

September 2010

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!

***PSK 31 Highlights September 23 Meeting
Plans being made for Special Event July 2011***

Fall Public Service Events

***October 17 - NE Philly
Run***

***November 21 - Mayfair
Thanksgiving Parade***

HARC's major fall public service events are approaching quickly and we need your help. On Sunday, October 17, at the Northeast Philadelphia Airport, HARC members will help with the Northeast Philadelphia Youth Alliance. The NORTHEAST PHILADELPHIA YOUTH ALLIANCE is a dedicated group of member Youth Sports Organizations located in Northeast Philadelphia. The Alliance, and the Annual Race Event that supports it, were inspired by State Representative Dennis M. O'Brien... who envisioned the Alliance and the Race as a way to demonstrate community spirit, promote physical fitness, and raise needed funds to help support the member youth sports clubs of Northeast Philadelphia.

Complete info on the group can be found at www.neypa.org.

HARC Members will be needed by 7 AM to help with an 8:15 am 2 mile walk and a 9 am 5K run. The event should be over by 10:30 AM.

Mayfair Thanksgiving Parade Back on Frankford Ave

The Mayfair Parade will start off the holiday season with a march down Frankford Ave. The annual event did not occur last year because of new city fees. However this year the parade is back under the leadership of the Mayfair Business Association. The parade will start at 12 Noon on Sunday, November 21. MARC members will provide safety and logistical communications as the Club has done in the past. Rich, AB3EO and Bob, WA3PZO have been meeting with the parade committee since the end of August.

HARC is also supporting the parade by providing space on it's website. Come out and support these two major Northeast Philadelphia events.

Interested in helping out with these events contact Bob, WA3PZO, Rich, AB3EO, or Mike, N3LXN.

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PSK 31

Digital modes of operation will highlight the **September HARC** meeting. Rich, AB3EO will talk about one of his favorite modes of operating, PSK31. PSK31 or "Phase Shift Keying, 31 Baud" is a digital radio modulation mode, used primarily to conduct real-time informal text chat between amateur radio operators.

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.

HARC Bulletin Schedule

Bulletin Station K3CJ

Wed 2000L Amateur Radio News Line
 ARRL Audio News
 The RAIN Report
 Contests / Special Events / Hamfests

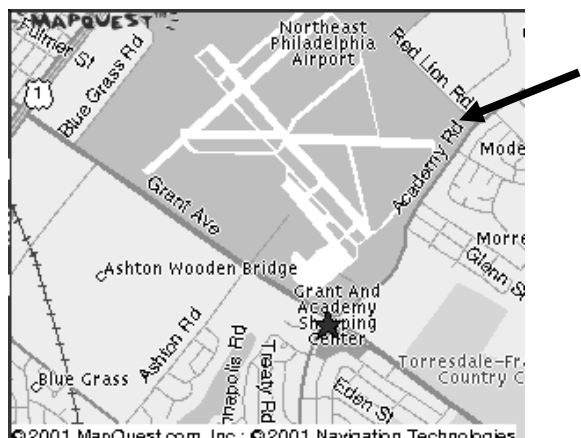
Sun 1000L This Week In Amateur Radio
 Gate Way 160
 Handy Hams
 Contests / Special Events / Hamfests

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>



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.



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

**September 23
 Meeting**

**TOPIC:
 PSK31**

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

Upcoming Events

**Next Club Meeting: September 23
 NEPYA Run: October 17**

Pennsylvania QSO Party 2010 ***Official Rules - October 9 -10***

Purpose of the party

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.

A Pennsylvania Amateur is defined as an Amateur operating in the State of Pennsylvania, without regard to the Amateur's home address. Other Operators are considered Out-of-state.

Operating Periods – 1600Z October 9 to 0500Z October 10, and 1300Z October 10 to 2200Z October 10.

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

ARES Celebrates 75 Years

The Amateur Radio Emergency Service® (ARES) will be celebrating its 75th anniversary from September through December 2010. This program of the ARRL – the national association for Amateur Radio – has provided “ham radio” emergency communications for agencies such as the American Red Cross, Salvation Army, countless Emergency Operations Centers and other responders in the worst of times. In events from ice storms to Hurricane Katrina and Haiti, when normal communications systems were down or overloaded, the Amateur Radio operators of the ARES programs filled requests for communications aid. Over the years the program name and equipment has changed but the vision remains. The modern communications nets that ARES can quickly create to blanket whole regions - *without the need for other infrastructure* - remain critical in emergency planning. In the first hours and days of a major event, Amateur Radio is often *the* source of initial information on the type, scope and reactions needed to save lives. Recognition of this capability led to formal agreements with DHS, FEMA, NOAA and other federal, state and local agencies. When the Internet, cell phone and electricity go out – they call on us, the hams.

The first mention of an organized Amateur Radio emergency response organization appears in the September 1935 issue of *QST* Magazine. “At least one amateur station in every community should be equipped with auxiliary station equipment for use in an emergency.” With those words by ARRL Communications Manager F.E. Handy and Assistant Communications Manager E.L. Battey, the ARRL Amateur Radio Emergency Corps (AREC) was born. Much like today, Corps members were expected to reach out to served agencies. Corps stations were requested to contact “local Red Cross officials, railroads, military units, police departments, representatives of press associations and the like” and notify them of their ability to assist during times of emergency. Cooperation with served agencies was critical for the success of the Corps just as much as it is today with ARES.

HARC to Participate in 2011 Original 13 Colonies Event

In July 2011 the Holmesburg ARC will be participating in the event. During recent conversations with Ken, KU2US, the event organizer, Bob, WA3PZO suggested that Philadelphia be on the air as the capital of the colonies.

HARC members will be on the air using WM3PEN. Bob said it would be a great tie in with the club call since the Liberty Bell was made to commemorate the 50-year anniversary of William Penn's 1701 Charter of Privileges.

Since the event will be celebrated on both HF and VHF, it gives club members an opportunity to work a band and mode that you are interested in.

A special QSL card will be developed along with operating guidelines. If you haven't had the opportunity to operate a special event station you will get a real thrill from it.

There is some planning for this event to make sure we are all using the same information. This will be similar to a Field Day operation. If you are interested in helping with the planning, contact WA3PZO.

Maybe you want to operate during the event but need another antenna up or some changes in the shack. This is your opportunity to get prepared.

This year get on the air and operate this year's special event so you have an idea what will be happening.

Celebrate the 4th! Be Radio Active!

***Information on all Club activities can be found at the Club website:
www.harcnet.org.***

Info on the special events can also be found on the WM3PEN and K3FI pages on QRZ.Com.

Original 13 Colonies 2010 Recap

Over 34,000 QSOs. Stations from the original 13 colonies; Stations from England, Stations on HF, VHF, and the Satellites!

On average between 2000 - 2500 QSOs per station!

Plans for 2011

Plans are being discussed, but we need your input. We'll need to have a budget to print the QSLs. We are beginning to talk to business leaders.

There are opportunities for Shortwave Listeners to get a QSL card. If we want to open it up to people with a scanner that can tune in the repeater, then we will need more QSL cards. This could be a great way of introducing people to ham radio.

We need operators for all bands. We would like to have phone, cw, and psk modes on the air. This is a 5 day event over a holiday weekend and we know everyone won't be available all of the time, but we need a schedule of times you will be available.

Do we want to do a public display? Does everyone have a common logging program?

We'll start to talk about this at the picnic. We are looking for ideas and solutions.

WA3PZO Appointed ARRL EPA Public Information Coordinator

Following a speaking engagement at a Pennsylvania Emergency Management Conference in Lancaster, PA earlier this month, Bob, WA3PZO was appointed Public Information Coordinator for Eastern Pennsylvania by ARRL Section Manager Eric Olena, WB3FPL.

New 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.

New Pennsylvania FM Simplex Contest

Following the growth of local FM Simplex Contests across Pennsylvania, the Holmesburg Amateur Radio Club of Philadelphia announces the Pennsylvania Sprint.

The Pennsylvania Sprint is a 4 hour contest open to all radio amateurs. The inaugural event will occur February 26, 2011 from 7 - 11 PM. Pennsylvania amateur radio operators should make contact with other Pennsylvania hams by exchanging a contact number and their zip code. Hams in surrounding states may also participate.

The Holmesburg ARC has been sponsoring a Delaware Valley FM Simplex contest for several years and has seen an increase in participation by hams in Pennsylvania and New Jersey. At the same time other clubs in Eastern and Western Pennsylvania have been sponsoring their own version of a FM Simplex contest.

According to HARC Contest Director Rich Shivers, AB3EO, the Contest will help to promote FM Simplex operation, serve as a learning experience as to how far your signal will travel without the use of a repeater. HARC Club Call Trustee Bob Josuweit, WA3PZO, sees this as a fun, fast contest using equipment that most hams have already.

Contest operations are limited to the FM Simplex frequencies recognized by your local band plan on 6 Meters, 2 Meters, 222 MHz and 440 MHz. No contacts are permitted on the calling frequencies. There are four operating classes. These include Base, Club, Rover, and Portable operation. Certificates will be issued for first, second, and third place, in all classes, in each ARRL section.

Complete rules can be found at www.harcnet.org/contest.htm.

For further information contact AB3EO@ARRL.NET



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

NEXT MEETING Sept 23

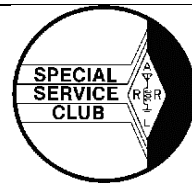


HOLMESBURG AMATEUR RADIO CLUB MEMBERSHIP FORM

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) _____