W3UU NEWSLETTER
October 2026

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Tim Lehman, W4NKC
w4nkc.hv@gmail.com

QST: NEXT MEETING IS WEDNESDAY, October 14,1830-2030L at the Vietnam Veterans of America Capital Chapter 542, 8000 Derry Street, Harrisburg. All are welcome!

HRAC Celebrates 80 Years!

Sometimes there are things that can not go by without celebrating. One such thing is our club's 80th year anniversary. Our club as founded on July 1, 1946, and to commemorate this milestone we will be operating an on air special event,and you are all invited to participate.

The time frame for this event will be the first two weeks in November. To participate you need only to travel to your on radio shack, where you will work on your own schedule for all, or part of the two week period, at your convenience. In other words, when you have enough time to sit for a while and handle some contacts. You will use the club call sign W3UU/A, B, C etc. Logging will be done on a logging program that will be networked so that we all log to the same database.

We will be active on any band that you are licensed to operate, on any mode that you like to operate. We will be excluding repeater contacts, however, simplex operation on VHF and UHF bands is encouraged. HF bands and modes that your license allows will probably be your best bet.. Spot yourself on DX clusters etc..

At the end of the two weeks the contacted stations will be sent a certificate showing the W3UU operators that were contacted by that station.

How you can participate. Contact me by text at 717-979-9515 because email has become too over saturated with unsolicited emails, and your emails will most likely be lost. Be sure to include your call sign, your level of license and your name, and any other ideas I should consider.

When it finishes, assistance will be needed to sort through the contacts and send out certificates.

Lets have some fun with this event.

Terry WB3BKN

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Showing Off the Club Trailer

Club President Terry, WB3BKN, took the club's field operations trailer to the September 24 meeting of Tom Shingara's repeater group at the Hibachi Grill in Harrisburg. He invited attendees to see how the trailer was equipped and talked about how the club uses it for field days and other events. About 30 hams showed up for the tour of the trailer. We were on the air and people took turns on the radios. Contacts were made across the country, mostly on 20m. We were on 20, 40, and 15m.









Hams touring the trailer and making contacts after lunch.

W3UU - Harrisburg Radio Amateurs Club Oktoberfest

Saturday, October 24, 2026



OKTOBERFEST

Electronics Expo and Hamfest

Vietnam Veterans of America #542
8000 Derry Street
Harrisburg, PA 17111
6:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. ET

- Admission $5.00 per person
- Sellers can tailgate in parking lot or table(s) inside
- Tables inside - additional $5.00 each
- Tailgate spot - additional $5.00 each

The more tickets you buy the better chances of winning prizes!

No reserved table space unless authorized*

Unloading can be done at the main doors
Then move vehicle to parking area

For further information contact:

*Terry Snyder
Phone: 717-979-9515
Mailing: PO Box 355
Halifax, PA 17032
Email: WB3BKN1@gmail.com
Website: www.w3uu.org



80 years service to the Capital of Pennsylvania

Get Ready for the 2026 Pennsylvania QSO Party!

It's time to fire up the radios for the 70th running of the Pennsylvania QSO Party—the Friendly QSO Party! Join the action October 10 from 1600Z to October 11 at 0400Z, then return October 11 from 1300Z to 2200Z.

Pennsylvania stations: send a serial number and your county. Out-of-state stations: send a serial number and your ARRL section. Work each station once per band and mode—and be ready to chase mobiles and rovers again each time they enter a new county!

All 67 Pennsylvania counties are expected to be on the air! Watch https://paqso.org/--party-plans-and-aids.html for the latest operating plans and start building your strategy.

We're excited to announce K3ZMC as the 2026 Bonus Station, celebrating 50 years of organized amateur radio in the Pottstown area of Montgomery County, Pennsylvania. Every contact with K3ZMC earns an impressive 200 points—so listen closely and don't miss your chance!

New for 2026—team up and compete! Single Operators can now form teams of two to four people in one of four geographic groupings:

- Inside PA
- Continental US Outside of PA
- Canada
- DX

Compete together for special certificates and add a new dimension to your QSO Party experience. Teams must pre-register at https://paqso.org/--team-registration.php.

More bands, more contacts, more ways to win! The Pennsylvania QSO Party Awards include special incentives for activity on 20M, 15M, and 10M:

- Ten plaques for the most valid contacts made by stations operating from Pennsylvania on 20M through 10M
- Certificates for stations operating from Pennsylvania for working all the sections in various regions of the country. Up to six separate regional sweeps can be achieved
- Certificates for instate participants will include endorsements for valid QSOs with participants in 50 or more sections
- Record score listings have been expanded to include the highest number of valid QSOs on 20M through 10M for Single-Operator and Multi-Operator entries in each county and overall

Ready to plan your winning effort? Visit https://www.paqso.org/index.html for the complete rules, awards and certificate details, county and section abbreviations, operating aids, past results, and log-submission instructions.

Mark your calendar, get on the air, and join us October 10–11 for the 2026 Pennsylvania QSO Party. We can't wait to work you!

73,

Pa QSO Party Association
https://www.paqso.org/

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 amont 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 is always the Saturday before the first Sunday in July. During the hamfest, you may hear special event station W3UU from the hamfest tailgating area. We set up and operate W3UU to demonstrate amate;ur 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 2026-27:

October.....14th, club meeting
.....17th, license testing
.....24th, Oktoberfest
November.....11th, club meeting
December.....9th, cookie exchange
.....19th, license testing
January.....13th, club meeting
.....16th, Winterfest
February.....10th, club meeting
.....20th, license testing
March.....10th. club meeting
April.....14th, club meeting
.....17th, license testing
May.....12th, club meeting
June.....9th, club meeting
.....19th, license testing

Club Station W3UU

Repeater Frequency:
146.760 MHz, minus .600 MHz offset
Repeater CTCSS Tone:
100.0 Hz (Encole/Decode)
Weekly Net: Wednesdays at 1900L, except 2nd Wednesday of the month
Website: W3UU.org
Facebook:
www.facebook.com/Harrisburg-Radio-Amateurs-Club-208171495915056

DA FINE PRINT

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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. URLs are verified a few days prior to publication.

HARRISBURG RADIO AMATEURS CLUB NEWS

WEDNESDAY NIGHT NET: Would you like to have an opportunity to operate the HRAC Weekly Net on the W3UU repeater? Overcome "mike fright" and gain operating experience. It's easier than you think!

Open to licensed HRAC members, the HRAC Weekly Net is held every Wednesday evening except the 2nd Wednesday of the month (club meeting night at 1830L).

If you are interested in serving as Net Control, contact Curt: K3URT@mac.com. Get on the air! If we get a cohort of volunteers, the duty will be spread out on a rotating basis.

ELMER TIME coordinator **Steve, KC3VPJ**, is looking for folks to step forward to inform and educate. No experience necessary! Contact: steve7shoe@gmail.com.

Steve, KC3VPJ, brought his drone and led a discussion on how drones can be used to deploy long wire antennas and as a way to carry repeaters and antennas to higher elevations, thus expanding the horizon for line of sight transmissions.

AMATEUR RADIO HISTORY OCTOBER THROUGH THE YEARS

October 16, 1924 — United Kingdom–New Zealand amateur radio contact

Cecil Goyder, G2SZ, in England worked Frank Bell, ZL4AA/ZL4AAA, in New Zealand. This was one of the remarkable early intercontinental contacts demonstrating that amateur shortwave signals could span enormous distances. Wiarc
The contact was particularly significant because it helped establish that the emerging shortwave bands weren't merely useful for transatlantic communication—they could connect amateurs on opposite sides of the planet.

October 1, 1919 — Amateur radio returns to the air in the United States

After being shut down during World War I, U.S. amateur radio service was officially permitted to resume. This was a major turning point: the postwar era brought rapid development of vacuum-tube equipment and eventually the explosion of shortwave amateur radio.

October 1924 — The era of intercontinental amateur radio really takes off

During 1924, amateurs demonstrated communications between North and South America, South America and New Zealand, North America and New Zealand, and Britain and New Zealand. These experiments helped establish the foundation for the international amateur-radio system we recognize today.

W3UU The Harrisburg Radio Amateurs' Club, Inc.

President - Terry [WB3BKN], Vice-President - Chuck [KA1YSR]

MINUTES OF THE Septermer 9, 2026 MEETING

MEETING CALL TO ORDER: The Wednesday, September 9, 2026, meeting of the Harrisburg Radio Amateur's Club, Inc. was called to order at 1918L by the President, Terry [WB3BKN], at the Vietnam Veterans of America Post 542, 8000 Derry St, Harrisburg, PA 17111.

INTRODUCTIONS: 16 individuals were present and introduced themselves by name and callsign.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: The August 2026 Meeting Minutes were opened for comments, questions, and corrections. Motion to Accept the August 2026 Secretary's Report as published to the HRAC / W3UU Website by Joe [K3SZH] and seconded by Bob [K3MPB]. The attending membership approved the Meeting Minutes by voice vote.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Frank [K3FXA] presented the Treasurer's Report for August 2026. Motion to Accept the August 2026 Treasurer's Report by Tim [W4NKC] and seconded by Chuck [KA1YSR]. The attending membership approved the Treasurer's Report by voice vote.

LICENSE TRUSTEE REPORT: Dave [KC3MG] reported that there have been no issues with our license.

EQUIPMENT TRUSTEE REPORT: Terry [WB3BKN] had nothing new to report.

LAUREL VE COMMITTEE: VE Tim [W4NKC] reported that the next testing date Saturday, October 17, 2026, at 0900L and that individuals must register by 1800L on Wednesday October 14, 2026. Please arrive by 0830L on test day to get checked in so that testing can start promptly at 0900L. The testing location is the Vietnam Veterans of America Post 542, 8000 Derry St, Harrisburg, PA 17111.

REPEATER COMMITTEE: Terry [WB3BKN] reported that you may have heard our repeater talking more than it used to. Our controller with more than a few nice features has been installed. We are hoping to get it to talk about the weather soon.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE: Membership Chair Tim [W4NKC] reported that we have 59 members. With more than 50% of our members also being ARRL members, we remain an ARRL Affiliated Club.

WEB PAGE COMMITTEE: Please send content and ideas to Webmaster Rick [K2RBT]. Please send updates and news items to Rick [K2RBT]. If you would like to volunteer some time as an admin for the club's Facebook page, please contact Terry [WB3BKN].

EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS:

•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 at the Lower Paxton Township Building, 425 Prince St, Harrisburg.

ELMER TIME: Tonight's Elmer Time topic was Drones and Amateur Radio. Steve [KC3VPJ] did a great job walking us through the different things that he has used his drones for and how other amateurs have used theirs. He also covered topics like FAA Part 107 licensing, drone repeaters, and airborne antennas. Elmer Time Coordinator Steve [KC3VPJ] is always looking for topics that we can match up with our experienced HAMs to present on. He passed out a nice list of possible topics that we can take turns signing up for.

CLUB NEWSLETTER: Steve [KC3VPJ] is leading the charge for the newest incarnation of the HRAC Monthly Newsletter, so if you have information to add to the newsletter or have ideas for things that you would like to see in it, please contact Steve.

FIELD DAY: The next Field Day will be Winter Field Day and it will be held on January 23 and 24, 2026. Preparations are starting now, so if you would like to volunteer or have any ideas for community outreach, please contact our HRAC Field Day coordinator Steve [KC3VPJ].

UPCOMING HAMFESTS: The next Hamfests for the club will be the Oktoberfest Hamfest on October 24, 2026 and the Winterfest Hamfest on January 9, 2027. Please contact Terry [WB3BKN] to volunteer. Note that attendees can buy extra tickets to a better chance in the main prize raffle and are not limited to their entry ticket.

OLD CLUB BUSINESS: The new laptop is in and has been set up to be used for the next outing.

NEW CLUB BUSINESS: Nothing to report.

FOR THE GOOD OF THE CLUB: Terry [WB3BKN] led a discussion about the club's 80th anniversary event. We are looking to have an event take place over the first two weeks of November. All bands, all modes, and we will be looking at Internet based logging software so that we can all log our contacts together. More to come at the October 2026 meeting. Please contact Terry [WB3BKN] to sign up for the event!

ADJOURNMENT: A motion to adjourn was made by Steve [KC3VPJ] and seconded by Paul [KA3SGY]. The business meeting closed at 1958L with approval by all attendees by voice vote.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED by Frank Aponte [K3FXA], 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. 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.*

Can You Still Pass the Technician Exam?

Think you've still got what it takes to earn your Technician license? Each month we'll feature a few questions from the current Technician Class question pool. See how you do before checking the answers below. This month's questions are on antennas.

1. What happens to the total resistance of a parallel circuit when another resistor is connected in parallel?
   A. It increases
   B. It decreases
   C. It stays the same
   D. It becomes the average of the resistors
2. What formula is used to calculate electrical power in watts?
   A. Power = Voltage × Current
   B. Power = Voltage ÷ Current
   C. Power = Current ÷ Resistance
   D. Power = Resistance × Current
3. What is the voltage across each branch of a parallel circuit?
   A. It is divided equally among the branches.
   B. It is the same as the source voltage.
   C. It depends on the resistance of each branch.
   D. It is always zero.
4. In a series circuit, what is the same through every component?
   A. Voltage
   B. Resistance
   C. Current
   D. Power
5. According to Ohm's Law, what is the current in a circuit with 24 volts applied to a resistance of 8 ohms?
   A. 2 amperes
   B. 3 amperes
   C. 8 amperes
   D. 32 amperes

Answers:
1-B, 2-A, 3-B, 4-C, 5-B

LOCAL AREA NETS (All times are local)

MONDAYS
- 1900: ®145.110 MHz, 132.8 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, 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 third Wednesday)
- 2000: ®145.210 MHz, 123.0 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 Tone, FM, W3AD, Lancaster Transmitting Society net

FRIDAYS

SATURDAYS
- 0900: 7.068 MHz, Mid-Atlantic NBEMS Training Net, Thor32. https://groups.io/g/MidAtlanticNBEMS
- 2030: 146.580 MHz, simplex, FM, Lancaster County

SUNDAYS
- 0730: 3.580 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 net, 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 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 the test date by end of business day.)

Testing is FREE*

The next test session is Saturday, October 17, 2026 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

EMCOMM

Dauphin County, PA
ARES/RACES

Meeting & News

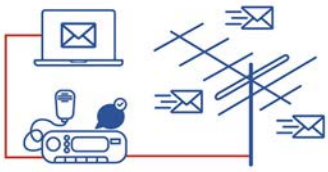
Bob Saber, K3RTS, Dauphin County ARES Emergency Coordinator and RACES Radio Officer announces in-person meetings are on the **4th Thursdays of the month at 1900L, at the Lower Paxton Township Building, 425 Prince St., Harrisburg, PA 17109.**

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/@dauphincountyaresraces1195







NATIONAL TRAFFIC SYSTEM, NTS 2.0: "The National Traffic System (NTS) is an organized network of amateur radio operators sponsored by the American Radio Relay League for the purpose of relaying messages throughout the U.S. and Canada." See https://nts2.arrl.org/ for more information.
EPA Section Traffic Manager is Tom Inman, KC8T.

NET	FREQUENCY	TIME
EPA Emergency Phone & Traffic Net	3918 kHz	1700 ET Daily
WPA Emergency Phone & Traffic Net	3918 kHz	1730 ET Daily
Pennsylvania Traffic Net	3585 kHz	1900 ET Daily

SKYWARN™

Learn more about SkyWarn at: www.weather.gov/SKYWARN
The Central Pennsylvania SkyWarn Group net is every Wednesday at 2100L on the W3ND 145.110 MHz repeater: 31.8 Hz Tone.

Central Pennsylvania SkyWarn™ Facebook page

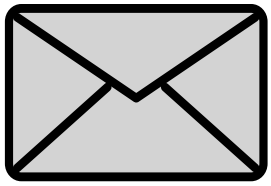
March thru September is severe weather season for Pennsylvania.

Basic SKYWARN Training @ Millersville University
Wednesday, April 1, 2026 1700-1900L
Science Lane, Millersville, PA 17551
This is a basic SKYWARN spotter talk for new and returning spotters to familiarize themselves with the latest training materials. No registration is required. This training will be held at Millersville University in the Caputo building room 210.

The Dauphin County ARES/RACES conducted the annual **Simulated Emergency Test (SET)** from the county Emergency Operating Center (EOC) in Steelton, October 4, 2026.
There were two check-ins: 0900-1000 on the 145.110 repeater conducted by K3RTS; collecting 20 contacts. From 1000-1100 a simplex check-in was conducted on 147.470 MHz by K3URT; there were 5 contacts, 2 were relays.
This was the first time Dauphin ARES/RACES conducted an exercise from the EOC. A report was sent to the ARRL EPA coordinator and to the officials at the EOC.

· 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 ends December 31 of the year —

NAME _____ CALL SIGN _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP CODE _____

PHONE _____ EMAIL* _____

ARRL Member? [ ] YES [ ] NO YEAR FIRST LICENSED _____

SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____



I agree to abide by the by-laws and guidelines of the membership of the Harrisburg Radio Amateurs' 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!

80 years service to the Capital of Pennsylvania