



April 2006

# The HARC Spark

The Official Newsletter of the  
Holmesburg Amateur Radio Club  
P.O. Box 6253 Philadelphia, PA 19136  
WM3PEN 146.685 Mhz Repeater PL 146.2  
{K3FI} CLUB CALLS {WM3PEN}

Celebrating Over 25 years of Serving the Philadelphia Area  
Web Site <http://www.harcnet.org>



Editor: KB3AKK

## UPCOMING EVENTS

*General Meeting  
Thursday April 27<sup>th</sup>.  
8PM @ 8<sup>th</sup> District  
Academy & Red Lion Roads*

## Upcoming Events

### Walk America

The Northeast Philadelphia Walk America is on Sunday, April 30<sup>th</sup> at the Polonia Bank Flyers Skate Zone, 10990 Decatur Rd, Philadelphia, PA 19154. Time is 8 am. We're waiting for details of this event, but we can use 10 people to help provide safety and logistical communications along the route. Contact Bob (WA3PZO) or Mike (N3LXN) if you can assist.

## THE PREZ SEZ

Spring is here. Time to enjoy the flowers blooming after sitting dormant all winter. Also time to get out and enjoy the warmer weather before the heat of the summer is here, and help the community and your club by volunteering for any or all of the events we have coming up throughout the year. More information on them and the repeater repair progress in this newsletter. Hope everyone is well and we hope to see you at field day this year. The location is the same Alverthorp Park 24<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup> of June. If you haven't been to our Website you should. It has lots of info that is updated regularly.

Mike N3LXN 73

## Tech Committee Report

The new voter interface is going well. The cos voltages and interface inputs required by the voter were redesigned on the receiver panel to accommodate the new voter. The actual interfacing the voter to the receiver rack is complete and appears to be functioning. I also have two of the four receivers converted to PL. The new PL frequency is 146.2. Changing the PL frequency from 131.8 was a prior recommendation from a club member. It was further reviewed after one of our link transmitters (Northeast input) drifted and was causing some interference. Although it cost the club time and an unexpected expenditure, changing the PL frequency will eliminate any potential source of interference either from us to us. The PL frequency change was approved by the ARCC coordinating council. I expect to install the new system in the beginning of May. Then we will need to change the PL frequency on the link receivers. Abington is easy to convert and the main site will be the first two operating immediately on the 146.2 PL frequencies.

Ron Cardullo  
Technical Committee

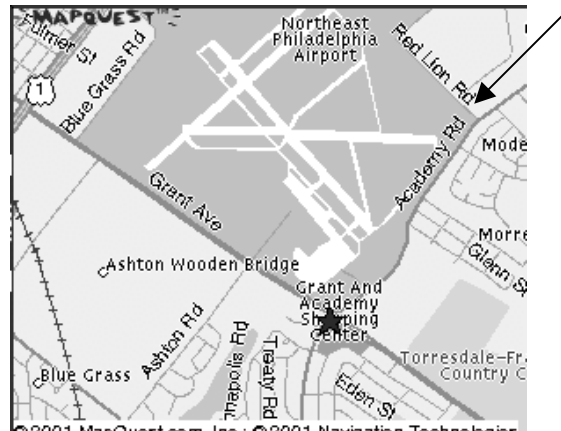
## Need to Borrow

Looking for anyone that has a SMA female to a SO-239 adaptor, need to test an ht with my SWR/Power meter.

Thanks  
Carl Gerhart  
N3ZZK

**H.A.R.C. Board Of Directors 2005**  
**President : N3LXN : Mike Wurgley**  
**Vice Pres: WA3PZO : Bob Josuweit**  
**Treasurer : WA3PZO : Bob Josuweit**  
**Secretary : N3ZZN: Frank Flanagan**  
**Trustee : N3UBY: Sol Volen**  
**Trustee : KB3AKK : Dave Hogan**  
**Trustee : K3CJ : Charlye Johnson**  
**Tech Committee : K3RJC : Ron Cardullo**  
**Newsletter Editor : KB3AKK: Dave Hogan**

**H.A.R.C. Maintains a Web Page @[www.harcnet.org](http://www.harcnet.org)**  
**All members online can be emailed via their callsign @[harcnet.org](mailto:harcnet.org).** Articles, pictures etc. submitted for the newsletter should be in standard ASCII or MS Word, .jpg or .gif formats and E-mailed to the Editor no later than the 1ST of month to be included in the next edition! **Send info to WA3PZO @ [Harcnet.org](mailto:Harcnet.org)**  
**H.A.R.C. Nets meet on 146.685 weekly**  
**The Chaverim Net: Tuesday @ 9:00 PM**  
**CW Practice: Wednesday @ 7:30 PM**  
**Weekly net: Wednesday @ 8:00 PM you can listen to the Amateur Newsline & ARRL audio reports.**  
**H.A.R.C. Monthly Meetings - The Board of Directors meets on the 2nd Thursday @ 8:00 PM. General meetings are held the 4<sup>th</sup>. Thursday @8:00 PM.**  
**8<sup>th</sup> District Police Station, Red Lion & Academy Rd. Phila., PA EXCEPT AS ANNOUNCED**



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. [Info@harcnet.org](mailto:Info@harcnet.org), the web page <http://www.harcnet.org> or writing to HARC PO Box 6253, Philadelphia, PA 19136.



**HARC is an ARRL Special Service Club.**

**QST**  
**DE K3HWE, Larry**

This Email is directed to the Three ARRL associated Amateur Radio Clubs listed in the Philadelphia, 191 Area code.

UNIVERSITY OF PA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB  
TEMPLE UNIVERSITY ARC  
HOLMESBURG ARC

I have been recently appointed the new Philadelphia ARRL ARES Emergency Coordinator .

OK. . . This is kind of a recruitment Email. :-)

I want to let you know that **we are beginning a new Philadelphia ARES organization.**

As the Phila EC I plan to carefully build from the bottom up, a stable and substantial collection of local amateur radio operators who are interested in learning and practicing Emergency Amateur Radio communications. As evidence of the project I have begun, I have met with and have the support of the surrounding ARES Philadelphia counties forming the **Five County, Pennsylvania District 1**. Philadelphia ARES also intends to have contact with the adjoining Delaware River, New Jersey Counties, Burlington, Camden, and Gloucester.

**We have established,** with the assistance of several active members and interested associates, the

following:

**Philadelphia ARES has the support of Two local radio clubs.**

**Phil-Mont Mobile Radio Club:**  
<http://www.phil-mont.org/>  
 Current Repeater System Net Operation and newsletter support

**Holmesburg Radio Club:**  
<http://www.harcnet.org/>  
 Web Site Support

**The Philadelphia ARES Web Site courtesy of The Holmesburg Amateur Radio Club:**  
**Philadelphia ARES Web Site:**  
<http://www.harcnet.org/aresindex.html>

As of this date we have established a regular Philadelphia ARES 2 Meter Net:

**PLEASE CHECK IN.**

**Philadelphia ARES 2 Meter Net** meets every Sunday at 9:00 PM, 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, Echo Link node 29742, WU3I-L, is on the repeater.

**A Meeting location for the Fourth MONDAY of each Month:**

**Where: Roxborough Memorial Hospital, Wolcoff Auditorium, Ridge Ave. and Jamestown St., Phila., PA 19128**

**When: 7PM the 4th Monday of each month**

- Monday, April, 24, 2006 @ 7PM: Scheduled Meeting:  
Program: Field Day is Not Enough

**Presented by: Bob Josuweit,  
WA3PZO CQ Public Service Editor**

Worldwide disasters, a record hurricane season, and homeland security concerns have required amateur radio to be there. A banner year of news media coverage has created high expectations of the public service and emergency communications we provide.

**Join Bob Josuweit, WA3PZO, who has reported on amateur radio emergency communications for international ham radio and emergency management magazines to learn why Field Day training and publicity is not enough.**

**Bob is a member of an International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) Emcomm workgroup.**

**He has served as Eastern Pennsylvania Section Emergency Coordinator, Chairman of ARRL's former Public Service Advisory Committee and is a member of ARRL's Public Relations Committee.**

### **Special offer to ARRL affiliated club members.**

Have you wondered about **Radio Frequency Interference**? Exactly what is it, what causes it, and how to get rid of it?

For a limited time, we are offering ARRL affiliated club members the opportunity to participate in the Radio Frequency Interference online course at a \$15.00 discount. (Regular price, ARRL Members \$65.00 Nonmembers 95.00)

- Get tips and suggestions for dealing with RFI problems
- Various types of filters.
- Sources of RFI
- Forms of TV interference
- On-line course, accessible 24/7 during the 16-week session

#### **How to Register:**

Follow the links from the [Radio Frequency Interference](#)

Enter the discount code **AC42306** on the registration screen

Offer expires April 23, 2006

#### **QUESTIONS?**

Please send questions to Jean Wolfgang, WB3IOS at [cce@arrl.org](mailto:cce@arrl.org).

#### **ARRL**

*The national association for AMATEUR RADIO*

225 Main Street, Newington, CT 06111-1494 USA

Atlantic Division News Update

March 22, 2006

Bulletin Number 2006-05

On Saturday, March 18th, the Atlantic Division leadership held the division cabinet meeting in Frederick, MD.

In addition to the Atlantic Division Director and Vice Director and the speakers, attendees were:

Frank Filipkowski AD3M -- Delaware Section Manager  
Eric Olena WB3FPL -- Eastern PA Section Manager  
Jim Cross WI3N -- Maryland/DC Section Manager  
Tom Valosin WB2KLD -- Northern NY Assistant Section Manager  
Ralph Ofchinick Jr, W3ZPI -- Western PA Official Observer Coordinator  
Lloyd Caves N2PU -- Atlantic Division Assistant Director  
Al Nollmeyer W3YVQ -- Atlantic Division Assistant Director  
Gene Pressler W3ZXV -- Atlantic Division Assistant Director  
Debra Johnson K1DMJ -- ARRL Development Office

Presenters and topics were:

Bill Edgar N3LLR -- Atlantic Division Director: Atlantic Division Priorities - Grass Roots, Increased Member Contact and Education.  
Mary Hobart K1MMH -- ARRL Chief Development Officer: Why Development and What It Does For Us.  
Chris Imlay W3KD -- ARRL Corporate Counsel: Amateur Radio Regulation, What's on the Plate this Year?  
Bob Josuweit WA3PZO -- ARRL PR Committee Member: Field Day is Not Enough, PR tools and opportunities to tell our story.  
Al Nollmeyer W3YVQ -- RadioEmail Overview.  
Doug Lindsey KB3HER -- Maryland/DC Section Emergency Coordinator: RadioEmail Demonstration.

Atlantic Division Assistant Director, John Rodgers N3MSE, was scheduled to give a presentation on Atlantic Division Educational programs but was unable to make it due to the birth of his first grand-child. Congratulations to parents, Mike and April N3PPU. Parents and daughter, Paige, are doing well.

We'd like to thank each of the speakers and the attendees for making this cabinet meeting such a success.

The Atlantic Division has several new ARRL Banners in use at conventions, hamfests and meetings where the Director and Vice Director are. These colorful banners have plenty of punch and pizzazz - they emphasize the four basics of the ARRL. We'll be using them next this weekend at the Timonium Hamfest. Stop by and check them out.

Congratulations are in order to the Mt Airy VHF Radio Club for their 50th anniversary!

Good job to the hams in Laurel, MD for getting their ATV operation broadcast on WTTG-TV FOX5 in Washington, DC on Monday, March 6, 2006!

Tip of the hat to Ron Polityka WB3AAL for his picture and an article about hams helping out in the local newspaper on January 27, 2006.

#### Upcoming Atlantic Division Conventions:

07/29/06 -- MD State Convention, Antietam Radio Assn  
Hagerstown MD 08/12/06 -- WNY Section Convention,  
Lancaster ARA, Williamsville NY 09/09-10/06 -- MD  
Section Convention, FARFEST, Gaithersburg MD 09/10/06  
-- WPA Section Convention, Butler County ARA, Butler PA  
10/07/06 -- NNY Section Convention, Northern NY ARA,  
Lake Placid NY

#### Upcoming Atlantic Division Hamfests:

03/25/06 Baltimore ARC, Timonium, MD  
04/01/06 Drumlins ARC, Marbletown, NY  
04/02/06 Delaware Valley Radio Assn, Hamilton Twp, NJ  
04/22/06 PRO's Club, Sardinia, NY  
04/23/06 York Hamfest Foundation, York, PA  
04/30/06 Two Rivers Hamfest, Boston, PA  
05/06/06 Binghamton ARA, Owego, NY  
05/07/06 Antietam Radio Assn, Hagerstown, MD  
05/07/06 Warminster ARC, Wrightstown, PA  
05/13/06 Appalachian ARG, Fredericksburg, PA  
05/28/06 Maryland FM Assn, West Friendship, MD

A more complete listing of hamfests/conventions can be found at:

<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests.html>

73,

Bill Edgar N3LLR  
Atlantic Division Director

Tom Abernethy W3TOM  
Atlantic Division Vice Director

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ARRL Atlantic Division  
Director: William Edgar, N3LLR  
n3llr@arrl.org

#### FCC ADOPTS PLAN TO ESTABLISH A PUBLIC SAFETY AND HOMELAND SECURITY BUREAU

Amateur Radio will not be a part of the FCC's new Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau. This after the agency votes unanimously to establish a new division designed to provide a more efficient, effective, and responsive organizational structure to address public safety, homeland security, national security, emergency management and preparedness, disaster management, and related issues. Amateur Radio Newsline's Bruce Tennant, K6PZW, has more:

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The FCC's March 17th vote to create a new Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau was long expected. And some has speculated that Amateur Radio might be moved to the new bureau based on its high profile disaster communications performance in responses in New York and Washington following the 911 terrorist attacks and Hurricane Katrina last year.

According to the ARRL Letter, it now appears that the Amateur Radio Service will remain within the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau for the foreseeable future. The newsletter reports a quote from Anthony Dale who is the Acting Director of the FCC's Office of Managing Director. Dale says that communications by taxi cabs, Amateur Radio, chemical plants, all that type of thing are not public safety-specific functions. He says that plans are to keep them where they are. As to the structure of the Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau. it will have three divisions. They are Policy, Public Communications Outreach & Operations, and Communications Systems Analysis. It will also have a front office consisting of senior leadership and a management staff.

An official document spelling out just which functions and services will end up where has not yet been made public, and even Dale did not appear to be entirely clear on specifics. He and others did however stress that some new bureau's functions may overlap those of others within the agency.

The FCC said the changes are subject to Congressional notification before they become effective. The new bureau would be the seventh within the FCC.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Bruce Tennant, K6PZW, reporting.

**S.T.A.R. HAM FEST**  
**SUSSEX TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL**  
**AMATEUR RADIO CLUB**

Georgetown, Delaware

**WHEN:** May 27, 2006

**FROM:** 7am till 5pm

**AT:** Sussex Technical High School just a few miles west of  
Georgetown on Route 9.

Use entrance next to football field just west of School.

**TEST SESSION**  
**CONDUCTED BY THE PROS.**  
***Test session starts @ 12:00***  
**WALK-INS WELCOME**

Test session Free

**Tailgating spaces: Free**

**Indoor Tables: \$10.00 each**

**Admission: FREE**

**All Are Welcome**

*For more information you can contact us on the S.A.R.A. Club  
repeater @ 147.075 MHZ. And / or join us on our NET Thursday  
nights @ 8:00pm on the same Frequency.*

**Contact Persons:**

**President.. Justin V. Timmons (N3JVT)**

**N3JVT@YAHOO.COM 1-302-934-5008**

**Vice President..Chris Pridgeon (KB3MDZ)**

**KB3MDZ@YAHOO.COM 1-302-539-4570**

**Instructors: Bill Hardy (KB3CGL), Dennis Smith (K3DJS)**

**Club Mentors: Bill Prettyman (W3HRT), Herb Quick (KF3BT)**



**HOLMESBURG AMATEUR RADIO CLUB**  
**P.O. Box 6253 Philadelphia, PA 19136**  
“Serving the Community Through Ham Radio”

Next Meeting: Thursday April 27th.  
8PM @ 8<sup>th</sup> District - Red Lion & Academy Rds.