

AUGUST 2014



AUGUST MEETING

At our July meeting, Field Day operations were reviewed and suggestions offered to improve for next year.

For the August meeting, David Macchiarolo, AJ4TF, will give a presentation on cir-

cuit simulation.

In addition to the Rogers family, we have those in our membership that need your thoughts and prayers. I am hesitant to list those individuals by name due to privacy

and the fact this newsletter is posted on the Internet. We mention those in the meetings. Sometimes all you can do is call someone, and sometimes that is all that is needed.

See you at the meeting.

HR.4969 – THE AMATEUR RADIO PARITY ACT

ARRL President Kay Craigie, N3KN, has issued an urgent call to action to all Radio Amateurs to get behind a grassroots campaign to promote co-sponsorship of HR.4969, "The Amateur Radio Parity Act of 2014." HR.4969 would require the FCC to extend PRB-1 coverage to restrictive covenants. It was introduced in the US House with bipartisan support on June 25 at the request of the ARRL, which worked with House staffers to draft the legislation. The measure would require the FCC to apply the "reasonable accommodation" three-part test of the PRB-1 federal pre-emption policy to private land-use restrictions regarding antennas. The bill's primary sponsor is Rep Adam Kinzinger (R-IL). It had initial co-sponsorship from Rep Joe Courtney (D-CT).

President Craigie also exhorted all Radio Amateurs

regarding support for HR.4969 in remarks appearing in the The ARRL Legislative Update Newsletter. Craigie stressed in the Newsletter that the legislation stands to benefit not just today's Radio Amateurs but those in the future.

"Chances are, those Americans of the future will grow up in communities having private land use restrictions," she said "That is the way the country is going, and it is very bad for Amateur Radio. How can Amateur Radio thrive, if more and more Americans cannot have reasonable antennas at home? You and I have to stand for the Amateurs of the second century."

If the measure passes the 113th Congress, it would require the FCC to amend the Part 97 Amateur Service rules to apply PRB-1 coverage to include homeowners' association regulations and deed

restrictions, often referred to as "covenants, conditions, and restrictions" (CC&Rs). At present, PRB-1 only applies to state and local zoning laws and ordinances.

An HR.4969 page now is open on the ARRL website. It contains information and resources for clubs and individuals wishing to support efforts to gain co-sponsors for the measure by contacting their members of Congress.

—The ARRL Letter,
July 17, 2014
Rick Lindquist,
WW1ME, Editor

HPARC Meeting August 4, 2014

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

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

JACKIE ROGERS, KB4JHL, SK

It saddens me to report the passing of Jackie Rogers, KB4JHL. She passed away July 19 at Shannon Gray where she had been a resident.

Her funeral was held at Greenwood Hills Memorial, where she and Ben were charter members, and the burial was at Floral Gardens.

Jackie, the wife of Ben Rogers, was a long time

member of the HPARC. She was HPARC Treasurer from 1988-89 and again in 1997-98.

In addition to Ben Rogers, Jackie is survived by four daughters: Sandra Pinnix; Pamela Owen; Rebecca Dailey; and Darendra Bowers.

Please remember Ben and his daughters in your prayers.

RING IN DEVELOPMENT AT MIT WILL HELP THE BLIND TO READ

Over the years several devices have been devised to assist the blind to read text. The problem is that most have been fairly large or they require some form of scanner coupled to a computer. Now comes word of a totally new and wearable unit developed by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology Media

Lab promises far more flexibility to those who cannot see.

The device, which is still in its prototype stage, is being called the Finger Reader. A tiny camera at the tip of the wearers' finger converts text into audio. The ring scanner also has the ability to track when the user's finger goes off the line of text with alert that

vibrates the ring.

A market-ready version of the Finger Reader is still quite some time off, and there is no price point set on it yet. But the researchers believe it could be made available at a reasonable cost to consumers when it does eventually go on sale.

—Amateur Radio Newline, Report 1928, July 25, 2014

HAARP CLOSING DELAYED, BUT FACILITY BEING DISMANTLED PIECEMEAL

The US Air Force has given the High Frequency Active Auroral Research Program (HAARP) facility in Gakona, Alaska, a death row reprieve of sorts. The Secretary of the Air Force told Alaska Sen. Lisa Murkowski July 2 that it is "willing to slow the closure process and defer irreversible dismantling of the transmitter site" until May 2015. Those pushing for HAARP to remain open as a scientific research facility include several Radio Amateurs. HAARP proponents claim, however, that despite the delay, the Air Force has been

picking the plant apart piece by piece, and that critical research instruments already have been taken off site.

"The [news release] states that the Air Force is in the process of removing 'non-critical' equipment, which essentially means anything not bolted to the floor such as generators, amplifiers, antennae, and control systems," Fallen asserted. "While I would consider the diagnostic instruments as 'critical' to an ionosphere modification observatory, this apparently is not a universal interpretation." He said

HAARP's diagnostic instruments, including the riometer and ionosonde, have not been available since June 2013 and are in immediate danger of being removed. Hams in Alaska have used data from both instruments in conducting their own ionospheric investigations.

UAF has been engaged in discussions with the Air Force with an eye toward taking over HAARP, although it's not clear that these have gained any serious traction. Read more.

—The ARRL Letter, July 17, 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. 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.

UK CB OPERATOR LUCKLY AVOIDS BEING HIT BY LIGHTNING STRIKE TO HIS STATION

A United Kingdom CB radio enthusiast was likely moments away from being electrocuted when a lightning bolt hit his antenna and blew up his station equipment.

According to the news account Robin Tester had just used his radio to warn a friend of an impending storm. He then turned off his gear and

within moments the lightning bolt struck the antenna located in his garden only some 6 feet away from his home.

According to Tester, the lightning strike destroyed his radio, the microphone and parts of the antenna. He noted that he did have a good lightning arrester connected between the radio and the antenna but that

was destroyed as well.

According to Tester, the only saving grace was the fact that the antenna lead in travels underground so it was able to ground out some of the strike. Tester added that had it not been, it would have been worse. (HuntsPost.com)

—Amateur Radio Newsline,
Report 1925, July 4, 2014

LARGEST COLLINS RADIO AM SHORTWAVE TRANSMITTER SAVED FROM EXTINCTION

A historic radio transmitter has been saved from the scrapheap thanks to three organizations who worked diligently to preserve it. The announced transfer of the Voice of America broadcasting station in Delano California to the General Services Administration for disposal had potentially sealed the fate of the last compete Collins Model 821A-1 250,000 watt High Frequency Autotune transmitters in the world.

Meantime the Collins Collectors Association and the

Antique Wireless Association had formalized an alliance named the Collins Radio Heritage Group. Hearing of the potential loss of the transmitter the latter working in cooperation with members of the Arthur A. Collins Legacy Association began campaigning to save some of the significant historical artifacts related to the Delano Voice of America transmitter site.

In December of 2013 a proposal was submitted to the Voice of America and the Government Services Admin-

istration to recover, preserve and display the transmitter and the studio control console from the Delano site. This past May the proposal was approved and recovery began. The effort was recently completed with the transmitter, studio board and other associated remote gear being removed and shipped to the Antique Wireless Association Museum in Bloomfield New York where they will be displayed.

—Amateur Radio Newsline,
Report 1928, July 25, 2014

THREE HAMS AID IN INJURED HIKERS RESCUE

Three Ham Radio operators have been cited with aiding in the rescue of a man injured on a Colorado backcountry hiking trail.

According to news reports, the Boulder County Sheriff's Office said Ham Radio operator Bill Eberle, AB0MY, was hiking on the Fourth of July Trail in Boulder County on Monday, July 21st when he found a man who had been fallen and was hurt. Eberle

contacted Ryan Fredrick, KD0TSZ, in Colorado Springs, who then called 911 dispatchers in Boulder County to relay the message. Meantime, Scott Whitehead, KA0QPT, with the Rocky Mountain Rescue Group was able to contact Eberle and confirm the location of the hiker and his injuries.

Dispatchers quickly sent rescuers from the Fire Protection District, Rocky

Mountain Rescue Group, an ambulance and the Boulder County Sheriff Office to help. The rescuers found the injured man and brought him safely out. Deputies involved in the emergency callout noted that the Ham Radio operators were a huge benefit to the rescuers. (DailyCamera.com, other published news reports)

—Amateur Radio Newsline,
Report 1928, July 25, 2014



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

HPARC AUGUST CALENDAR

- 1 — Air Force Day
- 2-3 — ARRL UHF Contest
- 4 — HPARC Club Meeting**
- 4 — Coast Guard Day
- 14 — VJ Day (WWII Surrender of Japan 1945)
- 16-17 — ARRL 10-GHz Cumulative Contest
- 17 — ARRL Rookie Roundup - RTTY
- 23 — CFARS Swapfest, Fayetteville, NC
- 24 — HPARC Newsletter deadline

BIRTHDAYS

- Mike Walker — August 14
- Clyde Young — August 16
- Eddy Byerly — August 19
- John Starrett — August 22
- Mike Cumbo — August 23
- Warren Newton — August 26
- Warren Gallemore — August 27
- Scott Carmichael — August 28

2014 HPARC OFFICERS

Mark McMahan, KB4MFP — President — 887-3039 — kb4mfp@arrl.net
 Dwight Sledge, W4EIO — Vice-President — 841-6089 — KK4ERE@gmail.com
 Warren Gallemore, KA4LOQ — Secretary/Treasurer — 883-4944 — warreng960@mac.com
 Newsletter Editor — Mark McMahan — 887-3039 — kb4mfp@arrl.net
 HPARC Web page: <http://w4ua.org> • w4ua@arrl.net

Breakfast
every Saturday
 —
8:00 am
 —
Biscuitville,
2709 S. Main St.