

# HPARC NEWSLETTER



## MAY MEETING

For our May meeting, Dwight Sledge, W4EIO, will present a program on his Morse Code keyer kit.

Larry Kirby gave a very interesting program on the

North Carolina Aviation Museum in Asheboro showing many of the airplanes on loan and owned by the museum. Please remember the Fly-In on June 7th.

Doug Reid has re-joined our ranks again. Please welcome Doug back into the fold.

Hope everyone is doing well and planning on attending our next meeting. See you there.

## MORE THAN 300 AMATEUR RADIO VOLUNTEERS SUPPORT 2014 BOSTON MARATHON

On a beautiful New England spring day, yet under an umbrella of heightened security, more than 300 Amateur Radio volunteers provided communication support on April 21 for the 118th running of the Boston Marathon – a 26.2-mile race from Hopkinton to Boston, Massachusetts. In a show of solidarity following last year's tragic bombings close to the finish line, a near record number of runners – upward of 36,000 – turned out for the Patriot's Day event along with a huge outpouring of spectators.

The Boston Marathon is a major public service event for the region's Amateur Radio volunteers.

"We received a fantastic showing of volunteer support across the start, course, and finish line from the Amateur Radio community in the wake of the 2013 bombings," said Steve Schwarm, W3EVE,

Boston Marathon Course Coordinator. The level of Ham Radio support for the 2014 event demonstrated that "Boston Strong" remains a rallying cry in the wake of last year's tragedy, he said.

Amateur Radio communication support became critical in the aftermath of the 2013 Boston Marathon bombings, when conventional telecommunications systems, such as cellular telephones, quickly became overloaded and confusion reigned.

The Minuteman Repeater Association coordinates Marathon Amateur Radio Communication, with assistance from the Framingham Amateur Radio Association, the Mohawk Amateur Radio Club, and the Montachusett Amateur Radio Association. The race is sponsored by the Boston Athletic Association (BAA).

Amateur Radio had a larger

presence this year at the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC), where a multi-agency coordination center was set up for the race. The SEOC worked closely with the Boston Marathon Amateur Net Control Center, the BAA Operations Center at Boston Public Library, and the Red Cross Disaster Operations Center in Cambridge.

"Through a combiner and utilization of various frequencies across 2 meters, 1.25

*Marathon continued inside...*

**HPARC Meeting  
May 5, 2014**

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

Meal at 6:30 pm  
Business meeting at 7:00 pm

# TEXAS HAM AGREES TO RELINQUISH HIS LICENSE IN CONSENT DECREE

The story began last January 21st. Responding to complaints of intentional interference to other Hams operating on 7.195 MHz, an agent of the Enforcement Bureau's Dallas Office used mobile direction finding to positively identify the source of the transmissions to the address of record for James R. Winstead, KD5OZY, of Coleman, Texas.

As previously reported, the agent monitored the transmissions for approximately 30 minutes. Throughout that time he heard the replay multiple times of short sentences or conversations that had just been transmitted and someone occasionally speak the word

"George."

The agent then identified himself to Mr. Winstead and requested to inspect the radio station located on the premises. During the inspection, Winstead admitted that he intentionally interfered with Amateur communications on 7.195 MHz claiming that he had an ongoing disagreement with another Amateur licensee only identified as George. He also showed the agent how he recorded and retransmitted other Amateur licensees' communications.

On February 19th the FCC proposed a \$7000 fine which Winstead was given 30 days to appeal. Now, in its Order released April 22nd, the FCC

says that it has entered into a Consent Decree between its Enforcement Bureau and Mr. Winstead. Under its terms, Winstead has agreed to send the Commission a letter requesting cancellation of his Amateur Extra class license. He has also agreed to make a \$1000 voluntary contribution to the United States Treasury in 12 monthly installments. As a result, both the FCC and James R. Winstead agree that the Consent Decree constitutes a final settlement between them with respect to the Investigation as long as Winstead abides by its terms.

—Amateur Radio Newline,  
Report 1915,  
April 25, 2014

## SIMPLE WEBSITE TO ASSIST NEW HAMMS

Miles Burke, VK6MAB, has put together a web site for those who are considering taking up Ham Radio as a hobby, or for those who have recently got their license and want to learn more. The site is written

in plain language and avoids all of the specialized Ham speak words that often confuse newcomers to the hobby. And while located down-under in Australia, its definitely a site for newcomers and those

wanting to become Hams living anywhere in the world. You can sample it for yourself at [www.enjoyhamradio.com](http://www.enjoyhamradio.com)

—Amateur Radio Newline,  
Report 1914,  
April 18, 2014

## CRIMEA IS NOT A NEW DXCC ENTITY

The ARRL Awards Committee has evaluated the current situation in Crimea in light of the DXCC rules and has determined that Crimea is not a DXCC entity. Neither Russia nor Ukraine is a rare entity and the vast majority of confirmations used for DXCC

credit for either entity do not involve Crimea. Bottom line: A QSL with a call sign issued by the administration of Ukraine and showing the entity name as Ukraine counts as Ukraine. A QSL with a call sign issued by the administration of Russia and

showing the entity name as Russia counts as Russia. A QSL that satisfies neither condition does not count for either entity.

—The ARRL Letter  
April 10, 2014  
Rick Lindquist, WW1ME,  
Editor

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](mailto: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 at 6:30 pm at a local restaurant announced in the newsletter. The business meeting starts around 7:00 pm 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.

...*Marathon continued from cover* meters, and 70 centimeters, up to 10 Amateur Radio setups were provided at the net control location with multiple antenna configurations,” Schwarm explained. There were four Ham Radio teams – 34 volunteers in all – at the starting line.

All public safety agencies were represented in the command center, and the net con-

trol received many ambulance calls – about 70 all told – in part owing to warmer weather this year, Topolski said. This year Amateur Radio volunteers relayed ambulance requests to the state EOC using a commercial UHF digital radio system, and Hams spoke directly with MEMA dispatchers. Hams on the course were issued UHF digital radios to request police, fire, and EMS. “It was an addi-

tional resource,” he said. “That worked out well.” Macedo said Amateur Radio operators very quickly had to learn the new UHF commercial system.

All marathon operations secured by about 8 PM, as the last course first aid and finish-line operations closed down.

—The ARRL Letter,  
April 24, 2014,  
Rick Lindquist, WW1ME,  
Editor

## NEW ENERGY-EFFICIENT LIGHTS CAN WIPE OUT RADIO

If you are having severe interference on the High frequency bands, it could be coming from your lights or that of a neighbor or even a business a few miles away.

Interference to radio and even television reception caused by compact fluorescent and LED lighting is quickly becoming a world-wide problem. According to Jim Linton, VK3PC, as we conserve energy by the use of these new illuminating devices occasionally these some will also emit radio interference.

Among the rising number of cases here in the United States fluorescent lights in a Los Angeles office caused

problems for a node of Verizon’s Long-Term Evolution or LTE network. Another that we have reported on involves the fluorescent lighting system electronic ballasts in a Texas beauty salon’s lighting system interfering with a mobile phone network.

In Australia, complaints about TV reception have come to Australian Communications and Media Authority which has traced the problem to some LED lights. In England and elsewhere there have reports of TV interference complaints, even spreading to set-top boxes and cable TV.

But Linton says not to blame the actual technology,

but rather its implementation. He notes that the interference is mainly due to the cheap design used in some products. He advises that if an interference problem takes place to return them to the place of purchase. If you get no satisfaction, we suggest you bring the matter to the attention of the telecommunications regulatory authority in the nation where you live.

Here in the United States complaints would go to the FCC’s Enforcement Bureau with a courtesy copy to the American Radio Relay League.

—Amateur Radio Newsline,  
Report 1913,  
April 11, 2014

## TOYOTA CONFIRMS COLLISION FREE CARS

Toyota Motor Corporation in Japan says that within the next two years it will introduce systems that will make it possible for cars to communicate with each other in order to avoid collisions.

According to a statement by the company, the system will use radio to gather data on the speed of other vehicles to keep a safe distance. Another sys-

tem consisting of cameras, radar and control software will help a car maintain position in a lane on its own.

The system Toyota has developed incorporates technologies derived from its automated driving research and the carmaker has said it aims to create a virtual “co-pilot” in vehicles that helps drivers avert accidents.

Toyota also recently showcased a new pre-crash technology that can steer a vehicle moving at a high speed away from pedestrians when automatic braking alone cannot avoid a collision.

Toyota says that this new system will be available sometime after 2015.

—Amateur Radio Newsline,  
Report 1913, Apr. 11, 2014



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

## HPARC MAY CALENDAR

- |  |                                 |
|--|---------------------------------|
| <b>1 — National Day of Prayer</b>            | <b>17 — ARMED FORCES DAY</b>    |
| 3 — Down East Hamfest, Kinston, NC           | 24 — Durham, NC Hamfest         |
| 5 — Cinco de Mayo                            | 25 — HPARC Newsletter Deadline  |
| <b>5 — HPARC Club Meeting</b>                | <b>26 — MEMORIAL DAY</b>        |
| 6 — National Teacher's Day                   | 29 — John F. Kennedy's Birthday |
| 8 — VE Day<br>(Germany surrenders WWII 1945) |                                 |
| 10 — Rockingham County Swapfest              |                                 |
| <b>11 — MOTHER'S DAY</b>                     |                                 |
| 17 — Freegate 2014, Greensboro, NC           |                                 |
| 17-18 — Dayton, OH Hamvention                |                                 |

### BIRTHDAYS

Ben Rogers — May 21

### 2014 HPARC OFFICERS

Mark McMahan, KB4MFP — President — 887-3039 — kb4mfp@arrl.net  
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**Breakfast  
 every Saturday**  
 —  
**8:00 am**  
 —  
**Biscuitville,  
 2709 S. Main St.**