

JANUARY 2013



JANUARY MEETING AT J & S CAFE

At the December meeting, the HPARC voted to begin having our meetings at J&S Cafe in Archdale. This is closer for some and further for others. Hopefully it is a little more accessible for some with room for us to grow.

At this point, I don't think we have a formal program. As it is the first meeting of a new year, I imagine we can discuss what the HPARC plans to accomplish this coming year.

We had a good number show up and attend our December meeting at Hickory Chapel

Wesleyan Church's Fellowship Building. There was plenty of food and desserts and even some impromptu singing by Ben and Jackie Rogers with Sam Hall accompanying them on his saw.

The HPARC took up a donation to give to Hickory Chapel Wesleyan for the use of their building. We collected \$90.00 to give as a donation.

Last month I failed to mention that the HPARC ranked number four in the 3A commercial section of Field Day. Not bad for a small club out to have a lit-

tle fun. I think it has already gotten some members energized for this year's Field Day.

Another thing we voted on at the December meeting was to resume having meetings every month. Since J&S Cafe only closes for Christmas day, we would have no conflicts for the holiday. This was voted in the affirmative, so we will have no missed months for meetings this year.

Hope everyone made it through the holidays with ease. Look forward to seeing you in the new year.

CHRISTMAS DAY ROLL CALL 2012

Even Santa is allowed to sleep in on Christmas Day. Ben Rogers, KA4NHD, was a little late to start this year's HPARC Christmas Day Roll Call, but he finally arrived

about 8:20 a.m. and did his usual wonderful job as net operator.

There were 11 check-ins. That is slightly down from last year.

Thanks to the members who showed up for this HPARC annual tradition. Some have to brave the cold and get in their cars to operate mobile. Thanks for your dedication.

2013 HPARC OFFICERS

At the December meeting, the following were elected HPARC officers for 2013: Warren Gallemore for HPARC President, Bob Erdin for vice-president and Mark McMahan for secretary/ treasurer.

These are your new HPARC officers. We have added some

new members this past year and had a very successful Field Day. Where we go from here is up to you, the membership. You must decide what direction the club will take this new year. Plan on attending the meetings and supporting the HPARC.

**HPARC Meeting
January 7, 2013**

J&S Cafe,
10210 North Main,
Archdale

Meal at 6:30 pm
Business meeting at 7:00 pm

SUPREME COURT REFUSES TO HEAR CHALLENGE TO 2008 WIRETAP IMMUNITY LAW

The United States Supreme Court has rejected a challenge to a 2008 federal law granting immunity to phone companies. This for assisting the government eavesdrop on private phone conversations.

The case involved 33 lawsuits brought against the telecommunications providers in 2006 after news reports that the government had conducted warrant-less surveillance. Phone customers alleged that AT&T, Sprint Nextel, Verizon Communications and others violated federal and state law.

In reaction to the suits, in 2008 Congress passed Section 802 of the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act. This gave

the Attorney General the power to grant legal immunity to anyone providing assistance to the intelligence community. The then Attorney General used that law to block the 33 suits all of which were eventually dismissed.

The Electronic Frontier Foundation, the American Civil Liberties Union and others appealed. Their lawyers argued that Section 802 violated the separation of powers doctrine of the U.S. Constitution. But in December of 2011, the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in San Francisco rejected those arguments, finding the telephone companies immune.

Asking the Supreme Court

to review that decision, the civil liberties groups said the law allowed the executive branch to conduct warrantless, suspicionless domestic surveillance without fear of review by courts. Also that it gave the Attorney General sole discretion to decide when eavesdropping was necessary.

But the high court, without comment, has declined to review the challenge to the law.

This decision is the latest in which the High Court has refused to review government surveillance practices adopted since the al-Quida lead terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001. (Published news reports)

—Amateur Radio Newsline, Report 1846, Dec. 28, 2012

HAM RADIO OPERATOR WALKS AWAY FROM CHOPPER CRASH

Call it a Christmas miracle. This with word that a Minnesota Ham who crash landed his helicopter on his sons back yard helipad has walked away with only minor injuries.

The pilot was Trygve Svard, KD0PNQ, of Plymouth, Minnesota. According to news reports Svard was in the process of landing his personal helicopter in the yard of his son's home in the rural city of Corcoran at around 10:30 a.m. on Sunday morning, December

23rd. This as he had done many times in the past. But something went wrong as the chopper began to spin with its tail rotor hitting a near-by trailer.

News reports go on to say that Svard's son Stefan was watching his father land the Robinson Model 22 chopper when the accident occurred. The younger Svard ran out with a fire extinguisher. Stefan got his father safely out of the helicopter before a major fire erupted. KD0PNQ reportedly suffered only a scorched arm

and singed facial hair but thankfully was otherwise unscathed.

Brad Christianson, KC0HCP, tells Amateur Radio Newsline that Trygve Svard is a member of the Minneapolis area Twin City FM Club. The news report about the crash describes Svard as being a very skilled pilot.

The FAA and National Transportation Safety Board are investigating the incident.

—Amateur Radio Newsline, Report 1846, December 28, 2012

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. Subscriptions are available to non-members for \$12.00 a year. An email version of the HPARC Newsletter is also available. Contributions and letters 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 January, July, and September) at 6:30 pm at a local restaurant announced in the newsletter. The business meeting starts around 7:00 pm 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.

HURRICANE SANDY - EVERYTHING OLD WAS NEW AGAIN

You might want to say that everything old is new again. This after Professor Darren Hayes of Pace University's Seidenberg School of Computer Science and Information Systems reports on the aftermath of Hurricane Sandy. According to Professor Hays, it appears that older technology played a vital role to assist the public after this disaster.

In an article in the news blog The Hill, Professor Darren Hays notes that the Verizon network suffered widespread outages and with no electricity, telecommunications were problematic. The old corded telephones were plugged in by those who still had them and there were lines for payphones. For those of you to young to remember these are coin operated tele-

phones that in many places are nothing more than a distant memory.

Professor Hays also had some nice words for the Amateur Radio community. He says that others resorted to using Ham Radio to communicate, which was found to be very effective. Hays pointed to Ham Radio networks like ARES and RACES which are dedicated to communications outages. Hays who holds the call KI6UEI noted that a battery-powered radio was at one point his only connection to the outside world during the storm.

Hays article notes that as the recovery in the aftermath of Hurricane Sandy continues, questions are being raised about our nation's preparedness for emergencies. On Friday, November 9th it was

reported that two Congressmen, U.S. Representatives Peter King and Steve Israel, were requesting that the military assume control of Long Island Power Authority. This in an effort to restore electricity to more than 150,000 homes and businesses which at that point still without mains power.

Back in 2006 the newspaper Newsday reported that the Long Island Power Authority was warned that its critical infrastructure could not handle a major storm. One of the issues noted was that the utility was utilizing a 25-year old mainframe computer system that could not track power outages or other critical functions like monitoring for rotting utility poles.

—Amateur Radio Newsline,
Report 1842, Nov. 30, 2012

HPARC MEMBERSHIP DUES

I hate to be the Grinch who stole Christmas, but I need to remind everyone of their membership dues. I have failed in my duties to remind those who were behind. And several were due in December, but did not pay at the meeting.

If you are several months behind, I have a proposal.

Instead of catching up on dues, we start your dues on a January to December schedule. Most of the club is on this schedule, and it would make it easier to remember.

Those receiving the paper editions of the newsletter have the expiration date of their membership on the label.

Those on email do not have this. I will start sending gentle reminders via email for those members who are getting close to the date of their membership renewal.

You can send your dues to: HPARC, PO Box 4941, High Point, NC 27263-4941. Thanks for your cooperation.

BARCODE INVENTOR JOSEPH WOODLAND –S.K.

Norman Joseph Woodland who co-created the barcode using Morse code, has died at his New Jersey home at the age of 91.

Barcodes Inc. says that Woodland worked with university classmate Bernard Silver

to create the now ubiquitous thick-and-thin-line system in the 1940s. Woodland reportedly used the Morse code as a basis to create the barcode when he just extended the dots and dashes downward and made narrow lines and

wide lines out of them.

The BBC reports that the system was patented in the US in 1952 and was later sold for only \$15,000.

—Amateur Radio Newsline,
Report 1846,
December 28, 2012



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

HPARC JANUARY CALENDAR

- 1 — NEW YEAR'S DAY**
- 1 — ARRL Straight Key Night
- 5-6 — ARRL RTTY Roundup
- 6 — ARRL Kid's Day
- 12 — Winston Salem Firstfest
- 19-21 — ARRL January VHF Sweepstakes
- 21 — MARTIN L. KING JR BIRTHDAY**
(observed)
- 27 — HPARC Newsletter Deadline

BIRTHDAYS

- Larry Frye — January 15
- Robert Erdin — January 16

2013 HPARC OFFICERS

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Breakfast
every Saturday
 —
8:00 am
 —
Mrs. Winner's,
South Main St.