



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 am so confused about what season we are in today. I hear that the weekend will be warmer, in the high 70's, but next week we will probably have 8 inches of snow. If only there was a place where it is summertime all year around. I would be so happy to live there.

I have been working on upgrade plans for our Firecracker Hamfest coming up on the last day of June. (it is always the day before the first Saturday of July) A redesign of part of the Commercial Vendor area to make it more convenient for guests to find everything is in the final stages. We have listened to suggestions of guests and have made some corrections for your convenience.

I am also working on some of the outings, and special events for the summer. I will have all of that scheduled and published in a few weeks. Check our website www.w3uu.org for updates.

Who wants to take over the newsletter duties. This will be my last one. I get suggestions about how to do things every month, and what to include. Now is your chance to take over the publication and serve the club, even if you can't make it to the meetings. The only requirement is a command of the English language, and an ability to use that good grammar to impress everyone. Some experience is preferred, but will accept a trainee, to paraphrase an old song. I will help you to understand the templates and show you how easy it is to format the pages. The program is Word, or Open Office. One of those is free and works, the other one is a Microsoft product.

Have fun and enjoy that spring time tropo ducting on 6m, 2m, and 70cm.

73

Terry Snyder WB3BKN



March 2018 Meeting Minutes

The March 14, 2018 meeting of the Harrisburg Radio Amateur's Club, Inc. was called to order at 1901 HRS by the President, Terry Snyder (WB3BKN). The usual member introductions were made.

Secretary Report – The minutes of the February 21 meeting were published in the newsletter. Chuck (N3WL) Made a Motion to accept the minutes as published, Doug (K3DRE) seconded the motion. Motion Passed

Treasurers Report – Nick Rylatt (AA3T) presented the Treasurer's Report for February and March 2018. Doug (K3DRE) made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report as read, seconded by Karl (KC3JRO), Motion PASSED.

Equipment Trustee – Terry (WB3BKN) reported All Club equipment was accounted for.

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

Repeater Committee – Steven (KA3PDQ) reported that it was working fine. He also noted that he was trying to lessen the amount of repeater KEY UPS that takes place with NO identification being made.

Laurel VE Committee – Steven (KA3PDQ) reported that the next exam session is scheduled for April 21, 2018 at HACC. There were (3) applicants signed up at this date.

Membership Committee – The Club has 88 members.

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

Web Page – No Report.

Emergency Communications – Special Guest, Mr. Ralph Brandt (K3HQI) District 5 District Emergency coordinator for ARRL ARES program presented Richard Lenker (KB3YRC) with an Official Certificate as being the ARES Emergency Coordinator for Dauphin County, Pennsylvania

DXCC Committee - Glenn (K3SWZ) reported that business is steady.

Entertainment – Terry (WB 3BKN) and Glenn (K3SWZ) are working on a line up of presenters.

Hamfest Committee – *Winterfest*- Nick (AA3T) announced that the attendance at the Winter Hamfest was 172. Firecracker Hamfest – the facilities have been reserved and that the flyer is available as an attachment to March's Newsletter. Terry (WB3BKN) encouraged the membership to volunteer their time for this event as the Hamfest is what keeps the Club solvent.

Hamfeast – No Action

Field Day – Tim (KB3OZA) reported that the facilities at HACC have been reserved. The dates for Field Day are June 23-24, 2018

Elmer Time – Terry (WB3BKN) has several topics in mind. Terry also said he welcomes suggestions for topics.

Old Business – Nick (AA3T) reported on the Winter Hamfest.

New Business – Ralph (K3HQI) reported on upcoming Technician licensing classes in the area. He also advised the Group of the New Perry County Amateur Radio Club and 2 meter repeater.

Good of the Club – Ralph (K3HQI) reported that as an Official Observer in the area that licensees are not updating their addresses with the FCC. Which could result in their license being revoked.

Adjournment – With no further business Doug (K3DRE) made a motion to adjourn Karl (KC3JRO) seconded at 1929 hours

Guest Speaker – Glenn (K3SWZ) Topic- Baluns

Respectfully Submitted

Steven Gobat, KA3PDQ

Volunteer Examiner Report

Next session back at HACC on 21 April, 2018 in the Shumaker Public Safety building, Gate 5 on Industrial Road, Harrisburg. For directions, please visit our club web site at <http://www.w3uu.org/license-exams/>

Steven, KA3PDQ



Elmer Time (6:30 pm meeting night)



April: Checking Antenna Systems

And The Winner IS:

Here is Glenn K3SWZ with his prize from the Ham Feast in February. An MFJ digital watt meter



Upcoming Programs for 2018 (After the business part of the meeting)

April: “Why hams expect too much out of repeaters” John Jaminet, W3HMS

May:

June: Field Day and Hamfest planning Club

July:

August:

September: “Working the PA S QSO Party” Glenn Kurzenknabe, K3SWZ

October:

November: “Building and using the Black Widow Antenna” Scott Walker, N3SW

December: “Cookie Exchange Night” Club

Please consider stepping up to make a presentation during one of the meetings that has an availability to do so. I know that everyone has an expertise in something, and can bring something to the table. Do more than consider, DO it.



No one has died from giving a bad presentation. Well, at least one person did, President William Henry Harrison, but he developed pneumonia after giving the longest inaugural address in U.S. history. The easy lesson from his story: keep it short, or you might die.

— Scott Berkun —

AZ QUOTES

Special Events:

There is an often overlooked tactic in adding some spice to QSL chasing and amateur contacts that exist in the world of amateur radio. The Special Events Station often sparks interest among QSL chasers and those who are interested in making contact with stations that spout an interesting purpose. It is associated with a significant public event and is only operated for a brief time. And the typical impediment to doing this is often, 'I don't know how to do it!'. Well, read on. When you finish this article, you'll know exactly what to do.

First, any licensed amateur can apply for a Special Events call regardless of his license class. It is best for someone that has a general class license or higher to request the call because the general class bands are the best place to operate Special Events Stations.

Next, an event should be significant. Don't try to do a special event that is 'Johnny's birthday'. That will not get much attention. Instead, take on an event that gets some attention. One that our radio club recently undertook was the annual 'Bataan Memorial Death March Marathon' that honors the victims and surviving veterans of the horrible Bataan Death March that took place in the Philippines during World War II. That one got some notice.

Once you've chosen an event that is likely going to get attention, it comes down to planning. The first thing is deciding what call sign to operate under. It is all right to use a club call for the special event. However, a standard ham call isn't as attention getting as a one by one call sign issued through the vanity call program. You can get a one by one call sign for a limited number of days. The easiest way is to go to <http://www.1x1callsigns.org> and apply. There is no charge for this. You can search up and look for other special events by clicking on the 'Search 1x1 Calls' link on the left side of the page. Set your start date for today and the end date for several months from now. I did that just now and found an enormous number of Special Events Stations including such interesting events that honor the Navajo Code Talkers, IOTA (Island On The Air) Weekend, International Lighthouse/Lightship Weekend, and the list goes on and on. Once your call is registered, your event will appear there, too. Reading these listings will help you when you write your listing.

Don't overlook the field that provides a description of your event. The better described, the more likely you are to get noticed and worked on the day of the event. Be sure to include the URL to your Web site that gives information about your event.

Your QSL card should be different for each year. It should always be specific to that year's event (21st Annual Bataan Memorial Death March, date and year, etc.). Next year, the date and year may be different and it will be the 22nd Annual Bataan Memorial Death March. And you should use a different picture or design. Get a reputation for providing a nice QSL card. That may keep them coming back each year.

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@Gmail.com

Local area nets:

Capitol Area Traffic Net starts **Monday at 8 PM** on the South Mountain Radio Amateurs (SMRA) repeater on 146.46 (67.0 tone), 1 MHz offset.

The Combined Club ARES/RACES Net meets **Monday at 8:30 PM** on the Keystone 146.97 Repeater (Tone: 123 Hz).

South Mountain Radio Amateurs (SMRA) Net on **Monday at 9 PM** on the 145.43 (Tone: 67 Hz) repeater located in Mt. Holly Springs.

The Keystone VHF Club Digital Net on **Tuesday at 8 PM** on the York 146.97 Repeater.

The Keystone VJF Club ELMER Net on **Tuesday at 9 PM** on the York 146.97 Repeater right after the Digital net

A local FM Simplex Net runs **Thursday at 8:30 PM** on 146.55 MHz.

South Central PA 10 Meter Net **Friday at 8 PM** 28.495 MHz USB

Ham Shack Talk Net - Monday at 9 PM: 28.335 MHz. Delaware

Lehigh Valley ARC Net - Sunday 4:00 PM: 28.430 MHz Do Drop In net - Sunday 8:30 PM: 28.450 MHz Penn- Mar Club net - Friday, 8:30 PM: 28.495 MHz.

10 Meter Ragchew Net - Every evening starting 7:30PM: 28.600 Mhz

6 Meter Magicians Net from Pottstown Wednesdays at 8:30 PM on 50.130 USB. At 9 PM, they switch to 50.400 and run A.M. modulation and call themselves the Mini Boat Anchor Net. The KVHFC 6 Meter Activity Net run by Steve Cruse, K3WHC meets on 50.140 MHz USB on Wednesday evenings starting at 8:30 PM.

Harrisburg Radio Amateurs Club Information net at 8pm on 146.76 (100 hz tone) every Wednesday except club meeting night, which is listed at the top of the first page of this newsletter.

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

This will be my final newsletter for the club. I simply can not put the time needed into making this publication all that it can be. Some of you are full of ideas about how the newsletter should be filled with things. Now is your chance to show us all what you can do. There is nobody lined up at this time to take over. It is all up to you. I will help the new person get started and provide all templates to you. I will also show you how to use the top secret program used to publish it. There are two programs that will do the same thing. One is Word, and the free one that actually works better is called Open Office.

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. Do not send articles to my personal email address. Send them to the address below.

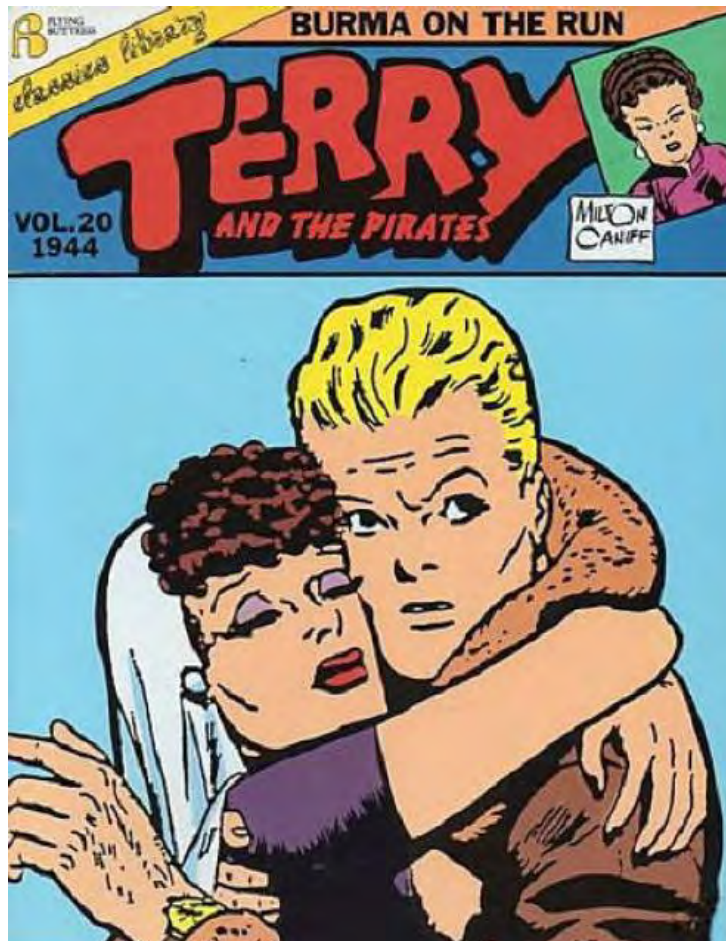
Please note the new email address for articles:

Hrac.newsletter@gmail.com

Tnx 73

Editor: Terry WB3BKN (I am returning to my original name)

Proofer: Jim WF3J



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.

Join the Gang



N3MSS COULD NEVER DO WHAT IT DOES WITHOUT YOU

As always, first we would like to THANK all our volunteers from 2017.

Everything is growing. Our Ranks, Our Role, The Society Footprint, and Public Service Availability. With all this in mind, and this late date, we will keep this email to straight information. We have been asked to assist with 3 events this year. The large walk at Pennsauken Cooper River Park, our main event The MS 150 City to Shore Ride, and new this year – “The 2018 MS Coast to Coast Ride”

Walk MS 2018 – May 6, 2018

This will be our 4th year at the Pennsauken Cooper River Park Walk. This event has taken the place of other smaller walks, and has grown rapidly to be a premier event.

While this is a local Walk, it does cover a large area, on both sides of the river, which means that a large part of the walk is not in the line of site. This is the primary reason that our communicators play such a large role. With our folks out there, both walkers and volunteers alike feel the safety of knowing that they are never far from someone who can help.

We look forward to seeing back again this year our core of regular volunteers, but also welcome new and additional volunteers. This is a great event to get some practice and ready new public service volunteers to work the big event – The MS City to Shore 150 Ride.

MS Coast to Coast Ride – May 19th and 20th, 2018

This is the additional event that we have been asked to help recruit for this year. This is a bike event the goes through Monmouth and OceanCounties. While much smaller in size than the City to Shore, our presence helps to ensure the safety and welfare of riders and volunteers.

The Society is looking to fill positions of SAG communicators and Rest Area Communicators. (14 communicators in all) 7 SAG and 7 Rest Area. Once again, if you are looking to hone your skills, and prepare for larger events and new assignments, the Society can use your help.

Anyone able to help out with this event, let's show that our team can step up to the plate and get the job done.

MS City to Shore Ride 150 – September 29th and 30th, 2018

THE BIG ONE - Last year we hit my goal and had 129 Amateur Radio Volunteers, and an additional 27 Communications Support Volunteers. We covered this event better than ever before, and now we are looking to grow to the optimum number of volunteers to handle this event – 150 HAM Volunteers and 40 non-ham. These numbers would cover this event without hesitation or interruption. An E-mail will be sent out within the next few weeks to further the information on the 150 this year, with sign-up forms attached.

Those of you interested in the events, please respond to this email as soon as possible for additional information and sign-up/event management information.

As always, THANK YOU, and it is an HONOR to consider myself a part of your community.

73

Joe DiBartolo (KC2SFB)