



August
2025

HPARC NEWSLETTER

High Point
Amateur Radio
Club



W4UA

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

HPARC Meeting

August 4, 2025 @ 6:30 pm

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

Contact Keith Thomas, KA4JAH for Zoom info.

Single Sideband Activity Nights

2 Meter SSB: Thursdays @ 9pm ET 144.200 MHz

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

FlexRadio Equips ARRL with FLEX-8000 Series Station for W1AW

Source: ARRL Letter July 17, 2025

There is a new addition to Studio 1 at W1AW, the Hiram Percy Maxim Memorial Station at ARRL Headquarters in Newington, Connecticut: a complete station of the latest gear from [FlexRadio](#), including a FLEX-8600™ Signature Series SDR transceiver, a Maestro C Control Console, Power Genius XL (PGXL) amplifier, and Radiosport RS60CF headset. The equipment is the latest addition to W1AW, which hosts a complement of equipment in each of three operating studios under rotating agreements with major amateur radio manufacturers.



Tony Brock-Fisher, K1KP, (left, front) looks on as Steve Hicks, N5AC (right, front) demonstrates features of the FLEX-8600 to ARRL President Rick Roderick, K5UR (left, rear) and ARRL CEO David Minster, NA2AA (right, rear).

During his visit to present the station to ARRL on Wednesday, July 16, 2025, FlexRadio Chief Technology Officer Stephen Hicks, N5AC, described the station as an addition for the benefit of ARRL members and all visitors to W1AW. ARRL President Rick Roderick, K5UR, and CEO David Minster, NA2AA, were on hand to receive the equipment on behalf of ARRL.

“The FLEX-8600 provides all of the latest features that we have,” said Hicks. “And with all the Flex radios, they are continuously upgradable, so we have software releases on an ongoing basis and add features and functionality to it. ... ARRL members and W1AW visitors can come in here and try this equipment out and get used to it.”

ARRL Director of Marketing and Innovation Bob Inderbitzen, NQ1R, expressed gratitude for the collaboration with FlexRadio, saying “We’re grateful to have W1AW equipped with a full FlexRadio station, allowing members and visitors to operate and enjoy this current-generation technology when they come to experience the latest in amateur radio innovation.” Inderbitzen explained that



The FLEX-8600 being used by a visiting operator to W1AW.

ARRL’s partnership with FlexRadio and its ongoing arrangement with manufacturers highlights a shared commitment with the industry to advance amateur radio by offering a hands-on experience to W1AW visitors. Hicks and his FlexRadio colleague, Tony Brock-Fisher, K1KP, also provided a highly informative presentation to ARRL staff on the forthcoming [FlexRadio Aurora™](#) series of 500-watt SDR transceivers. Their talk highlighted the radio’s innovative use of polar modulation to address intermodulation distortion — a common challenge in linear amplification methods — while also reducing power consumption and heat generation. The technology has made it possible to reduce the weight and footprint of a high-power HF station into a lightweight radio that can easily travel as an airline carry-on.

Take Part in HamSCI's Meteor Scatter QSO Party

Source: ARRL Letter: July 17, 2025

The Ham Radio Science Citizen Investigation (HamSCI) is preparing for a series of upcoming meteor scatter (MS) experiments. Operating will take place during two well-known meteor showers: Perseids, August 11 - 12, 0000 to 2400 UTC, and Geminids, on December 12 - 13.

This is a combination "special event and contest" to generate contact data during meteor scatter events using the 6- and 10-meter bands. Ten meters has been used infrequently for meteor scatter study due to past symbol rate limits. However, with recent changes in Federal Communications Commission rules, WSJT-X/MSK144 protocols may now be used on HF bands.

Data will be collected from both bands during the scheduled times in August and December, and will be analyzed offline, using both PSK Reporter raw data and operator contact logs from WSJT-X.

User data, including both logged contact and received reports, are necessary for valid experimental analysis. The latter can be provided by any receive system reporting on MSK144 through PSK Reporter.

HamSCI

Operators are needed now to be active (i.e., CQ-) on MSK144; or passive, if possible, reporting via PSK Reporter as "monitors." The best times are early morning hours prior to 10 meters opening to F2 propagation. Meteor scatter propagation occurs well below F2 and is supported in or near the E layer where the meteor ionization tracks occur.

Saturday mornings are being used regularly to announce and coordinate 10-meter contacts using [Ping Jockey Central](#). Announcements are also made

on the Front Range Six Meter [groups.io](#) due to the substantial number of meteor scatter operators in that group.

To be successful, both active and passive operators are needed. The upcoming August meteor shower is an excellent time to set up your equipment and join with other operators preparing for the events. At a later date, the HamSCI team will be collecting operator contact information.

Contest rules can be found at [www.hamsci.org/msqp](#) and a description of the HamSCI Meteor Shower QSO Party - 2025 at [hamsci.org/msqp-poster](#).

HamSCI serves as a means for fostering collaboration between professional researchers and amateur radio operators. For more information about HamSCI and to join the mailing list, visit [www.hamsci.org](#).

Amateur Radio Helps Locate Missing Mother and Son

Source: ARRL Letter: July 24, 2025

Amateur radio had a crucial role in locating a mother and her 9-year son lost in California's Stanislaus National Forest, according to information from a Sheriff's news release. On Friday, July 11, 2025, the pair was reported overdue from a day trip to Camp Wolfboro, a popular scout camp in the Sierra Nevada Mountains.

On Saturday July 12, the Calaveras County Volunteer Search and Rescue Team (SAR) was conducting its monthly training exercise along the Stanislaus River when members received notification that Tami and son Stirling had been reported missing since Friday afternoon and were not answering their cell phones.

The SAR team set up a command post at Black Springs Off-Highway Vehicle riding (OHV) Recreational Area and quickly began initiating a road-based search using four-wheel-drive vehicles and air support from the California Highway Patrol.

Joining the search was a Deputy and



The command post for the rescue mission. [Calaveras County Sheriff's Office, photo.]

a Forest Service Law Enforcement Ranger who responded to 911 texts from campers in the area that a vehicle possibly matching the description of the pair's missing car had been found. The SAR team began to find handwritten notes posted near a remote Forest Service road and then another about a mile away that included a telephone number and the names of the missing individuals. Just

before 6:00 PM, the car and the lost mother and son were found. But the rescue was not over.

SAR team members were unable to communicate with their command post using conventional frequencies and cell phones from their deep woods location. So they used an amateur radio frequency to report their emergency traffic. The call was immediately answered by a retired El Dorado County communications supervisor, who is also an amateur radio operator, monitoring from his home. He contacted the El Dorado 911 center, which provided the information to Calaveras County Dispatch. The SAR command post was notified, and the mother and her son were transported to waiting family members.

Young Stirling also had a hand with the rescue. He used his scout whistle to blow SOS, the internationally recognized Morse code distress signal, to give searchers a better chance of locating their position.

ARRL Files Comments to Protect 70-Centimeter Amateur Band

Source: ARRL Letter: July 24, 2025

ARRL has filed comments with the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to oppose part of an application that would impact the 70-centimeter amateur band for telemetry, tracking and command (TT&C) of satellites. The application, from AST & Science, LLC (AST), requests “unprecedented authorization to 430-440 MHz for a constellation totaling 248 satellites to communicate with five ground stations using up to five channels with up to 256 kHz bandwidth.”

[READ ARRL'S FULL COMMENTS](#)
[PDF]

The formal opposition, filed by ARRL's Washington Counsel, asserts that the permission AST seeks to use the 430 – 440 MHz band “should be denied because AST does not demonstrate need for TT&C spectrum beyond that available within existing allocations.”

The filing goes on to highlight just how unprecedented the request is:



The Requested Spectrum Is Not Allocated for the Requested Purpose

The 430 – 440 MHz band is not allocated domestically or internationally for the requested space-to-Earth and Earth-to-space satellite TT&C operations. As others already have noted in this proceeding, signals in this band from AST's current 5-satellite constellation have been observed throughout the world, including in the United States, notwithstanding that the satellites are authorized to communicate only with five ground stations well outside the United States. From the operations by the current five satellites, it appears that the satellites at times have transmitted continuously in the 430 – 440 MHz band throughout their orbit, not just when in communication with one of the authorized ground stations. This activity defeats the purpose of preventing interference in the United States by limiting operations in this band to ground stations distant from the United States. Authorizing an additional 243 satellites to use this band, which would result in multiple satellites over the U.S. at all times, would effectively usurp this band's

allocated use.

The 70-centimeter band is also used in emergency communications. As recently as early July, ARRL volunteers serving in the Amateur Radio Emergency Service® (ARES®) made headlines for [providing critical communications in flood-ravaged areas of the Texas Hill Country](#). Allowing the 70-centimeter band to become overrun with TT&C operations could impact the ability for the Amateur Radio Service to be used in future disasters. “TT&C operations in the 430 – 440 MHz band are capable of causing harmful interference to radio amateur communications, including to amateur satellites operating in the 435-438 MHz subband,” the comments state.

The comments go on to outline why the application would be non-compliant with the ITU Radio Regulations Treaty.

Reply comments to the application are due by August 5, 2025. ARRL will continue to fight to ensure amateur radio operators have reliable, interference-free access to the spectrum they depend on -- especially in times of emergency and to serve our communities.

Ham Radio Responds During Tsunami Threat

Source: ARRL Letter: July 31, 2025

Amateur radio operators, including volunteers serving in the ARRL® [Amateur Radio Emergency Service](#)® (ARES®) were active in monitoring the potential impacts of tsunami waves following an earthquake off the Russian coast on July 29, 2025. The quake registered 8.8 on the Richter scale, and prompted tsunami concerns and warnings around the Pacific rim.

ARRL Pacific Section Manager Alan Maenchen, AD6E, lives in Wailuku, Hawaii. He was monitoring ham radio communications across the state. “There was some minor flooding in a few areas. It could have been worse. Some of the early waves were measured at 4.5 feet. Waves continue this morning but at a

much lower level and difficult to notice by the naked eye,” he reported.

The well-networked ham radio operators in Hawaii quickly sprang into action following the alerts. Informal VHF nets were held on amateur radio

repeaters. “Rick (Ward), WH6FC, held an informational statewide HF net on 7090 kHz LSB for many hours and there were about 57 check-ins,” said Maenchen.

On the US mainland, radio amateurs were also on alert. “The Oregon coast teams appear to have been in informal monitoring mode so that they are readily available for activation if needed,” said Bonnie Altus, AB7ZQ, who serves as the Section Emergency Coordinator of the ARRL Oregon Section.

The California Rescue Net on 40 meters was activated. According to Bob Turner, W6RHK, Section Manager of the ARRL Orange Section, “The net received some preparation reports from the San Francisco Bay area and Santa Cruz along with some maritime mobile stations with routine traffic. Orange County RACES



checked into the net to inquire about tsunami traffic.”

Ham radio operators are trained for situations like this. In March, operators in the ARRL Los Angeles Section [participated in a Tsunami exercise](#), simulating their response following large earthquakes with magnitudes 6 through 9 that appeared over several hours – much like this real world instance. Across the Caribbean, ARRL volunteers took part in the [Caribe Wave 2025 drill](#) the same month.

As mainstream media was covering the earthquake and potential tsunami, Nexstar Media, the largest ownership group of television stations in the United States, published an article across its stations’ websites with [10 tips for evacuating during a tsunami](#). Number 6 on the list was to “Bring a portable radio or ham radio, also known as an amateur radio. Do not count on phones or the internet to work. Stay tuned until the threat is over.”

The tsunami impact to North America was minimal at worst, and alerts were

canceled by midday on July 30. Photographs from Russia show widespread devastation from the earthquake.

The 40-meter amateur radio band is a popular choice for regional emergency communications nets due to the ability to use near vertical incidence skywave (NVIS) propagation, in which the radio waves go nearly straight up and are reflected over a limited area by the ionosphere. Many hams involved in emergency communications use NVIS antennas in their home setups.

Introducing Radio Alpha, the ARRL Museum and Research Library

Source: ARRL Letter: July 31, 2025

There’s a new resource from ARRL documenting the history of ham radio. Radio Alpha is the ARRL® Museum and Research Library. It is available for viewing at www.arrl.org/museum. Radio Alpha is envisioned as a Wikipedia-like project, administered by a trusted group of volunteers.

It aims to serve as a definitive repository of information, offering detailed descriptions and contextual data on pivotal figures, influential organizations, pioneering companies, transformative inventions, and iconic equipment that have shaped the amateur radio landscape. Radio Alpha addresses the critical need for a centralized, reliable, and easily navigable archive of amateur radio’s past.

Recognizing the fragmented nature of existing historical data, this database will consolidate diverse information sources into a single, cohesive platform. Users will find meticulously researched entries, cross-referenced to provide a holistic understanding of the connections and evolutions within the hobby. A core principle of Radio Alpha is universal accessibility. Therefore, the database will be entirely free to access, ensuring that researchers, historians,

enthusiasts, and the public can explore its contents without barriers.

Noted author, industrial archeologist, and historian Chuck Penson, WA7ZZE, is the principal architect who crafted the collection. Penson has published several books about the history of Heathkit and the Titan II missile. For him, it’s a labor of love and necessity. “Somebody has to do this,” said Penson. “Lots of people are doing it independently on their own – here’s a website about the equipment I own, and here’s some documents I scanned – there’s a lot of that.” The lack of a central location to compile those collections is the root of Radio Alpha. Penson hopes the research library will preserve the data long after individual contributors have passed away.

The platform is committed to being free of advertising, spam, and clickbait, prioritizing the integrity of its historical content and providing an uncluttered user experience. “This database will be a living resource, regularly updated and expanded through ongoing research and community contributions, fostering a deeper appreciation and understanding of amateur radio’s profound impact on communication, technology, and society,” wrote Penson.

Radio Alpha seeks contributors and

volunteers to help develop the content. Hams who have a passion for the history of radio, experience in writing, or extensive knowledge about a particular brand or mode of amateur radio are encouraged to volunteer. The museum also seeks materials that may help grow the collection. Those interested may reach out to Penson at radioalpha@arrl.org.



Penson hopes the data will be preserved forever. “ARRL has an organizational structure that allows it to take a long view on stuff like this. It is best equipped to handle a project like Radio Alpha.”

Radio Alpha, the ARRL Museum and Research Library, may be enjoyed at www.arrl.org/radioalpha or www.arrl.org/museum.

ARRL Field Day 2025 Saw Growth in Participants and Entries

Source: ARRL Letter: July 31, 2025

The numbers are in and showing growth. [2025 ARRL Field Day](#) showed an increase in both participants and entries, compared to 2024. According to ARRL Contest Program Manager Paul Bourque, N1SFE, 4,369 entries detailed 31,785 people taking part in the event. That's up from last year.

"There's a growing interest in ham radio, especially after last year's hurricane season and other high-profile situations in which radio has been essential," noted Bourque. "ARRL Field Day serves as a great chance to get engaged with your local amateur radio community."

The uptick in numbers may not be complete, as there's still an opportunity for a few more entries to be added. "Occasionally, a club will need to update their entry. We work with them to make sure it is correct," said Bourque.

Field Day participants should check that all the required supporting documentation related to their entries has been received by checking the Entries Received web page at field-day.arrl.org/fdentriescvcd.php. If the status of your entry is listed as Pending Documents, one or more of the required documents still needs to be submitted to

complete your entry. Entrants may use the link provided in the confirmation email they received to upload additional documents or to modify their entries.



Members of Rockford Amateur Radio Association (RaRa) operating during 2025 ARRL Field Day

Currently, 223 entries are listed as being incomplete. Updates to existing entries will be accepted until August 29, 2025. If you're having difficulty completing your Field Day entry or have any questions, contact fieldday@arrl.org.

On the public outreach front, final measurement numbers of the media coverage earned by amateur radio public information volunteers have been tallied. ARRL Public Relations and Outreach Manager Sierra Harrop, W5DX, reports that the total ad value equivalence (AVE) of 2025 ARRL Field

Day is \$37.9 million. "We had a tremendous response from clubs and ARRL public information volunteers this year on the heels of Ham Radio Open House into ARRL Field Day," she said. "The ARRL Public Relations Committee prepared resources to help the volunteers succeed, but they really took it to the next level in communities across the country."

AVE measures the amount of money that would have to be spent to buy ads in media and social media to replace the news coverage volunteers secured with press outreach. The \$37.9M figure measures only mentions of ARRL Field Day from January 1 – July 31 of each year. In 2024, the figure was \$20M, and \$18M in 2023. Harrop hopes to see further strengthening of public information volunteers leading into 2026, which ARRL has designated as the Year of the Club. Hams seeking to serve as an [ARRL public information volunteer](#) may express interest to their ARRL Section Manager.

The overall growth is encouraging to ARRL. "I'm very pleased with the amount of active ARRL Field Day participants this year. It's nice to see more and more people participating!" said Bourque.

W4UA Programming Schedule

By: Peter Kapetanakis, KN4OCX

This year we have Andrew Talbert, K4XAT as our club's Program Chair. He has been hard at work and has created a schedule of volunteers for programs to be help at our monthly meetings. Should you have any questions, comments, or ideas, please feel free to contact Andrew, or any of the Club's officers.

*Programming Schedule is subject to change.

2025 Program Schedule	
January	DMR
February	FT8
March	Wires-X
April	Geochron
May	SAT
June	Field-Day Planning
July	Meshtastic
August	Show & Tell Your Ham Gear
September	QSL Cards
October	Remote FT8
November	HT Programming
December	Christmas Party



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 **August 5th**. 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:

Technician Course:

January 7, April 1, June 24, September 23

General Course:

February 18, May 13, August 5

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 adults about the world of radio and KK4RR has been spearheading this dates on the calendar for us to have an To volunteer you must go through the museums volunteer process. To get started, or to learn more, please contact Richard Weinbaum, KK4RR at 336-687-8001 or KK4RR@mac.com.



population and their accompanying morse code. Richard Weinbaum, partnership for some time and we have exposition and share our knowledge.

To get started, or to learn more, please contact Richard Weinbaum, KK4RR at 336-687-8001 or KK4RR@mac.com.

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



August

HPARC CALENDAR

- 4 — **HPARC Meeting**
- 9 — W4VEC Greensboro VE Session
(Hinshaw United Methodist Church)
- 17 — HPARC Newsletter Deadline
- 30 — W4VEC High Point VE Session
(Hickory Chapel Wesleyan Church)

BIRTHDAYS

Bondy, Craig M	N8STA
Brown, Derek	WF4I
Crandall, Terence	N4TLC
Cumbo, Mike	ND4S
Gallemore, Warren	KA4LOQ
Kapetanakis, Peter	KN4OCX
Lomax, Fred	W4US
Penn, Nicole	KQ4BPC
Riewe, Chris	AE4TI
Sexton, Jimmie	KO4BEG
Witt, Bob	KN4LMH

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

2025 HPARC OFFICERS

David Macchiarolo, AJ4TF — President — 336-420-9424 — President@W4UA.org,
Terence Crandall, N4TLC — Vice-President — 336-413-9589 — VicePresident@W4UA.org
Keith Thomas, KA4JAH — Secretary — 336-906-2469 — Secretary@W4UA.org
George Williams, KQ4NBH — Treasurer — 336-508-0598 — Treasurer@W4UA.org

Peter Kapetanakis KN4OCX — Newsletter Editor — W4UA.Newsletter@gmail.com
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.