

NOVEMBER 2017

# HPARC NEWSLETTER

High Point  
Amateur Radio  
Club



## NOVEMBER MEETING

Dwight Sledge will give the November program on his talking voltmeter project. He has been working on this project for some time now.

At the October meeting, David Macchiarolo presented a program on "FT8; Another Weak Signal Digital Mode."

Nominations for 2018 Officers will be given at the November meeting. Please show your support for the HPARC officers.

David Macchiarolo, Matt Flyer and others (sorry, I don't know who all participated) helped

Pack 16 of the Cub Scouts make contacts for the Jamboree on the Air (JOTA) on October 18. They set up at the Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church at the corner of Skeet Club and Johnson St. in north High Point. Due to the situation and time limits, David and his crew decided to use the Greensboro Amateur Radio Association's D-Star repeater (thanks, GARA). I haven't heard an official report, but I think the event went well. David should give us an update at the meeting.

Don't forget! The December

meeting/Christmas party will be held on Saturday, December 2. We will be going back to a potluck supper meeting. We will pass around a sign-up sheet at the November meeting to tell what you are planning on bringing. If you can't make the meeting or miss the list, contact Denny Wojnar or David Macchiarolo.

Speaking of Denny Wojnar, he told me to tell the club members the surgery went well and he is doing fine.

Hope to see everyone at the meeting.

## US SENATE CONFIRMS FCC CHAIRMAN

In a generally party-line vote, the US Senate on October 2 confirmed FCC Chairman Ajit Pai for a second term on the Commission. Pai would

have had to leave the FCC at the end of the year if he had not been reconfirmed.

"I am deeply grateful to the US Senate for confirming my

nomination to serve a second term at the FCC and to President Trump for submitting that nomination to the

*US Senate continued inside...*

## OFFICER NOMINATIONS FOR 2018

The Nominating Committee has met and made their recommendations for officers for 2017. Their selections are: Dan Bly, KB8TLF, for President; Matt Flyer, KM4WON, for Vice-president; David Macchiarolo, AJ4TF, for Secretary; and Warren Gallemore, KA4LOQ, for Treasurer.

Additional nominations may

be made from the floor at the November meeting. Elections will be held at the December meeting, and, as stated in the HPARC bylaws, no further nominations may be made at the December meeting.

The Nominating Committee for 2017 consists of: Mike Cumbo ND4S, Matt Flyer KM4WON, Mark McMahan, KB4MFP,

David Macchiarolo AJ4TF, and Dwight Sledge W4EIO.

**HPARC Meeting  
November 6, 2017**

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

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

# HPARC CHRISTMAS PARTY/MEETING

The HPARC Christmas Party/Meeting will be on December 2, 2017, Saturday at the Hickory Chapel Wesleyan Fellowship Building. This is the same location we have had our December party/meeting in for the last few years.

We decided a couple of meetings back to go back to a pot-luck style dinner. Bring what you want whether a dessert or main dish (or two). We will pass around a sheet ask-

ing people to sign up for what they would like to bring at the November meeting so that we can be assured to get a variety and not have duplicate dishes.

I understand for some this may pose a problem to cook or prepare something to bring. May I suggest an option? For those who don't, or for some reason can't, prepare something for our party, bring a couple of 2-liter soft drinks. Any drinks left over

will be left at the church for their youth program or any other church group using the Fellowship Building. I am sure the Hickory Chapel Wesleyan would appreciate it.

Please let Denny Wojnar or David Macchiarolo or one of the officers know by the November meeting if you plan to attend and if you are bringing someone with you so we can firm our plans. Thank you.

## COMMERCIAL STATION GOES BAREFOOT AFTER STORM

As the Atlantic hurricane season enters its final weeks, we celebrate a special victory: the power of nature versus the power of 100 watts. Hurricane Irma may have slammed Florida on September 10 but it was no match for the largest commercial shortwave radio transmission facility in the United States. Radio Miami International, WRMI, survived even though its 100,000-watt operation and its impressive array of 68 towers and 23

antenna systems got knocked off the air.

That's not the end of the story, though. Ham radio operators who work barefoot will appreciate what happened next. According to a report in RadioWorld, general manager Jeff White said the station wasn't silent for long. Operating around the clock from inside a reinforced concrete building, WRMI was able to stay on the air with the use of a 25-kilowatt diesel

generator, a 100-watt transmitter and a dipole. Yes, one heroic dipole.

Equally impressive was the much-lower-power station's continued capacity for international reception with reports from as far away as parts of California and Canada. Well things are back to normal now, and we wish our 100,000-watt friends at WRMI good fortune and of course, good DX.

—*Amateur Radio Newslines*,  
Report 2087, October 27, 2017

## WORLD WAR 2 CODE TALKER DAVID PATTERSON DIES

The United States has lost another World War II hero, David Patterson Sr., a Navajo Code Talker who served in the Marine Corps and made use of his Navajo language on behalf of the military fighting Japanese forces in the Pacific.

David Patterson's service between 1943 and 1945 won

him the Congressional Silver Medal. The Code Talkers' role during the war was significant; history notes that the Navajo language was the only spoken code never deciphered by the enemy.

The Navajo nation announced his death on October 8th from pneumo-

nia and complications from a subdural hematoma in Rio Rancho, New Mexico. David Patterson was 94. He was to be buried on the military side of Shiprock Cemetery in Shiprock New Mexico.

—*Amateur Radio Newslines*,  
Report 2085,  
October 13, 2017

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.



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

## HPARC NOVEMBER CALENDAR

4-6 — ARRL November Sweepstakes, CW  
 5 — Daylight Savings Time ends  
 (move clocks back one hour)  
**6 — HPARC Club Meeting**  
 7 — Election Day  
 10 — Marine Corps Day  
**10 — VETERAN'S DAY (observed)**  
 18-20 — ARRL November Sweepstakes,  
 phone  
 19 — Jarsfest Benson, NC  
**23 — THANKSGIVING**

26 — HPARC Newsletter deadline  
 25-26 — CQ Worldwide Contest, CW  
**Dec 2 — HPARC Club Meeting/  
 Christmas party**

### BIRTHDAYS

Steve Chambers — November 20  
 Lewis Denny — November 26

### 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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 HPARC Web page: <http://www.w4ua.org> — email: [w4ua@arrl.net](mailto:w4ua@arrl.net)

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

...US Senate continued from cover Senate,” Pai said in a statement. “Since January, the Commission has focused on bridging the digital divide, promoting innovation, protecting consumers and public safety, and making the FCC more open and transparent. With today’s vote, I look forward to continuing to work with my colleagues to advance

these critical priorities in the time to come.”

President Donald Trump had nominated Pai for a new term in January; his previous term as a commissioner had expired on July 1, 2016, and his new term is retroactive to that date. FCC rules permitted him to remain until the end of 2016. The final Senate confirmation vote tally was 52-41,

although he picked up votes from four Democratic senators.

Pai has primarily drawn fire for his opposition to so-called “net neutrality” rules. All five members of the FCC must be confirmed by the Senate, but the president chooses which will serve as the chairman.

—*The ARRL Letter*,

October 5, 2017,

Rick Lindquist, WW1ME, Ed.

## CHINESE SPACE LAB ON CRASH COURSE WITH EARTH

The Chinese space laboratory Tiangong 1, launched in 2011, is on a crash course with Earth, according to a Harvard astrophysicist, Jonathan McDowell. He said he expects that the decay in the space station’s orbit to bring it back to earth later this year

or perhaps in early 2018. Communications was lost with the spacecraft last year and by all accounts, there is apparently no way to halt the crash landing.

The spacecraft is expected to break up upon entering the atmosphere, with some

of the resulting debris weighing as much as 100 kilograms or 220 pounds. The Chinese have assured the United Nations that there is only a remote chance that anyone will be harmed by the debris.

—*Amateur Radio Newslines*,

Report 2086, October 20, 2017

## CW GETS THE MESSAGE THROUGH IN WAKE OF HURRICANE IRMA

Any CW operator worth his or her salt will tell you that CW is the mode that gets through when all others fall short of the mark. CW certainly did the job for Chet Hogue, N3BK, who handled dozens of messages for residents of Florida’s Lower Keys in the days following Hurricane Irma in September.

“A message from a Big Pine Key man to his girlfriend, who evacuated with their young daughter and was waiting to hear how he weathered the storm, was one of about 80 sent out over the airwaves by Ham Radio enthusiast Chet Hogue in the days following Irma’s destruction,” reporter Katie Atkins wrote in *The Keynoter* in describ-

ing Hogue’s activity.

“Things here are still incredibly a mess!” Hogue told ARRL this week.

The Summerland Key charter captain, known as “Captain Chester,” weathered the storm in place. He noted that the primary frequencies handling traffic were quite busy, so he got on CW, which, he told Atkins, allowed him “to relay messages clearly.” He operated from a station at his home as well as from his boat.

According to the news report, Hogue would transmit message traffic gathered from residents trying to get in touch with family and friends outside the area. He urged anyone interested in Amateur Radio to visit

the ARRL website. “It’s just neat, this system,” he told Atkins. “With a piece of wire and a car battery, you can talk around the world.”

Hogue used a 100 W radio powered from deep-cycle marine batteries, a G5RV antenna on shore and a fiberglass vertical antenna on his charter boat. He kept a handwritten log on a piece of cardboard.

“This is a good reason for all of us to learn CW and use it on the bands, and become skilled at sending and receiving CW,” remarked Whitey Doherty, K1VV, a CW stalwart who shared the news story with ARRL Headquarters.

—*The ARRL Letter*,

October 26, 2017,

Rick Lindquist, WW1ME, Ed.