



February
2026

HPARC NEWSLETTER

High Point
Amateur Radio
Club



W4UA

W4UA repeater 147.165 MHz +Offset 67 Hz tone
FM • Digital • APRS • Wires-X

February Meeting Canceled due to Inclement Weather

HPARC
Meeting

March 2nd @ 6:30 pm

Mario's Pizza

2645 N. Main St. - High Point

Contact Keith Thomas, KA4IAH for Zoom info.

Single Sideband Activity Nights

2 Meter SSB: Thursdays @ 9pm ET 144.200 MHz

www.W4UA.org

6 Meter SSB: Sundays @ 8:30pm ET 50.155 MHz

North Carolina Students Scheduled to Make Contact with the International Space Station

Source: ARRL Letter, January 29, 2026

The winter weather has subsided and now 580 students at Conn Magnet Elementary School in Raleigh, North Carolina, will participate in a conversation with an astronaut on board the International Space Station (ISS). Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) has confirmed the contact, scheduled for Friday, January 30, 2026, just after 10:00 AM EST.

Radio communications will be provided by the [Raleigh Amateur Radio Society](#) under the leadership of John Brier, K4EB. "This contact could not have been possible without a \$14,000 grant from [Amateur Radio Digital Communications](#) (ARDC), said Brier. "The new equipment, which is in cases and movable, will allow us to provide communications for other schools in the area." Brier added that club members are being trained to operate the gear and it can be loaned to other clubs for use in

future ARISS contacts.

Friday's contact will be with NASA astronaut and medical physicist Christopher Williams, KJ5GE. Twelve students will be asking questions, two in each grade level, from kindergarten through fifth grade. All 12 students will be wearing special T-shirts designed by a second grader who won the school's T-shirt logo contest. Students also had a chance to create a logo for a keychain and there was a winner for each grade. Every student will get their grade level keychain to mark the ARISS event.

The event will be livestreamed at youtube.com/live/tOj-SpbmA30?feature=share and live.ariss.org.

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](#), and AMSAT. NASA astronaut Christopher Williams, KJ5GE [NASA photo]

FCC Poised to Exempt Amateurs from Foreign Adversary Reporting Requirements

Source: ARRL Letter, January 15, 2026

At the urging of ARRL, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) is expected to exempt radio amateurs from foreign adversary reporting requirements. These rules would have applied to citizens of the listed countries (see below), including those living in the United States, who hold or are applying for an FCC license.

On January 8, 2026, the FCC released a draft Report and Order (R&O) [[GN Docket No. 25-](#)

[166](#); [PDF](#)] expected to be adopted at its January 29 meeting that will, as requested by ARRL, exempt radio amateurs from requirements that would have applied reporting requirements to every FCC-authorized radio amateur "subject to the jurisdiction or direction of a foreign adversary." This included "(a)ny individual, wherever located, who is a citizen of a foreign adversary or a country controlled by a foreign adversary, and is not a United States citizen or permanent resident of the United States." Foreign adversaries as defined in the draft R&O are: (1) China, including Hong Kong and Macau; (2) Cuba; (3)

Iran; (4) North Korea; (5) Russian Federation; and (6) "Venezuelan politician Nicolás Maduro."

The draft liberally cites ARRL's comments, agreeing that the nature of amateur radio communication – as well as other individually-licensed radio services – poses minimal risk to public communications networks and that "the drain on Commission personnel and resources to process the collections and attestations for each individual licensee would far outweigh the little benefit to the public or the agency of doing so."



New 60-Meter Frequencies Available as of February 13

Source: ARRL Letter, January 15, 2026

The new 60-meter frequencies approved by the FCC in December will become available to amateurs as of February 13, 2026, along with new power restrictions on those frequencies. It's a bit confusing, as different rules apply to different segments of the band. The changes result from the FCC's action to approve a worldwide 60-meter amateur allocation made by the World Radiocommunication Conference in 2015 (WRC-15). See <https://tinyurl.com/mt8p8jpa>.

As of February 13, FCC-licensed amateur operators holding General Class or higher licenses may operate on a secondary basis anywhere between 5351.5 and 5366.5 kHz, subject to a maximum bandwidth of 2.8 kHz and maximum transmit power of 9.15 watts ERP (effective radiated power). For the purpose of computing ERP, the transmitter PEP (peak envelope power) is multiplied by the antenna gain relative to a half-wave dipole

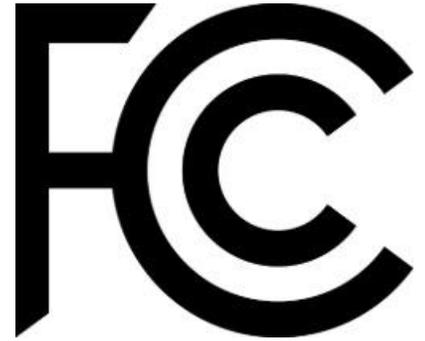
antenna. A half-wave dipole is presumed to have a gain of 1 (0 dBd). Amateurs using other antennas must maintain in their station records either the antenna manufacturer's data on the antenna gain or calculations of the antenna gain.

Here's the confusing part: The existing 60-meter channels centered on 5332, 5348, 5373, and 5405 kHz remain as secondary amateur allocations with maximum power of 100 watts ERP. However, the old channel at 5358.5 kHz is eliminated as it is now part of the new 5351.5-5366.5 kHz subband and subject to the lower power limit.

For all 60-meter transmissions, emission bandwidth is limited to 2.8 kHz or less and amateurs must not cause harmful interference to, and must accept interference from, stations authorized by the United States (NTIA and FCC) and other nations in the fixed service; and all other nations in the mobile service (except aeronautical mobile). Data or RTTY emissions in

particular must be limited in transmission length so as not to cause harmful interference. Digital mode operators must be familiar with offsets in order to stay within the authorized frequencies.

The new FCC rules take effect on February 13, which is 30 days after publication in the January 14 edition of the *Federal Register*. See also [ARRL News](#) for related background.



Join ARRL in Celebrating America's 250th – On the Air!

Source: ARRL Letter, January 8, 2026

In 2026, ARRL is commemorating America's 250th birthday with a yearlong on-the-air celebration: the America250 Worked All States (WAS) Award. Running from January 1 through December 31, this special operating event challenges amateurs of all license classes to contact all 50 US states and confirm those QSOs via ARRL's [Logbook of The World](#) (LoTW). Modeled after the classic WAS Award, America250 WAS encourages activity across nearly every band — from LF through microwaves — and on CW, phone, and digital, culminating in a commemorative, frame-worthy WAS certificate.

Participants can pursue America250 WAS in many ways, with endorsements recognizing



achievements by band, by mode, Triple Play (all three modes), by satellite, by contacting ARRL Affiliated Club Stations in all 50 states, and by contacting W1AW/portable in all 50 states. Throughout 2026, the iconic W1AW call sign will be "loaned" to stations nationwide, activating each state twice during the year. All confirmations are handled through [LoTW](#), making it easy to track progress and apply for awards and endorsements.

ARRL members can read all the details in the [Jan/Feb 2026](#) issue of *On the Air* magazine.

Look for the following W1AW/portable activations. Operations begin 0000z on Wednesday, and end on 2359z Tuesday (7 days total for each activation). See the complete schedule at www.arrl.org/america250-was.

Ham Radio Classes

By: Peter Kapetanakis, KN4OCX

The Tri-County ARC, High Point ARC, and Forsyth ARC 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 6 class sessions. Each class session is held via Zoom on Tuesday evenings from 7:00 – 9:00pm ET and is free of charge.

The Technician & General classes are

held in an alternating sequence. The next course is the **General** Course scheduled to begin **March 17th**. 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 2025 are as follows:

Course Start Dates listed below

Technician Course:

~~January 6~~

March 31

June 23

September 22

General Course:

February 17

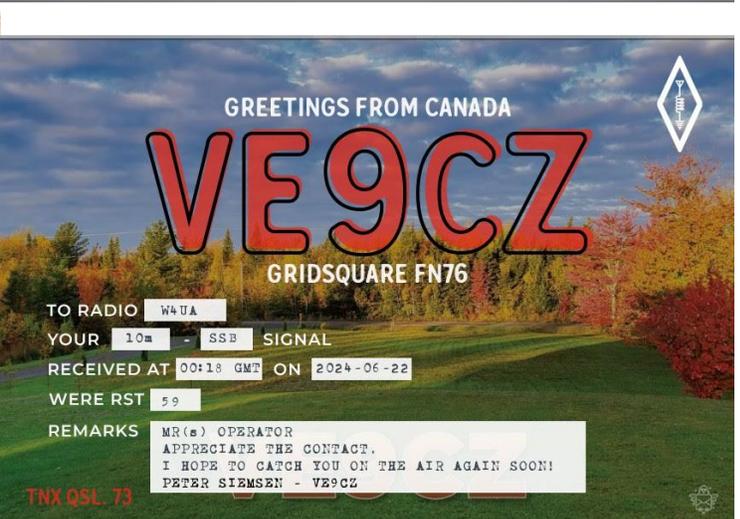
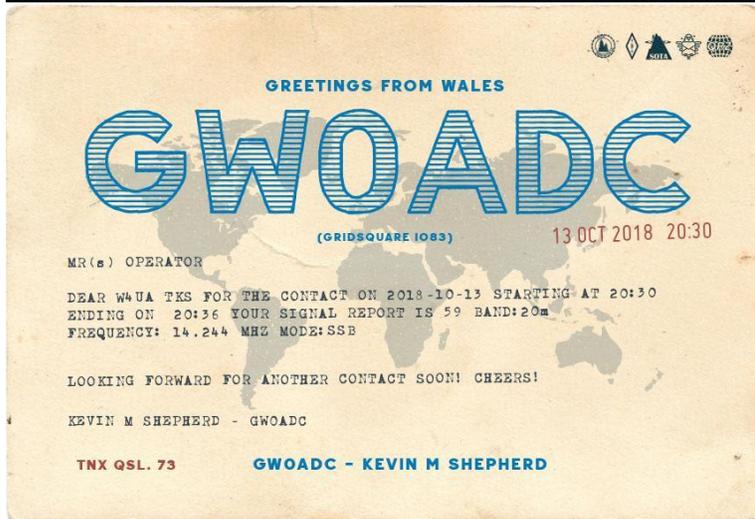
May 12

August 4

QSL Cards Received by HPARC

By: Peter J Kapetanakis, KN4OCX

The club has recently received several QSL cards from contacts made during HPARC events such as Field Day or POTA. These QSL cards were received electronically by way of QSL World (QSLWorld.com). Displayed here are the QSL Cards recently received.



Volunteers Needed

By: Peter Kapetanakis, KN4OCX

Hello readers,

As many of you have heard in our club meetings, the HPARC has been working with the Nido & Mariana Qubein Children's Museum to education our younger population and their radio and morse code. Richard Weinbaum, partnership for some time and we have exposition and share our knowledge. To museums volunteer process. To get started, Weinbaum, KK4RR at 336-687-8001 or KK4RR@mac.com.



& Mariana Qubein Children's Museum to accompanying adults about the world of KK4RR has been spearheading this dates on the calendar for us to have an volunteer you must go through the or to learn more, please contact Richard

HPARC Buttons

By: Peter Kapetanakis, KN4OCX

For anyone interested I have HPARC Buttons for sale. There are two options as seen in the photos below. The Yellow button is larger with a 2.25" diameter and the white button is smaller with a 1.25" diameter. Profits from the sale will be

donated to the HAPRC club. Suggested pricing is \$2 for the yellow button and \$1 for the white. You can purchase in person at club meetings, or if you wish to contact me direct, I can send to you through the mail. Postage may be applied depending on cost. Just contact me at

W4UA.Newsletter@gmail.com



February

HPARC CALENDAR

- 2 — Groundhog Day
- 2 — **HPARC Meeting (Canceled due to weather)**
- 14 — Valentine's Day
- 14 — W4VEC Greensboro VE Session
(Hinshaw United Methodist Church)
- 15 — HPARC Newsletter Deadline
- 21 — Presidents' Day
- 28 — W4VEC High Point VE Session
(Hickory Chapel Wesleyan Church)

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

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

2026 HPARC OFFICERS

Keith Thomas, KA4JAH	President	336-906-2469	President@W4UA.org
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Terence Crandall, N4TLC	Secretary	743-444-5213	Secretary@W4UA.org
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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.