

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.....

Here we are at the end of July, about halfway through summer. Now I find myself wondering where the summer went. For a while there, I thought that someone had rolled the calendar back to April, with the amount of rain that we were getting.

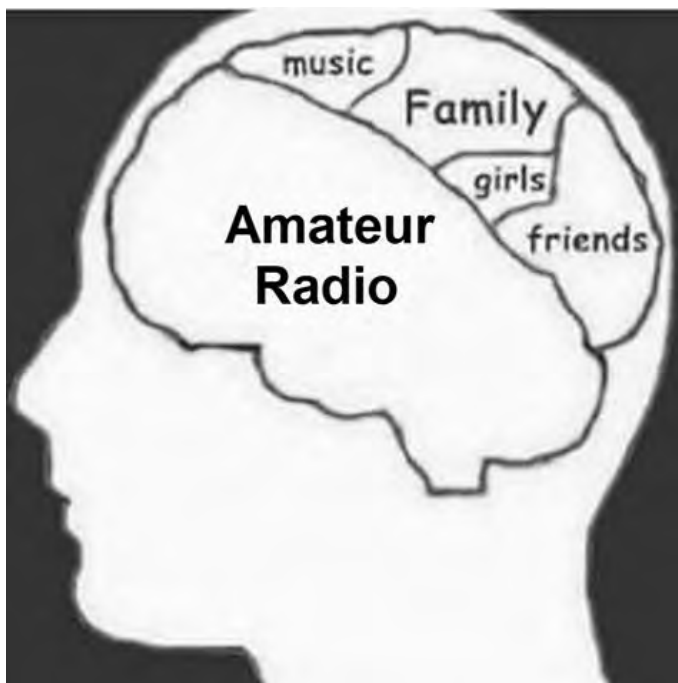
Since the weather is supposed to be pretty decent for the next few days, I am planning to get outside and get some antenna work done. I want to get my 80-meter loop up a little higher and I would like to rearrange the antennas I have on the tower. You know how that is: put up an antenna, use it for a couple months, then replace with something different just to see how the new one works.

We have another special event coming up in August. This time it will be at the Millersburg ferry. I'm told that it is the longest operating ferry in the country, so it's only fitting that it gets some publicity via amateur radio. And, of course, amateur radio will get some publicity while set up at the ferry dock.

I have gotten a couple of inquiries recently regarding the availability of amateur radio license classes. I have asked our webmaster to post the information that I have gathered on upcoming classes on our web page so that it is more readily available to folks who might be looking for that type of thing.

73,

Tim KB3OZA



July 2017 Meeting Minutes

The July 12 2017 meeting of the Harrisburg Radio Amateur's Club, Inc. was called to order at 1904 HRS by the President, Tim Lehman (KB3OZA). The usual member introductions were made. The question of "Have you ever built and antenna if so what kind?" was presented to the attendees.

Secretary Report – The minutes of the June 2017 Minutes were published in the newsletter. Motion to accept the June minutes Chuck (N3WL), seconded by Doug (K3DRE) Motion Passed

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

Equipment Trustee – Terry (WB3BKN) reported that some additional antennas were purchased for use with the Trailer. All other equipment was accounted for.

License Trustee – Steven (KA3PDQ) reported that there no changes.

Repeater Committee – Steven (KA3PDQ) reported that the repeater is working well.

Laurel VE Committee – Steven (KA3PDQ) reported that the next exam session is scheduled for August 19, at HACC. He also reported that a new 78 page book was received by the Team from the Laurel VEC with updates on Rules and Procedures.

Membership Committee – The Club has 101 members with 73 being ARRL.

Newsletter Editor – Terry (WB3BKN), reported that he is always in need of articles.

Web Page – Gary (KV3Q) requested photographs from recent club events.

Emergency Communications – Terry (WB3BKN) is still looking for volunteers to take over this position.

DXCC Committee - Glenn (K3SWZ) Reported we were in the summer doldrums with not much activity.

Entertainment – Terry (WB3BKN) reported that upcoming topics could include a presentation on Amateur Radio Astronomy and a field trip to PEMA HQ.

Hamfest Committee – The Hamfest was held on July 1, 2017 at HACC. A short discussion on the fall off of commercial vendors in attendance. The group sited different causes and solutions.

Field Day – There was a discussion and overview of this recent Club activity.

Elmer Time – Terry (WB3BKN) has several topics in mind.

Old Business – a. Terry (WB3BKN) Reported that he had posted to Facebook the QSL card for the Special event stations.

b. Chuck (N3WL) made a motion to donate \$200.00 to HACC for use of the facilities. Glenn (K3SWZ) seconded the motion. Motion Carried.

c. Doug, (K3DRE) made a motion to donate \$200.00 to the Venture Crew for their help with the Hamfest. Glenn (K3SWZ) Seconded the motion. Motion Carried.

d.

New Business – Steven (KA3PDQ) reported on the recent passing of Bob (WA3MMD). Bob had checked into The Wednesday Night .76 net 720 times of the 820 times KA3PDQ convened the net. The President Tim (KB3OZA) presented certificates of Appreciation to those members Who helped with the Firecracker Hamfest.

Good of the Club – Ham Luncheon at the Old Country Buffet will be on July 27, 2017.

Adjournment – The meeting was adjourned at 2001 HRS. Motion made by K3DRE, Seconded by N3WL

Respectfully Submitted

Steven Gobat, KA3PDQ

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.

Our June test session is scheduled for Saturday August 19, 2017 at HACC. We will be at the usual place and testing starts at 9:00 A.M. so please arrive by 8:30. Pre registration is required.

Steven Gobat, KA3PDQ



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



SWLing in four easy steps

1 - Check UTC

Find out what time it is in [World Time or Universal Time \(UTC\)](#)

2 - Check Schedule

Check your shortwave broadcast schedule of choice and look up stations based on current UTC

Go to the NASWA site and click on "[List programs at current hour.](#)"

Open your copy of Passport to Worldband Radio or World Radio and TV Handbook.

The listing, whether online or in a book, will always give the following information:

broadcasting station name

days broadcasts are made the target geographic area (dedicated shortwave listeners don't care where the target geographic area is, by the way; they try to hear it anyway!)

the broadcast content type

broadcast frequencies (larger stations may easily broadcast on three frequencies at once)

3 - Turn On & Tune In

Turn on your radio and go to the best broadcast frequency based on the time of day. As a general rule of thumb, lower frequencies are better at nighttime, higher frequencies in daytime.

- On a **digital radio**, simply input the frequency on the radio keypad or tune up/down to the frequency. Every digital radio is different, so consult your owner's manual for instructions.
- On an **analog radio**, make sure you have the appropriate shortwave frequency band selected, then tune to the station frequency. Since analog dials are not as accurate as digital tuners, you may need to search a bit to find the broadcast you seek.

4 - Listen

Congratulations! Now you're SWLing!

After you've been tuning in to the world bands for a while, you'll get to know different broadcasters. Unlike your local news media, shortwave news travels with you. That's the glory of shortwave radio. It doesn't care about borders.

Special Event from Horseshoe Curve

The day started out just like any other. It was a nice day with good weather and a long journey ahead of us. Ok, I guess that is enough of the author thing. We left Halifax Pa, somewhere about 9:30 am and headed to Altoona. In the Suburban pulling the trailer was Terry WB3BKN, Bill KE3YC, and Charlie W3CWT.



Following close behind was Jim WF3J, and Paul WQ3P in Paul's truck. We arrived at Altoona by noon, and quickly got on the air.

When we arrived with the communications trailer, we were met by several club members who decided to get a jump on the whole day. Little did they know that the park only opened at 11am. Operating from the trailer, we were on 40 meters, and 20 meters. The early arrivals were found on 17 meters primarily, while Paul and Jim

worked 15 meters, and also 6m SSB, and 2 meters SSB.

Band conditions were pretty bad due to the Coronal Mass Ejection (CME) from the sun. The most contacts were made on 40 meters SSB, with one or two on 2, 6, 15, and 17meters, but working on air is only part of the enjoyment that comes from a special event station. We get to meet interesting people during

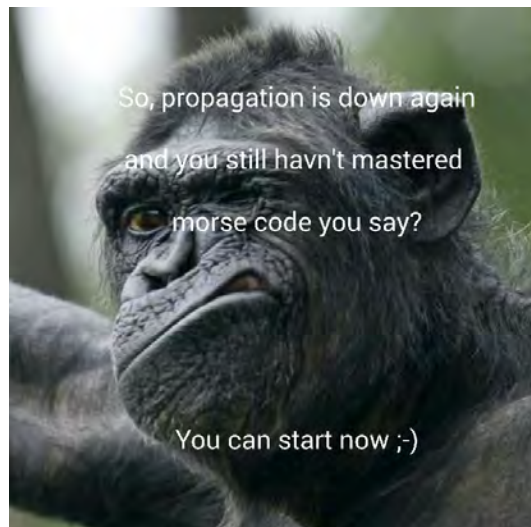


the course of the day. There

were the motorcycle people that arrived, quite a few tourists, and one poor fellow who locked the keys in the trunk of his little convertible. I can't remember ever seeing a man get so upset at AAA for something that he did to himself. He was interesting to watch throughout the day. I guess it never occurred to him to remove the back rest to the back seat.



Now, do you see what you missed? It is far more than working the radios.



Millersburg Ferry Boat Special Event



On Sunday 20, August 2017, we will be taking the club's communications trailer to Millersburg, and setting up along the Susquehanna River next to the docking area of the ferry boat. There are two stern wheel ferries that cross the river several times daily to take people and automobiles across to Liverpool. Records show that the ferry predated the establishment of the town of Millersburg, and it dates back to the early 19th century. It remains the last double stern wheel ferry in operation, and is the longest operating ferry on the Susquehanna River.

We expect to be on the air by noon, and welcome everyone to come along to meet and greet the public, and to operate the radios. We will have handouts for the public and usually answer questions about amateur radio. Bring your camera because the river is quite beautiful in this mountain area. Look for us around 7.265 mhz, and 14.265 mhz as well as 2 meters on 146.52



To find us, google Millersburg Ferry. As you get to Millersburg, you will see a large ground level billboard welcoming you to Millersburg. Turn left at the board and follow the road along the river until you see the ferry boat landing.



Ok, I know I will take some heat over this one



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



Ok, I understand, but I seem to have a lot of static electricity here.

From the Editor's Desk

Without your contributions to this newsletter, there is nothing to report, and the paper suffers. 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



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!

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.