

DECEMBER 2015

HPARC NEWSLETTER

High Point
Amateur Radio
Club



DECEMBER MEETING

Ready for Old Man Winter? Well, he is coming – ready or not. (Bring on the gloves and the hot chocolate.)

David Macchiarolo, AJ4TF, filled in for Chris at the last meeting and showed off his “tennis ball cannon” that he used at Field Day. David also demonstrated his GPS receiver which he had made.

I guess I don't have to tell you our December meeting is centered around our favorite activity – eating. We plan to reverse things up a bit and have our business meeting first, and then adjourn to devour whatever goodies our club members bring. Bring your wife, bring your girlfriend (but not both) and a friend. It

is a time to spend with each other enjoying the company of our club members.

“All I want for Christmas is our new repeater. And our non-profit status...” OK, so it doesn't rhyme, but we are still

**HPARC meeting on
Saturday,
December 5, 2015**

waiting to hear word on the purchase of the Yaesu repeater and the non-profit status application. Will let you know when we know.

Oh, yeah, don't forget the meeting/party will be at the same location as last year—Hickory Chapel Wesleyan Church Fellowship Building.

The address is below, but if you need help, please call an officer. Hopefully we will have someone on the air that night with a handi for talk-in.

The club is still conducting a food drive. Bring non-perishable food items to the meeting. Warren Gallemore and John Starrett have been in charge of the donations.

I know many of our members already have commitments for our club meeting date, but I would love to see everyone else there in attendance. It is a time to fellowship one with another. Bring a friend (or two). Have a Merry Christmas, a Happy New Year, and here is looking to see you all in the coming year. 73's.

CHRISTMAS DAY ROLL CALL 2015

A long standing tradition, the HPARC will conduct Christmas Day Roll Call on the club's 2-meter repeater, 147.165, on Christmas morning.

I failed to ask someone to do this at the last meeting, so I am looking for volunteers to be net control. Anybody?

On Christmas morning, our net control operator will call out all our club member's names over our 2-meter repeater,

147.165, starting at 8:00 a.m. Each member answers and is welcome to give a brief Christmas greeting to their fellow Hams. After going through the list of HPARC members, the net control opens the net for late and other check-ins. Non-members are welcome to join in as well. After the net, a few Hams hang around to ragchew and brag (or complain) about what Santa brought them.

Please be with us early Christmas morning for our Christmas Day Roll Call.

**HPARC Meeting
December 5, 2015**
Hickory Chapel Wesleyan
Church Fellowship Building,
301 Hickory Chapel Road,
High Point

Business meeting at 6:30 p.m.
Meal at 7:00 p.m.

HPARC TO CONTINUE COLLECTING FOOD

At the August meeting, the HPARC collected canned and packaged food to be distributed among a couple of members who are associated with

food pantries and food kitchens. It was decided by the club to continue this activity.

If you wish to participate, please bring non-perishable

food items to the club. It doesn't have to be canned food – just non-perishable such as boxed or packaged food items.

We appreciate your help.

OFFICER ELECTIONS FOR 2016

At the November meeting, the Nominating Committee made their recommendations for officers for 2016. They have recommended to keep the

same officers. Those officers are: Mark McMahan, KB4MFP, for President; Dan Bly, KB8TLF, for Vice-president; Larry Kirby, KI4LHX, for Secretary; and

Warren Gallemore, KA4LOQ, for Treasurer.

As stated in the HPARC bylaws, no further nominations may be made at the December meeting.

WINTER FIELD DAY: GETTING IT DOWN COLD

The snow is expected to be somewhat gentler and less of a problem in other parts of the world for participants in Winter Field Day, which is just weeks away. The Winter Field Day Association has announced the annual event will be held the weekend of Jan. 30 and Jan. 31, 2016.

The event's website says it all, declaring: "We believe, as do those entities of ARRL Organizations like ARES and RACES that maintaining your operational skills should not

be limited to fair weather scenarios."

As with the annual summer Field Day, the outreach on the air will be a worldwide effort. The goal is to encourage emergency preparedness under winter conditions. All modes may be used and all bands, except for 12, 17, 30 and 60.

For additional details, visit the website, www.winterfieldday.com And dress warmly.

—*Amateur Radio Newslines*, Report 1986, November 20, 2015

SANTA AT THE NORTH DIPOLE?

What started as a staged report from Santa's Sleigh during an Amateur Radio Net on 80 meters nine years ago has grown. And grown.

"It really goes back to a year where I had a young child at home," says Pete Thompson, KE5GGY. "I was checked into one of the 3916 nets on Christmas Eve. A number of us were looking for a way for our kids to talk to Santa. So we pieced together something for a couple of us that one night, and it worked really well. I could be a Santa net relay for a station in

Kansas City, then he could facilitate the contact with Santa for me and my son. So we had sort of a primitive dress rehearsal, and I think it occurred to a number of us that—hey, this really is neat, and it has grown from there. I think we had five people that first year. Now in 2015 we are expecting 250 and 300 kids to talk to Santa."

["SANTA"]: "HO, HO, HO. Hello there. Merry Christmas to everyone listening to the *Amateur Radio Newslines*. I know you've all been very good boys and girls this year, and I

just want to invite you to join the Hams on 3916 every night at 7:30 for the Santa net. And yes, I could talk to you so we'll see you then. And until then, 73 from Santa. Ho, Ho, Ho!"

This year Thompson will stream the audio for a live feed on the Internet, and it will be archived. To find your contact [with Santa] from a YouTube page, just do a hashtag and a call sign and you'll find that particular contact.

—*Amateur Radio Newslines*, Report 1987, November 27, 2015

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 p.m. at a local restaurant announced in the newsletter. The business meeting starts around 7:00 p.m. 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.

AMATEUR RADIO PARITY ACT PASSES SENATE COMMITTEE

The Amateur Radio Parity Act S. 1685 took an essential step forward on November 18, when the US Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation voted to report the bill favorably and without amendment. It was one of a half-dozen bills that were approved by the committee in a brief markup session. S. 1685 was approved on a voice vote, with two Senators — Bill Nelson (D-FL) and Brian Schatz (D-HI) — asked to be recorded as voting “no.”

“Our work is not finished on the Senate side of Capitol Hill, although this is a huge step forward,” said ARRL President Kay Craigie, N3KN. She urged ARRL members to continue to write, call and e-mail their Senators about S. 1685 to build up its support for the future, saying, “We know that members’ response to the call for a communications blast last week made all the difference for some Senators on the committee.”

S. 1685 picked up another Senate cosponsor on November

18, when Senator Jerry Moran (R-KS), who sits on the Commerce Committee, signed aboard the bill. “ARRL members in Kansas should contact his office to say thanks,” President Craigie said. “Having an additional cosponsor who’s on the Committee is especially good news.”

On hand to observe the Committee mark-up session were ARRL Hudson Division Director Mike Lisenco, N2YBB; ARRL CEO David Sumner, K1ZZ, and ARRL General Counsel Chris Imlay, W3KD.

President Craigie encouraged ARRL members in Florida and Hawaii to keep contacting Senators Schatz and Nelson, urging them to change their minds about the legislation. “Don’t be harsh or angry,” she advised. “Keep it factual and courteous, and don’t give up.”

On November 5, US Senator Al Franken (D-MN) signed on

as the second cosponsor of S. 1685. That legislation and its US House twin, H.R. 1301, call on the FCC to extend the limited federal pre-emption of PRB-1 to cover private land-use restrictions such as deed covenants, conditions, and restrictions (CC&Rs).

H.R. 1301 has 114 cosponsors as of November 18. President Craigie said ARRL members should continue to

*“For unto you is born this day
in the city of David
a Saviour,
which is Christ the Lord.”*

—Luke 2:11 King James version

urge their Representatives to cosponsor H.R. 1301 and to thank those who already have signed on.

—*The ARRL Letter*,
November 19, 2015,
Rick Lindquist, WW1ME, Ed.

USE OF 146.52 MHz FM SIMPLEX FREQUENCY CLEARED FOR ARRL CONTESTS

The ARRL Programs and Services Committee earlier this year unanimously adopted a recommendation from its VHF and Above Revitalization Committee to remove the rule prohibiting the use of 146.52 MHz simplex for making contest contacts. The change becomes effective in 2016, starting with the ARRL January VHF Contest.

The VHF and Above Revitalization Committee con-

cluded that the restriction was no longer necessary. The committee felt that permitting the use of 146.52 MHz would allow new/curious contesters possessing only FM-mode radios to stumble upon more contacts, increasing their chances of being drawn further into VHF+ contesting — the primary aim of the Revitalization Committee.

The change will also be incorporated into the ARRL

Field Day rules This change eliminates Rule 1.8 in the “General Rules for ARRL Contests Above 50 MHz,” with subsequent Rule 1 sections renumbered accordingly. — Thanks to Dan Henderson, N1ND, Regulatory Information Manager/Acting Contest Manager

—*The ARRL Letter*,
October 29, 2015,
Rick Lindquist, WW1ME,
Editor



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

HPARC DECEMBER CALENDAR

- 4-6 — ARRL 160-Meter Contest
- 5 — HPARC Club Meeting (Saturday)**
- 7 — Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day
- 12-13 — ARRL 10-Meter Contest
- 17 — Wright Brother's Day
- 21 — First Day of Winter
- 20 — ARRL Rookie Roundup-CW
- 25 — CHRISTMAS**
 (Don't forget the HPARC
 Christmas Day Roll Call)
- 27 — Newsletter deadline

31 — NEW YEAR'S EVE

BIRTHDAYS

- Roland Wright — December 9
- Chris Horne — December 12

2015 HPARC OFFICERS

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**Breakfast
 every Saturday**
 —
8:00 a.m.
 —
**Biscuitville,
 2709 S. Main St.**