

August-September 2013

Kilowatt Harmonics



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Ye Olde Editor Says

First off, I want to apologize for being late with this newsletter. Since we came back from vacation, I have been busy with The Great Race and special event station matters.

Now that summer has gone and fall is upon us, there are contests and other radio activities to enjoy. As I am writing this, the PA QSO Party is starting to wind down. There has been plenty of operating going on up at the clubhouse. Bob, AD3Q and Joe, WB3AGB, were at the clubhouse operating the event on Saturday, along with Joe, WA3FWA. Outdoor projects, such as the tower painting, has been completed. Also, club elections are around the corner...if you want to shape the future direction of the club, consider stepping up to the plate and help make it happen! Our Allegheny County special event station will be on the air on 10/19. Come on up and help Ye Olde Editor operate! We will have JOTA the following day.

In closing, it promises to be a great October up on Mount SCARC!

73 de NU3Q

Minutes of the August Business Meeting

Meeting started at 8 PM by President N3SBF with a Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence for our Silent Keys. A roll call of 22 members and 4 guests. The minutes were accepted as printed in the newsletter. Treasurer's report was given by W3SVJ in the absence of KA3YNO.

KB3GMN stated that it would be too expensive to do an audit; \$ 1000 and up. We do not currently have any member who could perform an internal audit. Treasurer's report approved.

Committee Reports

Clubhouse KB3YYE said that the water tank is 1/2 full. We need to check the oil tank.

Technical WA3BKD said that the HF Tribander and 6 M antennas and new rotators are here, 2 M rotators in, still looking for prices on 440 and 2 M antennas, table for the VHF room is in, trees are trimmed or removed and the galvanized paint for the tower is here which can be applied after the tower is sanded to remove rust. Mr. Whitehouse (our antenna man) has new hardline to replace ours and may have an antenna deal for VHF. He will install the antennas when we have all the hardware. A brake delay kit is available for the rotators.

Membership KB3VHT Gave the 3ed reading for Jack, KA3APT who was voted membership. Welcome!

Ways and Means WA3FWA will hold the after meeting 50/50 raffle and collect any QSL cards for the ARRL Outgoing Bureau.

Contest WA3BKD stated that the Hytower worked very well during the ground wave contest.

Newsletter NU3Q has emailed the July newsletter. He would like articles from the members for the newsletter especially about their ham shack.

Volunteer Exams N3SBF said that the next exam will be Oct. 2, 2013

Public Service KA3MSE said that W3YJ, Harry Bloomberg, is the new assistant section emergency coordinator for WPA responsible for digital emergency communications. We need more SCARC members to take net control of SET exercises. W3SVJ referenced the QST article about UPMC involved with Skyview ARC in a SET exercise.

Old Business NU3Q has set the 3ed Sat in October (10/19) set for the Allegheny County special event station operation as W3C. He will handle any QSL's and invite the County Executive to visit the club event.

New Business W3SVJ will replace and update the electrical breaker box. Was approved and will require all day to do the work. N3UUZ would like a tool box to hold all the club's tools. Was approved for the purchase. N3SBF got ID placards for the propane tanks and brought concrete blocks to surround the base of the Hytower.

Good of the Order KB3GMN wants a sign up sheet of members who will attend the corn roast and what dishes they will bring. NU3Q has a sympathy card for all to sign for KB3LZP, Paul Pinyot SK. He also donated for our library World War II Radio Heroes 2nd edition, signed by author Lisa Spahr. Ms. Spahr donated the audio book for the first edition of her book to our library. A donated refrigerator is available to whoever wants it or it will be discarded. WA3VXJ is again entrusted to sort out the tower/antenna deal with Lattamus or else it is dead. If it is still on then we don't need to buy 2 M and 440 antennas.

Motion to Adjourn by WA3BKD

50/50 raffle won by Linn XYL of KB3VCK

Minutes submitted by Recording Secretary WA3FWA

Minutes of the Special August Business Meeting

Purpose of the meeting was for Mr. Lattamus and his attorney to clarify their proposal. Nothing can go forward until we get a requested release from our current AT&T lease of their exclusive use of our property for commercial use.

PLAN A: Lattamus would install a tower, antennas, repeater, security and all associated wiring and maintenance at no cost to us BUT he would be able to solicit wireless customers to be run from said tower and collect the revenue for themselves.

PLAN B: Revenue sharing. Construct the above and the club would share in the profits IF we put up 1/2 the construction cost, approx. \$ 75,000.00.

PLAN C: Hire Lattamus as the contractor to install the above, pay for this and they will have no commercial contact.

Their attorneys would have to clear this with the township and taxing authorities.

PLAN X: Do this ourselves, subcontracting what we can't do. We have the 2 M and 440 antennas yet to be ordered and Mr. Whitehouse standing by for the installation. Moving the current repeaters or buying new ones has yet to be decided.

Recording Secretary WA3FWA Joe

Minutes of the September Business Meeting

President N3SBF started the meeting with a Pledge of Allegiance, a moment of silence for our silent keys and a roll call. Aug. minutes were accepted as published in the newsletter. Treasurer's report was given by Treasurer KA3YNO. Report approved.

Committee Reports

Clubhouse WA3VXJ cut the grass and got soil from neighbor Rick and the use of his Bobcat by N3UUZ. WA3VXJ motioned that we donate \$ 100 to Rick, approved. Offer to take Rick's office trailer for free was declined by the membership. N 3UUZ would like to get gravel and rent a Bobcat for the upper road. Approved. Equipment insurance, water and fuel oil expenses are due before next meeting. WA3BKD will make a club name sign for the beginning of our driveway. N3EQP has installed 23 years of CQ magazine on our PC's.

Not mentioned previously, KB3GMN has been providing after meeting food.

Technical WA3BKD will obtain a 2M 4 bay antenna when other expenses are satisfied. The 6 M antenna will mount on a telephone pole and the tribander will go on the tower when it is finished being painted. Antennas will be installed by Mr. Whitehouse.

Membership KB3VHT gave the 3rd reading for Don Smith KB3YLR. Membership approved. Welcome!

Ways and Means WA3FWA will collect any outgoing QSL cards and hold the 50/50 raffle after the meeting.

Contest AD3Q said that the PA QSO Party will occur on Oct. 12 & 13. WA3BKD said that the JOTA will be on Oct. 19 & 20. Since the Allegheny County SE station is set for the 19th, the JOTA will be held on the Sun. Oct. 20th at the clubhouse.

Volunteer Exams AD3Q has 2 applicants so far for the Oct. 1st session at 7 PM.

Public Service KA3JKS said that NU3Q needs volunteers for the Great Race on Sept. 29th. KA3MSE will host W3YJ the DEC who will discuss NBEMS on Sept. 25th.

Computer K5BPC will install the back up batteries this weekend and attempt repairs on the 440 repeater. However WA3VXJ declared the 440 repeater as junk.

Old Business KB3GMN has the papers for our equipment insurance. She sent a letter to AT&T regarding the deal with Lattamus: we must wait for their reply before we can proceed.

New Business WA3BKD called for Officer Nominations to be voted upon at the Oct. meeting.

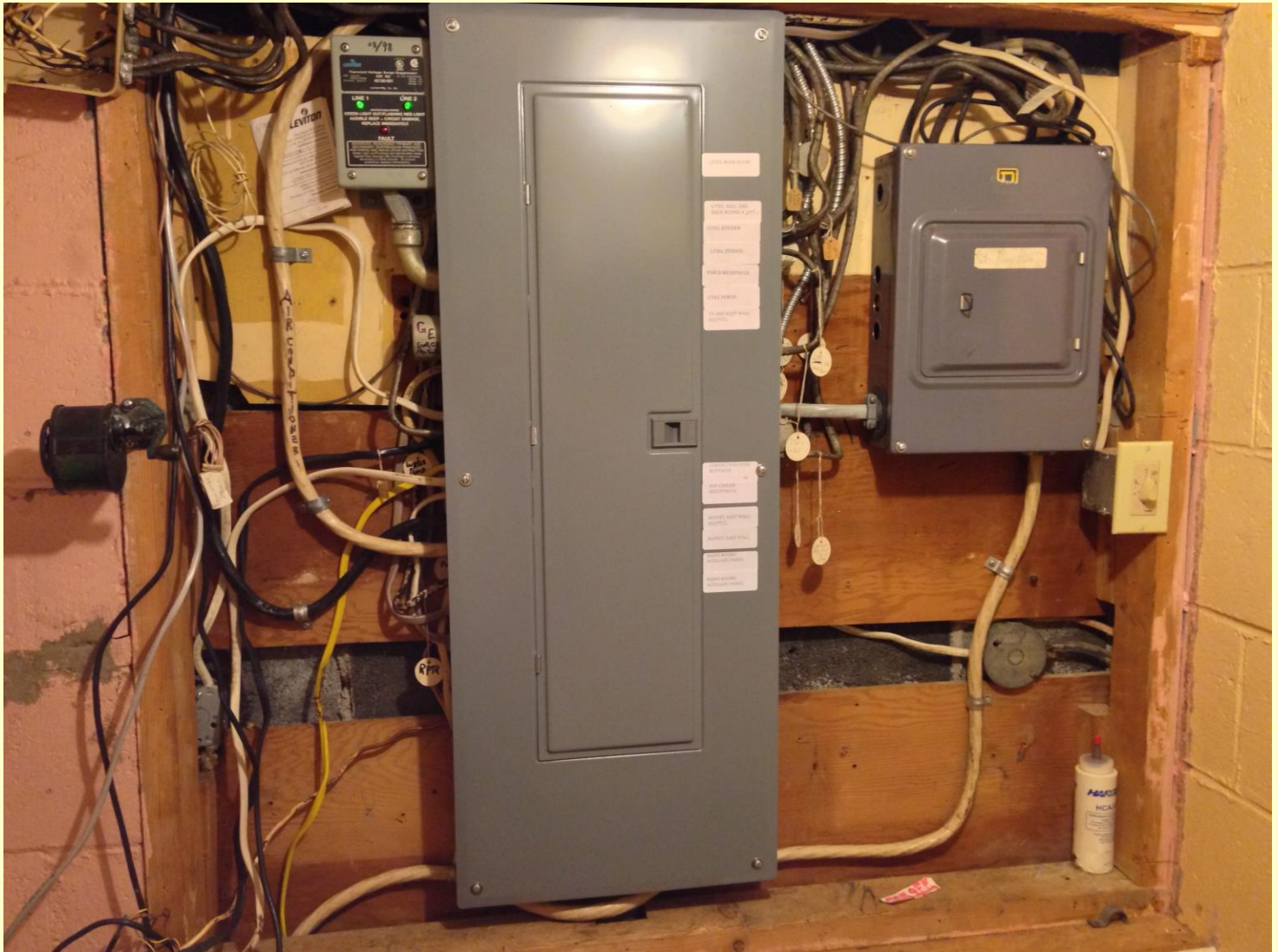
President	N3SBF, K5BPC
Vice President	KB3GMN
Treasurer	KA3YNO
Recording Secretary	WA3FWA
Corresponding Secretary	NU3Q, KB3ORO

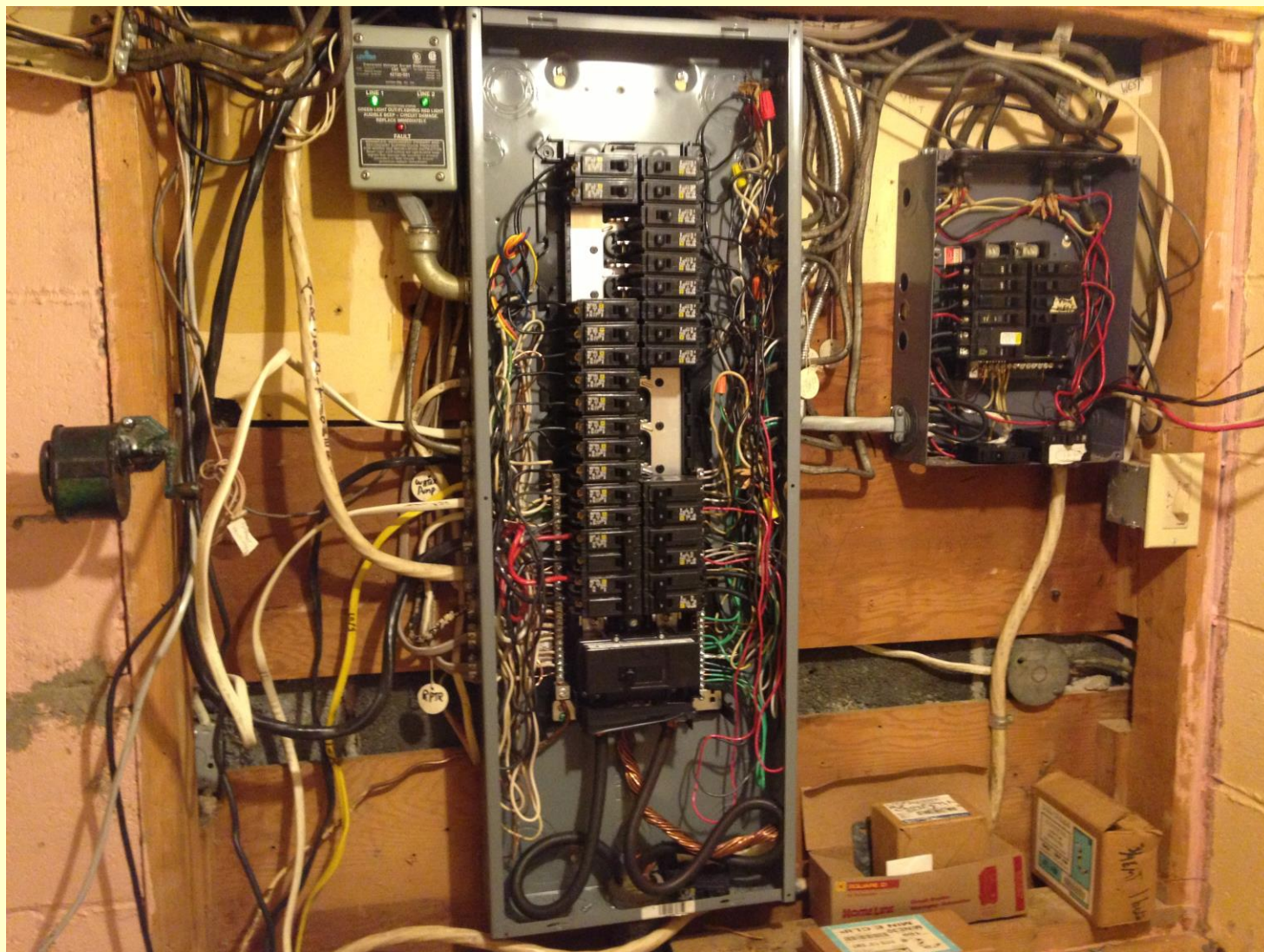
Motion to Adjourn by KB3GMN

50/50 raffle won by KB3YLR Don.

Minutes submitted by Recording Secretary WA3FWA

Electrical Service Upgrade Project





A FB job by W3SVJ and his helpers on upgrading the electrical service at the clubhouse!

Tower Painting Project











A FB job by all who pitched in to make this happen – good job!

Corn Roast Pictures











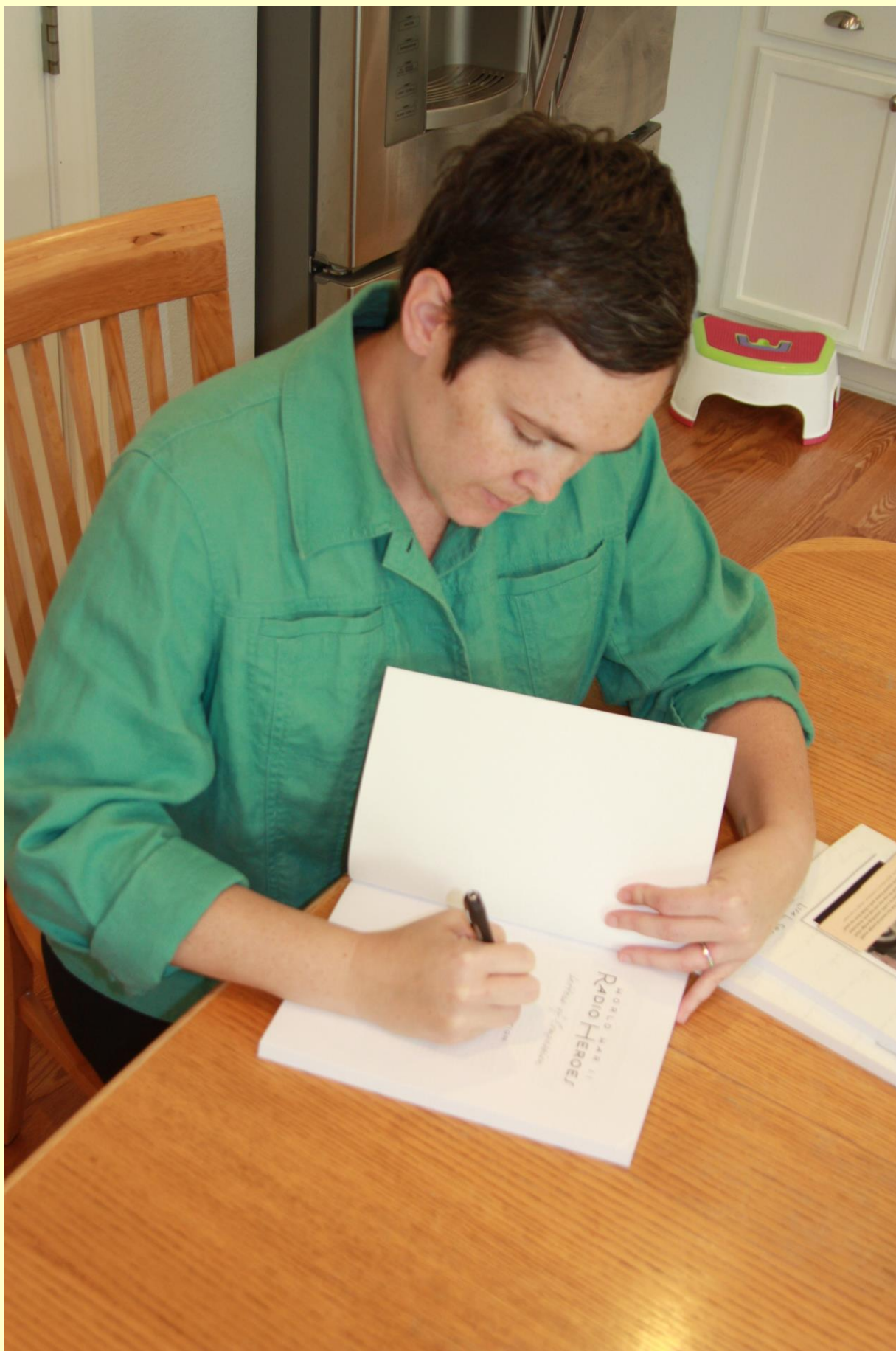








Our visit with Lisa Spahr





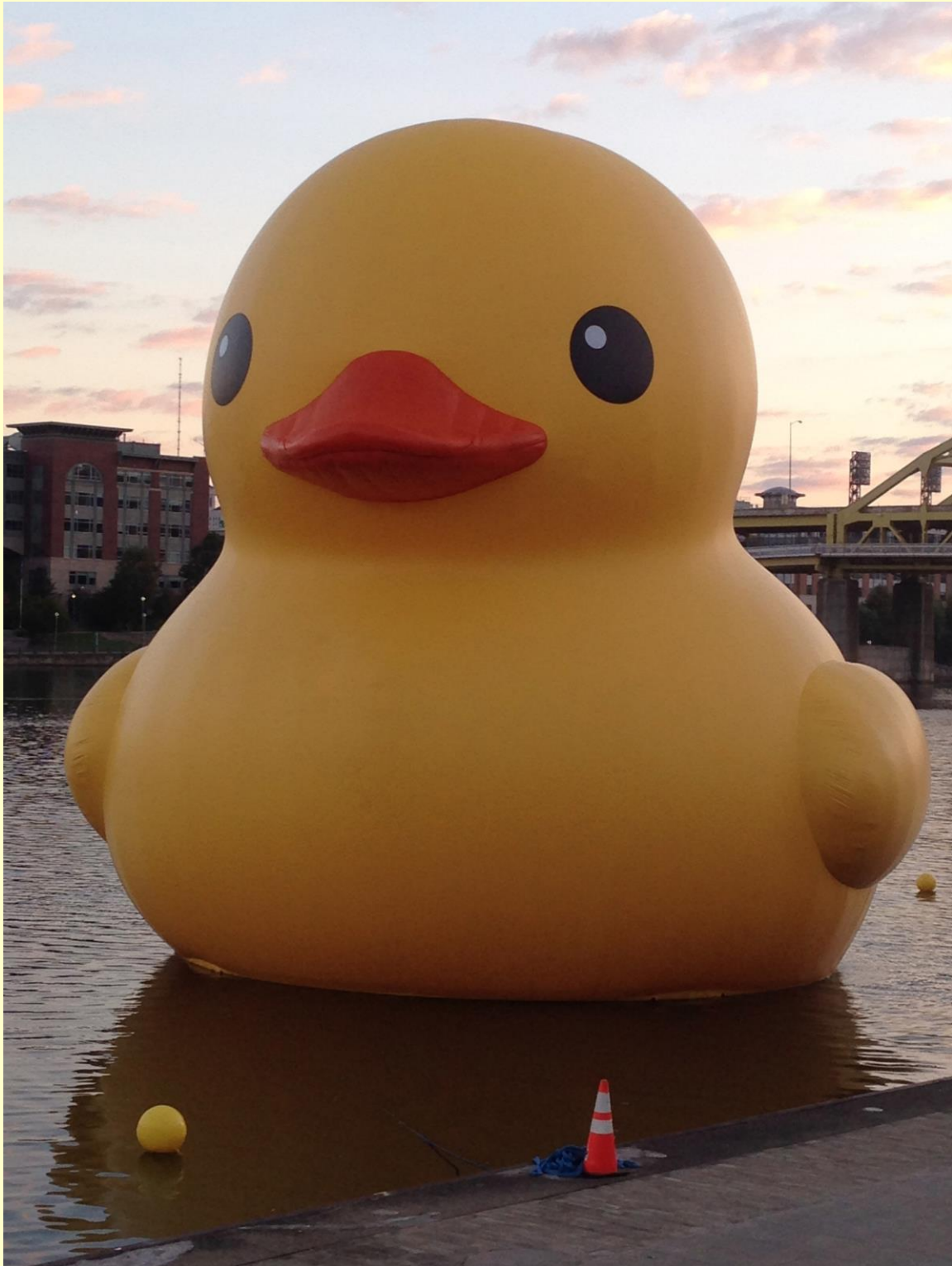
While the XYL, KB3ORO, and I were on vacation in Saint Louis, we had the opportunity to visit with Lisa Spahr, author of *World War II Radio Heroes*. The 2nd edition of her book came out earlier this summer. We donated an autographed copy of her latest book to the club library. Lisa donated the audio book of the 1st edition of *World War II Radio Heroes* to the club library. Our thanks to Lisa for the donation, signing the book and having us for dinner at her suburban St. Louis home. We enjoyed a fine steak dinner with her, her husband Rob and their two daughters, Bahia and Philomina.

Pittsburgh Great Race

Once again, amateur radio did a FB job for the annual Pittsburgh Great Race. Our liaison at Pittsburgh Citiparks stated that "we made him look good". Thanks to my volunteers and fellow SCARCer KT3L for making that happen! I could not do it without all involved – THANK YOU!!!







Special Event Station W3C

Special Event Station will be on the air from 10 AM to 5 PM this Saturday, October 19th. We will be using 7.260 +/-, 14.260 +/-, the club repeater and associated Echolink node. If anyone wants to come on up and operate, you are welcome to do so! I will set up the Yaesu at the end position and the ICOM at position 1 for both HF frequencies and will monitor the repeater on the Yaesu in the VHF studio next door. We can use the logging programs on each PC at both positions to log our HF contacts and the PC in the VHF studio to log our repeater/Echolink contacts.



Western PA ARES HF digital training net

The Western Pennsylvania ARES HF digital training net will alternate with our existing VHF/UHF net with the following schedule:

- 1st and 3rd Sunday of the month at 8PM: 147.195 (PL 131.8) and 443.45 (PL 100) repeaters in New Castle and Pittsburgh and the W3YJ-R Echolink node.
- 2nd and 4th Sunday of the month at 8PM: 3.583 MHz with a waterfall center frequency of 1500 Hz. Initial mode will be 8/500 Olivia. We may switch to MT63-500 or MT63-1000 for bulletins depending upon conditions and length of bulletins. Once we're comfortable with operating an HF net and master the basics we will start experimenting with the new high-speed modes and Flamp.
- 5th Sunday of the month (our Blue Moon scenario): haven't decided yet.

I will be monitoring the 147.195/443.45 repeaters and the W3YJ-R Echolink node during the HF net, so if you have problems or need assistance you can give me a call. I will publish the HF net procedures sometime before the first net, but it will not be very different from any other HF net. I see no reason to reinvent the wheel.

We want our focus to be on Western Pennsylvania and we don't want to be overwhelmed, so we will not be accepting check-ins from out-of-state on our HF net. We will accept check-ins from Eastern PA, but we won't go out of our way to encourage EPA participation.

If you check into the HF net, please prepare in advance a message to transmit during the net. We want this to be a net where we all practice sending traffic not just learn how to check in. I find "check in" nets where the primary activity consists of checking in to be boring and not very useful as a training exercise.

Please join the WPAARES-DIGITAL Yahoo group if you're interested in these nets. Also feel free to email me with any questions.

73,

Harry Bloomberg W3YJ

Assistant SEC, Western PA ARES

hbloomb@gmail.com



WACOM 2013 HAMFEST

Washington Amateur Communications

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 3th, 2013

WASHINGTON COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS

2151 North Main St.

WASHINGTON, PA 15301

8:00 A.M – 3:00 P.M—Admission \$5.00

Doors open early for VENDOR SETUP Saturday 6:30 p.m.

Talk in on 146.790 & 147.270 MHz no PI

MAJOR VENDORS

Over 200 tables

KJI ELECTRONICS—QUICK SILVER RADIO

HAM RADIO DELUXE FORUM at NOON

Presented by Tim (KB3NPH) of HRD Customer Support

MAIN PRIZES:

1st AMERITRON HF 811 Amp

2nd Large Screen H D TV

3RD MFJ 266B ANALYZER

BLACK BOX PRIZE ONLY 50 TICKETS SOLD

I-PAD DRAWINGS TICKETS Only 200 will be sold

MAIN DRAWING AT 1:00 P.M. NEED NOT BE PRESENT TO WIN

I-PAD DRAWING AT 2:00PM

Vendors Contact Bud Plants N3TIR bud@n3tir.com 724-350-6745

Vendor Forms located at www.wacomarc.org

6Ft TABLES SUPPLIED, cost \$12.00 ea. - Discount reserve more than (5) \$10.00ea.

ADMISSION not INCLUDED ON TABLES rental

VE TESTING TIME 9:00am

BREAKFAST AND LUNCH WILL BE AVAILABLE

DOOR PRIZES--YL PRIZE--DX CARD CHECKER

THE MEADOWS CASINO & Tanger Outlets less than 2 miles

Send vendor payment to-

Please include vendor form and make checks payable to

WACOM c/o Norma Plants N3YJJ

236 Chambers Ridge Road West Alexander, Pa 15376





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The Steel City Amateur Radio Club (412) 787-0777
2M Repeater: 147.030/147.630MHz (123.0 hertz PL tone)
70cm Repeater: 444.450/449.450MHz (103.5 hertz PL tone)

Club Officers

President, Richie Danko, N3SBF

Vice-President: Carol Danko, KB3GMN

Treasurer: Walt Atkins, KA3YNO

Recording Secretary: Joe Mielnicki, WA3FWA

Corresponding Secretary & Newsletter Editor: Bob Mente, NU3Q

License Trustee: Chuck Davis, N3UUZ