



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

HPARC FEBRUARY CALENDAR

- | | |
|---|--------------------------------|
| 2 — GROUNDHOG DAY | 22 — Washington's Birthday |
| 4 — Super Bowl Sunday | 22 — Elkin Hamfest |
| 5 — HPARC Club Meeting | 25 — HPARC Newsletter Deadline |
| 8 — Boy Scout's Day | 25-26 — NC QSO Party |
| 10-11 — CQ Worldwide RTTY WPX Contest | |
| 12 — Lincoln's Birthday | |
| 14 — VALENTINE'S DAY | |
| 17-18 — ARRL International DX Contest, CW | |
| 18 — Richmond, VA Frostfest | |
| 19 — PRESIDENT'S DAY | |

BIRTHDAYS

- Robert Williams — February 2
 Mark McMahan — February 7
 David Montgomery — February 27

2007 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.**

FEBRUARY 2007

HPARC NEWSLETTER

High Point Amateur Radio Club



FEBRUARY MEETING

There will be no program for February.

The HPARC will be meeting at the Golden Corral for the February meeting. As many of

you already know, the Golden Corral has changed its menu and eliminated grill orders. This has not been well received by many members. The issue of

changing restaurants for our meetings will be an item of business at our business meeting.

Hope everyone is well. See you at the meeting.

FCC SUSPENDS VANITY CALL PROCESSING

The FCC is still processing its backlog of vanity call sign renewal applications, but only those it received prior to December 18th. It also continues to accept new vanity call sign applications but these will not be processed until software changes made in accordance with the recent rule making have been fully implemented.

According to the ARRL, the suspension is a result of a rule change that went into effect December 15th. It affects only new vanity call sign applications submitted on or after previously noted December 18th date with the purpose being to discourage the filing of multiple applications by one individual for the same call sign.

The FCC says that when it

resumes processing new vanity applications, it will handle pending applications consistent with the date order in which they were received.

The FCC says that it typically takes 18 days from the time it receives a vanity application until the call sign is issued, or the application is denied.

—Amateur Radio Newsline, Report 1536, Jan. 19, 2007

IT'S OFFICIAL! MORSE CODE REQUIREMENT ENDS FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 23

Circle Friday, February 23, on your calendar. That's when the current 5 WPM Morse code requirement will officially disappear from the Amateur Radio Service Part 97 rules. Effective that date, applicants for a General or Amateur Extra class Amateur Radio license no longer will have to demonstrate proficiency in Morse code. They'll just have to pass the applicable

written examination.

The new rules also mean that starting February 23 all Technician licensees, whether or not they've passed a Morse code examination, will have CW privileges on 80, 40 and 15 meters and CW, RTTY, data and SSB privileges on 10 meters. Once the new rules go into effect Technicians may begin using their new privileges without any

further action.

An applicant holding a valid

Morse Code continued inside...

**HPARC Meeting
February 5, 2007
at Golden Corral,
Hartley Drive,
Oak Hollow Mall**

ELKIN HAMFEST ON AGAIN!

The Elkin Hamfest will be Sunday February 22, 2004 8:00 a.m. It will be held at the Elkin recreation center gym located on NC Hwy 268 west going out of Elkin toward Wilkesboro just before Henderson & Wood Chevy Dodge dealership.

\$5.00 admission.

\$5.00 for a selling table.

All proceeds go to The Foothills Food Pantry of Surry County.

A VE team is already in a place for testing.

Talk in is 145.370- (94.8 Hz

PL Tone).

Some contacts are:

Drew Poindexter AD4T, ad4t@triad.rr.net

Larry Macemore K4LJM, k4ljm@earthlink.net

Mike Finney W4YDK, w4ydk@wmconnect.com

BECOMING AWARE OF THE SOUTH CONTINENT

The United Kingdom's North Wakefield Radio Club will be running special event station GB0WAP between February 19th to the 25th. This, to raise awareness about

Antarctica.

This will be the only Worldwide Antarctic Program station running from Britain. For award chasers, the station will have the unique reference

of W-A-P zone 72. More information can be found on the world-wide-web at www.ddxc.net/wap/

—Amateur Radio Newsline, Report 1535, Jan. 12, 2007

PAY PHONES - AN ENDANGERED SPECIES

The old pay telephone on your corner could soon be a remnant of an era gone by. This as rising cell phone use along with vandalism and neglect taking their toll.

According to an estimate by the American Public

Communications Council, nationwide, the number of pay phones has dropped by half to approximately 1 million over the last nine years,. This worries consumer activists and advocates for the poor. Both groups have protested the

drop in numbers saying that public pay phones are necessary in emergencies and represent a lifeline for those who can't afford a cell phone or even a landline.

—Amateur Radio Newsline, Report 1527, Nov. 17, 2006

2007 NC QSO PARTY

The 2007 NC QSO Party will take place February 25 17:00 UTC until February 26 03:00 UTC (10 hours).

OBJECT: Out of State stations work as many NC stations as you can. You may work stations once per each band/mode combination for QSO points. Work NC mobiles again as they change counties for QSO points. NC fixed stations work as many NC counties, States, Canadian provinces and DXCC countries as you can. NC mobile stations

work from as many NC counties to as many NC counties, States, Canadian provinces and DXCC countries as possible.

EXCHANGE: Callsign, QTH (NC county, State, Canadian province or DXCC country)—Be sure to stick to the official county abbreviations.

LOGGING: Logs must be kept showing Sent UTC, Band, Mode, Sent County/QTH, Call worked, Received County/QTH, Points and New Multiplier #.

AWARD CATEGORIES:

Plaques will be given for first place in nine categories. Certificates will be issued to state/regional winners, and 2nd/3rd place.

LOGS: Logs and summary sheets must be postmarked by April 1, 2007 to NC QSO PARTY c/o Henry Heidtmann W2DZO, 8812 Merry Hill Court, Clemmons, NC 27012. Results will be posted on the FARC website by May 15. For more information, visit the Forsyth ARC at www.w4nc.com.

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).

...*Morse Code continued from cover*
Certificate of Successful Completion of Examination (CSCE) for Element 3 (General) or Element 4 (Amateur Extra) credit may redeem it for an upgrade at a Volunteer Examiner Coordinator (VEC) exam ses-

sion. A CSCE is good for 365 days from the date of issuance, no exceptions.

ARRL Regulatory Information Specialist Dan Henderson, N1ND, advises all radio Amateurs to know and fully understand their operating privileges before taking to

the airwaves. Some Technician licensees reportedly started showing up on 75 meters December 15 in the mistaken belief that they had gained phone privileges there.

—The ARRL Letter Online, Volume 26, Number 4, January 26, 2007

SCIENTISTS SAY THE NEXT SOLAR CYCLE COULD SET RECORDS

Evidence is mounting: the next solar cycle is going to be a big one. This according to the December, 21st edition of NASA News that says that their forecast is based on historical records of geomagnetic storms.

Solar physicist David Hathaway of the Marshall Space Flight Center says that solar cycle 24, due to peak in 2010 or 2011 looks like its going to be a big one. In fact he predicts that it will be of the most intense since record-

keeping began almost 400 years ago.

Hathaway explains in laymen's terms that when a gust of solar wind hits Earth's magnetic field, the impact causes the magnetic field to vibrate or shake. If it shakes hard enough, we call it a geomagnetic storm. And in the extreme, these storms cause power outages and can make compass needles swing in the wrong direction. It also produces Auroras that Hathaway calls a beautiful side-effect.

Hathaway and Wilson presented their conclusion earlier this month at the American Geophysical Union meeting in San Francisco. According to their analysis, the next Solar Maximum should peak around 2010 with a sunspot number of 160 plus or minus 25. This would make it one of the strongest solar cycles of the past fifty year—which is to say—one of the strongest in recorded history.

—Amateur Radio Newsline, Report 1533, Dec. 29, 2006

SPRATLY ISLANDS COMING ON IN MARCH

The highly prized Spratly Islands should come to the air in 2007. This, according to Tex Izumo, 9M2TO, and quoted in several DX newsletters.

Izumo says that the "Project 2007 Spratly Island 9M0 Dxpedition" now has the call-sign 9M2SDX. It was issued

by the Malaysian Communication and Multimedia Commission for operation from Pulau Layang Island in the Spratly group between March 9th and the 19th.

Tex says that the operators will include members of the Malaysian Amateur Radio Transmitter's Society and a

group from Japan for a total of 20. They plan to have 2 to 4 stations up and running 24 hours a day on 160 through 6 meters, on CW, SSB, RTTY and some digital modes.

QSL via 9M2TO, by the bureau or direct.

—Amateur Radio Newsline, Report 1533, Dec. 29, 2006

2006 MOST WANTED SURVEY RESULTS ARE IN!

The DX Magazine has announced the results of its 2006 survey to determine its 100 Most Wanted Countries List.

From number 1 to number 10, the most sought after are Scarborough

Reef, Lakshadweep Island, North Korea, Yemen, Navassa Island, Glorioso Island, Bouvet Island, Desecheo Island, Marion Island and Heard Island.

The complete results of the

"2006 Most Wanted Countries" list in the January/February 2007 issue of "The DX Magazine." More is on-line at www.dxpub.com.

—Amateur Radio Newsline, Report 1536, Jan. 19, 2007