

NOVEMBER 2007

HPARC NEWSLETTER

*High Point
Amateur Radio
Club*



NOVEMBER MEETING

No word on the program for the November meeting.

Van Denton, meteorologist with Fox 8 TV, was with us for the October meeting. Van always gives a very informative pro-

gram.

Normally, in accordance with the Club's bylaws, we announce officers the nominating committee has decided on for next year. As of this writing, the

nominating committee has yet to meet, therefore selection of officers will have to take place at the November meeting. Please be present.

See you at the meeting.

HOLLINGSWORTH TO STAY PUT AT FCC

Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH, Special Counsel for the FCC's Enforcement Bureau, has decided not to retire. He had announced last week that he would leave the FCC in January 2008.

Riley states, "After spending the entire weekend thinking about the decision [to retire], it became more and

more clear to me that it just isn't the right decision for me right now. There are several issues on the table that I want to continue to work through with the Amateur community."

The Enforcement Bureau is the primary organizational unit within the Federal Communications Commission

that is responsible for enforcement of provisions of the Communications Act, the Commission's rules, Commission orders and terms and conditions of station authorizations, as well as enforcement of Amateur Radio rules (Part 97).

—ARRL Bulletin 24,
October 30, 2007

CLOSE RANGE INVISIBILITY POSSIBLE

Call this one Star Trek come to life. Science Daily reports that a unique computer model designed by a mathematician at the University of Liverpool has shown that it is possible to make objects such as airplanes and submarines appear invisible at close range.

Until now, scientists could only make objects appear invisible from far away. Now, Liverpool mathematician Sebastien Guenneau, together with Dr Frederic Zolla and Professors Andre Nicolet from the University of Marseille,

using a specially designed computer model called GETDP have proven that objects can also be made to appear invisible from close range when light travels in waves rather than beams.

Scientists have already created an 'invisibility cloak' made out of something called metamaterial. Metamaterial is a creation that has the ability to bend electromagnetic radiation such as visible light, radar or microwaves around a spherical space. This makes an object within this region

appear invisible. They also say predict that invisibility will be possible for objects of any shape and size within the next decade. (Science Daily)

—Amateur Radio Newslines,
Report 1571, Sept 21, 2007

**HPARC Meeting
November 5, 2007
at Rosa Mae's Cafe,
1322 National Hwy,
Thomasville**

MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER MEETING

At 7:38 pm Chris Horne opened the meeting of the HPARC. There were 8 members and 10 visitors in attendance.

Van Denton, meteorologist with Fox-8, gave the program.

Written minutes and Treasurer's reports were handed out. Motion to accept as written by Mike Cumbo. Seconded by Sam Hall. Motion passed.

There was a mention of those sick. Updates on Roger Albertson's daughter and Sam Hall.

There was no old business.

New business:

Nominating committee was selected. Members include: Chris Horne, Rogers Albertson, Sam Hall, Lewis Denny, and Mike Walker.

Clyde Young mentioned he is selling his Ham equipment.

Clyde and Jo Young were presented as wanting to rejoin as members. Motion made to accept by Mike Cumbo and seconded by Mike Walker. Motion passed.

Reminder to tip waitress.

Motion to adjourn by Mike Cumbo. Seconded by Mike Walker.

—Respectfully submitted

Mark McMahan, KB4MFP,
HPARC Secretary

ANTARCTIC CRUISE AND DXPEDITION

F5PFP is organizing a four week Antarctic cruise and DXpedition for January 2009. The trip will start in Ushuaia with stops at King George, Nelson, Greenwich,

Livingstone, Deception and one or two more islands depending on sailing conditions. He is currently searching for five passengers who are preferably Amateur Radio

operators. If you are interested and for more details, send him an E-mail at f5pfp@aliceadsl.fr (F5PFP)

—Amateur Radio Newsline,
Report 1576, Oct 26, 2007

AMATEUR RADIO SERVICE NAMED VOLUNTEER GROUP OF THE YEAR BY MARINE CORPS MARATHON

On October 19, the Marine Corps Marathon announced that the Amateur Radio Service is its Volunteer Group of the Year in light of the 30 years of service and support Hams have provided for the annual event. Amateur Radio volunteers began assisting with the Marine Corps Marathon in 1978 and have provided essential, mission critical communications to the medical staff on race day. The Volunteer Group of the Year Award will be presented October 26 as part of a special ceremony.

"The Ham Radio Operators play a vital role in medical operations of the race. The knowledge and expertise of their dedicated volunteers enables the Marine Corps Marathon to provide all participants the highest level of emergency care and I am deeply appreciative of the Hams' continued support," said Rick Nealis, Director of the Marine Corps Marathon.

Initially, Ham Radio served as a simple means of communications at both aid stations and mile markers. In the early 1990s, this support expanded

to include digital communications with the aid stations and tracking of the pace car. Eventually, the aid station support evolved to automated digital communications that includes 115 Ham operations located at mile markers, water points, aid stations, two finish area medical locations and as shadows to the division commanders. More than 100 Amateur Radio operators volunteer for the Marine Corps Marathon.

—The ARRL Letter Online,
Volume 26, Number 43,
October 26, 2001

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).

METAL THEFT AFFECTS RADIO AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS

Wire and metal theft is growing nationwide and its impact is hitting the communications industry hard.

Whether it be copper radials, stainless steel beer kegs or even iron manhole covers, metal thieves continue in their quest to profit from valuable metals being sought by unscrupulous recyclers. In some instances items such as air-conditioning units, power cables, catalytic converters, light poles or aluminum bleacher seats have disappeared only to find their way to a recycling plant that pays cash and does not ask for proof the material is not stolen.

On several occasions this month, thieves dug up hundreds of feet of underground copper cable used to illuminate ball fields in suburban Maryland. This forced the organizers of a youth baseball tournament to reschedule a half-dozen games. But hardest hit seem to be remote radio locations where its easy to cut away and run off with coax, hardline and even tower sections.

In some cases, thieves have put themselves in great danger by stealing live electrical wires from buildings. A 41-year-old man was electrocuted this month in a vacant building in

Pasadena, California. A 47-year-old man was killed while stripping wire from a Washington D.C. school last year.

In all, about two dozen people have been killed across the country in the past 12 months while trying to steal metals. Some states and local governments are tightening ordinances to discourage the practice by holding recycling companies accountable. Even so, the thefts continue to satisfy their need for raw materials needed by some emerging nations around the world.

—Amateur Radio Newslines,
Report 1565, Aug. 10, 2007

NEW ARISS ANTENNAS INSTALLED ON COLUMBUS

Two Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) antennas have been installed on the nadir side of the new International Space Station's Columbus module, set to launch later this year. On October 12, the antennas successfully passed electrical and SWR tests, with one of the two antennas, Antenna 42, going through a final test -- a thermal test under vacuum. Based on modeling, engineers have no fear the antenna will pass with flying colors. Columbus will house an additional Amateur Radio station, including the first digital Amateur Radio TV (DATV) station in space, as well as a Ham Radio transponder. The yet-to-be-built Columbus Amateur gear will facilitate operation on new frequencies that will make it possible for ARISS to establish wideband

and video operations for the first time and allow continuous transponder operation. Video from the installation and inspection is available at the Columbus Web site <<http://www.ariss-eu.org/columbus.htm>>

At the ARISS International conference last year in San Francisco, Graham Shirville, G3VZV, speaking on behalf of ARISS-Europe, outlined plans for a mode L/S Ham Radio transponder as well as a DATV downlink on S1 band (2.4 GHz). "So, future ARISS contacts could have pictures as well as sound," Shirville told the delegates. ARISS-Europe is looking at a 10 W transmitter and a signal bandwidth of from 4 to 8 MHz. Since the Columbus module will be some distance from the other two ARISS stations, parallel operation will be possible.

Funding to finish and install Ham Radio antennas on the European Space Agency (ESA)-built laboratory module has been uncertain, however. ARISS Vice Chairman Gaston Bertels, ON4WF, says donations from various sources covered a payment of 9000 Euros (approximately \$12,000) in March. A second payment is due this fall. Donations already have come in from the ARRL Foundation, AMSAT-NA and AMSAT-UK, among other organizations, as well as from many individual donors. According to Bertels, there is still a funding shortfall of 15,000 Euros (approximately \$21,000 USD). To help out, PayPal donations are being accepted (access the PayPal site via the Columbus Web page).

—The ARRL Letter Online,
Volume 26, Number 43,
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High Point Amateur Radio Club
PO Box 4941
High Point, NC 27263

HPARC NOVEMBER CALENDAR

- 3-4 — ARRL November Sweepstakes, CW
- 4 — Daylight Savings Time ends (move clocks back one hour)
- 5 — HPARC Club Meeting
- 7 — Election Day
- 10 — Marine Corps Day
- 11 — VETERAN'S DAY
- 17-18 — ARRL November Sweepstakes, phone
- 18 — Benson, NC Hamfest
- 22 — THANKSGIVING
- 23-25 — CQ Worldwide Contest, CW

BIRTHDAYS

- Tony Davis — November 5
- Bobbie Bell — November 18

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.**