

June 2007

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 23 & 24!

The time has come again to brush off the radio, tune up the vocal chords, and get ready to have a good time. Field Day promises to be bigger and better than ever this year as HARC. HARC members and guests will be calling CQ Field Day de K3FI from Alverthorpe Park in Jenkintown.

Field Day is an annual operating event, designed to test operating capabilities of radio amateurs under simulated emergency conditions. The event has a number of objectives, particularly for our club. In addition to making as many contacts during the Field Day period as possible, it will provide an opportunity for members to experience HF operating conditions, and to

publicize the value of amateur radio to local government officials and media. We'll begin setting up around 8:30 AM on Saturday. This is an all day and all night event. We do need day AND night time operators. Operations will continue until 2 pm Sunday.

If you haven't been on the air for some time or this is your first Field Day we'll make sure you get on the air and do some operating.



LOCATION will be the same as last year. Alverthorpe Park, Jenkintown Rd., Jenkintown.

From Rt. 73 (Township Line Rd) take Jenkintown Rd just opposite Holmehurst Rd. A gated entrance to the park will be on the right. (approximately at the arrow on the map) Give a call on the repeater (or 146.685 simplex) and someone will unlock the gate. Parking will be on the left as you enter the park.

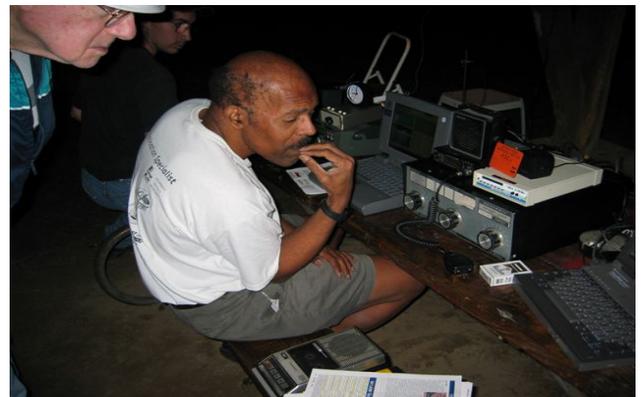


Welcome New Members

Joseph, KB3OYF John, W3UTY Jerry, W3BDZ
New Call Horace, KC3AE is now W3AE
Vince, N3VMC, upgraded to General - Congrats!

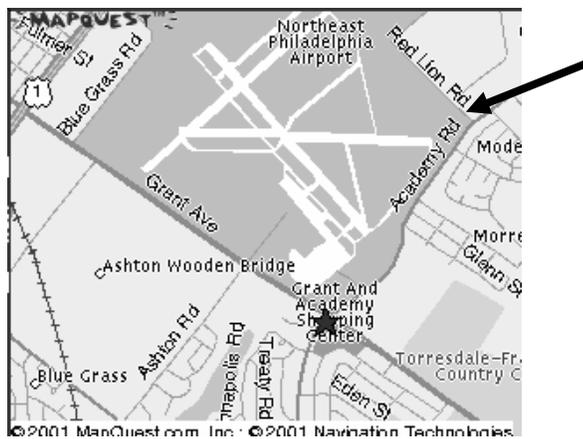
Next Meeting

Thursday,, June 28th 8 PM
8th District Police Station
Red Lion & Academy Rds.
Field Day Wrap Up



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. General meetings are held the 4th. Thursday @8:00 PM. 8th District Police Station, Red Lion & Academy Rd. Phila PA



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 PO Box 6253, Philadelphia, PA 19136.

New Postage Rates 1 ounce - First Class

Stateside: 41 cents
VE & XE: 69 cents
All others: 90 cents
IRCs: \$2.00

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

Newsline and the ARRL Audio News are available locally by dialing (215) 624-0672 and follow the prompts.

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 moved it's testing from Northeast High School to Ambler, PA on the 4th Thursday of every month.

Exams are given at Ambler Ambulance Association, 1414 E. Butler Pike in Ambler, PA. Registration begins at 7pm. Warminster - last Wednesday of each month. Contact Tom Michaud (WA3TQJ) at (215) 343-3494 (7-9PM) Bryn Mawr - quarterly on a Saturday. Contact Bob Lees, W3ZQN, rjlees@aol.com Bellmawr, NJ - 3rd Thursday of the month. Contact Dianne Nafis at 856-227-6281

NO CLUB MEETING IN JULY OR AUGUST

HARC PICNIC
SUNDAY, AUGUST 19
PENNYPACK PARK
RHAWN STREET ENTRANCE
JUST WEST OF ROWLAND AVE.

PUBLIC SERVICE EVENTS

Pennsylvania PRB 1



Field Day (This weekend!)

June 23-24, 2007
At Alverthorpe Park
Come one - Come all
Talk-in on the repeater 146.685 -
600 131.8 . Call us through the
repeater, or simplex on the output.

Women's Triathlon - July 8. 10 ops needed to cover the cycling part of the event along the River Drives on both sides of the Schuylkill River. Contact Rich, AB3EO at AB3EO @ ARRL.NET. Additional info can be found via the HARC Website/ Public Service page.

Northeast Philadelphia 5 Mile Run

Sunday, October 14th, 2007 (Date pending)
We will be providing communications support for the Forth Annual Northeast Philly 5 Mile Run
This run is in support of The Northeast Philadelphia Youth Alliance It is being held at the Northeast Philadelphia Airport We are meeting at start/finish area by the parking lot to the right of the main entrance . Talk-in on the repeater output frequency - simplex 146.685 Working frequency will be provided at check-in.

Mayfair/Holmesburg Thanksgiving Parade

Sunday, November 18th, 2007
We will be providing communications support for the 32th annual Mayfair/Holmesburg Thanksgiving Parade. We are meeting at Wachovia Bank parking lot SE corner of Rhawn St. and Frankford Ave. The parade starts at 1:00 PM

HF/VHF Awards Manager Sought

Two of the more popular ARRL operating awards are the Worked All States (WAS) award and the VHF-UHF Century Club (VUCC) awards. To earn the WAS award you have to make contacts and get QSLs for working all 50 states. Various endorsements are available for OSCAR Satellite, SSTV, 144 MHz, 432 MHz, 222 MHz, 50 MHz, 160 meters and 5 Band WAS. The Digital award, issued for working any digital mode (PSK31, AMTOR, PacTOR, RTTY, G-TOR, etc), is also available.

The VHF/UHF Century Club (VUCC) is awarded for contact with a minimum number of Maidenhead 2 degrees by 1 degree grid locators per band. Grid locators are designated by a combination of two letters and two numbers. As an ARRL Special Service Club, HARC may nominate a person to be an HF or VHF Award Manager. Appointments are made by the ARRL Membership Services Department (MSD). You must be an ARRL member to be considered for the appointment.

PA Senate Bill SB884 has been referred to the Local Government Committee. It's important that you contact your local state senator seeking support for this bill. This bill provides reasonable accommodations for amateur radio antennas. Radio amateurs are hoping their proposal may be integrated into an update of municipal codes now under way in the General Assembly. This will be offered as a stand alone piece of legislation. The original proposal did not include Philadelphia and Pittsburgh. Those two cities represent about 12% of the ham radio population in Pennsylvania.

Bucks County resident George Brechmann, N3HBT is working with PA Senator Stewart Greenleaf. Information will be distributed once the bill is introduced. Dave Eckman, WA3YVR, who is the current president of the Professional Firefighters Union and a recent Fire Fighters Lobbyist is helping in Harrisburg.

The complete bill reads:

INTRODUCED BY GREENLEAF, ROBBINS, COSTA, FONTANA, BROWNE, STOUT AND REGOLA, JUNE 1, 2007

REFERRED TO LOCAL GOVERNMENT, JUNE 1, 2007

AN ACT

Restricting municipalities from regulating amateur radio service communications.

The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania hereby enacts as follows:

Section 1. Restriction on municipal regulation of amateur radio service communications.

(a) General rule.--No municipality may adopt an ordinance, regulation or plan or take any other action that precludes amateur radio service communications or that in any other manner does not comply with the limited preemption of the Federal Communications Commission Amateur Radio Preemption order, published at 101 F.C.C. 2d 952 (1985), or any regulation related to amateur radio service adopted under 47 CFR Pt. 97 (relating to amateur radio service).

(b) Reasonable accommodations.--Any ordinance or regulation adopted by a municipality involving the placement, screening or height of an amateur radio antenna based on health, safety or aesthetic considerations shall reasonably accommodate amateur radio service communications and represent the minimum practicable regulation to accomplish the municipality's legitimate purpose.

(c) Construction.--The provisions of this section shall not be construed to prohibit a municipality from taking action to protect or preserve a historic, a historical or an architectural district that is established by the municipality or pursuant to Federal or State law.

Field Day

Come out and operate and meet some of your fellow club members.

We'll be on site Saturday 8:30 AM until Sunday at 2 PM. Additional time to take down equipment.

New Hams Looking for Equipment

Soon there will be 3 new boy scout/ham radio operators thanks to the work of Rich, AB3EO.

The scouts will be looking for used radio equipment in good working order. Do you have any VHF/UHF or HF gear laying around that would make a good starter radio? Maybe you have extra antennas or other items that would be good in a ham shack.

If you would be interested in selling or donating equipment to the scouts contact AB3EO @ARRL.Net

HAMFESTS

In the area

1 Jul 2007 Wilkes Barre Hamfest & Computerfest
Murgas ARC Luzerne County Fairgrounds

<http://www.qsl.net/k3yt1>

Talk-In: 146.61 (PL 82.5)

Lake Lehman, PA

4 Jul 2007 Fire Cracker HamFest
Harrisburg Radio Amateur Club Bressler, PA

<http://hrac.tripod.com/>

Talk-In: 146.76 (PL 100)

15 Jul 2007 Valley Forge Hamfest & Computer Fair
Mid Atlantic ARC Kimberton, PA

<http://www.marc-radio.org/hamfest.html>

Talk-In: 145.130/- and 147.060/+ ctcss 131.8

30 Sep 2007 Hamarama
Mt. Airy VHF Club Wrightstown, PA

<http://members.ij.net/packrats/Hamarama/hamarama.html>

Talk-In: 146.52 simplex

21 Oct 2007 Annual Hamfest
RF Hill Amateur Radio Club, Inc. Sellersville, PA

www.rfhill.ampr.org

Talk-In: 145.31 (-), pl 131.8

RADIO SHACK HISTORY

The story of Radio Shack begins in 1919 in Fort Worth, Texas, with a chance meeting of two friends, Norton Hinckley and Dave L. Tandy (1889-1966). During their visit, these ambitious young fellows decided to pool their resources and go into business together. Their venture, which the two gentlemen named the Hinckley-Tandy Leather Company, sold leather shoe parts (soles, heels and shoelaces) to shoe repair shops in the Fort Worth area.

Although the partners had no way of knowing it at the time, their humble beginning would evolve into Radio Shack Corporation – a multifaceted, multibillion dollar company, and one of the nation's largest retailers of consumer electronics.

The First Radio Shack Store

Two years later and half a continent away, two brothers, Theodore and Milton Deutschmann, opened a one-store retail and mail-order operation in the heart of downtown Boston. They chose the name, "Radio Shack," which was a term for the small, wooden structure that housed a ship's radio equipment. The Deutschmanns thought the name was appropriate for a store that would supply the needs of radio officers aboard ships, as well as "ham" radio operators.

Beginning in 1921, Radio Shack would grow to a handful of stores clustered in the Northeast, and become a leading electronics mail-order distributor to hobbyists. This is how it would remain until the company and a young Texan named Charles Tandy crossed paths four decades later.

Charles Tandy Joins the Family Business

Meanwhile, the Hinckley-Tandy Leather Company grew modestly through the years. Although the company survived the Great Depression, it was nearly crippled when World War II began in 1941. Shoes were rationed – two pairs per adult per year – and leather for civilian use virtually disappeared.

Mr. Tandy's oldest son, Charles D. Tandy (1918-1978), while serving in the Navy during the war, observed how leathercraft was used as a therapeutic tool for patients in military hospitals and by servicemen in recreation and rehabilitation centers. He told his father that leathercraft was the way to steer the company during the war years – and to prepare for what he believed would be a healthy, new, post-war hobby market.

Tandy Leather Company Formed

Charles Tandy returned to Fort Worth in 1947 a driven and demanding man with big dreams. The Hinckley-Tandy Leather Company was a five-store and mail-order catalog

operation with about \$750,000 in annual sales. Pretty good for those times but not good enough for Charles.

Charles firmly believed in the high gross-profit margins of the leathercraft business and the growth possibilities of the leisure-time hobby market. His views clashed with those of the family's partner, Norton Hinckley. The disagreement ended in a split in 1950 when Charles and his father formed Tandy Leather Company, while Hinckley kept the shoe business.

Tandy Corporation Listed on New York Stock Exchange

By 1954, Charles' enthusiasm for providing the leather parts and tools to make wallets and other items had grown the Tandy Leather Company to 67 stores in 36 states and Hawaii, with sales of \$8 million. Although successful, the company had reached a point where coping with estate and management problems inherent in a privately held family business dictated selling the enterprise to gain a listing on a major stock exchange to attract investors and finance expansion.

Tandy Leather Company was sold to American Hide and Leather of Boston, a respected New England firm, which changed its name to General American Industries after the merger. Following a string of unsuccessful acquisitions, the firm soon found itself in financial trouble. Profits from the Tandy organization were used to cover losses of the parent company, instead of going toward expansion of the leathercraft business as Charles had originally planned.

Tandy began a struggle for control of the company. He prevailed four years later and was elected Chairman of the Board in November 1959. He moved the corporation's headquarters to Fort Worth the following year, and the name of the company was changed to Tandy Corporation. On Nov. 14, 1960, the company's stock began trading on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol "TAN." (When the name of the company was changed from Tandy Corporation to Radio Shack Corporation in May 2000, the NYSE symbol became "RSH.")

Tandy Corporation Acquires Radio Shack

Radio Shack continued to do quite well. It issued its first catalog in the early 1940s. In 1947, the company entered the growing high-fidelity market and opened the nation's first audio showroom that provided comparisons of speakers, amplifiers, turntables and phonograph cartridges. In 1954, Radio Shack began selling its own private-label product line with the Realistic® brand name.

By the early 1960s, Radio Shack had expanded to nine retail stores (plus a mail-order business) and was a leading distributor of electronic parts and products to do-it-yourselfers around the world. However, the company soon fell on hard times due to poor operating practices, coupled with a disastrous credit offering to its customers.

Charles Tandy, who had become intrigued with consumer electronics, saw the small Radio Shack chain as an excellent opportunity for rapid growth. He bought the essentially bankrupt company in 1963 for the equivalent of \$300,000 cash, and embarked on a plan that turned it into one of the great success stories of American retailing. Since then, Radio Shack has grown to more than 7,300 stores, and its net sales and operating revenues have ballooned to \$4.8 billion.

In 1975, Tandy Corporation became exclusively an electronics company after it spun off all other operations into Tandycrafts and Tandy Brands. In 1986, the company spun off its foreign retail operations into InterTAN, Inc.

Products That Took America by Storm

The decade of the '70s was pivotal for Radio Shack. It was a time of incredible growth—not only in the number of stores that were opened, but in the quantity, quality and sophistication of the products available at the company's stores and dealers.

Following on the heels of the phenomenal popularity of citizen-band (CB) radios, the company had another instant hit. In 1977, Radio Shack introduced the first mass-produced personal computer: the TRS-80® microcomputer. In contrast to build-it-yourself units available at the time, the TRS-80 was fully wired and tested. Although a primitive machine by today's standards, it was a technological and price breakthrough, and overwhelming customer demand caused a production backlog that lasted for months. Over 200,000 TRS-80 Model I computers were sold from 1977 to 1981.

The '80s continued to make Radio Shack the "biggest name in little computers," as the company's advertising proclaimed. In addition, Radio Shack offered the first affordably priced stereo receiver with digital technology, the first mobile/portable cellular telephone that consumers could install themselves and the first high-performance satellite TV system that could be installed by the do-it-yourselfer.

The '90s brought a rejuvenation of Radio Shack's core business. The company saw an explosion in personal communications. The company invented the Family Radio Service (FRS), which uses license-free 2-way personal radios. Today, Radio Shack sells more wireless phones than any other retailer.

Source: <http://www.scripophily.net/tancor1.html>



HOLMESBURG AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
 P.O. Box 6253 Philadelphia, PA 19136
 "Serving the Community Through Ham Radio"

Next Meeting: Thursday June 28th, 2007.
 8PM @ 8th District - Red Lion & Academy Rds.



**HOLMESBURG AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
 MEMBERSHIP FORM**

HARC, PO BOX 6253, 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 PO BOX 6253, 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) _____