



MEGAHERTZ TIMES

March 2024

W3AI

PO Box 336, Perkasio, PA 18944

R F Hill Amateur Radio Club 2024

President: Cary Binder, NI2Q
Vice President: Jim Soete, WA3YLQ
Secretary: Jim Reed, KC3LXV
Treasurer: Tom Dumire, K3KKI
News Editor: KS3Z, Charles Schmill
ks3z@comcast.net

CLUB INFORMATION

Mailing address:
PO Box 336, Perkasio, PA 18944
Club Repeaters: 145.31 MHz; input
144.71 MHz PL 131.8 (2 meters)
444.75 MHz, input 449.75 MHz PL 103.5
(70 cm)

Meetings: The club normally meets at
7:30 PM on the last Thursday of the
Month

Web page: <http://www.rfhillarc.club>

Email: rfhillarc@yahoo.com

The MHz Times is the official publication
of the R F Hill Amateur Radio Club, Inc.
Articles for submission may be made to
the editor. Material may not be
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DEADLINE for article submission is 6
days before the meeting! Please submit
in Open Office (.odt) or MS Word (.docx)
format. No PDFs please!

Send to ks3z@comcast.net



March Club Meeting Program

Basic Skywarn Training

Our March program will be presented by Lou Ruh, WX3I. Lou is a Skywarn trainer with the Mt Holly office of the National Weather Service. Lou is known for his popular programs which he has presented for many years in the Philadelphia area. Our meeting time will only permit a presentation of half of his program. He will be doing the "Summer Sky". Hope ALL of you can make it to this month's meeting.

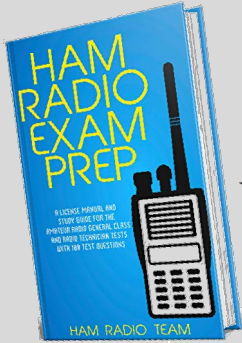
73

Jim Soete, WA3YLQ

See President's Message on Page 3!



VE TESTING



VE testing for Technician, General and Extra Class licenses is held at 6:00 PM at the Indian Valley Public Library in Telford:

100 E Church Ave.
Telford, PA 18969



Scheduled VE Exam Sessions

2024 Dates:

May 20

July 15

September 16

October 20 (at Hamfest)

November 18

Direct questions to Kevin KW3P at kw3p@arrl.net or by cell phone at 215-378-6978.



Club Nets

SEPPTN traffic nets are on Sundays & Wednesdays at 8:00 PM local time at 145.310

MHz (-600). These nets are for anyone who would like to learn how to handle traffic as well as an on the air meeting place for members and future members.

RF Hill A-R-C Ten Meter AM Net: 29.005MHz on Sunday evening immediately following the SEPPTN

RF Hill CW Squad Operates on 28.370.600 CW at approx. 7pm Tuesday stopping before the NPARC net at 8pm. This is a non formal CWs - slow speed - net for beginners and ranges in speed from 5-15 wpm.

SEPPTN Net Control Stations

03/17, 03/20 KB3DEN	05/01 WA3YLQ
03/24 NE3I	05/05, 05/08 KB3DEN
03/27 WA3YLQ	05/12, 05/15 WA3YLQ
03/31 NE3I	05/19 NE3I
04/03 KB3DEN	05/22 WA3YLQ
04/07, 04/10 KB3DEN	05/26 NE3I
04/14, 04/17 WA3YLQ	05/29 WA3YLQ
04/21 NE3I	06/02, 06/05 KB3DEN
04/24 KB3DEN	06/09, 06/12 WA3YLQ
04/28 NE3I	

Contact Jim KB3DEN with any questions or conflicts. If at the last minute, the assigned net control station doesn't show-up, any net control station on frequency should run the net.

Thanks to everyone for your continued support.
Jim - KB3DEN KB3DEN@aol.com

AREA NET LISTINGS

SEPPTN Southeastern PA Practice & Traffic Net	Su/W	8 PM	145.31-
EPAEPTN - EPA Emergency Phone/Traffic Net	Daily	5 PM	3.918 +/-
Pennsylvania Traffic Net (CW)	Daily	7,10 PM	3.585
Third Region Net	Daily	4 PM	7.243 (3.917 -alt)
Eastern Area Net (EAN)	Daily	2:30 PM	7.243
Bucks County ARES	W	9 PM	147.090+
Montgomery County ARES	Th	7 PM	146.835- (pl 88.5)



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<http://facebook.com/rfhillarc>

<http://twitter.com/W3AI>



President's Message

To all present (and future) members of the RF Hill ARC:

First, I would like to thank my predecessor, John Morrell-KB3EWV for his many years of service helping keep the club spirit alive, and heading up Field Day and the Hamfest. John continues to take charge of the Hamfest, but new blood is needed for Field Day, especially transporting the club trailer.

Juggling a globetrotting work schedule and being President of the club presents the challenge of trying to be in two places at one time. The other board members are doing a yeoman's job of keeping things going and keeping all of the balls in the air. Special thanks to Jim – WA3YLQ and Jim- KC3LXV, who started out as co-secretaries. So if you hear me refer to Jim2, I'm talking about Jim & Jim (WA3YLQ & KC3LXV). Even more thanks to Jim – WA3YLQ subsequently and graciously volunteering to fill the Vice-President's seat and provide you with programs for our club meetings. I wonder what he now owes his wife?

The previously empty V.P. position is a symptom of the changes our great and wonderful hobby has been going through since the advent of the affordable PC, the much less affordable Apple computing products, and smart phones. The Amateur Radio ticket holder is an aging breed where many, if not all, radio clubs are suffering from the lack of new and younger members, the enthusiasm for activities like Field Day is dwindling, and providing radio communications for public events is less in demand as in essence, everyone always has a radio in their hands. So, what do we need to do collectively, the Amateur Radio community as a group, to try and mitigate the shrinking numbers?

I'm sad to say that many people never heard of our hobby and the life saving and health and welfare communications Amateur Radio provides after disasters, natural or otherwise. When power, cell towers and telephone lines are down, they can't call Ghost Busters to help out. We have the knowledge, skill and equipment to provide front line communications with equipment we've purchased with our own money, built with our bare hands, constructed antennas out of wires and powered our radios with batteries, solar power and generators. I've volunteered my time over the years during hurricanes, played Santa on a repeater for children in hospice care, walk-a-thons and even the Eastern States 100, which I'm hoping to do again this year, and I'm always appreciative when someone says thank you for helping out. I would really like to see our club get back into providing public service and find ways of getting the message about Amateur Radio back into the public's mind's eye!

What can we do? Can we find Middle or High School events, or other public events needing our participation? ARES & RACES? In this part of Pennsylvania, we really don't see much of the horrific WX that plagues the Mid-West and the coastal storms coming up the East coast, but what will climate change bring?

I would encourage everyone in the club to brainstorm and come up with ideas for getting more involved. Let me hear your voice at our monthly club meeting. The Board had a suggestion a few months ago and as a result we recently started to offer a free 1 year membership to anyone who passes a test [new or upgrade] at our club held Volunteer Examiner testing sessions. Perhaps this will help bring young hams into our flock.

It's time to get away from the comfort of our home operating positions and start getting involved again.

Cary Binder, NI2Q
2024 President, RF Hill Amateur Radio Club

RF Hill SEPPATN February Report

QNI = 72 QTC = 4 In 9 Sessions
That's over 9 Check-in's per session!

Jim, KB3DEN, Net Mgr.

Editor's Note:

**No reports were received for:
FEDS
RF Hill CW Squad
RF Hill 10 meter AM net, or
NPARC 10 meter Sideband net**

RF Hill SEPPATN February Report

The Packrats will be holding a special general meeting April 18th, 2024

The presentation will be by Riley Hollingsworth K4ZDH, the ARRL/FCC Volunteer Monitor Program Administrator and Bob Famiglio K3RF, the Atlantic Division Director.

This will give the attendees the opportunity to hear information directly from leading ARRL principals along with the advantage of asking those questions they may have about the ARRL's past performance and future directions.

We would like to invite you and your fellow club members to attend what plans to be a very informative meeting. The presentation will be at the Ben Wilson Senior Activity Center, 580 Delmont Avenue, Warminster, PA, 18974. - Presentation starting time is 7:30 pm. There is no planned Zoom on this presentation as it is an in-person event.

We would appreciate it if you could post this announcement on the appropriate forum for your club.

Thank you, Gary Hitchner, WA2OMY, Vice President, Mount Airy VHF Radio Club

George Altemus, KA3WXV, Recording Secretary

Signals Newsletter – ARRL EPA SECTION

The link below contains instructions to subscribe to postings from the ARRL EPA distribution system including "Signals" the bi-monthly newsletter.

<https://epa-arrrl.org/signals-newsletter/>

73, Griff NE3I

RF Hill ARC Feb. 29 Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date- 02/29/2024

Welcome/Call to Order- Vice President Jim, WA3YLQ at 7:35pm.

Pledge to the Flag

Roll Call- 18 members present.

Reports of Officers:

President- Cary NI2Q away on business.

Vice President- Jim WA3YLQ volunteered to fill the vacant Vice President's position. The Board voted and approved Jim's position.

Secretary- The January minutes were approved with a date correction. A motion was made by Ned WQ3Z and a second by John KB3EWV. Jim KC3LXV reported 36 members have paid dues.

Treasurer- Tom K3KKI reported on income and expenses.
A motion by Charles KS3Z and Kevin KW3P was made and approved to accept the report.

Committee Reports-

Audit Committee- Consisted of Kevin KW3P, Len N3EOE, Jim WA3YLQ. Len reported for the committee. The books are accurate and well maintained.

Repeater- Charles KS3Z will continue as Repeater head. Everything is in good working order.

VE- Kevin KW3P reported there are no candidates for the January session.

MHz Times- Bill W3WTT is retiring and moving to Michigan. Charles KS3Z will pick up responsibility for publishing the MHz Times.

SEPPATN- Jim KB3DEN will continue as net control manager.

WA3JRS 10 Meter Net- John N3HGX will continue as Net Control.

FEDS- Dan WA3NFV reported good activity weather permitting.

Field Day - June 22-23. The club trailer needs inspection and registration.
A volunteer with a tow vehicle will be needed. Also need someone to chair Field Day.

Continued on the next page —>

Meeting Minutes Continued

New Business- Ned WQ3Z has arranged to have Louis Ruh WX3I as our guest speaker for the March meeting. The topic will be weather. Ned also discussed having dinner at Peter Becker prior to the monthly meetings.

Tom K3KKI suggested forming a Public Relations committee in order to gain new club members. A volunteer is needed to head this committee. Tom and his wife are willing to help.

Charles KS3Z reported that the WARC bus trip to the ARRL mentioned in the MHz Times is cancelled.

Charles KS3Z will need articles for the MHz Times. Word or Open Office files are best to work with.

Charles KS3Z noted that our Hamfest is now ARRL sanctioned.

Jim WA3LYQ discussed reviving a Technical Committee.

Lamar K3UCI will continue with coffee and refreshments at the regular meeting.

Discussion on the wording of a free one year club membership for those passing the VE test. The Board will review and revise.

Antenna Day was discussed with a date of Saturday May 18th at Markey Park from 10am to 2pm. The Board will finalize details at their next meeting.

Adjournment at 8:15pm.

Program - Charles KS3Z presented an interesting program on "Tower Hill".

Respectfully Submitted

Jim Reed, Secretary
KC3LXV

***Don't Forget . . .
RF Hill Hamfest is Sunday, October 20***

**Upper County Campus—Bucks County Community College in Perkasie.
Flyers will be available at Club meetings
This is a significant source of income for the year.
Volunteer and help our club!**

The Radio Amateur is:

CONSIDERATE... He never knowingly operates in such a way as to lessen the pleasure of others.

LOYAL... He offers loyalty, encouragement and support to other amateurs, local clubs, the IARU Radio Society in his country, through which Amateur Radio in his country is represented nationally and internationally.

PROGRESSIVE... He keeps his station up to date. It is well-built and efficient. His operating practice is above reproach.

FRIENDLY... He operates slowly and patiently when requested; offers friendly advice and counsel to the beginner; kind assistance, cooperation and consideration for the interests of others. These are the marks of the amateur spirit.

BALANCED... Radio is a hobby, never interfering with duties owed to family, job, school or community.

PATRIOTIC... His station and skills are always ready for service to country and community.

– adapted from the original Amateur's Code, written by Paul M. Segal, W9EEA, in 1928

THE AMERICAN RADIO RELAY LEAGUE RADIOGRAM <small>VIA AMATEUR RADIO</small>							
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Close-By Hamfests Coming soon!

WARMINSTER AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

2024 HAMFEST & ARRL EPA SECTION CONVENTION

Sunday, May 5, 2024 (rain or shine)

Gate opens at 7 am (6 am for vendors)

LOCATION:

Bucks County Community College -
Lower Bucks Campus
1304 Veteran's Hwy (Route 413)
Bristol, PA 19007

GPS Coordinates:

Latitude: 40.112755 | Longitude: -74.876504

Talk-in 147.09+ (131.8) / 443.95+ (131.8)

- New & Used Ham Radio & PC Equipment
- Equipment check-out table
- VE Testing at 10:00 am
- DXCC card checking
- Door prizes every hour
- Food service available
- Presentations:
 - 8:30 am - AREDN MESH Networks Overview & Demo
 - 10:30 am - ARRL Atlantic Division/EPA Section Forum

- Gate admission: \$8/person
- Unlicensed spouses & under 13 free
- Student free with valid ID
- Tailgating: \$10/car-width space (plus admission)
- Indoor tables: \$20/table (plus admission)
- Handicap parking available



For more info:
Web: www.k3dn.org
Contact: hamfest@k3dn.org



Old Barney Amateur Radio Club

HAM FEST AT THE SHORE

SATURDAY MAY 11, 2024
SURF CITY VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY
713 LONG BEACH BLVD SURF CITY, NJ 08008
8:00AM-1:00PM - VENDOR SET UP 7:00AM

Admission Fee: \$5
NON-HAM SPOUSES AND KIDS FREE!

Indoor Vendor Table - \$15 - Includes table and 1 Admission
Outside Vendor - \$10 - 1 Parking Space Area, No Tables Provided
Vendor space limited - first come, first serve.
Food and Drink Available * Benefits Surf City Vol. Fire Company

WALLY'S
15% OFF
 With Event Ticket

TALK IN FREQUENCY
146.835
127.3 PL

VE SESSION - 10:00AM - \$15 FEE
CONTACT RICHARD KENNARD, N2RPQ
FRN NUMBER AND PHOTO ID REQUIRED
 Obtain FRN Number at FCC.GOV

QUESTIONS? Contact Ira, N2WAA
hamfest@obar.org - 201.741.5330