



Harrisburg Radio Amateurs' Club Newsletter

From the Desk of the President.....

Well, the Winterfest is over and it was a BIG success. The official numbers aren't in yet, but it appeared that attendance was up by 50% over last year. I have received a number of positive comments from people on the event. Here is just one:

...thanks to all of the club members for their efforts to have the Winterfest. It was a welcomed opportunity to get out and root through a bunch of electronics, meet some old friends, and (in my case) enjoy my first hamfest in probably 25 years. So to HRAC, I say 'Bravo!' and 'Well done!'.

I want to add my thanks to all of the club members who gave of their time and talents to make it a success.

Now it's time for some fun! This month is our annual Ham Feast, held at Fire Mountain buffet on the Carlisle Pike. We gather for dinner and door prizes. It's always a fun time with good food and fellowship and an opportunity to sit and talk with members that we may not otherwise have a chance to do. Something about hams and food... It seems that whenever a bunch of hams get together there's always food involved. Good food and door prizes; how much better can it get?

Editor's note: The grand prize is a Yaesu FT-7900 with the YSK-7800 separation kit included.

Well as a matter of fact... This is also when we honor one of our members with the club's Ham of the Year award. The award goes to a club member who has distinguished himself (or herself) in service to the club and ham radio in general. I don't know about you, but I can't wait to find out who the winner is this year.

Tim Lehman, President
KB3OZA

Club Meeting Night.....Note time/location change for February!

The February meeting will be held Wednesday February 12th at 6:00pm. The location of this meeting will be Fire Mountain Restaurant on the Carlisle Pike in Mechanicsburg.

This is the annual Ham Feast where we just have fun. Bring your family and come on out. We will have door prizes, one larger prize (***The grand prize is a Yaesu FT-7900 with the YSK-7800 separation kit included.***), and the 2013 Ham of the Year Award will be announced. In order to be eligible for prizes, make sure your dues are up to date, or even join the club for the first time!!!

Shelby, K3EMT

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
(Elmer Time starts at
6:30PM)

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January Meeting Minutes

The January 8th, 2014 meeting of the Harrisburg Radio Amateurs Club was called to order at 1917 HRS by the president, Tim (KB3OZA) followed by introductions. There were 17 members present.

Secretary's Report – The minutes of the November meeting were published in the newsletter. Doug (K3DRE) made a motion, seconded by Chuck (N3WL), to accept the minutes as published. Motion PASSED

Treasurers Report – Joe (KQ3F) presented the treasurer's report. Doug (K3DRE) made a motion, seconded by Rick (K2RBT), to accept the report. Motion PASSED

VE Committee – No report.

Trustee – No report.

Membership Committee – Tim (KB3OZA) mailed dues reminder notices at the end of December. Currently we have 61 members, 44 are ARRL members, for a 72% ARRL rate.

Newsletter – No report.

Web Page – There was no report from Gary (KV3Q). Doug (K3DRE) reported that there is a forum section on the newsletter that will possibly become active over the next month or two

EMCOMM – Doug (K3DRE) reported that PEMA activated from approximately January 5th thru January 8th due to the cold. There were 100+ stations for weather check-ins, reporting severe weather. Operators reported things such as broken water pipes, gas line issues, school closings. Doug worked the event from his home.

There was discussion of the upcoming CMEs (Coronal Mass Ejections). They are to be severe. We discussed how the CMEs could potentially impact communication and HF communication in particular.

DXCC – Glenn (K3SWZ) reported that he will be checking cards at the Winterfest, being held on January 18th.

Entertainment – Joe (KQ3F) did a presentation on HF propagation for Emler Time. The presentation after the meeting was presented by Glenn (K3SWZ), and the subject matter was basic QSLing.

The February meeting is the annual HamFeast. The event is being held at Fire Mountain on the Carlisle Pike in Mechanicsburg. It will start at 6:00PM. There will be door prizes and a couple larger prizes. Ham of the Year for 2013 will also be awarded. Bring your family and come on out and have fun. (Attendees pay their own way).

Field Day – Discussion about possibly joining CPRA at PEMA headquarters for field day was again discussed. The general consensus seems to be that HRAC will remain at HACC for the field day event. There was no final decision reached.

January Meeting Minutes, continued

Hamfest Committee- Winterfest is 10 days away. Tim (KB3OZA) reported that he is getting phone calls about the event. Testing will be held the day of the event.

Elmer Time –March will be the next meeting that we will have an Elmer Time. Potential topics were discussed. There will be a topic list published on the Yahoo Group and Facebook page at some point in the future and we will need volunteers to teach each topic.

At this time we also discussed club brochures vs. the club newsletter as a handout to participants who pass the ham radio test at the sessions we hold.

Old Business – None

New Business - None

Good of the Club – Nick (AA3T) reported that there is a problem with Wouxun Radios. Import Communications (a.k.a. Wouxun.us) indicated Wouxun is becoming difficult to deal with and doesn't provide good warranty support on the radios they make. There are a significant percentage of Wouxun radios that are randomly losing memory and starting to speak in Chinese.

Terry (WB3KN) reported that he has a rig blaster for sale, contact him if interested.

Adjournment – There being no further business to conduct, Chuck (N3WL) made a motion, seconded by Pete (KB3WIH), to adjourn. Motion PASSED Meeting adjourned at 2011 HRS.

Shelby Minier, K3EMT
Secretary



W3UU
is
ARRL Affiliated

Reminder – Club dues are now due. If you don't get a reminder by mail, you can use the application at the end of the newsletter.

Thank you!

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!



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then give us a call at 717-585-9779
or email geanne@impressions-by-design.com
for quotes and personalized service.

**Happy
Valentine's
Day**
♥♥♥

Long Delayed Echoes.....

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

Compiled by Mark Robinson (WB3JIS)

First, an answer to last month's Trivia Question: Why is there a straight key next to the keyboard of Glenn K3SWZ's Model 15 Teletype machine?

For many years a station was required to identify at least every 10 minutes using voice or Morse – sending your call in the digital mode was not acceptable. This meant that even if Baudot was used for the QSO the ID still had to be in Morse. Having a hand key near the keyboard was a practical requirement for RTTY operators like Glenn to quickly whip out their call sign on CW. The FCC dropped this requirement on June 15, 1983. I can personally testify that there was immediately great rejoicing in the streets by those of us operating RTTY at the time!

This month's look back in history begins a series of artifacts from the 1950's courtesy of Shelby K3EMT. Shelby has been graciously working through scanning a recently discovered treasure trove of club documents. This particular document that is from 1951 is self-explanatory.

January 30, 1951

40 W. Main St.
Mechanicsburg, Pa.

Mr. Jerry Mathis
ARRL SCM, E. Pa.
617 Crescent Ave.
Glenside, Pa.

Dear Mr. Mathis:

Some time ago The Harrisburg Radio Amateurs Club was asked by your office to consider the establishment of an Emergency Communications organization in the Harrisburg area together with suggestions for the appointment by you of a local Emergency Coordinator.

Our organization has discussed this matter at length and have formulated plans and collected equipment which we now own. We feel that we can now cope with a disaster in this area should one occur.

The members of the Club have nominated and elected Mr. Kenneth R. Sweeney, W3KCL as our choice for a capable Emergency Coordinator. Mr. Sweeney is our representative on the local Red Cross Disaster Committee and has led the Club members in several simulated emergency tests in cooperation with Red Cross and other organizations. In addition, he is connected with the Bell Telephone Company, and in a serious emergency the Club could handle important traffic.

Possibly you will want to talk further with Mr. Sweeney regarding our emergency organization. His address is 393 18th. St.
New Cumberland, Pa.

Should you desire additional information regarding our Club's organization and ability to serve the Harrisburg area with emergency communication, Mr. Sweeney and I will be happy to oblige.

Very truly yours,
Fred R. Mumma
Fred. R. Mumma, W3KEK
Secretary

January Testing Results

This testing session we had another larger group.

There were 19 Applicants, and 19 elements taken

The breakdown is as follows:

- 2 Extra
- 4 General
- 5 Tech

8 elements were failed. There was 1 Administrative Action.

Special Thanks To:

Bill, KE3YC

Richard, N3UGW

Gary, KV3Q

Steve, N3FWE

Steven, KA3PDQ



The next testing session will be held
February 15, 2014
at the HACC Shumaker
Public Safety Center,
Gate 5 on Industrial Rd,
Harrisburg, PA.

Testing begins promptly
at 9:00AM

Monthly Ham Radio Lunch

The last Thursday of each month there is a Ham Radio Lunch at the "Old Country Buffet" at noon.

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!

Please send any articles for the newsletter to shelbyminier@gmail.com

HRAC's Winterfest a Huge Success

There were 215 in attendance at the Winterfest held on January 18th at HACC. Thanks to all who came out to help support the club!



2014 Exam schedule for the Harrisburg Radio Amateur's Club VE Team

- February 15, 2014-HACC Harrisburg Campus-Shumaker Public Safety Center, Gate 5 on Industrial Rd, Harrisburg, PA (9:00AM)
- April 19, 2014-HACC Harrisburg Campus-Shumaker Public Safety Center, Gate 5 on Industrial Rd, Harrisburg, PA (9:00 AM)
- June 21, 2014 -HACC Harrisburg Campus-Shumaker Public Safety Center, Gate 5 on Industrial Rd, Harrisburg, PA (9:00AM)
- July 5, 2014-FIRECRACKER HAMFEST HACC Harrisburg Campus-Shumaker Safety Center, Gate 5 on Industrial Rd (11:00AM)
- August 16, 2014-HACC Harrisburg Campus-Shumaker Public Safety Center, Gate 5 on Industrial Rd, Harrisburg PA (9:00AM)
- October 18, 2014-HACC Harrisburg Campus-Shumaker Public Safety Center, Gate 5 on industrial Rd, Harrisburg, PA (9:00AM)
- February 20, 2014-HACC Harrisburg Campus-Shumaker Public Safety Center, Gate 5 on Industrial Rd, Harrisburg, PA (9:00AM)

Links to the club's social media pages

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 have anything to list, email shelbyminier@gmail.com.

Bill has the following for sale:

T.G.M. Communications MQ-26SR Mini Beam 20 thru 6 (about ten years old); 30 Feet of American Standard tower; Small Rotor Light duty mast. Already on the ground. Package price \$100.00

Contact Bill KE3YC, 717-730-7173



Swap & Shop Link

<http://www.w3uu.org/swap-shop/>

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.

Link to Repeater and Net Lists

<http://www.w3uu.org/local-repeaters-and-nets/>

Same lists that used to be in the newsletter.....but on the club's website.

January Lunch At Old Country Buffett



As mentioned earlier in the newsletter, this gathering is the last Thursday of each month there is a Ham Radio Lunch at the "Old Country Buffet" at noon.



[Twitter Link](#)



[Yahoo Group Link](#)



[Facebook Page Link](#)



MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

MAIL TO:

Tim Lehman (KB3OZA)
PO Box 453
Hummelstown, PA 17036
717-982-8550

Make checks payable to HRAC
Membership is \$15.00 (\$7.50 if over 65) per year.
Family Membership is \$25 (Hams must reside in the same household)

Dues end December 31st

NAME _____ CALL SIGN _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE _____ E-MAIL _____

ARRL Member: Y _____ N _____ * YEAR FIRST LICENSED _____

SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____

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