



W3UU NEWSLETTER

— NOVEMBER 2023 —

Club Officers:

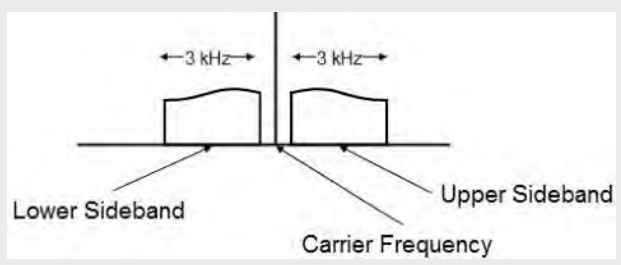
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Tim Lehman, W4NKC
w4nkc.hv@gmail.com

QST: NEXT MEETING is **WEDNESDAY, 8TH NOVEMBER**, 1830~2030L at the Vietnam Veterans of America Capital Chapter 542, 8000 Derry Street, Harrisburg, PA.

All are welcome! Business meeting at 1830-1900~, followed by **Elmer Time: Band Edge Blues**. An explanation of “band edge” and how it applies to good operating practice. Avoid the “Out Of Your Allowed Band” notice. (This is not a repeat. The last Elmer Time presentation was changed to open forum questions.) Terry, WB3BKN, will be the presenter.



Upcoming December meeting:

— **ELECTIONS** —

Your club needs you! Throw your hat in now!





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:

- November**8th, club meeting
- December**13th, club meeting ELECTIONS; cookie exchange.
.....16th, license testing (see page 4).
- January 2024**.....10th, club meeting.
.....13th, **WinterFest**
- February**14th, club meeting “Hamfest” at a local restaurant + “Ham of the Year Award”
.....17th, license testing (see page 4)
- March**.....13th, club meeting.
- April**10th, club meeting.
.....19th, license testing (see page 4).
- May**.....10th, club meeting



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/

HAM HISTORY

—100 years ago—

Two-Way Radio Communication

Hartford, Conn., Nov. 28.—Two-way amateur radio communication across the Atlantic Ocean was established for the first time last night, breaking all world records for short wave radio communication, the American Radio Relay League headquarters here announced to-day. Several complete messages were transmitted across the ocean in both directions between the French station 8-AB, operated by M. Leon Deloy, at Nice, France, and the American station 1-MO, operated by F. H. Schnell, traffic manager of the A. R. R. League in this city.

The Times Leader [Wilkes-Barre, PA], 29 November 1923, p. 15.



QST, November 1923, p. 17.

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Harrisburg Radio Amateurs Club News

Elections are coming in December.

K3URT@w3uu.org

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

★ "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.)

★ MEMBERSHIP MANAGER, Tim W4NKC, reports at the October 2023 meeting, there are 68 members, with 46 as members of ARRL, making 67.6% ARRL affiliation (no change from previous month).

★ ELMER TIME coordinator Steve, KC3VPJ, is looking for folks to step forward to inform and educate. No experience is necessary!

★ Contact: steve7shoe@gmail.com

September Elmer Time was presented by Terry, WB3BKN, opened up the floor for questions and discussions.

★ Another successful OKTOBERFEST for HRAC, Saturday, 28 October. See page 8 for select photographs and video.

W3UU - Harrisburg Radio Amateurs' Club OktoberFest

Saturday October 28th, 2023

OKTOBERFEST

Electronics Expo and Hamfest




Great weather, people, food, gear and a full lot! What more could you want?!

Thanks to the volunteers: K3FXA, K3URT*, KA1YSR*, KC3SXJ*, KC3VPJ, W3CWT, W4NKC, WB3BKN* (*Friday and Saturday).

NEXT: **WinterFest 2024**, Saturday, 13 January. Indoor • refreshments • gear • see page 11 for the flyer.

QUA HRAC? Send to: newsletter@w3uu.org

Deadline for the DECEMBER newsletter submission is by end of business day, Wednesday, **6 December, 2023.**

— 77 years service to the Capitol of Pennsylvania —

EMCOMM:

Dauphin County, PA
ARES/RACES



MEETING & NEWS

Bob Saber, K3RTS, Dauphin County ARES Emergency Coordinator and RACES Radio Officer announces in-person meetings are on the **4th Thursdays of the month at 1900L**. The **November and December meetings are cancelled due to the holidays**.

CONTACT:

☑ k3rts1@gmail.com

☑ ares.harrisburgpa@gmail.com

☑ **Dauphin County ARES Training Net:** every Monday at 1900L on 145.110 (W3ND, PL 131.8; emergency alternative: W3ND, 448.075, PL 123.0).

☑ **Facebook:** www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100067020090800

☑ **YouTube channel:** www.youtube.com/@dauphincountyares-races1195

- **EPA Simulated Emergency Test, SET**, was held in EPA and nationally on Saturday, 7 October. See ARRL: <http://www.arrl.org/news/view/2023-set-exercise-to-test-skills-and-emergency-preparedness>

Locally, the exercise was a success with many participating with the 2-part EPA SET and the American Red Cross Winlink exercises.

- Planning continues for the **Sunday, 5 November 10th Annual Swatara Hero's Run**. Dauphin County ARES/RACES will provide communications. Participants are encouraged to come dressed in their favorite hero's outfit.

This unique course takes you through the Harrisburg Mall, the Tecport business district and along Paxton Street. This will be the final event — make this the best year yet with your help!

Source: CRIMEWATCH@: <https://dauphin.crimewatchpa.com/swatarapd/3028/content/5k-hero-run-registration-now-open>

Dauphin County ARES/RACES is not affiliated with any club — but all are welcome!



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)
- ◆ 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.
- ◆ 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!

LICENSE TESTING: HRAC LAUREL VE

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 **by end of business day**.)

Testing is FREE*

**The next test session is
Saturday, 16 December, 2023, at:
Harrisburg Vietnam Veterans
of America, 8000 Derry St.,
Harrisburg, PA
promptly beginning at 0900L.**

**Laurel VE Testing is FREE; however, you are responsible for applicable fees to the FCC. "While applicants for a new license will need to pay the \$35 FCC application fee, there will be no FCC charge for future upgrades and administrative updates, such as a change of mailing or email address. Most current licensees, therefore, will not be charged the new FCC application fee until they renew their license or apply for a new vanity call sign." — ARRL, 4/4/2022.*

October 2023 test results:

We administered four tests: two Technician, two General; with two Technician successes, one General upgrade, one failure (pending FCC approval and applicable fees paid).

A "Job Well Done" to the VEs who made it happen:

Frank, KB3PQT	Curt, K3URT
Tim, W4NKC	George, AC3EA
Alex, KC3SXJ	

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



**HRAC Elections:
December meeting!**

ARRL Launches The NTS Letter

There's a new newsletter in the ARRL repertoire as of this month. The first issue of The NTS Letter was published on October 3, 2023. The NTS Letter is a monthly digest of all things related to the ARRL National Traffic System®. It is edited by Marcia Forde, KW1U, who is a veteran traffic handler and serves as the Section Traffic Manager for the ARRL Eastern and Western Massachusetts and Rhode Island Sections.

The NTS Letter is published monthly and is free of charge to ARRL members. Members can sub-

Did You Know?

Pennsylvania has 3.2% of the nations licensed amateur radio operators:

- 276.....Novice
- 10,630.....Technician
- 6,350.....General
- 1,292.....Advanced
- 5,575.....Extra
- Total:.....24,123.**

— www.arrl.org/fcc-license-counts as of 29 October 2023.

scribe at arrl.org/opt-in-out by selecting "edit" to view all of their subscription preferences (members need to be logged in to their ARRL website account to do this).

Other interesting articles worth noting (editors choice):

“Dipoles — A Domestic Secret Weapon” by Ward Silver, N0AX: www.onallbands.com/dipoles-a-domestic-secret-weapon/

“Junk Box Loading Coil” by Craig A La Barge, WB3GCK: <https://tinyurl.com/4fnmr7bh>

“72 Hours of Emergency Power on a Budget” by the venerable survivalist, Julian, OH8STN: <https://tinyurl.com/y2n4tmdf>

Geochron® announces an enhancement to its premium Digital 4K “Ham Radio Bundle” in December: “We’re enhancing our regional zoom feature with CQ and ITU overlays for the **Ham Radio Bundle**, plus the Moon’s sublunar point and visible projection,” says Patrick Bolan, KJ7ZSU, owner. <https://www.-geochron.com/>

BUYER BEWARE TIPS: items come from various places. Be a real Ham:

1. Thoroughly read the specifications to see if it is what you want for your operating needs.
2. Read reviews or talk to other experienced Hams.
3. What kind of service will you get if something goes wrong?
4. Some items are not “appliance” ready. You may have to make modifications or dig deep to get the results you want.
5. Buy from an authorized source!
6. RTFM.



ARRL Eastern Pennsylvania (EPA) Section

epa-arrl.org

Bob Wilson, W3BIG,
Section Manager

The Section consists of the counties of Adams, Berks, Bradford, Bucks, Carbon, Chester, Columbia, Cumberland, Dauphin, Delaware, Juniata, Lackawanna, Lancaster, Lebanon, Lehigh, Luzerne, Lycoming, Monroe, Montgomery, Montour, Northampton, Northumberland, Perry, Philadelphia, Pike, Schuylkill, Snyder, Sullivan, Susquehanna, Tioga, Union, Wayne, Wyoming, York.

ARRL Atlantic Division

www.atldiv.org

Bob Framiglio, K3RF, Director
The division consists of ARRL Sections Delaware, Maryland/DC, Southern New Jersey, Western Pennsylvania, Eastern Pennsylvania, Northern New York, and Western New York.

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.

W3UU The Harrisburg Radio Amateurs Club, Inc.
President – Terry [WB3BKN], Vice-President – Chuck [KA1YSR]



MEETING CALL TO ORDER:

The Wednesday, October 11, 2023, meeting of the Harrisburg Radio Amateur's Club, Inc. was called to order at 1840L by the President, Terry [WB3BKN], at the Vietnam Veterans Association Building, 8000 Derry St, Harrisburg, PA 17111.

INTRODUCTIONS BY NAME & CALL SIGN: seven individuals were present and introduced themselves briefly.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: September 2023 Minutes were opened for comments, questions, and corrections. Motion to Accept the September 2023 Secretary's Report as published in the October 2023 newsletter by Steve [KC3EEU]. George [AC3EA] seconded the motion; the attending membership approved the Meeting Minutes by voice vote.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Frank [K3FXA], unable to attend, presented the Treasurer's Report for September 2023 via email and read by Curt [K3URT]. Motion to Accept the Treasurer's Report by Steve [KC3EEU]. George [AC3EA] seconded the motion; the attending membership approved the Treasurer's Report by voice vote.

LICENSE TRUSTEE REPORT: Terry [WB3BKN] reported that there has been no news of complaints filed with the FCC. The club is looking for a new License Trustee, please let a Club Officer know if you are interested.

EQUIPMENT TRUSTEE REPORT: Terry [WB3BKN]. The club moved into a larger unit at the storage place.

LAUREL VE COMMITTEE: Lead VE Tim [W4NKC] reported that the next testing date is Saturday, October 21, 2023 at 0900L and that individuals must register by end-of-day the Friday before. Please arrive by 0830L in order to get checked in so that testing can start promptly at 0900L. The testing location is the Vietnam Veterans Association Building, 8000 Derry St, Harrisburg, PA 17111.

MINUTES OF THE October 11, 2023 MEETING

REPEATER COMMITTEE: Terry [WB3BKN] reported that there are no changes or new developments with the W3UU repeater.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE: Membership Chair Tim [W4NKC] reported that there are no changes to membership numbers from last month – 68 current members with 46 being ARRL members (67.6%). With more than 50% of our members also being ARRL members, we remain an ARRL Affiliated Club. **Reminder:** renewal of your membership starts January 2024. Tim will be sending out reminder notices in December 2023.

NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE: Curt [K3URT] reported that the next newsletter article deadline is by the close of business, Wednesday, November 1, 2023. Please send newsletter articles to newsletter@w3uu.org

WEB PAGE COMMITTEE: No report this month.

EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS – Curt [K3URT] reported for the Dauphin County ARES / RACES, that the ARRL October Simulated Emergency Test (SET) drill; combined with the American Red Cross drill, of October 7th, went well with good participation.

– Contact ares.harrisburgpa@gmail.com to be added to the e-mail list for updates and announcements.

– Dauphin County ARES / RACES Net meets every Monday at 1900L on the 145.110 repeater (Ellendale Forge, W3ND). All are welcome to participate in the Net.

– In-Person meetings are on the fourth Thursday of the month. Our next in-person meeting is 1900L on Thursday, October 26, 2023 at the Lower Paxton Township Building, 425 Prince St, Harrisburg.

– Participation in the Swatara Township Hero Run 5k, November 5, 2023, is planned by the group.

ELMER TIME: Elmer Time Coordinator, Steve [KC3VPJ] is looking for topics that we can match up with our experienced HAMs to present on. We had 7 people attend tonight's Elmer Time. The time was largely spent on HOA, and equipment opinions, with

general discussions. The planned presentation on band edges was cancelled since those members in attendance were well acquainted with the subject matter.

UPCOMING HAMFESTS: The next Hamfest for the club (and the last Hamfest for 2023) will be the October Hamfest on October 28, 2023. Volunteers are requested to come at 0500L to help set-up.

We will be starting off 2024 with the Winter Hamfest on January 13, 2024. More details to follow. Please contact Terry [WB3BKN] to volunteer.

It is with sad news that a regularly attending vendor, Sauder Electronics, has given notice that the business is up for sale, and will not be at future hamfests.

OLD BUSINESS: Curt [K3URT] reminded the attendees (via an email reminder), that the Keystone Award is active under the management of Frank [K3FXA]. Please contact him with your submissions. Details found at the club website: www.w3uu.org

NEW BUSINESS: None Reported.

FOR THE GOOD OF THE CLUB: None Reported.

ADJOURNMENT – A motion to adjourn by Tim [W4NKC] and seconded by George [AC3EA]. The business meeting closed at 2010L. Motion approved by all attendees.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED by Curt Sanders [K3URT] on behalf of Frank Aponte [K3FXA], Secretary, requested absent for the meeting.

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.

FCC club station license rule Title 47, Section 97.5: "The club must be composed of at least four persons and must have a name, a document of organization, management, and a primary purpose devoted to amateur service activities consistent with this part." In addition, the document of organization must be kept in the club's records and made available to the FCC upon request.



Short radials better than long radials.

KB9VBR demonstrates the use of using aluminum window mesh screen laid on the ground: <https://youtu.be/UadUg5H8KO8?si=NKMcGQIBFA-Vjr63> Product: <https://amzn.to/3L8UHWI>



Icom ID-50-A, D-Star HT dual band (2-70cm): visit your favorite ham radio store for pricing.

QRP rigs become more popular because of lower cost and portability:

•**QMX 5-band** (80, 40, 30, 20) CW and digital-mode QRP transceiver: <https://www.qrp-labs.com/qmx.html>

•**PMR-171 SDR (all band - 160 to 70cm) all mode:** <https://brushbeater.store/products/pmr-171-sdr-hf-vhf-uhf-transceiver>

•**FX-4CR SDR**, 80-6 meter bands; digital and SSB modes.

(Thank you **George, AC3EA**, for the eyeball look at this compact, well-built rig.) <https://bg2fx.com/fx-4cr-transceiver-prod>

• **Elecraft KH1 HF transceiver.** The U.S. made Rolls Royce of amateur radio rigs introduces its HT CW QRP transceiver; 5-bands, 40-15 meters. (If Elecraft keeps up with its own traditions, expect expansion modules for other features in the future.) <https://elecraft.com/products/kh1-transceiver>

• **Xiegu X6100 HF Transceiver.** Not a new rig, but still popular. 160-6 meter bands, CW, SSB, FM, RTTY, AM, FT8. <https://www.radioddity.com/collections/hf-transceiver/products/xiegu-x6100>

Ho Ho Ho
I bring you toys!



ARRL has a new book to help radio amateurs enjoy one of the fastest growing communities within the hobby.

The Parks on the Air Book gives you a look at the setups and processes of 14 operators from a variety of skill levels and backgrounds and offers advice and motivation for taking your radio out to a park. Each chapter includes a detailed gear list so you can see exactly what your fellow operators are using, whether they're leaders of the pack like Kerri Wright, KB3WAV, and Clint Sprott, W9AV, or folks just getting started with Parks on the Air. Setups cover satellite operating, QRP, urban backpack portable, activating tailgate-style, wire antennas for POTA, and more.

ARRL Item No. 1748, ISBN: 978-1-62595-174-8, \$22.95 retail; special ARRL Member price \$19.95.

Can't figure out what to get for your ham? Answer: gift certificate!

HRO: https://www.hamradio.com/gift_certificate.cfm

DX Engineering: <https://www.dx-engineering.com/giftcards>

GigaParts: <https://www.gigaparts.com/gigaparts-com-gift-card-2.html#>

MFJ: <https://mfjenterprises.com/collections/gift-card>

Stocking Stuffers from the ARRL store:

- ARES Deployment Vest
- End-Fed Half-Wave Antenna Kit
- ARRL Operation Manual, 12 ed.
- ARRL Multi-Tool Set
- Emergency Prep Checklist Flyer
- ARES Lantern
- Map of the World (Azimuthal)
- ARRL DXCC List
- Books (lots!)
- ARES Magnetic Sign

Sherwood Engineering Receiver Test Data

Here are a few top amateur radio rigs out there, tested by the pros.

Please review for yourself at: www.sherweng.com/table.html

- 1 Yaesu FTdx-101D/MP
- 2 FlexRadio Systems 6700
- 3 Yaesu FTdx10
- 4 Yaesu FT-710
- 5 Icom IC-R8600
- 6 Elecraft K3S
- 7 Elecraft K3S, 2nd Sample
- 8 Elecraft K3 (RX Gain Recal)
- 9 Icom IC-7851
- 10 Kenwood TS-890S
- 11 Hilberling PT-8000A
- 12 Elecraft KX3
- 13 Apache ANAN-7000DLE
- 14 Elecraft K4D
- 15 Yaesu FTdx-5000D

OKTOBERFEST Electronics Expo and Hamfest Harrisburg Radio Amateurs Club 10-28.23



Thanks to: Hamfest PA, <https://youtu.be/50KRtl2kqIY?si=SJINUMapGllndopE> [click on photo to open in your browser for the video]



CONTESTING et al



AIR FORCE MARS

75th Anniversary Special Event

5 – 11 November 2023



The Air Force Military Auxiliary Radio System (AFMARS) celebrates 75 years of service to United States Military and Civilian government organizations during November 2023. In observance of this milestone, the "Air Force MARS 75 Years" Special Event will include communications on Amateur HF bands (160-6) in the General License portion of the band and in the Technician License portion of 10 meters using SSB, CW and digital modes.

AFMARS Organization	FEMA Region	Call Sign
1 st AFMARS Communications Wing	Region 1 MA, NH, VT, CT, MA, RI	W1A
2 nd AFMARS Communications Wing	Region 2 NJ, NY	W1B
3 rd AFMARS Communications Wing	Region 3 DE, MD, DC, PA, VA, WV	W1C
4 th AFMARS Communications Wing	Region 4 AL, FL, GA, KY, MS, NC, SC, TN, PR-VI	W1D
5 th AFMARS Communications Wing	Region 5 IL, IN, MI, MN, OH, WI	W1E
6 th AFMARS Communications Wing	Region 6 AR, LA, NM, OK, TX	W1F
7 th AFMARS Communications Wing	Region 7 IA, KS, MO, NE	W1G
8 th AFMARS Communications Wing	Region 8 CO, MT, ND, SD, WY, UT	W1H
9 th AFMARS Communications Wing	Region 9 AZ, CA, NV, HI	W1J
10 th AFMARS Communications Wing	Region 10 AK, OR, WA, ID	W1K
Pentagon MARS Station	Region 3	K4AF
Travis AFB AFMARS Station	Region 9	KE6UEU

Those wishing to participate should listen for the above-listed stations (frequencies will vary by geographic region) and respond to the "Air Force MARS 75 Years CQ" calls.

Stations which have made a confirmed contact with one or more Communication Wings will be eligible to receive an electronic certificate. Stations contacting 5 wings will be awarded a "Bronze" endorsement. Contact with 10 wings will be denoted "Silver". Stations contacting all 10 Wings and the Pentagon and Travis AFB stations will receive "Gold" endorsements on their QSL Certificates.

NO QSL'S - CERTIFICATES ONLY

Certificates may be download from cert.elemcoshopfloor.com after November 30, 2023.

Event details, including schedules, bands, and modes are posted on the official AFMARS Web Site:

community.apan.org/wg/air-force-military-auxiliary-radio-system-afmars/afmars-75-years/ or URL shortcut: <https://tinyurl.com/5859r4vj>

All modes: SSB, CW, FT8; on Technician and General privileges portions of the 160-6 meter bands (no WARC or 60 meters).

Dates: 0001, Sunday, 5 November to 2359 to Sunday, 11 November 2023, UTC.

Contest Calendar

November:

Popular for the month:

- PODXS 070 Club Triple Play Low Band Sprint (11-13th).
- 10-10 Int. Fall Contest, Digital (11-12th).
- ARRL Sweepstakes Contest, SSB (18-20th).
- CQ Worldwide DX Contest, CW (25-26th).

◆ **ARRL Contest Calendar**

www.arrl.org/contest-calendar

◆ **ContestCalendar.com**

www.contestcalendar.com/contestcal.html

◆ **One-By-One special events (39 calls):** www.1x1callsigns.org

Popular for the month:

- 48th Anniversary, Sinking of the SS Edmund Fitzgerald (1st, 3 calls).
- AFMARS 75th Anniversary (5-11th, 10 calls) See details this page.
- Veteran's Day (4-11th, 5 calls)

◆ **State QSO Parties (7):**

www.contestcalendar.com/stateparties.html

State QSO Party Challenge: stateqsoparty.com

◆ **Contester Scores:**

www.3830scores.com/index.php

◆ **POTA:** parksontheair.com

◆ **SOTA:** www.sota.org.uk

◆ **VOTA:** vota.arrl.org/

◆ **WRTC (World Radiosport Team Championship):** wrtc.info/

◆ **The World Amateur Radio Contesting Association (WARCA)** published its annual ranking of all active international contesters.

The full ranking table for 2023 is available at: warca.org/22-23

◆ **[DX news.com](http://DXnews.com)**

NOTE: by worldwide "gentleman's agreement," there is never any contesting on: 60, 30, 17, and 12 meter bands!

QSL Bureau: US 3rd Call Area:

The [National Capitol DX Association](http://NationalCapitolDXAssociation.com) is the managing organization — Jack Ference, W3KX, W3 Incoming QSL Bureau Manager. Address:

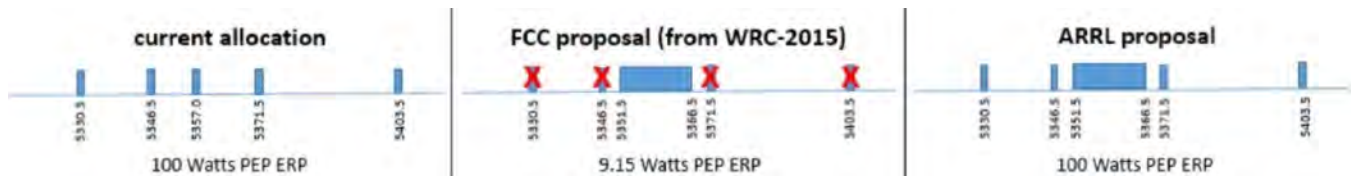
W3 Incoming QSL Bureau:
NCDXA
PO Box 190
Glenelg, MD 21737-0190

IMPORTANT: Please go to the NCDXA's website to identify who specifically is your card sorter, and for additional information!



Deadline Extended to November 28, 2023 for 60-Meter Comments

Amateur Privileges attacked again.



The deadline to file comments on the 60-meter band proposal has been extended by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to November 28, 2023. Replies to comments will be due December 28, 2023. The public comment period was originally to close October 30, 2023.

The ARRL strongly encourages all amateurs to submit comments expressing support to the FCC for the current 100 W ERP power limit (instead of reducing the power limit to 15 W EIRP) and continuing secondary access to the current channels.

ARRL has assembled a web page with instructions on how to submit your comments, as well as background information on the issue at, www.arrl.org/60-meter-band | DOCKET 23-120 [https://www.fcc.gov/ecfs/filings/standard?proceeding\[name\]=23-120](https://www.fcc.gov/ecfs/filings/standard?proceeding[name]=23-120)

FCC To Vote on Removing Symbol Rate Restrictions

“The ARRL welcomes news of a scheduled vote by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to consider removing symbol rate restrictions that restrict digital modes, foster inefficient spectrum use, and dampen incentives for innovation. The FCC Fact Sheet can be found online at, <https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/DOC-397992A1.pdf> .

In the draft Commission decision, the FCC would replace the current HF restrictions with a 2.8 kHz bandwidth limit. The Commission also announced that it will consider a Further Notice in which it will propose eliminating similar restrictions where they apply in other bands and consider relying on signal bandwidth limits. If both actions are adopted by the Commission, there will be a period for public comment on the Further Notice issues.

In announcing the proposed Commission actions, FCC Chairwoman Jessica Rosenworcel said that “We’re bolstering amateur radio. We will vote on a proposal to incentivize innovation and experimentation in the amateur radio bands by removing outdated restrictions and providing licenses with the flexibility to use modern digital emissions.”

ARRL requested and strongly supports replacing the symbol rate limits on the HF bands with a 2.8 kHz bandwidth limit. ARRL also supports eliminating the symbol rate limits in favor of the already-existing bandwidth limits where they apply on the VHF and UHF bands and eliminating the similar limits 2200 and 630-meter bands.

ARRL Director of Emergency Management Josh Johnston, KE5MHV, said the changes will result in a tremendous time savings during disasters, when every second counts. “We will be very pleased to have the FCC remove the restrictions on symbol rate for the amateur bands. This will eliminate the need for temporary waivers during an event and provide the ability to train and exercise using the higher symbol rate, allowing increased data capability to our served agencies and partners.”

Congresswoman Debbie Lesko (AZ-08) introduced The Amateur Radio Communications Improvement Act (H.R. 3241) on May 11, 2023, to require that the FCC eliminate the obsolete HF digital symbol rate limit with a 2.8 kHz bandwidth limit.

The Congresswoman subsequently addressed the issue with Chairwoman Rosenworcel in a Congressional oversight hearing. The changes are supported by many state emergency management officials.

ARRL will continue to engage on this matter.” — *ARRL Bulletin 28 ARLB028, 30 October 2023.*

When submitting comments to the FCC, be aware that:

✓Comments should include your name, address, etc.

✓You must include the docket number or rulemaking number of the proceeding for the corresponding comment. The docket number or rulemaking number of the proceeding can be found on the first page of the FCC document or Public Notice opening the proceeding.

✓You can file a comment both electronically and in paper format. *Electronic* comments must be filed by 0000 ET on the date of the comment deadline. *Written* comments must be filed by 1900 ET on the date of the comment deadline.

✓Comments you submit to the FCC will be made public.

E-Filing Address:

(Available for Docketed/Rulemaking Filings Only)

Comments filed through the Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS) can be sent as an electronic file via the Internet to ECFS. To get filing instructions for e-mail comments, commenters should send an e-mail to ecfs@fcc.gov and should include the following words in the body of the message: “get form” and your e-mail address. A sample form and directions will be sent in reply.

Filing in Paper Format

Printed copies of comments may be filed with the Commission no later than 1900 ET on the deadline date.

See https://www.fcc.gov/sites/default/files/how_to_comment_on_fcc_proceedings.pdf

W3UU - Harrisburg Radio Amateurs' Club WinterFest

Saturday January 13, 2024

WINTERFEST

Electronics Expo and Hamfest



Vietnam Veterans of America

8000 Derry Street

Harrisburg, PA 17101

7:00 am to 11:00 am



Admission **\$5.00** per person

Tables - **\$5.00** each.

DXCC/WAS/UCC QSL card checking on site

Coffee and snacks available

No reserved table space.

Unloading can be done at the main doors, and then move vehicle to parking area.

For further information contact:



Terry Snyder (WB3BKN)

PO Box 355

Halifax Pa 17032

717-896-0256

Web Site: www.w3uu.org



Save the Date! – W3UU FIRECRACKER Hamfest is July 6, 2024.

— HARRISBURG RADIO AMATEURS CLUB —

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!