



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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Harrisburg Radio Amateur's Club Newsletter

From The Desk of The President.....

I'm back from beautiful, sunny (and soggy) Baton Rouge, LA. A few weeks ago, I got a call from a friend of mine. He asked me if I would go down there with him and help set up a relief operation for the local Shriners there. Apparently they had received a lot of funding from other Masonic organizations, but just couldn't get a handle on how to use it to its maximum potential.

When we arrived we found that recovery operation, in general, were going smoothly. And with a hurricane working its way up the gulf, the Red Cross was starting to wind up its operations so as to be out of harm's way and ready to deploy to the next location. As luck would have it, that was not Baton Rouge.

There was no real need for EMCOMM operators by the time we arrived, so my go box simply sat in the truck for the whole time I was there. I did get a chance to do some things other than I have been trained to do, such as organizing the operations center, coordinating (just call me Fred Sanford) volunteers and donations and offering general guidance on how to document all of the things we were doing so as not to have to reinvent the wheel the next time something like that happens.

Next month is the PA QSO party and this year it will be a big deal for our club. We, W3UU, have been selected as this year's bonus station. I hope that a lot of you will step up to put in an hour or two to operate as W3UU during the contest. I am personally planning to operate mobile and try to activate some of the more rare counties in the central part of the state.

You can do it from the comfort of your own shack, or you can operate mobile or rover station. And you don't have to commit to the whole weekend of operating under the club call. You can do an hour or two and then go back to using your own call and keep racking up points for yourself.

I think it will be a lot of fun being on the other side of the pile-up for a change. If you decide to jump in, just coordinate your preferred operating bands, modes and times with Joe, KQ3F, so we don't have overlaps like two stations operating 20 meter SSB in Dauphin county from 1600 – 1700 on Saturday.

Well, so much for this edition. I hope to see you at the meeting.

73,

Tim KB3OZA

August Meeting Minutes

The August 10, 2016 meeting of the Harrisburg Radio Amateurs Club was called to order at 1900 HRS by the president, Tim (KB3OZA).

Secretary Report - The minutes of the May 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. Rick (K2RBT) made a motion, seconded by Doug (K3DRE) to accept the report. Motion PASSED

Equipment Trustee – The hatch in the trailer floor will be installed soon,

Repeater –

- There was discussion about maintenance needed on the .760 repeater.
- There was discussion about the controller needed for the UHF repeater.

VE Committee – The next test session will be on August 20th.

Membership Committee – No Change.

Newsletter – Please submit articles to Terry (WB3BKN) by the last week of the month

Web page – Not Present.

EMCOMM –

- Terry (WB3BKN) reported that operators will be needed for Wide Vigilance on September 17th.
- Doug (K3DRE) reported that there will be a MARS exercise on August 15th.

DXCC – No report.

Entertainment – Terry (WB3BKN) reported that this month is cake and ice cream.

Elmer Time – Terry (WB3BKN) did a presentation about dB's.

Old Business – The field day score was submitted.

New Business –

- There was discussion about setting up LOTW for the club callsign.
- Glenn (K3SWZ) reported that Pete (KB3WIH) was awarded the QCWA scholarship.

Good of the Club –

- The Turnpike event will be 8/13
- The Ham Luncheon will be August 25th.

Adjournment – There being no further business to conduct, Doug (K3DRE) made a motion, seconded by Rick (K2RBT), to adjourn. Motion PASSED

Meeting adjourned at 1944 HRS.

With the arrival of September, I would like to welcome the radio amateurs of the Harrisburg area to my column. This column began as the "President's Letter" when I served as president of a radio club in Luzerne County. It continued as a freestanding column, omitting club politics and featuring technical tips, trivia, and radio history, when I no longer served that club as its president. If you have any comments, please e-mail me at phil@k2pg.com.

Phil Galasso K2PG

Shickshinny, PA

A Great Antenna for 160

It's September. The kids have gone back to school, the cornfields will soon be turning brown, and the weather is starting to cool off...time to do your antenna work before the new radio season arrives.

Have you ever tried 160 meters? If you don't have a large lot, don't worry. If you have a tower or even a metal flagpole on your property, you can put up an excellent vertical radiator that will give you at least 50 kHz of usable bandwidth and is shorter than a conventional quarter wave series fed vertical. The antenna I am about to describe is widely used in AM broadcast work, but has seen little ink in amateur radio handbooks and publications. It is the folded unipole.



You will need some cable (preferably copper) of 12 AWG or thicker and some PVC pipe or conduit. The pipe should be about an inch in diameter, thicker for heavier cable, and it should have low loss at RF. To test for loss, take a short length of the pipe and place it into a microwave oven together with a glass of water. Run the oven on high for about two minutes. If the pipe is suitable for RF work, it should remain cool. Cut the pipe into two or three foot sections, three for the top of the tower, three for the middle, and three for the bottom. Use a large diameter tee which can mate with each section of pipe to clamp the sections to the tower. Another tee can be placed at the end of each section at the middle of the tower. Make a ring of cable at the top of the tower and connect it directly to the tower with small copper tubing. Run three drop wires from that ring, go through the tees in the middle, and end them at the bottom of the tower. Make another ring there, but do not connect it to the tower. That is your feedpoint. If the top ring (commoning ring) is at about 90 feet, the resistance should be about 50 ohms, although you will have some inductive reactance. If the tower is shorter, make a pi or T

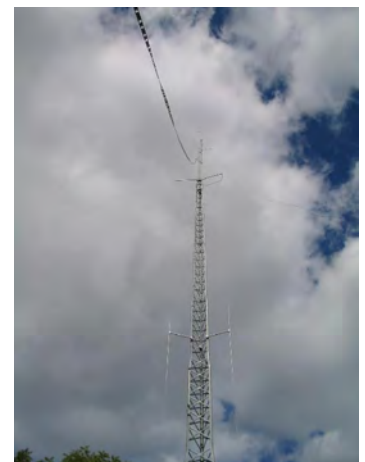
network at the feedpoint and tune for 50 j zero (50 ohms resistance, no reactance). Make sure your tower is grounded.

If the tower supports other antennas, the shields of their feedlines should be grounded to the tower at the base. You should run some radials. The optimum length is about a quarter wavelength, but run whatever you can. The system will still work well.

Most of my trivia questions will be about radio history. Which FCC decision, which took effect in September, 1958, created a lingering animosity among radio enthusiasts?

From the Great White Frozen North,

Phil Galasso K2PG



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.

Please send any articles for the newsletter to hrac.newsletter@Yahoo.com

The next VE Testing session will be on **Saturday October 15, 2016** in the HACC Shumaker building at Gate 5 on Industrial road, Harrisburg, PA. Pre-Registration is required. Please arrive by 8:30am

We had (9) applicants and administered 11 elements.

6 - Tech

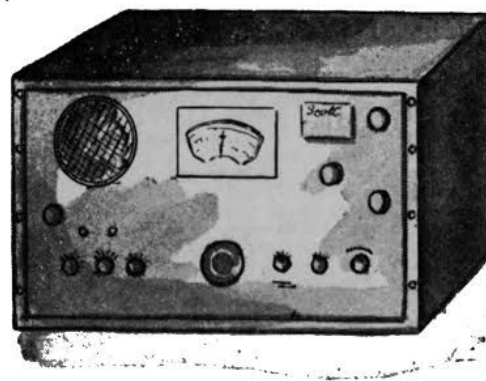
1 - General

2 - Extra

Only 1 Tech applicant was unsuccessful.

As a reminder the question pool for Extra Class has changed on 7/1/2016

Thanks to; Curtis - K3URT, Bill - KE3YC, Tim - KB3OZA, Doug - K3DRE, Steve - N3FWE
Steven - KA3PDQ



SCOTT

MARINE COMMERCIAL RADIO

type used by the Navy . . .

This Scott Marine Commercial radio is the same type as the Navy used during the war. It's a 12-tube receiver set and the 4 bands cover from 0.54 megacycles to 18.6 megacycles. If you're an amateur radio operator here's a real investment. Of light-weight aluminum construction it also has many outstanding features:

\$75

regularly almost
3 times this price

- It works on AC or DC
- There's a place to hook up your record player.
- A jack for earphones
- Receives foreign programs
- Reception on voice and CW
- Broadcasts short wave and standard programs

Camp Hill Man In Manila Seeks Radio Contacts

George Royer, radio technician, second class, of 3015 Beverly road, Camp Hill, now stationed with the Navy in Manila, is seeking contact with "ham" radio operators in the Harrisburg area.

Anxious to hear from other amateur radio enthusiasts in this region. Royer telephoned his parents, Mr. and Mrs. David A. Royer last Sunday and asked them to cooperate in locating operators here and obtaining their call numbers so he can reach them on his short wave set.

Mrs. Royer, who was so excited at hearing her son's voice for the first time since last August, said she forgot to ask him his own call number but expects to have it within a few days. She requests amateur radio enthusiasts to get in touch with her so she can pass on their numbers to her son.

The naval radio technician said that so far his group has contacted Annapolis, Md., without difficulty and are convinced that they can reach Harrisburg.

A graduate of Camp Hill High School, Royer was a student in the Electrical Engineering department at Carnegie Tech, Pittsburgh, prior to entering the service in June, 1944. While a student at Camp Hill High School, he won honorable mention in the Nationwide "National Science Talent Search" for invention of a gadget for use on a photography dark-room light.

Radio 'Hams' Plan Meeting in City To Organize Club

Radio "hams" of Harrisburg and vicinity will meet tomorrow at 8 o'clock at 714 Race street, to become personally acquainted and to discuss the possibility of organizing in the area.

Edgar A. Weimer, Jr., and William Clave, who have been active in amateur radio circles for many years, have mailed cards to all the known "hams" in the area, but because many have moved away and others come here during the war, they have issued a public invitation to all interested persons to attend tomorrow's meeting.

Ham radio is a hobby which has afforded many pleasant hours as well as serving useful purposes. During times of flood and disaster the radio amateurs have formed a communication network and carried on when other means of communication have failed, as during the flood of 1936 in Harrisburg.

With new bands being released on the air waves, and interest spreading in amateur radio, Weimer, Clave and several others are hoping to form a permanent organization. There are at least 50 known "hams" in this section.

48 Amateur Radio Fans Form 'Ham' Organization

Forty-eight amateur radio fans from this area met last night at 714 Race street and favored organization of a permanent "ham" association.

Arden Hopple, Lemoyne, turned the meeting over to Edgar Weimer, this city, who was made temporary chairman. A nominating committee, composed of Fred Mentzer and Joseph Hoeflick, this city; Fred Mumma, Mechanicsburg, and Hopple, will report at the next meeting, tentatively set for Fackler's Hall, Thirteenth and Derry streets. The date will be announced later.

The "hams" at the meeting represented nearly all communities in the Harrisburg area.

Radio Amateurs Name Committee Chairmen

Paul Hertzler, Mechanicsburg, was named to head the activities committee of the Harrisburg Radio Amateurs Club at a recent meeting here.

Plans for a "hamfest" with the York Club August 18 were made. Delmar Wallet was made temporary chairman of the entertainment committee. The aims of amateur radio in emergencies were outlined. The club will meet in Fackler's Hall August 30.

Wife, Son Leave To Join Husband In Honolulu

Mrs. Marie Young, daughter-in-law of Mr. and Mrs. F. H. Young, 2241 North Fourth street, and her son, Andrew F. Young, Jr., left today to join her husband, Andrew F. Young, in Honolulu. The latter, who is a radar engineer with the Westinghouse Electric Company, went to Hawaii a week ago.

During the last year, Young was employed by the Westinghouse Company at the Charleston, S. C., Navy Yard and the family resided in Charleston. Notice of the transfer to Honolulu came a few weeks ago and the Youngs came to Harrisburg prior to going to the Pacific islands. They will be gone about two years.

Young, his wife and son formerly lived in the 3900 block on Derry street, Oakleigh, and the former was one of the area's early radio enthusiasts. He operated amateur Station W3GKM and he has taken his equipment to Honolulu with him, having obtained a portable license. He expects to get into communication via radio with acquaintances here.

HRAC (W3UU) bonus station for the 2016 PA QSO Party Update!!

As you probably know by now, our club is the PA QSO Party (October 8-9) bonus station this year. We're still looking for volunteer operators, and you certainly don't need contest experience to participate.

Here's the deal. The contest starts at noon on Saturday, October 8, goes until 1 AM on Sunday, October 9, then picks up again at 9 AM on Sunday before finally ending at 6 PM Sunday. You don't have to operate the whole thing! Any portion will do.

You can operate under your own callsign if you like. But if you're an HRAC club member you can operate from your home station as W3UU, which means everyone who contacts you automatically gets an additional 200 points added to their score (please let any club officer know if you want to operate as W3UU). So hams have even more incentive to find the W3UU bonus stations, wherever they may be.

The exchange is simple. You give stations your sequential QSO number, starting with 1 and your county (on CW Dauphin is DAU, Cumberland is CUM, Perry is PER, York is YOR). In return you'll get a QSO number and either the county (for PA stations) or ARRL section (for non-PA W/VE stations) or just DX (for DX stations). That's it. Work them and move on to the next station.

You can operate any of the "traditional" HF bands from 160-10 meters (no WARC bands) along with 6 and 2 meters (no repeaters), using CW, SSB and digital modes. If you're in PA you can work stations anywhere in the world on each band/mode combination you can imagine (80 CW, 40 CW/SSB, 20 digital, etc.). Non-PA stations can only work PA stations.

There's logging software available from N3FJP, N1MM and others. In fact, for all rules, history, software, etc., just go to www.nittany-arc.net/PAQSO.html and you'll get the information you need (logging software info can be found at the end of the rules).

Right now we have two fixed stations, but we can always use more. We also have not one but two mobile stations planned, along with the trailer as a rover. The goal is to have the bands crawling with W3UU stations, which makes things more fun for the participants.

So try it out. Again, the dates are October 8 and 9. Hope to see you on the air.

73, Joe KQ3F

HRAC member awarded QCWA Scholarship!

The Quarter Century Wireless Association, Inc. (QCWA) is a national organization for hams who have been continuously licensed for 25 or more years. Unfortunately, the Harrisburg Chapter, No. 37, has been dark for many years.. The reasons for this are a story for another time.

Each year the QCWA awards several \$1,000 scholarships to young hams toward higher education. I was pleased to nominate our own Pete Lehman, KB3WIH for one of these scholarships. Pete received notice a few weeks ago that he was awarded one of these scholarships. Pete will be studying Computer Security at West Chester University. Congratulations Pete!

Glenn Kurzenknabe, K3SWZ

QCWA – Life Member

Past President – Harrisburg Chapter No. 37 -- QCWA

Letter of thanks to our VE volunteers.

On behalf of the U. S. Naval Sea Cadet Corps, Combined Training held at Ft Indiantown Gap, PA on June 26, 2016 through July 9, 2016, I want to extend our thanks for your time and willingness to provide VE testing, Thursday, July 7, 2016, for the cadets participating in our Radio Communications Class.

The 2 cadets passing their Technician Class Exam have received their call sign. Daniel Cheng, KD2LLI and Alexis VanKoevinger, KE8EQB are no doubt enjoying their VHF/UHF Handi Talkies they received in the class. At least 3 other cadets are actively working on retesting near their home QTHs. I have encouraged all 8 cadets to locate a local Laurel VE Team and get involved in a local amateur radio club. By the way, all 8 cadets were new to electronics and Amateur radio.

Thank you for your encouragement to our cadets and support for youth in amateur radio.

The U. S. Sea Cadet Corps is a Navy and Coast Guard sponsored youth program for young men and women ages 10 through 17. I have attached our brochure and some photos of the testing session.

73's,
LTJG Tom O'Connor, AB8NG
Commanding Officer
William E. Taylor Division
New Castle, DE 19720



A Special Recognition to our youngest Member

Pete Lehman has been an asset to your club since he became a member long ago. I am not clear on his age at the time, maybe 12 years old, but his presence was known as soon as he entered the room. Pete has jumped in to help with just about anything that has been thrown his way, from helping with Boy Scout events, Field day, and Hamfest, to being the club secretary when the position became open. He is now leaving to study Computer Science, and was recognized with a special appreciation award presented by our President, Tim Lehman. We at the HRAC all wish him success in the future.



 Sunday, October 9th, 2016 		
The Columbia Amateur Radio Association Presents		
<i>CARAFest 2016</i>		
Howard County Fairgrounds – West Friendship, MD		
Admission Donation: \$6/person Children 12 & under FREE	Gates Open @ 0800 (0600 for Tailgaters)	VE Exams Start @ 0900
Large Open Tailgating Area – \$10/space + \$6/person Covered Tailgating & Indoor Tables – \$20 + \$6/person Entire Barn -- \$200		
For more information, reservations, and directions visit www.carafest.org or write to info@carafest.org		

Members? Where are the MEMBERS?

I know that I am an exception to the rule, regarding being a member of a club. I seem to jump right in and help out with just about any club, group, or organization to which I become a member. In this club, The Harrisburg Radio Amateurs Club, the first thing that I volunteered to do was to head up the Firecracker Hamfest, and later was elected to the office of President. Now, looking back, that must have been well over 10 years ago. Because of my plans to leave the area, I turned the job over to others, and things seemed to go quite well. My plans have changed, and I am back on the committee helping Tim and the others with the big job of putting on a convention, and hamfest.

There are those of you who seem to think that all of the club activities will just happen without their help. You are so wrong. Regarding the two hamfests that our club hosts, these two events are the major funding tool for this club. The club has expenses that must be met monthly and dues are never enough to cover such costs. I understand that some of the members want to take advantage of the day to clean out the basement, but consider this. There are quite a few hamfests close enough to take a day and have fun out of town. Gather some friends and make a day of it and get away for a few hours. The alternative could be a Club table at our hamfest. A club table could be monitored by one person at a time until such time that you could be released from your hamfest job. This would give us more people to help with the various tasks at hand.

Yes, hamfest job. As my big black lab would say, that ball ain't gonna throw its self. It takes club members to help, not only on the day of the hamfest, but months and weeks before the hamfest. It is extremely important to have the help of everyone at the hamfest. And I mean everyone. This past year we were really short of help, and things that should have been attended to, were not, or were done later than they should have been. If you are not helping us, why not? It may take only a few minutes of your time, or an hour, but the more who help, the better our club looks, and maybe even more revenue can be realized at the end of the day. An added benefit is that the organizers will leave the day less stressed. And that is a big plus all around.

Our participation in club events does not end there. We have been working on operating events all summer to commemorate 70 years as a club serving the Central Pa area. Club participation has been low. My thanks to all who did come out to some of the events, but we need more help, and we have more to come before winter sets in. Please read the article on the PA QSO party. We will be covering a lot of miles, and counties with our club communications trailer. How would you like to join us and be on the receiving end of a major pile-up. It will be fun. We also have one or two special events ready to roll. Watch the club Facebook page for dates and times.

73

Terry Snyder (WB3BKN)





For Sale (PRICE REDUCED!!)

1986 F350 460CI

ALL RADIOS INCLUDED

Attached is a picture of the inside of the truck.

It is an old picture and lot of equipment has been added.

It has mono band radios for 6,2,220,440 and 1.2 ghz

It has 3 dual band radios, low band for Dauphin County, SGC HF radio and

auto tuner. It has a 440 ATV transceiver and a satellite receiver for 1.2 ghz FM ATV. It has a VHS VCR, a GPS receiver, a small color monitor for use with ATV and the VCR. In the rack there is a GMRS repeater and a two meter repeater. The repeaters are just bolted in the rack and would need re-crystalled and tuned and duplexers if one wanted to try and use them. The truck itself is a 1986 Ford F350 ambulance, with a 460ci engine 4 barrel carb, automatic transmission. The Air conditioning has been removed. The truck gets about 6 miles to the gallon going downhill. It has not been inspected for 2 or 3 years. It is sold as is and includes all the radio equipment.

I hope this answers your questions. The reason we are selling it is the public service events that we once did have all but gone away with everyone having a cell phone in their pocket. We used to provide communication support for 20 events a year. **\$2,000.00** Contact Steven Gobat Ka3pdq@arrl.net
717.439.0090 7am to 9pm REACT Communications Truck



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!

From the Editor's Desk

Keep those cards and letters coming in. Take pictures of things that you do and share them with us.

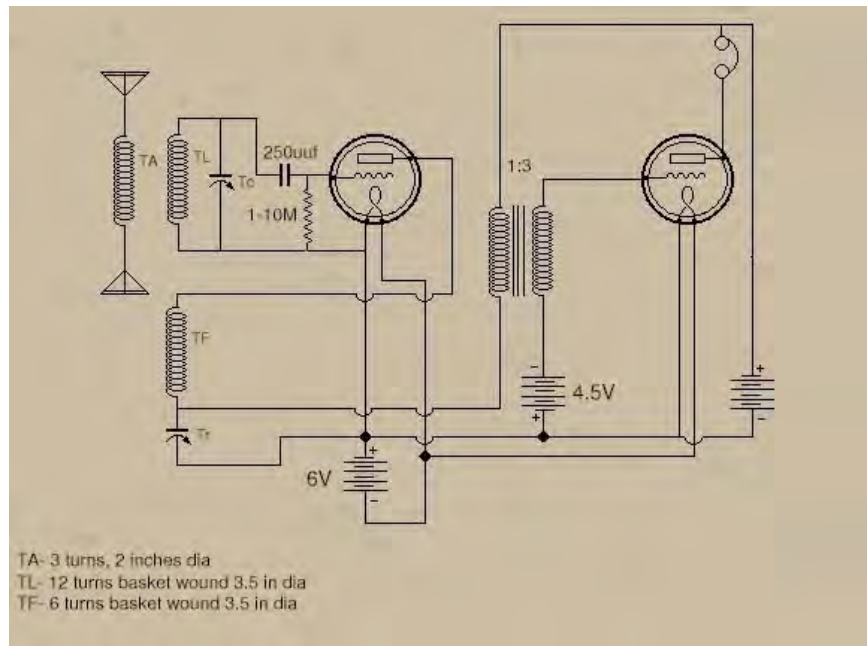
Please note the new email address for articles:

Hrac.newsletter@gmail.com

Tnx 73

Editor: Terry WB3BKN (AKA Perry White)

Proofer: Jim WF3J



Great Cesar's Ghost!! Where are all of my reporters??

HRAC 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 _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE _____ E-MAIL _____

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

SIGNATURE _____

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

