

AUGUST 2008

# HPARC NEWSLETTER

High Point  
Amateur Radio  
Club



## AUGUST MEETING

Charles Layno, W4CL, will give our program for the August meeting. He will discuss Digital TV and what we need to know to be ready before

the transition next year. Charles Layno works for WGHP-TV.

We discussed future HPARC activities at the July meeting.

We have been having a really good turnout for the meetings lately. It's too hot to work in the yard anyway, so stop and come to the meeting. See you there.

## EMAILS ASKING FOR PERSONAL INFORMATION NOT FROM ARRL

The ARRL has received several reports from ARRL members with arrl.net e-mail accounts who have recently been contacted via e-mail asking for personal information, such as user names and passwords. Please be assured that these e-mails are fraudulent attempts at "phishing" and did

not originate from ARRL.

According to ARRL Information Technology Manager Don Durand, "This is a very crude attempt at phishing, using an easily determined spoof of the originating/return address. There is never a time when we would ask via mass email for user names and pass-

words of arrl.net users. There is simply no need to ever do so." If you receive an email asking for personal information and it looks like it originated from ARRL, please do not respond, just delete it.

—The ARRL Letter  
Volume 27, No. 28  
July 18, 2008

## HIRAM PERCY MAXIM'S TELEGRAPH KEY RETURNS TO ARRL HQ

At the ARRL Board of Director's meeting this past weekend, the telegraph key that once belonged to Hiram Percy Maxim, W1AW, was returned to ARRL Headquarters. According to ARRL First Vice President Kay Craigie, N3KN, the key had been in the collection of the Antique Wireless Association's Electronic Communication Museum near Rochester, New York for more than 20 years.

Craigie said that the AWA decided to return Maxim's key to the organization he co-

founded almost 100 years ago. At the ARRL Atlantic Division Convention in May 2008, the museum's former curator, Ed Gable, K2MP, presented the key to Craigie and Atlantic Division Director Bill Edgar, N3LLR. Craigie and Edgar then presented the key to ARRL President Joel Harrison, W5ZN, and ARRL Chief Executive Officer David Sumner, K1ZZ, on Friday, July 18.

"The key will find a prominent place in the League's collection of historical artifacts,"

Craigie said. "The Old Man's key has come home".

—The ARRL Letter Online,  
Volume 27, Number 29,  
July 25, 2008

**HPARC Meeting  
August 4, 2008  
at Rosa Mae's Cafe,  
1322 National Hwy,  
Thomasville**

# MINUTES OF THE JULY MEETING

At 7:33 pm Sam Hall, in absence of 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.

Secretary's minutes and Treasurer's report for the months of May and June were handed out. Motion to accept

as written by Mike Cumbo, seconded by Mark McMahan. Motion passed.

Old business: Mark gave a report on Field Day. Scores will be reported next month.

New business: Mark McMahan made a motion to create a new student membership for those Hams in high school or college. Dues would be \$12 per year with full membership privileges. Seconded by Mike Cumbo. Discussion.

Call to Question. Motion passed on majority.

Announcements: Salisbury Hamfest will be July 12.

Program was the discussion of possible HPARC activities through the end of the year.

Reminder to tip waitress.

Motion to adjourn by Ben Rogers. Seconded by Roland Wright. Motion passed.

—Respectfully submitted

Mark McMahan, KB4MFP,  
HPARC Secretary

## 10th Annual Ole Fashioned CFARS SwapFest

Sponsored by the Cape Fear Amateur Radio  
Society and Methodist University  
Fayetteville, North Carolina

Saturday, August 9, 2008, 8:00 am to 12:00noon  
To be held in the lobby of Reeves Auditorium on  
the campus of Methodist University  
Highway 401 North(5400 Ramsey St)

### No Admission!! No Fee for Tables!!

Donations to CFARS will be accepted

Talk-in: 146.910(100hz tone)

VE Test Session Walk-ins Only Registration  
9:00am Testing 9:30am

Testing will be held in the Science Building  
(look for the building with the tall tower  
behind Reeves Auditorium)

**Information:** David KR4OE kr4oe@nc.rr.com  
(910)237-9097

Bob KL7NL kl7nl@nc.rr.com  
(910)425-4175

Tail Gating available if you want to brave the heat

\*\*Reeves Auditorium is handicapped accessible,  
air conditioned, and has a loading dock. Come on out  
and join David, Bob, and the rest of the CFARS gang  
for a few hours of Amateur Radio fun and fellowship.

**It's all FREE!!!!**

## International Lighthouse/Lightship Weekend for Amateur Radio

This highly popular annual Amateur Radio event (not a contest) will be held over the weekend of August 16-17, 2008. There were 380 lights on the air from 48 countries last year. All you need to know about the event is contained on the official web site at <<http://illw.net/>>. Originating in 1999, the event is organized and managed by the Ayr Amateur Radio Group in Scotland since the passing of the founder of the weekend, Mike Dalrymple, GM4SUC, in December 2005.

To register for the event go to the web site at <<http://illw.net/>> and complete the online entry form so you can be listed on the entrants page. Any questions about the event can be sent to Kevin, VK2CE, the ILLW Webmaster and Coordinator via the web site email facility.

Kevin, VK2CE

ILLW Webmaster and Coordinator  
<http://illw.net/>

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. Student membership is also available for \$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.

# THE RADIO SPEEDGUN KID

Since police can't be everywhere an 11 year old armed with a toy radio speedgun is filling in the gaps. His name is Landon Wilburn. He is only 11 but he stands tall against speeders.

As he recently told the Louisville Courier-Journal newspaper, he used to shout at speeders to slow down. Then Landon got a better idea.

Dressed in a reflective vest, wearing a bicycle helmet and armed with a Hot Wheels brand radar gun, he points it at cars speeding through the sub-division where he lives and records the speed of passing traffic.

One of the subdivision residents is George Ayers. He told the newspaper that he has seen drivers lock up their brakes when they saw Landon

clocking them.

Officials say the city will install speed bumps in the neighborhood if 70 percent of residents agree and are willing to put up half the money. Until that happens Landon, toy radio speed gun in hand, will likely continue to do his part to get speeders to slow down.

—Amateur Radio Newline, Report 1615, July 25, 2008

## THOUGHT PROVOKING ESSAY: 25 THINGS VANISHING FROM AMERICA: HAM RADIO IS #16

Ham Radio is one of the top 25 things vanishing from America. In fact its number 16 according to author Tom Barlow, N8NLO, in his opinion piece on the wal-letpop dot com blogging website.

In his July 17th article, Tom Barlow says that an easy way to prolong a disaster is to have the respondents use dozens of different, incompatible communications systems, or operate them with no protocol as was the case during Hurricane Katrina. He also laments about

what he calls the vanishing American treasure of the Amateur Radio operator.

According to N8NLO, over the past five years alone, the number of people holding active licenses has dropped by 50,000. This, even though passing a Morse code exam is not longer a requirement to obtain a license.

And while some might take issue with that 50,000 figure and others will provide other numbers to prove Ham Radio is growing Barlow says that some-

thing else is far more important. That being the tradition that Hams have always been there to volunteer. He says that he knows them to be among our nation's best trained and most capable respondents in time of disaster.

Barlow concludes by saying that when Amateur Radio as we know it disappears, it won't be the radios we'll miss. We'll miss the operators.

—Amateur Radio Newline, Report 1614, July 18, 2008

## HOW CAN I TELL IF MY CLUB DUES ARE CURRENT?

Occasionally I get someone ask me at the club meeting, "Are my club dues paid up?" The best way to tell if your club dues are current, if you are getting your newsletter by regular mail, is to look at the label on the front. In the upper right corner is the date your dues are paid through. If your dues are as much as two or three months past due, you may see a sticker requesting you check with the treasurer about your dues.

If you are receiving the email version of the newsletter, it is a little more difficult

to tell. Since the email newsletter is sent bulk, there is not an easy way to individualize each one to tell you your dues date. At least once each quarter I try to check and remind those on email if their dues are past. Those on email will not stop receiving the newsletter if past due, but you will notice that you are moved to the newsletter complimentary list.

I try to be fair and give plenty of time to catch up on dues, but you may notice your paper edition stop coming after a long length of time. Sorry,

but the paper edition does cost the club, and I feel I need to be fair to the club as well. Email does not cost the club, so you are not removed – just moved to a complimentary email list.

The HPARC tries to limit expenses, but we still have to pay insurance on equipment and a control line to the repeater, so we do appreciate your dues.

If you have any questions about when your dues are paid through, feel free to call or email at the number/email address on the back of the newsletter.



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

## HPARC AUGUST CALENDAR

- 2-3 — ARRL UHF Contest
- 4 — HPARC Club Meeting
- 9 — CFARS Swapfest, Fayetteville, NC
- 14 — VJ Day (WWII Surrender of Japan 1945)
- 16-17 — ARRL 10-GHz Cumulative Contest
- 31 — HPARC Newsletter deadline
- 30-31 — Shelby Hamfest, Dallas, NC  
 (Note new location!)

### BIRTHDAYS

- Mike Walker — August 14
- Clyde Young — August 16
- Mike Cumbo — August 23
- Warren Newton — August 26
- Warren Gallemore — August 27
- Scott Carmichael — August 28

**September HPARC Meeting will be**  
**September 8, 2008!**

### 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)  
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 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.**