

NOVEMBER 2018

# HPARC NEWSLETTER

High Point  
Amateur Radio  
Club



## NOVEMBER MEETING

David Macchiarolo will give the program for November.

We didn't discuss it at the last meeting (I don't think), but our December meeting will be December 1 at Hickory Chapel Wesleyan Church Fellowship Building. I am telling you now to give you advance planning time ahead of next month's newsletter. We will talk more

about this at the November meeting as well as mention it in the next newsletter.

David Macchiarolo and Matt Flyer did a HF demonstration at the Woodfield Scout Camp in Asheboro for their annual Family Campout on October 13. Scouts were able to talk DX.

Derek Brown, WF4I, joined the HPARC at the October

meeting. Derek is an Extra and lives in Pleasant Garden.

There will be no more VE testing in High Point until January due to the holidays. The Greensboro session will continue on the second Saturday of the month. See David Macchiarolo for details.

Please make plans to attend the club meeting. See you.

## DETAINED NORWEGIAN RADIO AMATEUR ALLOWED TO LEAVE CHAD

A tense situation involving a Norwegian Radio Amateur that reached the diplomatic and foreign ministry level in the African Republic of Chad has now been resolved. Kenneth Opskar, LA7GIA, had only operated as TT8KO for about a day before security police shut down his station on October 10. At that

point, he'd logged and uploaded 2,150 contacts and had installed all antennas except a 160-meter vertical. Opskar considered the incident a minor distraction, until he was told that he had to remain in Chad pending undetermined scrutiny of his station and activity. After having been detained in Chad for more than

a week, Opskar said on October 24 that he's free to go.

"I received the news that I can leave Chad immediately," Opskar told DX-World, which has been posting updates on a running basis. His solo DXpedition is over, however.

"I am not allowed to trans-

*Detained continued inside...*

## OFFICER NOMINATIONS FOR 2019

The Nominating Committee has met and made their recommendations for officers for 2019. Their selections are: Dan Bly, KB8TLF, for President; Matt Flyer, KM4WON, for Vice-president; David Macchiarolo, AJ4TF, for Secretary; and Warren Gallemore, KA4LOQ, for Treasurer.

Additional nominations may be made from the floor at the

November meeting. Elections will be held at the December meeting, and, as stated in the HPARC bylaws, no further nominations may be made at the December meeting.

The Nominating Committee for 2019 consists of: David Macchiarolo, AJ4TF; Denny Wojnar, KM4QPW; Lacey Armistead, KN4JOX; George McCormick, KN4JPB; and

Matt Flyer KM4WON.

**HPARC Meeting  
November 5, 2018**

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

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

# HPARC HISTORY – HPARC DISBANDED

Before we continue with the history of the HPARC, let's talk about history itself. Unless history is written down, it becomes difficult to trace. You have to rely on oral history which could change over time. A person tends to forget or add to the account of events. And even when history is written down, it may not tell the whole story. Club minutes only tell part of the story.

There are definite gaps in the minutes of the HPARC. We have to rely on what we have been told. And when that person is a Silent Key, we have only their accounting to go on.

Having said that, I have to say I have heard stories about the club's past that may or may not agree with everyone's recollection of the past. It is not my intention to mislead anyone, but to tell the story as I think it

may have happened. If anyone disagrees with me, I apologize in advance.

Now, we talked about how old the club is in the last article. It is funny what you can find on the Internet. Searching for High Point Amateur Radio Club came up with a listing in a logbook from 1940. Our club call sign back then was W4FYY with Robert Moore being the trustee of the club's call sign (remember us talking about Robert Moore?). I have copies of that license from the FCC.

I also have found my notes on when the HPARC officially disbanded. There was a meeting on November 11, 1964 about "disbanding and disposing of property" of the HPARC. On November 25, 1964 (records say 1963, but I think they meant 1964), there was a "motion by Pugh 'The Corporation known

as The High Point Amateur Radio Club, Inc. be dissolved and the assets sold. Seconded by Braswell. Discussion. Vote: No - 2, Yes - 6. Carried.' "

So the assets of the HPARC were sold. What did the club have? Well, just to name a few items, the equipment was an Apache, Drake 2A, 60-foot tower, tri-band antenna with rotor, SX 28 Receiver and Speaker, 2-meter beam (Long John) with rotor, etc. The monies were distributed among the shareholders (everyone was issued a stockholders certificate in those days). Phillip Pugh and Luke Braswell had more stock than most, so the monies were mostly given to them.

One thing the "old" club forgot to sell — the property. That is what eventually brought the HPARC back to life. How? To be continued in the next article.

## SPACE STATION COULD FACE UNMANNED FUTURE

The International Space Station will be losing its current crew soon and there's no replacement team in place. The failure of a recent Russian rocket after launch to the ISS has led to a delay in replacing its current crew.

The three current residents of the station are fine and have plenty of supplies, and the crew that was aboard the aborted rocket has been recovered and they are fine as well. But, the possibility of leaving the space station unmanned for a period

of time is now creating a lot of questions.

The current crew was scheduled to remain on the ISS until mid-December. The Soyuz capsule that will return them to Earth has a limited life span, which could force an evacuation by early January. While the Russians are evaluating what went wrong and when a safe relaunch of the crew could proceed, the possibility of orbiting without a crew is looming.

For us as Hams, this means that Amateur Radio operations

on the ISS could be impacted in the future. Ken Ransom, N5HVO, the ARISS Project Coordinator, at this time could only say that "current operations will continue using our normal process. We are still trying to determine the long-term impacts of not having the new crew on board the ISS."

Amateur Radio Newsline will continue to update this story as information becomes available.

—*Amateur Radio Newsline*,  
Report 2138,  
October 19, 2018

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.

*...Detained continued from cover*  
mit. All antennas are to be taken down today before sunset, because there is a presidential event at the hotel tomorrow, and he will be here,” Opskar said. “[The] hotel is now packed with VIPs, police, and military personnel. I am done with sight-seeing, so my flight is booked for tomorrow.”

Initially, Opskar had remained optimistic that all would be well after the security police chief’s personal inspection of his equipment. Things got more stressful on October 13, however, after he underwent

two interrogations by the security police. “My gear has been disconnected,” he said at the time. “The antennas on the roof are locked down, [and] I cannot access them even for visual inspection or maintenance. I am not allowed to touch anything.”

On October 14, Opskar reported that the security police had deemed all of his documents to be in order, but then was told that the security police needed to confer with ARCEP, Chad’s telecommunications regulator.

Opskar made plans to leave Chad on October 18, but he was not permitted to disassemble

his equipment until an inspection was completed. However, on October 18, Opskar reported that a police order had been issued preventing him from leaving Chad, even without his equipment. The Norwegian embassy and foreign ministry then stepped in to work on the matter.

Opskar said the many encouraging emails every day from DXers around the world helped to keep up his spirit, in addition to the support he received from his hotel’s staff.

—*The ARRL Letter*,  
October 25, 2018

Rick Lindquist, WW1ME, Ed.

## PEGGY SUE WAS A HAM

Peggy Sue Gerron, ex-K5PSG, of Lubbock, Texas, who inspired singer Buddy Holly’s 1957 rockabilly hit “Peggy Sue,” died on October 1. She was 78.

First licensed in 2004 as KE5AKW, she later obtained the vanity call K5PSG. Her license expired in 2014, and K5PSG has since been reissued.

Gerron went to high school with Holly and later married The Crickets drummer, Jerry Allison. As rock ‘n’ roll history

has it, Holly originally titled the song “Cindy Lou,” but Allison convinced the singer to change the tune’s name to “Peggy Sue.” In a 2004 interview, Gerron said that story is close to the truth, but not entirely accurate.

After Holly’s death in 1959, Gerron toured with The Crickets when the band got back together. Over the years, Gerron made public and media appearances all over the country. She said her participa-

tion in the 2004 W5B special event in Lubbock commemorating Holly helped inspire her Amateur Radio aspirations.

“You can do TV specials, and you can be interviewed by the very best DJs,” she said, “but there is nothing like the feeling of putting your finger down, and transmitting your call sign, and having somebody answer back.”

—*The ARRL Letter*,  
October 4, 2018

Rick Lindquist, WW1ME, Ed.

## ON AMERICAN TV “LAST MAN” IS FIRST

Hams couldn’t be happier to have their favorite TV Ham, Mike Baxter, KA0XTT, back on the air. Now they have another reason to celebrate.

If you are a fan of the situation comedy “Last Man Standing,” you probably already know that it is now “Proud Man Standing Tall” in the ratings. The show features Tim Allen, KK60TD, as Ham Radio operator Mike Baxter, KA0XTT, and viewers report that his signal is 10 over.

Variety newspaper writes

that the show made its debut on the Fox Network on Friday, September 28th with an average 1.8 rating for viewers between the ages of 18 and 49, beating its season on ABC, the network that originally carried the show before cancelling it.

Variety also reports that “Last Man Standing” was the network’s top-rated show for that night – and the most-watched comedy on Fox in nearly seven years. The show is popular in the Amateur Radio community thanks to its

protagonist being a Ham himself – and it so inspired actor Tim Allen that he decided to make things real by getting his ticket in 2014.

For many Hams, however, the show begins well before the TV is on: the crew operates Amateur Radio station KA6LMS during meal breaks on production days. The set itself features QSL cards from fans – maybe even some of you.

—*Amateur Radio Newslines*,  
Report 2136,

October 5, 2018



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

## HPARC NOVEMBER CALENDAR

- 3-5 — ARRL November Sweepstakes, CW
- 4 — Daylight Savings Time ends  
(move clocks back one hour)
- 5 — **HPARC Club Meeting**
- 6 — Election Day
- 10 — W4VEC Greensboro session (Hinshaw  
United Methodist Church)
- 10 — Marine Corps Day
- 12 — **VETERAN'S DAY (observed)**
- 17-19 — ARRL November Sweepstakes,  
phone
- 18 — Jarsfest Benson, NC

- 22 — **THANKSGIVING**
- 25 — HPARC Newsletter deadline
- 24-25 — CQ Worldwide Contest, CW
- Dec 1 — **HPARC Club Meeting/  
Christmas party**

### BIRTHDAYS

- Bruce Berk — November 4
- Steve Chambers — November 20
- Lewis Denny — November 26

For W4VEC Test information, call or email David Macchiarolo, AJ4TF, (336) 420-9424, [aj4tf@arrl.net](mailto:aj4tf@arrl.net)

### 2018 HPARC OFFICERS

Dan Bly, KB8TLF — President — 336-259-1203 — [kb8tlf@gmail.com](mailto:kb8tlf@gmail.com)  
 Matt Flyer, KM4WON — Vice-President — 336-491-3448 — [matt@noway2.net](mailto:matt@noway2.net)  
 David Macchiarolo, AJ4TF — Secretary — 336-869-2894 — [aj4tf@arrl.net](mailto:aj4tf@arrl.net)  
 Warren Gallemore, KA4LOQ — Treasurer — 336-883-4944 — [warreng960@mac.com](mailto:warreng960@mac.com)  
 Newsletter Editor — Mark McMahan — 336-887-3039 — [kb4mfp@arrl.net](mailto:kb4mfp@arrl.net)  
 HPARC Web page: <http://www.w4ua.org> — email: [w4ua@arrl.net](mailto:w4ua@arrl.net)

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