

FEBRUARY 2014

HPARC NEWSLETTER

*High Point
Amateur Radio
Club*



FEBRUARY MEETING

Greetings. Hope everyone had a wonderful New Year's and are looking for a great year in the HPARC.

Warren Gallemore will present the February meeting. His topic will be on what all those items in your blood work test really mean. Should be very interesting.

David Macchiarolo gave the program last month on Logbook of the World. David also touched on the paper QSL cards we have been used to in the past as well as the new electronic versions online.

I would like to take this space to thank Lon Cecil for his work on the HPARC web site. The HPARC really doesn't have a committee for this task, and Lon has volunteered to take this on himself.

In just the past few days, the HPARC has once again obtained the url www.w4ua.org. We have been using the dot net ending for some time, but thanks to Lon, we can once again begin using the dot org ending. I hate to admit it, but I was a little unaware of all the information that is on our web site. Everything from where exams are being given in the area, other club's web sites, and even a printout on proper operating procedures for talking on repeaters. Of course our club information such as repeaters and officers information are there as well. If you have a minute, you might do well by checking out the HPARC web site and see for yourself.

A group of club members have been meeting at Mrs. Winner's on South Main for some time now. On February 9, we will move our meeting place two doors down to Biscuitville. There has been some talk about trying a new place, and if this works out, we will make it permanent.

Speaking of new places, are you happy with our club meeting location? As a small club, it is difficult to find a restaurant that will allow us to meet without charging us. Dan Bly is our House committee chairman for 2014. If you have any suggestions for trying a different location for the club meetings, please contact him with your ideas. Thank you.

Looking forward to seeing everyone at the club meeting.

CRAIGIE WINS 3RD TERM AS ARRL PRESIDENT

The ARRL Board of Directors has elected League President Kay Craigie, N3KN, to a third two-year term. The League's 15th president, Craigie lives in Blacksburg, Virginia, and has been in office since 2010, succeeding Joel Harrison, W5ZN.

The Board also re-elected First Vice President Rick Roderick, K5UR, to a new two-

year term. ARRL Northwestern Division Director Jim Fenstermaker, K9JF, was elected Second Vice President, succeeding incumbent Bruce Frahm, K0BJ. Northwestern Division Vice Director Jim Pace, K7CEX, acceded to the Director's chair.

—The ARRL Letter,
January 23, 2014

**HPARC Meeting
February 3, 2014**

**Rancho's,
10463 North Main St,
Archdale, NC**

Meal at 6:30 pm
Business meeting at 7:00 pm

JOHN STARRETT PASSES TECHNICIAN

John Starrett has passed the Technician test for his Ham license at the W4VEC exams in Greensboro on January 11. His call sign is KK4WLG (We Love

Golf). John has been studying for his ticket for some time, and we congratulate him on his achievement.

John is wasting no time and

has been active on our 2-meter repeater as well as trying his new privileges on 10 meters. If you hear John on the air, give him a shout.

A CENTURY OF AMATEUR RADIO AND THE ARRL

After Guglielmo Marconi proved the feasibility of radio communication in 1901, three distinct groups of radio experimenters and stations appeared: The US Navy, commercial operators, and Amateur Radio operators, derisively called "Hams" (meaning bad operators) by commercial and Navy operators. Early Hams took up the name with pride!

Soon there was chaos in the ether, as Hams interfered with commercial and Navy stations. To curb that problem, Congress passed the Radio Act of 1912, requiring all Amateurs to get licenses and to operate at wavelengths of 200 meters or shorter, spectrum considered worthless at the time.

When Hams first began to pass message traffic, the typical Ham station's range was measured in tens of miles, or a few hundred miles for the best-equipped stations. So Hams would relay messages from station to station until they reached their destination.

One night in April 1914, Hiram Percy Maxim, 1WH, in Hartford, Connecticut, was unable to contact a station in Springfield, Massachusetts, to send a message. Maxim reached another Ham at the midway point of Windsor Locks, Connecticut, and that station successfully relayed the message to Springfield.

This event made Maxim realize that there should be an organization to promote

smooth and reliable message relays. In April 1914 he presented his thoughts to the Radio Club of Hartford, which agreed to sponsor the activity, using the name Maxim chose -- the American Radio Relay League. In February 1915, the ARRL separated from the HRC, and incorporated as a nonprofit entity.

By March 1915, it became obvious that a publication was required to disseminate information to the 600 relay stations on the ARRL's roster. Maxim and Clarence D. Tuska (HRC Secretary) privately funded the first three issues of QST to meet that need. The first issue was published in December 1915.

—The ARRL Letter,
January 16, 2014

2014 HPARC COMMITTEES

Repeater:	Lon Cecil, chairman; Dwight Sledge; Sam Hall
House:	Dan Bly, chairman; David Montgomery; John Starrett
Special Activities:	Mark McMahan, chairman; David Montgomery; Warren Gallemore
Education:	Sam Hall, chairman; Dwight Sledge; Warren Gallemore
Membership:	Warren Gallemore, chairman; Roland Wright; Mark McMahan
Finance:	Warren Gallemore, chairman; David Macchiarolo; Bob Erdin
Publicity:	David Macchiarolo, chairman; Warren Gallemore; Bill Taylor; Jerry Yarborough
Program:	David Macchiarolo, chairman; Warren Gallemore; Dwight Sledge

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 or emailing your request to w4ua@arrl.net. Subscriptions are available to non-members for \$12.00 a year. Contributions and letters/emails 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 a local restaurant announced in the newsletter. The business meeting starts around 7:00 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.

JAPAN HAM RADIO POPULATION IN DECLINE

An interesting statistic courtesy of the Southgate News. Quoting figures posted by Joe Speroni, AH0A's, website, Southgate notes that Japan which at one time had more Radio Amateurs than any other nation in the world has been losing them at what we might call an alarming

rate. Since 1996 the hobby has been in sharp decline with the number of J A Amateur radio stations falling by over 65%. Put into raw numbers, back in 1996 Japan has 1,350,127 license holders while in 2009 which is the latest year for Speroni's statistics the number was down to 489,256. It

appears that 2001 was the biggest loss for Ham Radio in Japan with 135,395 Hams leaving the hobby. You can see the numbers for yourself on the web at tinyurl.com/Japan-ham-statistics.)

—Amateur Radio Newslines, Report 1890, January 3, 2014

AMATEUR RADIO SHOWING STEADY GROWTH IN THE US

The Amateur Radio population in the US continues to show steady growth, according to statistics compiled by Joe Speroni, AH0A. As of the end of 2013, the FCC database showed 717,201 licenses in its Universal Licensing System (ULS). That's the greatest number of US Hams ever, and it's up from 709,575 in December 2012. The volume of Amateur Radio applications slowed somewhat to 141,943 from its zenith of 176,826 in 2007, the year the FCC dropped the Morse code requirement.

"The three current license classes also peaked at the end of 2013," notes ARRL VEC Manager Maria Somma, AB1FM. "FCC-issued club station licenses are also at an all-time high in the FCC

database at 11,363. The number of new licensees has increased by 7 percent over last year -- 28,886 in 2013 and 27,082 in 2012.

"The breakdown by license class shows Technicians as the largest group, at 349,163, followed by Generals at 167,257, Amateur Extras at 133,391, and Advanced licensees at 54,293. Slightly more than 13,000 Novice licensees remain on record too. The FCC no longer issues the Novice or Advanced class license. Technician numbers have grown by 8.2 percent over the past decade, with an impressive comeback since 2007 after the population had plummeted from a peak of 338,334 in March 2000. The General class population has risen by slightly more than 18 percent

over the past 10 years. But the Amateur Extra class has shown the most remarkable growth over the past decade, climbing by slightly more than 27 percent.

While Amateur Radio application volume slipped somewhat overall, that was not the case at the ARRL VEC. "ARRL VEC served 34,896 exam applicants in 2013, up slightly from 32,866 in 2012," Somma said. "July will mark 30 years that ARRL VEC has been certified by the FCC to administer Amateur Radio exams. We're delighted to celebrate our important milestone in the same year as the ARRL's Centennial celebration and look forward to the promise of another record year."

—The ARRL Letter, January 16, 2014

MORE ELECTRONICS BUT LOWER POWER USE

The average amount of electricity consumed in U.S. homes has fallen to levels not seen in more than a decade. This is likely due to the introduction of more energy efficient appliances and other consumer electronics leading to overall power usage being on track to decline by the end

of 2013 for the third year in a row. According to the Energy Information Administration the end of 2013 level expected is around 10,819 kilowatt-hours per household. That is the lowest level since 2001, when households averaged 10,535 kilowatt-hour. And even more interesting is that

this decline has occurred even though we now use more electric and electronic devices in our daily lives. You can read one of several in-depth reports on this phenomenon at tinyurl.com/less-electric-use.

—Amateur Radio Newslines, Report 1890, January 3, 2014



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

HPARC FEBRUARY CALENDAR

- 1 — Richmond, VA Frostfest
- 2 — **GROUNDHOG DAY**
- 2 — Super Bowl Sunday
- 3 — **HPARC Club Meeting**
- 8-9 — CQ Worldwide RTTY WPX Contest
- 10-14 — School Club Roundup
- 12 — Lincoln's Birthday
- 14 — **VALENTINE'S DAY**
- 15-16 — ARRL International DX Contest, CW

- 17 — **PRESIDENT'S DAY**
- 22 — Washington's Birthday
- 23 — HPARC Newsletter Deadline

BIRTHDAYS

- Mark McMahan — February 7
- David Montgomery — February 27

2014 HPARC OFFICERS

Mark McMahan, KB4MFP — President — 887-3039 — kb4mfp@arrl.net
 Dwight Sledge, W4EIO — Vice-President — 841-6089 — KK4ERE@gmail.com
 Warren Gallemore, KA4LOQ — Secretary/Treasurer — 883-4944 — warreng960@mac.com
 Newsletter Editor — Mark McMahan — 887-3039 — kb4mfp@arrl.net
 HPARC Web page: <http://w4ua.net> • w4ua@arrl.net

Breakfast
every Saturday
 —
8:00 am
 —
Biscuitville,
2709 S. Main St.