



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.....

Well, summer is just about over and in some ways, it's hard to believe that we had a summer at all. But our perennial summer events happened right on time, so I guess it really was summer after all.

First there was field day in June; a great time to get together and practice our deployment skills as well as spend time just socializing with friends and getting to know one another a little better. Just watch out for those picnic tables.

That was followed quickly by the Firecracker Hamfest in July. In addition to being the signature fund raising event for the club, it's a great opportunity to have eyeball QSOs with hams that you don't normally get the chance to see. It's also a great chance to find that obscure part or rig or whatever that you have been looking for.

At our August meeting, Keith (KB3TCB) did an outstanding presentation on High Speed Multimedia-MESH or Broadband-Hamnet. In just about 30 minutes, he had a network set up, consisting of two nodes supporting video and data over a microwave link.

A basic node is a re-purposed Linksys wifi router with special open source software loaded into it. The conversion is really quite simple. I purchased two routers from an internet vendor and loaded the MESH software into them and now I have my own network at home which interfaces to my commercial internet service. Total time to convert and configure each unit was about an hour. One unit is in my shack and the other is in the house. No more CAT5 cable running to the shack! Really fascinating technology if you ask me.

But now it's time to look forward to upcoming events. At our September meeting we will welcome Susan Singer (KB3KDC), PEMA ACS Coordinator as our guest speaker. Susan will give us an overview of PEMA's Auxiliary Communications Services program and how amateur radio is integrated into the program.

The Winterfest is coming up in January. We have the room reserved and flyers printed. I've been sending flyers out to other hamfest organizers to distribute at their events. Let's work on getting the word out locally as well, so that people will know what's happening and come out to the hamfest.

President's Letter Continued.....

The ARRL recently hosted a webinar in support of H.R. 4969. That's the bill currently before congress to extend PRB-1 type accommodations to hams who have restrictive covenants (CC&Rs) imposed by their local homeowners' associations.

There is a broad range of opinion on this bill. At one end of the spectrum there is opposition from those who think that this is even more government interference in the lives of private citizens and their ability to enter into private contracts. At the other end are those who feel that CC&Rs are unfair contractual obligations created by previous residents or even the contractor who built the development. Then the unsuspecting homeowners don't find out about them until they try to make a change to their property.

As someone who lives in a fairly rural area, I really don't have a dog in this fight, but as we know all too well, that could change at any time. I'll be sending in my letter real soon. No matter where your own opinion falls within this spectrum, I strongly urge you to communicate that opinion to your elected representatives.

Well, OK, I'll get down off my soap box (for now). We've got a meeting coming up in a few weeks and I hope to see you there.

Tim, KB3OZA
Club President

August Meeting Minutes

The August 13, 2014 meeting of the Harrisburg Radio Amateurs Club was called to order at 2020 HRS by the president, Tim (KB3OZA).

Before the meeting was called to order, there was a presentation on MESH networks done by Keith KB3TCB.

Secretary Report - The minutes of the April meeting were published in the newsletter. Doug (K3DRE) made a motion to accept the minutes seconded by Marty (KB3BAA). Motion PASSED

Treasurers Report - Joe (KQ3F) presented the treasurer's report. Doug (K3DRE) made a motion, seconded by Milan (KC3AYU), to accept the report. Motion PASSED

Trustee – Not Present

Repeater – The coordination for the repeater was received by the Coordination committee.

VE Committee – The next regularly scheduled test session will be held on August 16, 2014.

Membership Committee – No change.

Newsletter – Not present.

Web page – Not present.

Minutes, Continued from Previous Page

EMCOMM – Marty (KB3BAA) thanked the volunteers that are signed up to help with the Hershey Half Marathon in October.

DXCC – The end of June QSL mailing has not been done yet. There will be a mailing at the end of August.

Entertainment – Nick (AA3T) reported the following:

- September – We will have Susan Singer (PEMA) to give an overview presentation on Auxiliary Communications System (ACS).
- Possible future topic: MARS

Field Day – Nick (AA3T) submitted the log and the claimed score was 1248 points.

Winter Ham Fest – Tim (KB3OZA) reported the reservation for the Student Union has been sent in.

Elmer Time –Pete (KB3WIH) did a presentation on bicycle mobile operations for August. Possible topics include band activities on the HF bands.

Old Business –.None

New Business – None

Good of the Club – None

Adjournment – There being no further business to conduct, Chuck (N3WL) made a motion, seconded by Doug (K3DRE), to adjourn. Motion PASSED

Meeting adjourned at 2036 HRS.

Submitted by Pete Lehman, KB3WIH, Secretary



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

Personalized Items Make the BEST Gifts!

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Long Delayed Echoes

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

Compiled by Mark Robinson WB3JIS

First, many, many thanks to Shelby for scanning several documents from the club's archives. This is good stuff.

Here is the club's brief newsletter from March 1965. I checked with Glenn K3SWZ and the author was Dick K3AM. Glenn said he well remembers the banquet. Charlie's call was W3BQA. Gil Crossley, the League representative, was Ed W3SMF's father. I see his call of W3YA now belongs to the Nittany Amateur Radio Club.

Kids, your trivia question for this month: What is a HW12?

A big **Thank You** to Glenn for filling in the details.

HARC MARCH NEWSLETTER

MEETING: Friday, March 26, 1965

TIME: 6:30 P.M.

PLACE: DUTCH PANTRY RESTAURANT
32nd and Market Streets, Camp Hill

This is the big dinner meeting everyone has been requesting. We should have a big attendance for many reasons. Gil Crossley will pay us a visit as a League representative. Field Day plans are under way and the restaurant has a fine menu for us to select from. The prices are reasonable and we will have a private room for our dinner and meeting. Many friends and members of the Club are planning to attend. We are attempting to contact all members, but if we are unable to call you, please phone Ed or Dick.

John Bozak and Glenn Kurzenknabe will head the Field Day this year. Several sites are under consideration. This is the big activity for the year and it does require a lot of planning and work to make it a success.

Last week we worked the station at Franklin Institute and the operator was Lloyd Sherman, an old club member who helped on many Field Days in the past. He asked to be remembered.

This week I heard of a deplorable situation on the band where a Net refused to let the Eye Bank get an emergency message through to their own hospital while their traffic consisted of routine junk.

Dan was confined and too sick to get to the rig. Charlie has gone SSB and won't admit it Hi.

W3JLB has his HW12 for sale. \$150 with power supply.

Remember to attend the Dinner Meeting!

Dick

FOR SALE



REACT Communications Truck

1986 F350 460CI
ALL RADIOS INCLUDED

\$5,000.00

CONTACT Steven Gobat
Ka3pdq@arrl.net

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

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!

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 September 25th.**

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!

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

August VE Test Session Results

There were 5 applicants with 8 elements administered.

A total of 6 elements were passed—4 Tech and 2 General.

Thanks to all who helped: Gary (KV3Q), Tim (KB3OZA), Doug (K3DRE), Steve (N3FWE), Bill (KE3YC), Dick (N3UGW) and Steven (KA3PDQ).

The next test session will be held on October 18th at 9:00am, arrive at 8:30 for paperwork. The testing location is the Shumaker Public Safety Center at HACC.

Webinar Helps to Build Ham Community Cohesion, Momentum for H.R. 4969

An August 13 webinar on "The Amateur Radio Parity Act of 2014" -- H.R. 2014 -- attracted some 450 online participants who wanted to learn more about the proposed legislation and how they could get involved in speeding its passage. US Rep Adam Kinzinger (R-IL) introduced H.R. 4969 in June, with US Rep Joe Courtney (D-CT) as its first co-sponsor. This bipartisan initiative would direct the FCC to apply the "reasonable accommodation" three-part test of the PRB-1 federal pre-emption policy regarding antennas to private land-use restrictions (CC&Rs). The ARRL Atlantic Division sponsored the webinar, and Director Bill Edgar, N3LLR, served as moderator.

"I think the webinar really helped to bring members together on H.R. 4969," Edgar said afterward. More than 900 registered for the event. During the webinar, ARRL General Counsel Chris Imlay, W3KD, and ARRL Hudson Division Director Mike Lisenco, N2YBB, discussed the measure and what it would mean for ARRL members and the Amateur Radio community, and explained how individuals could help. Edgar said he's heard a lot of positive feedback from members, who thanked his Division for putting on the webinar and said they were going to assist the campaign by contacting their members of Congress.

ARRL Atlantic Division Director Bill Edgar, N3LLR

Lisenco said this week that 17 co-sponsors now have signed on to H.R. 4969, and he's confident that several more will add their names to the list once Congress reconvenes after its August recess. He said the webinar helped members of the Amateur Radio community to realize that they must become "activists" in order to make things happen.

"The overwhelming majority of [ARRL] members have been extremely positive," he said this week, although he conceded that some radio amateurs do not favor H.R. 4969. "You're going to find people who are against it, because that's their political philosophy," he said, "but a lot more want to send letters or visit their representatives. It's just a matter of getting people motivated."

Lisenco views H.R. 4969 as a "mom-and-apple-pie" issue. "It's a no-brainer," he said in the wake of the webinar. "'Reasonable accommodation.' How can you say 'no' to that? The more people who see how simple this is, the greater the likelihood that it will get done." Getting the bill passed is a matter of building consensus, and he believes that this is the time to act. "If we don't do it now, the opportunity may not present itself again very soon," he said.

Lisenco said that most questions during the webinar came from those who already live in deed-restricted communities and wanted to know how H.R. 4969 might affect them. He pointed out that some 65 million Americans live in deed-restricted households, and that number is growing. As he explained, the measure would give hams in deed-restricted communities an opportunity to negotiate in good faith with homeowners associations to arrive at a "reasonable accommodation" of their antenna requirements -- nothing more.

"Everybody wants the biggest antenna they can put up," he said, "but you have to be practical, you have to be pragmatic. Folks who have not had an opportunity to put up any antenna will be happy with any antenna they can get." Each community is different, he said, and the bill does not specify any particular types of antennas.

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Lisenco said that with many members of Congress on vacation, it's difficult to get appointments to meet with them to seek their support. Some 1500 members from all over the US signed letters at the ARRL National Centennial Convention urging their representatives to co-sponsor H.R. 4969. Another 500 or so letters went out to members of Congress a week later. But, Lisenco added, face-to-face meetings between members of Congress or their staff members and constituents have proven to be the most successful approach.

Lisenco anticipates that activity to gain additional support for the measure will ramp up again next month.

Hershey Half Marathon – Help Needed!

The date is Sunday October 18 and the time is from 0600 until about noon.

We still need operators.

Please contact Marty if you are available to help!

Marty Gutekunst
717-652-3702
717-439-8971 cell
KB3BAA



Ham Humor

The PAQSO Party

October 11 and 12, 2014

The PAQSO party home page is at <http://nittany-arc.net/PAQSO.html>

And the rules are at: <http://nittany-arc.net/pqppdf/paqsorules14.pdf>

They are pleased to announce that their bonus station this year is:

W3TDF - Operated by the QCWA Chapter 17, celebrating its 50th anniversary, and the New QCWA chapter 224, celebrating its 1st anniversary.

That callsign seem familiar? It is none other than that of the Grand Old Man of the Party, Ray - Da Grump, who is celebrating his own 90th year! We're excited to celebrate the guy who owns - and has owned - many party records.

Ray is a *Charter* member of *both* Chapters, and the most recent past president of Chapter 17.

They will have a Multi-County effort this year, and will be operating:

**W3TDF/BUX
W3TDF/CAR
W3TDF/CHE
W3TDF/CLE
W3TDF/LEH
W3TDF/LUZ
W3TDF/MOE
W3TDF/NHA
W3TDF/SNY
W3TDF/UNI**

Thank you for your participation in the Pennsylvania QSO Party in the past, and we look forward to it in the future.

-73 Mike N3LI -

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.