

OCTOBER 2008

HPARC NEWSLETTER

High Point
Amateur Radio
Club



OCTOBER MEETING

Dave Davenport, World War II Army veteran, will be the October speaker. He will be speaking on his military experience in the Alucian Islands.

Roger Joyner, W4AYO, with the National Science Center in

Greensboro, gave a program on Astronomy for the September meeting. The presentation had people outside our meeting room watching the slide show of planets.

Ben Rogers, WA4NHD, had

surgery this past month and is at home now. I am sure he would appreciate your prayers.

Missed a few of you this past month. Hope everyone is OK and plan to see you all at the October meeting.

SHELBY'S MOVE TO GASTON COUNTY A SUCCESS

The 2008 Shelby Hamfest is being called a huge success. According to the Cleveland County Star newspaper more than 1,000 Amateur Radio enthusiasts were already gathered at Gaston County Park in Dallas County, North Carolina on Thursday, August 21st, even though the shows opening was still 48 hours away.

Celebrating 52 years, the Shelby Hamfest usually hosts between 8,000 to 12,000 attendees annually. It is one of the largest hamfests in the United States, and certainly one of the largest in the Southeast. The show had moved to the Gaston County Fairgrounds earlier this year after it became apparent that no compromise could be reached with the management of its long-time home in Cleveland County. Many Shelby busi-

nesses have come to rely on income from the annual Ham Radio gathering, and some are dismayed at the way in which the city handled the negotiations that lead the Shelby Amateur Radio Club to move the hamfest away.

Meantime, the Cleveland County Star reported that people started arriving at the park as early as Sunday, August 24th and that the heavy rain had not dampened their enthusiasm to be a part of this annual Ham Radio event. The Star quotes Hamfest Chairman Robbie Hamrick. WA4RH, as saying that festivities began Friday night with a free bluegrass concert in downtown Dallas.

The Hamfest itself opened on Saturday morning August 30th. Hamrick used the opportunity of his newspaper interview to pass along his club's

gratitude for use of the Gaston county facility. He told the newspaper that the sponsors appreciate Gaston County letting them use it and make it their new home.

As to the views of those who attended. A sampling of posts on several websites and blogs all seem to be very positive. Almost everyone seemed to be saying it was a good crowd, a good hamfest and that the Shelby Amateur Radio Club should not change a thing.

—Amateur Radio Newline,
Report 1621,
September 5, 2008

**HPARC Meeting
October 6, 2008**

**Rosa Mae's Cafe,
1322 National Hwy,
Thomasville**

Meal at 6:30 pm
Business meeting at 7:30 pm

MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER MEETING

At 7:25 pm Mark McMahan, in absence of president and vice-president, opened the meeting of the HPARC. There were 5 members and 2 visitors in attendance.

There was a roll call of members.

There was a mention of those sick.

Secretary's minutes and

Treasurer's report were handed out. Motion to accept both reports as written, with correction to Tour de Furniture in minutes, by Jason Cox, seconded by Mike Cumbo. Motion passed.

There was no old business.

There was no new business.

Roger Joyner, W4AYO, with the National Science Center in Greensboro gave a slide

show presentation on astronomy. Roger showed planets that are visible now attracting attention from patrons of the restaurant.

Reminder to tip waitress.

Motion to adjourn by Mike Cumbo. Seconded by Jason Cox. Motion passed.

—Respectfully submitted

Mark McMahan, KB4MFP,
HPARC Secretary

JOTA ACTIVITY – OCTOBER 18-19, 2008

The Scouting Jamboree on the Air (JOTA) is an annual event in which Scouts and Guides all over the world speak to each other by means of Amateur Radio. Scouting experiences are exchanged and ideas are shared.

Since 1958 when the first Jamboree-on-the-Air was held, thousands of Scouts and Guides have "met" each other through this event. Not only is it fun to

talk to Scouts from other parts of the world but it also provides a chance to find out about other countries and about Scouting elsewhere.

Many contacts made during the JOTA have resulted in penpals and links between scout troops that have lasted for many years. It's also a great opportunity to interest young people in Amateur Radio as a hobby. This year's JOTA will be

held October 18-19.

Calling frequencies include 3.570, 3.690, 3.940, 7.030, 7.090, 7.190, 14.060, 14.290, 18.080, 18.140, 21.140, 21.260, 24.910, 24.960, 28.180, 28.390, and 50.160 (all MHz). Scout participants in JOTA can be given the opportunity to earn their radio merit badge.

—August North Carolina
Section News

BROADCASTERS SOON TO CLEAR PARTS OF 40 METERS

Ham Radio should soon have less interference to contend with on 40 meters. This if all goes as its supposed to in about six months time when those powerful shortwave broadcast stations are supposed to move away from 7.1 to 7.2 MHz as that spectrum fully reverts to the Amateur Service.

By way of background, before 1938 there was an exclusive Amateur allocation of 7.0 to 7.3 MHz. But due to world unrest that band parcel was taken

away to accommodate propaganda broadcasting in the lead up to World War II.

It had been thought it would be returned to the Amateur Service afterward, but its use for broadcasting continued due to the Cold War.

So, the International Amateur Radio Union mounted a campaign for the 40m band to be return globally to the Amateur Service. Its case stated that such as change would ensure effective

communications support particularly in the event of natural disasters.

The IARU pursued the issue at the World Radiocommunications Conference in 2003. There its work gained 7.1 to 7.2 MHz worldwide for the Amateur Service. It also got an extra 100 kilohertz added on the exclusive allocation, while sharing between 7.2 and 7.3 MHz continues.

—Amateur Radio Newline,
Report 1624, Sept 26, 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. 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.

W3NYI WINS TOWER BATTLE

Some good news for a Pennsylvania Ham that had been fighting to keep his tower and antenna. Word is that Chuck Mills, W3NYI, will be able to keep his tower after all.

A few weeks ago here on Newsline, we told you the story of Chuck Mills, who lives in a small town east of Pittsburgh.

Mills was granted a permit and then had it lifted by Penn Township officials after neighbors complained about his plan to erect a 53-foot, tilt-over, crank-up tower in his development.

American Radio Relay League volunteer legal counsel Michael Lazaroff, K3AIR, stepped in and tried to allay concerns of the township officials.

But, when Lazaroff tried to meet all concerns raised by the township in a second filing for a permit, he got a call from the township's attorney that the second application would likely be denied.

But that didn't stop

Lazaroff.

He told the township attorney that the small community could be facing a very expensive legal fight which he predicted it would lose if it denied the second permit.

Lazaroff also noted a story in the local press reported the township treasurer complained that the municipality already had exhausted its legal budget for the year handling Mills' appeal hearing.

In an email to Amateur Radio Newsline, Lazaroff says he heard nothing more about Mills' second application.

But, Lazaroff's research into state law found language stating any building permit application not acted upon within 15 business days is automatically granted.

Lazaroff tells Amateur Radio Newsline he sent the township a letter citing the statute and advising officials that any interference in the timeline would result in an immediate lawsuit.

Two days after the 15-day period expired, Lazaroff says

Mills received his permit.

Meanwhile, legislative remedies to prevent future problems like the one Mills faced are making their way through Pennsylvania's state House and Senate.

As of this week's deadline, the Pennsylvania Senate was preparing to pass a bill barring municipalities from interfering with Amateur Radio tower installations.

The bill contained an amendment mentioning a possible height restriction for certain townships, but left it open to legal interpretation whether any restriction would have to be followed.

The Pennsylvania House has a similar bill – without the amendment – awaiting action.

Those lobbying for passage of the bills say there appears to be a broad base of bi-partisan support for addressing the issue.

Needless to say that Mills is happy that the fight is over.

—Amateur Radio Newsline,
Report 1623,
September 19, 2008

NC SECTION SET IS OCTOBER 4

We'll have another chance soon to prove our readiness — the 2008 North Carolina Section Simulated Emergency Test (SET). Plans for the event will be finalized soon. The SET is scheduled for Saturday, October 4 from 8 AM to 12 noon.

The test scenario will involve a major hurricane hitting our coast, causing widespread flooding along the coast and into the piedmont area. The mountains will also expe-

rience landslides due to heavy rainfall. Many portions of our state will suffer from power outages and communications disruptions. Less affected areas of the piedmont will have to deal with an influx of evacuees from other areas. The Tarheel Emergency Net will be active on 3.927 MHz from 8 AM, opening immediately after the North Carolina Morning Net. We'll move to 7.232 MHz if needed because of propaga-

tion. Communications to EC's during the SET will occur on the North Carolina ARES mailing list. The general ARRL section email distribution will be used to alert everyone of needs as the "storm" approaches. A summary of the drill activities will be posted next week on www.ncarrl.org.

—Timothy B. Slay, N4IB,
ARRL North Carolina
Manager: Timothy B.
Slay, N4IB, August North
Carolina Section News



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

HPARC OCTOBER CALENDAR

4 — Rock Hill, SC Hamfest
 4-5 — ARRL Simulated Emergency Test
 6 — **HPARC Club Meeting**
 11 — Pfafftown, NC Hamfest
 12 — Maysville, NC Hamfest
 12 — National Children's Day
 13 — COLUMBUS DAY
 16 — National Boss Day
 16-26 — NC State Fair
 18-19 — Jamboree On The Air (JOTA)
 20-26 — High Point Furniture Market
 25 — Lexington, NC BBQ Festival

25-26 — CQ World-Wide Contest, Phone
 26 — Mother-In-Law's Day
 26 — HPARC Newsletter deadline
 31 — HALLOWEEN

BIRTHDAYS

Coy Hennis — October 4

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