



August 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>



***HARC IS RADIO ACTIVE!
JUNE FIELD DAY FUN
CELEBRATING JULY 4TH HAM RADIO STYLE!
HARC in the Park Picnic August 21***

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. Score totals were compiled by K3CJ and WA3PZO arranged for news coverage on KYW-1060. N3LXN arranged for the site.



(N3ZZK and NY3Z at work on 20)
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 gather with their clubs, friends or simply by themselves to operate.

**HARC PICNIC
Sunday Aug 21, 2011
Pennypack Park
Rhawn Street Entrance
12 Noon**



(N3UBY kept radio ops fed)
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
Score Summary:
CW Phone Total
Total QSOs 104 358
Total Points 208 358 566

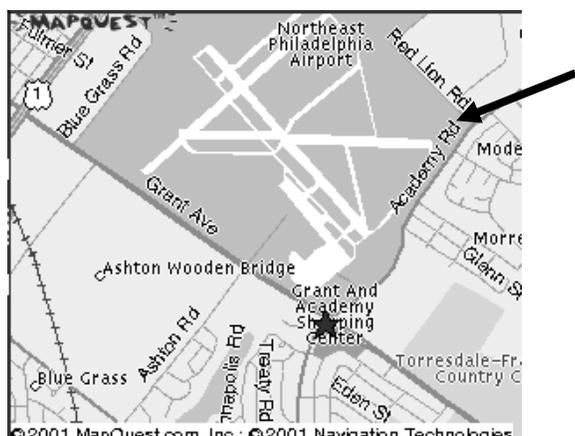
Claimed Score = 1,132



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

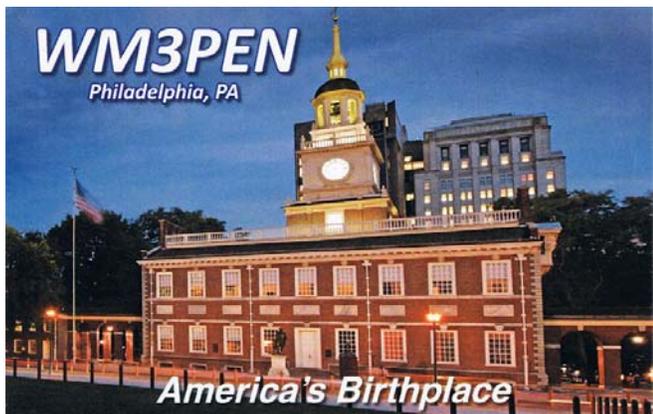
Picnic: August 21, 2011
Next Club Meeting: September 22

13 Colony Special Event
" WM3PEN did a magnificent job"
(Ken, KU2US, Event Manager)

Just one week after Field Day, 4 HARC operators got behind the microphone and help celebrate our nations independence by participating in the 13 Colonies Special Event, July 1-5. AB3EO, KC3JV, N3ZZK, and WA3PZO were on the air as WM3PEN making almost 1200 QSOs during the 5 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 the Declaration of Independence, WM3PEN represented Independence Hall. 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 46 states and 13 countries primarily on 20 and 40 meter phone. Additional activity was on 80 phone and psk31. WM3PEN worked 10 of the Colony stations and 21 Pennsylvania counties. All of the HARC operators had a good time. According to reports received or posted on the internet those wanting to work WM3PEN had fun as well. Here's a sampling.

"My thanks goes out to all the 13 Colony Stations who represented their state. It was a great idea to begin this "wild ride" at one minute past midnight eastern time. By 2:00am, July 1st, I had logged seven of the thirteen Colony stations. Ended this journey with a clean sweep and WM3PEN. Thanks again for the time and effort to all the 13 Colony Stations who represented their state. 73, KD4QMY George - Macon, Georgia"

This was really a very fun event. I received my certificate for the sweep and it really is a nice piece of wallpaper. I will look forward to next year's 13 Colonies. Thanks again to all involved in making this happen. AA4UC

I had a clean sweep the first year, missed the second year, and got another clean sweep this year! You guys who put this special event on are the greatest! It's events like this that put the FUN back in operating! Thank you from the heart!!!
73, -**WY3X**

I've been a ham for almost a quarter century and this was my favorite special event, ever! I had a clean sweep and worked WM3PEN.
Ken, my thanks to you. The certificate is beautiful and I had it about 3 or 4 days after the event ended. Congrats and thanks to all involved.

73
Chris/NU1O

Worked 11 of the 13 Colonies.
Did not hear DE or NC. Heard WM3PEN and the pileups were huge! Congrats to those who made 1 contact or 13+1 and God Bless America! **KJ4VTH**

Thanks to all the 13 Colony and WM3PEN operators who helped make this event a great success. This is a definitely a fun event and I hope to be back for my 3rd year as a participant next year. **Vince - WB2FYZ**

My first time and I had a blast! 11 out of 13 ... pretty good considering my simple setup. I heard WM3PEN but did not work the bonus station due to the pileups. I really look forward to participating next year. 73, **Bill KJ4VTH**

My thanks to Ken Villone and all of the 13 Colonies operators for a job well done under very difficult conditions. You all made our Independence weekend a lot of fun. It took me a few days and a lot of patience to work through all the pileups with 100 watts but finally got my second year clean sweep plus WM3PEN. The certificate, Wm Penn and all of the colony QSL cards are beautiful. Two more cards and I will have the whole set. Looking forward to next year!
73, de **Fred W9FLH**

My boy and I are tied up at 9ea. We also found and got the WM3PEN special Philadelphia station (very cool Independence Hall QSL card). I've

found 2 on 80M but everything else is on 40 & 20. 10 & 6 have been silent.
Some of the event station operators have been great - true to ham principles of making the contact. My son and I had the same experience with different stations were we've been down in the noise and the guy asked about 8 times for our information. I was surprised he didn't give up and move on to easier stations in the pile-up.
cockpitbob

Happy 4th, Jim! Good luck on getting the colonies. Just completed the sweep, now to get the 'bonus' for the Liberty Bell endorsement (WM3PEN). Last year I got the sweep at the last possible minute, and got the bonus for a Brit station participating. Lots of fun! 73,

Jim **K8SI**

Only got to work 7 out of 13 but did get WM3PEN. Better luck next time! **W8JWA**

Clean Sweep with the Liberty Bell! Fun little event! Not too stressful and I am looking forward to the very nice looking certificate (you only need to contact one of the 13 to qualify for the certificate). The individual QSL cards look very nice too and I hope to display them in the shack!
73, Howard **KO4GS**

Well, I only need K2C RI and K2D CT. That would give me all 13 and I already have WM3PEN.

Heard WM3PEN and the pileups were huge!



The **ORIGINAL**
"Social Network"

Ham Radio!

www.Hello-Radio.org

From the Either

Propagation gods were smiling on me last night.
Just had to tell someone this story...

Last night I was trying to get the 13 Colonies special event bonus station WM3PEN (located in PA) in the log. I had been trying to find them without any luck and resorted to some help from the spotting network (which I don't usually do) to locate them on 40m.

I tuned to the frequency and could not hear WM3PEN, the static noise was high, and I could hear lots of stations calling and being picked up by them, there was; RI, OH, FL, NJ, WI, etc. I figured I must be in a strange skip zone so I monitored for about two more hours while doing something else on the computer. Suddenly I heard "KJ4-something can you repeat your call, you're down in my noise".

My ears perked up because that sounded like it could be WM3PEN from the context of what was being said and that was nearly my callsign, so I slapped on my headphones. I have to mention I was very tempted to throw out my call but I restrained myself because I had not called him in the pile up and did not want to step on the other station.

Then the station said "This is WM3PEN QRZ". I threw out my call this time "KJ4YHC", and I heard "KJ4YHC, that is what I must have been hearing in the noise, go ahead". I answered and said "That was not me on the last call because this is actually my first call to you..." and I put him in the log!

I listened and within 2-3 more contacts WM3PEN faded back into the noise and disappeared for the evening. It was 8:35 local time when this happened and from experience this time near sundown is a funny time for propagation but this one was the best yet.

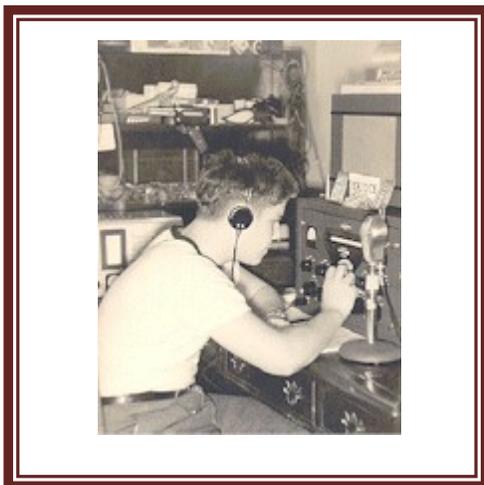
Had I not been monitoring I would not have gotten my contact. *John, KJ4YHC*

SWLs tune in

WM3PEN received 2 Shortwave Listener reports during the event. Edward Insinger shares his view of wireless.

Marconi's wireless. Shrouded then as now, in mystery. Signals travelling around the globe, via the reflective power of the ionosphere. Programming in hundreds of tongues beamed to the far corners of the earth twenty four hours a day, every day of the year. Signals so small they are measured in microvolts. So powerful they have affected the course of history and shaped the minds of men and women ever since Marconi's marvelous invention.

French aviator and author Antoine de Saint-Exupery wrote: The central struggle of men has ever been to understand one another, to join together for the common weal. On another occasion, he expanded on this belief; Transport of the mails, transport of the human voice, transport of flickering pictures - in this century as in others our highest accomplishments still have the single aim of bringing



men together.

A parchment on my wall from Radio Vaticana carries similar words: All over the world radio communications promote good will and understanding among people. We live in a global village this is totally dependent upon our ability to live and communicate with each other. It has always been my intention to reach forth through shortwave radio with these ideals in mind, while continuing to search for those places or stations I haven't yet logged.

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.



It was also nice hearing July 4th greetings from stations in Moscow, St. Kitts, and Canada.

Visitors to WM3PEN on QRZ.com

July 7, 2011	72
July 6, 2011	174
July 5, 2011	285
July 4, 2011	598
July 3, 2011	438
July 2, 2011	403
July 1, 2011	408
June 30, 2011	36

QSL Cards Arrive

QSL Cards and EQSL cards continue to arrive. As of this writing 381 QSL cards and 194 EQSL cards have been received. HARC wishes to thank the Marple Newtown ARC for their support of this event.

News Coverage

The 13 Colonies Special Event was posted on line and in many amateur radio newsletters, including the nationally broadcast Amateur Radio Newline.

Looking Towards 2012

Plans are already being made for next year's event July 1 - 5, 2012. This event will run Sunday through Thursday. Event organizers are looking at the possibility of including Saturday, June 30 as part of the event to give more people an opportunity to work the Colonies, since July 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 2012 will be "Colonial Era US Navy Tall Ships". The certificate will have eight old US Navy tall ships surrounding the perimeter with a large photo of the warship-USS Constitution (Old Ironsides) depicted in the center, in sepia and in full color.

WM3PEN's QSL card theme will recognize Commodore John Barry as the first flag officer of the United States Navy. or Father of the American Navy. A statue of Barry is at Independence Hall and a bridge crossing the Delaware River bears his name. Barry is buried in Philadelphia.



HARC Awards

From the 13 Colonies event, WM3PEN earned HARC's Pennsylvania 67 Challenge by working 21 PA counties. WM3PEN will be eligible at the first level of 20 counties. In addition HARC is working towards the ARRL's Worked All States (WAS) Award. WM3PEN worked 46 states during the event. Three additional states have been worked at other times. The only state missing is Hawaii.

In other Award news Carl, N3ZZK, received his WAS award and Bob, WA3PZO, was awarded the eDX Award for having 25 countries confirmed via the eQSL service.

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 16th - Northeast Philadelphia Youth Run - Northeast Airport.

Sunday, November 20th - Mayfair Holmesburg Thanksgiving Parade

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 21 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. We'll also have a drawing for a gift card as well.

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



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

Picnic August 22



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) _____