

MAY 2009

HPARC NEWSLETTER

High Point
Amateur Radio
Club



MAY MEETING

Our own Dr. Warren Gallemore, KA4LOQ, will present us with a "health update." His presentations are always informative. Plan on being at the meeting for your annual

"physical."

I really hate to mention it, but as treasurer, I would appreciate it if everyone would check your club dues. Your newsletter label has the date

your dues are paid through on the upper right corner. For those on the email edition, I will try to send notices to those who may be behind. Your cooperation is appreciated.

BROADCASTERS BEGIN VACATING 40 METERS HAM BAND

Shortwave broadcasters have begun to vacate 7.1 to 7.2 Mhz in ITU regions 1 and 3. This a a new ITU rules became effective on March 29th.

Following on from the decision made during the World Radio Conference in 2003, the Amateur service becomes the primary user in this high frequency seg-

ment world-wide. In layman's terms, this represents everywhere except the Americas, who have always enjoyed this segment as part of the 7 to 7.3 MHz allocation in Region 2.

Although this date also coincides with the start of the HF broadcasting schedule, it would be naive to think the segment

might be completely clear of broadcasting stations on that date. However a number of international broadcasters have already have been noted to have moved closer to 7.5 MHz. and away from operations in the Ham Radio band.

—Amateur Radio Newslines,
Report 1651, April 3 2009

DANNY HAMPTON, K4ITL IS DAYTON "AMATEUR OF THE YEAR"

The Dayton Hamfest has selected our own Danny Hampton, K4ITL, as "Amateur of the Year." Danny is the architect of the Piedmont Coastal Repeater Network, established in the early 1970s, which today sports more than 40 machines in North Carolina. The system is heavily used for public service work. Hampton has enhanced the network's utility with custom audio processing boards and RF compo-

nents. The North Carolina Office of Emergency Management and SKYWARN have recognized the network's vital role in emergency communications.

Recently, Danny helped coordinate the development of the "CARES" system - a local hospital-based Amateur Radio emergency repeater system that ties 10 facilities together. A Ham since 1958, Danny is the Southeastern Repeater Association (SERA) technical

committee chairman as well as the ARRL North Carolina Section Technical Coordinator.

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

HPARC Meeting

May 4, 2009

Rosa Mae's Cafe,
1322 National Hwy,
Thomasville

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

THE 45 AT AGE 60

The 45 RPM record — yes we said record — is now 60 years old. While it has faded from the pop music distribution scene, it is still very popular with some music collectors and vinyl record buffs.

For those like this reporter who was born after the introduction of the digital compact disc and portable music player, the 45 RPM record with its small size and large center hole was a kind of a trip back in time. We saw them as kids and we heard our parents playing them on their record players. But by the time we grew up the only place you could find them was at the local swap meet or on eBay.

Up until the introduction of the CD the 45 RPM record was the mainstay of delivering popular music to an entertainment hungry world. Only 7 inches in diameter, the disc spun at 45 revolutions per

minute and was designed to hold two songs. One on each side of the disc.

I'm told that the best part of the 45 was its extreme light weight and durability. Unlike the older 78 RPM discs which would shatter if dropped, a 45 might get a scratch but could continue to be played with the added annoyance of some clicks and pops from the scratch. This made it an ideal and inexpensive format of that era for providing recorded music to teens and pre-teens of the mid to late 20th century. That's because most 45's sold for less than a dollar.

As a historic note, the first 45 rpm disc was "Texarkana Baby" recorded by country singer Eddy Arnold. It was released by RCA on March 31, 1949.

But the entertainer who likely benefited most from the 45 was

likely the man they called the "King of Rock and Roll," Elvis Presley. He sold millions of records during his career and made the 45 RPM record a household word among teens.

So a happy birthday to the good old 45. I have the feeling that mom and dad kind of miss having you around.

Sitting here with my iPod and my three kids who will likely only see a 45 RPM record in a museum, I'm Rebecca Bruce reporting for the Amateur Radio Newline.

Now, we are in the 21st century. The 45 had given way first to the CD and more recently to direct download to music players like Rebecca's iPod. None the less, the 45 RPM record holds an important place in bringing music into the lives of oh so many.

—Amateur Radio Newline,
Report 1651, April 3 2009

NASA CALLS IT A SPOTLESS SUN

The lack of High Frequency propagation could continue. This, as NASA has announces that the sun has plunged into the deepest solar minimum in nearly a century.

According to the space

agency, sunspots have all but vanished and consequently the sun has become very quiet. It notes that in 2008, the sun had no spots 73% of the time. That was a 95-year low. Now, in 2009, sunspots are even

more scarce, with the "spotless rate" jumping to 87%. How long this downward sunspot spiral will continue is unknown.

—Amateur Radio Newline,
Report 1654, April 24 2009

FREE HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT TICKETS OFFERED

The Dayton Hamvention has announced that high schoolers will be welcome guests at this year's event. According to a posting on the Hamvention website, high school students can obtain a free ticket by filling out a form that's downloadable from the website and present it at the will

call window to receive their student ticket. Teachers may order student tickets by making their request on school letterhead.

All persons over 12 years of age attending the Hamvention are required to have an admission ticket. Age 12 years and under are admitted free

without a ticket if accompanied by a paid ticket holder.

Hamvention 2009 is slated for the weekend of May 15, 16 and 17 at its traditional home at the Hara Arena in suburban Dayton, Ohio.

—Amateur Radio Newline,
Report 1654, April 24 2009

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 NO GO KIT

Any Amateur Radio operator worth his/her salt has a "Go Kit" or at least a written list of things to grab in the event of an emergency. Many keep the box packed and in the car/truck/camper ready to go, many more have something partially packed. This is not designed to tell you what to pack, or equipment to have. Only to stimulate your thoughts (as if we didn't already have plenty to worry about) about survival without going out, and still being able to provide our communication services to the community.

Recently, I was involved in the State Level planning of an event, rarely even spoken about. Pandemic Flu of the magnitude of the 1918 Influenza. The best reference is the CDC website PandemicFlu.gov. Over on the right hand side of the first page is a link to Community Mitigation. Very interesting reading, and guidance. It has some startling predictions, and casualty numbers, but more importantly, has 3 very simple methods to mitigate the impact of any pandemic event. Let me start by clarifying some facts.

1. This flu is a novel virus, one the world has never seen before.
2. No one in the world will have immunity from it.
3. It will take 3 to 6 months to develop any vaccine.
4. It will be a local event – worldwide (every town, city, state, country will be effected by it).
5. It will last from 12 to 18 months.

This type of event will not require a "Go Kit". It will require a "NO-GO Kit." The Amateur Radio Operator will have to stay home.

The first precept of mitigation is to eliminate contact with anyone outside of your home (Social Isolation). At certain trigger points (see PandemicFlu.gov) schools will be closed, day care facilities will be closed, and all extracurricular activities will be stopped. With that thought, you can imagine the cascading impact on work if someone has to stay home to take care of children. How many business will have to close because of that. How long can utilities (read power grid) be maintained with up to 30% of the workforce unable to work? How many gas stations can stay open, Grocery stores? Some of the larger food suppliers have already said that all fresh food sales will stop. Canned/dry foods only.

The second precept of mitigation is Social Distancing. If you do have to go out of your home, stay at least 6 feet away from anyone else. No hand shaking, no "hugging", no public congregation. Will your local grocery store have people to stock the shelves, run the cash registers, will there be deliveries to resupply them? One of the major chains has already said they will cut back to non-perishable goods only (can goods, dry foods, etc). No fresh vegetables, fresh meat, and perhaps no dairy products.

The third precept is personal protective equipment. If you must go out, and must interact closely with people outside your home, wear a protective mask, and practice absolute hand-washing any time you touch "common use" equipment, and do not touch your face or other parts of your body until you have used a hand sanitizer, or

soap and water.

Now, what part of this effects the Amateur Radio Operator. Be prepared, make sure you have as much stored non-perishable food as you can possibly have 3 to 6 months would be best. If you are fully reliant on local utilities (don't have your own well), make sure you have stored water, and means to sterilize city water (boiling, treating) and an alternative method of supplying electricity. Now is the perfect time to consider solar power at least to recharge batteries as there is no guarantee there will be gasoline to power generators since it takes people to run the gas stations, deliver the gas, run the refineries etc.

Devise ways (intercom at your door so you don't have to open it) to accept messages and still be socially isolated. FRS/GMRS radios in the neighborhood. If you are in a service industry, avoid social contact.

The CDC (PandemicFlu.gov) predicts that 30% of the people in the world will be ill because of a Pandemic Event, with the mortality rate of up to 2% (worst case scenario) of those who do become ill. The numbers are staggering, but can be mitigated down to just above seasonal flu rates if the 3 precepts are rigidly adhered to, Social Isolation, Social Distancing, and Personal Protective Equipment.

Get your NO-GO KIT ready. At the very worst, you will have 3 months supply of food in the house, and an alternative power source for the first Post Pandemic Flu field day.

—Don Rand, KA5DON
(as published in
World Radio, 2007)



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

HPARC MAY CALENDAR

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|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 4 — HPARC Club Meeting | 25 — MEMORIAL DAY |
| 5 — National Teacher's Day | 29 — John F. Kennedy's Birthday |
| 5 — Cinco de Mayo | |
| 7 — National Day of Prayer | |
| 8 — VE Day | |
| (Germany surrenders WWII 1945) | |
| 9 — Rockingham County ARC Hamfest | |
| 10 — MOTHER'S DAY | |
| 15-17 — Dayton, OH Hamvention | |
| 16 — ARMED FORCES DAY | |
| 23 — Durham, NC Hamfest | |
| 24 — HPARC Newsletter Deadline | |

BIRTHDAYS

Richard Weinbaum — May 18
 Ben Rogers — May 21

2009 HPARC OFFICERS

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