On Thursday, March 15th, 2007 several of us worked the PEMA simulated severe weather drill from the PEMA building on Interstate Drive in Harrisburg. The premise of the drill was that a state wide severe weather event was in the works. We ran a net from the PEMA RACES station from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm. For us this drill pointed out some issues with equipment and also solutions to those issues. Check-ins were taken from county EOCs across the state as well as from home stations identified by their county. My thanks to those who helped with the event. Pete Devolpi (K3PD), Keith Krause (N3TQV), Leroy Moppin (W3BBT) and I were in the com center. Locally Glen Kurzenknabe (K3SWZ) and Doug Evans (KB3LTC) helped on HF with identifying our signal problems. If I missed anyone, I apologize. I have included pictures of this drill.

The regular PEMA nets for the Central Pa area are conducted every Sunday at 8:30 am local time on 3993.5 kHz.

Another chance to get involved is coming this month with the TMI drill. This drill occurs every two years. This drill is a two day drill beginning on Tuesday April 17 with the RACES stations and the ARES stations on Wednesday. I, along with Lee Ash (K3JJK) have been recruiting volunteers to help with the stations located at the municipal buildings within the 10 mile line from TMI. I have been traveling to the buildings and assuring that the ICOM 2720 radios are programmed properly.

For the Wednesday drill, we need operators with radios for the evacuation centers. If you wish to help, please contact me for more information. We will need to have enough operators to fill the com center and at least three outlying evacuation centers.

We had a very nice turnout for our annual Ham Feast in March. We had door prizes which included a new HT which was won by Nick (AA3T). The Ham Of The Year award was also given out at the banquet. I will allow Matt to explain that in his part of this newsletter. I have included pictures of the Ham Feast in this newsletter.

Don't forget that we have a Ham Fest coming in July. If you have any ideas that would enhance our Ham Fest, please let us know. We have one of the few remaining great Ham Fests. Ham Fests in general are hurt by internet auctions and sale sites. We have added more seminars and demonstrations which make our ‘Fest more of an event than ever before. It is much more than a swap fest. Advertising is also something in which you can take part. I have flyers that you can take to other Ham Fests and hand out. You can also ask vendors to be part of our event. I speak with vendors at every Ham Fest and invite them to come join us. When the vendors and tailgaters hear it from several people they will be more likely to come to our event.

73 and I'll see you at the meeting

Terry (WB3BKN)
The March meeting of the Harrisburg Radio Amateurs Club was opened at 7:30 P. M. by President Terry (WB3BKN) at the Iron Mountain Buffet. All in attendance introduced themselves and guests and gave their call sign.

Terry asked for volunteers for an upcoming PEMA and TMI exercises.

A motion was made by Chuck, N3WL, that the Ham of the Year award be presented, all further business be deferred, and the meeting closed. Motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Matt, N3SOZ, presented the Ham of the Year award to Terry Snyder, WB3BKN.

Chuck Greiner, N3WL Secretary
Editor’s QSO

If you’ve read this far, then you know that Terry Snyder (WB3BKN) is the HRAC Ham of the Year for 2006. As I said at the Hamfeast, it was as much an honor to pass the award on as it was to be chosen last year. The award committee is made up of the last three hams to receive it. Terry has been very active in promoting amateur radio and our club while serving as president. The decision to select him for the award was unanimous.

I’ll share some photos from the Hamfeast and the PEMA drill here, and post them and others to the Yahoo group. Speaking of Yahoo, please check the club group and post your ideas and feedback: http://groups.yahoo.com/group/hrac/

73,
Matt Kiner, N3SOZ
n3soz@arrl.net

Field Day!

I'm looking for members interested in forming a committee to choose/design and build a new antenna for Field Day, especially for 80/75/40 meters. A fiberglass center support may be available, which would facilitate the use of ladder line for the feedline. Also, the club has a weatherproof automatic antenna tuner that could be used at the base of the center support.

73, Nick, AA3T

Nick Rylatt (AA3T), winner of the Yaesu VX-2R door prize!!

Upcoming Meeting Entertainment

April - RASCAL demonstration
May - to be determined
June - no entertainment as there will be much Field Day and Hamfest business to discuss.
July - to be determined
August - tour of WHP studios (earlier than usual meeting time, stay tuned)
More Details on TMI Drill

The TMI drill is coming on Tuesday April 17 and Wednesday April 18. This presents a great opportunity for us all to practice emergency procedures. I need volunteers for both days. The 17th is the RACES part of the drill. Operators will be stationed at 12 local fire stations or township buildings. We have the minimum for this but please get involved. You can learn from those more experienced by tagging along. There will be a call out some time on the 17th. The net will begin on 145.110 at that time. I will head for the Dauphin County EOC and assume net control upon arrival. There will be a temporary net control until that time. This will be training for message handling and traffic. Please try to get involved. If you can't be there, listen in.

Wednesday the drill continues. This drill will revolve around the evacuation centers. The centers that we will be working with are located in Upper Dauphin County. They are the Enders / Fisherville elementary school and Camp Hebron, both in the Halifax area. The third will be at the Upper Dauphin School in Elizabethville. The net control will be at the Red Cross building on 6th street in Harrisburg. It is not confirmed at this time as to weather we will need an operator at PEMA. The idea here is that after TMI has gone critical, the population from the 10 mile radius of the event will be evacuated to points north. Three of those locations were chosen as the testing points for this drill. Due to the mountains, we will be using 147.24 for the second day. The 145.11 repeater has no hand held coverage from the Upper Dauphin School or Camp Hebron.

To learn how you can assist, please call me at 717-979-9515 (cell phone).

Thank you all,

Terry
WB3BKN

146.760 Repeater News

The new antenna for the 146.760 repeater has arrived all we need to do now is for the weather to warm up a bit and find some people who would be willing to remove the current antenna and install the new antenna. We would especially need a climber or two. Any ideas for a work party date or to volunteer call Steven, KA3PDQ at 938-6943 after 4:30PM.

Breakfast Club!

All are welcome at Summit Diner, off exit 35 of I-83. This is an informal breakfast club that meets every month, on the Saturday preceding club meeting night at 9:00 am.
Looking back at the 2006-07 160 Meter season

Generally, the 160 Meter DX season is considered to be September 1 thru March 31. This is when the band is the most quiet. That is not to say that DX cannot be worked at other times. Since the Southern Hemisphere is in opposite seasons with us, some good openings occur during our summer, but with noisy conditions.

I ended the 2005-06 season with 133 countries on 160 Meters. That season had produced 20 new countries plus one I stumbled into in June! I knew that as my country count rose, it would be difficult to match that effort. I set a goal for myself of 10 new countries for the 2006-07 season. September produced none! I was not encouraged. October found E51 (N. Cook) in the log. During November XF4, 5A7 (new zone, also!), 4O3 and TK5 found their way into my log. December was another zero! During January LZ, 1A4, VP8 (S. Shetlands) and XT2 appeared in the log. February delivered J20, VK9N. March yielded 5W0 and J5. This success did not come without a price. Late nights for Europe and Africa and I get up most every morning 1 hour before local sunrise for the Asia and the Pacific. Those early mornings require an afternoon nap periodically. Retirement is good! 146 countries and 31 Zones on 160 Meters was the count on March 31st beating my goal by 3 countries. The 150 country sticker for my 160 Meter DXCC certificate sticker is now a real possibility! This summer will bring some planned improvements to the receive antennas and additional radials to the Inverted L. The people at the local garden center thought I was re-sodding a football field with all the Sod Staples I bought last summer. Sod staples are used to hold radials down in the grass until the grass grows and it “swallows them up” never to be seen or sucked into a lawn mower again…. I currently have over 2,500 ft. of radials under my Inverted L transmit antenna. I just purchased another 1,000 ft. of copper wire for additional radials. More is better!

160 Meters is a strange band. For example, I did not hear any KL7 stations all season. During the week of March 12th, I worked KL7RA on two different mornings with a pretty decent signal. Building an effective 160 Meter station requires the same sort of effort required to build a weak signal VHF/UHF station. Details are important.
See you on Top Band!

Glenn Kurzenknabe, K3SWZ

Ham Radio Lunch!
Meets at the Old Country Buffet on Route 22 in Colonial Park, on the last Thursday of each month at noon unless it is a major holiday.
PEMA Drill

Leroy Moppin (W3BBT), Terry Snyder (WB3BKN), Pete DeVolpi (K3PD), and Keith Krause (N3TQV).
### 2007 Hamfest Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>April 22</td>
<td>York, PA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 28</td>
<td>Mountaintop, PA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 6</td>
<td>Hagerstown, MD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Warminster, PA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 12</td>
<td>Fredericksburg, PA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 19</td>
<td>Sussex, DE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 27</td>
<td>Howard County, MD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 3</td>
<td>Manassas, VA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 9</td>
<td>Bloomsburg, PA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 17</td>
<td>Frederick, MD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 1</td>
<td>Wilkes-Barre, PA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 4</td>
<td>Harrisburg, PA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 15</td>
<td>Kimberton, PA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 22</td>
<td>Howard County, MD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August 5</td>
<td>Berryville, VA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August 19</td>
<td>Westminster, MD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Hanover, PA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 8</td>
<td>Stroudsburg, PA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 30</td>
<td>Wrightstown, PA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 7</td>
<td>Howard County, MD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 21</td>
<td>Sellersville, PA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 28</td>
<td>Westminster, MD</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Updates/additions/corrections are appreciated!
de Glenn, K3SWZ
k3swz@arrl.net
02 April  2007
Many people are interested in how you came to be a radio amateur. You can use this template to get started writing your own radio autobiography. Complete this form, then add more details on other pages as needed. Please feel free to include pictures as well, of you, your rig, your shack, and the like. Send your completed radio autobiography to Bill Moser (KB3IZA) at WMoser183@aol.com, or take it to our next club meeting.

Name ________________________________________________________________

Call sign ____________________________________________________________

E-mail ______________________________________________________________

License class _______________________________________________________

Date first licensed _________________________________________________

Rig _________________________________________________________________

What first interested you in radio ______________________________________

____________________________________________________________________

Interesting QSOs ____________________________________________________

First QSO ___________________________________________________________

Influential person ____________________________________________________

Name one way or an instance in which a ham radio is better than a cell phone

____________________________________________________________________

Hobbies _____________________________________________________________
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

MAIL TO:
Matt Kiner (N3SOZ)
305 Lewisberry Ct.
Lewisberry, PA  17339
717-932-5241

Make checks payable to HRAC—Membership is $15.00 per year

NAME _________________________________________    CALL _____________________
ADDRESS_____________________________________________________________________
CITY ___________________________________   STATE __________   ZIP _____________
PHONE _____________________________   E-MAIL _______________________________

SIGNATURE _____________________________

I agree to abide by the guidelines of the membership and
The Harrisburg Radio Amateur’s Club, Inc.
Dues end December 31st.