



W3UU NEWSLETTER

— MARCH 2023 —

Club Officers:

PRESIDENT:

Terry Snyder, WB3BKN
WB3BKN1@gmail.com

VICE PRESIDENT:

Chuck Maletich, KA1YSR
ka1ysr@outlook.com

SECRETARY:

Frank Aponte, KC3NRK
kc3nrk@frankaponte.com

TREASURER:

Frank Aponte, KC3NRK
kc3nrk@frankaponte.com

LICENSE TRUSTEE:

David Dormer, KC3MG
dddormer@gmail.com

EQUIPMENT TRUSTEE:

Terry Snyder, WB3BKN
WB3BKN1@gmail.com

Committees:

WEBMASTER: W3UU.ORG

Rick Taylor, K2RBT
webmaster@w3uu.org

EMCOMM:

Robert Saber, K3RTS
k3rts1@gmail.com

MEMBERSHIP:

Tim Lehman, W4NKC
w4nkc.hv@gmail.com

NEWSLETTER EDITOR:

Curt Sanders, K3URT
newsletter@w3uu.org

ELMER TIME COORDINATOR:

vacant

HAMFESTS & REPEATER:

Terry Snyder, WB3BKN
WB3BKN1@gmail.com

NET OPERATIONS:

Curt Sanders, K3URT
k3urt@w3uu.org

VE TEAM LEADER:

Tim Lehman, W4NKC
w4nkc.hv@gmail.com

QST: NEXT "MEETING" is

WEDNESDAY, 8 MARCH,

1830-2030L at the Vietnam Veterans of America Post

542, 8000 Derry St., Harrisburg. All are welcome!

Business meeting at 1830-1900, followed by "Elmer Time."

ELMER TIME for March is:

What do all of those controls do on my HF rig?



Photo: Terry, WB3BKN



Elmer Time will be presented by **Terry, WB3BKN.**





The 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 Pennsylvania 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 2023:

- March**8th, club meeting.
- April**12th, club meeting.
.....15th, license testing (see below).
- May**10th, club meeting.
- June**14th, club meeting.
.....17th, license testing (see below).
.....24-25th, Field Day.
- July**1st, HRAC Firecracker Hamfest!
.....12th, club meeting.
- August**9th, club meeting.
.....19th, license testing (see below).

Please consider making a presentation at "Elmer Time." Everyone has expertise in something and can bring something to the table. Do more than contemplate, 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 2nd Wednesday of the month.

Website: W3UU.org

FaceBook: www.facebook.com/Harrisburg-Radio-Amateurs-Club-208171495915056/

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Please NOTE: underlined words in the newsletter are "hot" linked to emails and external websites. HRAC is not responsible for their content or performance. URL's were verified a few days prior to publication.

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. [Tim Lehman](#) 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/. (Registrations can be made online up to the Friday before test date.)

The next test session is scheduled for Saturday, 15 April, 2023, at the Harrisburg Vietnam Veterans of America, 8000 Derry St., Harrisburg, PA promptly beginning at 0900L.

— HARRISBURG RADIO AMATEUR CLUB NEWS —

★ **HRAC's Annual Hamfeast** was held 8 February. See page 5 for details.

★ **Adam KC3MFJ**, will be moving out of the area temporarily in the Fall. He was selected by Pennsylvania State University as a doctoral candidate in electrical engineering. Congrats Adam!

★ **WEDNESDAY NIGHT NET: Would you like to have an opportunity to operate the HRAC Weekly Net on the W3UU repeater?**

Open to licensed HRAC members and amateurs, the HRAC Weekly Net is held every Wednesday evening except the 2nd Wednesday of the month (club meeting night at 1830L). Topics range from club business and events, "Swap and Shop," and general information regarding amateur radio at large.

Providing amateurs with experience, net control is restricted to club members. By serving as Net Control, you will gain valuable experience with this type of radio operation and offer assistance to the club and its membership.

If you are interested in serving as Net Control, don't hesitate to get in touch with Curt:

K3URT@w3uu.org

If interested in serving as Net Control, check-in and attend at least four (4) nets before volunteering. *Fine Print:* based upon character and conduct, the Net Manager reserves the right to restrict any club member from serving as Net Control at digression.

No experience is needed, and the Manager will gladly work with you and provide a suggested script to follow.

Get on the air! If we get a cohort of volunteers, the duty will be spread out.

★ **WANTED: Elmer Time Coordinator: a volunteer who arranges monthly guests for amateur radio related presentations after the business meeting.**

Apply to: **Terry WB3BKN**, WB3BKN1@gmail.com

★ **WANTED:** a volunteer to manage the "Keystone Award" for the club. Inquire to a club officer.

★ **"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.*)

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.

QUA HRAC?

Send to:

newsletter@w3uu.org

Deadline for next newsletter submissions is by end of business day, Wednesday, **5 April 2023.**



Stay in touch
with the **ARRL**
Eastern
Pennsylvania
Section

URL: <https://epa-arrl.org>

After six years and his gregarious visits to copious amounts of hamfests and club meetings, Eastern PA Section Manager **George Miller W3GWM** is relieved of his ARRL duties due to illness.

Thank you, George, for your faithful service!

Bob Wilson W3BIG, who was his assistant and will serve the remainder of the present term, ending in March 2024.

Bob is no stranger to ARRL service. He has been an ARES Emergency Coordinator in EPA for many years. Most recently, Bob served as the EPA Section Emergency Coordinator.



The ARRL Atlantic Division has new leadership.

Robert "Bob" Famiglio, K3RF, of Media, Pennsylvania, is the new Division Director.

ARRL Section Manager for Maryland/DC **Marty Pittinger, KB3MXM**, of Owings Mills, Maryland, is Vice Director.

Famiglio was initially Atlantic Division Vice Director from 2015 until 2017, appointed in 2019 to fill a vacancy, and then elected unopposed for a term beginning in 2021. A practicing lawyer, he has served as an ARRL Volunteer Council for decades.

Famiglio is also an electrical engineer and former broadcast station owner and engineer. He is an FAA-certificated pilot. He is a Life Member of the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers (IEEE). He earned his amateur radio license in 1967, and is an ARRL Life Member.

www.atldiv.org/

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: @146.760 MHz, 100.0 Hz Tone, FM, Harrisburg Radio Amateurs Club Information net, W3UU (except second Wednesdays - meeting night).
- ◆ 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)
- ◆ **NEW** 2000: @145.210 MHz, 123.0 Hz Tone; FM, KA3TKW Shingara Digi Trivia net.
- ◆ 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.
- ◆ **NEW** 2000: @145.210 MHz, 123.0 Hz Tone; FM, KA3TKW Shingara Tech net.
- ◆ 2030: @ 147.120 MHz, 100.0 Hz Tone; FM, W3ACH Cumberland Valley Amateur Radio Club net.
- ◆ 2100: www.w3nd.org Central PA Repeater Association DMR net.

DAILY

- ◆ 1700: 3.918 MHz, LSB, Eastern PA Traffic Net.
- ◆ 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

—100 years ago—

RADIO CLUB WILL PUT TRANSFORMER INTO ACTION SOON

The Harrisburg Radio Club will install its new transformer in the club house, Twenty-first and Bellevue road, next week it was announced to-day by an official of the organization, who has received word from the manufacturer that work on rebuilding the apparatus is being completed rapidly. The organization has been without a transformer since the trans-Atlantic test, when the instrument was impaired by overloading.

—Harrisburg Telegraph, 9 Mar. 1923, p.4.



Radio Headsets

3000 Ohms Supersensitive
Guaranteed One Year

Price only \$3.98, plus 20c postage, total \$4.18. Cannot be matched at double the price.

Dealer's wire for sample

ERNEST ELECTRIC CO.
4847 Easton Ave., St. Louis, Mo.

—Radio News, New York, Mar. 1923, Vol 4, no. 9, p. 1744.

No Known Remedy

A doctor asked the *Chicago Tribune* something like the following: "I have a terrible new malady which is bothering me. The name of this new affliction to mankind is Radiocitis. Caused from wearing radio head receivers for several weeks. Symptoms: Ears flattened against head with upper tips turned out. Patient very grouchy and sour. Talks very loudly and says, 'Static, static,' whenever anyone speaks to him. Pays no attention to wife, family, or friends, and even refuses to eat at times. Sits up at all hours of the night muttering to himself and feverishly turns numerous dials and dodads. Is far worse than a golf nut when he meets a fellow sufferer—talks loudly and waves his arms—paying no attention to the other bug who does likewise. Would appreciate suggestions for treatment—even if relief is only temporary.

(Signed) Doc. W."

—QST, ARRL, Mar. 1923, p. 59.

HRAC Annual Hamfeast was FUN!



A few of the attendees.



The Club's 52nd annual dinner meeting commenced Wednesday, 8 February, at the Peachtree Restaurant. Club president, **Terry WB3BKN**, was the host and master of ceremonies.

Aside from the high-class cuisine offered by the restaurant, numerous members gathered in fellowship and laughter.

Membership Chair, **Tim W4NKC**, commemorated numerous club members who passed amateur radio longevity with certificates of note.

Rick K2RBT passed out the door prizes to the assembly in the traditional "sport," and drawings were made for the top three prizes, gift certificates to Ham Radio Outlet:

- 3rd place: **Adam KC3MFJ**, \$50.
- 2nd place: **Curt K3URT**, \$100.
- 1st place: **Chuck KA1YSR**, \$200.

The ultimate recognition, HRAC's coveted "Ham Of The Year" plaque, was awarded to **Curt K3URT** "in appreciation of your loyalty, faithful attendance, dedicated service, and contributions to the success of the" club. Curt remarked he could think of others more deserving but thanked everyone nevertheless.

CONTESTING & etc.

◆ **Contest Calendar March 2023 (76):**

www.contestcalendar.com/contestcal.html

Popular for the month:

- ARRL International DX Contest, SSB (4-5).
- Stew Perry Top Band Challenge, CW (11-12th)
- Virginia QSO Party (18-19th).
- CQ WW WPX SSB (25-26th).

◆ **One-By-One special events (31 calls, 19 events):**

www.1x1callsigns.org

Popular for the month:

- Idaho QSO Party (10-11th).
- Get Your Park On Spring Fling (7 callsigns; 17-18th).
- Virginia QSO Party (18-19th).

◆ **State QSO Parties (5 listed):**

www.contestcalendar.com/stateparties.html

State QSO Party Challenge: stateqsoparty.com

◆ **Contester Scores:** www.3830scores.com/index.php

◆ **ARRL Contest Calendar:** www.arrl.org/contest-calendar

◆ **POTA:** parksontheair.com

◆ **SOTA:** www.sota.org.uk

◆ **VOTA:** vota.arrl.org/

PA QSO Party 2022 - FINALS* - (HRAC members):

W3KB Keith, SOLP-M, Cumberland, 211040, a, b1

K3URT Curt, SOLP-M, Dauphin, 36592, a, b15

KD3MAD Mike, SOLP-P, Dauphin, 6080, b9

KC3EUU Steve, SLOP-SSB, Cumberland, 3328, b58

W4NKC Tim, SOLP-SSB, Dauphin, 3305, b60

LEGEND:

SOLP = Single Operator Low Power (under 100 watts)

M = Mixed modes (SSB & CW only)

P = Portable operation

a = county high score

b = state rank in class

Congrats to all! The Party had 670 logs submitted. See ya next year!

For official rules, results and metrics:

paqso.org/index.html

* 10 February 2023.

W2W – World Water Day – 22 March (Single Day Event)

WATER: We drink it, wash with it, cook with it, play in it and travel in it. Almost all things that live, or have ever lived, on our planet need water to survive. Without it, the Earth would be just another barren rock floating in space. Water itself is older than the Solar System, coming to Earth in Comets and Asteroids billions of years ago as the planets were forming. The water we use today is the same water Dinosaurs drank, which is why it is Our Responsibility to keep it clean for the future — once contaminated it's gone forever! Do your part; never put anything toxic in the ground, where our fresh water comes from! Learn more by visiting QRZ.com.

There will likely be activators all day and across all bands. **Kendra KZ3KBD** and **Mike KD3MAD** likely will be working 20M/40M SSB as needed from K-8908 around 1600-1900. Subject to change based upon band conditions and congestion. We'll be able to work our spot rain or shine. — *Mike KD3MAD*

W2A - World Autism Awareness Week – 25 March – 2 April

This is an international effort Sponsored by the Ten Mile River Scout Camp ARC, NY (W2TMR) and Fair Lawn ARC, NJ. Sole purpose is raising the awareness of Autism and that it is OK to be different. Learn more by visiting QRZ.com.

There will be stations working all week, all days and across all bands. Our shifts are TBD as scheduling is still being finalized. To ease congestion, we'll be working 20M/40M SSB (might even try early morning 10M SSB) through various local parks. There will be several regional PA operators so watch for W2A/### depending upon activations occurring at any single time. Log them all!

Kendra KZ3KBD and **Mike KD3MAD** have been asked to perform regional POTA activations for both SES and are looking for hunters to track us down, as well as help spreading the word about these important causes. Who knows, you might be one of the first to actually log Kendra as 2nd OP vs. simply being my support team! If you have any additional questions, please feel free to contact me at your earliest convenience. Other than that, hope to catch you OTA! — *Mike KD3MAD*



EMCOMM: the rough weather season approaches

The EmComm Training Organization is expecting to return to training operations in mid-March 2023. We're looking for people with general Winlink experience to help develop and write exercises. A background in EmComm is a plus but not required. This includes exercise writers but also separate exercise reviewers. And then we want to have a team of exercise testers.

Exercise Writers: This team works together to develop exercises from scratch or take previously implemented exercises and fashion them into a new exercise either totally new or repeat for emphasis on a training need.

Exercise Reviewers: One thing we've learned is to never

problems, etc. and report it back to the Exercise Writers.

The Writers Team and the Reviewer teams must work together in concert so you can expect to huddle with one group of writers or reviewers during one exercise and end up in a different set of writers and reviews in the next exercise. This idea is to mitigate burn-out through a general rotation process. Each team will have a designated volunteer lead/coordinator.

And something important; We recognize writing, especially from scratch, will inevitably contain errors. That's expected and a natural part of the development process. Getting the final text written in a way that is clear and concise as much as possible is the important part.



review your own exercise. The exercise review team reviews a newly developed exercise without the bias of having written it. One tends to naturally read-through their own writing mistakes since they are familiar with text and tend to overlook errors. A new and unfamiliar eye tends to find errors.

Exercise Testing Team: This is a new team. Before the exercise goes out to ETO members, it gets tested by a group of user volunteers. They "road-test" the exercise looking for any instruction confusion or misinterpretation, process errors or misdirection, and unforeseen execution

Interested? Have questions? If you are, please send an E-mail to eto.help.wanted@gmail.com. We'll organize a zoom meeting where we can answer questions and discuss an approach to achieving these important objectives based on the feedback we get from you. When a team forms up, we'll be able to do some easy exercises (I.E. ICS-213, Check-in, etc.) in a short period of time. Once a team gets comfortable with the process, they can advance into the more complex forms and exercise complexity. —Regards, The ETO Team; emcomm-training.org



Dauphin County restart of meetings

Bob Saber K3RTS, Dauphin County Emergency RACES Radio Officer indicated that in-person meetings will restart on the 4th Thursdays of the month at 1900L **starting on 23 March 2023**. Meetings will be at the Lower Paxton Township Municipal building at 425 Prince St., Harrisburg, PA 17109.

He also reports a county-wide drill will occur in April. Also, a possible ARRL Simulated Emergency Test (SET) in May.

STAY TUNED:
k3rts1@gmail.com
 or
ares.harrisburgpa@gmail.com

Dauphin County ARES Training Net: every Monday at 1900L on 145.110 (PL 131.8).

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100067020090800>

- “**Pennsylvania severe weather season**” — April through June.
- “**Tornado Season**” — March through June.
- “**Hurricane Season**” — June through November.

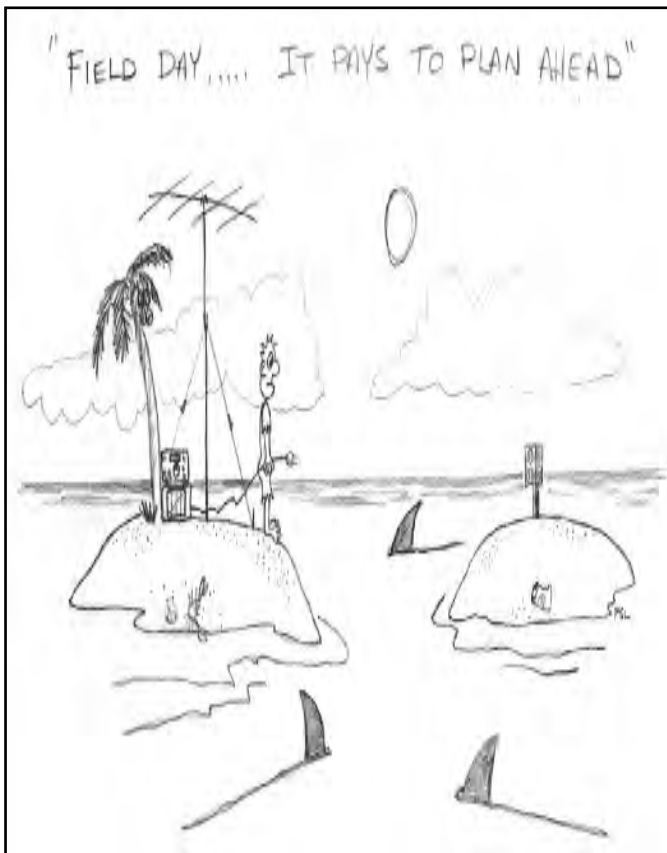
W3UU The Harrisburg Radio Amateurs Club, Inc.
President – Terry WB3BKN, Vice-President – Chuck KA1YSR
MINUTES OF THE February 8, 2023 MEETING



No minutes for this month's "meeting" — just a lot of food and fun. See page 5.

CONTESTING & etc. (continued from page 6)

**— ARRL Field Day is coming soon!
June 24-25, 2023 —**



18 APRIL

WORLD AMATEUR RADIO DAY

arri.org/world-amateur-radio-day

*Celebrating its 98th year.
Tuesday, 0000, 18 April — Wednesday, 0000, 19 April UTC.*



COMING SOON...

HARRISBURG RADIO AMATEURS CLUB

51st annual

FIRECRACKER

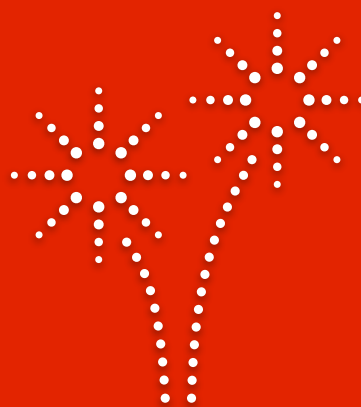
Electronics Expo and Hamfest

Saturday, July 1, 2023

Harrisburg Postal Employees Picnic Ground

1500 Roberts Valley Road • Harrisburg PA 17110

Longitude: -76.88492460 • Latitude: 40.34420060



MEMBERSHIP [] APPLICATION or [] RENEWAL FORM



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 The payee will appear as Dave Dormer. 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

Membership per year is: [] \$15.00, [] \$7.50 if over 65.

Family Membership per year is [] \$25.00 (Hams must reside in the same household.)

— Membership end 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.** and the use of its repeater, W3UU.

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 available in portable document format (PDF) only, **via email**, so a valid, updated email address is important!

Join the Gang!