



# W3UU NEWSLETTER

## — AUGUST 2022 —

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**QST:** NEXT MEETING is **WEDNESDAY, 10 AUGUST**, beginning with "Elmer Time" at 1830L, followed by the business meeting at 1930, at the Harrisburg Vietnam Veterans of America, 8000 Derry St., Harrisburg. All are welcome!

ELMER TIME for August will be presented by **Adam Spangler, KC3MFJ**, and is entitled "First Introduction to Arduino Programming."

"I will bring at least a dozen Arduinos and USB cables. Participants should please bring their own Windows system laptop if they have one. Discussion: the basic structure of an Arduino program, blinking an LED, and detecting the position of a switch."



*Photo, WB3BKN*



HRAC participated in Lower Paxton Township's Night Out For Public Safety, 2 August. (see page 3 for more) (photo K3RTS)



**T**he Harrisburg Radio Amateurs Club Inc., [HRAC] formed 1 July 1946, as an association of individuals commonly interested in amateur radio, based in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. It is an ARRL affiliate club.

At the end of World War II, many veterans returned to the Harrisburg area trained and used radio communications in the military. It soon became a common factor among local hobby enthusiasts. Fifty-eight charter members developed the original constitution and bylaws for the club. In 1960, HRAC became a non-profit corporation in Pennsylvania.

The club continues to promote amateur radio in the area in many ways. HRAC is involved with young people by helping with scouting's JOTA activities and promoting amateur radio with school clubs and organizations.

Since 1949, members have provided communications for the American Red Cross in Harrisburg for Dauphin County and Pennsylvania Emergency Management. In addition, we conduct periodic training sessions for emergency responders.

HRAC has three hamfests throughout the year: July's **Firecracker Hamfest** /Eastern Pa Section Convention is always the Saturday before the first Sunday in July. During the convention, you may hear special event station W3UU from the hamfest tailgating area. We set up and operate W3UU to demonstrate amateur radio and invite operators to join in and make contacts. Second: **Oktoberfest**. Third: the well attended **WinterFest** in January is an indoor tailgate fest. ■

## HRAC CLUB CALENDAR 2022:

**August** .....2nd, 5-8 p.m., National Night Out for Public Safety (see pages 1, 3).  
 .....10th, club meeting.  
 .....20th, license testing (see below)  
**September** .....11th, 9-11 Memorial event, Ft. Indiantown Gap. (see page 9).  
 .....14th, club meeting.  
**October** .....12th, club meeting.  
 .....15th, license testing (see below)  
 .....22nd, HRAC OktoberFest  
**November** .....9th, club meeting.  
 Please consider stepping up to make a presentation during one of the meetings' "Elmer Time." Everyone has expertise in something and can bring something to the table. Do more than consider, DO it. ■

### — Club station W3UU —

**Repeater Frequency:**  
 146.760 MHz, minus .600 MHz offset

**Repeater CTCSS Tone:**  
 100.0 Hz (Encode/Decode)

**Weekly Net:** Wednesdays at 1900L (except meeting nights)

**Website:** [W3UU.org](http://W3UU.org)

**FaceBook:** [www.facebook.com/Harrisburg-Radio-Amateurs-Club-208171495915056/](https://www.facebook.com/Harrisburg-Radio-Amateurs-Club-208171495915056/)

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### LICENSE TESTING:

Affiliated with the Laurel Volunteer Examiners (VE), HRAC conducts testing in February, April, June, **August**, October, December, and other announced times. Sessions begin at 0900L at the announced location. Steven, KA3PDQ, is the Team Leader.

#### We require:

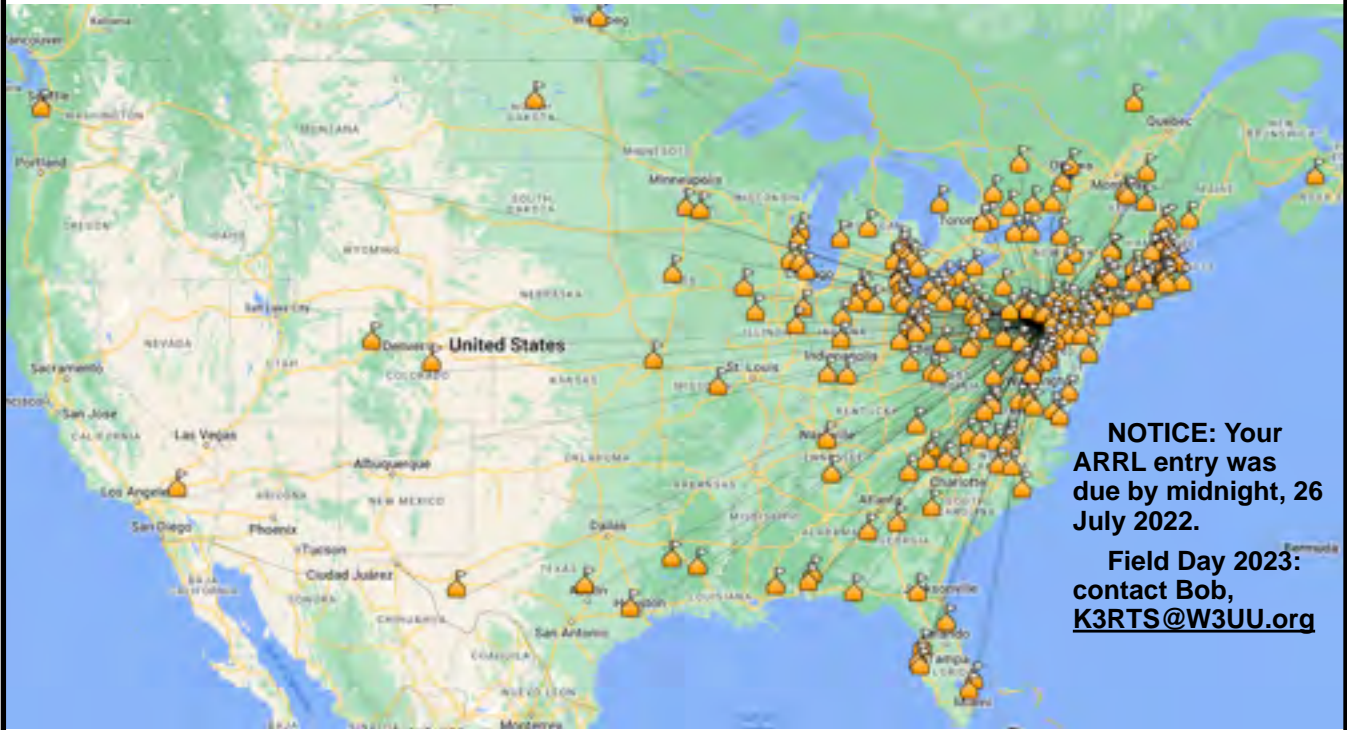
- ◆ pre-registration for exams to ensure that we have the level of staffing necessary to conduct an exam.
- ◆ your FCC Federal Registration Number (FRN)
- ◆ a valid email address **in advance** of registering for an upcoming exam.

Registration form and information is at the club's website: [www.w3uu.org/license-exams/](http://www.w3uu.org/license-exams/). (Registrations can be made online up to the Friday before test date.)

**The next test session is scheduled for Saturday, 20 August 2022, at the Harrisburg Vietnam Veterans of America, 8000 Derry St., Harrisburg, PA promptly beginning at 0900L.**

# FIELD DAY 2022

Preliminary final, all reporting stations: **W3UU, K3RTS, K3URT, KC3MFJ, KC3MG, KC3SER**. 255 Q's; total accumulated score of 1,110. Thanks everyone!



**NOTICE: Your ARRL entry was due by midnight, 26 July 2022.**

**Field Day 2023: contact Bob, [K3RTS@W3UU.org](mailto:K3RTS@W3UU.org)**

Above graphic: **contacts by W3UU (class A) and at-home stations (classes D and E).**



Photo K3URT

HRAC participated in Lower Paxton Township's "Night Out for Public Safety" at George Park.

Despite the heat and humidity the following supported the club turn-out:

- K3RTS, Bob**
- K3URT, Curt**
- KC1YRC, Chuck**
- KC3MFJ, Adam**
- KC3MG, Dave**
- KC3NRK, Frank**
- KD3MAD, Mike**
- KZ3KBD, Kendra**

Thank you all!

Many stopped by asking questions about the amateur radio, the Club and technical questions; including Dauphin County Commission Chad Saylor and County Controller Mary Bateman. So, the crew was busy!

## CONTESTING

### ◆ **Contest Calendar August 2022 (over 130):**

[www.contestcalendar.com/contestcal.html](http://www.contestcalendar.com/contestcal.html)

### ◆ **One-By-One special events (28):** [www.1x1callsigns.org](http://www.1x1callsigns.org)

(The Kansas QSO Party intends to be out in force with 38 special calls! 27-28 August.)

### ◆ **State QSO Parties (4):**

[www.contestcalendar.com/stateparties.html](http://www.contestcalendar.com/stateparties.html)

### ◆ **Contester Scores:**

[www.3830scores.com/index.php](http://www.3830scores.com/index.php)

### ◆ **ARRL Contest Calendar:**

[www.arrl.org/contest-calendar](http://www.arrl.org/contest-calendar)

### ◆ **POTA:** [parksiontheair.com](http://parksiontheair.com)

### ◆ **SOTA:** [www.sota.org.uk](http://www.sota.org.uk)

**The PA QSO Party Association** is seeking feedback from Pa QSO Party participants on new awards aimed at encouraging activity from non-hams and young operators. Preliminary ideas are provided below, and we are asking for feedback on our proposed approach, or other recommendations. Send to [paqpaawards@paqso.org](mailto:paqpaawards@paqso.org)

#### *Draft Proposal For Comment:*

The Pa QSO Party Association will introduce new awards aimed at encouraging participation by non-hams and young operators in the Pennsylvania QSO Party starting in October 2022. These awards are open to:

- Any multi-operator station that includes non-ham participants
- Any licensed participant under the age of 25 as of start of the Pa QSO Party
- Elmers. Given the importance of Elmers, the Pa QSO Party Association will sponsor a new plaque to the Elmer that supported the largest number of non-hams and/or young operators each year. ■

**The 2022 ARRL CW International DX Contest**, 19-20 February, results are in! **Keith W3KB**, scored 1,216,122 points in the Single Op, Low Power category. — QST, August 2022, p. 73. ■

## VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES

### **Red Lion Street Fair needs afternoon help**

Thanks to all of you for volunteering to help with communications at this years Red Lion Street Fair, **August 13**.

We do have a operator scheduling problem. There will be four (4) tents to be covered this year and we always want to have at least two (2) operators at each tent. We asked you which shift you would like morning, afternoon or all day shifts. Problem is we have more than enough for the morning shift and not enough for the afternoon shift. Right now we would have two tents with only one operator in the afternoon.

Would any of you that signed up for morning be willing to work the afternoon shift instead?

Also really need a 2nd operator for backup at Net Control. You would only need to relieve primary operator Curly KC3EWN when he needs a break and also help cover the talk-in on local repeaters. — for John KC3BOJ. Red Lion EMC — de Jack KC3JD [jkdelli@aol.com](mailto:jkdelli@aol.com) 717-891-9199.

### **Registration for Ham Radio Support of the 47th Marine Corps Marathon (MCM)**

The MCM is the largest regular amateur radio public service/emergency communications event in the Washington, D.C. area. This year: **October 30**.

**You must sign up to help out.** The **signup process has two parts:** you must sign up through the ham signup site so we know what your capabilities are, and through the MCM volunteer site to be an official MCM vo-lunteer. While you can sign up in either order (ham first, MCM second) or MCM first and ham second), the easiest way is to go to [www.mcmham.org](http://www.mcmham.org) and start there. If you've volunteered with us before, you can go to login and enter your call sign and password and all of your previous entries are saved. You only need to change entries which have changed in the last year.

**If you are new**, go to sign up and start the process. Please be as accurate as you can in all entries as we will assign you based on what capabilities you tell us you have. In either case, click on the *"Please make sure to click this link and sign-up on the Marine Corps website, otherwise YOU WILL NOT BE FULLY REGISTERED and won't be allowed to vol-*

*unteer"* link to be taken to the MCM site to complete your registration. (Ignore any instructions about passwords). Make sure you register as a Ham Radio Operator and complete the questions at the bottom of the page. You will get an email from the MCM if you have successfully registered.

We look forward to having you join us in support of the Marathon.

Any questions may be directed to me, Howard, [wd5dbc@arrl.net](mailto:wd5dbc@arrl.net)

### **Eastern States 100 Ultra Marathon.**

Radio operators are needed to support the Marathon: a 103-mile single-loop trail race (98% single/double-track) in the Wilds region of the Allegheny Plateau in north-central Pennsylvania. The race circumnavigates some of our longest climbs and most technical and remote terrain. This race is **August 13-14, 2021**. Radio ops are need to help support Logistics and Tracking runners at the 17 check points. Please visit: [runsignup.com/Race/Volunteer/PA/Waterville/EasternStates100#16697](http://runsignup.com/Race/Volunteer/PA/Waterville/EasternStates100#16697) to sign up for and position labeled as Amateur Radio Operator.

All sites are able to be driven to and will require at least a 25 Watt VHF mobile radio. It would also be helpful to have an antenna other than a mobile antenna: i.e. a high gain antenna that can be put on a mast or be pulled up into a tree with rope.

This race takes part in some very remote areas with very little to no cell phone coverage and even spotty coverage from the county 911 radio system. Amateur radio is the main method of communications to keep the crew and runners safe.

Most aid stations do have food and water but I recommend volunteers should be prepared with their own food and water. Also be prepared to provide your own power: Battery or Generator.

A communications plan will be distributed to those who sign up about a week or two before the race with repeater freqs and other information like driving directions to their assigned check point.

Some other information on the race can be found at <https://easternstates100.com/>

<https://easternstates100.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/ES-2019-Participant-Guide-compressed.pdf>

**LICENSE STUDY INFORMATION**

**Technician and General Classes —**

**York Township (Dallastown)**  
September 17-19

**Lancaster County Public Service Training Center**

*Technician:* August 20-21 & October 15-16

*General:* October 29-30

**VE Sessions:** second Saturday, odd months, 1000L at the York County 9-1-1, 120 Davies Dr., York, PA.

**Contact:**

Ralph Brandt, K3HIQ  
1705 Misty Dr.  
York PA 17408-4237  
C 717-885-3063 • H 717-792-1017  
[ralph.brandt@comcast.net](mailto:ralph.brandt@comcast.net)


**License testing 20 August! (see page 2 for details or [w3uu.org](http://w3uu.org))**

**SWAP & SHOP SPOT**

Per the affirmation of the membership, June 2021 meeting, members may post, one-time non-commercial advertisement of items relating to amateur radio, computers, and electronics. "Wanted" advertisements are permitted. Submission of photos are strongly encouraged.

Also, please see posts on the HRAC website and FaceBook™.

HRAC is not responsible for any typographical or other errors. While we endeavor to connect interested parties, all transactions are made exclusively between the buyer and seller. HRAC disclaims all responsibility for any issues arising out of the use of, or reliance upon, this information. ■



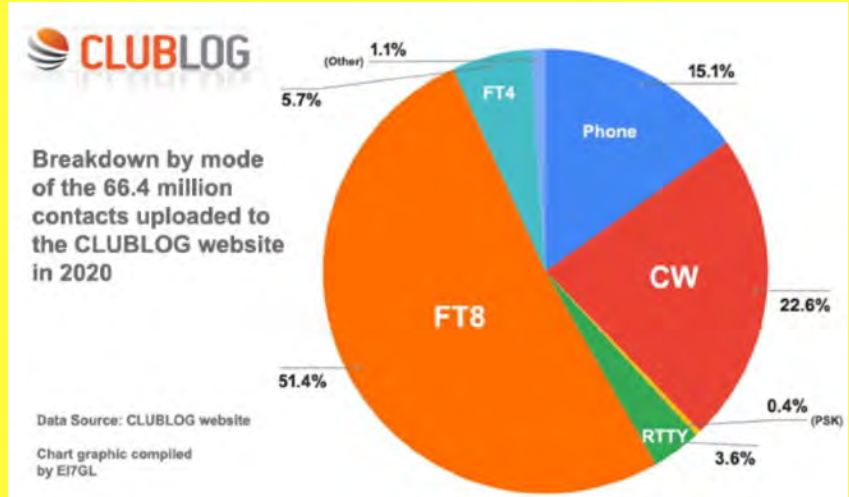
**Stay in touch** with the ARRL Eastern Pennsylvania Section Manager, **George Miller, W3GWM**

URL: <https://epa-arrl.org>  
Email: [W3GWM@PTD.NET](mailto:W3GWM@PTD.NET)

**— HRAC CLUB & MEMBER NEWS —**

★ **"Member Spotlight"** will feature a member from the HRAC community. A short bio with pre-questions like how you got into ham radio and your motivation. The editor will send you a final copy before publication. Please respond if tapped as the selected featured member. (Thanks to **Mike KD3MAD** for the suggestion.) ■

★ If you didn't attend, you missed it... **Bob, K3RTS**, gave an excellent **"Elmer Time"** presentation on "Intro to FT8" at the last meeting! FT8 and other digital modes have become predominate in the amateur community and it's time to understand and operate them. ARRL's magazine, *On the Air*, features FT8 in the July/August 2022 edition. ■



**MEMBER SPOTLIGHT:**

This month's spotlight is **Bob Saber, K3RTS**.

**What drew you to be interested in amateur radio? (Who introduced you? Did you have an Elmer? Or was it something else? etc.)**

I became interested in amateur radio because I wanted to be able to communicate during an emergency if the cell phone or email system was not available.

**Why did you pick your vanity call?**

My original call was KC3LGJ and I did not like "the sound of it." I searched and saw that my initials "RTS" were available as part of K3RTS so I applied for it.

**What is the most fun part of amateur radio? (Kit building, talking, etc.)**

I think it is fun to see how far I can reach with my radio and antenna. I have difficulty with SSB/voice because of high noise level at my QTH. I really enjoy the digi-

tal modes. I prefer modes like FT8 and FT4 since I do not have to have super typing skills to be able to complete a contact. I have used Fldigi and JS8Call which allows for a more conversational contact but requires better typing skills.

**When active, what do you like doing most in amateur radio?**

I enjoy being involved with Emergency Communications. I am the Dauphin County Emergency Coordinator (EC). I participated in a Three Mile Island drill in 2019 and was located in the Lower Paxton Twp EOC. I participate in the Winlink Thursday exercises, PANBEMS Net and PEMA Auxiliary Communication Service (ACS) Net. I am also involved with the Amateur Radio Working Group (ARWG) which is part of the South Central Task Force (SCTF)

I also enjoy Parks On The Air (POTA). I enjoy going to parks

(continued on page 8)

## LOCAL AREA NETS

(ALL TIMES ARE LOCAL):

## MONDAYS

- ◆1900: @145.110 MHz, 131.8 Hz Tone, FM, W3ND, **Dauphin County ARES/RACES** Training Net.
- ◆2000: @146.970 MHz, 123.0 Hz Tone, FM, W3HZU Keystone VHF Club net, York.
- ◆2030: @146.460 MHz, 67 Hz Tone, +1 MHz offset, FM, N3TWT South Mountain Radio Association net, Mt. Holly Springs.

## TUESDAYS

- ◆1900: @146.970 MHz, 123.0 Hz Tone, FM, W3HZU Keystone VHF Club Digital Net.
- ◆2000: @147.315 MHz, 82.5 Hz Tone, FM, K3LV, Lebanon Valley Society of Radio Amateurs, Emergency Net.
- ◆2100: @145.230 MHz, 114.8 Hz Tone, FM, K3IR Southern Pennsylvania Radio Club net.

## WEDNESDAYS

- ◆1900: @146.76 MHz, 100.0 Hz Tone, FM, **Harrisburg Radio Amateurs Club** Information net, W3UU, every Wednesday except club meeting, second Wednesday.
- ◆1930: @146.865 MHz, 123.0 Hz Tone, FM, Red Lion, W3ZGD, Hilltop Transmitter Association "Spikes and Frogs" railroad hobbyist net.
- ◆2000: 28.400 MHz, simplex net, USB, Cumberland Amateur Radio Club (except 3rd Wednesday)
- ◆2100: @145.110 MHz, 131.8 Hz Tone, FM, W3ND, Central Pennsylvania SkyWarn™ net

## THURSDAYS

- ◆2030: @145.270 MHz, 74.4 Hz Tone, FM, N3TWT, FM Allstar Echolink net.
- ◆2100: @145.390 MHz, 118.8 Hz Tone, FM, W3AD Lancaster Transmitting Society net.

## FRIDAYS

## SATURDAYS

- ◆2030: 146.580 MHz, simplex, FM, Lancaster County.

## SUNDAYS

- ◆0730: 3.583 MHz, PA-NBEMS, Thor22 and MFSK32.
- ◆0800: 3.9935 MHz, PEMA statewide Auxiliary Communication Service, LSB (first Sunday of the month only).
- ◆0830: 3.9935 MHz. Central Pennsylvania Auxiliary Communication Service, LSB.
- ◆1900: 146.490 MHz, simplex net, FM, Cumberland Amateur Radio Club
- ◆2000: @146.640 MHz. 85.5 Hz Tone, FM, AA3RG Appalachian Amateur Radio Group net.
- ◆2030: @147.120 MHz, 100.0 Hz Tone; FM, W3ACH Cumberland Valley Amateur Radio Club net.
- ◆2100: [www.w3nd.org](http://www.w3nd.org) Central PA Repeater Association DMR net.

## DAILY

- ◆ See page 8 1700: 3.918 MHz, LSB, Eastern PA Traffic Net.
- ◆ See page 8 1900: 3.585 MHz, CW, The Dave Heller K3TX Memorial Pennsylvania Traffic Net (PTN).
- ◆1945: @147.015 MHz, 118.8 Hz Tone, FM, W3RRR Lancaster County Welfare Net; Red Rose Repeater Association.

® = repeater. Members: Add or update your favorite regional net!

## HAM HISTORY • HARRISBURG

— Roots —

**How** old is our Club? Our newsletter bottom page caption says: "— 76 years service to the Capitol of Pennsylvania —." However, recent newspaper research suggests Club ancestry is much earlier than 1946. A "problem" with a defined year is many local "hams" informally served and shifted around to other clubs. Complicating it, local newspapers often lumped or generalized the names together.

The first mention of a radio club in the Harrisburg area was the **Tech High School Wireless Club** in 1919, founded by a group of students and radio enthusiasts.<sup>1</sup> Next mention of a radio club was the **Harrisburg Radio Club (HRC)** in its "infancy" in 1921.<sup>2</sup> But nearly a year later, the **Harrisburg Radio Association (HRA)** appears as a distinct entity working alongside the HRC in regulating local radio traffic.<sup>3</sup> The HRC formally adopted a constitution and its name in 1922.<sup>4</sup> The HRA continued into 1930 when it reorganized,<sup>5</sup> but after 1940, the name is not found.

In 1931, Harrisburg City enacted an ordinance "... to eliminate all unnecessary radio interference, due to leakage in electrical devices... left to [regulation by] an unnamed radio club..."<sup>6</sup> In response, a new club formed: the **Harrisburg Radio Interference Club**. (A newspaper reporter erroneously credited it to the HRC.)<sup>7</sup> This club had an initial enthusiastic response, but no activity after its founding in 1931. The club floundered, just like the ordinance "... like the old dog who has lost his teeth."<sup>10</sup>

In 1935, an "**Amateur Radio Club of Harrisburg**" is noted. Was this a new club or a reformation of an old club? Two months later, the news media called it the "**Harrisburg Amateur Radio Club**."<sup>8</sup>

The current name **Harrisburg Radio Amateurs Club** (Amateurs with an "s") is mentioned in the theft of club equipment at its Reservoir Park HQ as early as 1940.<sup>9</sup>

World War II terminated amateur radio activity until 1946, when again HRAC became active; planning a hamfest for August.<sup>11</sup> According to the Pennsylvania Department of State, the Club was incorporated under Harrisburg Radio Amateurs Club Inc. on 1st of July 1946. The callsign W3UU was held by Edward Marlin Thompson of Steelton in 1946.<sup>12</sup> (He held the Call from 1930 to his death in 1955.) It was much later, in the 1970s, when the club acquired the callsign. ■

*If anyone has anecdotal or documents about the history of the Club, please contact Curt, K3URT at [k3urt@w3uu.org](mailto:k3urt@w3uu.org)*

<sup>1</sup> [Harrisburg] *Evening News*, 19 Sep. 1919, p. 2.

<sup>2</sup> *Harrisburg Telegraph*, 14 Oct. 1921, 14.

<sup>3</sup> *Telegraph*, 1 Sep. 1922, 12.

<sup>4</sup> *Telegraph*, 31 Mar. 1922, 4.

<sup>5</sup> *Telegraph*, 18 Apr. 1930, 11.

<sup>6</sup> *Harrisburg Sunday Courier*, 25 Jan. 1931, 10.

<sup>7</sup> *Evening News*, 2 Feb. 1931, 8; 12 Mar 1931, 11.

<sup>8</sup> *Telegraph*, 2 Mar. 1935, 4.

<sup>9</sup> *Evening News*, 4 May 1940, 14.

<sup>10</sup> *Sunday Courier*, 25 Jan. 1931, 10.

<sup>11</sup> *Evening News*, 29 Jul. 1946, 11.

<sup>12</sup> *Radio Amateur Call Book Magazine*, Summer 1946. Chicago: 1946, 68.

# HF for the Technician Class Licensee

**S**o you received your license and have been operating on VHF/UHF repeaters. But you want to do more and have noted the additional privileges on the HF bands. Cycle 25 is in a full upward swing, and you want to get into the action.

What to do? First: upgrade your license class to General — it opens up a bigger world for you.

Not ready to upgrade yet? But you want to dip your toes into the world of “the shortwaves” (HF)? Then take that step beyond the HT.

The 10-meter band is popular for opening the door to HF under the Technician class license. The band can be fickle, but with Cycle 25, propagation will be more forthcoming producing some exciting results. **Phone privileges** on 28.3-28.5 MHz make it easy to pick up the mike.

**Other modes:** CW (Morse Code), RTTY (radio teletype), and Data (digital modes — including the popular FT-8), are available to you at a maximum legal power of 200 watts PEP.

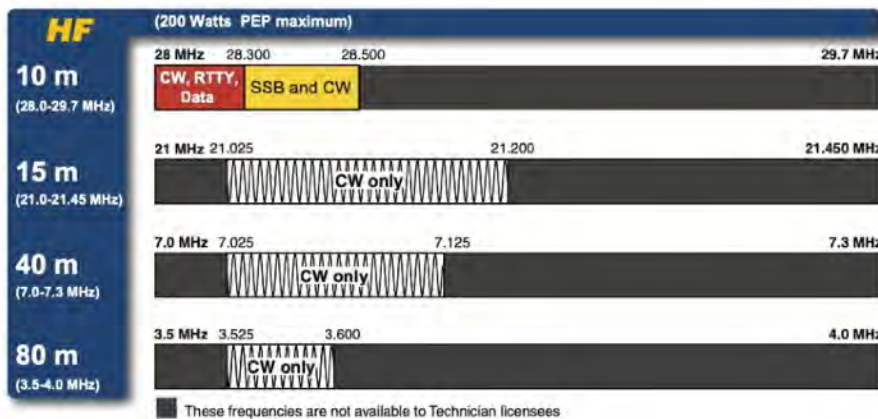
- 28.000-28.070 - CW only
- 28.070-28.190 - RTTY/Data
- 28.200-28.300 - Beacons.

Most modern transceivers (your “rig”) can use these modes with a keyboard, a computer and software. A USB-to-USB connection is almost necessary in modern amateur radio operations, and some patience to set it up are all you need. Ask an experienced ham or “google” the various on-line help.

The other authorized bands, 15, 40 and 80 meters, have CW mode privileges only. FCC enforcement has recently fined some Technicians running digital modes in those bands — don’t do it! You are not authorized!<sup>1</sup>

### So, where to get that HF rig?

It can be intimidating shopping around. Modern rigs are like mini-computers with a learning curve and lots of “bells and whistles.” But don’t let that stop you — many features are left unused, and once you explore your rig, it becomes second nature.



### Major stores:

- [www.dxengineering.com](http://www.dxengineering.com)
- [www.hamradio.com](http://www.hamradio.com)
- [www.gigaparts.com](http://www.gigaparts.com)
- [store2.rham.com/](http://store2.rham.com/)

Call the vendor before purchasing to see if it is in stock and the estimated delivery time. Supply chain and chip shortages are

**RECOMMENDED:** Dave Casler's KE0OG Reference station for a definitive guide: [dcasler.com/reference/](http://dcasler.com/reference/)

real. Hamradio.com has stores all over the country, and a hands-on, eye-ball visit might be in order.

Another option is to buy used equipment at a hamfest or online. Unless you know the seller very well and checked out the rig yourself, *caveat emptor*.

The below table lists rigs under \$1,800. Shop around because deals and manufacturer rebates cause prices to vary.

- Make a spreadsheet or checklist of features that you want.
- Read the manuals.
- Ask other hams their opinion.

Rig:	\$	Internal tuner?	CW & digital decode?	meter Bands:
ICOM IC-7300	1200 - 1400	Y	N	160-6
Yaesu FT-991A	1190 - 1700	Y	N	160-6; also VHF/UHF
Yaesu FT-891	620-890	N	N	160-6
ICOM IC-7100	1050 - 1600	N	N	160-6; also VHF/UHF
Kenwood TS-590SG	1630 - 1760	Y	Y	160-6
Yaesu FTDX-10	1360 - 1700	Y	Y	160-6

Read the reviews at [www.e-ham.net/revies/index](http://www.e-ham.net/revies/index) with a pinch of reality. They are opinions only, but they could point out potential flaws or oddities the user has experienced.

Pick out a rig you will be comfortable operating with every day! Sometimes it’s better to save and wait.

The prices below are approximate; all have USB ports, are all-mode,<sup>2</sup> 100 watts PEP output, and are listed in no particular order.

I don’t want to leave out Alinco, but they have slowly moved from the HF arena to emphasize the VHF/UHF mobile genre. The in-production model DX-SR8T/E is limited to 160-10 meters and has no USB port. This radio is your hard-to-find, vanilla rig if you want just to talk and send CW. \$600.

And remember: “Don’t spend a lot of money for a high-end HF transceiver if you can’t have an antenna to match.”<sup>3</sup>

— 73 de Curt, K3URT

*K3URT and HRAC make no product endorsement or guarantees, nor are they responsible for research performance — do your due diligence!*

<sup>1</sup> <http://www.arrl.org/news/volunteer-monitor-program-cautions-against-operating-beyond-license-privileges>

<sup>2</sup> Generally, AM, SSB, CW and supporting digital modes.

<sup>3</sup> Dave, K1ZZ, *Indexa*. Summer 2022, 136:3.

**NEWS • COMMUNIQUES • MESSAGES • DISPATCHES  
• QST • REPORTS • TALK**

**Advanced SkyWarn  
Training: Radar**

Radar interpretation of weather events is available online from NWS State College on Tuesday, **9 August 2022** from 1800-2030L. For more information go to www.weather.gov/ctp/SpotterTalks

You must register before attending the class.

**Reminders:**

- ✓ Classes are **free** and open to the public.
- ✓ Attendees under the age of 16 must be accompanied by a parent/guardian.
- ✓ Classes typically last about 90 minutes.
- ✓ Make sure to download Go-ToWebinar on your computer prior to the meeting.
- ✓ Test your device for compatibility.
- ✓ Pen/pencil to take notes.

Any problems or questions... please contact:

Warning Coordination Meteorologist Jonathan Guseman or Meteorologist John Banghoff ■

**Coming to America Soon?**

The Radio Society of Great Britain (RSGB) has announced a Direct to Full License examination or "Zero to Hero" path. Currently, the RSGB has similar three levels of tests like the US FCC: Foundation, Intermediate and Full. Starting 1 January 2023, UK OfComm will be offering the new exam, which, upon passing, will earn you the Full Class. It's not much different than US examinees sitting for the three tests, Technician, General, and Extra, in one session, but less the repetitions found in all three exams. More at: rsgb.org/main/about-us/committees/examination-standards-committee/direct-entry-to-full-licence-rsgb-consultation/ ■

**Club Repeater W3UU**

The repeater is working great and Trustee Dave, KC3MG and assistant Mike, KD3MAD invite you to use and participate on your repeater. Want to volunteer for the Wednesday net or start another? Contact them today. ■

**The Dave Heller K3TX  
Memorial Pennsylvania  
Traffic Net & Eastern PA  
Traffic Net.**

Section Traffic Manager Scott Walker, N3SW, is leaving our region. He has handed his managerial duties over to me. Monthly, the traffic manager submits reports to the ARRL, regarding public service honor roll, and net activities. Another responsibility of the traffic manager is to "insure that all traffic nets within the section are properly and adequately staffed."

Currently, both the **Eastern Pennsylvania Emergency Phone and Traffic Net** (EPAEPTN), and especially the **CW Pennsylvania Traffic Net** (PTN) are operating with minimum staff. We need volunteers. Please consider checking in to one or both of these networks on a regular basis. Arriving traffic is delivered best by a local ham, especially the "welcome to ham radio" messages we handle often. Both are a great way to improve your operating skills, and give back to the community. (See page 6 for operational info.)

—Tom, KC8T, Eastern PA Traffic Manager ■

**Member Spotlight  
(from page 5)**

and setting up my equipment to make contacts. This is practicing for an emergency communications deployment each time I activate a park. I also enjoy "hunting" activators in parks from my house.

**So far, what was your most exciting moment on amateur radio?**

I am not heavily involved with contesting but was pretty excited when I finally contacted Alaska and Hawaii to complete the 50 State Award on QRZ. I was also pleased to contact all of the 13 Colonies and 2 of the 3 bonus stations as part of this years 13 Colonies Special Event.

**Besides amateur radio, what are your other hobbies/passions?**

I enjoy gardening, woodworking and small projects around the house.

**What do you see as the most pressing issue in the amateur radio service community?**

I think the most pressing issue of amateur radio service and other groups is getting people to join and actively participate. It is very difficult to have a group or organization whether it is a radio club, Emergency Communications group or any other organization if you do not have enough people to help with the planning and activities. ■

**QUA HRAC?**

Send to:

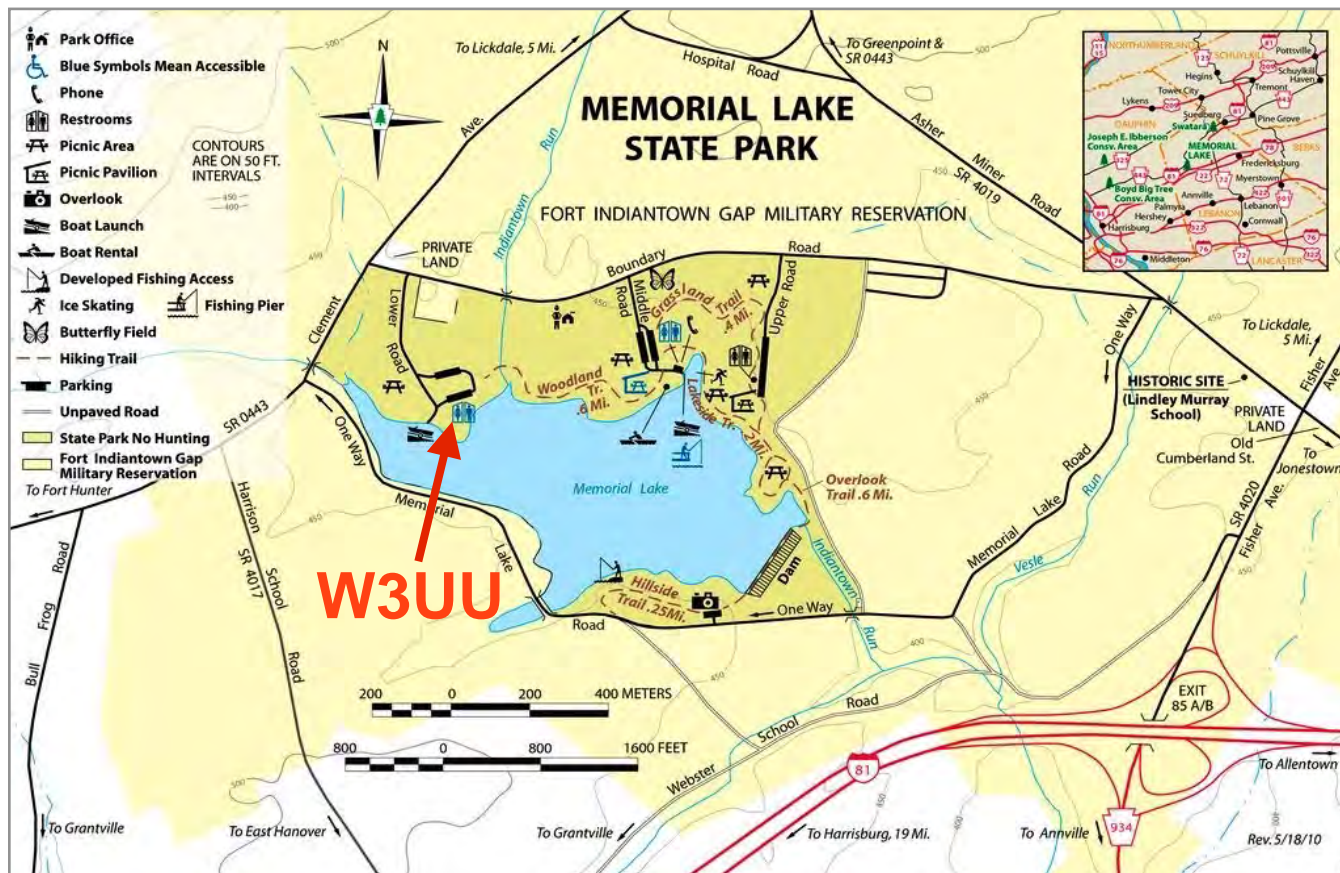
newsletter@w3uu.org or webmaster@w3uu.org

**Newsletter submission guidelines**

**Deadline: For the SEPTEMBER issue is end of business day WEDNESDAY, 7 SEPTEMBER — sorry, no exceptions!**

- ✓ Articles, photographs, graphics are welcome! *Limited assistance can be provided.*
- ✓ Cite the source. Permission must be obtained from the author using copyrighted material except "fair use" extracts.
- ✓ Please proof-read your finalized narrative before submitting. As a practice, the editor will "quote" rather than "correct."
- ✓ Submit to the email address: newsletter@w3uu.org

**HRAC 9-11 Special Event, 11 September 2022 (more details in September issue).**



**NEWS • COMMUNIQUES • MESSAGES • DISPATCHES • QST • REPORTS • TALK**

**NEW Yaesu FT-710 AESS**

The Internet is humming about the new FT-710 “Acoustic Enhanced Speaker System” transceiver expected to hit USA markets in September, pending FCC approval. The all-mode will cover 160-6 meters with 100 watts output and “...utilizing the advanced digital RF technology introduced in the FTDX-101 and FTDX-10 series.” It has a smaller physical size than the FTDX-10, a successor to the FTDX-3000. No word on cost. — [tinyurl.com/2p8xt48u](https://tinyurl.com/2p8xt48u) ■



**UK Ofcomm Amateur Radio Callsign Database updated 26 July 2022.**

The latest version of the Ofcom amateur radio callsign database (allocated and reserve) is always available on their Open Data page: [www.ofcom.org.uk/data/assets/file/0032/239099/amateur-callsigns.csv](http://www.ofcom.org.uk/data/assets/file/0032/239099/amateur-callsigns.csv) ■

**NEW sBitx – Developer’s Edition**

The sBitx is a fully open source, high performance HF SDR transceiver with in-built popular modes like the FT8, RTTY, PSK31, etc. HF Signals is now selling the Developers Edition for the homebrewers and the hackers who are comfortable with frequent updates and experimental branches of the software.

Bands: 80-10 meters. Power: 40 watts on 80M and 40M; 30 on 30M and 20M; 20 on 17M and 15M; 10 on 12M; 6 watts on 10M. Fully assembled \$499; Basic Kit \$299. ■

**NEW Logbook**

**Cloudlog.** [www.magicbug.co.uk/cloudlog/](http://www.magicbug.co.uk/cloudlog/) is an open-source PHP & MySQL based amateur radio logging application, allowing you to log contacts via a web browser on any device and platform. Demo: [demo.cloudlog.co.uk](http://demo.cloudlog.co.uk) ■

## Webmaster Report – August 2022 Club Meeting

Dear HRAC Club Members,

Since July 2022 meeting, the largest undertaking has been the turnover of the major events that took place during the spring and summer months. Post Firecracker has proven to be a renewal time for the HRAC website over the past 18 months we have been managing the site. In addition to finalizing the information and materials for the events being held in the second half of the year, we are also ensuring that the major events from the first half of the year are prepared and launched in support of the following year. This keeps many of the events fresh on the minds of our audience. In short, a reset as we go through a sort of slow period till Oktoberfest. However, that is not to undermine the importance and significance of the 9/11 Special Event. This event, now 2<sup>nd</sup> annua commemorating 9/11, has added a whole new level of support not before seen at W3UU including registration for e-QSL cards for this event.

So, to be overly repetitive, there is also much to do for ongoing day-to-day operations. Keeping the website up and running is certainly priority number 1. And again, that does all eat into the time available to volunteers in terms of other projects and work items. We try and work our way through other backlog work in the queue, but it all takes time. And speaking of time, if you have some, we would love to get your help. We are actively looking for volunteers to assist with content editing and management on the HRAC website. If you can edit a document or supply news and items of interest, you can help. Webmaster (KD3MAD) will retain the heavy IT work, but we could use some help with the pages and announcements on a weekly or bi-weekly basis. We appreciate the inbound flow of great ideas, but what we also need is some help to accomplish such goals and objectives.

*NOTE: As discussed last month, all statistics were extremely high thanks for the heavy interest and demand for Firecracker Hamfest information and details. As such, even though all stats are way down, this sort of reflects our normal operations monthly. Trends will be monitored and special traffic report coming soon. Waiting to get through a significant number of months to obtain a critical mass of data, as well as a series of major events.*

### Website Statistics for July 6, 2022 – August 2, 2022

#### Form Submissions

License Exam Request Form	Contact HRAC Form	Help HRAC Form
2	2	0

#### Overall Performance – Website Traffic

Number of Visitors	Number of Sessions	Bounce Rate	Session Duration
260 (down 207% from last month)	315 (down 493% from last month)	65.08% (up 49%)	1 minute and 14 seconds

#### Sessions by Device Type

Desktop	Mobile	Tablet
162	90	8

#### Top 5 Performing Pages/Sections

Page	Number of Requests	Average Time on Page	Number of Entries	Exit Rate (Last Page Used)
Home Page	44	00:00:33	34	64.71%
Hamfests (Sectional)	37	00:01:05	17	37.50%
License and Exams	9	00:0:37	6	100.00% **
National Night Out (event)	9	00:00:46	5	100.00% **
<b>Getting Started Radio ***</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>00:00:56</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>80.00%</b>

\*\* Large Exit Rate shows interest points for users of website. Only problem, that was their only interest ("in and out for exams, specific events and resources")

\*\*\* First time this resource has risen to the TOP 5. Could this be a good indication of community outreach and engagement with potential hams. We'll see!

#### Search Stats -Top Performing Google Search Requests

Number of Impressions	Number of Click-Throughs	Average Rank per Search
3,007 (down 34% from last month)	85 (2.8% Click Rate)	30

#### Top 5 Performing Search Phrases

Keywords/Phrase	Number of Impressions	Number of Click-Throughs
harrisburg hamfest (and variants)	160	11
w3uu	25	8
ham radio clubs near me	2	0
ham radio swap and shop	1	0
pa qso party	45	0

This report is hereby respectfully submitted,

Michael A. Drawbaugh (KD3MAD)  
Webmaster, Harrisburg Radio Amateurs' Club

Updated frequently:  
[www.w3uu.org](http://www.w3uu.org)  
Please visit often!

**W3UU The Harrisburg Radio Amateurs Club, Inc.****President – Bob, K3RTS, Vice-President – Vacant****MINUTES OF THE July 13, 2022 MEETING**

**MEETING CALL TO ORDER:** The Wednesday, July 13th, 2022, meeting of the Harrisburg Radio Amateur's Club, Inc. was called to order at 1906L by the President, Robert, K3RTS, at the Vietnam Veterans Association Building, 8000 Derry St, Harrisburg, PA 17111. Due to the continuing COVID-19 pandemic, those in attendance took the recommended precautions.

**INTRODUCTIONS BY NAME:** 11 individuals were present and introduced themselves briefly.

**SECRETARY REPORT** – June 2022 Minutes. Opened for comments, questions, and corrections. Hearing none, the Motion to Accept by Paul, KA3SGY. Charlie, W3CWT, seconded the motion; the attending membership approved the minutes by voice vote.

**TREASURERS REPORT** – June 2022 report presented by Dave, KC3MG. Open for comments, questions, and corrections. We have money! The report indicated solvent and consistent with a good balance. Updated reports for May, April, March, and February 2022 submitted to club officers for review. Motion to Accept by Tim, W4NKC. Chuck, KA1YSR, seconded the motion; the attending membership approved the minutes by voice vote.

**LICENSE TRUSTEE REPORT** – Dave, KC3MG reports that license is good and there have been no complaints.

**EQUIPMENT TRUSTEE REPORT** – Terry, WB3BKN, says that everything is good. Terry was not able to attend, and information was presented by Dave, KC3MG.

**LAUREL VE COMMITTEE** – Volunteer VE attending Curt, K3URT, reported subsequent testing is Saturday, August 20th at 0900L and that individuals must register by end-of-day the Friday before.

**REPEATER COMMITTEE** – Terry, WB3BKN, says that repeater and controller are working, no complaints. Terry was not able to attend, and information was presented by Dave, KC3MG.

**MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE** – Chair Tim, W4NKC, reported that there are 81 current members with 52 being ARRL members (64.2%).

**NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE** – Curt, K3URT, reports the next article deadline is by the end of business day, Wednesday, August 3rd. Reminder that the newsletter contact email has changed to newsletter@w3uu.org.

**WEB PAGE COMMITTEE** – No report this month.

**EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS** – Robert, K3RTS, reports:  
– ARES Net meets every Monday at 1900L on the 145.110 repeater.

**ELMER TIME** Coordinator Joe, W3JPH. For tonight's Elmer Time (before club meeting) Robert, K3RTS, presented an introduction to using the FT-8 Digital Mode. He reviewed the concept in general, the software needed, useful companion applications, and the equipment he uses on his setup. 12 people attended.

**HAMFEST** – Firecracker July 2nd, 2022, and PA State Convention. Terry, WB3BKN is the Chair. Dave, KC3MG, presented a preliminary report on the finances of the event and attendance numbers.

Upcoming Hamfests will be the OctoberFest on 22 October 2022, and the Winter Hamfest on 14 January 2023.

**FIELD DAY** – June 25th, 2022. We had 9 members in attendance and 3 visitors. One visitor is a Scout leader and is interested in working with the club to introduce his Scouts to Amateur Radio.

**OLD BUSINESS** – No old business outside of routine topics to review this meeting.

**NEW BUSINESS** – Lower Paxton Township National Night Out on August 2, 2022, at George Park off Nyes Road. Event will be from 1700L to 2000L with setup happening from 1545L to 1630L.

– Sept 11th Commemoration on September 11, 2022, at Memorial Lake State Park. This will be a Parks-On-The-Air (POTA) activation as well. Event will occur from 1000L to 1600L.

**FOR THE GOOD OF THE CLUB** – Since Glenn, K3SWZ is no longer a member of HRAC, we will be removing the DXCC Committee from the meeting minutes starting with the July 2022 meeting minutes. If a member would like to step up to lead/create a DXCC Committee for HRAC, please let one of the club officers know.

– Dave, KC3MG, presented the idea of switching time for the Club Business meeting and Elmer Time. Since the business meetings are usually well within 30 minutes, this would give us a little more time for more advanced/involved Elmer Time topics. No decision was made, but further discussion is encouraged and welcome.

– Time to start thinking about HamFeast for 2023. If no objections, we will look at using the Peach Tree Restaurant for the event like 2022.

**ADJOURNMENT** - A motion to adjourn by Chuck, KA1YSR, and seconded by Charlie, W3CWT. The meeting closed at 1934L.

**RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED** by Frank Aponte, KC3NRK, Secretary.

*THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING is a document of HRAC, Inc. Therefore, all content is unabridged from the original. Corrections to the Minutes are made at the next club meeting by a membership vote with approval/disapproval.*

# APPLICATION for MEMBERSHIP or RENEWAL



MAIL TO:  
Tim Lehman (W4NKC)  
PO Box 453  
Hummelstown, PA 17036-0453  
717-982-8550

— Make checks payable to HRAC —

You CAN ALSO USE PayPal for payment of dues. The club's account is: [HRACW3UU@GMAIL.COM](mailto:HRACW3UU@GMAIL.COM) The payee will appear as Dave Dormer, our treasurer. If using PayPal, please list the call sign(s) for which you are paying dues and the number of years you are paying in the "note" section of the payment page. Also, if there are any changes to your personal information please either put it in the note section or email the updates to: [W4NKC.HV@gmail.com](mailto:W4NKC.HV@gmail.com)

Membership per year is [ ] \$15.00, [ ] \$7.50 if over 65 years of age.  
Family Membership per year is [ ] \$25.00 (Hams must reside in the same household.)

— Membership ends December 31st of the year. —

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ CALL \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ E-MAIL\* \_\_\_\_\_

ARRL Member? [ ] Y [ ] N                      YEAR FIRST LICENSED: \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_



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

If you recently obtained your first license through our Harrisburg Volunteer Examiner Team, bring your application and CSCE to a club meeting and we will waive the membership dues for your first year of membership!

\* **Please note:** the newsletter is only sent in portable document format (PDF), via email, so **a valid, updated email address is important !!!**

**Join the Gang!**