

August 2010

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 IS RADIO ACTIVE!

New Events

Plans being made for Special Event July 2011

Field Day '10

Club members took to the field again this year for this year's ARRL Field Day. Club members were met with hot humid weather. K3FI ran three transmitters. One on 20, 15, and 10; one on 40 meters, and the other on 80 meters. The HARC Diner was staffed by Sol, N3UBY. Charlie, K3CJ, compiled all of the logs and submitted the Club score to ARRL. His report follows:

Participants: 15 Club/Group Name:
Holmesburg ARC

Power Source(s): Generator

Power Multiplier: 2X

Bonus Points:

100% Emergency power 300

Media Publicity 100

Set-up in Public Place 100

Information Booth 100

NTS message to ARRL SM/SEC 100

W1AW Field Day Message 100

Submitted via the Web 50

Total Bonus Points 850

Score Summary:

CW Digital Phone Total

Total QSOs 32 0 340

Total Points 64 0 340 404

Claimed Score = 808 (404 x 2 pwr level)



Repeater Moved to Northeast Site

HARC's repeater has been moved to the NE Philadelphia site. It is running at low power at the moment because of some desensing on the receiver. Technical Chairman Ron, K3RJC, says "We blew the ARR preamp so the repeater is running without a preamp on the receiver (and hearing quite well despite the desense). I did not want to run the power amplifier because of the desense. The preamp is being repaired." At the moment the repeater is running at 12 watts. Once the preamp is repaired the amplifier will be turned on. The repeater is currently working as a single site repeater.

Efforts are still being made to gain access to the roof at the main site so that repairs can be made there. The repeater was installed with the help of K3RJC, AB3EO, and N3LXN.

HARC in the PARK It's picnic time!

August is a time to be outside with friends and family. HARC will be hosting it's annual day in the Park on Sunday, August 22 from noon until?

The Picnic in the Park will be held in Pennypack Park. Use the Rhawn Street Entrance just west of Rowland Ave. We're planning on being in the first pavilion after you pass through the gates.

There will be hamburgers, hot dogs, chips, and drinks. Feel free to bring a side dish or dessert. Spouse, family, and significant others invited. We'll also have a drawing for a gift card as well.

RSVP to WM3PEN@aol.com so we can plan the food.

HARC Board of Directors

President - Mike Wurgley, N3LXN
 Treasurer - Bob Josuweit, WA3PZO
 Membership - Charley Johnson, K3CJ
 Technical - Ron Cardullo, K3RJ
 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 Bulletin Schedule

Bulletin Station K3CJ

Wed 2000L Amateur Radio News Line
 ARRL Audio News
 The RAIN Report
 Contests / Special Events / Hamfests

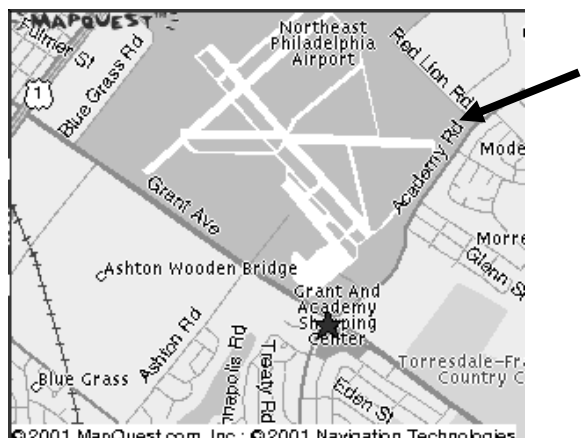
Sun 1000L This Week In Amateur Radio
 Gate Way 160
 Handy Hams
 Contests / Special Events / Hamfests

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>



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.org, the web page <http://www.harcnet.org> or writing to HARC 3341 Sheffield Ave, Philadelphia, PA 19136.



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

**September 23
 Meeting**

**TOPIC:
 PSK31**

**Keep up on the latest HARC news by
 checking out the Club website
www.HARCNET.org**

Upcoming Events

**Next Club Meeting: September 23
 Picnic: August 22**

HARC to Participate in 2011 Original 13 Colonies Event

In July 2011 the Holmesburg ARC will be participating in the event. During recent conversations with Ken, KU2US, the event organizer, Bob, WA3PZO suggested that Philadelphia be on the air as the capital of the colonies.

HARC members will be on the air using WM3PEN. Bob said it would be a great tie in with the club call since the Liberty Bell was made to commemorate the 50-year anniversary of William Penn's 1701 Charter of Privileges.

Since the event will be celebrated on both HF and VHF, it gives club members an opportunity to work a band and mode that you are interested in.

A special QSL card will be developed along with operating guidelines. If you haven't had the opportunity to operate a special event station you will get a real thrill from it.

There is some planning for this event to make sure we are all using the same information. This will be similar to a Field Day operation. If you are interested in helping with the planning, contact WA3PZO.

Maybe you want to operate during the event but need another antenna up or some changes in the shack. This is your opportunity to get prepared.

This year get on the air and operate this year's special event so you have an idea what will be happening.

Celebrate the 4th! Be Radio Active!

***Information on all Club activities can be found at the Club website:
www.harcnet.org.***

Info on the special events can also be found on the WM3PEN and K3FI pages on QRZ.Com.

Original 13 Colonies 2010 Recap

Over 34,000 QSOs. Stations from the original 13 colonies; Stations from England, Stations on HF, VHF, and the Satellites!

On average between 2000 - 2500 QSOs per station!

Plans for 2011

Plans are being discussed, but we need your input. We'll need to have a budget to print the QSLs. We are beginning to talk to business leaders.

There are opportunities for Shortwave Listeners to get a QSL card. If we want to open it up to people with a scanner that can tune in the repeater, then we will need more QSL cards. This could be a great way of introducing people to ham radio.

We need operators for all bands. We would like to have phone, cw, and psk modes on the air. This is a 5 day event over a holiday weekend and we know everyone won't be available all of the time, but we need a schedule of times you will be available.

Do we want to do a public display? Does everyone have a common logging program?

We'll start to talk about this at the picnic. We are looking for ideas and solutions.

Website visitors

In the past few days a new feature was placed on the Club website and the WM3PEN and K3FI pages on QRZ.com. A visitor flag counter was added to each of the pages. In just the past week we have had visitors from the U.S., Ireland, and China. It will be interesting to watch our visitor list grow.

New 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.

New Pennsylvania FM Simplex Contest

Following the growth of local FM Simplex Contests across Pennsylvania, the Holmesburg Amateur Radio Club of Philadelphia announces the Pennsylvania Sprint.

The Pennsylvania Sprint is a 4 hour contest open to all radio amateurs. The inaugural event will occur February 26, 2011 from 7 - 11 PM. Pennsylvania amateur radio operators should make contact with other Pennsylvania hams by exchanging a contact number and their zip code. Hams in surrounding states may also participate.

The Holmesburg ARC has been sponsoring a Delaware Valley FM Simplex contest for several years and has seen an increase in participation by hams in Pennsylvania and New Jersey. At the same time other clubs in Eastern and Western Pennsylvania have been sponsoring their own version of a FM Simplex contest.

According to HARC Contest Director Rich Shivers, AB3EO, the Contest will help to promote FM Simplex operation, serve as a learning experience as to how far your signal will travel without the use of a repeater. HARC Club Call Trustee Bob Josuweit, WA3PZO, sees this as a fun, fast contest using equipment that most hams have already.

Contest operations are limited to the FM Simplex frequencies recognized by your local band plan on 6 Meters, 2 Meters, 222 MHz and 440 MHz. No contacts are permitted on the calling frequencies. There are four operating classes. These include Base, Club, Rover, and Portable operation. Certificates will be issued for first, second, and third place, in all classes, in each ARRL section.

Complete rules can be found at www.harcnet.org/contest.htm.

For further information contact AB3EO@ARRL.NET

Public Service Events

October 17: Northeast Philadelphia Youth Alliance 5 mile run and 2 mile walk. - Northeast Philadelphia Airport. 7 AM.

November? Mayfair Holmesburg Holiday Parade?

The Mayfair Business Association is talking about a parade. We have supplied them with contact info. Stay tuned.

Maritime Organization Opposes

Amateur Allocation (from ARRL)

The International Maritime Organization (IMO), the specialized agency of the United Nations through which standards are established to regulate international shipping, has prepared a draft position opposing a secondary allocation for the amateur service in the medium frequency (MF) band 416-526.5 kHz. Such an allocation, taking into account the need to protect existing services, is on the agenda for the 2012 World Radiocommunication Conference (WRC-12) of another UN specialized agency, the International Telecommunication Union (ITU).

On May 27, 2010 the IMO submitted its draft positions on WRC-12 agenda items to the ITU Working Parties that are preparing text to be considered at the ITU's Conference Preparatory Meeting (CPM), to take place in Geneva in February 2011. The IMO advised that additional work will be done on the draft positions between now and December, resulting in a combined document that will be submitted to the CPM.

Operation of Safety Systems

The draft IMO position on WRC-12 Agenda Item 1.10, to examine the frequency allocation requirements with regard to operation of safety systems for ships and ports and associated regulatory provisions, includes the following:

“Taking into account (1) the possible requirement in future for the promulgation of additional security-related information, (2) the developments in IMO with regard to e-navigation and (3) a possible review of the elements and procedures of

the GMDSS, IMO supports the future use of the band 415-526.5 kHz for safety and security related systems, recognizing that this band is allocated on a world-wide basis for the use by the maritime community.” With respect to the amateur allocation, Agenda Item 1.23, the IMO draft acknowledges that “This part of the spectrum is interesting to radio amateurs because of its unique propagation properties” but expresses “...concerns that, based on existing studies, a secondary allocation for the amateur service will cause harmful interference and recommends that this allocation is not made.” The basis for these concerns is said to be that in the future, the band may be used for safety- and security-related systems that “...will not be operated manually and automatic transmissions can be carried out at any time, if required. Interference by transmissions from services with secondary status would prevent reception of information from the primary user.”

ARRL Chief Executive Officer David Sumner, K1ZZ expressed disappointment with the draft IMO position. “The Amateur Radio community fully supports maritime safety and security, but we know of no study that shows a narrow secondary allocation to the amateur service in this part of the spectrum to be incompatible with existing or planned future maritime systems. Our interest in an amateur allocation was prompted by the fact that the maritime mobile service no longer relies on MF Morse radiotelegraphy for distress and calling. The future MF requirements of the maritime mobile service must be more clearly defined so that the amateur service will have a fair opportunity to demonstrate compatibility.”





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

NEXT MEETING Sept 23
Picnic August 22

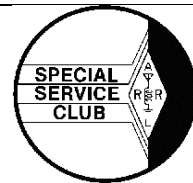


HOLMESBURG AMATEUR RADIO CLUB MEMBERSHIP FORM

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) _____