



October
2023

HPARC NEWSLETTER

High Point
Amateur Radio
Club



North Carolina School Contacts the International Space Station

Source: ARRL Letter September 7, 2023

On August 28, 2023, students at Bowman Middle School in Bakersville, North Carolina, talked to NASA Astronaut Stephen Bowen, KI5BKB, who as on board the International Space Station (ISS).

For months, 22 students had been preparing for a 10-minute window to ask Bowen about his time and experiences on the ISS. They were able to ask 13 questions, like, "What is it like to be in space?" and, "Is the crew doing any research on diseases that affect humans?"

Section Manager of the ARRL North Carolina Section Marv Hoffman, WA4NC, presented the Supporting, Upgrading, Growing Amateur Radio (SUGAR) Award to the school and its science, technology,

engineering, and mathematics (STEM) teacher, Dan Hopson, for arranging the ISS contact.

Hopson said, "The waiting and



Students at Bowman Middle School in Bakersville, North Carolina, who participated in contacting the ISS on August 28, 2023, with STEM teacher Dan Hopson, back row, right. Photo courtesy of Tammy Hopson and used with parental permission.

static, are suspenseful but when you hear the man's voice or that person's voice come over the air, the kids know this is really happening."

Bowen, returned to Earth with SpaceX Crew-6 on September 5.

US Congresswoman Virginia Foxx (NC-05) also attended the event. She called the experience "a stellar opportunity." In a recent letter to her constituents in North Carolina, Foxx wrote, "On Monday, I traveled to

Bakersville in Mitchell County to meet with students, staff, and administrators of Bowman Middle School - as well as to view the school's International Space Station (ISS) contact project. As part of the project, students were able to ask questions in real time via ham radio to Steve Bowen, a NASA Astronaut who successfully traveled to the ISS on March 3 of this year. This impressive event was one that these students will surely remember as they continue their educational journeys. Congratulations to all who made this event, and learning opportunity, such a success."

ARISS is a cooperative venture of international amateur radio societies and the space agencies that support the ISS. In the US, participating organizations include NASA's Space Communications and Navigation (SCaN) program, the ISS National Laboratory -- Space Station Explorers, [ARRL](http://ARRL.org), and AMSAT.

Students Wanted: Talk to an Astronaut via Amateur Radio in 2024!

Source: ARRL Letter September 28, 2023

31, 2024. Crew scheduling and ISS orbits will determine the exact contact dates.

To maximize these radio contact opportunities, ARISS is looking for organizations that will draw large numbers of participants and integrate the contact into a well-developed education plan. The voice-only radio contacts are approximately 10 minutes long and allow students to



HPARC Meeting
Mario's Pizza & Zoom

2645 N. Main St.
High Point, NC27265

October 2, 2023
6:30 p.m.

There's an opportunity for STEM education via amateur radio that will put students in contact with astronauts. The Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) program is seeking formal and informal education institutions and organizations, individually or working together, to host an amateur radio contact with a crew member aboard the International Space Station (ISS). ARISS anticipates that the contacts will be held between July 1 and December

interact with the astronauts through a question-and-answer session. Students also have an opportunity to learn about satellite communication, wireless technology, and radio science.

The deadline to submit a proposal is November 10, 2023. Proposal information and more details, such as expectations, proposal guidelines, and

the proposal form, can be found at www.ariss.org. An ARISS proposal webinar session will be held on October 5, 2023, at 7 PM ET. Visit <https://ariss-proposal-webinar-fall-2023.eventbrite.com> sign up.

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the ISS. In the US, participating organizations include NASA's Space Communications and Navigation program (SCaN), the ISS National Laboratory -- Space Station Explorers, [ARRL](http://ARRL.org), and AMSAT.

Additional information is available at ARRL.org.

2023 SET Exercise to Test Skills and Emergency Preparedness

Source: ARRL Letter September 14, 2023

The ARRL Simulated Emergency Test (SET) is scheduled for October 7 - 8, 2023.

The SET is ARRL's annual national emergency exercise designed to assess the skills and preparedness of Amateur Radio Emergency Service® (ARES®) volunteers, as well as those affiliated with other organizations involved in emergency and disaster responses. The SET is open to all radio amateurs and partner organizations, in addition to national, state, and local officials. Besides ARES volunteers, those active in the National Traffic System (NTS), Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (RACES), National Weather Service's SKYWARN® Storm Spotter program,

Community Emergency Response Team (CERT), and a variety of other allied groups and public service-oriented radio amateurs are needed to fulfill important roles in this nationwide exercise.

During the exercise, volunteers can assess equipment, modes, and skills under simulated emergency conditions and scenarios. Individuals can use the time to update a go-kit for use during deployments and to ensure their home station's operational capability during an emergency or disaster.

To get involved, contact your local ARRL Emergency Coordinator or Net Manager.

SET guidelines and report forms can be found at:

[ARRL Simulated Emergency Test](#)

[\(SET\) Guidelines+](#)

In addition to the ARRL SET exercise, as part of their communications interoperability outreach to the amateur radio community, the US Department of Defense (DOD) will be conducting a DOD COMEX 23-4 exercise. During the week of October 16, they'll conduct a series of high-power HF information transmissions on 60 meters and channel 1 (5330.5 kHz). This event will coincide with the ARRL SET.



AMI Jamboree Scheduled for November

Source: ARRL Letter September 28, 2023

The 2023 [Amplitude Modulation International \(AMI\) Jamboree](#) will be held over the Thanksgiving weekend, starting at dusk on November 24 and ending at dawn on November 27.

AMI Executive Director John C. McGrath, N9AMI, said the jamboree is not a contest but rather an AM-only

said McGrath. "Each class winner will receive a certificate, and a short biography will be posted on the AMI website. While the age of the equipment doesn't matter, there must be an AM mode selection on the radio," he added.

The preferred AM bands for operation are:

- 160 meters: 1.885, 1.900, 1.945, 1.985
- 80 meters: 3.870 to 3.890
- 40 meters: 7.175, 7.290, 7.293, 7.295
- 20 meters: 14.286 and the upper end of 20 meters

According to the club's history, AMI was formed in 1993. The name was

taken from a west coast amateur radio club that was no longer in operation. AMI is now dedicated to the enjoyment, promotion, and preservation of AM. Club memberships include numbered membership certificates, an organization of 10 regions with directors, annual operating events, local club support, and the monitoring of activities that affect AM operations. While the FCC reduced the peak-envelope power measurement for AM, they also issued a statement in support of continuing the mode's important place in amateur radio.

More information is available on the [AMI](#) website.



operating event. "Everyone is welcome to participate, and there is a certificate available for those who contact 25 stations and submit a log,"

USA Radio Orienteering Team Brings Home Silver and Bronze Medals

Source: ARRL Letter September 7, 2023

At the 21st International Amateur Radio Union World Amateur Radio Direction Finding (ARDF) Championship in Liberec, Czech Republic, held August 27 through September 2, 2023, USA competitors won a silver medal for an individual competition, as well as two bronze team medals.

ARDF, also known as radio orienteering, is a multi-skill sport that involves running and navigation using only a map and compass.

Competitors use a 2-meter (144 MHz) or 80-meter (3.5 MHz) radio receiver to locate multiple transmitters hidden in a forest. The sport directly applies to important activities such as search and rescue, wildlife tracking, airborne and seaborne navigation, and communications. The competition at the championship in Liberec involved mountainous terrain, intricate navigation challenges, periods of rain, and elite racing.

The USA fielded its largest team ever, including 21 athletes, with seven competing in a world championship for the first time. The (IARU) and Czech Radio Club hosted the event in the mountainous region of North Bohemia, with 28 countries and nearly 400 racers attending.

Ruth Bromer, WB4QZG, won a silver



Nadia Scharlau, KO4AD, competing in the 3.5 MHz (80-meter) Sprint. Photo courtesy of IARU.

medal in the W65 category during the 3.5 MHz "foxoring" event that combines orienteering and transmitter (fox) hunting. Nadia Scharlau, KO4ADV, and Natalia Leoni earned a bronze team medal in the W55 category 144 MHz classic competition. Several USA athletes also finished within the top 10 results in nearly all the classes, including two fourth - place finishes by Scharlau.

Scharlau was thrilled with the results. "All our newcomers performed beyond our expectations. The courses were extremely hard. We all got along and supported one another. Most importantly, almost everyone expressed their determination to improve and come back to compete again," said Scharlau.

ARRL's ARDF Committee Chair Charles Scharlau, NZ0I, who also raced, echoed the positive take on the USA team, stating, "They successfully navigated well-designed courses on rugged terrain against a field of skilled and experienced competitors. The Czech Republic is an ideal place to hold the world championships. They have great maps, excellent venues, and they know how to put on a world-class event," he said.

The USA Radio Orienteering Championship will be held in Michigan on October 7 - 13, 2024. Team USA will select its team members for the 2025 USA Championship, and that team will travel to Lithuania in 2025 to compete in the 22nd World ARDF Championship.

A complete list of the 2023 results can be found at <https://vysledky.ardf2023.cz/>.

Thanks to ARRL ARDF Committee and Event Director Joseph Burkhead, KE8MKR, for the information contained in this story.

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 ARRL memberships and \$2 of ARRL 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.

Ham Radio Classes

By: Peter Kapetanakis, KN4OCX

The Tri-County ARC, High Point ARC, and GARA (Greensboro Amateur Radio Association) have formed a partnership to provide online (Zoom) classes for those seeking to acquire their Technician Class operator's license, or to upgrade to a General Class license.

Each course is comprised of 4 class sessions. Each class session is held via Zoom on Tuesday evenings from 6:30 –

9:30pm ET and is free of charge.

The Technician & General classes are held in alternating months. The next course is the General Course scheduled to begin October 3rd. Please note, that the courses are meant to prepare you for the FCC license exam, but do not include the license exam itself.

Pre-registration is required for each course. Please contact Richard Weinbaum, KK4RR at 336-687-8001 or

KK4RR@mac.com to register.

The starting dates for each course in 2023 are as follows:

Technician Course:

~~January 4, March 1, May 3, July 12~~
~~September 6~~

General Course:

~~February 1, April 5, June 7, August 9,~~
October 3

HPARC OCTOBER CALENDAR

- 2 — **HPARC Meeting / Labor Day**
- 9 — Columbus Day
- 15 — HPARC Newsletter Deadline
- 28 — W4VEC High Point VE session
(Hickory Chapel Wesleyan Church, Fellowship Bldg)
- 31 — Halloween

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

- Phillip Mansfield, KN4VQE – 13
- Lon Cecil, AA4LC – 30
- Lacey Armistead, KN4JOX – 31

For W4VEC Test information, call or email Keith Thomas, KA4JAH, (336) 906-2469, KA4JAH@Aol.com

2023 HPARC OFFICERS

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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.