

JULY 2016

# HPARC NEWSLETTER

High Point  
Amateur Radio  
Club



## JULY MEETING

Sorry for the delay in the HPARC Newsletter. Call it Spring fever, call it Field Day lag, but I just couldn't seem to get the newsletter ready in time this month. Maybe I am wearing out, and it is time for my replacement. How about it?

For the July meeting, we will talk about Field Day. What great weather for the event! One of the best Field Days we have had in recent memory. Hopefully someone will prepare a presentation with pictures and video (hint, hint).

The June meeting program was discussing preparations for the upcoming Field Day.

**July HPARC meeting  
will be July 11, 2016**

Please note our meeting date change. Rancho's will be closed since our meeting night falls right on the July 4th holiday. So we will be meeting July 11th this month — the second Monday of the month. Please adjust your calendars accordingly.

I hope to see everyone at the July HPARC membership meeting. We are acquiring some new faces in the crowd, but we always appreciate our old faces in the crowd as well. (Did that come out correctly?) What I mean to say is we have a great crowd of people in our club, and we look forward to seeing you all at the club meetings. So come on out, bring your old face (or new) and bring a friend or two along. We like visitors. Hope to see you there.

## FIELD DAY 2016 RECAP

What can I say about Field Day 2016? If you were there, you know this had to be one of the best Field Days in recent memory. The weather was almost perfect. Muggy, but no downpours (like last year). Great crowd, great participation, lots of visitors and don't forget the food.

We had at-large High Point City councilwoman, Cynthia Davis, visit us for the better part of Saturday. Late Saturday night, Karl Bowman, NC ARRL Section Manager, paid us a visit. On Sunday morning, Mark Lane with the High Point Police Department

visited. There was a little mishap with him thinking the event started on Sunday. He plans on attending next year on Saturday.

I failed to bring this up as club business in the June meeting, but I had intended to somehow honor the Moores on whose property we have been hosting Field Day for many years. I created a poster that was placed on the visitor's table. That poster read: "HPARC/ARRL 2016 Field Day dedicated to the memory of Willard Moore and Frances A. Moore whose generosity has allowed the HPARC to use

their property for many years. For that, the HPARC is eternally grateful. Thank you."

And what about our Field Day score? Probably one of the highest in recent memory. The total score was . . . oh, you didn't think I would tell here did you? Come to the meeting to get the final results.

**HPARC Meeting  
July 11, 2016**

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

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

# FCC TRANSITIONS TO NEW ELECTRONIC COMMENT FILING SYSTEM (ECFS)

The FCC transitioned to a new Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS) with a “hard launch” on Monday, June 20. The FCC said its legacy system no longer is available, but all documents and files remain accessible in the new system, and saved links (bookmarks or favorites) to documents and proceedings should not need to be adjusted. The modernization project is expected to significantly improve the resiliency and performance of ECFS, the

FCC said.

“This system contains the entire history of docketed proceedings from 1992 to the present,” the FCC said. “New submissions will be added to the public record. We will continue to refine this system in response to user feedback.”

The ECFS has become the most popular way to gather public comments on Amateur Radio-related proceedings. The FCC said the public can use the ECFS to retrieve any document in the system, including

selected pre-1992 documents that have been scanned into the system. The system also lets users browse popular proceedings.

It’s also possible to submit a filing via the ECFS, using Word, PDF, or Excel files, and the system lets filers check the status of their submissions and to see if a filing now is available online.

—*The ARRL Letter*,  
June 30, 2016,  
Rick Lindquist, WW1ME,  
Editor

## ARRL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REMOVES NTS EASTERN AREA CHAIR, EASTERN PA SECTION MANAGER

The Executive Committee of the ARRL Board of Directors has relieved ARRL Eastern Pennsylvania Section Manager Joe Ames, W3JY, of his appointments in the ARRL Field Organization, including his position as Chairman of the ARRL National Traffic System™ (NTS™) Eastern Area. The vote came as a result of a June 16 recommendation from the ARRL Programs and Services Committee, which oversees NTS. In addition, the Executive Committee voted to declare the Eastern Pennsylvania Section Manager position vacant, effective immediately.

The decision by the

Executive Committee results from a determination that Ames unilaterally and repeatedly communicated with officials of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) on behalf of NTS, making commitments on behalf of ARRL without authority and in violation of the rules and regulations of the ARRL Field Organization. Those actions were contrary to the terms of the Memorandum of Understanding between FEMA and ARRL, which states clearly that ARRL Headquarters staff will be the single point of contact between FEMA and ARRL. There is no independent relationship between NTS and FEMA; the

ARRL/FEMA Memorandum of Understanding is the operative document.

In accordance with ARRL bylaws, and after consulting with ARRL Atlantic Division Director Tom Abernethy, W3TOM, the appointment of a new Eastern Pennsylvania Section Manager will be made by ARRL Field Services and Radiosport Manager Dave Patton, NN1N. The NTS Eastern Area Chair vacancy will be filled by appointment made by the ARRL Programs and Services Committee, the committee that oversees NTS.

—*The ARRL Letter*,  
June 23, 2016,  
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 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.

# FCC SAYS “NO” TO LIFETIME AMATEUR RADIO LICENSES

The FCC has denied the petition of an Arizona radio amateur, who had petitioned for lifetime Amateur Radio licenses. Mark F. Krotz, N7MK, of Mesa, had filed his Petition for Rule Making (RM 11760) with the FCC last November, and the FCC invited public comments in February. Krotz wanted the FCC to revise §97.25 of its rules to indicate that Amateur Radio licenses are granted for the holder’s lifetime, instead of for the current 10-year term. Hundreds of radio amateurs commented on the petition, but the FCC was not swayed by those favoring the idea.

“Based on our review of the record, we are not persuaded that the petition discloses sufficient grounds for the requested rule change,” the FCC said

in a June 21 Order. “Krotz’s primary argument is that extending the term of amateur licenses to the lifetime of the holder would reduce the Commission’s administrative and personnel costs, but it is not clear to us that the proposal actually would enhance administrative efficiency.” That’s because the vast majority of license renewals are submitted online and processed automatically by the Universal Licensing System (ULS), “with minimal staff involvement,” the Order said.

The FCC said it had further reduced its overhead by no longer routinely mailing paper licenses. “If license terms were extended to the holder’s lifetime, we likely would receive more cancellations on account of the licensee’s death, which

are labor-intensive, because staff must carefully verify the deceased’s identity and licenses in order to guard against erroneous cancellations,” the FCC said in its Order, signed by Wireless Telecommunications Bureau Deputy Mobility Division Chief Scot Stone.

Krotz argued that the General Radiotelephone Operator License (GROL) already is issued on a lifetime basis, but the FCC said that’s not a comparable situation, because an Amateur Radio license is both an operator’s license and a station license, “and there is no Commission precedent for issuing a lifetime station license.” Read more.

—*The ARRL Letter*,  
June 23, 2016,  
Rick Lindquist, WW1ME,  
Editor

## WELL-KNOWN DXER, DXPEDITIONER MILT JENSEN, N5IA DIES IN FALL FROM TOWER

Well-known DXer and DXpeditioner Milt Jensen, N5IA, of Virden, New Mexico, died on June 10 after falling from an Amateur Radio tower. An ARRL Life Member, he was 73. According to the Pima County Sheriff’s Department, Jensen was working on a tower on Arizona’s Mount Lemmon when he fell. He was pronounced dead at the scene. The mishap is still under investigation.

“Milt was on one of his many tower climbing adventures, and, by no choice of his, it became his last,” his oldest son, Jason, wrote in a QRZ.com post.

Licensed in 1960, Jensen had lived in Virden for his entire life. Especially well known for his 160 meter activity, he spent several years constructing an “8-circle array” of full-sized 160 meter verticals — each 125-foot towers — at his station site south of Safford, Arizona, near the New Mexico border, Lee Finkel, KY7M, wrote in an article set to appear in the July/August issue of NCJ. Jensen operated his “dream station” remotely from his home, often using the call sign N7GP in contests. In addition to his Top Band operation, Jensen was heavily involved

in designing, installing, and maintaining VHF and UHF mountaintop repeaters, remotely controlled base stations, and linking systems. As a contester, he often landed in the Top 10 standings.

Jensen participated in three DXpeditions. He and his wife Rulene, KB5VTM, were part of the 1998 XZ1N team in Myanmar. In 2000, he returned to Myanmar as part of the XZ0A multinational team. In 2008, he was part of the Ducie Island VP6DX DXpedition team.

—*The ARRL Letter*,  
June 16, 2016,  
Rick Lindquist, WW1ME, Ed.



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

## HPARC JULY CALENDAR

- 4 — INDEPENDENCE DAY**
- 9 — Salisbury Firecracker Hamfest
- 9-10 — IARU HF World Championship
- 11 — HPARC Club Meeting**
- 16 — Cary Swapfest
- 24 — HPARC Newsletter deadline
- 25 — PARENTS' DAY
- 30 — Waynesville Hamfest

### BIRTHDAYS

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

### 2016 HPARC OFFICERS

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