

HPARC NEWSLETTER

*High Point
Amateur Radio
Club*



MAY MEETING

The program for May meeting is Security Systems for Home or Office. Mel Lohr, owner of Protection Systems, Inc. has been installing burglar alarms, fire alarms, and access control systems in the Triad

area since 1970. Mr. Lohr will make a short presentation on security systems including information on the use of radios for communications.

Chris Horne gave the program for the April meeting.

Chris spoke on the Amateur Code of Ethics, current repeater and his recent trip to the National Radio Astronomy observatory.

Hope to see everyone at the meeting.

RULES CHANGES FOR FIELD DAY 2008

Three major changes have been announced in the rules for this year's ARRL Field Day.

First is that the Demonstration Mode bonuses have been replaced by an Educational Activities bonus.

Second, The Get On The Air or GOTA station may now also

operate on the VHF bands but only one band at a time.

Lastly, a newly licensed Amateur who has received his or her ticket since Field Day 2007 may operate the GOTA station regardless of license class, but this does not apply to upgrades. The League says that

an upgrade is not the same as a new license.

Field Day 2008 runs from 1800 UTC on June 28th to 2100 UTC on June 29th. The complete rules are on the ARRL's website.

—Amateur Radio Newsline,
Report 1602, April 25, 2008

SHELBY HAMFEST TO CHANGE SITES

The Shelby Amateur Radio Club will hold the 52nd Annual Shelby Hamfest at Biggerstaff Park also called Gaston County Park in Dallas, North Carolina instead of the Cleveland County Fairgrounds closer to Shelby.

The separation stems from earlier contract disputes between the club and Cleveland County Fair Association. The radio club thought the fair association's contract changes were unacceptable, leading to a stalemate. It didn't take long for Gaston County to take interest. As a result, the new home for the Shelby Hamfest will be

Dallas Park.

The Shelby Hamfest is one of the oldest and largest in the United States. It was first held at Shelby City Park and began as a one-day event attended by less than 100 people. The Hamfest eventually outgrew the City Park and moved to Brackett's Cedar Park in Casar, North Carolina. By 1979, it had outgrown Brackett's and moved to the Fairgrounds. In that time the event has grown to where it attracts between 8000 to 12,000 over the Labor Day weekend. According to Amateur Radio operators who have attended

since its beginning, one of the major reasons for its growth and continued success has been the small town friendly feeling that visitors enjoy.

—Amateur Radio Newsline,
Report 1602, April 25, 2008

**HPARC Meeting
May 5, 2008
at Rosa Mae's Cafe,
1322 National Hwy,
Thomasville**

MINUTES OF THE APRIL MEETING

At 7:26 pm Chris Horne opened the meeting of the HPARC. There were 11 members and 5 visitors in attendance.

There was a roll call of members with everyone telling what was their first Ham rig.

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 Mike Cumbo. Motion passed.

Old business: No action taken on changing club meeting date.

New business: Richard Rash was presented for club membership by Mark McMahan. Motion by Mark to accept; seconded by Warren Gallemore. Passed by majority.

Calendar: Raleigh Hamfest will be Saturday.

Chris Horne gave the program on the Amateur's Code of Ethics. Chris also updated us on current repeater activities and a recent trip to the National Radio Astronomy observatory.

Reminder to tip waitress.

Motion to adjourn by Ben Rogers. Seconded by Mike Cumbo.

—Respectfully submitted

Mark McMahan, KB4MFP,
HPARC Secretary

GET READY FOR THE 2008 HURRICANE SEASON

It's that time of year when preparation for the hurricane season ratchets up. Rick Palm, K1CE, editor of the ARRL's ARES E-Letter, said, "Now is the time for ARES members to assess their portfolio of communications equipment and disaster response knowledge." Hurricane season runs June 1-November 30.

Palm gives several tips for Amateurs involved with hurricane operations:

- Monitor major HF hurricane networks during events this season. The Hurricane Watch Net on 14.325 MHz, is one of several key players. It serves either the Atlantic or Pacific during a watch or warning period and coordinates with the National Hurricane Center (NHC) in Miami. Frequent, detailed information is issued on nets when storms pose a threat to the US mainland.

- The SATERN Net (Sal-

vation Army Team Emergency Radio Network) provides emergency communication support to the Salvation Army and populations at large. They also handle health-and-welfare traffic. SATERN holds high profile nets on 20 meters (14.265 MHz) during major hurricanes and has a long history of excellence, discipline and service.

- The Maritime Mobile Service Net (MMSN) meets on 14.300 MHz and is composed of Hams who serve and assist those in need of communications on the high seas. The primary purpose of the net is for handling traffic from maritime mobile stations. They work closely with the NWS and NHC by relaying weather reports from maritime stations.

- The VoIP SKYWARN and Hurricane Net operates by combining both the EchoLink and IRLP linked repeater networks, while handling critical wide

area communications during major severe weather and tropical events. Whenever tropical weather is imposing a threat to the US mainland and certain other areas of interest, the VoIP WX-NET will be fully operational.

Palm said that during hurricane events, there are usually two or three regional nets (usually on 40 or 20 meters) that spring to prominence as major key assets to the disaster response on an ad hoc basis. "Watch for these nets, as well as the nationally recognized networks described above, this season. Don't transmit on their frequencies unless you are absolutely sure you have something substantive to add, and then only under the direction of the net control station," Palm advised.

—The ARRL Letter Online,
Volume 27, Number 16,
April 25, 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.

FOX HUNTING: LOCATING HIDDEN TRANSMITTERS

A “fox” is a low power transmitter set to transmit a tone or ID for a set length of time, and then goes silent until its time to transmit again. By using various radios and antenna and attenuating systems, the teams start out from a set start line to locate the “fox”. The first team to locate the “fox” is the winner. (The “fox hole” is the location of the transmitter, and the “fox howl” is the tone or ID transmitted from the transmitter.)

Objective: To develop radio direction finding skills, foster the construction of radio direction finding tools and have a good time through competition and social interaction. Designed to be a fun event for all.

General rules: The location, the game frequency and the call frequency should be determined before the start of the fox hunt. Usually the morning hunt starts at 9:00 AM until 12:00 noon and the afternoon hunt starts at 2:00

PM until 5:00 PM. The fox howl should be copied at the starting point by the majority of the hunters present. The fox howl will be at a regular interval of every 5 minutes duration, in omni direction for one minute (First 30 seconds will be at 5 W and the following 30 seconds at 300 mw.) The fox transmitter should maintain constant power throughout the hunt. The antenna may not be changed during the course of the hunt. The fox antenna and transmitter shall be within 500 feet of access by standard passenger cars in a publicly accessible area with no charge for admission. Reasonable care must be taken to ensure that hunters can safely get to the hidden fox. The fox may not simultaneously transmit another signal to interfere with the fox. The fox must also monitor the talk-in (Call) frequency to collect drop outs and announce if he is having

technical difficulties. A good map of this area should be available among the hunters. The hunters can ask for the first clue one hour before the end of the game from the game controller, who will be available in the call frequency, and also for the second clue 30 minutes before the end of the game. At the end of the fox hunt, the game controller will announce the fox hole and the winners. There should not be any QSO at the game frequency. (Winner may be also determined by the least mileage on the odometer of the hunter’s vehicle at the time of finding the fox). The fox hunt may be on vehicle or on foot. Any rule modifications must be announced before the day of the fox hunt and should be announced at least a week early.

—from the Internet,
http://art_clubstation.tripod.com/foxhunt.html

HISTORIC RADIO EXCHANGE BETWEEN BATTLESHIP NORTH CAROLINA AND SUBMARINE

The Navy removed almost all of the original radio equipment aboard the Battleship North Carolina when it was decommissioned. What little equipment was left no longer worked. Starting in 1997, volunteer Ham Radio operators began to restore the remaining equipment and adapt it from Department of Defense frequencies to Amateur Radio bands. Today, two of the ship’s original radio rooms are restored, and this week as part of the celebration leading up the commissioning of the submarine, the Captains of the two vessels will exchange greetings

via Amateur, or “Ham,” radio. This is the first known conveyance of radio greetings between two namesake military vessels since the Cold War era.

Capt. David Scheu of the Battleship North Carolina will be using a modern radio, but the antenna and the feedline he will use for his transmission are original equipment installed prior to World War II. Receiving his greetings at the other end at the State Port about a mile away will be the submarine’s skipper, Capt. Mark Davis. Capt. Scheu’s message will be transcribed onto a Radiogram, a

wireless version of a telegram. The Azalea Coast Amateur Radio Club of Wilmington will frame two copies of the historic Radiograms and present one each to the commanders of the Battleship and the submarine as a memento.

This weekend the Ham Radio station aboard the Battleship will be activated Saturday and Sunday sending commemorative greetings about the commissioning to Hams around the globe.

—Bill Morine, N2COP,
ARRL Public Information
Coordinator, North
Carolina Section



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

HPARC MAY CALENDAR

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| 1 — National Day of Prayer | 25 — HPARC Newsletter Deadline |
| 5 — Cinco de Mayo | 26 — MEMORIAL DAY |
| 5 — HPARC Club Meeting | 29 — John F. Kennedy's Birthday |
| 8 — National Teacher's Day | |
| 8 — VE Day | |
| (Germany surrenders WWII 1945) | |
| 10 — Rockingham County ARC Hamfest | |
| 11 — MOTHER'S DAY | |
| 16-18 — Dayton, OH Hamvention | |
| 17 — ARMED FORCES DAY | |
| 24 — Durham, NC Hamfest | |

BIRTHDAYS

Richard Weinbaum — May 18
 Ben Rogers — May 21

2008 HPARC OFFICERS

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**Breakfast
 every Saturday**

8:00 am

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