

AUGUST 2016

HPARC NEWSLETTER

High Point
Amateur Radio
Club



AUGUST MEETING

You can always choose to be grateful even in bad times. What can we be grateful for with the soaring temperatures we are having? We can be grateful that we didn't have these high temperatures during Field Day weekend.

Speaking of Field Day, David Macchiarolo gave a video and slide show presentation of Field Day at the July meeting. This had to be one of the best Field Days in recent memory in the HPARC. The most people attending; the

most visitors; the most bonus points; decent weather. The final score was 2594 with our bonus points. Thanks to everyone who participated in any way. Your help makes Field Day possible.

Rebekah Malkin will be with us for the August meeting to talk about Bike MS: Tour to Tanglewood. This event supported by the National Multiple Sclerosis Society, Greater Carolinas Chapter.

We welcomed two new members at the July meeting:

Steven Chambers, K4RCI of Walkertown and Tom Evans, NA4U of Denton. Welcome both of these new members to our ranks.

We also decided at the July meeting to have Snyder Farms cater our Christmas Party to be held at Hickory Chapel Wesleyan Church Fellowship Building. Cost will be \$10.50 per person. We will need commitments when we get closer to the event.

A lot going on. Hope to see you in the crowd at the meeting.

AMATEUR ELECTRONIC SUPPLY CLOSING AFTER 59 YEARS IN BUSINESS

Amateur Electronic Supply (AES) will close its doors at the end of July after 59 years in business. No reason has been given for the decision to close the business. AES has been a premier player among Amateur Radio equipment retailers for decades, as well as a major presence at Dayton Hamvention® and other events. Various media outlets were informed of the closing in a brief e-mail message on July 6.

"It's with great sadness that I have to tell you that Amateur Electronic Supply (AES) will cease operations at the end

of this month," AES National Sales Manager Tom Pachner, W9TJP, said in an e-mail. It's believed that the AES staff was notified before the July 4th holiday weekend. In addition to the Milwaukee store, AES operates outlets in Cleveland (Wickliffe), Las Vegas, and Orlando.

Fond-du-Lac, Wisconsin, native Terry Serman, W9DIA (SK), founded AES in 1957 when he was just 18, after getting into the radio-TV business by working in his father's TV and electronics parts store. On January 1, 1998, ownership

of AES shifted to Amateur Electronic Supply LLC, headed by Phil Majerus, a prominent Wisconsin businessman. Serman died the following year at the age of 60, after a period of ill health.

AES continued inside...

**HPARC Meeting
August 1, 2016**

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

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

FCC FINDS A FIX FOR AMATEUR RADIO APPLICATION BATCH PROCESSING PROBLEM

It's taken a couple of weeks, but the FCC has resolved a computer programming problem that had affected its ability to accept and process batch-filed Amateur Radio applications, resulting in a backlog for the Volunteer Examiner Coordinator (VEC) and others taking advantage of automated processing. The FCC information technology staff had been attempting to fix the glitch that had affected the Universal Licensing System (ULS) Electronic Batch Filing (EBF) system since it first cropped up on June 28. At first the problem had affected

the processing of all Amateur Radio and commercial license applications, said ARRL VEC Manager Maria Somma, AB1FM, who alerted the FCC IT Department.

By June 30, it appeared that the FCC had corrected the broader problem, but the EBF remained unable to process ARRL VEC's automated, batch-filed applications and exam sessions. VECs that were manually logging in to upload their files were unaffected. ARRL and FCC IT staffers put their heads together to solve the problem of the blockage.

"The FCC IT staff was

astutely attentive to the problem every step of the way, as they worked with our IT department to find a solution," Somma said. "We appreciate the specialized service we received."

ARRL's IT Department and the ARRL VEC confirmed on July 14 that the problem had been fixed, the backlog of more than 1200 applications and 300 exam sessions cleared, and the flow of automated, batch-filed applications and exam sessions able to resume.

—*The ARRL Letter*,

July 14, 2016

Rick Lindquist, WW1ME, Ed.

ATTENDANCE AT DAYTON HAMVENTION® TOPS 25,000 FOR SECOND YEAR IN A ROW

Given the level of enthusiasm at the 2016 running of Dayton Hamvention® in mid-May, attendance may have seemed up, but for all intents and purposes, it held steady at 25,364 visitors. That figure was down only slightly from the 25,621 attendees reported for 2015, but above the 25,000 mark for the second year in a row. For those keeping track, in 2014 the official count was 24,873 visitors, and attendance in 2013 was 24,542.

Hamvention attendance peaked in 1993 at 33,669, before the 1996 change in date from April to May. While attendance has fluctuated over

the years, Hamvention has grown to international proportions, attracting members of the worldwide Amateur Radio community each spring.

The Dayton Amateur Radio Association (DARA) has sponsored Hamvention since 1952. Originally called the Southwestern Ohio Hamvention, the inaugural event, held in March in downtown Dayton, attracted 600 attendees — twice as many as had been predicted. Today it is the world's largest Amateur Radio gathering.

DARA now is counting down the days to the next Hamvention on May 19-21,

2017. Hamvention's new General Chairman is Ron Cramer, KD8ENJ, who succeeded Jim Tiderman, N8IDS. Tiderman reported an "overall good mood" and "a positive attitude" at this year's event and said the Hamvention staff received many upbeat comments.

Hamvention's post-show Satisfaction Survey is soliciting comments and observations from those who attended this year's big show. — Thanks to Henry Ruminski, W8HJR

—*The ARRL Letter*,

July 14, 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.

...AES continued from cover

For many years, the public face of AES was its Executive Vice President Ray Grenier, K9KHW, who oversaw marketing and advertising for the retailer from 1964 until his retirement in 2013. Grenier nearly singlehandedly produced the famous AES catalog, as well

as magazine ads. For about 20 years, he also organized the well-received AES Superfest, a promotional effort begun in 1995 that grew into a Hamfest. In April, the AES Superfest hosted the 2016 ARRL Wisconsin Section Convention.

Many Radio Amateurs reacted to the news on vari-

ous online forums, expressing surprise, sadness, and dismay, and saying they would miss AES. A few reminisced about having bought their first radios from AES.

—*The ARRL Letter*,
July 7, 2016

Rick Lindquist, WW1ME,
Editor

HAM RADIO OUTLET TO ACQUIRE SOME AES EMPLOYEES, RE-OPEN MILWAUKEE LOCATION AS HRO BRANCH

Ham Radio Outlet (HRO) has announced plans to hire an unspecified number of Amateur Electronic Supply (AES) employees when AES shuts down its four locations in late July. In addition, the current AES Headquarters store in Milwaukee will become HRO's newest location later this summer, following renovation. On July 1, AES announced that it was going out of business and ending retail operations at its Milwaukee, Las Vegas, Cleveland, and Orlando locations. With the approval of AES management, HRO senior managers visited each AES location to interview staffers in hopes of "acquiring some of the Amateur Radio retail employee talent in each of the current AES locations," an HRO news release said.

"Together with this interview

process, HRO examined what it would take to perhaps acquire one or more of the AES store locations. At the time of these interviews, many opportunities were explored with current AES senior management," the release continued. "We are very excited to announce that HRO was successful in providing offers of employment to a number of soon-to-be-former AES employees, and that to some, we have offered positions that involve HRO-sponsored and funded relocation."

HRO announced that once AES shuts its Milwaukee location on July 28, Ham Radio Outlet will undertake an extensive remodeling project to create a new HRO Milwaukee store at the same site, which will open at the end of August.

"It is with great pleasure that we are able to continue

Terry Sterman's and Phil Majerus' legacy of providing a fantastic Amateur Radio store in Milwaukee, Wisconsin," said HRO President Robert Ferrero, W6KR. "It is our immediate goal to have the largest, most well-stocked Amateur Radio retail store in North America and perhaps even the world."

After AES closes on July 28, all former AES locations' direct and toll-free telephone numbers will be redirected to the closest HRO location, and the AES website will be directed to HRO's website.

A family-owned business, HRO is the world's largest Amateur Radio dealership, with locations from New England to the West Coast.

—*The ARRL Letter*,
July 14, 2016

Rick Lindquist, WW1ME,
Editor

2016 HPARC COMMITTEES

Repeater:	Lon Cecil, co-chairman; David Macchiarolo, co-chairman; Mark McMahan
House:	John Starrett, chairman; Roland Wright, Dan Bly
Special Activities:	Mark McMahan, chairman; David Macchiarolo, Dale Waterson
Education:	Sam Hall, chairman; Dwight Sledge; David Macchiarolo
Membership:	Warren Gallemore, chairman; Roland Wright; Lon Cecil; Mark McMahan
Finance:	Warren Gallemore, chairman; David Macchiarolo; Dan Bly
Publicity:	Lon Cecil, chairman; David Macchiarolo; Warren Gallemore; Jerry Yarborough
Program:	David Macchiarolo, chairman; Warren Gallemore; Dwight Sledge



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

HPARC AUGUST CALENDAR

- 1 — Air Force Day
- 1 — HPARC Club Meeting**
- 4 — Coast Guard Day
- 6 — Roanoke, VA Hamfest
- 13 — CFARS Swapfest, Fayetteville, NC
- 14 — VJ Day (WWII Surrender of Japan 1945)
- 20-21 — ARRL 10-GHz Cumulative Contest
- 21 — ARRL Rookie Roundup - RTTY
- 28 — HPARC Newsletter deadline

BIRTHDAYS

- Mike Walker — August 14
- Eddy Byerly — August 19
- John Starrett — August 22
- Mike Cumbo — August 23
- Warren Newton — August 26
- Warren Gallemore — August 27

2016 HPARC OFFICERS

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