



WM3PEN  
FEBRUARY,  
2000

# THE HARC SPARK

The Official Newsletter of the  
Holmesburg Amateur Radio Club  
P.O. Box 6253 Philadelphia, PA 19136  
146.685 Mhz Repeater -Packet BBS KB3BTF 145.030 Mhz  
Web Site <http://www.harcnet.org>



Editors: KB3AKK  
WA3PZO

## *The Prez says*

Finally, it's election time. Make sure you vote!

Each month I have the opportunity to see many newsletters from around the country. Some arrive via email, others via U.S. mail. Everyone talks about upcoming events. This month I was particularly moved by some comments made by the president of the Penn Wireless Association, George, WR3B. In the *X-Mitter* he writes about how the Club is doing. He says "As a close-knit group we are not doing too bad. As a growing organization we seem to be missing the mark." Doesn't this apply to HARC? As a Club, HARC is involved with a lot of activities, but we need to grow or we're all going to burn out. For those of you who can't make the HARC meetings for one reason or another, here is an opportunity to help get new members. Are you available to send out membership information? Are you active with a youth group, senior citizens group, civic group, etc.? It's a great opportunity to talk about a hobby that we all enjoy. Does your work publish an employee rag or newsletter? Why not tell the editor about something exciting you did over the weekend? Some people cursed about being stuck in traffic on the Expressway. Several years ago I was able to say I heard the space shuttle go overhead. This month you could say I built a paddle from an Altoids box.

Where have you seen the Holmesburg ARC pop up? If you have been watching the ham radio magazines, you could say Dec., 1999 CQ VHF for building a 2 meter dipole, Feb., 2000 CQ for administering the CQ Spring Activity Weekends, and March, 2000 QST in the Section column and March CQ for Y2K activity. HARC members are radio-active!

Speaking of Y2K we received a nice Thank You from the VA Hospital for our participation in the Y2K event. See the letter elsewhere in this issue.

**FEBRUARY MEETING  
PADDLING THIS MONTH!**

On February 24 HARC members will be paddling at the monthly meeting. They won't be taking after George Washington on the Delaware, but will be building the Poor Man's Paddle. This is a cheap CW paddle that is supported on an Altoids mint container. We secured several kits for our teams to build. The program was moved to this month after Old Man Winter suggested that we cancel the January meeting.

**REPEATER UPDATE  
From Ron, WB3BDC**

Guys: I really haven't done anything since the Cherry Hill move. I haven't even got a chance to get back over there to see about the SWR issue or get the 49 link working.

The Abington link was ok but not to my 100% satisfaction. I have a new GE Century II 10 watt transmitter and a crystal but, I have not had the time to tune it up and change the frequency.

Ron has had some illness in the family and is spending most of his time with the family.  
73 Ron

**Thanks Ron!**

**DIVISION SEES LEADERSHIP CHANGES**  
(from the Division Web Page)

Director Kay Craigie, WT3P was elected as an ARRL Vice President at the January 2000 ARRL Board of Directors meeting. Vice Director Bernie Fuller N3EFN moved up to the Atlantic Division Director position. Western Pennsylvania Section Manager Bill Edgar, N3LLR was appointed to the Atlantic Division Vice Director's position. . Western Pennsylvania Assistant Section Manager John Rodgers N3MSE has been appointed to WPA Section Manager position.

## ATLANTIC DIVISION NEWS (2/2000)

### **SECTION MANAGER RE-ELECTED**

No candidates filed petitions to run against Eastern PA Section Manager Al Breiner W3TI for the new two-year term that begins April 1.

### **DIVISION AWARDS NOMINATIONS OPEN**

Nominations for the 2000 Atlantic Division awards are now solicited. The awards selection committee is chaired by Vice Director Bill Edgar N3LLR. Further information and nomination forms are available on this web site.

You know how good it feels when another ham says "thank you" to you. Now you can give that feeling to someone who makes you proud to be his or her fellow Amateur. Nominate the outstanding hams in your area for Atlantic Division awards!

**Atlantic Division awards** are presented annually to the hams who make us proud to be part of the Amateur Radio Service. Nominations are taken from the ham community. Selection is made by an Awards Committee chaired by the Division Vice Director.

The awards are conferred at the annual Division Convention. Amateurs of any license class may be nominated for awards.

The Awards Committee may, at their discretion, shift a nomination made in one award category to another award category, in order to honor a larger number of worthy nominees.

### **AMATEUR OF THE YEAR**

The Radio Amateur in the Atlantic Division whose record merits recognition for outstanding contributions to the Amateur Radio Service. He or she is active on the air and in Amateur Radio organizations. The Amateur of the Year is an all-round Amateur, whose activities, attitudes, and achievements may serve as an example to others. Devotion to Amateur Radio is balanced with attention to work responsibilities and family life. The Amateur of the Year exemplifies the "Amateur's Code." In selecting the award recipient, emphasis is placed on service to others rather than self, diversity of Amateur Radio interests and activities, evidence of continuing self-challenge, and outstanding contributions to Amateur Radio in the year preceding nomination. WA3PZO and former club member WA3IAO, both received the award in the early 1990s.

### GRAND OLE HAM

The Radio Amateur in the Atlantic Division whose outstanding record merits recognition for lifetime contributions to the Amateur Radio service. Like the Amateur of the Year, the Grand Ole Ham is an all-round Amateur, an OM or YL whose activities, attitudes, and achievements may serve as a guiding example to others. At the time of nomination, nominees must either have been licensed Radio Amateurs for at least 30 years, OR, be at least 50 years of age. Emphasis is placed on service to others rather than self, diversity of Amateur Radio interests and activities, and evidence of continuing self-challenge via Amateur Radio. This award is presented at the discretion of the Awards Committee, not necessarily every year.

### TECHNICAL ACHIEVEMENT

The Radio Amateur(s) in the Atlantic Division whose technical excellence exemplifies "continuation of the Amateur's proven ability to contribute to the advancement of the radio art," and whose attitude exemplifies the highest dedication to service to others and to science, rather than self. Particular value will be placed on evidence of continuing contributions to the Amateur Radio Service. Groups of two or more Amateurs may be nominated for a joint award in this category. Technical achievement may be demonstrated through activities such as the following: publications, research and development, creativity in hardware/firmware/software, systems design and implementation, technical instruction, application of advanced technology to public service communications. This award is presented at the discretion of the Awards Committee, not necessarily every year.

The Atlantic Division is represented by

Director Bernie Fuller N3EFN has served as Vice Director 1996 - 2000. He is a member of: ARRL Administration & Finance Committee  
Member of Volunteer Resources Committee, 1999  
Past Section Manager, Western Pennsylvania  
Lt. Colonel US Army (Retired)  
Originated club presidents' conference at Division Convention  
ARRL Board Liaison to the President's Roundtable



Vice Director Bill Edgar N3LLR is Past Section Manager, Western Pennsylvania. Originated Emergency Coordinator's Certification & Training workshops in WPA Section and is an ARRL Registered Instructor

**Code Practice:** Code Practice is held on the repeater, Wednesday evenings at 7:30 PM on 146.685. For further info contact Jay, WA3IFY. **Newsletter** Items for the newsletter can be sent to KB3AKK or WA3PZO.

### **Meetings**

Club meetings are held the last Thursday of the month at the Naval Aviation Supply Office, 700 Robbins Ave, Philadelphia. Time is 8PM. Board meetings are held the second Tuesday at 8pm.

### **Nets**

The Chaverim Net Tuesday @ 9:00 PM  
CW Practice Wednesday @ 7:30 PM, Followed  
By The Club Net @ 8:00 PM Check Ins can hear  
The Amateur Newslite, the ARRL News  
And Sunday @ 9:00 AM on 28.450 Mhz SSB  
(+/- QRM).

### **HARC SHORTS!**

- Several HARC Members visited the VA station in November. We're investigating becoming involved with the VA ham station.
- Spring Activity Weekends to continue. CQ Magazine will continue the Spring Activity Weekends. Stay tune for more info.

Then, the crackle of static from the ham radio. Father and son begin to reminisce. John tells Frank about becoming a cop, and about Satch and Gordo. However, this second chance at a life together - the chance to round the bases again - is not without consequence. By saving Frank from the fire, John has re-routed time and space and re-directed a course of events that leads to a string of serial homicides, including the murder of Julia, their beloved wife and mother.

At virtually the same time but separated in time by thirty years, Frank and John now have to work together to save Julia's life and the lives of the other victims. The simple yet mysterious ham radio becomes the catalyst and conduit by which a father and son change a past that never existed and a future that would have never been.  
<http://www.frequencymovie.com>

On Presidents' Day we celebrate the work of many presidents including Washington and Lincoln. Yet it can be argued that we don't celebrate the birthday or work of the first

President of the United States. What? you say! George Washington was the first President of the United States(1789-97). We all learned that in school.

Well the history books seemed to gloss over the early days of the United States. Those years between the Declaration of Independence (1776) and the adoption of the U.S. Constitution (1787).

The Articles of Confederation were adopted by the Continental Congress in 1777. By 1779 the Articles were ratified. John Hanson, a representative to the Congress from Maryland, made a motion and had a policy adopted that all land beyond the natural borders of the states should be ceded to the United States for the common benefit of all. New states were eventually formed out of the western territories. Hanson earned credit for laying the corner stone of our nation.

On October 19, 1781, Cornwallis surrendered at Yorktown, Virginia. At the First Session of the Congress under the new government for the independent new nation, held on November 5, 1781, John Hanson was elected President of the United States in Congress Assembled by his fellow representatives. His Presidency lasted about one year when he stepped down due to failing health.

During his administration there were many firsts. These include the establishment of the Great Seal of the United States, the Postal Service with the privilege of franking for government representatives, and a Proclamation setting aside a day for Thanksgiving. Under Hanson, George Washington was the Commander in Chief of the military. While in Philadelphia he attend church at Gloria Dei (Old Swedes).

Hanson and Washington were close friends. In fact Washington kept a daily diary on the young republic. Ironically when a writer borrowed Washington's diary in the early 1800s, the diary was returned with pages missing from the Hanson years. In Statutory Hall in the U.S. Capitol, Washington and Hanson face each other. Statutory Hall contains the busts of 2 famous figures from each state.

There are many letters from foreign leaders addressing Hanson as President and many with his signature as President. These are in

the Library of Congress.

So when asked who was the first President of the United States? You might want to pause and answer John Hanson.