

APRIL 2008

HPARC NEWSLETTER

High Point Amateur Radio Club



APRIL MEETING

Chris Horne will give our program for the April meeting.

Last month we had Burt Vanderclute, N4ERM, give a program on Mobile HF CW.

This was a very interesting presentation with Burt showing us his many CW keys he made himself from parts laying around the Ham shack.

We have been having good attendance and a few visitors at the meeting. Bring a friend, and we will see you at the meeting.

GLORIOSO ISLANDS TO ACTIVATE IN MAY

One of the most sought after DX entities may soon be on the air. This with word that a French group that has been trying to get a permit to activate Glorioso Island for several months has finally received the necessary landing permit.

If all goes well, the five oper-

ators hope to bring Glorioso to the Ham Radio airwaves in early May. Dates being talked about are May 5th to the 9th, but at airtime nothing is cast in concrete. They are currently looking for sponsors, and if you would like to help please contact F5OGL.

Presently, Glorioso is ranked

4th in "DX Magazine's 2007 Most Wanted Countries World-Wide" in the mixed modes. Once there the team plans to have 3 or 4 stations on the air to help fill the need for QSO with this rather rare location.

—Amateur Radio Newline
Report 1597 -
March 21, 2008

FCC SAYS NO TO MORSE RECONSIDERATION REQUESTS

The FCC has said no to a pair of proposals that had asked for the restoration of Morse testing for a qualification to become and hold a United States Amateur Radio license. In a Memorandum Opinion and Order released February 28th, the FCC denied two petitions calling for General or Amateur Extra license applicants to demonstrate proficiency in Morse code.

In the wake of the FCC's actions to do away with Morse testing, two Amateurs submitted separate petitions asking the agency to bring back Morse test-

ing. Anthony Gordon, KG6EQM, objected to the FCC eliminating the telegraphy examination element as an examination requirement for the Amateur Extra Class operator license. Russell Ward, W4NI, requested the FCC reconsider its decision for strictly procedural reasons.

In denying both requests the FCC reiterated its prior conclusion that an individual's ability to demonstrate Morse code proficiency does not further the underlying purposes of the Part 97 rules. It appears to be of the opinion that Morse does not accommodate individual contri-

butions to the advancement of the radio art and to enhance the value of the Amateur service to the public.

In December 2006, the FCC decided to drop the Morse code requirement for all Amateur

FCC Say No continued inside...

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

MINUTES OF THE MARCH MEETING

At 7:20 pm Chris Horne opened the meeting of the HPARC. There were 14 members and 3 visitors in attendance.

There was a roll call of members.

There was a mention of those sick.

Written minutes and Treasurer's reports were handed out. Motion to accept as written by Mark McMahan. Seconded by Warren

Gallemore. Motion passed.

There was no old business.

New business: Jason Cox brought up that the HPARC's meeting date conflicts with the ARES meeting date. Jason asked the club to look over calendars, think about changing the club's meeting date and come back to this next month.

Chris Horne will ask Mr. Moore about getting his place for Field Day again this year.

Burt Vanderclute, N4ERM, gave the program on Mobile HF CW. He showed us many CW keys he had made himself out of inexpensive parts around the house and Ham shack.

Reminder to tip waitress.

Motion to adjourn by Roland Wright. Seconded by Mark McMahan.

—Respectfully submitted

Mark McMahan, KB4MFP,
HPARC Secretary

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

We have all heard the phrase "know your priorities" and some of us are better at that than others. So let us pause to remember how priorities fit into Ham Radio by reviewing the Amateur's Code written by Paul M. Segal, W9EEA, in 1928.

The six tenets of the code start with being "Considerate". The Ham never knowingly operates in such a way as to lessen the pleasure of others.

Secondly, "Loyalty"— the Ham offers loyalty, encourage-

ment and support to other Amateurs, local clubs, and the American Radio Relay League, through which Amateur Radio in the United States is represented nationally and internationally.

Thirdly, is being "Progressive" as with knowledge abreast of science, a well-built and efficient station and operation above reproach.

Next the Ham is to be "Friendly". She is slow and patient when operating when requested and has friendly

advice and counsel.

Next is "Balanced" – Ham Radio is a hobby not a vocation and should not interfere with duties owed to family, job, school or community.

Finally "Patriotic" meaning the station and skill always ready for service to country and community.

These are the hallmarks of the Amateur spirit. As we reflect upon them they provide ethics, guidance and a path for managing our priorities.

—73's Chris Horne, W4CKH

THAT NEW MOUNTAIN DEW COMMERCIAL

Ham Radio is portrayed in a strange but fun way in a new commercial for the soft drink Diet Mountain Dew. Actually the spot is a kind of battle of the sexes with the claim being that lightning hits men more often than it does women. In it, you see a bunch of YL's involved variety of activities

that experts say should not be attempted in a thunder storm. This includes fencing and operating a Ham Radio station Field Day style as lightning flashes and thunder roars.

We won't spoil the outcome of this adventure for you by describing what happens next. We do however wonder if the

producers went to eBay to get their props because they sure have some magnificent vintage tube type gear for their YL Ham to use. You can see the commercial on-line at YouTube.

—Amateur Radio Newline
Report 1597 -
March 21, 2008

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.

...FCC Says No continued from cover
Radio license classes. At the time the commission decided to drop the Morse Code exam, it said knowing Morse is not necessarily indicative of an individual's ability to contribute to the

advancement of Ham Radio. The agency also said emergency communication today is performed using voice, data or video modes. The agency claims that all of these are much faster than telegraphy.

The FCC said it received roughly 100 comments on the reconsideration request. It says that most were overwhelmingly negative.

—Amateur Radio Newline
Report 1595 - Mar. 7, 2008

FOR SALE

Clyde Young is selling some Ham equipment. He has the following for sale:
60 foot of tower — \$300.00
Kenwood 440 — \$800.00
Moaley TA-33 Jr. Tribander — \$150.000
Rotor & Control — \$50.00

Gin Pole — \$25.00
Miscellaneous hardware — \$25.00
Miscellaneous other — \$50.00
Other Tribander Parts — \$25.00

If interested, contact Clyde at 431-6347.

UK MAN STEALS TO BUY RADIOS

The Halifax Evening Courier reports that a 56-year-old man in the United Kingdom admitted to stealing the equivalent of almost \$30,000 from his 71 year old partner and spending it all on receivers.

The newspaper says that the Copley, Halifax man was

accused of forging his partners signature on checks made out to himself while she was a resident in a nursing home. He reportedly used the money to purchase radios with which he surrounded himself often had them all on at once.

Police found about 50 wireless sets in his house. The

defense said he had suffered from an obsessive compulsive disorder for 30 years.

The next time your XYL gives you a bad time over your transceiver and antenna tuner, just tell her about this guy and how lucky she really is.

—Amateur Radio Newline
Report 1594 - Feb. 29, 2008

TORNADOS SWEEP THROUGH DOWNTOWN ATLANTA

When tornados swept through Georgia, Amateur Radio operators were on hand to assist where needed. On Friday, March 14, an EF-2 tornado touched down in downtown Atlanta at 9:38 PM (local time). (An EF-2 tornado has wind speeds from 111-135 MPH.) The National Weather Service said the twister was 6 miles long and 200 yards wide.

Grady Memorial Hospital, the major trauma center for the Atlanta metro area, had its 100 foot tall communications tower blown off the hospital roof, disabling communications with emergency medical personnel.

ARRL Georgia Section Traffic Manager Charles Pennington, K4GK, served as Net Manager during the storms: "After sev-

eral hours of recovery and damage assessment, it became obvious that while Atlanta had received major damage to downtown area, there were no fatalities reported and amazingly only 21 persons were treated for injuries." Two fatalities were reported in northwest Georgia.

In Effingham County, near Savannah on Georgia's coastline, Swiderski said a tornado "took down six power towers during the annual St Patrick's Day celebrations," thrusting the community into "total blackout conditions."

"A local 2 meter SKYWARN net, with Greg Tillman, N4VAD, serving as NCS, provided a vital link with the staff at Memorial University Medical

Center in Savannah. Dr Ra Meguiar, N4RVM, a physician and senior hospital administrator, later sent a letter of appreciation in recognition of the local Hams 'for staying with us through the weather and the power outage.' He said that this was his first experience in participating in a severe weather net and the 'support was invaluable,'" Swiderski said.

"In some of the counties, this event was a true 'baptism under fire' for brand new Emergency Coordinators," Swiderski said. "I'm pleased to say that they all conducted themselves and all of the challenges admirably."

—The ARRL Letter Online,
Volume 27, Number 11,
March 20, 2008



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

HPARC APRIL CALENDAR

- 1 — April Fool's Day
- 6 — Kinston, NC Hamfest
- 7 — HPARC Club Meeting
- 7-13 — HP Furniture Market
- 12 — Raleigh Hamfest
- 19 — Morganton, NC Hamfest
- 22 — EARTH DAY
- 23 — Administrative Professionals' Day
- 25 — National Arbor Day
- 27 — HPARC Newsletter Deadline

BIRTHDAYS
 Sam Hall — April 21

2008 HPARC OFFICERS

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Breakfast
every Saturday
 —
8:00 am
 —
Mrs. Winner's,
South Main St.