

JANUARY 2015

HPARC NEWSLETTER

High Point
Amateur Radio
Club



JANUARY MEETING

New Year, new board, same old tired president. Oh well, can't have everything. The HPARC starts the New Year with a new board and some fresh faces.

There will be no formal program for the January meeting. Instead, we will select committee chairmen and discuss our by-laws. By-laws state that the president must select chairmen by the second week of January.

As a change, we will do this as a group.

There has been discussion of our club applying for non-profit status with the IRS. The first step towards that goal is to make some changes to satisfy IRS rules. We will start the process by discussing possible changes and starting the ball rolling.

Did everyone have a good time at the HPARC Christmas

meeting/party? If you left hungry, it was all your own fault. There was lots of delicious food brought by the members. It is always good to gather with friends and have fun.

Please be with us for the January meeting. We need your input and participation for the planned business. I am encouraged by the spirit of volunteerism this year. Hope to see you at the meeting.

CHRISTMAS DAY ROLL CALL 2014

Christmas Day Roll Call. Where were you??!! I believe that is the smallest turnout we have ever had. A lot of the faithful were sleeping in on Christmas day. Too many parties, not enough time.

Waren Gallemore, KA4LOQ,

conducted the HPARC Christmas Day Roll Call giving special recognition to Ben Rogers, KA4NHD, who was net control for the net for many years.

Six club members managed to crawl out of bed by 8:00 a.m.

Christmas morning to check into the net with one visitor unofficially checking in with the crowd. Thanks to all who checked in this year.

And for those that didn't check in — you are now on Santa's naughty list.

2015 HPARC OFFICERS

And your new officers for the HPARC for 2015 are (insert drum roll here): Mark McMahan, KB4MFP, president; Dan Bly, KB8TLF, vice-president; Larry Kirby, KI4LHX, secretary; and Warren Gallemore, KA4LOQ, treasurer.

Thanks to those willing to serve as officers for 2015. But

it doesn't stop there. These guys need the membership to step forward to chair committees and help in club events. In short, we NEED YOU.

We will continue Field Day and plan to look over by-laws so we can pursue a non-profit status. There has been talk of restoring the repeater net. To do any of this we need help

from the club membership. Can we count on you?

**HPARC Meeting
January 5, 2015**

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

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

ARRL'S LOGBOOK OF THE WORLD TOPS 100 MILLION QSL RECORDS!

[editor's note: David Macchiarolo spoke briefly about LoTW in January 2013.]

World (LoTW) online "cardless" contact-confirmation service has recorded a new milestone – 100 million QSL records out of some 630 million uploaded contacts. That's an increase of more than 18 million QSL records since the end of last year. First described conceptually in the October 2001 QST "It Seems to Us..." editorial, Logbook of The World launched in September 2003. Since then, it has become an accepted Amateur Radio institution – perhaps not at the same level of traditional QSL cards, but close and gaining. The 100 million contact confirmations,

ARRL CEO David Sumner, K1ZZ, pointed out, is the equivalent of 200 million QSL cards.

"If placed end to end, that many QSLs would reach more than 17,000 miles -- not quite all the way around the world, but enough to qualify as a 'long-path' QSO," he quipped. ARRL CEO Harold Kramer, WJ1B, pointed out that using LoTW can mean a considerable saving in postage for DXers and others over the expense of exchanging QSL cards.

LoTW was an instant success. Within 2 weeks of its debut, the service already had some 2200 registered users and had confirmed some 51,000 contacts out of more than 8 million uploaded. The number of

users today number more than 72,000 – up by nearly 10,000 this year alone.

Over LoTW's 11-year lifetime, many logging programs have incorporated features to enable them to interface smoothly with LoTW. Several awards programs, starting with the ARRL DX Century Club (DXCC) award, now rely largely on LoTW to determine whether an applicant has met the award's requirements. It's also made it easier for award seekers to track their progress. LoTW is the only means to confirm ARRL Centennial QSO Party contacts. The service also supports VUCC, WAS, and WPX.

—The ARRL Letter,
August 1, 2014

COPPER THIEVES TAKE NC STATION OFF AIR

A Morgantown North Carolina radio station was taken off the air after thieves struck sometime on Thursday December 4th. The owners of the station came to work to find thieves had ripped the building apart and done thousands of dollars in damage to the transmitter. The damage was so bad, the station

can't even get on the air.

Owner John Whisnant said that he knew something was wrong when he turned the dial to AM 760 and didn't hear a thing. He said that the thieves got in by cutting their way through a fence topped with barbed wire on the top. They then climbed through a window where they

gutted the stations two transmitters of its copper wiring.

The actual value of the copper wire taken is estimated at only about \$250 but the overall damage to the station will be in the area of \$50,000 to repair.

—Amateur Radio Newline,
Report 1948,
December 12, 2014

BREATH TO MORSE CODE CONVERTER

Some names in the news. The Google Science Fair 2014 Voter's Choice Award has been won by 16-year old Arsh Dilbagi of India. His winning device called 'Talk' converts short and long breaths of air

into electrical signals, that in turn enables people to communicate using Morse code.

Dilbagi who performed a trial of the unit on a hospital patient in New Delhi, now has \$10,000 from Google to fur-

ther develop the device. The announcement did not state if Dilbagi holds an Amateur license.

—Amateur Radio Newline,
Report 1948,
December 12, 2014

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.

CENTENARIAN ARRL MEMBER SAYS CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL FOR CAP OVERDUE

A 100-year-old ARRL member from North Carolina was among those honored on December 10 when the Civil Air Patrol (CAP) received a Congressional Gold Medal for its World War II service, and, for Weldon Fields, W4AJT, of Greensboro, the recognition was long overdue.

During the war, Fields volunteered to become a member of a CAP contingent at Base 16, near Manteo, on North Carolina's Outer Banks. CAP pilots were carrying out anti-submarine missions to thwart submarine attacks off the US East Coast, and volunteers like Fields were needed to provide aircraft-to-ground radio communication. According to CAP, Fields, who became a CAP lieutenant colonel, was responsible for maintaining

communication from the base to the planes. He also contributed his own Amateur Radio gear to the base, back in an era when equipment was anything but small and lightweight.

"I took my radio down there, and lo and behold, the stairs to the second floor [where the radios were located] were about as wide as my radio," Fields recalled. "We got it up there, and it worked okay, but it was kind of a chore." CAP observer planes flew each day from sunrise to sunset, Fields recalled, keeping the radio operators busy modifying and repairing aircraft radios. While his primary work was as a communications officer, Fields also flew some 200 to 300 hours as a mission observer.

"The wartime communications systems and procedures

put in place by Col Fields and his peers laid the foundation for what is now a world-class, nationwide communications system operated by Civil Air Patrol, said CAP Col David Crawford, the North Carolina Wing commander.

"I'm proud to say that from the day we sent the first flight out, there was not another sinking of our boats or any kind of ship," Fields said. Once the German submariners learned of the CAP air patrols, they were afraid to surface.

Forty-six founding CAP members were on hand in Washington, DC, for the presentation, representing the more than 200,000 CAP volunteers during World War II.

—The ARRL Letter,
August 18, 2014,
Rick Lindquist, WW1ME, Ed.

KID'S DAY IS JANUARY 4!

Kids Day is January 4! The next Kids Day, sponsored by the ARRL and The Boring (Oregon) Amateur Radio Club, will be Sunday, January 4, 2015, from 1800 to 2400 UTC. This is an excellent opportunity to showcase Amateur Radio and Amateur Radio satellites to youngsters and even to hand over the keys so they can get some hands-on experience.

For youngsters, their positive Ham Radio experience may foster an interest in getting licensed one day. For veteran radio Amateurs, it's a chance to share their stations and affection for Amateur Radio with the next generation. Call "CQ Kids Day." The suggested exchange is name, age, location, and favorite color. There is no limit on operating time,

and stations may work each other more than once if the operator has changed. Observe third-party traffic restrictions when making DX contacts. Post stories and photos to the Kids Day Soapbox page and download a colorful certificate.

—The ARRL Letter,
August 18, 2014,
Rick Lindquist, WW1ME,
Editor

THAT'S "DOCTOR BOB" TO YOU

Well-known Amateur Radio audio products manufacturer Bob Heil, K9EID, will receive an honorary doctorate on December 20 from the University of Missouri-St Louis. The school will grant

Heil, the founder of Heil Sound Ltd, an honorary Doctor of Music and Technology degree for his contributions to the world of broadcast, live, and studio sound and to the Amateur Radio industry. Heil

will also speak at the school's winter commencement ceremony.

—The ARRL Letter,
August 18, 2014,
Rick Lindquist, WW1ME,
Editor



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

HPARC JANUARY CALENDAR

1 — NEW YEAR'S DAY

1 — ARRL Straight Key Night

3-4 — ARRL RTTY Roundup

4 — ARRL Kid's Day

10 — Winston Salem Firstfest

19 — MARTIN L. KING JR BIRTHDAY

(observed)

24-26 — ARRL January VHF Sweepstakes

25 — HPARC Newsletter Deadline

BIRTHDAYS

Larry Frye — January 15

Robert Erdin — January 16

2015 HPARC OFFICERS

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**Breakfast
every Saturday**

—
8:00 a.m.

—
**Biscuitville,
2709 S. Main St.**