

September 2011

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>



Repeater Update!
October Public Service Events
Club Meeting September 22 8 PM

Repeater Update!

As you know the 146.685 repeater has not been running at 100% for some time. There have been access issues at the main repeater site, other problems at the Northeast site, etc. Several Board Members have been busy on several fronts trying to deal with the various problems.

One path that we started to pursue last fall was the possible moving of the repeater to a new site. In the past 2 weeks we've gotten the OK for a new site. There are still some logistics to work out, but we're hopeful that we'll be able to move forward.

The move will not be cheap. It will cost over \$2500. The Board will be asking for donations from the membership to help pay for the move. The Board is waiting for a few more answers which we hope to have by the Club meeting.

We'll make a presentation to the membership at the Club meeting and have a separate mailing to Club members soliciting help.

**HARC CLUB MEETING
THURSDAY SEPT 22, 2011
8TH DISTRICT POLICE
STATION
8 PM**

OCTOBER EVENTS

October is full of operating and public service events.

October 8 & 9 - PA QSO PARTY

1600Z October 08 to 0500Z October 09, and
1300Z October 09 to 2200Z October 09.

October 16 - NE Philly 5 Mile Run - Northeast

Philadelphia Airport - On site by 7:30. Walk at
8:15 and Run at 9 AM.

October 27 - HARC Club Meeting

**October 29 - Emergency Preparedness
Exercise - Philadelphia International Airport**

MORE DETAILS INSIDE

Club Meeting September 22

TOPICS: Repeater Update
Upcoming events
Review of Summer Activities



The **ORIGINAL**
"Social Network"

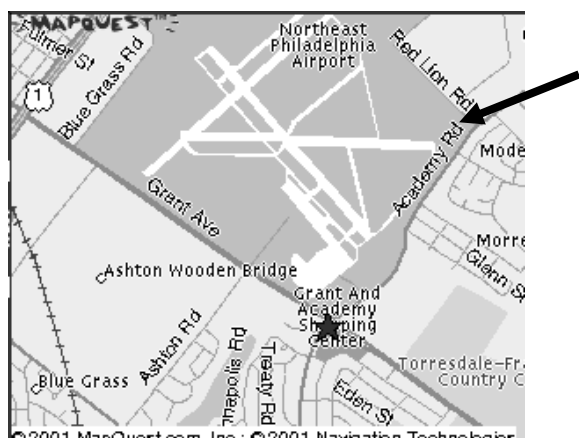
Ham Radio!

www.Hello-Radio.org

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

Next Club Meeting: September 22

NEPYA 5K RUN
October 16

HARC members will again provide communications for this year's Northeast Philadelphia Youth Alliance 5 Mile Run to be held at the Northeast Philadelphia Airport on Sunday, October 16. HARC will help out with safety and parking communications. Members should arrive no later than 7:30 AM. The event should be over by 10:30 AM.

The NEPYA 5 Mile Run was inspired from an idea by State Representative Dennis O'Brien who saw this race event as a way to demonstrate community spirit, promote the importance of being physically fit and also help in raising funds for local youth sports clubs in Northeast Philadelphia.

If you are able to help, contact Bob, WA3PZO, Rich, AB3EO, or email wm3pen@aol.com. Rich and Bob help with the event planning and the NEYPA website during the year. The event is also a fund raiser for HARC.

Emergency Preparedness Exercise (EPEX)
at Philadelphia International Airport
Simulated Aircraft Incident Tests
Emergency Procedures
October 29

An emergency preparedness exercise consisting of a coordinated response among local, state and federal agencies as well as emergency medical units from the region will take place on Saturday, October 29, at the Philadelphia International Airport.

EPEX is the Airport's official emergency drill that satisfies the Federal Aviation Administration requirement that all certified airports must conduct a full-scale emergency exercise at a minimum once every three years. The drill typically involves a simulated aircraft accident and tests the response procedures and equipment of fire-rescue units and other emergency personnel that would respond to an actual incident.

The realistic simulation of a major aircraft

accident is an excellent and practical way to assess the Airport's response to an actual incident. This comprehensive exercise demonstrates that the City is prepared to respond effectively to a major aircraft incident at one of the nation's busiest airports.

Official observers from city, state and federal agencies along with invited guests will have the opportunity to view the drill. A group of "official evaluators" consisting of aviation professionals will walk through the incident site to assess the procedures of responding emergency units.

The drill itself and the corresponding assessments from aviation professionals enable the Airport to determine the effectiveness of its emergency response procedures and implement changes or enhancements if necessary. ARES®, the Amateur Radio Emergency Service, has again been asked to participate in this exercise. While details are not known at this time, HARC members have assisted in previous exercises with the tracking and collection of simulated patients that have been transported to hospitals in Bucks, Delaware, and Philadelphia Counties. If you are able to assist contact Philadelphia ARES Emergency Coordinator Rich, AB3EO (ab3eo@arrl.net).



PA QSO PARTY

October 8 - 9

Pennsylvania Amateurs try to contact as many other amateurs in Pennsylvania, the United States, Canada and the world. Pennsylvania Amateurs receive multipliers for each Pennsylvania county, US and Canadian section, and one multiplier for DX entities.

Non Pennsylvania Amateurs try to contact as many Pennsylvania Amateurs as possible. Non-Pennsylvania Amateurs receive a multiplier for each Pennsylvania County with a QSO.

Operating Periods – 1600Z October 08 to 0500Z October 09, and 1300Z October 09 to 2200Z October 09.

Bands for the QSO Party:

160 meters, 80 meters, 75 meters, 40 meters, 20 meters, 15 meters, 10 meters, 6 meters, 2 meters, Above 2 meters, QSOs are permitted, but those frequencies are not much in use for the party at this time. Interested Operators are encouraged to set up skeds if desired.

Suggested Frequencies:

SSB: 1.850, 3.825, 7.200, 14.280, 21.380, 28.480, 50.125, 146.55. Note that 12, 17, 30, 60 meter and repeater QSOs are not permitted. CW: 40 KHz up from the bottom and 1810KHz PSK: 3.580, 7.080, 14.07015, 21.080, 50.250 RTTY: 3.580, 7.080, 14.080, 21.080, 28.080 160 meters Try at 0300Z Sunday Follow 160 meter band plan

Hi Band Activity periods

Sat and Sun: 10M – 1800Z 15M – 1900Z 20M – 2000Z SSB on the hour, CW on the half hour.

Mobile Window – 5 KHz below listed suggested frequencies. Keep this area clear for weak mobiles.

Exchange – Sequential serial number plus county or ARRL or Canadian section (see Canadian sections for details). Stations on county line give out 1 serial number per contact plus multiple county multipliers.

Work stations once per band and mode. Work Rovers and mobiles again as they change counties.

Awards and Certificates – Available for top Club scores and top county scores.

More information: <http://www.nittany-arc.net/PAQSO.html>



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.

***Mayfair Holmesburg
Thanksgiving Parade
Sunday, November 20th***

Meetings for the Holmesburg/Mayfair Thanksgiving Parade are already underway! This year's theme is "Bringing Music to Mayfair." Ed Kelly is this year's Grand Marshall. He built the stage in Pennypack Park that we all enjoy during the concerts. Several local bands have already signed up to play in this years parade. The Parade Committee is adding something new to the parade to include even MORE Holmesburg/Mayfair residents! This year, anyone who wants to build their own float and run it up the Ave on parade day! Floats must be family oriented and within size requirements.

HARC Members provide critical communications along the route. Some changes are being planned. This is a major fund raising event for HARC. Rich, AB3EO, and Bob, WA3PZO, provide website and logistical support prior to the parade. We need your help for this event. Contact Bob, WA3PZO, or email wm3pen@aol.com.

September Meeting Events

The September 22 meeting will be packed with information and maybe a surprise or two. Topics will include:

- Repeater update
- Public Service Update
- 13 colonies special event – 2012
- Field Day
- ????

Time: 8 PM – Phila Police Station 8th District – Red Lion and Academy Rds.

Heathkit's Amateur Radio Plans Taking Shape

Heathkit Educational Systems hopes to reenter the Amateur Radio market by the end of 2011. Back in August, Heathkit [announced](#) its return to the kit business and actively solicited suggestions. The response from Amateur Radio operators convinced Heathkit to develop several Amateur Radio products.

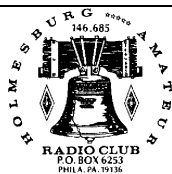
"When we made the announcement on our web page about a month ago, we had no intention of entering the Amateur Radio kit market," Ernie Wake, Heathkit's Director of Sales and Marketing, told the ARRL. "The response was really overwhelming, exciting and scary. The scary part is that the brand name has so much loyalty that we don't want to disappoint the people who have such fond memories."

Wake said that Heathkit is presently working on developing a few Amateur Radio kits. "Initially, the kit line will include a few 'accessories,' like kits for a Dual Watt Meter, Antenna Tuners and the Cantenna," he explained. "Once we are a little more 'settled,' I think we will develop a QRP receiver. We won't rush to market just to get there. We want to develop a line of kits in the tradition of Heathkit. I'm hoping to have one or two kits by the end-of-the-year."



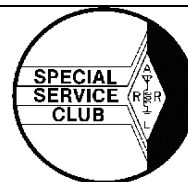
HOLMESBURG AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
3341 Sheffield Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19136
"Serving the Community Through Ham Radio"

Meeting September 22 - 8 PM



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) _____