

JANUARY 2008

# HPARC NEWSLETTER

*High Point  
Amateur Radio  
Club*



## JANUARY MEETING

There is no planned program for the January meeting.

December was our annual Christmas meeting and Bingo. Business was brief which included voting on officers. Then onto the games and Bingo prizes. Hope everyone had fun.

New rosters have been emailed to club members. However, I know there will be corrections to the roster. The

database for the HPARC members was corrupt and had to be rebuilt from a 2005 backup. As a result, I know of at least a couple of members who were inadvertently left out of the roster as well as the Christmas Day Roll Call. My apologies. As soon as everyone has a chance to look over the printed copies of the roster and let me know of changes, I will email members corrected

rosters so they can have them on hand for the future.

Sarah Spagnola, a senior at Ledford High, has passed her license. She is now KJ4ANW. Sarah picked Amateur Radio as her senior project and enlisted the help of Sam Hall as her mentor. If you hear her on the repeater, welcome and congratulate her.

Hope to see you all at the meeting.

## UPGRADE YOUR NOVICE, TECHNICIAN, OR TECHNICIAN PLUS LICENSE!

The Greensboro Amateur Radio Association is sponsoring a FREE class in cooperation with Guilford County Emergency Services to any existing Amateur Radio Operator wanting to upgrade their privileges to General Class. The

class will be held on Tuesdays and Thursdays in February from 7:00 pm to 10:00 pm at Guilford County Emergency Services in Greensboro. For more information please e-mail Chris Thompson, K4HC, at [k4hc@triad.rr.com](mailto:k4hc@triad.rr.com). The

classroom training is free, but Amateurs will need to purchase their own ARRL study guide available from the ARRL or [amazon.com](http://amazon.com). A testing session will follow at the end of the class for those wanting to upgrade their privileges.

## STRAIGHT KEY NIGHT JANUARY 1

AMSAT, The Amateur Radio Satellite Corporation, invites you to participate in Straight Key Night on OSCAR 2008. Participating in OSCAR Straight Key Night is fun and simple – there is no scoring and no need to send in a log. Just operate CW through any OSCAR — using a straight

hand key — at any time between 0000 and 2400 UTC on January 1, 2008. In keeping with the friendly nature of this event, all participants are encouraged to nominate someone they worked for “Best Fist.” Your nominee need not have the best fist you heard, just the best of those you worked.

**HPARC Meeting  
January 7, 2008  
at Rosa Mae's Cafe,  
1322 National Hwy,  
Thomasville**

# MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER MEETING

At 7:24 pm Chris Horne opened the meeting of the HPARC. There were 9 members and 5 visitors in attendance.

There was a roll call of members.

Written minutes and Treasurer's reports were handed out and read by Chris. Motion to accept as written by Roland Wright. Seconded by Sam Hall. Motion passed.

There was a mention of those sick. Mention made of Scott Carmichael; Roland's wife, Marion; and Rogers' daughter, Kim.

Mike Cumbo has a list of items from Rogers Albertson's estate.

Mark McMahan presented a new tradition, a Silent Key

Memorial. Chris read the names of past Silent Keys.

Jason Cox has moved the HPARC web site to North State's servers as well as updated the HPARC web site. The new url is [www.w4ua.org](http://www.w4ua.org).

There was no old business.

New business:

Ben Rogers was asked and accepted to serve as control operator for Christmas Day Roll Call.

Officer election: Ben Rogers made a motion to accept officers as was presented. Seconded by Mike Walker. Motion passed.

New members were presented to the club. Richard Skinner, AB4FV, is a previous HPARC member rejoining. Jason Cox, WJ4COX, works

with Chris Horne. Ben Rogers made a motion to accept these as new members. Seconded by Sam Hall. Passed by majority.

Sam Hall made a motion that the club sell the Hammarlund HQ170A that Rogers Albertson had been keeping for the club. Seconded by Ben Rogers. Motion passed. Mike Cumbo is to take the receiver to the Richmond, VA hamfest.

The program was the annual Christmas Bingo party.

Reminder to tip waitress.

Motion to adjourn by Mark McMahan. Seconded by Mike Walker.

—Respectfully submitted

Mark McMahan, KB4MFP,  
HPARC Secretary

## CHRISTMAS DAY ROLL CALL 2007

Ben Rogers was our net control for the HPARC 2007 Christmas Day Roll Call. Roll Call is a HPARC tradition of calling the list of club members on Christmas Day starting at

8:00 am. 2007 marks the 26th year for this tradition.

Ben reports 13 members for the roll call. Christmas Day Roll Call was started by Fred Browning in 1982 and later

continued by Rogers Albertson. Both became silent keys this year.

Thanks, Ben, for the great job as control operator this year.

## HPARC WEB SITE UPDATED

The HPARC web site has been updated and moved to a faster server with North State Communications thanks to Jason Cox. Jason has updated

and added some new items to the HPARC site complete with maps, callsign lookup and new links. The old url will redirect you to the new site, but you

need to change your bookmarks as the new url to the HPARC web site is: [www.w4ua.org](http://www.w4ua.org). Check it out and send your comments to Jason Cox.

## NEW MEMBERS

We added a few new members at the December meeting. Welcome back Richard Skinner, AB4FV, who is a for-

mer HPARC member.

Jason Cox, WJ4COX, works with Chris Horne and has taken over updating the web

page for the HPARC.

Welcome these and the others who have joined over the last few months.

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.

# SILENT KEY MEMORIAL

At the December meeting we started what we hope to become a HPARC tradition: the Silent Key Memorial. The display was simple: a solitary key to represent our club members that are no longer with us and a lit candle to show they are still in our hearts and mind.

Silent key refers to an Amateur Radio operator who is deceased. The term is fre-

quently abbreviated SK. The key in the term refers to a telegraph key, the instrument that all early Amateur Radio operators, as well as many contemporary Amateur Radio operators, have used to send Morse code. The term SK is used to refer to any Amateur Radio operator who is deceased, regardless of whether or not they were known to have actively used a

telegraph key or Morse code in their two-way personal communications.

When transmitted as two Morse code characters without separating audio delay, SK is a Morse code prosign meaning "end of communications", from the phrase "Stop Keying".

The following names are members and friends that were honored at the Silent Key Memorial in December.

Jim G. Kerr, W4UA  
John Bivens, W4AEW  
Howard Grant, K4TYW  
George Marshall, WQ4K, 1987  
J.B. Lawing, WA4WCL, 1990  
Herman Hall, W4MDE, 1991  
Gerald Roadhouse, WB4GPH, 1991  
Phil Wicker, W4ACY, 1992  
Homer Suggs, N4MHX, 1993  
Larry Robbins, WE4A, 1993  
Lomer L McMahan, WA4RIS, 1993  
Ray Shackelford, N4JRO, 1995  
Ray Embry, KA4WOW, 1995  
Tom Ellis, WA4CBC, 1995  
Paul Eisele, WB4AEE, 1996  
Clayton Hayworth, KB4TSQ, 1996  
Adam Stein III, N1CVG, 1996  
Homer Hammonds, K4GLY, 1996  
Steve McMahan, WB4ZOS, 1996  
Curtis Bell, N5LCC, 1997

Jim Floyd, K4ZAM, 1999  
Worth "Splick" Russell, WA4DDB, 1999  
Earl Grant, WD4MDE, 2000  
Edwin Peatross, KB4VGO, 2000  
Myron Buser, KQ4ZA, 2000  
Wayne Williams, K4MOB, 2002  
Ben Lewallen, N4OCS, 2003  
Lee Groomes, W4YPV, 2003  
Roy Neal, K6DUE, 2003  
Mires Zett, W4TU, 2003  
Bobby Williams, K4OJT, 2004  
Chet Gwyer, WN4IMZ, 2004  
Ray Huff, NC4RH, 2005  
Don Way, NS4L, 2005  
Jim Williamson, 2005  
Monroe Kennedy, WB4VKK, 2005  
Yancey Cecil, KD4WG, 2006  
Fred Browning, W1HLP, 2007  
Rogers Albertson, WA4BPL, 2007

## NO ONE VOTED IN UNANIMOUSLY

Speaking of traditions, have you ever noticed that when the HPARC votes on new members, there is always one in the crowd who votes in the negative? It is a tradition that goes back to Lomer McMahan.

Lomer never held office in the HPARC but was on the HPARC

Board as membership chairman. As membership chairman, it was his duty to present new members to the HPARC for consideration.

Lomer would present the prospective person to the HPARC for membership. When it came time for the vote on the new member, Lomer

always voted "nay" with a wicked grin on his face.

Lomer became a silent key in 1993. On the first vote of a new member after Lomer's passing, there were several nay votes. And so it has been to this day, no gets voted into the HPARC unanimously. It's a tradition.

## 2008 OFFICERS ELECTED

At the December meeting, new officers for the year 2008 were elected. They are:

Chris Horne, W4CKH, President;  
Sam Hall, K4AME, Vice-

president;  
Mark McMahan, KB4MFP, Secretary/Treasurer.



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

## HPARC JANUARY CALENDAR

- 1 — NEW YEAR'S DAY
- 1 — ARRL Straight Key Night
- 5-6 — ARRL RTTY Roundup
- 6 — ARRL Kid's Day
- 7 — HPARC Club Meeting
- 12 — Winston Salem Firstfest
- 19-20 — ARRL January VHF Sweepstakes
- 21 — MARTIN L. KING JR BIRTHDAY  
(observed)
- 27 — HPARC Newsletter Deadline

**BIRTHDAYS**  
 Ric Marshall — January 12

### 2008 HPARC OFFICERS

Chris Horne, W4CKH — President — 869-1295 — [chorne@nscom.com](mailto:chorne@nscom.com)  
 Sam Hall, K4AME — Vice-president — 431-8940 — [k4ame@arrl.net](mailto:k4ame@arrl.net)  
 Mark McMahan, KB4MFP — Secretary — 887-3039 — [kb4mfp@arrl.net](mailto:kb4mfp@arrl.net)  
 Mark McMahan, KB4MFP — Treasurer — 887-3039 — [kb4mfp@arrl.net](mailto:kb4mfp@arrl.net)

Newsletter Editor — Mark McMahan — 887-3039  
 (e-mail — [kb4mfp@arrl.net](mailto:kb4mfp@arrl.net))

HPARC Web page: <http://www.w4ua.org> • [w4ua@qsl.net](mailto:w4ua@qsl.net)

**Breakfast**  
**every Saturday**

—  
**8:00 am**  
 —

**Mrs. Winner's,**  
**South Main St.**