

July 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  
K3FI CLUB CALLS WM3PEN  
Web Site <http://www.harcnet.org>



## FIELD DAY - JUNE 24 & 25! IT DIDN'T RAIN ON HARC'S PARADE

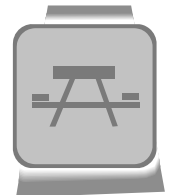


Field Day saw a lot of familiar faces and many new ones. The rain held off long enough to get all of the antennas, rigs, and generator set up. But when it rained - IT POURED! Fortunately we were under cover and stayed very dry. New this year was a triband beam on a 20 ft. tower. Carl, N3ZZK, coordinated the tower assembly work. As usual Sal served as HARC's chef. As usual he thought of everything to keep the troops happy.

A big thanks to everyone for participating. HARC's exact score hasn't been calculated yet. We'll have the results soon.

## IT'S PICNIC TIME

HARC's annual picnic will be Sunday, August 20, in Pennypack Park. Use the Rhawn Street entrance east of Roosevelt Blvd between Lexington and Rowland Avenues. It is west of Frankford Ave. Time is 11 AM until. We'll have an assortment of hamburgers and hot dogs, and related goodies. If you would like to bring something, I'm sure we'll find a taste tester or two. Bring your family! Just drop us a note saying how many are coming! Contact Mike, N3LXN or email [WM3PEN@harcnet.org](mailto:WM3PEN@harcnet.org).



**Meetings** - There will be no August meeting. Our next meeting will be September 28. Stay tune for details.

**Website** - The ARRL Public Relations Committee has been looking at websites that reference the ARRL HELLO campaign. Each week a website is mentioned on the ARRL PR email reflector. This month Jim McDonald, KB9LEI, ARRL PR Committee and Muncie, IN ARC Public Information Officer "tossed a dart at the list of club sites linking to the <http://www.hello-radio.org/> website and it looks like we are taking a trip to a place very rich in American history, near the City of Brotherly Love and allow our guide Bob Josuweit, WA3PZO, to show us the Holmesburg Amateur Radio Club: Webmaster, Rich, KB3FGJ, said the webpage had a lot of visitors when the message came out. Check out [www.harcnet.org](http://www.harcnet.org)

**Club Help** - There are several openings on the HARC Board of Directors. If you are interested in helping your club and would like to serve on the Board contact Club President Mike, N3LXN. Bob, WA3PZO, has already announced that he is not planning to serve on the Board next year because of increased demands at the state, national, and international level.

**Raffle** - Starting at the Picnic HARC will be raffling off a triband ICOM HT. Drawing will be in December. It will make a great gift for the holidays. We'll need help selling tickets. This is one of HARC's yearly fundraisers.

**Devastation on the Delaware** - Hams in 10 Eastern Pennsylvania counties were activated to provide emergency communications as rivers crested out of their banks in some of the worse flooding this area has seen since Hurricane Agnes flooded the state during Field Day weekend in 1972. In Bucks County 43 hams provided critical communication links for the County Emergency Management and the American Red Cross. They were on duty for 7 days. Bob Josuweit, WA3PZO, who did much of the public relations for this story, was the only amateur radio reporter to correctly predict Tropical Storm Alberto and Devastation on the Delaware River in June. Josuweit, who is the Public Service Columnist for CQ Magazine, wrote his column in April for the June issue.

**Hams Active in Middle East Crisis:** In support of the current situation in Lebanon, the Arab Amateur Radio Emergency Service has been activated on 14.305 Mhz in order to take Welfare and Emergency messages. At the same time all local repeaters in Lebanon will have priority for Emergency use. Repeater will be linked through Echolink at all time to allow maximum coverage. Hani / OD5TE

**Philadelphia ARES®** - Philadelphia ARES consists of licensed amateur radio operators who have voluntarily registered their qualifications and equipment for communications duty in the public interest when disaster strikes and develop a coalition relationship with adjacent county amateur radio ARES for mutual benefit.

**Philadelphia County ARES** is currently and carefully building a new team. Team members are composed of Philadelphia resident and adjacent county Amateur Radio Operators with common support interest. Of licensed operators interested in serving the community with their hobby, many are already involved with other services. **Phila ARES** has interest in forming a membership with the ability to also cross serve between Philadelphia and its immediate adjacent counties when such operations are beneficial. The Phila ARES, geographically central to the Five Pennsylvania County area and Three New Jersey counties can be of mutual benefit to volunteer organizations located in these surrounding areas.

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The Holmesburg Amateur Radio Club of Philadelphia is pleased to announce  
the Delaware Valley VHF FM Simplex Sprint Contest  
to be held on Saturday, October 21st, 2006.

**Purpose:**

- To promote FM Simplex operation.
- To provide a local fun, fast contest with equipment most hams already possess.
- To encourage youth participation in amateur radio.

**When:**

Saturday, October 21st, 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM EST  
This is during Scouting's JOTA weekend. (Jamboree on the Air)

Find a Scout troop near you and offer to set-up a temporary station at their location.  
Cradle of Liberty Council Boy Scouts of America  
JOTA Information Jamboree on the Air

Also ask your children/grandchildren to join you, and bring their friends.  
The contest is open to all radio amateurs.

According to HARC President Mike Wurgley, N3LXN, the contest is designed for hams to have fun over a 4 hour period from 10 AM - 2 PM EST and as a way to introduce youth to amateur radio. The contest was moved from the evening to during the day, to encourage the youth element. The contest allows hams to meet their neighbors on the air as well as give many the opportunity to experience something else besides repeater contacts.

The contest gives individuals as well as clubs to participate in the event. Bonus points are being allowed for contacting club stations/callsigns. "We realize that everyone will not be able to contact WM3PEN so we're giving clubs a chance to put their club callsign on the air." This could be from a club station or an individual's home. There is no advanced registration for Club callsigns with the sponsoring group. This will allow many clubs to make a last minute decision to make their voice heard in the area.