

AUGUST 2019

HPARC NEWSLETTER

High Point
Amateur Radio
Club



AUGUST MEETING

The August club meeting will be a “show and tell.” David Macchiarolo will give a program on Ham Radio connectors. Dwight Sledge will provide the “show” part bringing connectors from Sam

Hall’s collection. For the right price, Dwight might even be convinced to part with some of the connectors.

David Macchiarolo, AJ4TF, gave a recap of the events of the “non-contest, contest” Field

Day. We did a little less than we did last year, but then the conditions were not the best. We will have to wait until the December QST to see where we stand in the nation.

See you at the meeting.

ARRL FIELD DAY 2019 ATTRACTS NEARLY 3,100 ENTRIES

The 30-day deadline to submit ARRL Field Day entries via app upload and (timely postmarked) USPS mail is now past, and the ARRL Contest Branch reports 3,070 entries have been logged into the system. Last year saw 2,903 entries. ARRL Radiosport and Field Services Manager Bart Jahnke, W9JJ, said the total does not include entries postmarked by July 23 and still in transit. A number of entries still show a status of “PENDING.” These include 280 incomplete entries that are missing the required list of call signs by band/mode (also known as a “Dupe Sheet”), or a Cabrillo file.

“This requirement is to ensure that claimed contact totals do not include duplicate contacts on the same band and mode,” Jahnke said. “These entries, if not complete, may

end up as check logs in the final listings.”

An additional 191 entries are missing something other than Dupe Sheets. “These entries are complete,” Jahnke explained. “Their scores at present are not benefiting from certain bonuses, for which documentation is still outstanding,” he said. “Confirmation for entries submitted online using the web app include a link to update your entry.

If ARRL generated the entry from paper, or if you are unable to update your entry, submit pending documentation via email, and the Contest Branch will update your entry, assuming that documentation/photos confirm the bonus points claimed.”

Updates are permitted until August 23. After that, all entries as of that moment will

be considered final. Results will appear in the December 2019 issue of QST. Jahnke encouraged groups to separately submit photos with captions for possible inclusion in QST. Individuals should be identified by names and call signs, and any subject younger than 18 years old will require a signed publication release. Photos should have a minimum resolution of 250 kB.

—*The ARRL Letter*,
July 25, 2019

Rick Lindquist, WW1ME,
Editor

**HPARC Meeting
August 5, 2019**

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

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

PLANETARY ORBITS MAY EXPLAIN MYSTERY OF SUN'S 11-YEAR CYCLE

The orbits of Venus, Earth and Jupiter may explain the sun's regular 11-year cycle, a new study suggests.

A team of researchers from Helmholtz-Zentrum Dresden-Rossendorf (HZDR), a research institute in Dresden, Germany, showed that the tidal forces of those three planets influence the cycle of solar activity, resolving one of the bigger questions in solar physics.

"Everything points to a clocked process," Frank Stefani, a researcher at HZDR and lead author of the new study, said in a statement. "What we see is complete parallelism with the planets over the course of 90 cycles."

The researchers compared observations of solar activity — like sunspots, solar flares and coronal mass ejections — from the last thousand years with planetary alignments in order to show that there was in fact a correlation, according to the statement.

While other stars like the sun go through similar cycles, marked by a change in levels of radiation or number and size of sunspots, previous models have been unable to explain what causes the very regular, 11-year cycle of Earth's

sun.

However, this new study shows a connection between the tidal forces of Venus, Earth and Jupiter — whose gravitational pull tugs on the sun's plasma — and the steady rhythm of the sun's magnetic activity. "There is an astonishingly high level of concordance," said Stefani.

The researchers said they hope to use the same model

of the sun's magnetic field to more effectively quantify and predict space weather events, or solar storms that spew potentially harmful radiation.

The study was published May 22 in the journal *Solar Physics*.

—Passant Rabie

Science & Astronomy
<https://www.space.com/planets-affect-solar-cycle.html>

FCC IS NOT REINSTATING A VANITY CALL SIGN FEE

An erroneous report this suggested that the FCC planned to again impose an Amateur Radio vanity call sign application (regulatory) fee of \$70 for the 10-year term. This incorrect conclusion resulted from an incomplete reading of the May 7 FCC Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) in the matter of the assessment and collection of regulatory fees for fiscal year 2019.

Although the Schedule of Regulatory Fees does show a \$7 annual fee for Amateur Radio vanity call signs, a boldface heading in that section of the NPRM states, "REGULATORY FEES. This section is no longer in effect as it has been amended by RAY BAUM'S

Act of 2018..." Section 9(e) (2) of RAY BAUM'S Act gives the Commission discretion to exempt a party from paying regulatory fees when the FCC determines that the cost of collection exceeds the amount collected. A new section 9(e)(1) incorporated the Amateur Radio vanity fee exemption from FCC rules into the statute.

The NPRM makes clear in several other places that regulatory fees no longer apply to Amateur Radio licenses. The FCC eliminated the regulatory fee for Amateur Radio vanity call signs in 2015.

—*The ARRL Letter*,

May 16, 2019

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 (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.

DAYTON HAMVENTION 2019 ATTENDANCE APPROACHES ALL-TIME PEAK

The Hamvention Executive Team announced July 15 that attendance at Dayton Hamvention 2019 was 32,472, the second-largest ever. This marks the highest attendance recorded since Hamvention moved from Hara Arena to the Greene County Fairgrounds and Exposition Center in Xenia, Ohio. This year's attendance also approached an all-time

Hamvention high. Attendance at the show peaked in 1993, while Hamvention was still being held at Hara Arena, at 33,669, before the 1996 change in date from April to May. Last year, Hamvention welcomed 28,417 visitors in its second year in Xenia. Attendance in 2016 for the show's final year at Hara was 25,364.

Hamvention officials sug-

gested that a small factor behind the increased attendance might have been the free admission on Sunday, an effort to allow local non-Hams to experience Hamvention. Free Sunday admission is expected to be continued next year.

—*The ARRL Letter*,
July 18, 2019

Rick Lindquist, WW1ME,
Editor

CENTENARIAN RADIO AMATEUR'S EFFORTS HELPED PAVE THE WAY TO THE MOON

The Nashville Tennessean newspaper recently featured the story of a 104-year-old ARRL member who contributed to NASA's effort to put the first humans on the moon 50 years ago this month. Cary Nettles, W5SRR, of Columbia, Tennessee — who calls himself the nation's oldest rocket scientist still alive — was a NASA project manager and research engineer on rocket propulsion systems in the 1950s and 1960s.

While working on the Centaur second-stage rocket program, Nettles determined that the rocket engine failures NASA was experiencing were a result of misdirected exhaust destroying the vehicles' engines. Nettles told the Tennessean

he came up with an "exhaust pipe" that solved the problem. In May 1966, an Atlas-Centaur launcher propelled the first Surveyor lander toward the moon. That year, NASA awarded Nettles and colleague Ed Jonash with its Distinguished Service Medal for "their superhuman effort in turning the troubled rocket into a reliable upper stage," according to a 2004 NASA publication, "Taming Liquid Hydrogen — The Centaur Upper Stage Rocket 1958 – 2002."

On July 16, 1969, a Saturn V rocket with a liquid hydrogen-fueled second stage carried astronauts Neil Armstrong, Buzz Aldrin, and Michael Collins to their rendezvous with the moon. Nettles retired from

NASA the following year.

Nettles got his Amateur Radio license in 1945 and remains active on 40 meters as well as on VHF and UHF repeaters. He is a member of the Maury Amateur Radio Club. In addition to sustaining his interest in ham radio over the decades, Nettles is an enthusiast of "large-scale" steam trains, which he works on in his basement. Look for him Tuesdays at 1400 UTC on 7.215 MHz on the Steam Railroad Net.

In 2015, the year he turned 100, the ARRL Tennessee Section presented Nettles with its Elder Statesman Award.

—*The ARRL Letter*,
July 18, 2019

Rick Lindquist, WW1ME,
Editor

NEW/UPGRADED HAMS

At the High Point W4VEC Ham Exam Session, there was two individuals to pass their Technician license.

Steven W. Cranfill (now

KN4VZO) of Winston-Salem.

Craig S. Linville, Jr. (now KN4VZU) of Kernersville. Congratulations to these individuals.

For W4VEC Test information, call or email:

David Macchiarolo, AJ4TF,
(336) 420-9424,
aj4tf@arrl.net



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



HPARC AUGUST CALENDAR

- 1 — Air Force Day
- 3-4 — 222 MHz and Up Distance Contest
- 3 — Roanoke, VA Hamfest
- 4 — Coast Guard Day
- 5 — HPARC Club Meeting**
- 10 — CFARS Swapfest, Fayetteville, NC
- 14 — VJ Day (WWII Surrender of Japan 1945)
- 17-18 — ARRL 10-GHz Cumulative Contest
- 18 — ARRL Rookie Roundup - RTTY
- 25 — HPARC Newsletter deadline
- 30 — Shelby, NC Hamfest

BIRTHDAYS

- Bob Witt — August 6
- Mike Walker — August 14
- Eddy Byerly — August 19
- Mike Cumbo — August 23
- Warren Gallemore — August 27

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

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