

JULY 2015

# HPARC NEWSLETTER

High Point  
Amateur Radio  
Club



## JULY MEETING

We will take a breather at the July meeting and discuss Field Day activities. Hopefully we will have some scores and maybe some pictures to share with the club.

The June meeting was spent planning Field Day activities.

Because of the July 4th holi-

day, Rancho's will be closed the first Monday of July.

**July HPARC meeting  
will be July 13, 2015**

Instead, we will be meeting the second Monday of July –

July 13, 2015. I hope this does not cause any conflicts with our club members.

We continue to have good attendance at the meeting. Hopefully our date change for this month will not change that. Hope to see everyone at the meeting.

## AMATEUR RADIO NEWSLINE CO-FOUNDER, EDITOR BILL PASTERNAK WA6ITF, SK

Amateur Radio news media has gone silent. Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, of Santa Clarita, California, died June 11 following a period of ill health. He was 73. Pasternak was co-founder (with Jim Hendershot,

WA6VQP) of Amateur Radio Newsline (formerly The Westlink Report) ham radio news webcast and a frequent presence at Amateur Radio conventions. Pasternak served as Newsline's managing edi-

tor and as an occasional newscaster. ARRL Rocky Mountain Division Director Brian Milesosky, N5ZGT, became acquainted with Pasternak at the Albuquerque hamfest, and

*WA6ITF continued inside...*

## FIELD DAY 2015 RECAP

Well, this year's Field Day will certainly be remembered for some time. The severe thunderstorms that came through around 5:00 p.m. on Saturday literally washed out our plans for our hot dog cook-out. It was a real gully washer.

The good news is that the temperature cooled down considerably. I'll take 85°F over 95°F any day. Sunday was a super day as far as the weather was concerned. I

know this will affect our score, but we still had fun.

Thank you to everyone who helped. If you contributed to Field Day in even a small way, I thank you. Your contribution to this event is appreciated. Without the help of our club members, we would not be able to participate in Field Day. Again, thank you.

If you need a reason to operate on Field Day, an email I received after Field Day is

all the reason you need. I got an email from Joe Schoebel, KD9CJX, thanking us for our QSO with his six-year-

*FD 2015 continued inside...*

**HPARC Meeting  
July 15, 2015**

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

Meal at 6:30 p.m.  
Business meeting at 7:00 p.m.

# FCC CHAIRMAN, LAWMAKERS AGREE TO SCALE BACK FIELD OFFICE SHUTDOWNS

Leaders of the US House Energy and Commerce Committee have reached agreement with FCC Chairman Tom Wheeler to amend the Commission's plans – announced in March – to close a number of FCC field offices. Under the revised plan, the FCC will keep 15 of its 24 field offices open. According to a Committee media release, the plan would “ensure better rapid response capabilities for the West, provide a mechanism for escalating interference complaints, improve enforcement of the FCC's rules against pirate radio operators, and prevent the Commission

from transferring field office jobs to FCC Headquarters.” The FCC had been under pressure from lawmakers and others to step back from its plan to shutter the field offices.

The closure plans were revealed earlier this year via an apparently leaked internal FCC Enforcement Bureau (EB) memorandum that indicated the Bureau planned to ask the full Commission to cut two-thirds of its field offices and eliminate nearly one-half of its field agents. At the same time, the Bureau would develop a so-called “Tiger Team” of field agents as a flexible strike force it could deploy as needed.

Under the proposals, initiated last fall, the field office geographic footprint would have been reduced from 24 sites to 8 sites, with the EB set to “pre-position” equipment in several other strategic locations. Offices already slated to remain open are New York City; Columbia, Maryland -- the site of the Bureau's HF Direction-Finding Center; Chicago; Atlanta; Miami; Dallas; Los Angeles, and San Francisco. The other offices the FCC plans to keep open have not yet been announced.

—*The ARRL Letter*,

June 18, 2015,

Rick Lindquist, WW1ME, Ed.

## RADIO CALL SAVES SOTA CLIMBER AFTER FALL

A Littleton, Colorado, Radio Amateur and mountaineer was happy to have his handheld transceiver along on May 17 after he slipped and fell from an icy ledge in Berthoud Pass while snowshoeing. Summits On The Air (SOTA) enthusiast Brad Byland, WA6MM, said he's been climbing and mountaineering for many years now and never before came this close to what he called “a possible life-ending disaster.”

“I'm doing fine,” Byland told ARRL. “I didn't get hurt...only bad wind and sunburn on my face! My daughter says my geeky hobby – Ham Radio – saved me from my dangerous hobby –

climbing and mountaineering!”

“[T]hings went smoothly until about 12,700 feet,” Byland said, at which point, with visibility deteriorating, he decided to turn back. “It wasn't long before I was in a total whiteout,” he recounted. “The ground is white, the air around me is white, and I had no perception of direction and elevation. My iPhone GPS was of no use, as I couldn't read the display. I pulled out my compass for navigation.” Byland said he knew the basic heading he should follow along the ridge, and he proceeded.

“A short time later I had a strange feeling I was floating in air. I didn't realize I was

falling until I landed on my back on a snow-filled ledge about 20 feet below a cornice,” Byland continued. “I was quite surprised and amazed that I suffered no injuries.”

Byland said he'd programmed his radio to a few local mountain repeaters, he was able to quickly contact another Ham, “and the rest of the story unfolded with my eventual rescue.”

In retrospect, Byland said, he should have taken another route or hunkered down and waited for better visibility before descending.

—*The ARRL Letter*,

June 4, 2015,

Rick Lindquist, WW1ME, Ed.

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 p.m. at a local restaurant announced in the newsletter. The business meeting starts around 7:00 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.

...*FD 2015 continued from cover*  
old daughter. It was her first QSO ever, and he was very thankful for the way Dale Waterson handled the contact. As I told Joe, my unofficial slogan for Field Day this year has been "Let's have

some fun." I am proud that our club has always been family-oriented. Although Dale is the one who made contact, I give credit to the entire club. Without everyone's help, this would not have been possible. Field Day is our biggest

event for the year. Everything slows down from here until our Christmas party. But that doesn't mean we still can't have fun. Join us at the meetings and bring a friend or two. And above all – let's have some fun.

...*WA6ITF continued from cover*  
in 1997 was named Newsline's "Young Ham of the Year" (YHOTY).

"An incredible man, ham, and one of Amateur Radio's too-few giants, who woke up every day to make the hobby better for everyone, especially its legacy -- youth," Milesosky said of Pasternak. "I've enjoyed the energy he put into keeping hams informed via Newsline and have been honored to give back to his Newsline Young Ham of the Year Award program, since being asked by him to sit on its judging panel well over a decade ago."

A Brooklyn, New York, native, Pasternak became a Radio Amateur in 1959 as WA2HVK. "I love the hands-on approach to ham radio and built my very first transmitter using parts salvaged from an old Dumont television set," Pasternak recounted in an online biography. He eventu-

ally made his career in television engineering and production, retiring from KTTV in Los Angeles in 2012.

Pasternak was the spark plug behind the all-volunteer Amateur Radio Newsline bulletin -- which was relayed on repeaters around the US and elsewhere -- as well as the creator and administrator of the annual Young Ham of the Year Award. He was the author of three books and served as a writer/producer on several educational films and videos, including the award-winning "Amateur Radio Today." In earlier years, he wrote the "Looking West" column for 73 Amateur Radio Today Magazine and the "VHF, FM, and Repeater" column for WorldRadio.

Pasternak was the only person ever chosen to receive both the Dayton Hamvention Special Achievement (1981) and Radio Amateur of the Year

(1989) awards.

Survivors include his wife of 43 years, Sharon, KD6EPW.

ARRL Hudson Division Director Mike Lisenco, N2YBB, remarked, "Some would say that you measure an individual by the amount of wealth they've acquired. I would say that the true measure of value of an individual is by the amount lives they've touched. If that is the case, then Bill died a very wealthy man."

The future of the Amateur Radio Newsline broadcast, out of production since its May 22 edition, has not been determined.

Ham Radio Now producer Gary Pearce, KN4AQ, has devoted his latest webcast episode to reflections on Pasternak's life from six people who knew him well.

—*The ARRL Letter*,

June 18, 2015,

Rick Lindquist, WW1ME,  
Editor

## COMPANY EXTENDS ALKALINE BATTERY LIFE WITH VOLTAGE BOOSTER

Batteroo is a Silicon Valley company preparing to release its Batteriser product in September. The Batteriser is a small sleeve that fits around alkaline batteries to boost the voltage to 1.5V. This means that batteries that would otherwise be thrown into the trash when the voltage dips

to 1.3V or 1.4V could be used until the unboosted voltage reaches 0.6V, extending the useful life of a battery 8x, according to the company. This product has the potential to reduce the number of batteries in landfills as well as increasing the time between replacing batteries. The

expected price of the sleeve is \$10 for a pack of 4 sleeves.

It can also extend the use of rechargeable batteries in HT's, emergency lights, etc. Should be a useful item in a go kit as well as around the shack.

—K1LPI, June 4, 2015,  
QRZ.com



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

## HPARC JULY CALENDAR

- 4 — INDEPENDENCE DAY**
- 13 — HPARC Club Meeting**
- 11 — Salisbury Firecracker Hamfest
- 11-12 — IARU HF World Championship
- 18 — Cary Swapfest
- 25 — Waynesville Hamfest
- 26 — PARENTS' DAY
- 26 — HPARC Newsletter deadline

### BIRTHDAYS

- Grady Stone — July 16
- Tom Mills — July 26

### 2015 HPARC OFFICERS

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**Breakfast**  
**every Saturday**  
 —  
**8:00 a.m.**  
 —  
**Biscuitville,**  
**2709 S. Main St.**