

August 2012

The HARC Spark

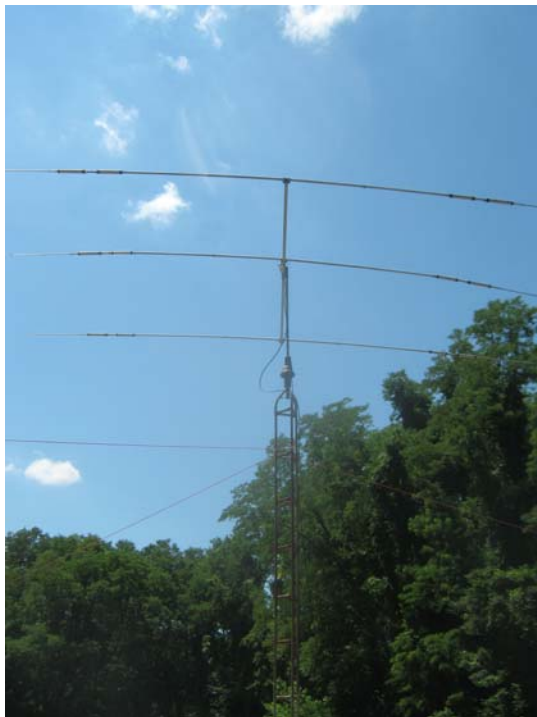
The Official Newsletter of the
Holmesburg Amateur Radio Club
WM3PEN 146.685 Mhz Repeater
K3RJC 444.9 Mhz Repeater
K3FI CLUB CALLS WM3PEN
Web Site <http://www.harcnet.org>



***HARC IS RADIO ACTIVE!
JUNE FIELD DAY FUN
CELEBRATING JULY 4TH HAM RADIO STYLE!
HARC in the Park Picnic August 19***

K3FI FIELD DAY FUN

HARC members converged on Alverthorpe Park for their annual Field Day pilgrimage. Three HF stations were set up and as usual Sol, N3UBY's kitchen was in full operation. HF operations were primarily on 20, 40, and 80. Antennas included a tribander, vertical, NVIS, and a long wire. We had news coverage on KYW radio and a visit from ARRL Atlantic Division Director Bill Edgar, N3LLR.



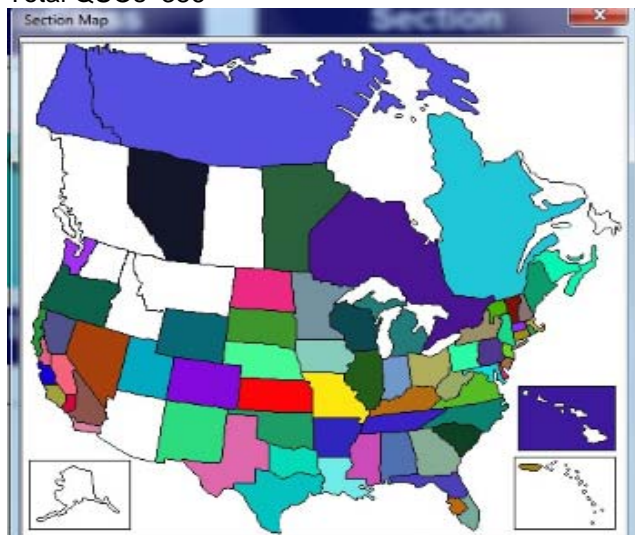
ARRL Field Day is the single most popular on-the-air event held annually in the US and Canada. Each year over 35,000 amateurs participate. K3FI worked almost every US state.>>>



(No cars allowed – Deer Power Only!)

K3FI 3A EPA

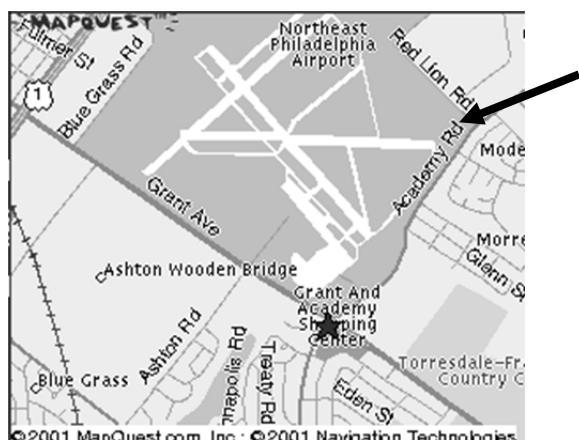
- Power Source(s): Generator
- Power Multiplier: 2X
- Bonus Points:
 - 100% Emergency power 300
 - Media Publicity 100
 - Set-up in Public Place 100
 - Information Booth 100
 - NTS message to ARRL SM/SEC 100
 - W1AW Field Day Message 100
 - Submitted via the Web 50
- Total Bonus Points 850
- Total QSOs 386



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.



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.

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)

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>



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

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

Upcoming Events

Picnic: August 19, 2012
Next Club Meeting: September 27

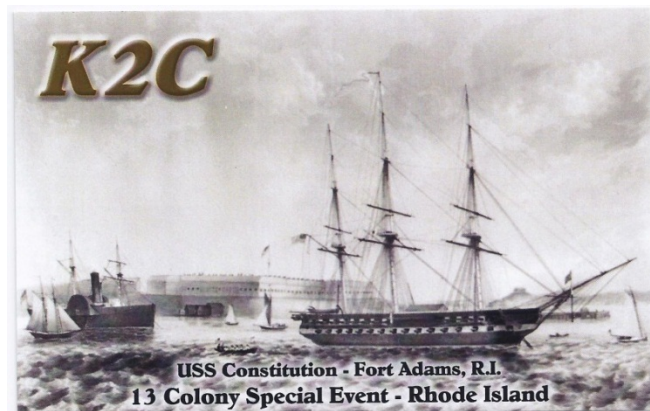
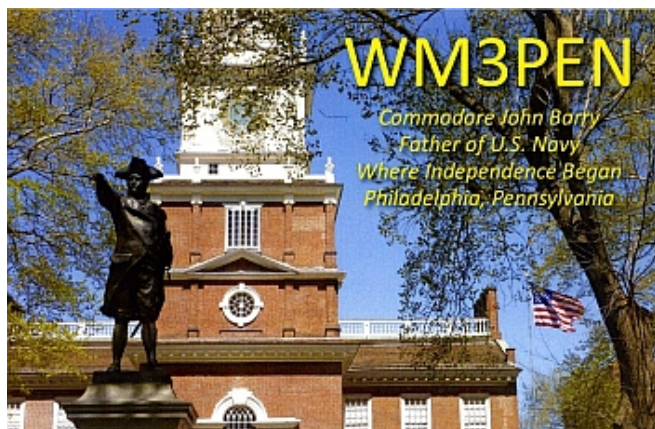
13 Colony Special Event

" WM3PEN added that extra patriotic "Flair" "
(Ken, KU2US, Event Manager)

Just one week after Field Day, WM3PEN helped celebrate our nations independence by participating in the 13 Colonies Special Event, June 30 - July 6. KB3WLN, AB3EO, KC3JV, N3ZZK, and WA3PZO were on the air as WM3PEN making almost 1700 QSOs during the 7 day event. Almost 39000 QSOs were made by all of the Colony stations.

The object was for stations to make contact with a special event station in each of the original 13 colonies and as a bonus work WM3PEN. With the theme of the event being colonial naval ships, WM3PEN honored Commodore John Barry, Father of the US Navy. Each station offered a special QSL card and you had the option of applying for a certificate. Work all 13 colonies plus the bonus station and get a 'clean sweep'.

Special QSLs are shown below.



Stations could earn a certificate for working one station or having a clean sweep.

Work the world!

Despite poor band conditions WM3PEN worked stations in 48 states and 11 countries primarily on 20 and 40 meter phone. Additional activity was on 10, 15, and 80 phone and psk31. WM3PEN worked 7 of the Colony stations. All of the HARC operators had a good time. We want to thank Brandon, KB3WLN, of the Drexel University Amateur Radio Club for participating in this event. According to reports received or posted on the internet those wanting to work WM3PEN had fun as well. Here's a sampling.

13 Colonies Special Event -- Wow!

by Ken Villone (KU2US) Event Coordinator

I never thought I would see this, but with bad T-storms, straight line winds, static, bad QSB, electric outages, record blistering heat and huge solar storms with radio black outs, The 13 Colonies Special Event had a BANNER YEAR! What else could of went wrong? A Snow Storm? Grand total QSO count is 60,927. +20,000 over last year! I would like to thank all you operators who called us, who were ladies and gentlemen on the air, had patience and yes, compassion! Also, kudos to our HF and Satellite stations who tried their best to please everyone. Not all were happy,

but that was a very, very few. Try to understand that it is my job to evaluate the response every year. I have been wrong every year! The response has been gratifying and much more than anticipated. Pile ups galore, even from EU! Many thanks to the bonus special event station WM3PEN in Philadelphia! They add that extra patriotic "Flair" to the event, and folks appreciate their participation, as we do too!

Greetings All,
I'd like to express a special thanks to Mr. Ken Villone, KU2US, and all of the event sponsors and operators associated with the "13 Colonies" Special Event over the 4th of July week.

When the weather threw a wrench into the middle of the event, many of our Amateur brethren were put off-the-air. (I was not one of them, luckily, but I've 'been there') The bad weather, loss of power, etc, meant that many operators who might want to participate in this fun activity were going to lose that opportunity through no fault of their own.

But the 13 Colonies folks stepped up and, with no obligation to do so, extended the activity through the 7th of July (0400Z 08 July) to give everyone a chance to work them. THAT is sportsmanship and makes Amateur Radio the kind of environment that I like being associated with.

Kudos to all of the 13 Colonies crew! Thank-you for sacrificing your time and less-than-ideal propagation to make Amateur Radio more fun for the rest of us!

And to top it off, I have, as of yesterday (23 July 2012) already received my certificate back! If that's not some type of record, it ought to be!

Thank-you, Ladies and Gentlemen! It was a pleasure!

73

Steve, K4YZ

I second that thought!!! The Ops in those states that were hit by the severe weather were incredible in the job they did in getting back on the air and having to deal with many unhappy and VERY rude Ops (MHO). How dare they not be on the air so "I" can get my certificate! I salute everyone of the Ops for their dedication to this wonderful hobby and caring enough about the event to hang in there under incredible circumstances! BRAVO guys!!! This was the first year I participated in the event hunting for all 13

states and I had a blast. I was able to get all 14 stations(WM3PEN) and received my certificate last week. I have it framed and on my wall. Still waiting for 3 (NJ, PA and MA) to also have all 14 QSL cards. Thank you again for all that you did during those trying times. WONDERFUL JOB GENTLEMEN!!!

73, KI4UYA

A special spotting network was set up for the event. Here are some of the comments.

WM3PEN – Best op I have seen yet! Awesome patience. Thanks Carl 73! - K4EIT

WM3PEN – Clean sweep + bonus. Tnx for your hard work! KC8QFF

WM3PEN – Clean Sweep + Bonus. Thanks Carl N9MXI

WM3PEN - You must have had a great dinner! You are coming in really well. Thanks mucho...what fun all of this is! KF5KHJ

WM3PEN – He's looking for contacts. Good op! K0CMD

Comments posted on E-ham.net

I enjoyed the event, even though I got frustrated a few times. But I stuck with it and managed to get all stations, including WM3PEN. I look forward to working it again next year. (K7CB)

You do a fantastic job every year. Thanks and 73, Will (AE6YB)

I thoroughly enjoyed the hunt for the colonies. It has become one of my favorite events. My daughter, NC4K, was in a bad car wreck and I was at the hospital thinking I had missed the event. The extra days helped me to get the colonies once again. Thanks for the good show. (W4KA)

I've been a HAM for only 7 months. This was my second SE the first being the Museum Ships SE in June. This is great stuff . . . I'm hooked thanks to SEs like this one. I only got 11 Colonies but I can assure you I'll be back next year! You guys are great and thanks! (KD0QEB)

Greetings Across the Pond

There were other special event stations on the air celebrating America's independence. One was MN5ALJ. On July 4th each year the Strabane Amateur Radio Society (northern Ireland) runs a special event station from the birth place of John Dunlap the printer of The American Declaration of Independence. Bob, WA3PZO, was able to exchange greetings between our two cities and clubs.



Visitors to WM3PEN on QRZ.com

| | <i>New Flag</i> | |
|---------------|-----------------|--------------|
| | <i>Visitors</i> | <i>Views</i> |
| July 8, 2012 | 161 | 293 |
| July 7, 2012 | 264 | 392 |
| July 6, 2012 | 181 | 307 |
| July 5, 2012 | 216 | 350 |
| July 4, 2012 | 379 | 577 |
| July 3, 2012 | 200 | 326 |
| July 2, 2012 | 307 | 433 |
| July 1, 2012 | 199 | 279 |
| June 30, 2012 | 205 | 258 |

QSL Cards Arrive

QSL Cards and EQSL cards continue to arrive. As of this writing there are about 315 QSL cards and 478 EQSL cards and 474 LOTW QSO confirmations have been received. These numbers will continue to go up as more QSOs are confirmed. The number of QSOs were up by 500 from last year. Paper QSLs are down 66. EQSLs are up 280. Last year's contacts are in the process of being uploaded to LOTW.

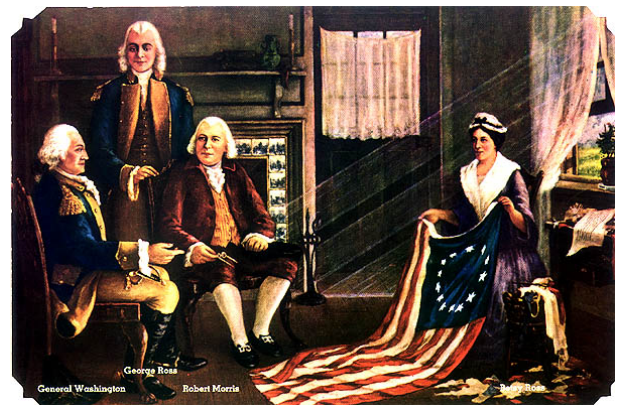
Looking Towards 2013

Plans are already being made for next year's event July 1 - 5, 2013. This event will run Monday through Friday. Event organizers are looking at the possibility of including additional days on either or both weekends as part of the event to give more people an opportunity to work the Colonies, since July 1, 2, 3, and 5 are workdays.

It's clear that we'll need more help to keep WM3PEN on the air and options are being explored. We would like to see more Club members participate in the event.

The theme for 2013 will be "Flags and Banners of the Revolution". The certificate will have flags and banners on it.

WM3PEN's QSL card theme will recognize Betsy Ross, who is credited with making the first stars and stripes.



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.

Upcoming HARC Events

Sunday, October 14th - Northeast Philadelphia Youth Run - Northeast Airport.

Olympic Special Event Stations

The ARRL Letter and The American Radio Relay League

Beginning Wednesday, July 25, two special event call signs will be activated to celebrate the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games: **2O12L** from London, England and **2O12W** from Barry, Wales. Both stations will be on the air for the duration of the Games -- July 25-August 12 -- and continuing through September 9. Organizers hope to make at least 80,000 contacts during the seven weeks that 2O12L and 2O12W are on the air.

- The London station – [2O12L](#) -- will be active on 160-2 meters on all modes. The station is located at the Royal Greenwich District Scouts Activity Centre in Southeast London, in the borough of Greenwich, one of the six “host boroughs” for the Games. A list of planned frequencies is available [here](#). The station will be open to the public from 10 AM to 4 PM each day, and visitors may operate. Follow 2O12L on [Twitter](#).
- The Welsh station -- [2O12W](#) -- will be active on 160 meters-23 cm on all modes, including SSTV and satellite, will be based on the [seafont esplanade](#) at Whitmore Beach, Barry Island, Vale of Glamorgan. The site is located just a few miles south west of Cardiff and the Millennium Stadium, home to the first football match that will open the Games in Wales. The station will be open to visitors. Follow 2O12W on [Twitter](#).

“Amateur Radio operators everywhere will be able to share in the Olympic experience by making contact with the station and exchanging greetings messages with visitors and Games participants who visit the station,” said [Project Echo](#) Publicity Officer John Warburton, G4IRN. “The team aims to make contact with as many of the Games participating countries as possible. Special QSL cards will be available to stations contacted. The project aims to leave a lasting legacy by encouraging visitors to learn more about radio communications and the social, career and recreational benefits that it brings.”

Carl, N3ZZK, has worked 2O12L and Bob, WA3PZO has worked both stations.

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

Ivica Dacic, YU1YU, Elected Prime Minister of Serbia

Former Serbian Internal Affairs Minister [Ivica Dacic, YU1YU](#), was elected as that country's newest Prime Minister on July 27. He succeeds Mirko Cvetkovic, who served as Serbia's Prime Minister from 2008-2012. Dacic is the leader of the Socialist Party of Serbia; from 2008 until his election as Prime Minister, he served as First Deputy Prime Minister, as well as Minister of Internal Affairs. In March 2012, Serbia became a candidate for membership in the European Union ([EU](#)).

Dacic is a member of the Amateur Radio Union of Serbia ([SRS](#)), Serbia's IARU Member-Society and is said to be a member of his local club, [YU1AAV](#). The club was founded in 1978 as one of nine sections of the Novi Beograd (New Belgrade) Amateur Radio Club, [YU1FJK](#). According to its website, YU1AAV's primary goal has been to teach kids Morse code and Amateur Radio Direction Finding skills: "The 1990s brought us war,

sanctions and social crises, but it also brought the good opportunity to move kids from the streets to learn ham radio. These were the years when the most kids from the neighborhood finished the course to get their basic ham license."

Boban Kojic, YT9A, told ARRL Chief Executive Officer David Sumner, K1ZZ, that he was "happy that Ivica had become a ham and had passed his telegrapher's class. It is exciting that today's Prime Minister passed his second class exam in high school and has supported his club throughout the years. I first met Ivica at the 2005 Region 1 ARDF Championships in Tara, when I was SRS President. He helped to gather funds for the event, and together, we went from ministry to ministry in search of financial support. Ivica himself called the president of Bajina BaÅta [a town located in the western mountains of Serbia where the opening ceremony would be held] and sought his assistance to fund the opening ceremony. Now this wasn't a small amount of money; it was money for the buses from Tara to Bajina BaÅta and back, the renting of a stadium, cleaning and decorating, organization of about 15-20 minutes of cultural and arts programs and cocktails for representatives of the national associations, as well as gift bags for each and every one of them."

In another e-mail to Sumner, Ivan Mastilovic, YU1LA, said that while he has not heard Dacic on the bands, "it is probably because his job takes all his free time. I have met him a few times with the SRS and he is a very nice young man with a real interest in Amateur Radio. No doubt that when his political career ends, he will be on the air more with a true love for ham radio. Now, as our Prime Minister, I'm sure he can help our ham radio community." -- *Thanks to ARRL MVP Associate Sanijela Zanic for providing translating services* **The ARRL Letter** and The American Radio Relay League



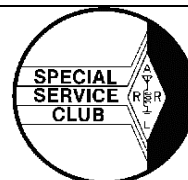
HOLMESBURG AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
3341 Sheffield Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19136
"Serving the Community Through Ham Radio"

Picnic August 19 – SEE PAGE 7



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) _____