



June 2012

The HARC Spark

The Official Newsletter of the
Holmesburg Amateur Radio Club
WM3PEN 146.685 Mhz Repeater
K3RJC 444.9 Mhz Repeater
K3FI CLUB CALLS WM3PEN
Web Site <http://www.harcnet.org>



**HARC Meeting
June 28th 8 PM
Field Day Wrap
13 Colonies Prep
8th District Police Station
Academy & Red Lion Rds**

**HARC FIELD DAY LOCATION
Alverthorpe Park off of Jenkintown Rd.**

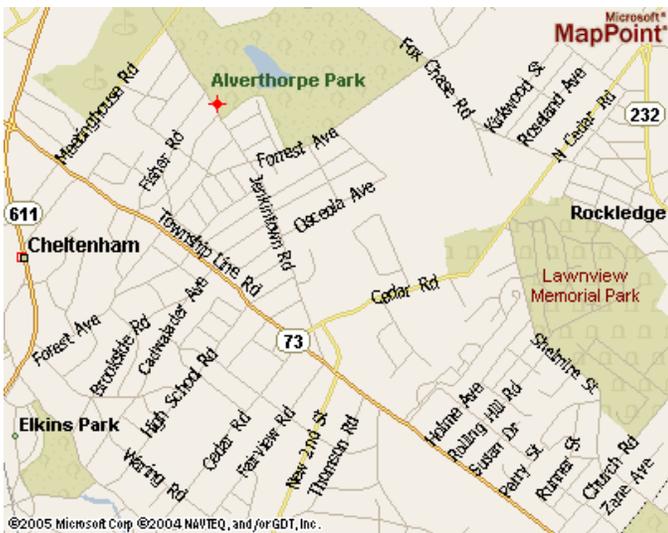
**FIELD DAY
June 23 -24
Alverthorpe Park**

Field Day is a picnic, a campout, practice for emergencies, an informal contest and, most of all, FUN! ARRL Field Day is the single most popular on-the-air event held annually in the US and Canada. On the fourth weekend of June of each year, more than 35,000 radio amateurs gather with their clubs, groups or simply with friends to operate from remote locations.

It is a time where many aspects of Amateur Radio come together to highlight our many roles. While some will treat it as a contest, other groups use the opportunity to practice their emergency response capabilities. It is an excellent opportunity to demonstrate Amateur Radio to the organizations that Amateur Radio might serve in an emergency, as well as the general public. For many clubs, ARRL Field Day is one of the highlights of their annual calendar.

The contest part is simply to contact as many other stations as possible and to learn to operate our radio gear in abnormal situations and less than optimal conditions.

We use these same skills when we help with events such as marathons and bike-a-thons; fund-raisers such as walk-a-thons; celebrations such as parades; and exhibits at fairs, malls and museums — these are all large, preplanned, non-emergency activities. But despite the development of very complex, modern communications systems — or maybe because they ARE so complex — ham radio has been called into action again and again to provide communications in crises when it really matters. Amateur Radio people (also called “hams”) are well known for our communications support in real disaster and post-disaster situations.



FIELD DAY BONUS POINTS

Field Day stations are eligible for bonus points. Here are some of the points that we expect to earn.

- Emergency Power – 300 points (100/xmtr)
- Media Publicity – 100 points – KYW1060.
- Public Location – Alverthorpe Park 100 points
- Public Information Table – 100 points
- Message to Section Manager – 100 points
- W1AW Bulletin copied – 100 points
- Others may be earned



www.arrl.org

HARC Board of Directors

President - Mike Wurgley, N3LXN
Treasurer - Bob Josuweit, WA3PZO
Membership - Charley Johnson, K3CJ
Technical - Ron Cardullo, K3RJC
Member-at-Large - Sol Volen, N3UBY
Webmaster - Rich Shivers, AB3EO
UPARC Rep - Mike Feeley, KB3NDC
Newsletter Editor - Bob Josuweit, WA3PZO
WM3PEN @ AOL.COM

H.A.R.C. Monthly Meetings - The Board of Directors meets on the 2nd Thursday @ 7:30 PM (Odd number months). General meetings are held the 4th. Thursday @8:00 PM. 8th District Police Station, Red Lion & Academy Rd. Phila PA. No meeting in August.

HARC MEETING LOCATION 8TH District Police Station



H.A.R.C maintains the 146.685 repeater located @ Univ. of PA., Phila PA with inputs in Abington, N.E. Phila, and Cherry Hill, NJ; More Club Information & Member Applications can be had by contacting any of the Directors via E-mail. WM3PEN@arrl.net, the web page <http://www.harcnet.org> or writing to HARC 3341 Sheffield Ave, Philadelphia, PA 19136.

PHILA ARES INFORMATION

All amateurs interested in participating should check into the Phila ARES Net, Sunday's at 9:00 PM, hosted on the Phil-Mont Repeater System; 147.030 MHz (+offset 91.5 PL) ;444.80 MHz (+offset 186.2 PL) When control operators are available, Echolink node 29742, WU3I-L, is on the repeater. Backup link is KB3IV-L.

All interested amateurs are welcomed and encouraged to check in for more information. There is always a different topic of interest to the amateur community discussed with an informal round table of comments and suggestions.

Look forward to having all check in on Sunday nights @ 9:00 pm. See web site for more information.

- Visit the Philadelphia ARES web site <http://www.harcnet.org/aresindex.html>



VE SESSIONS

PhilMont Mobile Radio Club has testing in Ambler, PA on the 4th Thursday of every month. Exams , 1414 E. Butler Pike in Ambler, PA.

Registration begins at 7pm.

Warminster Amateur Radio Club has testing the last Wednesday evening of each month except August and December. The sessions are at the Warminster Recreational and Educational Center on Little Lane, and start promptly at 7:00 PM (registration 6:45 PM).

Bryn Mawr - quarterly on a Saturday. Contact Bob Lees, W3ZQN, rjlees@aol.com

HF AWARDS MANAGER

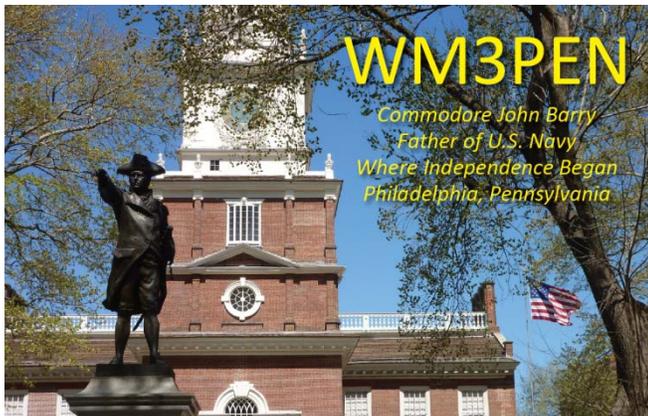
Are you getting close to having all 50 states confirmed for the Worked All States award or working enough grid squares for to qualify for the VUCC Award? As a HARC service you can now have your QSL cards verified by Bob, WA3PZO, and not have to ship the cards to ARRL Headquarters. You must be an ARRL member to qualify for the awards. Additional information and links can be found on the HARC website (www.harcnet.org)

Going for Extra? The new **Amateur Extra class (Element 4) question pool** becomes effective on Sunday, July 1. This new question pool -- including graphics and diagrams -- will remain valid until June 30, 2016. The new Amateur Extra pool contains 702 questions, from which 50 are selected for an Element 4 examination. As of June 13, three questions -- E1D09, E2A14 and E6E10 -- have been **removed** from the new pool. The **current Technician class question pool** that became effective July 1, 2010 is valid through June 30, 2014. The **current General class pool** that became effective July 1, 2011 is valid until June 30, 2015.

HARC Makes Plans for 13 Colonies Special Event

The 2012, 13 Colonies Special Event is fast approaching. Saturday June 30 9 AM until 11:59 PM Thursday, July 5 EDT. HARC members are already signed up to operate and we need more. Last year we made over 1200 contacts and with an extra day we should make even more. Activity will be primarily on HF, but there are also opportunities to operate on VHF as well. If there is interest in operating on V/UHF then we need some lead time to get the word out to the local clubs.

The theme for the 2012 event is Colonial Era US Naval Ships. WM3PEN will again be a bonus station honoring Commodore John Barry, Father of the U.S. Navy. Barry was born in Ireland. He resided and died in Philadelphia. He wrote a Signal Book which established a set of signals used for effective communication between ships. Special Event QSL cards were ordered this month. WA3PZO has worked with the event manager on updating information. In addition WA3PZO submitted an article on special event stations to CQ Magazine.



2012 Meeting Topics

June 28 – Field Day Recap/13 Colonies update

July – No meeting. 13 Colonies S/E 6/30 – 7/5

August 19 – HARC Picnic



Poor Man's Paddle UPDATE

Rich, AB3EO, has been busy making the prototype. He's found it takes a bit more work than the instructions indicate. However by doing it once we'll be better prepared when we have our kit building event.

Physical assembly goes pretty quick. A hot iron is needed to solder the boards together, and a third hand to hold them. I used a little glue first. Takes a lot more time to make the pieces, filing notches, cleaning edges with the file.

Tools so far:

tin snips (initial cutting)

hand brake, or vise, parallel jaw pliers; something to flatten the pieces after they are cut with tin snips.

flat file

rat tail file

sand paper

drill (not sure of bit sizes)

flat screwdriver

5/16 nut driver

small dike cutter

fine needle nose pliers

heavy soldering iron

light soldering iron

solder

lighter fluid (to clean adhesive off the board)

Dremel tool with cutoff wheel (used to cut a trace on the board, they suggested hacksaw blade, flat file on edge could work)



The **ORIGINAL**
"Social Network"

Ham Radio!

www.Hello-Radio.org

PA Amateur Radio Month

EPA ARRL State Government Liaison Fred Serota, K3BHX, was instrumental in getting the Governor to declare June Amateur Radio Month in Pennsylvania. According to the ARRL, proclamations for either amateur radio week or amateur radio month have been issued in NH, AL, MN, OK, NE, MI, RI, LA, PA, VT, SC, and VA.

THE GOVERNOR

GREETINGS:

It gives me great pleasure to join with the citizens of Pennsylvania in supporting June 2012 as "Amateur Radio Month".

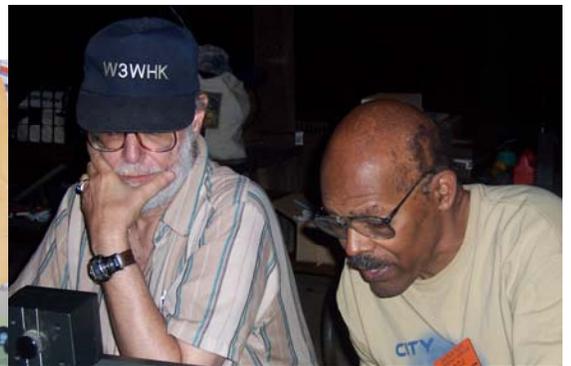
Thousands of our Commonwealth's citizens have been licensed by the Federal Communications Commission as Amateur Radio operators. These dedicated volunteers, also known as Hams, have been providing vital supplemental communications to their communities during times of natural disasters, in local emergencies, and at public events since wireless radio's earliest days. These individuals work without compensation in the best interests of our Commonwealth and world—they are on the alert for any local or global emergency and are committed to being a critical resource in our Homeland Security efforts.

As Governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, I am proud to support June 2012 as "Amateur Radio Month". I thank the many men and women across the state that promote international goodwill, encourage young people to pursue an education and careers in scientific, engineering, and liberal arts fields, and expand state-of-the-art communications and electronics through experimentation in the field of Amateur Radio.



TOM CORBETT

Governor
June 2012



Pennsylvania "67" Challenge Award

Amateur Radio operators around the world have the opportunity to participate in the Pennsylvania "67" Challenge. The Challenge, sponsored by the Holmesburg Amateur Radio Club, is to make contact with all 67 Pennsylvania Counties.

The Challenge is open to all amateur radio operators regardless of individual station capabilities. All contacts must be 2-way communications made in real time. These contacts may be on any Amateur Radio band/mode.

Contacts made using repeating devices such as FM repeaters, Amateur satellites, moon-bounce, and keyboard-to-keyboard contacts through digipeaters/nodes are valid, because these QSOs are made in real or near-real time. Contacts using IRLP, Echolink, or D-Star are valid as long as a radio is being used by both operators. All contacts must be made from the same county.

As an incentive Pennsylvania "67" Challenge certificates may be earned by working stations in 20, 40, 60, or all 67 Counties. Paper or electronic QSLs are acceptable. The contacts can be verified by a local club officer or mailed to the Holmesburg Amateur Radio Club.

HARC Award Manager Bob Josuweit, WA3PZO said there was a need to have a County Challenge in Pennsylvania that was within the reach of most hams in Pennsylvania. When other state awards lost their sponsorship it was an opportunity for the Holmesburg Amateur Radio Club to fill the void.

Complete rules will be posted on the HARC website. Questions on the Award can be directed to HARC at WM3PEN@ARRL.NET.

Field Day Antenna Work

Thanks to Carl, N3ZZK, and Mark, KC3JV, for making some repairs to the Field Day beam and vertical antennas.



Repeater Antenna



A new antenna has been purchased for the repeater's main site antenna. The antenna is a CommScope 138-150 Mhz 6db/9db folded dipole antenna that is similar to the antenna shown. The \$730 antenna purchase was made possible by your donations over the past few months. An install date has not been set at this time.

HARC SHORTS!

- HARC ARRL Special Service Club appointment has been renewed. More next issue.
- WM3PEN and WA3PZO received a qsl card from Malpelo Island, HK0NA
- QSLs received by club members include 6H6IARU (Mexico special event), EK6TA (Armenia), JT1CO (Mongolia)



HOLMESBURG AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
3341 Sheffield Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19136
"Serving the Community Through Ham Radio"

Club Meeting – June 28 – Field Day Recap/13 Colonies update
Field Day – June 23-24



HOLMESBURG AMATEUR RADIO CLUB MEMBERSHIP FORM

HARC, 3341 Sheffield Ave, PHILADELPHIA, PA 19136
<http://www.harcnet.org>
WM3PEN/K3FI



All members in good standing are eligible to vote and hold a board office. Dues are \$20.00/year.
Make checks payable to H.A.R.C. and mail to 3341 Sheffield Ave, Philadelphia, PA 19136.

NAME _____ CALL _____

ADDRESS _____

City, State, Zip _____

Telephone # _____ Would you be willing to receive the newsletter via email? ____

E-mail _____

Are you an ARRL member? YES NO Membership Expires (mm/yy) _____