

SEPTEMBER 2016

# HPARC NEWSLETTER

High Point  
Amateur Radio  
Club



## SEPTEMBER MEETING

Our club meeting will be delayed until the second Monday of September due to the Labor Day holiday. If you are traveling, be safe and have fun. Or as Roland would say, "Be good and have fun. And if you can't be good, don't get caught."

David Macchiarolo, AJ4TF, will be giving a program on Fox Hunting at the September meeting. In years past, the HPARC had a good time conducting Fox Hunts. Should be interesting. Maybe we can spark some interest.

Rebekah Malkin with the Greensboro Chapter of the

Multiple Sclerosis Society solicited help from the club for Bike MS: Tour to Tanglewood.

**September HPARC meeting  
will be September 12, 2016**

Rebekah gave us a short run down on the cycling event as well as some information on Multiple Sclerosis.

September will be a busy month for the HPARC. We will need to have a Board meeting to select a nominating committee and decide on other matters. One matter being considered is moving the club meeting nights to the second

Monday of the month. What do you think? Let a Board member know your opinion.

A special request: we have some club members who would love to attend the meeting but cannot for one reason or another. Remember these members and call or drop them a line once in a while. I am sure they would appreciate hearing from the club.

We had a good attendance for the July meeting when we had to change meeting nights. Can we do the same for September? Hope so. I will be looking for everyone to attend. See you at the meeting.

## GROWTH IN NEW AMATEUR RADIO LICENSEES AHEAD OF LAST YEAR'S

The ARRL Volunteer Examiner Coordinator (VEC) reports that 20,447 new US Amateur Radio licenses have been issued since January 1. That's nearly 1500 ahead of the number that had been issued by this time last year. At the present pace, the U.S. is on track to exceed 30,000 new Radio Amateurs for the third straight year by the end of the year.

"While I am thrilled with

this prospect, I'm also keenly aware that without some mentoring, these new Hams' initial curiosity and enchantment may fade if they don't get on the air right away," said ARRL VEC Manager Maria Somma, AB1FM.

"Let's show these new Hams what the magic is all about," she urged.

In addition, the ARRL VEC reports that upgrades are on

track to reach nearly 11,000 by year's end.

—*The ARRL Letter*,  
August 11, 2016

Rick Lindquist, WW1ME, Ed.

**HPARC Meeting  
September 12, 2016**

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

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

# THREE COMPANIES AGREE TO PLEAD GUILTY FOR FIXING PRICES OF ELECTROLYTIC CAPACITORS

The US Department of Justice announced that three companies have agreed to plead guilty for their roles in a conspiracy to fix prices for electrolytic capacitors sold to customers in the US and elsewhere. The companies are Rubycon Corporation, Elna Co. Ltd, and Holy Stone Holdings Co. Ltd.

“The Antitrust Division has now charged five companies and one individual for their participation in this international price-fixing conspiracy,” Deputy Assistant

Attorney General Brent Snyder of the Justice Department’s Antitrust Division, said in an August 23 Justice Department news release. “The electrolytic capacitors conspiracy affected millions of American consumers who use electronic devices containing capacitors every day.”

The division filed one-count felony charges against each of the three companies in US District Court in San Francisco. In addition to pleading guilty to

the charges against them, each company has agreed to pay a criminal fine and to cooperate with the Division’s ongoing investigation. The plea agreements are subject to court approval.

NEC TOKIN Corp. and Hitachi Chemical Co. Ltd already pleaded guilty earlier to participating in the same worldwide conspiracy.

—*The ARRL Letter*,

August 25, 2016

Rick Lindquist, WW1ME, Ed.

## HIS ‘N HERS HAMS

Most married Hams, or Hams in relationships, know that the typical response from your significant other to the phrase, “Let’s bring the radios on vacation with us!” is met with something like, “Then you can leave me at home.”

But not for Rich Seifert, KE1B and his girlfriend Anna Sombor, W6NN. They’ve turned every vacation into a DXPedition.

They weren’t both Hams at the beginning. Seifert had a long, storied career in Silicon Valley technology. He was licensed at a young age, but went QRT for two decades while he worked. Finally, he got back on the air, and got his girlfriend interested:

“I put her on 20 meters phone and she’d call CQ and you know that YL voice is worth a couple of S-units,” says Rich. “She’d have a pileup of Europeans and she’d be having QSOs in Hungarian, in Italian, in Russian, you name it,

she speaks it! And she’s having a blast. So she decides, hmmm....I ought to get my own license. And we would start doing contests together as multi-single.”

In their case, packing radios was actually Anna’s idea:

“She comes up with a fiendish plan: ‘Hey, I’d really like to go lay on a Caribbean beach.’” I say, “I don’t want to lay on a Caribbean beach. That’s not my idea of fun anyway.” She says: “How about we go to a Caribbean beach, and you bring a radio?” I say: “OK, now we’re talking.” So our first one, I didn’t have a radio to bring along. Our first holiday DXPedition we rented the house at PJ2T in Curacao. You can rent the house, which has living accommodations and it is a MAJOR contest station!”

They soon realized that there was a limit to the available

“rent-a-shacks,” so he designed a “Station-in-a-box” that could travel with them. And thus began the next phase of their lives: “And so our first expedition like that I think was to VP5 in the Turks and Caicos,” says Rich, “and what started there became our regular modus operandi.”

Together, they’re living a Ham’s dream, traveling and working all over the world.

“We started on Providenciales in the Turks and Caicos and then to Tiga, Grenada and Malta in the Mediterranean. And the Canary Islands. We just came back from a dual trip in the Grenadines and Barbados.”

Listen for their contest call, K6 Monkey Monkey Monkey, and get in on the fun.

—*Amateur Radio Newslines*,

Report 2024,

August 12, 2016

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 (except for holidays) 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.

# NEW HAMVENTION VENUE: "YOU WILL BE VERY IMPRESSED," CHAIRMAN ASSURES

Dayton Hamvention® is moving on after 52 years at Hara Arena. 2017 preparations at the show's new venue in Xenia, Ohio, now are in full swing. Hamvention announced on August 1 that it would relocate to the Greene County Fairgrounds, after Hara Arena made it known that it would close at month's end.

"Change is hard for everyone, but I think this is a very good move for us," General Chair Ron Cramer, KD8ENJ, said. "You will be very impressed." Official spokesperson Mike Kalter, W8CI, echoed the sentiment. "We want to start out great and get awesome." Kalter said.

Kalter assured those planning to attend Hamvention that Fairgrounds buildings — particularly those used for showing livestock during the county fair — are "absolutely clean" and well maintained. He and Cramer expressed confidence that everyone will find plenty of available parking and room for all traditional Hamvention activities — more than may be evident at first glance. Vendors who have already visited the new site to get the lay of the land went away "excited," they said.

Cramer quashed one misconception about Hara Arena. "Even though they had air conditioning," he said, "air conditioning was never used there. The doors were open, and they did not want to turn on the air conditioning unless the doors were closed. So, I don't think air conditioning was used at all — at least in the last 10 years."

Some air conditioned space

already available at the new venue may be suitable for such activities as forums, and the Fairgrounds is looking to upgrade existing ventilation systems in non-air conditioned buildings.

The prime area under consideration for the popular outdoor flea market is inside the race-track oval, they said, and additional adjacent space is available, if it's needed.

The venue will have wireless Internet coverage. "We've already moved some of the equipment out of Hara, and we think it will do a good job there," Cramer said.

As for the admission price, "We're still working on that," Kalter said. "We have not made a decision. We may leave it at the same price or slightly more than that,

but no great increase." Tickets this year were \$20 in advance and \$25 at the gate for all 3 days.

Cramer and Kalter said Hamvention anticipates being ready to start selling tickets and vendor spaces by November — and perhaps earlier.

Kalter stressed that the sponsoring Dayton Amateur Radio Association (DARA) puts "an awful lot back into Ham Radio in donations," all raised entirely through Hamvention.

"We need your help. We need your support," Kalter said. "Hamvention needs to move on, and we intend to make it happen, with everybody's help."

—*The ARRL Letter*,

August 11, 2016

Rick Lindquist, WW1ME,  
Editor

## NEW FAIRGROUNDS VENUE "PERFECT FOR HAMVENTION"

DX Engineering Chief Operating Officer Tim Duffy, K3LR, says he's enthusiastic about the new Dayton Hamvention® venue at the Greene County Fairgrounds — both as a vendor and as an individual Radio Amateur. DX Engineering recently produced a short 8 minute video tour of the new Hamvention location.

"The new venue is huge, and it is clean — it will be perfect for Hamvention," Duffy told ARRL." Duffy said he likes the Greene County Fairgrounds so much that he thinks that Hamvention will be even better at its new site than it had been for the past 10 years or so

at Hara Arena.

For his part, Duffy was enthusiastic about the size of the new site. "This place is so big!" he said. The Fairgrounds covers more than 100 acres, and Duffy said he checked out every building. He was impressed to see DARA volunteers showing up at the new Hamvention site every day as they prepare for their Xenia debut in 2017.

"What I saw here today — I think you're well on your way," Duffy said. "Things are on the right track."

—*The ARRL Letter*,

August 25, 2016

Rick Lindquist, WW1ME, Ed.



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

## HPARC SEPTEMBER CALENDAR

2-4 — Shelby Hamfest  
**5 — LABOR DAY**  
 10-12 — ARRL Sept. VHF QSO Party  
 10 — Virginia Beach, VA Hamfest  
 10 — Bush Hill Heritage Festival, Archdale  
**11 — PATRIOT DAY** (in honor of those  
 who lost their lives on Sept. 11, 2001)  
 11 — Grandparent's Day  
**12 — HPARC Membership Meeting**  
 17 — Constitution Day/Citizenship Day  
 17-18 — ARRL 10-GHz Cumulative Contest  
 17 — Day In The Park, High Point, NC

**22 — First Day of Fall**  
 24 — Everybody's Day, Thomasville, NC  
 25 — HPARC Newsletter deadline

### BIRTHDAYS

Dwight Sledge — September 7  
 Bobby Draughn — September 11

### 2016 HPARC OFFICERS

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