



The HARC Spark

The Official Newsletter of the
Holmesburg Amateur Radio Club



February 2001

P.O. Box 6253 Philadelphia, PA 19136

Editor: WA3PZO

146.685 Mhz Repeater -Packet BBS KB3BTF 145.030 Mhz

Web Site <http://www.harcnet.org>

PREZ SAYS.....

And were off...

No it's not horse racing season, but you could say that HARC is out of the gates for a year full of exciting activity. If you missed the January meeting, you missed an excellent program hams helping those less fortunate through the MARCO and Medishare programs. Gene, WB3FTJ, and Judy, N3MBW, presented an interesting and informative program. At the beginning of the month we had the first Delaware Valley 2 Meter FM Simplex contest. Thanks to N3LXN for hosting the HARC entry. For the February general meeting we will have a program on the Clipperton Island DXpedition.

At the end of January a 7.7 earthquake struck western India. As a reporter I got as close as possible to the disaster without leaving Philadelphia. I contacted a ham in India and asked for information from the Quake zone. The information began to flow. My stories were posted on the **CQ** web page. As I monitored several Indian ham mail groups, a message got posted saying to check out the **CQ** web page for news from the area. Indian hams were relying on **CQ** and my stories for news on their homeland. I can't begin to tell you the level of honor and responsibility that I felt in supplying news to hams on the other side of the world. Why bring this up? We are all ambassadors for ham radio and our Club. The next time you make a contact with a DX Station, a contact on the repeater, or with your non-ham neighbor, remember to put your best foot forward. One World, One Language, Amateur Radio.

LOCAL CONTEST LIVENS UP 2 METERS

Amateur Radio Operators from New Jersey and Pennsylvania participated in the first Delaware Valley 2 Meter FM Simplex Contest on Saturday, February 3, 2001. HARC operated from the QTH of Mike, N3LXN. Over 30 contacts were made with stations throughout the area. One contact was in the Poconos!

The contest was open to all radio amateurs. Stations within a 60 mile radius of Philadelphia's City Hall will exchange their zip code and contact number. Stations outside of the 60 mile radius will exchange their state and contact number.

Participating at the Club station was Carl, N3ZZK, Fred, Mike, N3LXN, and Bob, WA3PZO. The contest ran from 7-11 PM. At times there were actually pile-ups as stations tried to work WM3PEN. There were bonus points for working HARC's club callsign.

The contest allowed hams to meet their neighbors on the air as well as give many the opportunity to experience something else besides repeater contacts.

CQ de WM3PEN

From
WA3PZO,
N3ZZK,
N3TAJ
And
Photographer
N3LXN



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1 Contest A Success
- 3 This time it's the ARRL Prez
- 4 Atlantic Division Awards
- 5 Will the real QVC please stand up!
- 7 Elections

HARC Travels to Clipperton - Almost!

If you read the article on Clipperton 2000 in February **QST**, you will now have the opportunity to see the video. Thanks to Jay, WA3IFY, HARC will be presenting a program on the remote Island operation. Learn some history of the island from Magellan in 1523 to the U.S. Navy's occupation during World War II. Come to the Club meeting Thursday February 22 at the Naval ASO. Time is 8 pm.

FEBRUARY-MARCH ACTIVITIES

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATERDAY
18	19	20 Chaverim 9pm	21 CW Practice: 7:30 Members net: 8:00	22 HARC MEETING 8pm	23	24 CQ WW – 160
25 CQ WW – 160	26	27 Chaverim 9pm	28 CW Practice: 7:30 Members net: 8:00	1	2	3 ARRL DX -phone
4 ARRL DX -phone	5	6 Chaverim 9pm	7 CW Practice: 7:30 Members net: 8:00	8	9	10
11	12	13 Chaverim 9pm Board Mtg 7:30	14 CW Practice: 7:30 Members net: 8:00	15	16	17 Virginia QSO party
18 Virginia QSO party	19	20 Chaverim 9pm	21 CW Practice: 7:30 Members net: 8:00	22	23	24 CQ WW WPX Contest, phone
25 CQ WW WPX Contest, phone	26	27 Chaverim 9pm	28 CW Practice: 7:30 Members net: 8:00	29 HARC MEETING 8pm	30	31

***Dates to Note: February 22nd HARC meeting - Travel to Clipperton Island via HARC Tours.
Drawing for the Icom HT***

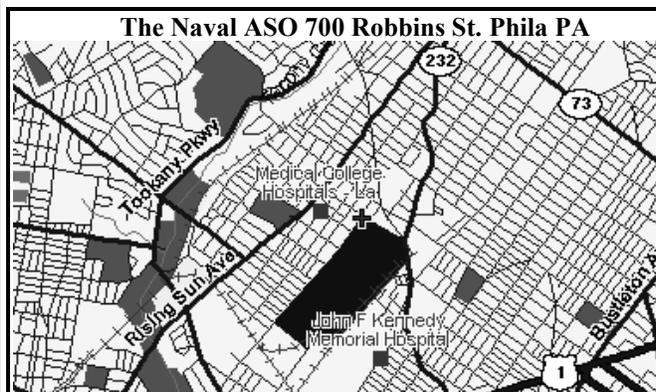
H.A.R.C. Board Of Directors 2001
President : WA3PZO : Bob Josuweit
Vice Pres. : N3LXN : Mike Wurgley
Treasurer : W3KZA : Sid Kalos
Secretary : KB3AKK Dave Hogan
Trustee : KB3SM : Bob Brocklehurst
Trustee : KB3EBG : Peter Santiago
Trustee : KB3AAJ : Ron Slattery
Tech Committee : WB3BDC : Ron Cardullo
Editor : WA3PZO: Bob Josuweit

H.A.R.C. Maintains a Web Page @www.harcnet.org
All members Online can be emailed via theircallsign
@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 2nd Saturday to be included in the next edition!
WA3PZO@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
Members net: Wednesday @ 8:00 PM you can listen to
the Amateur Newsline & ARRL audio reports.
SSB Net on 28.450 +- mhz Sundays @ 9:00 AM

H.A.R.C. Monthly Meetings - The board of directors
meets on the 2nd Tues. @ 7:30 PM. General meetings
are held the last Thurs. @8:00 PM.

+ Marks the boundary of the buildings, the actual
entrance is located where Rt. 232 Intersects. Stop at the
guardhouse and ask if you're not sure where to go...



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, the web
page <http://www.harcnet.org> or writing to HARC PO
Box 6253, Philadelphia, PA 19136.



HARC is an
ARRL Special Service Club.

ARRL Prez Comes Knocking @ HARC Prez Door!

While the ARRL Board of Directors were meeting in mid-January, ARRL President Jim Haynie, W5JPB, contacts HARC Prez WA3PZO to assist with the ARRL Public Relations Committee. This year the PRC is made up of Section Public Information Coordinators and public relations professionals. Chairing the Committee is Diane Ortiz, K2DO. Diane writes the YL column in *QST*. She also writes for *CQ Contest*. Other familiar names on the PRC are Rich Moseson, W2VU, editor *CQ*, and ARRL Atlantic Division Vice Director Bill Edgar, N3LLR.

Tech Committee Update

Well; I really am trying to get the Abington input on line....Honest...I went over to Cherry Hill site and put the whole Abington link in place with a bottle installed. It worked well....No desense at all. When I placed the amplifier in there, it did get some, but I had wires all over the place. I used the CH input and swapped receivers only and it worked great. Actually the Abington 085 receiver is actually working at CH now. I took the CH receiver. I am going to run some test at home. I think a bottle is the way to go. (\$150.00) I am probably going to order one. I need to see where we ordered the one over CH.

The crystal should be in next week for the motorola 15 watt transmitter that I want to use for Abington. A little more soup(8 watts) to the main site.

Frank , N3ZZN has a few master pro receivers for the club
73 Ron

ARRL Director Suffers Heart Attack

ARRL Atlantic Division Director Bernie Fuller, N3EFN, had a heart attack in mid-January. He underwent bypass surgery and is recuperating at home. Fuller posted the following note on the Internet.

I would like to thank everyone for the cards, letters of encouragement, phone calls and e-mail messages. Your concern has made my recovery from the by-pass surgery an easier road.

I don't expect that I will be in full form until April, but in the Atlantic Division that's not bad. Our schedule really starts to heat up in May. I guess if I had to have a heart attack, I picked an appropriate time <grin>

I knew I was on the right track to recovery when I walked out of my hospital room for the first time after surgery and was greeted by cheers, jeers, laughter little did I realize I had the hospital gown on backwards. Oh, well, into everyone's life some humor must intrude at the least expected time.

Thank you all for caring.

73, Bernie, N3EFN

Car RFI Kits available

Many dealers are unaware that RFI Kits are available directly from the manufacturer. According to Bob Reed, W2CE, "Dealers and local service reps are way behind the curve on RFI matters. It seems that only dealers involved with large police fleets have any idea of what is going on. Some of the regional technical reps are aware of what is going on but just try getting help from your dealer to speak with one.

"I have made sure to meet the technical people from my auto maker at Dayton each year. That turned out particularly helpful with GM as they have a very good RFI team headed by W8TR who was aware of all the problems I brought up and how to correct it. At that time it was the VHF noise of the ABS braking system." Some good advice.

News from the Battleship New Jersey

By Joe Cramer, N2XYZ

On Jan. 10th the "Battleship New Jersey Amateur Radio Station" had it's first meeting. Eleven Area clubs and also several county RACES/ARES groups were in attendance. The meeting lasted 2 1/2 hours and was attended by 14 amateurs from the area. Much was accomplished. Various committees were formed from the amateurs that were present. Election of Interim officers were held and Peter Greene N2LVI President - Joe Cramer, N2XYZ Vice President & John Goheen KB2ADL Secretary/Treasurer. (no Chad votes)HI HI!

The Home Port Alliance is working with us in a positive way. They have set up accounting and will except nonprofit donation marked for the Battleship New Jersey Amateur Radio Station. They are working with us for a special event station on Memorial Day Weekend. This will be an event to bring the Home Port Alliance and the Battleship New Jersey Amateur Radio Station to the news media and by amateur radio. There are several area amateurs that were part of the first crew (Plank Owners) when the BB62 was commissioned in 1943, it would be great if they could make contact with WW2 hams first. We will be looking for help.

There is a web page up and running for the Battleship New Jersey Amateur Radio Station. Check it out www.qsl.net/bb62/ It has our Mission statement and service that may be provided by the Battleship New Jersey Amateur Radio Station. You also might want to surf the www.ussnj.org/ and www.bb62museum.org/ They have some great photos and have great amount of information. These web sites are well done.

The HPA is looking for the BB62 to be open to the public the first of September around Labor Day. They need lots of help getting the ship ready and are looking for some volunteers to make it happen. It is a lot of painting that needs to be done. Think how you can help both as a amateur and an individual.

If interested please contact us by leaving E-mail message on the www.qsl.net/bb62/ there is a place to E-mail.

Recognizing your fellow ham!

Do you know someone who has really stood out in their service to amateur radio? That service could be in: technical abilities; public service; training; education, you name it.

Wouldn't it be an honor for that individual or group to be recognized by their peers for their time and talents spent in good service to others? Why not nominate them for one of the Atlantic Division Awards that they qualify for? Atlantic Division awards are presented annually to the hams who make us proud to be part of the Amateur Radio Service. Nominations are taken from the ham community. Selection is made by an Awards Committee chaired by the Division Vice Director. The awards are conferred at the annual Division Convention. Amateurs of any license class may be nominated for awards. The Awards Committee may, at their discretion, shift a nomination made in one award category to another award category, in order to honor a larger number of worthy nominees.

AMATEUR OF THE YEAR

The Radio Amateur in the Atlantic Division whose record merits recognition for outstanding contributions to the Amateur Radio Service. He or she is active on the air and in Amateur Radio organizations. The Amateur of the Year is an all-round Amateur, whose activities, attitudes, and achievements may serve as an example to others. Devotion to Amateur Radio is balanced with attention to work responsibilities and family life. The Amateur of the Year exemplifies the "Amateur's Code."

In selecting the award recipient, emphasis is placed on service to others rather than self, diversity of Amateur Radio interests and activities, evidence of continuing self-challenge, and outstanding contributions to Amateur Radio in the year preceding nomination.

TECHNICAL ACHIEVEMENT

The Radio Amateur(s) in the Atlantic Division whose technical excellence exemplifies "continuation of the Amateur's proven ability to contribute to the advancement of the radio art," and whose attitude exemplifies the highest dedication to service to others and to science, rather than self. Particular value will be placed on evidence of continuing contributions to the Amateur Radio Service. Groups of two or more Amateurs may be nominated for a joint award in this category. Technical achievement may be demonstrated through activities such as the following: publications, research and development, creativity in hardware/firmware/software, systems design and implementation, technical instruction, application of advanced technology to public service communications. This award is presented at the discretion of the Awards Committee, not necessarily every year.

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NOMINATIONS DEADLINE

All nominations must be received by April 1, 2001 at the address below.

AWARD NOMINATION FORM

To display the award nomination form, go to the web site <http://www.bfdin.com/atlantic/awardfor.htm>
Then you send the form to your printer or save it to disk.
If you can not get the form via the web, feel free to send a request to: Bill Edgar N3LLR, Atlantic Division Vice Director, 22 Jackson Avenue, Bradford, PA 16701



Chinese phones jam Ham Bands

Cheap long range cordless phones are being used just like cellular phones over distances of 5-8 kilometers across parts of Asia. Unfortunately their jamming ham radio as well as other VHF frequencies. The are also interfering with Air Traffic Control.

The long-range cordless phones have a huge market in such countries as Cambodia, Laos and Vietnam with poorly developed telecom facilities. Fishermen use them to communicate with traders onshore as the phones have a range of 30 kms.

In southern India the phones are easily available at the numerous shops selling smuggled goods. All the user requires is a regular telephone connection. All he has to do is fix an antenna on his house or establishment and he's networked. The cordless phone has a range of five to eight kilometres.

Hams in India report that many repeaters are being jammed by the cordless phones. According to reports most users are unaware that their usage is illegal. They were also not aware that their conversations can be heard by Hams across South India. The phones have also been affecting HAM satellites.

DX HIGH SCHOOL

6Y, JAMAICA - The DXpedition University (DXU), the first of its kind to provide a training ground for energetic radio amateurs wanting to learn the foundational methods and tactics of DXpeditioning, is getting ready to hit the DXpedition trail. The group will be active from February 26th to March 6th signing 6Y8A or homecall/6Y5. Activity will be on all bands from 160-6 meters, mostly on SSB and CW though some PSK31 is possible. In addition to normal operations, the group will enter the ARRL DX SSB Contest with a Multi-2 entry. Operators will be Klein/WT6G, Mike/WA6O, David/K0COP, Tim/W6NS, Walter/N6XG, and Kenny/K2KW. QSL 6Y8A via WA4WTG, others via homecall. The group will have 4 stations with KW amplifiers on 160-6m, and use Force 12 vertical arrays for 160-6m. The DXU ops are learning the skills to run them with the best, so give them a call to help them improve their pileup skills! Questions go to Kenny, K2KW at: k2kw@prodigy.net Also visit the following Web page for more info at: <http://www.k2kw.com> There are 2 slots available if anyone wants to join the group.

OUTGOING QSL BUREAU ANNOUNCES RATE INCREASE. "In response to the recent postal rate increase and price restructuring, the ARRL Outgoing QSL Bureau has announced new rates for this service. It is still possible to send ten cards for one dollar, but the twenty and thirty card rates have been discontinued. The new rate is \$4.00 per each half-pound or portion thereof. This rate structure helps to cover the basic cost of handling the minimum number of QSL cards in a package while actually offering a price reduction for sending a half pound of cards (approximately 75 cards) which previously cost \$6.00. The new rates will go into effect on March 1, 2001. The last Outgoing QSL Service fee increase was in January 1999." (via The OPDX Bulletin, KB8NW/OPDX/BARF80)

Mobile TV Antennas Transmitting

The FCC says certain mobile TV antennas used mostly on RVs, motor homes and campers have oscillating preamps that are causing interference over a distance of several miles to hams, public safety agencies and other users of spectrum between 400 and 500 MHz. According to the FCC, the manufacturer, Winegard, recognizes the problem and has agreed to replace at no charge any defective unit being used by customers or still sitting on dealers' shelves. For replacement information, contact Winegard at (319) 754-0600. For additional details on the units and the recall, go to the CQ magazine website "<http://www.cq-amateur-radio.com>" and click on Ham Radio News.

In Sincere Sympathy...

HARC extends it's sympathy to the family of Pete Santiago, KB3EBG, whose daughter passed away in January.

QVC Gives OK to U.S. Ham Domain

(ARRL) Tony Peterson, N7QVC, of Oregon, was shocked to receive a sharply worded e-mail from an attorney representing the QVC cable TV sales folks accusing him of infringing on the QVC mark. The message was clear: Peterson would have to give up his N7QVC.com Web domain or risk a huge lawsuit. "Your unauthorized use of N7QVC.COM is an infringement of the QVC marks," wrote attorney Stanley C. Macel III. "That is, your use of N7QVC.COM is likely to cause the public to believe that you are sponsored or approved in some way by our client. In addition, your use of N7QVC.COM constitutes false advertising, because it misrepresents the nature, characteristics, qualities and origin of your commercial activities." The situation was complicated by the fact that someone hacked Peterson's Web domain and diverted it to a site containing material of, shall we say, a questionable nature. Peterson responded promptly, explaining that his call-sign-related domain name was purely noncommercial and had nothing to do with QVC. Attorney Macel quickly backtracked, although not without including some lawyerly caveats. "While we find nothing objectionable about the manner of use of the QVC mark in your domain name," he said, "nevertheless, as the owner of a highly distinctive radio call sign and domain name yourself, I am sure you can understand the care with which we monitor QVC's brand identity. In order to resolve this matter, relying upon your representation that your use of the letters QVC in your domain name are used only for your personal use, and not for commercial activities that would create the impression that you are affiliated or connected with QVC Inc in any way, we will take no further action." Peterson has expressed his gratitude to members of the amateur community who supported him during the recent "crisis."

COOL WEB SITE

Bob Plummer, W3RP, found this information about an educational Web page. Bob also suggested that if you are interested in more sites similar to this that you should use your favorite search engine and search for "electronics education" (include the quotes). The site is called "The UK Technology Education Centre - Internet Learning Resources" and is maintained by John Bilton. I found this site loaded with information. It contains an excellent dictionary of electronic components. In addition, basic descriptions that are easy to understand of capacitors, resistors, diodes, etc. are included. One page, with pictures, on soldering techniques, is worth a visit. You will have to spend some time looking around this site to take in all that it offers. <http://atschool.eduweb.co.uk/trinity/elec2.html> (via the Reading Radio Club) Do you have a cool web site? Send it to WA3PZO@Harcnet.org.

MORSE CODE IS NOT DEAD

Some comments from the web...

The Drew Carey show that aired 2/7/01 featured Drew sending Morse code by blinking his eyes while he was in a coma. Code is not dead!

From: Mary, NØTRK

There is was story in the Now You're Talking book from the ARRL about a man who used Morse Code to communicate when he was unable to talk. This was used to demonstrate the value of Morse Code even off the air waves. I think that this is rather cool. In fact there is a book called "Modern Morse Code in Rehabilitation and Education: New Applications in Assistive Technology" by Thomas W. King. To quote the "back cover" of the book "Modern Morse Code in Rehabilitation and Education is designed to acquaint new learners with Morse Code and its clinical uses, while providing in-depth coverage of topics, detailed descriptions, examples, and explanations that will meet the needs of professionals. The author explains how basic body movements can be used to convey information to listeners and computer devices that translate Morse movements into speech, text, and graphics. In addition to covering the history and background of Morse Code, this book contains specific instructions on how to teach, learn, and use Morse and other encoding methods in clinical settings. This book also contains and describes many practical teaching aids and methods. For readers interested in the use of Morse Code in a clinical setting. "

From: N3LLR

A friend of mine, Jim had cancer and was not able to speak due to x-ray treatments. His daughter and wife were licenses amateur operators and had passed their 5wpm code. Jim was an advanced class operator. During family visits, Jim and his family used code to "talk".

About 6 months later, Jim passed away. At his funeral, his daughter and wife mentioned to me that they were glad they had taken the code as it was their method to communicate when Jim couldn't talk.

A GREAT PLACE TO VISIT

THE RADIO-TV MUSEUM

If you plan to be in the Washington DC try to visit the relatively new Radio-TV Museum in Bowie, Maryland. Housed in the historic Harmel House, which was renovated and provided to the Radio History Society by the City of Bowie, Maryland, the Museum contains vintage electronic equipment, components and memorabilia.

Some of the displayed items are:

- + A portion of the original transatlantic telegraph cable.
- + The first miniature tube.
- + The DeForest Audion tube used by Edwin Armstrong when he invented the regenerative receiver and the Armstrong oscillator in 1911/12.
- + Two floors filled with equipment from the earliest days of radio.

The Museum is open on Saturdays and Sundays from 1-4pm. Tour the facility at your own pace or ask one of the docents to give you a descriptive tour.

Group tours, (great for scouts, boys clubs etc.) can be arranged by calling 301-390-1020. Visit the Radio History Societies Web page at: <http://www.radiohistory.org> for detailed information and directions. Also see the November 1999 issue of QST, article, "Build It And They Will Come" (page 31.)

The President of the Radio History Society is radio and television personality, Ed Walker, N3HFT, who hosts a weekly 4 hour radio program on WAMU FM 88.5 mhz from the Washington DC area, Sundays, from 7-11pm. The program features old-time radio shows. Live streams are available at their WEB page: <http://www.wamu.org/>

MEET OUR CLUB MEMBERS

Mike Wurgley, N3LXN, has always been interested in wireless communications. He started with C.B. in the mid 60's and got hooked on sideband in the 70's and 80's. He got his Novice ham ticket (KD6BMF) while in Anaheim, CA. Mike upgraded to tech plus and he is now a General.

Mike is active on uhf and vhf while on the road and at the job as a wallpaper hanger. At home he enjoys HF as well.

Mike is Vice President of HARC and one of the control operators for the repeater. He is also one of our Field Day coordinators and host of many of our events.



N3LXN's shack

Let's hear about your activities or interests and we'll feature you in an upcoming issue.

HAMFEST CALENDAR

- Mar 31-Apr 1 Greater Baltimore Hamboree, Timonium, MD (MD State Convention)
- Apr 29 Pen-Del ARC, Newcastle, DE (DE State Convention)
- May 6 Antietam Radio Assn, Hagerstown, MD
- May 6 Warminster ARC, Wrightstown, PA
- Jun 1 - 3 Rochester Hamfest/Atlantic Division Convention, RARA, Rochester, NY
- Jun 9 Columbia-Montour ARC, Bloomsburg, PA (EPA Section Convention)

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL - DUES ARE NOW DUE!

Dues cover January 1, 2001 until December 31, 2001. All members in good standing are eligible to vote and hold a board office. Dues are \$20.00/year. Family membership is \$5.00 for other hams living in the same house.

NAME _____ CALL _____

OTHER HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS: _____

ADDRESS _____

City, State, Zip _____

Telephone # _____ May we list telephone number in the directory? YES NO

Are you willing to receive your HARC newsletter via email? YES NO

E-mail _____ May we list your email address in the directory? YES NO

May we list your email address on the club web page? YES NO

Are you an ARRL member? YES NO Membership Expires (mm/yy) _____

HARC is always looking for help on different projects. Would you be interested in helping on any of the following? (Circle all that apply)

Field Day	Public Service Events	Special Events	BOD/Club Officer
Publicity	Classes	Newsletter	Club Programs
Technical	Nets	Bulletin Info	Other _____

Make checks payable to H.A.R.C. and mail to PO BOX 6253, Philadelphia, PA 19136.

**2001 OFFICERS
ELECTED!**

PRESIDENT:

Bob Josuweit, WA3PZO

Mike Wurgley, N3LXN

TREASURER:

Syd Kalos, W3KZA

MEMBER AT LARGE

KB3AAJ : Ron Slattery

SECRETARY:

Dave Hogan, KB3AKK

LOOKING FOR TEACHERS

HARC would like to teach a beginner's ham radio class this fall. We have one minor problem in that some of our regular teachers have other obligations which prevent them from making a 10 week commitment.

If you are interested in teaching a class or helping out, contact WA3PZO.



HOLMESBURG AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

P.O. Box 6253 Philadelphia, PA 19136

"Serving the Community Through Ham Radio"

SEE YOU AT THE FEBRUARY MEETING!

NEXT MEETING:

DATE: FEBRUARY 22, 2001

TIME: 8:00 PM

LOCATION: NAVAL ASO (OXFORD AND MARTIN MILLS ROAD)

TOPIC: CLIPERTON - THE VIDEO!