



HRAC meets the second Wednesday of each month at 7:00 pm at HACC, Shumaker Public Safety Center, Gate 5 on Industrial Road in Harrisburg

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# Harrisburg Radio Amateur's Club Newsletter

## From the Desk of the President.....

The Firecracker Hamfest / EPA Section Convention and Electronics Expo will be Saturday July 6, 2013. There is some confusion as to why the date changes every year. It always falls on the day before the first Sunday of July. How simple is that??

The response from commercial vendors has been great this year. We will have two locations for the commercial vendors. One is in the large garage of the main building. The other is in the triple wide office trailer at the parking lot next to the large garage. Tailgating is close to everything. The layout is set so that there is a natural flow to the event. This year there will also be an area to show off your mobile installations. EMA vehicles, Rovers, Mobile installs, and mobile antenna farms. Bring your vehicle to park at a special display area. Arrive early to capture the best deals because as with most hamfests, the place thins out quickly at noon. Door prizes will be announced regularly throughout the day, and the grand prizes will be announced at noon.

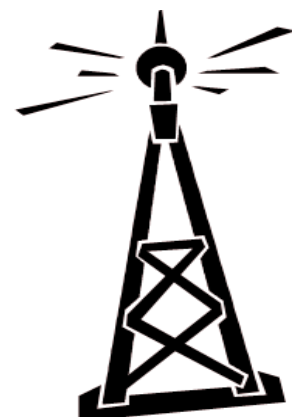
OK, so I missed the ham luncheon at the Old Country Buffet last week because I was camping at Ocean City MD, but as I walked around the campground Thursday morning I had a sort-of DX ham meeting. Just about 40 yards away I ran into Brian (K3WKK) and his family at the campground. We need to organize a ham radio campout at OCMD someday. Vertical antennas at the camp and one of those big kites at the beach with a long wire on it... Just thinking out loud here...

Thanks to everyone who came out for the Field Day event this year. I couldn't make it to the event this year, but thanks to the pictures posted on our Facebook page, I feel like I was there. If you are not on Facebook, you are missing a lot.

73

See you all at the Firecracker,

Terry Snyder (WB3BKN)



## July Meeting Minutes

The June 12, 2013 meeting of the Harrisburg Radio Amateurs Club was called to order at 1900 HRS by the president, Terry (WB3BKN) followed by introductions.

**Secretary Report** - The minutes of the May meeting were published in the newsletter. Shelby (K3EMT) made a motion, seconded by Pete (KB3WIH), to accept the minutes as published in the newsletter. Motion PASSED

**Treasurers Report** - Joe (KQ3F) presented the treasurer's report. Mike (N3HLK) made a motion, seconded by Leroy (W3BBT), to accept the report. Motion PASSED

**VE Committee** - There will be a test session on June 15 at HACC in room 101 and another session at the Firecracker Hamfest on July 6, at 11:00 AM.

**Trustee** – Nothing to report. Steve (KA3PDQ) asked if anyone knew the whereabouts of a binder that contained information from the Trinity High School radio club. It is thought to contain lists of students who earned their licenses over the years as well as copies of contest essays that were submitted.

**Repeater** - Steve (KA3PDQ) reported that he is investigating the possibility of reconfiguring the receive antenna at the repeater site.

**Membership Committee** – no update.

**Web Page** – Terry (WB3BKN) has contacted the webmaster about adding a Facebook graphic to the page, but it has not been updated as yet. Also, the June meeting date had not been posted. .

**Newsletter** – A “pop quiz” was given on the June newsletter to see who was actually reading the content.

**EMCOMM** – Volunteers are needed for the following upcoming events:

- There is an American Cancer Society is having a bike ride June 29<sup>th</sup>. Operators are needed to ride in SAG vehicles
- The Camp Muckleratz horse ride is scheduled for July 27 – 28. Operators are needed for checkpoints along the trail route.

**DXCC** – Glenn (K3SWZ) will do a mailing after the hamfest. ([article in newsletter](#))

**Entertainment** – Final planning for Field Day was discussed.

Nick (AA3T) will not be able to attend the July meeting and asked if anyone else would be able to pick up the ice cream for the meeting.

**Firecracker Hamfest** – There was a discussion about planned layout of spaces at the hamfest.

- Vendors will all be set up along the road leading from the skid pad toward the pavilion and parking will be in the main parking lot across from the safety center building.
- Volunteers will be needed to help with marking off vendor spaces along the road. Terry (WB3BKN) will post a message on Facebook and the Yahoo Group to coordinate the process.

## July meeting Minutes, continued

- We also need to have volunteers on site Friday night to check in early vendors.
- Door prizes will consist of a Signal Link interface, a ham radio book and \$25.00 cash.
- The test session will be held in the cafeteria rather...

**Tech Time** – There are no topics pending for tech time. Anyone who would like to make a suggestion is welcome to do so.

**Old Business** – Doug (K3DRE) will do press releases for both field day and the ham fest. Copies will be sent to all local radio, television and print news outlets. RJ Harris (W3HP) has committed to promoting the events on local radio. Janelle Stelson, local news anchor, may bring out a crew to do a remote broadcast of field day.

Old club records dating back to the 1940's are being scanned and digitized (by K3EMT, Shelby) for archival purposes. .

**Adjournment** – There being no further business to conduct, Shelby (K3EMT) made a motion, seconded by Pete (KB3WIH), to adjourn. Motion PASSED.

Meeting adjourned at 2030 HRS.  
Tim Lehman, KB3OZA  
Secretary



W3UU  
is  
ARRL Affiliated



### Personalized Items Make the BEST Gifts!

(And who says you can't give yourself a gift...)

**Hats • Shirts • Jackets**  
**Name Badges • Mugs • Mousepads**  
**Vanity Plates • And More!**



We use embroidery, heat transfer, vinyl or sublimation to put your idea on just about anything!



Visit us online at [www.shopIBD.com](http://www.shopIBD.com) for ideas  
then give us a call at 717-585-9779  
or email [geanne@impressions-by-design.com](mailto:geanne@impressions-by-design.com)  
for quotes and personalized service.

Please send any articles for the newsletter to [shelbyminier@gmail.com](mailto:shelbyminier@gmail.com)

## Weekly HRAC Net

The weekly information net is held every Wednesday at 8:00 PM on the 146.76– repeater, except for the second Wednesday of the month, which is club meeting night.



**Starting in 2013, ALL testing sessions will be held at the HACC Shumaker Public Safety Center.**

Dates for 2013 include:  
August 17, October 1, December 21  
Testing starts at 9:00am

There will also be a test session on July 6 (at 11:00am) at the Firecracker Hamfest

## Outgoing QSL Bureau Mailing

A mailing to the ARRL Outgoing DX QSL Bureau will be made right after the July Hamfest. Please get your cards to me before or at the Hamfest so they can be included in the mailing. The cards need to be placed in prefix order and I must include a copy of a recent QST mailing label, as this service is open to ARRL members only. This service is FREE to all HRAC members... You can send one card or hundreds.

Any question, you can e-mail me at [k3swz@arrl.net](mailto:k3swz@arrl.net)

de Glenn, K3SWZ

## July 15<sup>th</sup> VE Testing Results

2 applicants, both passed, resulting in one new extra class ham and one new technician class ham.

Thanks to the following VEs: Bill KE3YC, Mike, N3HLK, Doug, K3DRE, and Steven, KA3PDQ

The next session has the potential to be a large group of people testing. It is being held at HACC during hamfest... July 6, 2013. The testing will begin at 11:00, likely in the Cafeteria on the 1st floor. So enjoy the Hamfest and then help with the session.

**Monthly Ham Radio Lunch**

The last Thursday of each month there is a Ham Radio Lunch at the “Old Country Buffet” at noon (unless it is a major holiday).

This restaurant is located on Route 22 in Colonial Park in the vicinity of Value City Furniture, K-Mart and Home Depot.

It’s a great way to meet new people!

# Long Delayed Echoes.....

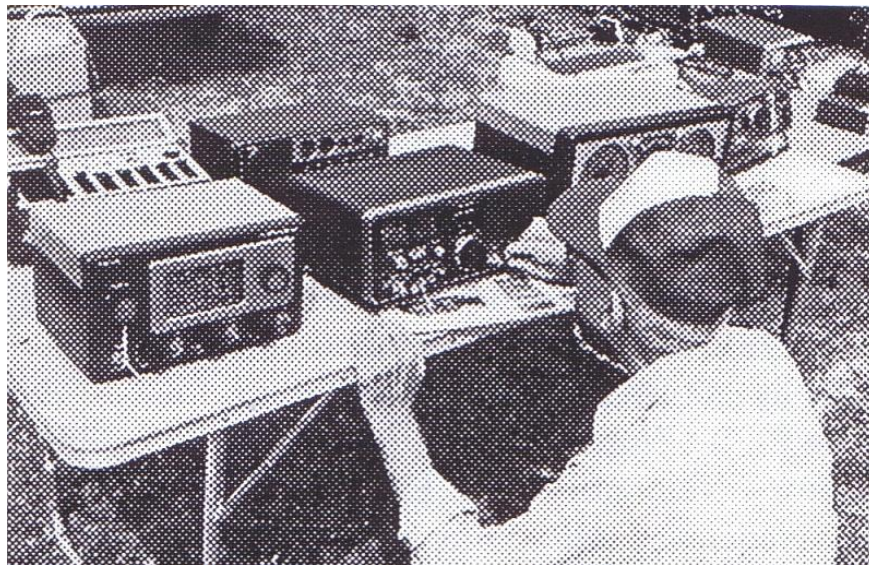
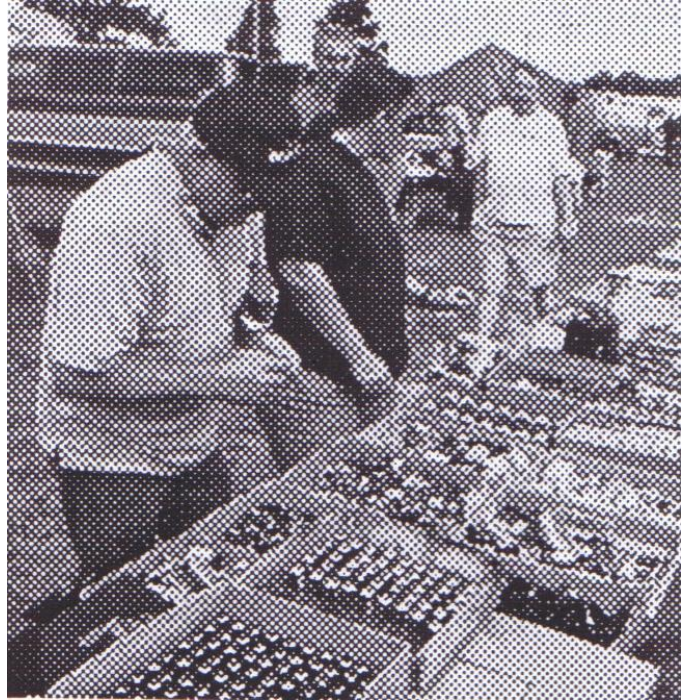
Looking back through the rich history of the Harrisburg Radio Amateur's Club

Compiled by Mark Robinson (WB3JIS)

*From the August 1997 newsletter, these photos are from the 1997 hamfest. Unfortunately the quality leaves something to be desired but the sights, sounds, and smells of a hamfest on a bright summer day are easy to imagine.*



This is what it's all about, twisting dials, checking small parts, and getting down on your knees and looking for a deal. The July 4th HRAC "FireCracker" Hamfest tried a new location.



If you are interested in  
advertising in the newsletter,  
please contact

Terry Snyder, WB3BKN at  
[terry@djerry.com](mailto:terry@djerry.com)

or

Shelby Minier, K3EMT at  
[shelbyminier@gmail.com](mailto:shelbyminier@gmail.com)

# Ham Radio Nets

Adams County Amateur Radio Society  
Tuesday 7:30 145.35 PL 103.5 except club meeting nights.

Appalachian Amateur Radio Group  
Sunday 8 PM 146.64 PL 82.5 and echolink 149493  
Thursday 8PM 146.64 PL 82.5 NTS traffic net

Berry Mountain Amateur Radio Club  
Tuesday 9PM 147.24 PL 123.0

Cumberland Amateur Radio Club  
Wednesday 8PM 28.400

Cumberland Valley Amateur Radio Club  
Sunday 9 PM 147.12

Cumberland Amateur Radio Club  
Tuesday 9pm 144.49

Ephrata Area Repeater Society  
Monday 9 PM 145.45 PL 100.0  
Friday 9PM 146.61 PL 131.0 Digital Net

Harrisburg Radio Amateur Club  
Mondays at 1900 local time on the 145.110 repeater PL 123 (Data Net)  
Wednesday 8 PM on the 146.76 repeater *Except for the second Wednesday month, which is club meeting night*

Keystone VHF Club of York  
Monday 8:30 PM 146.97 PL 123.0  
Tuesday 8 PM 146.97 PL 123.0 Keystone Digital Net  
Wednesday 9PM 146.97 PL 123.0 QCWA net

Lancaster Radio Transmitting Society  
Thursday 9 PM 147.015 PL 118.8

Lebanon Valley Society of Radio Amateurs  
Tuesday 8 PM 147.315 PL 82.5

PennMar Radio Club  
Tuesday 8 PM 147.33 PL 123.0  
Sunday 8:30 28.450 Dew Drop Inn net  
Friday 8 PM 28.495 South Central PA net  
Thursday 8:30 146.55 Tri-State Simplex net

Red Rose Repeater Association  
Wednesday 9PM PL 118.8

South Mountain Repeater Association  
Monday 8 PM 146.46 PL 67.0 Capitol Area Traffic net  
Monday 9 PM 145.43 PL 67.0

Tuscarora Amateur Radio Association  
Sunday 8 PM 147.045 PL 146.2

If you know of a ham radio net not listed (or see a net that needs corrected) please e-mail the information to [shelbyminier@gmail.com](mailto:shelbyminier@gmail.com)

We will keep adding to the list.



## Firecracker Hamfest, Saturday July 6<sup>th</sup> .....

The big event is less than one week away.

### ADDED FEATURE!!!

How about a car show for "the rest of us". You know who you are...

You spent lots of time working on your mobile install. You have a traveling antenna farm and you want to show it off. Bring your Rover, EMS vehicle, mobile antenna farm, or just a really cool mobile install that you are proud of.

We have a special place for you to park and show off your work. Just let the ticket taker know you want to park in the "SHOW AREA".

The Firecracker Hamfest / EPA Section Convention and Electronics Expo will be on July 6 (Saturday) at the HACC Campus, Harrisburg. Directions and info is on the attached flyer. We hope to see you there!



## Volunteers Needed for Trail Ride Communications

The Camp Mukelratz trail ride (for horses) is back on. We provide radio support for the two-day event at Camp Weiser State Forest, located near Elizabethville, PA.

The event is set for July 27th and July 28<sup>th</sup> and will run from 0700 until 1300 both days.

Contact KB3BAA at 439-8971 at kb3baa@arrl.net to volunteer.

We have enjoyed participating in this event in the past. The unique environment has provided some challenges in years past, but the improved Berry Mountain repeater has made contacts much easier to make. We have even used FLDIGI during this event.

The riders also appreciate our presence on the course as cell phone coverage is not certain and there are a few dead spots on the course.

*Submitted by Marty Gutekunst*

G O L A N A B P U K O Z X W T  
 J P B D A P S A J E X Q L C E  
 W B L T L G U F K R Q S H R T  
 A H R R P B N F A C R P P E J  
 N D T A R J S R H H G M C N L  
 T D T N Z B P E A U A Q I A K  
 E X P S E U O Q M N R Y O L Z  
 N M R I U E T U F K M G M P D  
 N H F S G D S E E M G E Y D I  
 A O F T J O E N S D K U N N G  
 R I D O Y I W C T X P R C A I  
 R E I R D D K Y R E M L E B T  
 R L Y U T K R O W M A E T I A  
 L W K V E Y E P F F M Q Q T L  
 V O L T Q T I L S K I V V Q L

ampre  
 analog  
 antenna  
 bandplan  
 digital  
 diode  
 elmer

frequency  
 Hamfest  
 kerchunk  
 ohm  
 sunspots  
 teamwork  
 transistor  
 volt

## Skype is a Great Alternative .....if you can't make the meeting

Just a reminder....if you are unable to attend an HRAC meeting, Skype is always there as an alternative. This way you don't have to miss any valuable meeting and you can still participate!

To sign up for Skype:

1. Go to [www.Skype.com](http://www.Skype.com), and download your free Skype messenger.
2. Select your Skype name (make up something)
3. Go on line and connect to the test server to verify that your install is working.
4. Add a contact request for **hrac.radio** (We check, and approve requests daily)
5. Be ready to connect to **hrac.radio** any time after 6:30pm on meeting night.
6. Meeting begins at 7:00pm on the second Wednesday of every month.



\*\*This is an audio version of Skvpe.

## Facebook & Yahoo Group Links

Facebook Group Link:

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Harrisburg-Radio-Amateurs-Club/208171495915056?fref=ts>



Yahoo Group Link:

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/hrac/>



## Local Repeater Information

146.76 (100) W3UU Blue Mountain

147.075 (123) W3UU Ellendale (Dauphin County)

146.79 (114.8) KB3TWW Reeser's Summit

145.11 (123) W3ND Ellendale

145.29 (123) W3ND IRLP NODE 7060 Blue Mountain

145.47 (123) W3ND Blue Mountain

224.18 (123) KA3RKW Blue Mountain (Halifax Radio Club)

444.45 (123) W3ND Blue Mountain

444.55 (123) W3ND Newport

446.425 (123) W3ND Reeser's Summit

448.075 (123) W3ND Ellendale

147.24 (123) KB3VDL Elizabethville (Berry Mountain Amateur Radio Club)

145.21(123) WB3EYB Harrisburg, on mountain north of Linglestown

145.430 (67) South Mountain Repeater Association, Mt Holly Springs

146.46 + 1mhz (67) Western Cumberland County & Perry County, Echolink N3tw-r

## Swap and Shop

This is an area for ham radio operators, members and non-members, to list radio/electronic items that they want to sell or that they are looking to purchase.

If you are looking to unload something, or seeking something to add to your ham shack, please e-mail [shelbyminier@gmail.com](mailto:shelbyminier@gmail.com).



## HF-MERMAIDS-DRONES-FLIGHT 800

Recent developments have shown that RF has played an important role in the investigations of the disaster in 1996. Hopefully everyone reading this realizes that when you transmit on your favorite Amateur Radio transmitter that a magical thing happens when your transmitter releases its electrons in a form of RF energy (Your cell phone or wireless device is rumored to do this also). As the amateur radio community has become increasingly mobile and enamored with HIGH Power we have increasingly polluted the large bodies of water (oceans) with electromagnetic signals. Because of the crystalline make up of salt water it amplifies this energy to the point that it has become intolerable for the inhabitants of the deep.

Despite a recent TV documentary showing the existence of these creatures, which upon its release created a fire storm within the intelligence community that caused the film makers to develop a cover story that the content of the show was factitious. These creatures have had to take measures to combat this ever increasing threat to their existence. These highly advanced beings have developed weapons to stem the tide of the RF intrusion into their home.

It has been learned that the merman leaders have been in secret talks with the United Nations to stop the destruction of their Homeland. However as per our usual human arrogance that we are on top of the food change the World's Leaders have ignored their plight and continued to let radio amateurs proliferate uncontrolled and continue to cause havoc on our under seas brothers and sisters.

This lead to a show of force from the Merman to use a particle beam weapon, not a missile or drone to bring down flight 800 over the Atlantic Ocean. While the national media is now calling for a reopening of the investigation of the crash We predict yet another massive cover up of the TRUE facts of this case. And still the Mermaids call for help go unanswered. Instead the governments of the world unleash an unprecedented attack on our underwater cousins. From a secret underwater base in the Chesapeake Bay right at the outlet of our own Susquehanna River the World has waged war on these benevolent citizens of the deep. With untold casualties on both sides this secret conflict will result in a final battle in the area known as the Bermuda Triangle were the Mermaids capital is to exist.

You as a Amateur operator need to help by limiting your output power to the point that your favorite YAGI does not FLASH over at the peaks of your SSB transmissions. CW operators should limit their key down output to less than 5,000 watts. Yes, it will be a struggle for some but, it is a proven fact that reliable one way communications can be made with power levels of this type.

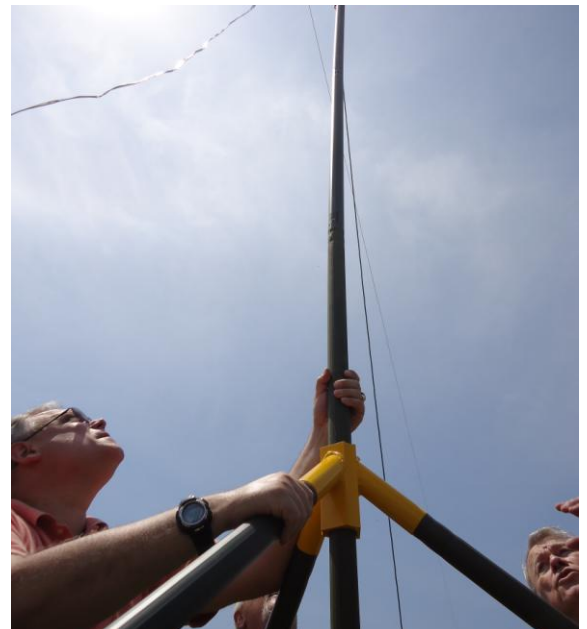
If the NSA doesn't cause my mysterious disappearance I will bring you updates as I get them.

*"If it's on the Internet it has to be TRUE!"*

Steven, KA3PDQ



# Some Field Day Pictures, June 22, 1013





If you have Field Day pictures, please email them to [shelbyminier@gmail.com](mailto:shelbyminier@gmail.com)  
Help preserve your club's history!

W3UU - Harrisburg Radio Amateur Club – 41st Annual

**NEW  
DATE**

**Saturday JULY 6 2013**

**NEW  
DATE**

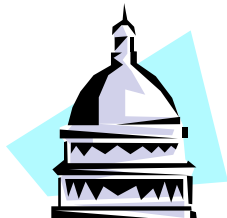


**Eastern Pennsylvania Section Convention**

**&**

**FIRECRACKER**

Electronics Expo and Hamfest



**“The Harrisburg Pa. Electronics Expo and Hamfest”**

**Harrisburg Area Community College**

**Fire training grounds**

3599 Industrial Road, Harrisburg, PA

- ◆ Covered indoor **Commercial Tables** Available
- ◆ **Largest Tail Gate / Electronic Flea Market in Central PA**
- ◆ **Over 500 tailgate spaces available**
- ◆ New and Refurbished equipment dealers on site
- ◆ **ARRL Sanctioned Hamfest / Section Convention**
- ◆ **Great Food (Breakfast and Lunch)**
- ◆ **Meeting room available for clubs and discussions**
- ◆ **DXCC & WAS** cards checked on site until 10:00 am
- ◆ **VE Testing on site at 11:00 am (Walk-in Welcome)**

**W3UU**  
**146.16/76 MHz**  
**PL 100 Hz**

Map on Reverse side  
 of this flyer

**Special Event  
 Station**  
  
**W3W**  
  
**In operation at the  
 Convention**

General Admission: \$5.00 (XYL & kids free)  
 Tail Gating: \$5.00 per space  
 Tables: \$12 each before July 1  
 \$15 on or after July 1

General Admission: 8:00am  
Dealer Setup: Hamfest Day 6:00am  
 Prior Day 6:00pm-9:00pm (Strictly Enforced)

For further information contact:  
 Web Site: [www.w3uu.org](http://www.w3uu.org)  
 Email: [WB3BKN@gmail.com](mailto:WB3BKN@gmail.com)

Tel. 717-896-0256

Terry Snyder, WB3BKN  
 PO Box 355  
 Halifax, PA. 17032-0355

Directions to the Hamfest from rt. 81 (watch for signs)

**Located just north of Harrisburg, Pa.**

Rt. I-81 to Exit 67 (Follow signs to Farm Show Rt. 22 East)

Follow Rt. 22 about 3000 ft, Turn RIGHT at light

Continue on Wildwood Park Drive and road will become  
Industrial Road. Hamfest / Convention is 3/4 mile on RIGHT

**3599 Industrial Road, Harrisburg, Pa 17110**

40.303645,-76.888379

**Represented on this map and picture by the**

**Green B and arrow the "A" is Exit 67**



From Rt 83 and points south:

Exit 43 (Second Street, Harrisburg)

Follow ramp to light at Paxton St. and turn RIGHT

At next light (Cameron Street) turn LEFT

Follow Cameron street to Wildwood Park Drive, at Farm Show, Turn Left

Continue and road becomes Industrial Road, Hamfest is ¾ mile on Right

Mapping/APRS Coordinates

Hamfest: **40.303645,-76.888379**

Chair: Terry Snyder (WB3BKN)

# MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

MAIL TO:  
Tim Lehman (KB3OZA)  
PO Box 453  
Harrisburg, PA 17108-0453  
717-982-8550

Make checks payable to HRAC—Membership is \$15.00 (\$7.50 if c  
Dues end July 31st.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ CALL SIGN \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ E-MAIL \_\_\_\_\_

ARRL Member: Y \_\_\_\_\_ N \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

I agree to abide by the guidelines of the membership and The Harrisburg Radio Amateur's Club, Inc.