

FEBRUARY 2017

# HPARC NEWSLETTER

High Point  
Amateur Radio  
Club



## FEBRUARY MEETING

Tom Evans, NA4U, will give the program for the February meeting. I don't have word on what the program will be.

At January meeting, David Macchiarolo talked about how repeaters work. David demonstrated a free program available on the Internet to program your handie and even programmed handies for some of the members present.

Speaking of repeaters, the HPARC voted at the January meeting to put a 67 Hz tone on

the repeater. This means you will need to add this tone to your handie or mobile in order to access the repeater. For the time being, the tone will be active, but will not block radios not transmitting the tone. In 90 days, the tone will become permanent at which time you will need to transmit the tone from your radio or not be able to bring up the repeater. If you need help programming your radio, please contact David Macchiarolo or Lon Cecil.

There was some discussion about Field Day at the January meeting. Mrs. Moore's passing this past year leaves our choice of Field Day site in question. The club may need to research other areas for Field Day in the eventuality that we may need a new site.

Hope everyone is doing well. I know the flu and colds have been circulating quite a bit. Hope this newsletter finds you well, and we will look forward to seeing you at the February meeting.

## NEW "AMATEUR RADIO PARITY ACT" BILL INTRODUCED IN US HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

H.R. 555 — a new "Amateur Radio Parity Act" bill — has been introduced in the U.S. House of Representatives. The bill's language is identical to that of the 2015 measure, H.R. 1301, which passed in the House late last summer but failed to gain the necessary support in the waning days of the US Senate.

As with H.R. 1301, the new measure introduced on January 13 in the 115th Congress was sponsored by Rep. Adam Kinzinger (R-IL), with initial co-sponsorship by Rep. Joe Courtney (D-CT) and Rep. Greg Walden, W7EQI (R-OR).

Walden now chairs the House Committee on Energy and Commerce, to which the new bill has been referred. H.R. 555 will get an initial airing in the Subcommittee on Communications and Technology. When H.R. 1301 came up in committee, Walden spoke forcefully in favor of the measure, which ultimately attracted 126 House cosponsors.

"Rep. Kinzinger has again stepped forward to introduce this important legislation," said ARRL CEO Tom Gallagher, NY2RF. "His commitment stems from exposure to what the Amateur Radio

community brings to the service of all communities. ARRL and Radio Amateurs nationwide owe Rep. Kinzinger a resounding "Thank You!" for his efforts on their behalf."

H.R. 555 calls on the FCC to establish rules prohibiting the

*H.R.555 continued inside...*

**HPARC Meeting  
February 6, 2017**

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

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

# RADIO CLUB OF AMERICA ANNOUNCES NEW “WIRELESS WOMEN” SECTION ON WEBSITE

In an effort to encourage more participation of women and girls in the wireless industry, the Radio Club of America (RCA) has created a new “Wireless Women” section on its website, designed to assist women considering careers in wireless and encouraging them to get involved in technology. Information includes resources such as “Notable Women in Wireless,” “RCA’s Vivian Carr Award,” and “Professional Wireless Organizations for Women,” as well as web

resources for women and girls interested in wireless. There’s also a list of universities that have an engineering focus and significant enrollment by women.

“RCA has a long history of recognizing the achievements of women in wireless,” RCA President Tim Duffy, K3LR, said. “Three former RCA presidents are women, and we have many female officers, directors, and committee members. We created the Vivian Carr award in 2014 to recognize

[WB2MGP] has led RCA’s effort to educate youth about wireless for decades.”

Duffy credited the efforts of several female RCA members, including Secretary Margaret Lyons P.E., Executive Committee member and Marketing & Development Committee Chair Elaine Walsh, former RCA president Mercy Contreras, and others, for assembling the information that might be useful to women and girls who are interested in wireless. “We welcome additional ideas or input from the wireless community to help this section of our website become more useful,” Duffy said.

—*The ARRL Letter*,  
January 12, 2017

Rick Lindquist, WW1ME, Ed.

*“I think there is a world market  
for maybe five computers.”*

—Thomas Watson, president of IBM, 1943

women who have contributed significantly to the wireless industry, and Director Carole Perry

## USING CODE IN A FLASH

It wasn’t a straight key, or even a bug, but a flashlight - also known as a torch - that helped rescue an injured Army reservist recently when he was visiting Seatown in Dorset in the UK.

Sgt. Tim Robinson broke his leg after slipping on some seaweed during a walk on the Jurassic Coast, east of Lyme Regis. Without a mobile phone, he could not telephone for help. According to some media accounts, he crawled and staggered in the direction of his

hotel for about two hours. As darkness crept in, however, the injured reservist realized he still had one reliable means of communication - his pocket flashlight. He signaled “SOS” in Morse Code in the direction of the hotel where the Derbyshire couple were staying more than a mile away. He had hoped that’s where his wife Paula would be looking for him.

He repeated the Code message three more times. His wife, who was at a car

park, followed the signals and responded. The couple exchanged signals five more times until she located him. After she summoned help, a lifeboat transported him to Lyme Regis and he was transferred there to a hospital. He later told his rescuers “I’ve had two tours of Afghanistan and one in Iraq and there were a few incidents over there, but nothing quite as dramatic as what happened on this beach”.

—*Amateur Radio Newslines*,  
Report 2048, Jan. 27, 2017

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.

...H.R.555 continued from cover

application of deed restrictions that preclude Amateur Radio communications on their face or as applied. Deed restrictions

would have to impose the minimum practicable restriction on Amateur Radio communications to accomplish the lawful purposes of homeowners asso-

ciations seeking to enforce the restriction.

—*The ARRL Letter*,  
January 19, 2017

Rick Lindquist, WW1ME, Ed.

## HAMS UPSET AS NEW HOTEL OWNER WANTS REPEATER REMOVED FROM ROOF

A controversy has erupted on New York's Long Island, where the owner of the Islandia Marriott — soon to become a casino — wants two Amateur Radio repeaters and antennas removed from the roof of the hotel that's been their home for nearly 30 years. Town of Babylon ARES Emergency Coordinator and RACES Radio Officer John Melfi, W2HCB, said removing the repeaters would severely hamper the ability of Long Island radio Amateurs to support communication in the event of a disaster or emergency.

"People don't understand what these [repeaters] mean to the community," Melfi told ARRL. An ARRL Hudson Division Assistant Director, Melfi is also the president of the Great South Bay Amateur Radio Club (GSBARC), and club members pressed the two repeaters into service a year ago after a major snowstorm shut down Greater New York

City. The club said removing them will be a "devastating blow" to Amateur Radio emergency communications. The WR2UHF repeater is part of the Internet Radio Linking Project (IRLP), Melfi said, while WD2NY is a D-STAR machine. Owned by Preston Waterman, W2PW, both are affiliated with GSBARC. Melfi said that Waterman had an agreement in place with the hotel to use the site.

The hotel's new owner, Delaware North, has expressed concerns about safety and security at the casino and said it wants the equipment off the hotel roof sooner rather than later.

Melfi said it would be "almost impossible" to find another comparable location, and that, in any event, relocating the repeaters would prove costly and difficult. The equipment is expected to be moved in February, but the club has begun an online petition drive that has already

collected some 350 signatures.

Melfi told ARRL that he's hoping that the GSBARC and Delaware North will be able to reach a formal memorandum of understanding that spells out access guidelines, so the repeaters and antenna can remain in place atop the soon-to-be casino.

In a statement, Delaware North told Long Island News 12, "We are not aware of any agreement that the previous hotel owner had in place to allow the antenna to be housed on the property, and we will no longer permit the use of the equipment or access to the roof. The area needs to be secure due to safety and security concerns, so we have taken steps to limit access. We asked the leader of the Amateur Radio group who approached us to find another location for the antenna, and we offered our assistance in moving the equipment."

—*The ARRL Letter*,  
January 19, 2017

Rick Lindquist, WW1ME, Ed.

## MAUI HAM GIVES 100 RADIO EXAMS

The Maui Amateur Radio Club recently honored Mel Fukunaga, KH6H, for his long-term dedication to Amateur Radio licensing on Maui.

Since 1982, Fukunaga has been in charge of the Volunteer Examiners on Maui and on December 2 he administered his 100th exam session. Fukunaga and the club give exams three times a year:

April, August and December.

Fukunaga was also for many years the Amateur Radio emergency communications lead on Maui until he retired from that position at the start of 2017. He organized and trained the Ham volunteers, who are prepared to help with emergency communications in the event of a failure of other links such as landlines, cell-

phones and the internet.

Fukunaga has spent countless hours in the back room of the Civil Defense Emergency Operations center passing messages during drills and activations and was prepared to provide emergency communications between Maui and Oahu if necessary.

—QRZ.com  
January 30, 2017



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

## HPARC FEBRUARY CALENDAR

- 2 — GROUNDHOG DAY**
- 4 — Richmond, VA Frostfest
- 5 — Super Bowl Sunday
- 6 — HPARC Club Meeting**
- 12 — Lincoln's Birthday
- 13-17 — School Club Roundup
- 14 — VALENTINE'S DAY**
- 19-20 — ARRL International DX Contest, CW
- 20 — PRESIDENT'S DAY**
- 22 — Washington's Birthday
- 26 — HPARC Newsletter Deadline

### BIRTHDAYS

Mark McMahan — February 7

### 2017 HPARC OFFICERS

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