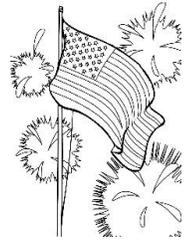




July 2022

# HPARC NEWSLETTER

High Point Amateur Radio Club



## July Meeting Canceled

By: Peter Kapetanakis, KN4OCX

The HPARC typically meets the first Monday of the month. As the first Monday in July falls on July 4<sup>th</sup>, the HPARC Board has announced that the July meeting will be canceled. We wish all of you a Happy July 4<sup>th</sup> holiday and that you enjoy the time with friends and family. We will meet again on August 1<sup>st</sup>.

## Technician and General License Classes

By: Peter Kapetanakis, KN4OCX

In a partnership, the Tri-County Amateur Radio Club and the High Point Amateur Radio Club is offering Technician and General classes via Zoom. Each class has 4 sessions, each held on Wednesday evenings from 6:30 to 9:30pm EST. And the best part is the

cost. I'm sure you will find the cost of Free to fit your budget perfectly. The Technician and General class will be held in alternating months. Instructors for these classes are Richard Weinbaum, KK4RR; Bobby Chandler, N4AU; David Macchiarolo, AJ4TF; Chris Riewe, AE4TI; Keith Thomas, KA4JAH; and Jesse Linley, K4AX.

The next session will be for the General Class license from July 13, 2022 – August 3, 2022. This will be followed by the Technician Class from August 10, 2022 – August 31, 2022. Pre-registration is required. To register, please contact Richard Weinbaum, KK4RR at 336-687-8001 or [KK4RR@mac.com](mailto:KK4RR@mac.com).

## HPARC Membership Due Dates

By: Peter Kapetanakis, KN4OCX

Club memberships are currently due on the anniversary of joining the club. Per the HPARC by-laws, dues may be paid in 1 annual payment or 2 installments of 6 months each. During the HPARC May meeting it was suggested to change this process to have all membership dues be due at the

same time, such as January of every year.

The HPARC Board took this under advisement and reviewed the by-laws in detail. It was determined that to outright change the due date for every member in the club to always be due in January would require changing the by-laws and that was a process the Board did not wish to undertake. Instead, the Board came up with another option and announced it at the June meeting.

The plan is as follows: If a member wishes to change their membership due date, that member will be expected to make a minimum payment equivalent of 6 months, plus the calculation of \$2 per month to the requested due date. For example. If a member's due date is the end of March

2022 and wishes to change their due date to the end of December, then the amount due would be \$18. This is representing 9 full months from April 1 through December 31. At \$2 per month, this equates to \$18. However, on the other hand, if your membership expires at the end of September 2022 and you wish to have your membership expire at the end of December, then the amount due would be \$30. Since there is less than 6 months between Oct 1 and Dec 31, the member would pay a full year plus the number of months needed to get to the desired month.

For questions on this option, or questions regarding your membership account, please contact Peter Kapetanakis, KN4OCX, HPARC Treasurer at [Treasurer@W4UA.org](mailto:Treasurer@W4UA.org).

**HPARC Meeting**  
**6:30 p.m.**

**August 1, 2022**

**Mario's Pizza**  
 2645 N.Main St.  
 High Point, NC 27265

**& Zoom**

## Sign Up Or Renew Your ARRL Membership

By: Peter Kapetanakis, KN4OCX

Are you an ARRL member? Would you like to be? Whether you wish to sign up as a new member, or simply renew your membership, consider doing that through the club. By doing so, the club gets to keep \$15 of new memberships and \$2 of renewals.

As an ARRL member, you will benefit

from getting the QST Magazine or the On The Air magazine, plus digital access to all four ARRL magazines such as QEX, technical articles, and the National Contest Journal. ARRL members have access to The Learning Center and product reviews, along with e-newsletters. Other benefits include Technical Information Service,

outgoing QSL Service, ARRL E-mail forwarding service, and the availability to Ham Radio equipment insurance; as well as, supporting the ARRL which represents Ham Radio in Washington, DC.

To start your ARRL membership or renew, please contact the HPARC Treasurer at [Treasurer@W4UA.org](mailto:Treasurer@W4UA.org)

## FCC Proposes Record \$34,000 Fine for Alleged Interference and Unauthorized Transmissions During Idaho Wildfire

Source: ARRL Letter, June 9, 2022

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) has proposed a \$34,000 fine against Jason Frawley of Lewiston, Idaho, for allegedly interfering with radio operations of the U.S. Forest Service during firefighting activities for the Johnson Creek Fire near Elk River in July 2021. The FCC issued a *Notice of Apparent Liability for Forfeiture (NAL)* on June 8, 2022 to Frawley. The FCC states in the NAL that Frawley holds an Extra-class Amateur Radio Service license, WA7CQ, and is the owner/operator of Leader Communications LLC, licensee of eight microwave licenses and one business license.

The FCC alleged in the NAL that "On July 17, 2021, using his amateur hand-held radio, Frawley transmitted five (5) times, and on July 18, 2021, Frawley transmitted three (3) times on frequencies allocated and authorized for government use, apparently causing harmful interference with his apparently unlawful transmissions."

The frequencies with which Frawley is alleged to have interfered were being used to coordinate firefighting crews from the U.S. Forest Service and Idaho Department of Land to fight the 1,000-acre Johnson Creek Fire, including the communications between fire suppressant aircraft and ground crews.

The NAL includes details of the Forest Service's complaint and the FCC's investigation. On July 18, 2021, the Johnson Creek fire operations section chief drove to the Elk River airstrip and hanger where Frawley, who had disclosed his location, was found holding a radio next to a banner that read, "Leader Communications." Frawley admitted to transmitting on government frequencies and identifying himself as "comm tech." He argued that he was not trying to cause interference but instead was transmitting to provide information to the fire fighters.

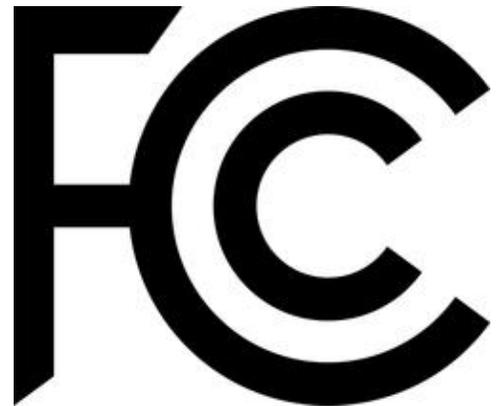
"[A]t no time was I trying to disturb any other communications or air traffic. I was honestly just giving them information I had since I have been working on the butte since the early 90's..." wrote Frawley in his October 15, 2021 response to a Letter of Inquiry from FCC Special Counsel Laura Smith.

The FCC however concluded that "Frawley's admitted unauthorized transmissions on frequencies for which he did not have a license had the potential to cause substantial harm to life and property."

The FCC held that Frawley, by his own admission, apparently willfully and repeatedly violated the Commission's rules when he made eight separate radio transmissions on a frequency for which he did not have

a license. The FCC stated that unauthorized transmissions on frequencies licensed to public safety entities using those frequencies to respond to emergencies also constitutes a violation of Section 333 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended.

A [news release](#) from the FCC states that the fine is the largest of its kind proposed. "The Communications Act prohibits such interference with authorized radio communications and the Commission takes very seriously any interference with public safety communications," said the FCC. In a separate [statement](#), FCC Chairwoman Jessica Rosenworcel added, "You can't interfere with public safety communications. Full stop. So today we propose the largest fine of its type for this interference that put fire suppression and public safety itself at risk."



# HPARC 2022 Field Day Photos

Photos taken by Vanessa McCormick, Camille Taylor, Peter Kapetanakis, and possibly others of which I am not aware.



## HPARC JULY CALENDAR

- 4 — **HPARC Meeting (Canceled)**
- 4 — Independence Day
- 9 — W4VEC Greensboro VE Session, Hinshaw United Methodist Church
- 23 — HPARC Newsletter Deadline
- 30 — W4VEC High Point VE session (Hickory Chapel Wesleyan Church, Fellowship Bldg)

## BIRTHDAYS

- Keith Osterman – July 1
- Linda Worland July 5
- Craig Linville – July 6
- Daniel Moss – July 21
- Grady Stone – July 16
- Tommy Lauer – July 26
- Cindy Davis – July 29

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

### 2022 HPARC OFFICERS

David Macchiarolo, AJ4TF — President — 336-869-2894 — President@W4UA.org  
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 HPARC – www.w4ua.org – w4ua@arrl.net – 147.165 (67 Hz Tone) – 443.900

**Breakfast every  
Saturday**

—  
**8:00 a.m.**  
—

**Biscuitville,  
2709 S. Main St.**

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. Material in this Newsletter 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. Membership in the HPARC is open 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.

The High Point Amateur Radio Club meets the first Monday of each month (except for holidays) at a local restaurant announced in the newsletter. Come early to enjoy dinner. The business meeting starts at 6:30 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. Contributions and letters/emails to the editor are welcome.