

OCTOBER 2017

# HPARC NEWSLETTER

High Point  
Amateur Radio  
Club



## OCTOBER MEETING

Can you believe we are officially now in Fall? Where has the year gone?

For the October meeting, David Macchiarolo has planned a program on "FT8; Another Weak Signal Digital Mode." With the Sun Spot Cycle at a very low point, digital communications seems to be the way to go. The latest QST has an article on digital software, and says digital can pick out signals our ears cannot even hear. Should be an interesting program.

Dwight Sledge plans to give a program for the November meeting on his talking voltmeter project.

At the September meeting, Tom Evans, NA4U, got to practice his contesting skills by trying to talk over the QRM in the room (large party in the back). Tom gave a presentation on RF propagation and how the sun affects that propagation.

Sadly, we found out that former club member and club President, Scotty Carmichael, W1SJC, became a silent key on September 13. Scotty joined the HPARC in 1995. He was club President in 1999 and 2000. During his term, the repeater at Elm Towers

was struck by lightning, and Scotty was instrumental in getting the club to purchase a Hamtronics repeater to replace our damaged Spectronics. Unfortunately, Scotty had some medical problems that had plagued him for the last several years. The paper reported that there will be a private memorial planned at some point in the future.

Barbara Mixon's mom, Alice "Jean" Brock, passed away September 22. John and Barbara are former members of the HPARC and have attended our Field Day activities in recent years. We have borrowed John's truck for the past several Field Days. Please remember these families in the calling home of their loved ones.

The November HPARC meeting will be held on November 6, and the December meeting will be held on Saturday, December 2 (yes, Saturday). I tell you now so that you can make plans. Our December meeting is also our Christmas party. We will be going back to a potluck supper meeting. This may create a hardship for some to prepare something to bring for some reason or another, so

I offer a suggestion. Since we are meeting at Hickory Chapel Wesleyan's Fellowship building, if it is a problem to fix an item for our get-together, bring a 2-liter drink or chips. What doesn't get used at our party will be left for the youth at Hickory Chapel. I am sure the church and their youth would appreciate it.

I guess I stepped over my bounds at the club meeting and announced Denny Wojnar, KM4QPW, would be in charge, but I think this falls under Activities Committee which would be David Macchiarolo, AJ4TF. I don't think it would matter which person you contacted if you would like to go ahead and commit to a dish you would like to bring or make suggestions for our party.

We seem busy for a small club. We just need you in attendance to help us out. See you at the October meeting.

**HPARC Meeting  
October 2, 2017**

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

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

# AMATEUR RADIO COMMUNITY FIRES UP FOR MARIA

Caribbean Island residents and the Amateur Radio community hardly had a chance to catch a breath from Hurricane Irma, as recovery operations continue, before Hurricane Maria was knocking on the door. The Hurricane Watch Net (HWN) activated September 18 on 14.325 MHz and on 7.268 MHz (after dark). The VoIP Hurricane Net activated the same day to track Hurricane Maria and its potential impact in the Caribbean. WX4NHC, the Amateur Radio Station at the National Hurricane Center, activated to receive weather information from both nets, while the Caribbean Emergency Weather Net (CEWN) was called up on September 18 on 3.815 MHz (and/or 7.188 and 7.182 MHz as propagation dictates) to provide round-the-clock coverage during the passage of Hurricane Maria and in the storm's immediate wake. It has been handling health-and-welfare traffic in and out of Dominica and is accepting inquiries via e-mail. (Indicate your name and location, as well as that of the party sought).

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) opened 60-meter interoperability nets on September 19, using Channel 1, 5.330.5 MHz (primary voice traffic) and Channel 2, 5.346.5 MHz (digital traffic). These will remain active until the storm has passed and the need for these nets no longer exists.

The Salvation Army Team Emergency Radio Network (SATERN) has been on Delta II extended monitoring status on its 14.265 MHz frequency. "Although the US Virgin Islands were heavily damaged, it was apparent that they had some limited communications capabilities and other resources," SATERN National Liaison Bill Feist, WB8BZH, said on September 21. "Puerto Rican operators reported that there was an island-wide power and communications blackout. It was reported that Amateur Radio seemed to be the only communications that were operational, and that was somewhat limited, as many 2-meter repeater systems were still not operational."

Maxim Memorial Station  
W1AW at ARRL Headquarters

resumed its normal schedule of transmissions on Thursday morning, although the station has not yet been reopened to visitors. W1AW will continue monitoring active nets and 60-meter interoperability channels as needed. The station was helping to support the communication response to Hurricane Maria, monitoring the HWN, SATERN, the VoIP Hurricane Net, and the Caribbean Emergency Weather Net (CEWN), as well as checking Winlink2000 e-mail and providing interoperability support by keeping various frequencies open for hurricane traffic. The station was staffed around the clock during the communication emergency.

The Hurricane Watch Net, the VoIP Hurricane Net, and WX4NHC stood down on September 20. The HWN was active for about 60 hours.

Visit the ARRL website for updates on Hurricane Maria and Hurricane Irma news and information, as well as the ARRL news page.

—*The ARRL Letter*,

September 21, 2017

Rick Lindquist, WW1ME,  
Editor

## HPARC MEETINGS FOR REST OF 2017

Here is the list for upcoming meeting dates:

October - first Monday,  
October 2

November - first Monday,  
November 6

December - first Saturday,  
December 2, Christmas Party/  
meeting at Hickory Chapel  
Wesleyan Fellowship Building

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.

# HPARC NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The HPARC Board has met and selected a nominating committee to select a slate of HPARC officers for 2018. Those on the committee are:  
Bobby Draughn KM4UHU  
Dwight Sledge W4EIO

Mike Cumbo ND4S  
Matt Flyer KM4WON  
Mark McMahan, KB4MFP  
David Macchiarolo AJ4TF  
As per HPARC By-laws, Dan Bly, HPARC President, has selected David Macchiarolo to

be temporary chairman.

If the committee calls and asks you to fill a position for next year's slate of officers, please carefully consider accepting. We need your participation. Thank you.

## BIKE MS: BREAKAWAY TO THE BEACH RIDE

The Bike MS: Breakaway to the Beach Ride will be October 7 and 8. Because of the recent storm activity, a lot of Amateurs are deployed for disaster relief creating a shortage for this event. Below is the contact info [if you would like to help in this event]. Please pass this notice to any

Amateur group. [Amateurs stationed at] rest stops and SAG wagon operators are the most needed.

Here is the web site to sign up for the event:

- Go to: [www.w4bfb.org](http://www.w4bfb.org).
- From the menu across the top, select Activities.
- On the next screen in the

lower right, select MS Break Away to the Beach.

- On the next screen the access code is w4bfb.

- The next screen will bring up all the positions and show those that are open so Hams can sign up.

73,

Bill Thompson, KK4ZIU

## TOP-LEVEL DOMAIN NAME “.RADIO” NOW AVAILABLE

The top-level domain (TLD) name “.radio” is now available to the radio industry and Amateur Radio enthusiasts, and is reserved for individuals and companies with active interest in the radio sector. The .radio TLD can be used for web and e-mail addresses and will be managed by the European Broadcasting Union (EBU) with support from other world broadcasting unions. Visit the .radio domains registration site to request a .radio domain.

Individuals or entities in these categories will be accepted for the use of a .radio domain:

- Radio broadcasting stations
- Unions of Broadcasters
- Internet radios
- Radio Amateurs
- Radio professionals (journalists, radio hosts, DJs, etc.)
- Radio-related companies sell-

ing radio goods and services

- Radio products and services

One or more .radio domain name(s) can be requested during the launch period, which ends on October 31, 2017. The cost for individual Radio Amateurs is about \$30, including tax.

“The EBU believes radio stations should be the focus of this new space on the internet, and considers them our highest priority,” the announcement said. “However, other categories of applications from the radio sector will also be considered during this phase.”

EBU's .radio TLD Manager Alain Artero suggested that those in the radio community may want to consider securing the integrity of their web presence by requesting appropriate .radio domains “for defensive reasons, initially.”

“The TLD will be focused on

content and matters specific to radio, and we want to prevent speculation and cybersquatting in this TLD; therefore, this extension will rapidly become a high-value internet space for websites, mail systems, and other internet applications,” he continued.

The launch process will not be first come, first served. “The .radio team will seek to optimize domain name allocation to solve contentious issues and prioritize existing radio services,” the EBU announcement said.

Starting in November, first come, first served rules will apply, although eligibility requirements remain the same.

For more information, visit [www.nic.radio](http://www.nic.radio).

—*The ARRL Letter*,

August 31, 2017

Rick Lindquist, WW1ME, Ed.



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

## HPARC OCTOBER CALENDAR

- 2 — HPARC Club Meeting**
- 7-8 — EME – 50 to 1296 MHz
- 7 — Rock Hill, SC Hamfest
- 8 — Maysville, NC Hamfest
- 9 — COLUMBUS DAY**
- 12-22 — NC State Fair
- 13 — Navy Day
- 13-17 — High Point Furniture Market
- 16 — National Boss Day
- 16-20 — School Club Roundup
- 22 — Mother-In-Law's Day

- 28 — Lexington, NC BBQ Festival
- 28-29 — CQ World-Wide Contest, Phone
- 29 — HPARC Newsletter deadline
- 31 — HALLOWEEN**

### BIRTHDAYS

Lon Cecil — October 30

### 2017 HPARC OFFICERS

Dan Bly, KB8TLF — President — 336-259-1203 — kb8tlf@gmail.com  
 Mark McMahan, KB4MFP — Vice-President — 336-887-3039 — kb4mfp@arrl.net  
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**Breakfast**  
**every Saturday**  
 —  
**8:00 a.m.**  
 —  
**Biscuitville,**  
**2709 S. Main St.**