



February
2025

HPARC NEWSLETTER

High Point
Amateur Radio
Club



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

Amateur Radio Emergency Preparedness Act Re-Introduced

Source: ARRL News 2/7/25 & ARRL Letter 2/13/2025

Legislation Will Increase

Communication Options During Natural Disasters

WASHINGTON – U.S. Senators Roger Wicker, R-Miss., and Richard Blumenthal, D-Conn., and Representatives August Pfluger, R-Tex., and Joe Courtney, D-Conn. announced their joint re-introduction of legislation in the Senate and House to restore the right to Amateur Radio operators to install the antennas necessary to serve their communities.

Homeowner association rules often prevent Amateur Radio operators from installing antennas at their homes even though Amateur Radio has proven to be essential in emergencies and natural disasters such as hurricanes when other means of communication fail.

"Mississippians should have access to every possible means of warning for natural disasters, including amateur radio operators. In an emergency, those warnings can mean the difference between life and death," Senator Wicker said. "The Amateur Radio Emergency Preparedness Act would remove unnecessary roadblocks that could help keep communities safe during emergencies like tornadoes, hurricanes, and fires."

"When disaster strikes, amateur radio operators provide vital, often life-saving information, which shouldn't be hindered by

prohibitive rules or confusing approval processes. The Amateur Radio Emergency Preparedness Act eliminates obstacles for ham radio enthusiasts, allowing them to continue their communications and serve their communities in the face of emergencies," said Senator Blumenthal.

"Natural disasters and other emergency situations that hinder our regular lines of communication are unfortunately unavoidable, which is why we must bolster our emergency preparedness by removing the barriers amateur radio operators often run into when installing antennas. Amateur radio plays a vital role in public safety by delivering critical information to people at all times. My district is home to dozens of amateur radio operators ready to volunteer in the event of an emergency, and I am proud to lead this legislation," said Congressman August Pfluger.

"As we know from recent natural disasters, amateur radio operators in Connecticut can be a critical component of disaster response and emergency management. It is in our communities' best interest that we give them the capabilities to operate at the highest level, and with the re-introduction of this bill, we've taken a strong step in that direction," said Congressman Courtney.

Background:

The Amateur Radio Emergency Preparedness Act of 2025 (H.R. 1094 and S. 459) would require homeowner associations

to accommodate the needs of FCC-licensed Amateur Radio operators by prohibiting the enforcement of private land use restrictions that ban, prevent, or require the approval of the installation or use of Amateur Radio station antennas. Homeowner associations have often prevented installation and use of such antennas through private land use restrictions. This has hindered voluntary training for emergency situations and blocked access to necessary communications when disaster strikes.

Among other provisions, this legislation would:

- Prohibit homeowner association rules that would prevent or ban Amateur Radio antennas;
- Specify an approval process for installing Amateur Radio antennas;
- Provide a Federal private right of action to Amateur Radio operators in disputed cases.

On behalf of America's Amateur Radio licensees, Rick Roderick, the President of The American Radio Relay League, re-confirmed the ARRL's full support for the passage of the Amateur Radio Emergency Preparedness Act of 2025 and extended his thanks and appreciation to Senators Wicker and Blumenthal and Congressmen Pfluger and Courtney for their unflagging leadership of the bi-partisan effort to support and protect the rights of all Amateur Radio Operators.

The text of the House version can be found at this link: [H.R. 1094](https://www.congress.gov/bills/118/house/1094/text/all/2025-01-29)

HPARC Meeting

March 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

Get On the Air for the ARRL International DX Contest

Source: ARRL Letter 2/27/2025

We're seeing peak conditions from Solar Cycle 25 just in time for the ARRL International DX SSB Contest. It gets underway this weekend at 0000 UTC on Saturday, March 1, and concludes at 2359 UTC on Sunday, March 2.

ARRL Contest Program Manager Paul Bourque, N1SFE, is gearing up to operate as part of a multi-operator, single-transmitter station for the event. He is eager to get started. "This is a great contest to work some new DX and to add to your DXCC totals, as DX stations will be pointing their antennas towards the US and Canada this weekend," he said.

The contest is an exercise in endurance, but also a great primer on DX propagation. Earlier in the month, the CW portion of the contest garnered at least 4,830 log submissions.

The nature of the contest means the whole

world is trying to work North America. "Even modest stations can experience the thrill of working some new countries," said Bourque. "Just get on the air!"

If a full weekend of contesting sounds too overwhelming, ARRL encourages radio amateurs to set a small goal – perhaps 100 contacts to start. Get into the groove of it and start stretching the goal. Maybe you'll wind up at 100 multipliers instead. Since each of those multipliers is a DX entity those 100, if confirmed with a QSL, could equip the operator with the necessary contacts to apply for an ARRL DXCC® Award.

With band conditions expected to be good, and activity expected to reflect that excitement, Bourque hopes to receive even more log submissions. "The more, the merrier. We really hope hams will take advantage of this prime operating opportunity."

For complete rules and more information, visit www.arrl.org/arrl-dx.



A radio tuned to 15-meters during the 2024 ARRL International DX Phone Contest. [Sierra Harrop, W5DX, photo]

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



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.

ARRL's "On the Air Live" Continues to Grow

Source: ARRL Letter 2/27/2025

ARRL is equipping the next generation of radio amateurs with the knowledge to get active on the air. "On the Air Live" is a monthly interactive webinar series that does deep-dives into topics aimed at the new and intermediate ham. It complements material found in *On the Air* magazine. February's event had nearly 130 people in attendance.

The events are hosted by ARRL Education Specialist Wayne Greene, KB4SDF. "OTA Live" has seen rapid growth and good engagement in the two months it has been going. "The

most recent 'On the Air Live' covered programming a handheld radio, and we got a lot of good questions," said Greene. "Being an interactive webinar, we have the opportunity to spend time discussing things on which members need more information."

"On the Air Live" is accessed through the ARRL Learning Center at learn.arrl.org. It is a benefit of ARRL membership, and members must be logged into the web site to access it for live or archived sessions.

The next "On the Air Live" is Tuesday, March 25, 2025, at 8:00 PM Eastern. It will focus on advanced

functions of handheld radios, including getting them on digital modes. "We're going to take the handheld radio and expand its capability by attaching it to a soundcard," said Greene. Those who attend will learn how to use APRS and VARA (including Winlink).

"We had a great time with members on the last one, and I hope more people will join us in March," said Greene.



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 educate our younger adults about the world of radio and KK4RR has been spearheading this. We have dates on the calendar for us to share our knowledge. To volunteer you must go through the museum's volunteer process. To get started, or to learn more, please contact Richard Weinbaum, KK4RR at 336-687-8001 or KK4RR@mac.com.



March

HPARC CALENDAR

- 3 — **HPARC Meeting**
- 4 — Mardi Gras
- 4 — Ash Wednesday
- 8 — W4VEC Greensboro VE Session
(Hinshaw United Methodist Church)
- 9 — Daylight Saving (Start) – *Spring Forward*
- 16 — HPARC Newsletter Deadline
- 17 — St. Patrick's Day
- 29 — W4VEC High Point VE Session
(Hickory Chapel Wesleyan Church)

BIRTHDAYS

Boone, Mitchell KY4MO
Johnson, Art N8FNX

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.
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Peter Kapetanakis KN4OCX — Newsletter Editor — W4UA.Newsletter@gmail.com
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.