier also enjoyed foxhunting from his

wheel chair.

Moell says Gordon-Ross had been a proficient mobile T-hunter for many years. He took a brief hiatus after his first child was born in April 2005 (his wife, Melanie, is KF6GWV), but he recently became active again.

According to Moell, the mobile transmitter hunts take place on the fourth Saturday of each month on 2-meter FM simplex, starting out from a hilltop in Rancho Palos Verdes. He says it's not uncommon for the main hidden transmitter to be hundreds of miles away—175 highway miles in this instance.

The 147.435 Amateur Radio Repeater System is collecting donations to help Melanie Gordon-Ross, a stay-at-home mom. It also will donate all proceeds from its 16th annual 435 Chili Cook-off June 10. Visit the 147.435 Web site <<http://www.435online.com/>> for additional information.

—The ARRL Letter Online, Volume 25, Number 22, June 2, 2006