

Harrisburg Radio Amateurs' Club Newsletter

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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From the Desk of the (NEW) President.....

I've been thinking about what to write about in this first letter for quite a while now. I know that I have some pretty big shoes to fill in taking over the office of president. I will work very hard to help the club grow and prosper, but I know that I can't do it by myself. I will need the help of all of you to make that happen. I'll need your suggestions and your opinions as well as your participation. I know that there is a core of members who can be counted on to step up and do whatever is necessary to help the club.

Our winter hamfest is fast approaching and plans seem to be coming together nicely. A lot of work has been done behind the scenes to bring this all together. We have the venue reserved. Flyers have been distributed far and wide to advertise the ham fest. If you want/need any to distribute, let me know. And we'll need to have people there first thing in the morning to make sure that the tables are set up the way we want them and helping sellers get checked in and set up. I have had inquiries from a number of hams in the area expressing interest and wanting details about the event. We are well on our way to another successful event.

Letters have gone out to the membership reminding them that it is time to send in their dues for the upcoming year. I have been asked a number of times in the past for information such as a phone number or email address of someone in the club. As a member of a couple of other radio clubs, I have received a membership roster as part of the renewal process. So when I mail cards out, probably in late January, I will also enclose a roster of members' names, call signs, phone numbers and email addresses.

All in all, I think we have a great year in store for the club and I'm looking forward to being a part of it all. I look forward to working with everyone to make that a reality.

Tim Lehman, KB3OZA

Club Meeting Night.....

HRAC meets the second Wednesday of each month at 7:00 pm. The meeting is held at the campus of Harrisburg Area Community College (HACC), at the Shumaker Public Safety Center. The safety center is located at Gate 5 off of Industrial Road in Harrisburg.

Elmer Time, formerly known as Tech Talk, begins at 6:30 pm. Come on out to a meeting and see what's going on with your club!

December Meeting Minutes

The December 11, 2013 meeting of the Harrisburg Radio Amateurs Club was called to order at 1905 HRS by the president, Terry (WB3BKN) followed by introductions. There were 21 members present.

Secretary's Report - The minutes of the November meeting were published in the newsletter. Shelby (K3EMT) made a motion, seconded by Doug (K3DRE), 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 – The next regularly scheduled test session will be held on December 21, 2013 in the Shumaker Public Safety Center cafeteria at 0900.

Trustee – no report.

Repeater – Terry (WB3BKN) brought up the fact that there have recently been problems with the 147.075 repeater. Water was found in the coax connecting the antenna to the radio. A temporary fix has been put in place and a permanent solution will be implemented when weather conditions improve.

There has been no progress reported in transferring trusteeship of this repeater from HRAC to another entity.

Membership Committee – Tim (KB3OZA) reported:

- We currently have 92 members and an ARRL membership percentage of 64.1
- Dues letters will be sent out during the week between Christmas and New Year's Day.

Newsletter – Shelby (K3EMT) asked if we needed to add some sort of disclaimer to the Swap and Shop section of the newsletter to avoid any repercussions due to typographical errors or disputes between buyers and sellers. The general consensus was that the current language is sufficient.

Web Page – Gary (KV3Q) discussed the possibility of adding a forum section to the web page. He pointed out that, while useful as a discussion tool for club members, it is a potential weak point for hackers to exploit. Further discussion was tabled until a future meeting.

EMCOMM – no report

DXCC – Glenn (K3SWZ) reported that he will be making a mailing to the bureau after the first of the year. If anyone has cards to send out, they should get them to Glenn before the end of the year.

Entertainment – Nick (AA3T) did a demonstration on Software Defined Radio (SDR) concepts and theory. Doug (K3DRE) demonstrated operation of an SDR system.

Glenn (K3SWZ) will do a presentation on QSL-ing, both through the bureau and direct, possibly as an Elmer Time item. The date has yet to be determined, but will probably be either the January or March meeting.

Field Day – CPRA has announced that they will hold field day activities at the PEMA headquarters building. The possibility of joining them was raised but a final decision was tabled until a future meeting.

Continued on next page.....

December Meeting Minutes, continued

Hamfest Committee-A check for an additional \$100.00 was sent to HACC for the use of the Cooper Student Union Building, Tim has Winterfest fliers. See him if you need fliers to distribute.

Elmer Time –Terry (WB3BKN) asked for a volunteer to coordinate presentations for these sessions. No volunteers have been found yet.

Old Business – Election of Officers: The nominating committee presented the following slate of candidates for election:

- President: Tim (KB3OZA)
- Vice President: Nick (AA3T)
- Secretary: Shelby (K3EMT)
- Treasurer: Joe (KQ3F)

Chuck (N3WL) made a motion, seconded by Doug (K3DRE), to accept the nomination by acclamation. Motion PASSED.

New Business- None

Good of the Club – Chuck (N3WL) asked if there had been any developments in getting HACC to install a gate in the fence near the tactical trailer. Nothing has been heard. Tim (KB3OZA) will contact Angie to see if the plan should be proposed to the Buildings and Grounds Committee.

Adjournment – There being no further business to conduct, Rick (K2RBT) made a motion, seconded by Shelby (K3EMT), to adjourn. Motion PASSED Meeting adjourned at 2010 HRS.

Tim Lehman, KB3OZA
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!



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



Long Delayed Echoes.....

*Looking back through the rich history of the Harrisburg Radio Amateur's Club
Compiled by Mark Robinson (WB3JIS)*

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



Glenn Kurzenknabe, K3SWZ in his basement shack in Camp Hill, circa 1969.

Trivia question: There's a straight key next to the keyboard of Glenn's Model 15 Teletype machine. Why?

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.

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!

Technology in the New Year

Another year has come and gone, no Zombie Apocalypse, no asteroid collision, no invasion from Mars or other alien attack, no reported super collider accident (you know the one were the scientists smash 2 atoms together and cause antimatter to develop and open a black hole which swallows the galaxy!) Of course if the galaxy is swallowed up as a whole how would we know that we are not where were supposed to be!

Only a couple of real significant things I have come across:

- 1) There is a web site on the internet which has detailed instructions on how to build a thought screen helmet. (<http://www.stopabductions.com>) This web site which is brought to you by an Alien Abductee who has used these helmets for 14 years! He uses VELOSTAT as the liner, which scrambles the wearer's thoughts so his/her mind cannot be telepathically read. The helmet uses an old-time aviator's helmet as the foundation for the helmet. It says it takes about 4 hours to build with step-by-step instructions on how to fabricate the device. One thing I found interesting is that you can store your extra helmets in a regular lockable cabinet or box! You see in the alien's advanced telepathic society all thought is open & controlled in a telepathic society therefore locks are unnecessary. Aliens are unfamiliar with locks and the concept of locks so they don't know how to get by them. Check the web site out complete with photographs!

- 2) The next thing is really cool and probably dangerous! I have a large Christmas light display with many miniature strings of lights. I have used various tools, testers to find the problem and repair it, which is usually quite time consuming. After an Internet search I found a web site that sells a professional tester to find the problems with the light string.

So since it was professional grade I bought it! Upon its arrival to my home I opened the box to find a metal box 8.5"x 6.5"x 3.5" There is no manufacturers name or even what the box does also there is no UL label of any kind. There is a pilot light, an off/on switch, on switch that says left or right. It has a receptacle that you plug the light string in and a miniature phone jack. The very short instructions say that the right/left switch and the miniature phone jack are not used, but after opening the box up they are wired. Well this is what you do, you plug the light string into the outlet on the front of the box and you push the large RED button. You then listen for the buzzing coming from the light set which is where the problem is coming from. Oh the buzzing yes it's a high voltage arc which depending on where the problem lies can glow blue in dim lighting conditions.

But it does work! Well I brought the box to work with me one morning to show the professional tradesman my new toy. Did I mention there is a piece of plastic that overhangs the top? You are to place your fingers on top of the plastic to hold the box still and use your thumb to push the button. There is also a warning not to touch the sides of the metal box when you push the red button. So after demonstrating this box to the large gathering of electricians and HVAC Techs, what next? We'll find something else other than a light string to plug in and see what happens when you push the button! (Bill I hope the burns are healing well!!)

Happy New Year!

Steven Gobat, KA3PDQ



VE Honor Roll

After reading QST for the last several years and looking at the running BOX that showed the VE HONOR ROLL I thought it might be fun to start our own!!

Here we go!

KE3YC, Bill Rawlings	49
KA3PDQ, Steven Gobat	44
KB3MCK, Barry Ernest	27
N3HLK, Michael Kalbaugh	34
KB3OZA, Tim Lehman	31
N3QLB, Rodney Young	25
K3DRE, Doug Evans	17
N3YB, George Burkett	8
KV3Q, Gary Cappello	8
N3UGW, Richard Wenner	5
N3FWE, Steven Hancock	4

As of December 21, 2013

Submitted by Steven (KA3PDQ)

2013 VE Test Session Report

During 2013, the HRAC VE TEAM conducted nine test sessions.

We had 61 applicants.

We administered 69 elements.

Successful applicants:

- 30 Technician
- 14 General
- 6 Extra



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

January 18, 2014-HACC Harrisburg Campus-Cooper Student Union Building ,1 HACC Drive, Harrisburg, PA (10:00AM)

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)

January 20, 2014-HACC Harrisburg Campus-Shumaker Public Safety Center, Gate 5 on Industrial Rd, Harrisburg, PA (9:00AM)

December VE Testing Session Results

The December testing session has been our **largest** test session since I took over!

We had 20 Applicants and administered 24 Elements.

Results:

14 Elements Passed

- 10 Tech
- 3 General
- 1 Extra

10 Elements Failed

Testing was conducted in a very small warm room. A REALLY GREAT JOB by the VEs!

Thanks to
Bill, KE3YC
Tim, KB3OZA
Mike, N3HLK
Steve H, N3FWE
Gary, KV3Q
Dick, N3UGW
Steve G, KA3PDQ

In case you are wondering the January 19, 2013 Session (held at last year's Winterfest) had 14 Applicants and 16 elements.

THANK YOU ALL!

Steven Gobat, KA3PDQ



Message Board Posting Etiquette

Posting on forums such as this is an important and convenient way to pass along information that was found in other forums. Often in the haste of getting the word out common privacy concerns are often overlooked.

When posting to forums such as this it is best to copy and paste the body of the message only. If the message is simply forwarded, the email addresses of everyone in the thread are included in the post. Just as we take every effort to keep email addresses hidden when sending club mailings, the same care should be taken here to protect the privacy of those email addresses that may be posted automatically by simply forwarding a message.

It may take a few more steps, but there are many who would rather not have their email addresses exposed to more unwanted solicitation.

TNX, 73

Terry WB3BKN

Links
to the
club's
social
media
pages

[Twitter Link](#)



[Yahoo Group Link](#)



[Facebook Page Link](#)



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.

List can also be viewed online: <http://www.w3uu.org/swap-shop/>



FOR SALE by Keith Ostertag (N3KXZ), (keitho@strucktower.com):

Tektronix oscilloscopes:

- Tektronix 7903 with 7A18 and 7B80 plugins, \$100, nice working.
- Tektronix 549 Storage oscilloscope with 1A1 plugin, \$100, nice working.

Parting out several vintage Tek scopes

- see http://www.strucktower.com/tek500series_parts.html for details

Please contact Keith at keitho@strucktower.com if you are interested in any of his items.

WANTED by Keith Ostertag (N3KXZ), (keitho@strucktower.com):

A two meter rig for desktop use. Not sure what I'm looking for, contact me with what you have. Good audio TX/RX important. Mobile unit or HT might be OK, but I don't like tiny buttons, tiny screens, deep multi-layer menus....

Please contact Keith at keitho@strucktower.com if you have anything to offer.

FOR SALE by Gary B. (K3GB), (sfrvn@earthlink.net)

Old Equipment

- KY-116/U Leg Key: Authentic 'leg key' from 1960s! Used it to run HF CW mobile! \$50
- Alinco DJ-580 2m/UHF Handheld — Desk charger, rubber duck, batteries do not hold charge! \$30
- Radio Shack VHF Handheld — 2 Chan, AC Charger, rubber duck, battery does not hold charge! \$10

Parts/Components

- Radio Crystals: About 40 – 50; FT243, scanner, RX and TX xtals \$40 for all
- TT Pad 16-button w/instr \$15
- Bag of Torroids (Ferrite cores) \$5
- RG-59 and RG-6 connectors/Crimp Rings \$4
- Dipole Center Insulator ('Cobra head') \$5
- Bag of U-bolts for antenna use (element-to-boom, etc) \$5
- 15' solid aluminum grounding/bonding wire 8 ga? \$3
- teletype ribbons: (3) Model 37/38 Blk cotton 25 \$5
- teletype ribbons: (3) Model 13? Black nylon \$3
- teletype ribbons: (12) Model 37/38 Grn nylon 25 \$3
- Box of mobile antenna mount hardware incl stainless strap \$8

Continued on next page.....

Swap and Shop, *continued from previous page*

Items from Gary B. (K3GB), (sfrvn@earthlink.net), Continued.....

- Small box of antenna mounting parts w/VHF loading coil \$5
- Tower thrust bearing \$8
- (2) Antenna-to-mast clamps \$3
- Box of BNC connectors: chassis, cable, Tees, barrels Many silver plated \$10
- Bolt Kit for Rohn 48' SS tower HWPBDBX48 \$25
- Box of egg insulators, hose clamps, Oxi-gard, ant putty \$10
- Trunk-lip mount 2m quarter wave antenna w/coax \$5
- Magnetic mount 2m quarter wave antenna w/coax \$5
- Magnetic mount w/coax \$3
- Uniden CB w/hand mic Small 23-chan!! \$8
- (3) Cobra GMRS Handheld radios: chgr, belt clips Set #3 \$15
- (2) Cobra GMRS Handheld radios: chgr, belt clip, headset Set #2 \$12
- (2) Cobra GMRS Handheld radios: chgr, belt clips Set #1 \$12
- (2) Uniden GMRS Handheld radios: chgr Set #4 \$12
- ~900' Insulated copper stranded wire 10 ga For grounding, radials, and more! \$100
- Box coax cables: <25' BNC, PL-259, Motorola conn \$5
- ~60' RG-6 Coaxial cable \$5
- (5) RG-58 & (1) RG-8 Patch cables (<6') \$5
- ~72' Terro 2 AWG Stranded copper HEAVY DUTY GROUNDING wire (Retail: \$2.40/ft \$125)
- ~75' RG-6 TWIN-LINE w/ground \$10
- ~25' RG-6 Coax \$4
- (2) Sections RG-58 (~25' ?) \$3
- 60' Low Loss RG-8X (commercial cable) W/PL-259 \$15
- Tripp Lite Regulated Pwr Supply PR-4 13.8VDC 4.5A \$10
- 1964 'County Hunters' Log Book Unused OLD!! \$10
- Realistic PA Amp Model 32-2027 35W Solid State w/mixer \$15

Please contact Gary at sfrvn@earthlink.net if you are interested in any of his items.

Hams are invited to stop by and take a look. Gary is about 6 miles SW of Carlisle off Walnut Bottom Road. Email for directions/an appointment & for pictures.

Newsletter Deadline Reminder

Just a reminder to all – the deadline for the newsletter is the 25th of the previous month.

Articles may be emailed to me at shelbyminier@gmail.com.

Thank you all!

Shelby Minier, Editor
K3EMT



EPA Section Member Riley Hollingsworth Receives Honors

Congratulations to EPA section member Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH, who was recently awarded the coveted Sarnoff Citation by the Radio Club of America, an organization of professionals in wireless communications, and the oldest radio society in the country, started in 1909.

See www.RadioClubofAmerica.org. While not an amateur radio club, there are many radio amateurs who are members. Notably, RCA members include ARRL president Kay Cragie and CEO Dave Sumner. Historic members include radio pioneers, such as Edwin Armstrong, the inventor of FM radio. I have had the pleasure of being an RCA member for some 20 years. I currently serve as its Vice President and General Counsel.

Riley's award was just covered in a recent ARRL newsletter, but you may not have realized he is an ARRL member here in the EPA Section.

At the annual RCA banquet in Orlando, FL recently, I had the pleasure of introducing Riley and presenting his history as the award recipient to about 170 attendees. Riley was unable to attend the event and requested me to do so on his behalf. The citation recognizes individuals who have contributed to the advancement of electronic communications in any significant manner, including nontechnical support of the wireless industry. Other Sarnoff Citation laureates include US Senator Barry Goldwater, K7UGA (SK), ARRL Roanoke Division Director Dennis Bodson, W4PWF, and two-way radio pioneer Fred M. Link, ex-W2ALU (SK).

In his FCC Enforcement Bureau position, Hollingsworth, who retired in 2008, revived enforcement of Amateur Service rules and regulations.

"I could never adequately thank the Radio Club of America for this award," Hollingsworth said in a statement he asked me to read. "To receive this -- and it is still hard to believe -- from such a prestigious organization is an amazing journey from a 13 year old boy in South Carolina who came to appreciate the magic of radio. Thank you all, and thank you very much for benefiting the entire nation by helping so many people choose a career in wireless."

Once again EPA members have the bragging rights they so richly deserve.

Congratulations to our EPA ARRL colleague, Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH.

A fraternal 73,
Bob Famiglio, K3RF
EPA SM

*From the ARRL Members Only Web Site
Submitted by Glenn Kurzenknabe, K3SWZ*

Tokyo Hy-Power Files for Bankruptcy

Tokyo Hy-Power, formally known as the Tokyo High Power Research Institute founded in 1975, has filed for bankruptcy which appears to have occurred on or around December 25, 2013. This action in Japan appears to be similar to a Chapter 7 action, here within the United States, as the process in this case appears to be the liquidation of organizational assets in order to attempt to fund some portion of its debt obligation(s).

We at HRO are deeply saddened by this event as Tokyo Hy-Power has been an industry leader in military, medical, commercial and amateur product delivery in various capacities since 1975. Ham Radio Outlet will be taking the following steps to provide as much relief to our current Tokyo Hy-Power customer base as possible and will begin contacting all current paid backordered customers for full refunds on any and all items not yet delivered.

Any and all sales of Tokyo Hy-Power items past and present will have no manufacturer warranty

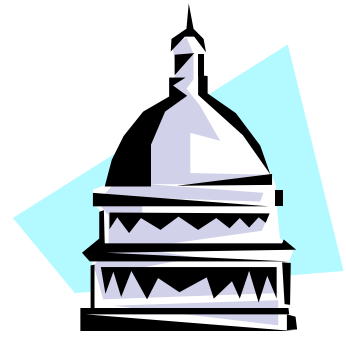
Questions concerning this event should be directed to Steve Gilmore, HRO National Sales Manager. He can be reached at the Virginia Store facility at 800-444-4799.

Submitted by Rick Taylor, K2RBT

W3UU - **Harrisburg Radio Amateurs' Club** – WinterFest

JANUARY 18th 2014

(Saturday)



WINTERFEST

“A Harrisburg Pa. Hamfest”

Cooper Student Union, South Hall

1 HACC Drive

Harrisburg, Pa 17110

N 40.29623 W 76.88805 (parking lot)

(HACC Campus Follow Signs)

8:00 am to Noon

TALK-IN 146.76 (PL 100 hz)

- ◆ Admission -- **\$3.00** per person.
- ◆ **First table free. Additional tables \$3.00 each!**
- ◆ Food and drinks available
- ◆ DXCC/WAS/VUCC QSL Card checking on site
- ◆ Amateur radio testing at 10:00 am
- ◆ Please, be courteous to your fellow hams by using reasonable table space. If you can use ½ table, please do so. (based on demand)

No reserved table space

Unloading can be done at the main doors, and then move vehicle to parking area

General Admission: 8:00 AM

Web Site: www.w3uu.org

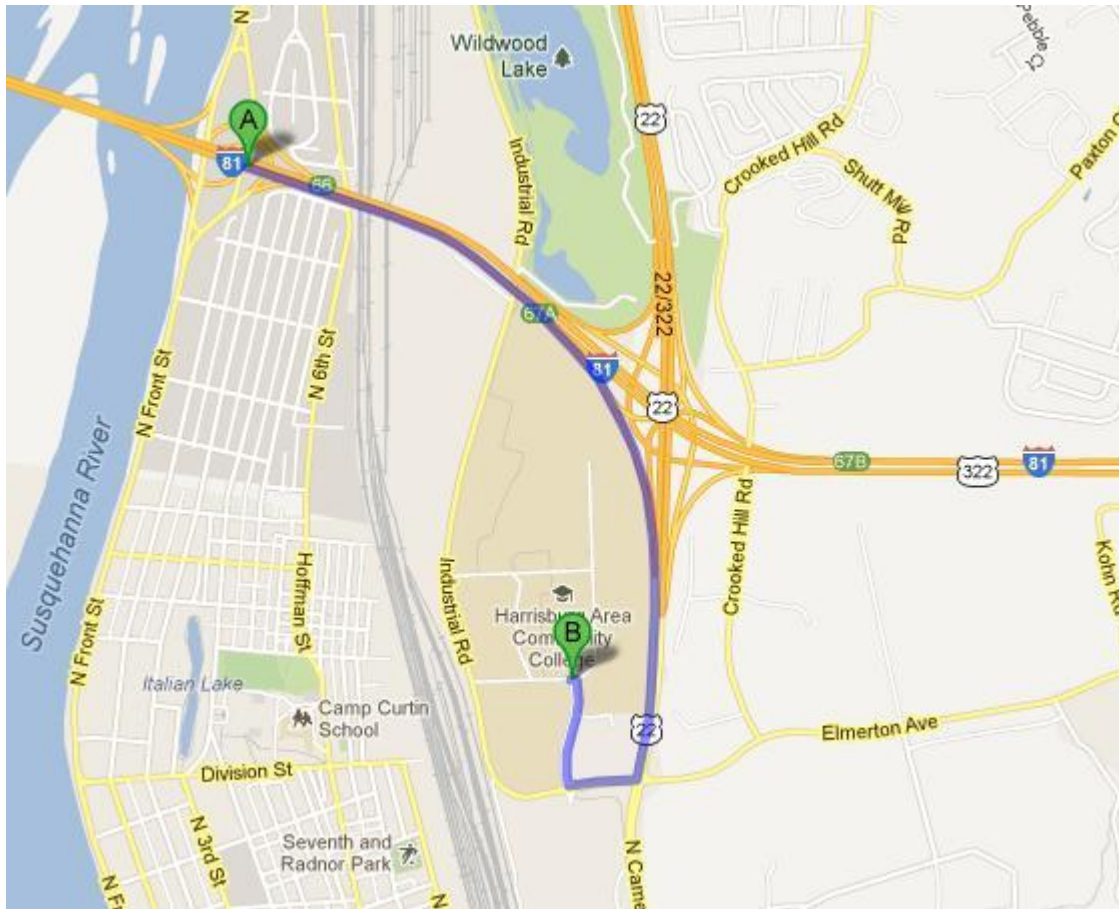
For further information or questions contact:

Tim Lehman

717-982-8550

kb3oza@arrl.net





Driving directions to Harrisburg Area Community College



I-81 N

1. Head **east** on **I-81 N** toward **Exit 67A**

0.7 mi



2. Take exit **67A** to merge onto **US-22 E** toward **PA-230/Harrisburg/Cameron St**

1.1 mi



3. Turn right onto **Wildwood Park Dr**

0.2 mi



4. Turn right onto **Hacc Dr**

0.2 mi



5. Turn left onto **Alumni Dr**

56 ft



Harrisburg Area Community College

1 Hacc Drive
Harrisburg, PA 17110

Parking lot coordinates Willow lot:

N40.29623

W76.88805

Upon entering HACC campus, turn Left and follow signs.

Vendors: After turning left, vendors will turn Right onto a service road and follow signs to Cooper Student building.

Buyers: After turning Left, proceed over small bridge, and turn Right into Willow parking area. Go until you see a foot bridge on the right, and find a parking spot. Get out of car and walk across the foot bridge to Cooper Building.

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.