

AUGUST 2017

# HPARC NEWSLETTER

High Point  
Amateur Radio  
Club



## AUGUST MEETING

It is a little crazy to tell you what the August meeting will be because by the time most of you receive this newsletter, the August meeting will be history. I would like to say my work kept me so busy this past week that I didn't have time to put together a newsletter. That would be a lie. I simply forgot. It is heck getting old. I will try to do a better job going forward (but I make no prom-

ises). Sorry.

David Macchiarolo has put together a recap presentation on Field Day 2017. That seems like such a long time ago now. From what I have seen in emails, I think we did pretty well score wise. We will see how we stack up versus the rest of the country in the December QST.

Missing a monthly club meeting has thrown me completely off track. Hope I am the only

one. Here is where I would normally say "Hope to see you at the meeting", but since you will receive this newsletter after the August meeting, it just doesn't make any sense. So, I hope I saw you at the August meeting. And I look forward to seeing you at the September meeting (which will be the SECOND Monday because of Labor Day). Will someone please hit the reset button now?

## ARRL BOARD EXPLORES ENTRY-LEVEL LICENSE OPTIONS

Meeting July 21-22 in Farmington, Connecticut, the ARRL Board of Directors took steps to chart a firmer future for Amateur Radio by enhancing the value of the entry-level license and by providing ongoing support for new licensees. ARRL President Rick Roderick, K5UR, chaired the second regular meeting of 2017.

ARRL New England Division Director Tom Frenaye, K1KI, presented the report of the Ad Hoc Entry-Level License Committee. He said the committee's initial, informal survey attracted nearly 7,900 responses. A second random survey drew another 375

responses. "A clear majority favored a revision to the Technician rather than a new entry-level license," the committee's report said, noting that this would require no change to the Technician examination, which already covers more material than necessary for an entry-level examination. "This choice requires the simplest revision to FCC rules," the committee report said. The committee suggested expanded digital access on 80, 40, and 15 meters, where Technicians already have CW access, as well as the addition of Technician phone privileges on those bands. Frenaye pointed out that while the

Amateur Radio population is growing, the annual rate of growth has stagnated at about 1%. "There is a general consensus...that 'something needs to happen,'" the committee's report said, noting a generally favorable attitude toward attracting newcomers.

"The general goal here is

*Story continued inside...*

**HPARC Meeting  
August 7, 2017**

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

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

# FLORIDA REPEATER COUNCIL MEMBERS REJECT CORRUPTION

The FRC has voted to censure and remove incumbent board members during an emergency members meeting.

St Petersburg, July 6, 2017

The Florida Repeater Council, Inc. (FRC) membership has voted at an emergency meeting to censure and remove the board of directors and call for a rewriting of bylaws. The ongoing corruption of the board extends back over ten years and recently was exposed by members at the annual meeting in Orlando. During the Orlando meeting the Board voted to expel all members from the FRC and re-elect itself, in violation of the Articles of Incorporation and state law. Bylaw changes giving the president dictatorial like powers were approved and not disclosed until June 28, 2017.

The rebuke of these now former directors by the members and subsequent election of an interim board shows the Radio Amateurs of Florida have taken the first steps to correct this mismanagement and check the arrogance which permeated the FRC.

Over the past three years, members have questioned the board of directors and made formal requests for information from the FRC. Each request for information was met with contempt and even reported to law enforcement as a means to intimidate the

membership.

The FRC Reform caucus was started in 2015 by Bryan Fields W9CR, to shine a light on these matters. In support of these efforts, FRC members assigned proxies to Mr. Fields to be used during the annual member's meeting in Orlando February 2017. During this meeting the board refused to recognize Mr. Fields supporters and claimed it was a closed non-member's meeting, though it was announced as the annual member's meeting. Board member James Deuel N0XIA, further tried to intimidate the assembled members by calling police over a supposed fire code issue a half hour after taking count.

At this Orlando meeting all members were removed from the FRC by the board in violation of the articles of incorporation. The proposed bylaw changes were not presented for review and a request by Mr. Fields to inspect them at the meeting was denied. These new bylaws were finally released on June 28, 2017. These changes gave the president dictatorial like powers and the board became a rubber stamp to presidential fiat.

An emergency members meeting was called July 6, 2017 by Director Mike Gonzalez N2FSU, to address these issues as he was shocked by the actions of the board. At this meeting the only directors

who attended either online or in person were President Glenn (Mike) Fletcher, NI4M, and Secretary Dana Rodakis, K4LK.

During the course of this the meeting the membership presented its charges against the directors and board. President Fletcher and Secretary Rodakis were called to explain the mismanagement and their conduct to the members. The only mitigating argument presented was one of "the board has eliminated membership, you are no longer members of the FRC".

Our members saw through this and voted to censure the board members, remove them from office and call a constitutional convention to rewrite the bylaws. A new board was voted in and tasked with auditing the FRC and correcting the mismanagement. Further it was resolved during this interim time no FRC funds would be spent without unanimous consent of the board and then only for legally required matters.

The Florida Repeater Council, Inc. is the recognized coordination body for Amateur Radio repeaters in Florida.

—from QRZ, discussion in 'Amateur Radio News' started by W9CR, July 10, 2017

*[Have you read our recent by-law changes? No, really. In detail? Are you sure? Just saying...]*

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 (except for holidays) 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.

...*Story continued from cover*

to have an entry-level license that offers a way for a newcomer to experience multiple facets of Amateur Radio,” the committee’s report said, “encouraging them to get on the air, meet other licensees, and engage in a lifetime of learning while using Amateur Radio.”

Later in the meeting, the Board charged the ARRL Executive Committee with developing a plan to implement the ad hoc committee’s recommendation to make the current Technician class license more attractive and useful by expanding its operating privileges on HF to include phone and digital modes. The Board

asked the Ad Hoc Entry-Level License Committee to further research and develop the details of a second recommendation to improve successful outreach to prospective Radio Amateurs and help them through the licensing process.

—*The ARRL Letter*,  
Rick Lindquist, WW1ME,  
Editor

## SPECIAL EVENTS TO MARK TOTAL ECLIPSE

Radio Amateurs from several states will gather in southern Illinois on August 17-21 to operate special event station W9E, leading up to and during the 2017 solar eclipse on August 21. W9E, which will operate from Marion, Illinois, is one of several announced solar eclipse special events.

“This will be the first total eclipse on American soil since 1991, the first on the mainland United States since 1979, and the first to sweep across the entire country since 1918. It will be an event you do not want to miss!” the W9E announcement said. “The far southern tip of the state of Illinois is the only place viewers can see the totality of the eclipse.”

W9E plans to operate on 80, 40, and 20 meters (and perhaps other bands, if conditions permit), on CW, SSB, and digital modes (JT65, JT9, and PSK31). All Amateur operators visiting the area for the eclipse are invited to visit.

The Solar Eclipse QSO Party (SEQP), sponsored by HamSCI, will take place on August 21, 1400 to 2200 UTC.

As the August 2017 QST article “The Solar Eclipse QSO Party — Are You Ready?” explains, “The objective... is to flood the airwaves with

contacts, all measured by the automated receiver networks of the Reverse Beacon Network, PSKReporter, and WSPRNet. When those observations are combined with the logs from individual stations, the result will be one of the largest ionospheric experiments ever performed.”

The South Dakota’s Black Hills Amateur Radio Club in South Dakota plans to operate special event K0E on the day of the eclipse, August 21, 1500-1930 UTC, from Harrison, Nebraska. Operation will be on 20 meters (14.260-14.280 MHz) and on VHF and UHF. Contact Bob Ewing, W0RE, for more information.

The Near Zero Sunlite, Great American Eclipse NOS special event will take place August 20-22, 1400-2200 UTC, in Crystal City, Missouri, sponsored by the Jefferson County Amateur Radio Club. Operation will be on or about 3.850, 7.250, and 14.300 MHz. QSL with SASE to Jim

Berger, WA0FQK, 131 Ozark Dr., Crystal City, MO 63019.

K7E will be on the air for the Great American Total Solar Eclipse 2017 special event, August 21-22, 1500-0300 UTC, from Laramie, Wyoming, near the path of totality, on or about 7.183 and 14.256 MHz. QSL Perry Lehman, N7FST, 19828 N. 78th Ln., Glendale, AZ 85308.

Search the ARRL Special Events Calendar for more total eclipse special event operations being held.

—*The ARRL Letter*,  
July 20, 2017  
Rick Lindquist, WW1ME,  
Editor

## HPARC MEETINGS FOR REST OF 2017

Denny Wojnar, House Committee Chairman, has spoken with Misty at Rancho’s about upcoming HPARC membership meetings. Here is the list for upcoming meeting dates:

- August - first Monday, August 7
- September - SECOND Monday (because of Labor Day), September 11
- October - first Monday, October 2
- November - first Monday, November 6
- December - first Saturday, December 2,  
Christmas Party/meeting at  
Hickory Chapel Wesleyan  
Fellowship Building



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

## HPARC AUGUST CALENDAR

- 1 — Air Force Day
- 4 — Coast Guard Day
- 5 — Roanoke, VA Hamfest
- 5 — 20th Annual Catawba Valley Hamfest,  
Morganton, NC
- 5-6 — 222 MHz and Up Distance Contest
- 7 — HPARC Club Meeting**
- 12 — CFARS Swapfest, Fayetteville, NC
- 14 — VJ Day (WWII Surrender of Japan 1945)
- 19-20 — ARRL 10-GHz Cumulative Contest
- 20 — ARRL Rookie Roundup - RTTY
- 27 — HPARC Newsletter deadline

### BIRTHDAYS

- Mike Walker — August 14
- Eddy Byerly — August 19
- John Starrett — August 22
- Mike Cumbo — August 23
- Warren Newton — August 26
- Warren Gallemore — August 27

### 2017 HPARC OFFICERS

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