

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: Monday, November 27, 2006 at the Moore School of Electrical Engineering, Room 317

Attendees:

Tom Archer – N3MZV, Rob Brown – VE3SHZ, Jan Carman* – K5MA, Mike Feeley – KB3NDC, Cameron Finucane, Russ Miller – WA3FRP, Henning Olesen* – OZ9O & W1YS, Fred Serota* – K3BHX, Jim Talens* – N3JT, Jon Viventi – N2WTU, Jim Weidner* – K2JXW, Morris Weinman* – KD5ZC, Donald Ying – KB3NFJ

*Attended meeting via conference call

President's Welcome, Remarks, and Update

President Russ Miller called the meeting to order at 1:02 PM and welcomed everyone, including those on the conference call (indicated by asterisk following name in attendance list).

Russ reported that his morning research at the library had uncovered the fact that the Club began operation October 4, 1909. The station was located in Houston Hall and used a wire antenna strung between Houston Hall and Logan Hall. A spark transmitter was used, and the club callsign was the self-assigned, two-letter call UP. The FCC did not exist in 1909. There were 50 club members at that time.

Fred Serota, K3BHX operated W3ABT in the ARRL Sweepstakes SSB competition and worked all ARRL sections (Clean Sweep). Congratulations Fred! — don't forget to apply for the ARRL Clean Sweep mug!

Jan Carman, K5MA operated W3ABT in the ARRL Sweepstakes CW competition and made 597 contacts, which currently stands as #4 in the single operator category in the 2006 Collegiate Championship Claimed Scores.

Elections

Russ Miller opened the Election meeting and asked for nominations:

Mike Feeley nominated Russ Miller for President, with a second by Tom Archer.

Russ Miller nominated Donald Ying for Vice-President, with a second by Mike Feeley.

Jim Talens nominated Jan Carman for Secretary, with a second by Mike Feeley.

Russ Miller nominated Mike Feeley for Treasurer, with a second by Rob Brown.

Russ asked for other nominations, and there were none. The proposed slate of candidates was elected by a unanimous vote.

Campus Club Station

A discussion was held about the process of creating a formal on-campus, student club organization. Note was made of the difficulty of locating a suitable campus facility at which regularly scheduled meetings can take place, but that an active search is underway. Options include the Hollenback Center and DRL or LRSM. Russ noted that his research has uncovered the fact that the Physics Department originally sponsored the Club when it was founded in 1909. He concluded that the Club should determine if the College and the Physics Department can help us find a station location. A station location committee was formed that includes Tom Archer, Rob Brown, Mike Feeley, Cameron Finucane and Donald Ying. Many locations need to be considered. Tom indicated that he will talk with his contacts within the Facilities Department about options and indicated that HUP would not be a good choice because of security issues. Mike and Russ commented that there is a 2-meter repeater owned by the Holmesburg ARC on the top on one of the high-rise buildings and that we need to see if the Club could get space there. Mike and Fred volunteered to follow up with Holmesburg ARC to determine how this was arranged.

Student Membership Drive

Russ commented that the Club needs more student members in order to secure a station on campus. Cameron noted that he, Donald, and Jon met with Sonja Gwac. Sonja is responsible for student activities with the Engineering School. Sonja noted that she has limited funds that are given to organizations that limit themselves to Engineering students. A minimum of four student members is necessary to apply for funding. However, Sonja can help the Club by assisting in distributing information about the Club to Engineering students.

Russ noted that the Club is listed as a Student Activity with the Office of Student Life with a Constitution on file, and we should continue to be a University-wide rather than an Engineering-only organization.

Jim, K2JXW asked if the Club has advertised in the DP. Russ replied that all meeting notices are published in the DP. It was decided that it would be helpful to have a DP article about the Club, and Rob indicated that he will explore this.

Mike and Russ noted that Fran Walker had suggested that the Club place a Facebook ad. Cameron will explore the cost of running the ad.

Mike will continue to distribute flyers and Cameron, Jon and Donald will assist.

Jon started to explore matching a list of student names with the FCC database, or QRZ.COM to find licensed hams on campus. This could provide a complete listing of all students with ham radio licenses and would be a great help in recruiting.

Jan volunteered to send messages to all local Clubs in the Philadelphia area.

Fred proposed that we should approach ARRL with the idea of having a new award for contacting school stations, similar to IOTA. Fred will follow up with ARRL and report his findings at the next meeting.

Field Day

Donald Ying and Fred Serota will get together to discuss strategy and schedule a meeting with Fran Walker from the Office of Student Life. The goal of the meeting is to get permission to hold 2007 Field Day on campus. Donald and Fred will report their progress at the next Club meeting in January.

Russ announced that the next Club meeting would be held on Monday, January 22, 2007 at 1:00PM. The meeting was adjourned at 1:59 PM.

Minutes prepared and submitted by:
Jan Carman, Secretary and Russ Miller, President