

APRIL 2007

HPARC NEWSLETTER

*High Point
Amateur Radio
Club*



APRIL MEETING

Remember that the HPARC is now meeting at Rosa Mae's Cafe. The HPARC voted at the last meeting to continue meeting at Rosa Mae's for the rest

of the year.

Richard Worden gave the program for the March meeting. Richard talked to us about the Big Brothers-Big Sisters

of High Point.

Now that we have a little quieter place for meetings, we hope to see more of you at the meeting. See you there.

HPARC MOVES TO ROSA MAE'S CAFE

At the February meeting, the HPARC voted to try Rosa Mae's Cafe for a meeting location. Golden Corral has changed their menu selection which inconvenienced many members. March was the first meeting for the HPARC to meet at Rosa Mae's. After discussion, it was decided to continue meeting there for the rest of the year.

Rosa Mae's has a fairly wide

selection of food items with daily specials listed up front as you enter the restaurant. We are meeting in the right corner of the restaurant. While the room does not have a way to close off the door, the area is plenty quiet enough to conduct a program and a business meeting.

Rosa Mae's Cafe address is listed as 1322 National Highway in Thomasville.

From the intersection of Westchester Drive and National Highway, it is located 2 miles on the right side of the road. If you are coming from Business I-85, take the exit back towards High Point and the restaurant will be .5 mile on your left.

Please mark our new meeting location and plan on attending a meeting. Hope to see you soon.

FIELD DAY 2007 OFFERS A LEARNING OPPORTUNITY FOR HF NEWCOMERS

Although Field Day 2007 is still more than three months away, many Ham Radio clubs and groups already have begun making plans for this year's event, Saturday and Sunday, June 23-24. Field Day has always been an ideal time for new Hams to become more proficient operators and for prospective licensees to get "bitten by the Amateur Radio

bug." That may be even more the case during Field Day 2007, as many Radio Amateurs gain new HF operating privileges because of the rule changes that went into effect February 23.

"This is an opportunity to get new or upgraded licensees on the air for some active mentoring and active learning," says ARRL Regulatory

Information Specialist Dan Henderson, N1ND. "Field Day

Field Day continued inside...

**HPARC Meeting
April 2, 2007
at Rosa Mae's Cafe,
1322 National Hwy,
Thomasville**

MINUTES OF THE MARCH MEETING

At 7:14 pm, Chris Horne opened the High Point Amateur Radio Club meeting at Rosa Mae's Cafe. There were 10 members and 3 visitors in attendance.

Richard Worden opened the meeting by speaking on the Big Brothers/Big Sisters program.

There was no old business.

New business:

Motion by Mark McMahan to hand out the minutes and the Treasurer's report from the last meeting to save reading them each month. Seconded by Rogers Albertson. Motion passed. Chris then read both

the minutes and Treasurer's report. Both approved as read.

The new meeting place was discussed. Motion by Mike Cumbo to move April's meeting to second Monday due to date conflict with restaurant. After finding there was no conflict with the first Monday in April, Mike withdrew his motion. Motion by Sam Hall to move future meetings to Rosa Mae's Cafe. Seconded by Mike Cumbo. Motion passed. Notify High Point Enterprise of change as well as changing on Web site.

Field Day was discussed. Will try for Mr. Moore's as site

for Field Day, and will use Rogers Albertson's place as a backup site in case of bad weather. Chris is to look into event insurance.

Mark McMahan made a motion to combine the Hamfest and club accounts as the Hamfest account is now below \$500. Seconded by Mike Cumbo. Motion passed.

New rosters were passed out.

Motion to adjourn by Mike Cumbo. Seconded by Warren Gallemore.

—Respectfully submitted

Mark McMahan, KB4MFP,
HPARC Secretary

CUSHCRAFT SOLD TO UK CONGLOMERATE

US antenna maker Cushcraft has been purchased by the United Kingdom-based Laird Group PLC. Laird is an electronics, security systems and distribution group that paid \$89 million dollars for the New Hampshire company that pro-

duces commercial antennas as well as some used by radio amateurs.

A press statement quotes Martin Rapp, CEO of Laird Technologies as saying that the combination of the two companies uniquely positions Laird

Technologies to grow the combined business in emerging markets of RFID and Wi Max related gear. The future of the Amateur Radio antenna line was not mentioned in the release.

—Amateur Radio Newsline,
Report 1543, March 9, 2007

CHANGE A BULB AND SAVE THE ENVIRONMENT

A new coalition is urging everyone to throw away incandescent light bulbs and go modern to help save the environment.

A coalition of private companies and government agencies is launching a grass-roots marketing campaign to persuade more Americans to help combat global warming by using Energy efficient light bulbs.

Backers of the 18 Seconds movement include the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the Department of Energy, U.S. mayors, retailers, religious organizations and conservation groups.

The campaign's goal is to increase awareness of energy-efficient light bulbs as a way to slow global climate change. Organizers say that If every

American swapped just one bulb, the country could save \$8 billion in energy costs and eliminate 2 million cars worth of greenhouse gas emissions. The campaigns name is based upon the average time it takes to remove an incandescent lamp and replace it with one that's more energy efficient.

—Amateur Radio Newsline,
Report 1544, March 16, 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 Rosa Mae's Cafe, 1322 National Highway, Thomasville. 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).

...Field Day continued from cover
2007 will be a chance to learn and grow, but above all, it will be a lot of fun — and for many there is perhaps nothing more fun in Ham Radio than ARRL Field Day.”

Henderson points out two small changes in the Field Day rules starting this year. First, participating stations may only complete one satellite contact for bonus points via a single-channel FM-mode spacecraft (Rule 7.3.7.1), and

it must be an Earth-satellite-Earth contact. “This will allow more stations to access this very limited resource,” he says.

Second, an individual Get-On-The-Air (GOTA) station operators will earn 20 points for each 20 contacts, up to a maximum of 100 per GOTA operator. Henderson notes that no partial point credit is available, and GOTA operators may not “pool” contacts toward any 20-QSO GOTA station

bonus.

“Field Day is truly the time where we bring Amateur Radio to Main Street USA — a great time for ‘the Bug’ to bite as many people as it can,” Henderson says. “Use Field Day 2007 to open up Amateur Radio to the next generation of Radio Amateurs on your Main Street! It’s up to us to make it happen.”

—The ARRL Letter Online,
Volume 26, Number 11,
March 16, 2007

PRB-1 BILL INTRODUCED IN NORTH CAROLINA!

Thanks to the efforts of Ham Hicks, KB4BR and Bill Morine, N2COP, Senator Julia Boseman (D-New Hanover) has introduced a bill that would ease antenna restrictions for Radio Amateurs.

The bill has been referred to the state senate’s Commerce, Small Business and

Entrepreneurship Committee. Ham hopes to have Representative Danny McComas (R-New Hanover) introduce a similar bill in the House.

The bill isn’t as broad as we would like and needs to be revised before it can receive our full support. But it’s a step

in the right direction to help North Carolina become the 23rd state to pass Amateur Radio antenna legislation!

Stay tuned...we’ll soon need you to help by asking your legislator to support this bill!

—February North Carolina
Section News

AGREEMENT ON DTV CONVERTERS

Some good news on the digital television front. A single standard for those set-top boxes that will let older analog sets display digital pictures.

In a rare alliance, the National Association of Broadcasters, the Association for Maximum Service Television and the Consumer Electronics Association have actually agreed on something. The three have filed joint comments with the National Telecommunications and Information Administration regarding the \$1.5 billion federal program under which consumers will get coupons for low-cost converter boxes that will display DTV programming

on their current analog sets.

The move was described as groundbreaking by members of both industries. This is particularly true since the comments include recommended receiver-performance standards for the digital-to-analog converter boxes. That is something the manufacturing community has opposed for full-fledged DTV sets.

Until now, broadcasters and consumer electronics manufacturers have often been at odds in regard to the total digitalization of broadcasting. But the two industries have now found common ground in the challenge of how an estimated 70 million sets will continue to

receive TV when analog broadcasts cease on Feb. 17,th of 2009. That’s the date that all television in the United States goes digital and analog is relegated to the scrap heap.

No word yet on what the converter boxes will actually sell for. Back a decade ago when digital television standards were still being developed, the target price was to be under \$100 each. Now, depending whose opinion you read, the cost per box could be anything from \$40 to well over \$500 each but the actual companies that will supply them have not yet set any pricing.

—Amateur Radio Newslines,
Report 1543, March 9, 2007



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

HPARC APRIL CALENDAR

- 1 — April Fool's Day
- 1 — Raleigh Hamfest
- 2 — HPARC Club Meeting
- 21 — Morganton, NC Hamfest
- 22 — EARTH DAY
- 29 — HPARC Newsletter Deadline
- 25 — Professional Secretaries Day
- 27 — National Arbor Day

BIRTHDAYS

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

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Breakfast
 every Saturday

—
 8:00 am

—
 Mrs. Winner's,
 South Main St.