

*UNIVERSITY of PENNSYLVANIA*  
*AMATEUR RADIO CLUB*



**Minutes of the Amateur Radio Club**  
University of Pennsylvania  
Philadelphia, PA 19104

<http://www.seas.upenn.edu/alumni/amateurradioclub/home.html>

Monthly Meeting: February 23, 2009 in room 317 – Moore School Building

**Attendees:**

In attendance on campus:

Jonathan Coveney; Cameron Finucane – KB3PPX; Russ Miller – WA3FRP

In attendance by telephone:

Jan Carman – K5MA; Henning Olsen – W1YS; Jim Talens – N3JT

**President's Welcome**

President Russ Miller called the meeting to order at 3:00 PM and welcomed everyone to the Club's February meeting. The meeting was held in room 317 in the Moore School Building.

Everyone was introduced, both in person and on the phone.

## Campus Station Update

The discussions started with a follow up on news and progress since the January meeting.

1. There was no tower or antenna equipment forthcoming from the e-mail message that was sent to the Potomac Valley Radio Club.
2. Mike Feeley will be asked to contact the Holmesburg ARC using a similar message. Jim Talens will contact the Frankford ARC as well.
3. The goal remains build the tower, rotator and antenna system during the spring and summer and have everything completed before the fall semester.
4. Russ Miller announced that new student club member Jonathan Coveney is currently studying for his Amateur Radio license. Jonathan has based his senior project on setting up an Internet accessible transceiver. Jonathan has access to the club's ICOM 706 as well as the school provided PC. Russ Miller provided Jonathan with a copy of the November 2002 QST article titled *A Ham Radio Public Utility HF Station* by Stan Schretter W4QM and an ARRL License Manual. Jonathan is very enthusiastic about this project and get the full support of the club.

## Club Collaboration with University in Guatemala

Jim Talens has been contacted by a University of Guatemala professor (Juan TG9AGR) to participate in a meeting with prospective new hams via a Skype conference call. The goal is to have a discussion with interested students in Guatemala and respond to questions about Amateur Radio generally.

Jim noted that he is looking for additional support from club members, especially students. Club members responding with interest include Alan Bennett, Kay Craigie and Jonathan Coveney.

Jim will coordinate a suitable teleconference meeting date and report back progress at the next club meeting.

## Club 100<sup>th</sup> Year Celebration

Colin Phoon could not attend the meeting due to a conflict but he did share his thoughts via e-mail:

- 1) If other stations are also celebrating (MIT, Princeton, Cornell, Harvard, etc.), this would be a great "country-wide" Special Event.
- 2) As a Special Event, it may be preferable to hold this over one entire week, or even an entire month, rather than a single day. A month may be best. We would need some upfront planning so that a notice can get into QST.
- 3) It may be difficult for some folks to make it down to the Penn campus to operate, and I wonder if it wouldn't be better for individual operators to use the W3ABT callsign from their own stations?
- 4) If we are to do this in coordination/conjunction with other 100th anniversary stations, a common theme / background / design for the QSL card would be nice... but this would likely require more than a little time, to design and to agree upon. On the other hand, if the QSL cards are very different, they may be more "collectible". In either case, it would be nice to see others' designs as they shape up. Certainly, we should note all of the participating clubs on each of the QSLs.
- 5) If there is any way to collect information on every participating club, any information at all, this would make a great piece for QST (Old Timer Radio section, or whatever they call it) or CW Magazine. I'd be happy to help with writing this, but will need some help with contact info, etc. Again, some lead time is needed for submission, getting a few old photos, etc.

Russ Miller also noted the following information from the MIT W1MX Web site:

“...The MIT Radio Society will be turning 100 years old this coming April 30th. In order to commemorate the occasion, the MIT Radio Society will be operating as W1MX/100 from April 30th through May 14th and issuing a special W1MX/100 QSL card. Further details will be announced closer to the event...”

After reviewing this information it was decided to proceed to hold a special club meeting in Houston Hall on October 4, 2009 to commemorate the Club's founding meeting. This will begin a Special Event celebration that will last for at least a month and possibly last into the spring. In addition to using the newly reestablished campus club station, club members will be encouraged to sign up to use the Club's callsign from their home station. The on campus callsign will be W3KZ/100 while club members operating from home may choose between W3ABT/100 and N3KZ/100. All operation from off campus locations must be closely coordinated with the club's Trustee. See the club Web site for detail of the process for requesting the use of W3ABT and / or N3KZ at your home location.

It was also decided that articles should be placed in the following publications: CQ Magazine, QST, The Daily Pennsylvanian and Pennsylvania Gazette.

Special Club QSL cards will be produced for this celebration.

### QSL Cards

The club has almost exhausted its current supply of QSL cards. Based on previous discussions, a new card design will be offered by Russ Miller at an upcoming meeting. This QSL card design will include a suitable photograph of the campus on the front of the card.

### Next Club Meeting

It was decided that the time and date for the next club meeting will be decided outside of this meeting so that all club members have an opportunity to participate in the decision.

Minutes prepared and submitted by:  
Russ Miller, President