



February
2025

HPARC NEWSLETTER

High Point
Amateur Radio
Club



W4UA repeater 147.165 MHz +Offset 67 Hz tone
FM • Digital • APRS • Wires-X

W4UA Repeater Updated

By: Peter Kapetanakis, KN4OCX

The long-awaited new repeater is up and running. After receiving the DR-2x from Yaesu unit in November, Terence Crandal, N4TLC has been diligently working to get the settings right and testing the unit to put it through its paces. On February 1st, Terence Crandal, N4TLC, Keith Thomas, KA4JAH, and Peter Kapetanakis, KN4OCX went to the repeater site to get everything all set up in working order.

Among the list of accomplishments was the straightening of our vertical antenna. Peter and Keith made their way to the roof and were happy to see that nothing was broken. The antenna had only been knocked out of vertical by strong winds. The bottom bracket was slightly loose that allowed the movement. The antenna was pushed back to vertical, and the bolts were tightened down.

Back in the shack, a NanoVNA was

utilized by Keith to test the coax and antenna. We were pleased to see that the SWR maxed out at 1.4:1. So we are happy to see that the coax and antenna are in good shape.

The three had to do some maneuvering in a small space, but we were able to disconnect the existing repeater and remove the voice card from it so that we could place it within the new Dr-2X unit. This allows the repeater to audibly ID instead of just in morse code. Once the voice card was installed, the work began to put everything in the rack and bring the DR-2X to life. Tommy Walls, KC4ZZE was our first contact on the new repeater, and we received good signal reports. The only thing we could not do while onsite was to open the ports for the Wires-X. So, we got everything put away and headed to Terence's QTH for some Wires-X testing.

Tommy came to the rescue again as a remote partner helping to test Wires-X.

With W-res-X we have some mixed results. We were able to connect into the W4UA Wires-X room, and we were able to communicate with Tommy while in the W4UA Wires-X room. So that is good. We were also able to get the W4UA room connected to another Wires-X room. And once connected, we could hear operators from the other room. Unfortunately, they could not hear us. We realize that there is a setting that needs to be corrected to allow the audio transfer from our room to others. Terence will be working on that, and we hope to soon have things 100%.

Many things had to come into place, and several members made donations for certain pieces of the puzzle to make this happen. The High Point Amateur Radio Club is grateful to its members for its support and donations. Pictures of the installation can be found in the back of the newsletter. Photos were taken by Keith Thoams, KA4JAH, and Peter Kapetanakis, KN4OCX.

W4UA Programming Schedule

By: Peter Kapetanakis, KN4OCX

This year we have Andrew Talbert, K4XAT as our club's Program Chair. He has been hard at work and has created a schedule of volunteers for programs to be help at our monthly meetings. Should you have any questions, comments, or idea, please feel free to contact Andrew, or any of the Club's officers.

2025 Program Schedule	
January	DMR
February	FT8
March	Wires-X
April	Geochron
May	SAT
June	Field Day Planning
July	Meshtastic
August	Show & Tell Your Ham Gear
September	QSL Cards
October	Remote FT8
November	HT Programming
December	Christmas Party

HPARC Meeting

February 3, 2025 @ 6:30 pm

Mario's Pizza
2645 N. Main St., High Point

Single Sideband Activity Nights

2 Meter SSB: Thursdays @ 9pm ET
144.200 MHz

6 Meter SSB: Sundays @8:30pm ET
50.155 MHz

ARRL's Central Western Traffic Net (CWTN) Training Course

By: Tom Bertolino, KB1P

CWTN is offering a ZOOM traffic handler training course. The course consists of three, two-hour classes and a fourth session if required. The course is scheduled for 1930 hrs. (7:30 pm) or at the end of the traffic net on March 4th, 11th, 18th, and 25th, if needed. The course is limited to 10 attendees, on a first come first served basis. Priority will be given first to Hams in the CWTN area.

If not all the slots are taken, they will be opened to Hams outside the CWTN area on a first come first served basis.

The course is open to anyone who holds a valid amateur radio license.

The course requirements are: 1. Attend all classes, 2. Complete all homework assignments before the next class, 3. Demonstrate: a) An understanding of the radiogram format, b.) You can send and receive a radiogram, c) You can deliver a

radiogram to an addressee, 4. Send three radiograms on an ARRL National Traffic Net.

Once you have completed the course requirements, you will receive a certificate of Training from CWTN.

If you are interested in attending this course, please send an email: to John, N4CNX, at 232trull@gmail.com or Tom Bertolino, KB1P at thbe125@yahoo.com.

Ham Radio Classes

By: Peter Kapetanakis, KN4OCX

The Tri-County ARC, High Point ARC, and Forsyth ARC have formed a partnership to provide online (Zoom) classes for those seeking to acquire their Technician Class operator's license, or to upgrade to a General Class license.

Each course is comprised of 6 class sessions. Each class session is held via Zoom on Tuesday evenings from 7:00 –

9:00pm ET and is free of charge.

The Technician & General classes are held in an alternating sequence. The next course is the **General** Course scheduled to begin **February 18th**. Please note, that the courses are meant to prepare you for the FCC license exam, but do not include the license exam itself.

Pre-registration is required for each course. Please contact Richard Weinbaum, KK4RR at 336-687-8001 or

KK4RR@mac.com to register.

The starting dates for each course in 2025 are as follows:

Technician Course:

January 7, April 1, June 24, September 23

General Course:

February 18, May 13, August 5

Volunteers Needed

By: Peter Kapetanakis, KN4OCX

Hello readers,

As many of you have heard in our club meetings, the HPARC has been working with the Nido & Mariana Qubein Children's Museum to education our younger adults about the world of radio and KK4RR has been spearheading this have dates on the calendar for us to knowledge. To volunteer you must go through the museums volunteer process. To get started, or to learn more, please contact Richard Weinbaum, KK4RR at 336-687-8001 or KK4RR@mac.com.



Get Ready for "Ham Radio Open House" on World Amateur Radio Day 2025

Source: ARRL Letter - January 23, 2025

To help promote amateur radio science and technology, and to honor the 100th anniversary of the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU), ARRL is inviting radio clubs and schools to organize a Ham Radio Open House in April, built around World Amateur Radio Day (WARD) on April 18.

The event is intended to highlight the Amateur Radio Service for its development and practice of the latest radio communications and technology, and as a hands-on pathway into science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) fields for the next generation.

In April, amateur radio clubs, school stations, and other groups will have the opportunity to advance public

knowledge about ham radio by welcoming their communities into their stations for the Ham Radio Open House, as part of World Amateur Radio Day. The focus will be on scientific advancement and demonstrating cutting-edge technology. This is a chance to not only shape the conversation about modern ham radio but also to show how it serves as a steppingstone and testbed for many

young people pursuing STEM education and future high-tech careers.

ARRL has teamed up with [HamSCI -- Ham Radio Science Citizen Investigation](#) -- and the science community organization SciStarter to invite the public to participate in [One Million Acts of Science](#) during April, which is Citizen Science Month. By hosting a Ham Radio Open House at your group's station on April 18, you'll introduce individuals who might never otherwise find out about today's

amateur radio, where science and technology intersect with fun and learning.

ARRL Public Relations and Outreach Manager Sierra Harrop, W5DX, said ARRL is excited to work with HamSCI and SciStarter on this project. "This is an exciting opportunity to really reclaim the public's image of ham radio and show them the modern, cutting-edge technology that's in use by many amateurs," she said.

Clubs are encouraged to showcase

the latest weak-signal modes, such as FT8 using WSJT-X, or other digital modes. This could be a great opportunity to explore new areas of amateur radio and demonstrate how the service is at the cutting edge of electrical engineering.

Look for resources to help organize and promote the event soon. Find details at www.arrl.org/world-amateur-radio-day.

Ham Radio Operators Serving During California Firestorms

Source: ARRL Letter - January 16, 2025

As the firestorms across Southern California continue to threaten millions of residents, trained amateur radio operators are serving critical volunteer roles to help officials spot fires before they get out of control. Dry conditions and wind gusts of up to 100 miles per hour have fueled days of devastating wildfires. Entire neighborhoods have been leveled by infernos.

The Eaton fire burned to the top of Mount Wilson, a critical logistical post for broadcast radio and television stations, as well as communications across the Southland. Federal agencies, air traffic control, local emergency responders, radio amateurs, and others all share tower space on the mountain.

While the main fires have been burning north and northwest of the central section of Los Angeles, just to the south, hams are standing watch. [Orange County Fire Watch \(OCFW\)](#) is a program locally organized by the Orange County Parks Department and the Irvine Conservancy.

During severe fire weather, volunteers go to preassigned locations within parks and open spaces to report conditions. Many of them are hams, using the amateur radio bands to fill in mobile network weak zones.

[ARRL National Instructor Gordon West, WB6NOA](#), is among the deployed volunteers. He said hams are stepping

up. "We're all over the [ARRL Orange Section](#) on hilltops, reporting the wind and humidity, ash seen coming down, scanning for spot fires (none so far), smoke from the LA fires, guest activity at the parks, and being a presence at trailheads with reflective vests and vehicle signs indicating Fire Watch," he

staff have been in touch with ARRL volunteers and other ham radio groups around the affected area, and are offering material support for any activations. "It has been a busy start to the year for ham volunteers," said ARRL Public Relations and Outreach Manager Sierra Harrop, W5DX.

"Whether it's firestorms or ice storms or any other need, ARRL volunteers selflessly serve their communities. We're mindful that large-scale events like this impact the hams who are active serving," she said.

ARRL Director of Emergency Management Josh Johnston, KE5MHV, has been on calls with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and other served

agencies, offering ARRL resources. Efforts are being coordinated locally by [Emergency Network Los Angeles \(ENLA\)](#), the Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (VOAD) group in Southern California.

Johnston urges hams in the affected regions to be ready to take care of themselves and their families before needing to deploy. He points to resources shared by [ARRL's Amateur Radio Emergency Service® \(ARES®\)](#) during National Preparedness Month last September. "These are stressful events for everyone, and being a ham volunteer is really second to keeping yourself and your family safe," said Johnston.



Damage from the Eaton Fire. US Air National Guard Photograph by Tech. Sgt. Joseph

said.

Ray Hutchinson, AE6H, is a retired firefighter who serves as the chief radio officer for Fire Watch. He says local clubs are key to providing the needed RF infrastructure. "Our local club, the [South Orange Amateur Radio Association](#) (SOARA), an ARRL Special Service Club, provides linked 2-meter and 70-centimeter repeaters: one high level and one coastal, for use by OCFW hams during deployments. There is a formal OCFW Net Control Station (NCS) for the entirety of these events.

Radio amateurs are also ready and able to serve at evacuation centers, providing support as needed.

Members of ARRL Headquarters

February

HPARC CALENDAR

- 2 — Groundhog's Day
- 3 — **HPARC Meeting**
- 14 — HPARC Newsletter Deadline
- 16 — HPARC Newsletter Deadline
- 17 — Presidents Day
- 22 — W4VEC High Point VE Session
(Hickory Chapel Wesleyan Church)

BIRTHDAYS

McMahon, Mark KB4MFP
Talbert, Andrew K4XAT

For W4VEC Test information, call or email Keith Thomas, KA4JAH, (336) 906-2469, KA4JAH@Aol.com

2025 HPARC OFFICERS

David Macchiarolo, AJ4TF — President — 336-420-9424 — President@W4UA.org.
Terence Crandall, N4TLC — Vice-President — 336-413-9589 — VicePresident@W4UA.org
Keith Thomas, KA4JAH — Secretary — 336-906-2469 — Secretary@W4UA.org
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HPARC — www.w4ua.org — w4ua@arrl.net — 147.165 (67 Hz Tone) — 443.900

Breakfast every
Saturday

—
8:00 a.m.
—

Biscuitville,
2709 S. Main St.

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. Material in this Newsletter 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. Membership in the HPARC is open 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.

The High Point Amateur Radio Club meets the first Monday of each month (except for holidays) at a local restaurant announced in the newsletter. Come early to enjoy dinner. The business meeting starts at 6:30 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. Contributions and letters/emails to the editor are welcome.

