

Harrisburg Radio Amateurs' Club Newsletter

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 President.....

Summer is over and the leaves are starting to change colors and drop to the ground. Time to start getting things ready for the cold weather that is just around the corner. Get the all antenna work done that I put off because it was "just too nice a day to work". Cut the grass one more time. And then there's the "honey-do" list that the wife never lets me forget. One way or another, it will all get done, (or at least enough to keep the XYL happy). The things that don't get done before winter sets in will just have to wait until next spring.

Just to keep things interesting, we are planning one more radio event to end the season on a positive note. That's the outing at Weiser State Forest on the afternoon of Oct 5. For those of you not familiar with that location, it's a great place to set up a portable station and operate with a great view to the west as well as north and south. I have operated there before and had a great time. I hope that the other hams that are planning to attend will have as much fun as I have had in the past.

I would like to see this sort of thing become a regular event for us. I know this particular location is a long haul for some of us, but the location doesn't have to be the same every time. There are a number of parks and other locations we could use for an afternoon of radio. If you have any suggestions for an operating location drop me an email or give me a call. Better yet, come to the next club meeting and let's discuss it.

The ranks of amateur radio operators continues to grow. An article on the ARRL web page reports that actor Tim Allen of "Last Man Standing" has gotten his ham license. The character he plays is a ham and ham radio has been featured on a number of episodes. Congratulations to Tim! I look forward to hearing him on the air someday.

That's about it for this month. I hope to see you at the next meeting.

73,

Tim KB3OZA

September Meeting Minutes

Before the meeting on September 10th, 2014, Phil (K3TUF) talked about his campaign for Eastern PA Section Manager.

The meeting of the Harrisburg Radio Amateurs' Club was called to order at 1901 HRS on 9/10/2014 by the president, Tim (KB3OZA).

Secretary Report - The minutes of the August meeting were published in the newsletter. Chuck (N3WL) made a motion to accept the minutes seconded by Doug (K3DRE). Motion PASSED

Treasurers Report - Joe (KQ3F) presented the treasurer's report. Doug (K3DRE) made a motion, seconded by Chuck (N3WL), to accept the report. Motion PASSED

Trustee – Not Present

Repeater – Not Present

VE Committee – Not Present

Membership Committee – Tim (KB3OZA) reported there are 2 new memberships since last month

Newsletter – Not present

Web page – Not present

EMCOMM – Marty (KB3BAA) reported

- Around 2 more volunteers are needed for the Hershey Half Marathon in October
- Help is needed for the Marine Corps Marathon, if interested Contact Marty (KB3BAA)
- There is an ARRL NTS Drill Oct. 4th for traffic handling
- There was a motion made by Marty (KB3BAA) to purchase programming/data cables for the Icom 2720 and the Kenwood TMD 710 Seconded by Doug (K3DRE) Motion PASSED.

DXCC –Not Present

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Minutes, Continued from Previous Page

Entertainment – Nick (AA3T) reported the following:

- Doug (K3DRE) will do a presentation on MARS next month

Winter Ham Fest – Tim (KB3OZA) reported that fliers have been sent out to various locations.

Elmer Time – This month there was no official Elmer time activity but an informal Q&A took place.

Possible Future topics: Group electronic kit build, Ham Radio and Linux, Go- Kit assembly

There was a motion to buy (5) inexpensive hand held radios to give to newly licensed hams made by Doug (K3DRE) Seconded by Milan (KC3AYU) Motion PASSED.

Old Business – None

New Business – None

Good of the Club – Tim (KB3OZA) reported

- He has been contacted regarding the removal of the tower at the Red Cross Building. There was a motion to decline the receipt of the tower made by Doug (K3DRE) seconded by Richard (KB3YRC) Motion PASSED.
- The idea has come up regarding club activities including a “Mini Field day”, fox hunts, etc.
- The idea of including a different club member's photo of their shack in the Monthly Newsletter came up. *(Editor's note – I like this idea!)*

Adjournment – There being no further business to conduct, Doug (K3DRE) made a motion, seconded by Milan (KC3AYU), to adjourn. Motion PASSED

Meeting adjourned at 2034 HRS.

Minutes submitted by Pete Lehman, KB3WIH



W3UU
is
ARRL Affiliated

The next testing session
will be held
October 18th, 2014
at the HACC Shumaker
Public Safety Center,
Gate 5 on Industrial Rd,
Harrisburg, PA.

Testing begins promptly
at 9:00AM

Long Delayed Echoes

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

Compiled by Mark Robinson WB3JIS

Last month's trivia question was "What is a HW12?", a radio mentioned in the 1965 club newsletter. I assume this is in reference to a Heathkit HW-12 80M SSB transceiver which was first introduced in 1963. Heathkit made sister kits HW-22 and HW-32 for 40M and 20M SSB, respectively.

Steve KA3PDQ and the active VE team perform a great service to the amateur radio community at no cost thanks to their efforts and the Laurel VEC. I reflected on this as I stumbled across this excerpt from the May 1995 club newsletter. Today's test fee from the same VEC is \$15. Also note that some test sessions were held at the Air National Guard facility in a much different security environment than today's.

HARRISBURG RADIO AMATEURS CLUB 1995 VOLUNTEER EXAMINER SCHEDULE

(Third revision, dated March 12, 1995)

February 18, 1995	May 13, 1995	August 12, 1995	October 8, 1995*	November 11, 1995**
PA Air Guard	Penn State Harrisburg, Middletown	Penn State Harrisburg, Middletown	CCARS Fest	CPRA Fest
N3CP, Leader	W3JW, Leader	KZ3U, Leader	WU3X, Leader	AA3CB, Leader
WD3R	NE3H	W3CAS	NQ3L	AA3DZ
W3JW	N3KAB	WM3A	NQ3F	AA3EA
WN3V	WU3X	WS3Y	N3HSH	N3KAS
			AA3T	AA3JW

February testing was conducted at the Air National Complex at Harrisburg International Airport.

May and August testing will be conducted at Penn State, Capitol Campus - Middletown, Building "B", the Educational Activities Building, Room 206.

* CCARS tentative hamfest date in Carlisle.

** CPRA tentative hamfest date in Hershey.

The new 1995 test fee is \$5.90

2014 Exam Schedule for the Laurel VE Team (associated with HRAC)

All tests are held at HACC -Shumaker Public Safety Center, Gate 5 on Industrial Rd, Harrisburg, PA

- Saturday, October 18, 2014 at 9:00 AM
- Saturday, December 20, 2014 at 9:00 AM

As always, testing is FREE!

Amateur Radio Outing Planned

There has been an informal amateur radio outing planned for **Sunday October 5, 2014** and you are invited. The event has been planned by Terry Snyder (WB3BKN) and Tim Lehman (KB3OZA)

The event will take place at the very scenic overlook in Weiser State Forrest between Halifax and Elizabethville. This location is used by hang gliders to fly. There may be some of them on location, as well as local people who trek there for the view. We will be providing two HF rigs but you may bring anything that you would like to use. You are all welcome to use our radios too. We will also provide one Honda Generator and a tent (for keeping warm if needed), a pop up canopy or two and also a few tables. I already know of a few who have Go Kits that are self powered and portable antennas that will be brought along.

This spot is quite high and is a great spot for any band from HF through VHF and UHF. **We will meet at the Giant in Halifax and depart from there at 1pm to convoy to the location.** If you would like to go and can't make the Giant at the appointed time you may drive to the location. The Weiser Forest has well maintained gravel roads.

Use the following GPS coordinates: **40.518695, -76.778074**

Cell phone coverage is not reliable in the forest. We will be listening on 147.24 (123)

We will be finished around sundown or before. We would like to be out of the woods before it gets dark.

Tim KB3OZA
[717 982-8550](tel:7179828550)

Weekly HRAC Net

The weekly information net is held every Wednesday at 8:00 PM on the 146.760 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 now conveniently located on the club's website.

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

Phil Theis Running for Atlantic Division Director of ARRL

The ARRL needs to actively seek out the needs and opinions of the amateur community by increasing the lines of communications, especially from the grassroots up. Bidirectional communication with you will be one of my top priorities. As your representative, I'll solicit your input and ideas, keep you advised of issues affecting amateur radio, and topics scheduled for Board of Directors action. I'll solicit your input and opinions *before* the vote, let you know how the item turned out, and the reasons for how I voted.

There are other areas where I believe the League could improve. Ironically, the common root of the problems I perceive is a failure to communicate. When an organization seeks to represent a group of people, it's that organization's responsibility to actively seek input from that group and act upon it. It is also that organization's responsibility to keep the group informed. The lines of communication must be kept open at all times and function in both directions.

I want to restore grassroots control of the organization by keeping you informed of what is going on in Newington so that you can keep Newington informed of your ideas and opinions. I want the voices of *all* of the members of the Atlantic Division to be heard; I want to fix the missing communications link and serve as a Director that represents you and your interests.

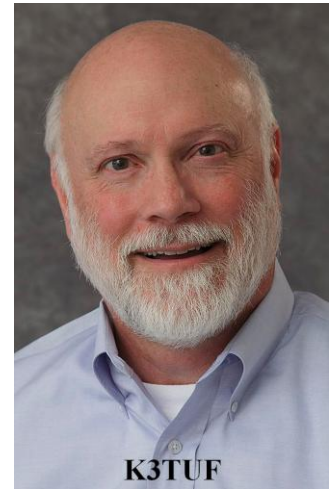
I also have thoughts on representing the interests of amateurs at large within the Atlantic Division. If we are to persuade these amateurs to ultimately become members we cannot treat them (as anything) much less than we would treat our members. They must be communicated with as a potential member and not pushed off to the side as second class citizen.

One of my first actions will be to create a Council of Club Presidents as an advisory group (ACCP; Advisory Council of Club Presidents). The Atlantic Division is far too expansive for the Director and Vice Director to attend every meeting at every club, so the Council will provide a conduit for amateurs' voices and concerns to be heard from every corner of the Division. I want the affiliated club presidents to feel like they are a part of the team and have direct access to League matters. This will also give their members (comprising ARRL and non ARRL members) a clear path to ARRL policy issues.

I will appoint Assistant Directors from around the entire Division. I'll lead a team made up of the Vice Director and the Assistant Directors that will work to keep you informed, solicit your input, and assist me in ensuring that all of the vast Division is represented. I'll work closely with the Section Managers to see that their needs and concerns are addressed. I will work closely with the Vice Director to ensure that we provide the best representation possible.

Phil Theis, K3TUF

Please see website for more details: k3tuf.com





Ham Radio
Lunch
at the
Old
Country
Buffet

September
25, 2014

Monthly Ham Radio Lunch

The last Thursday of each month there is a Ham Radio Lunch at the "Old Country Buffet" at noon. **This month it will be October 30th.**

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!

How to Build a Slingshot Antenna Launcher*and how to use it*

There are many ways to launch wires over high trees and structures for antennas. I have tried many different ways, from throwing a rock over a limb to sophisticated potato guns. All have worked well, but my new favorite is something that is as low cost, as it is easy to build and use.

As a farm kid growing up in central PA, I have used slingshots, and usually made my own. Old inner tubes and the right kind of tree branch often worked well, and a stone from the slingshot would do a great job on rats in the corn shed. Later I learned about surgical tubing, which worked better. Now in the modern age of Wal-Mart, there is no need to climb a tree and cut a limb, or steal the inner tube from Dad's wheel barrow. At my age, the early 60's, climbing a tree is not as easy as it once was.

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I recommend the Daisy slingshot, because it works well and is only about \$8.00 in the hunting isle at Wal-Mart. Somewhere in the same isle you will find a Shakespeare fishing reel. They are usually around \$5.00. It comes with 8 lb test line, which will break on your first try, so go for the 20 lb test line, also found in the same isle. Remove the 8 lb line and replace it with the 20 lb test line. Twenty pound test is about as large as you can use on the reel because of the diameter of the line, but it is more than sufficient. You will need weights for on the line to use as a projectile. I use the 3/8 oz steel bass casting sinkers. They are a perfect size and fly real good (really well, I am trying to learn Redneck speak). You may want to paint them some florescent color so that you can find them again, after you shoot it. One more thing you will need is in the automotive isle. You will need two of the smallest hose clamps that they have. These are to mount the reel to the arm brace of the slingshot.

Assemble the pile of parts as shown in the pictures and we are ready to try it, and here is how. The first part is obvious. You simply sight over the slingshot and point it over the branch of the tree over which you want it to go. (Make sure all cars are away from the path. Broken windows are the subject for another article.) Wind back enough line so that you can see the brightly painted steel weight hanging on the other side of the tree. You will need a light line to attach to the 20 lb test line to pull back over the tree limb. I use parachute line because it is light and strong. I found it at Coleman's Surplus (www.colemans.com). Pull the parachute line back over the tree and secure it to something. Now you can attach insulators and antenna wire to the other end of the line and pull it up to the level that you wish and tie off the end where the slingshot was. Reattach the sinker and move on to the next tree, or support and do it all over again.

By the way, when you are not shooting wires over the trees, this new toy can be a lot of fun for target shooting. Daisy sells boxes of various sized shot for that purpose. Have fun and Good DX.

Terry Snyder

WB3BKN

.....pictures on the next page

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THEY'LL DO IT EVERY TIME :- :- :- by Hatlo



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REACT Communications Truck

1986 F350 460CI
ALL RADIOS INCLUDED

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CONTACT Steven Gobat
Ka3pdq@arrl.net

717.439.0090 7A.M. to 9:00 P.M.

Beach House with Ham Shack (or Ham Shack with Beach House?!)

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Several years ago, I was laid off from a chief engineer's job when Cumulus Media took over Citadel Broadcasting. Financial difficulties caused by the wave of layoffs at the former Citadel Broadcasting stations (WARM, WBHT, WMGS, etc.) that affected me a few years ago dictate that I sell my property at the New Jersey Shore, a dream amateur station in a great location.

I would like to sell it as a package to any interested radio amateur who would like a well-built station and a house that is ten minutes from some of New Jersey's finest beaches and the same distance from some beautiful lakes in the Pinelands.

It has a new roof and natural gas-fired water heater and the property taxes have been reduced 50% in an appeal that was filed in March. The sea breeze brings in some nice, cool air in the summer, while a breeze from the west brings the sweet smell of pitch pines. The house was not damaged by Hurricane Sandy...there wasn't even any water in the basement.

This house also has a new 200 amp service, 230 volt outlets in the radio room for use with amplifiers, a new roof, a Rohn 25G 50 foot tower with a Mosley tribander and other antennas, and a complete legal limit 160 meter AM station using refurbished broadcast transmitters. You may see the station at www.k2pg.com. Click on AM Station, then on Station Pictures.

If you are interested or know someone who is, please contact me at phil (at) k2pg.com. Better to have another amateur radio operator use a station that I have put many years of work into than to lose it all to foreclosure.

Thanks,

Phil Galasso

HRAC MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

MAIL TO:

Tim Lehman, President (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.