



FEEDBACK



Web Site k3dn.org

Warminster Amateur Radio Club

July 2016

Next Meeting July 7th - Weak Signal Operation

President's Message

Welcome to Summer!

Well, Field Day has wrapped up, and WARC has put on another successful event. The weather cooperated, even if the bands didn't, and everyone pitched in to make this year's version one to remember. We had a full array of stations, including VHF/UHF, satellite, and even a fully solar powered 2m set up, along with four HF positions. A special thanks to Ron NY3J & Shrini KC3FJB for stepping up to get our 15m position on the air, and to Tom KC3HAS and Anna for running the station through to the end. Our 20m position dedicated themselves this year to welcoming new hams that haven't had much opportunity to operate HF, as well as visitors interested in joining the hobby, and their effort was met with much enthusiasm. As usual, Mark AA3K & Marianne KA2VJO proved to be excellent hosts, keeping us hydrated and well-fed for the duration. Doc W3GAD oversaw the prep leading up to FD, and put the pieces in place to carry it off without a hitch, even as he was unable to attend himself. After last year's cancellation, it was nice to get back to business, and I'm proud of the way we all came together to put that behind us and make this a great operation.

July marks the beginning of the new terms for our incoming Executive Board and elected Directors. The names and faces are familiar, with the addition of Kathy KC3FBY starting her officially elected tenure. I'd like to thank all of my fellow Board members for the time and effort they dedicate to this club, and for making my job easier. It is my pleasure to serve with them all, and I am honored to begin my second term as your President.

The time is at hand to begin nominating candidates for the Dave Simpson W13Y Outstanding Ham of the Year award. This award was created in honor of W13Y, a long-time club member who became SK late last year, and is designed to recognize WARC members for their service and dedication to the club and ham radio in general. You can read more about the details on WARCtalk (under the Files section).

We've landed an exceptional guest speaker for our November presentation. I don't want to give too much away too soon, but suffice it to say this is a real coup, and this presentation will be one that you won't want to miss!

For the presentation this month, we will recap our Field Day experience, followed by a presentation on Transmitters and Micro-waves. See you there!

de Tony, W3FLH

73

July Program - VHF "Weak Signal" Operation

Get ready for an educational presentation on VHF "weak signal" operation that will enable you to enjoy new vistas in ham radio. At our July meeting on Thursday, July 7, Michael KB1JEY and Rick K1DS will familiarize you with three topics that will take you into VHF airwaves. Michael will lay the groundwork with concepts and details of the radio equipment, including VHF transmitters, antennas and Software Defined Radio (SDR). Rick will highlight VHF activities and some of the unique challenges and rewards of VHF operation, including roving, contesting, and even moonbounce!

VHF "Weak Signal" operation employs transmission modes in addition to FM that allow hams to communicate at 50 MHz and above at greater ranges. These modes include SSB, WSJT and related digital modes, and of course, Morse code.

Michael has been an active member of WARC since he arrived in Pennsylvania about a dozen years ago. Both he and Rick are members of the Mount Airy VHF Radio Club (Packrats), which meets at the Ben Wilson Senior Center on the third Thursday of most months. All WARC members are invited and welcome to attend Packrat meetings.

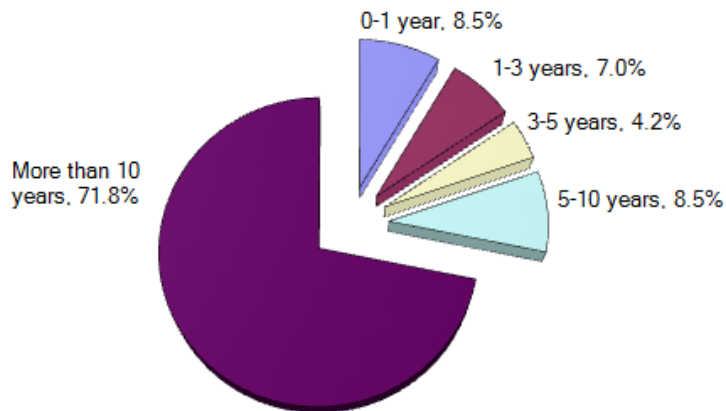
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Warminster Amateur Radio Club (WARC) Logging Software Survey Results

In May of 2016, the Warminster Amateur Radio Club (WARC) conducted a survey of its members on logging software used for Amateur Radio contacts. The survey was sent out to active members as of May 1, 2016 with 61% responding. These are the results of that survey.

How long have you been a Ham Radio Operator?

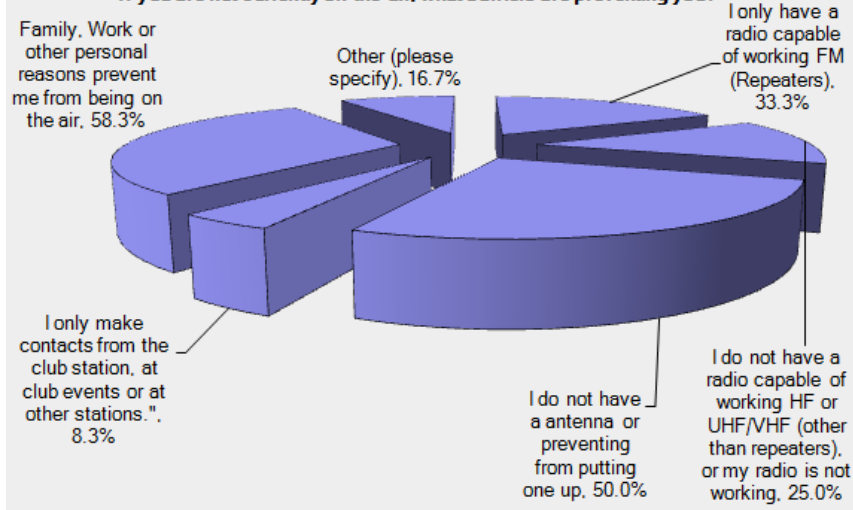


The majority, 72%, of those who responded have been Ham Radio Operators more than 10 years, with 63% having an Extra Class license.

License Class Percent

None 0.0%
 Tech 11.3%
 General 22.5%
 Advanced 2.8%
 Extra 63.4%

If you are not currently on-the-air, what barriers are preventing you?



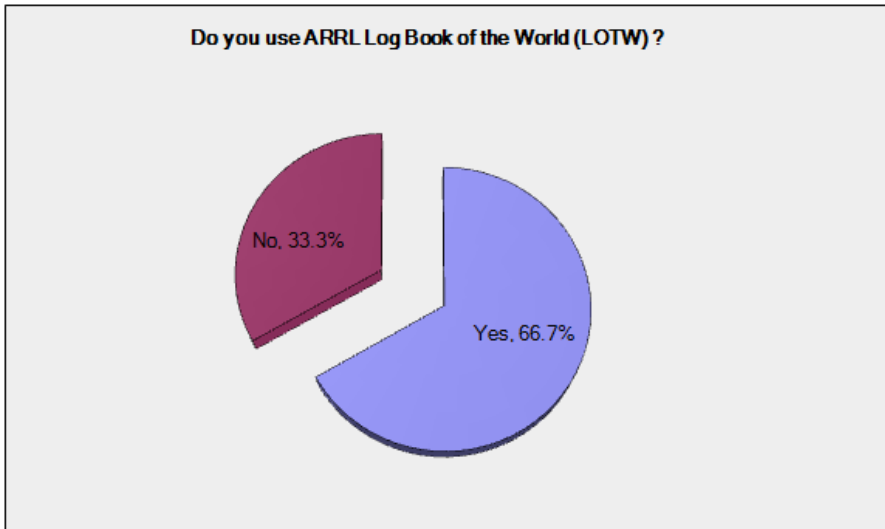
83% of the responders to the survey indicated they are active on the air, and that 80% of them currently keep a log of their contacts with other stations.

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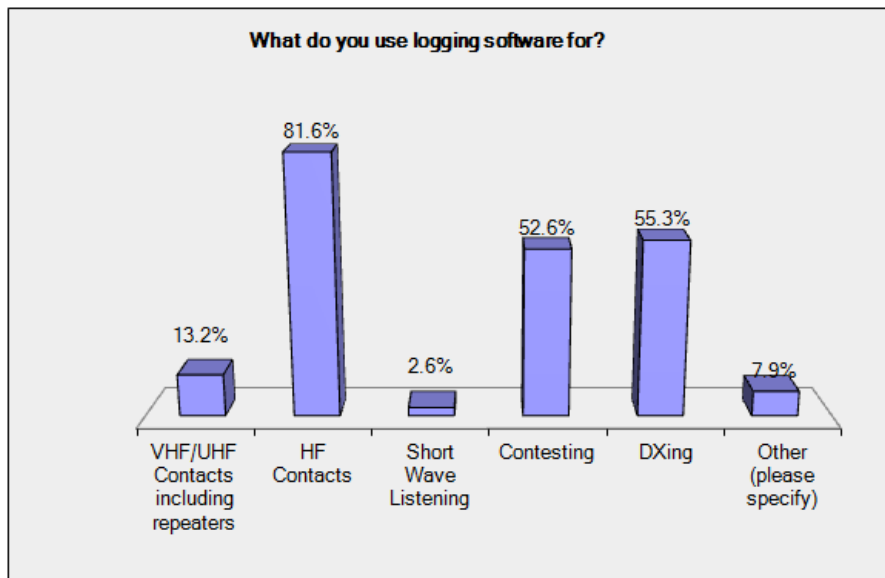
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The largest obstacle to being active on the air was *"family, work or other personal reasons"*. Another 33% stated that they only have a radio capable of working VHF repeaters or currently their radio is not working.

When asked about logging their contacts with other stations, 62% responded that they use computer logging software exclusively, 17% responded that they only keep a paper log, and 21% responded they keep both paper and use logging software.



The majority of responders, 68%, use the ARRL Log Book of the World (LOTW). WARC Logging

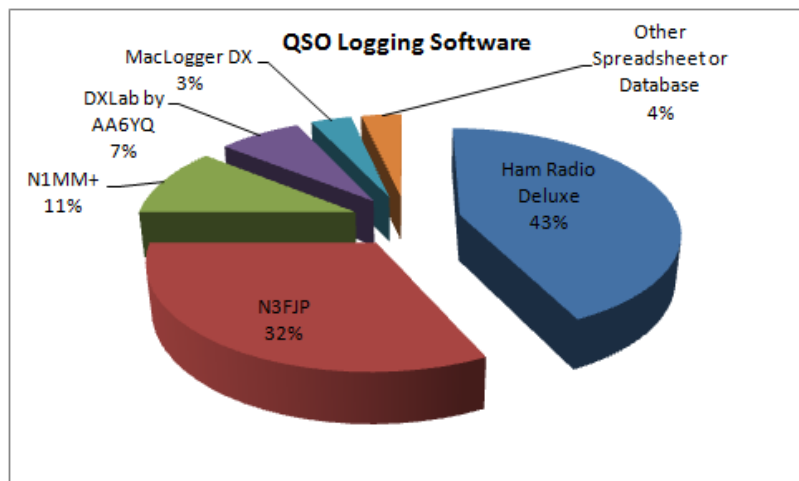


When asked for what activities do they use logging software? Of the total who responded 82% said that they use it for HF contacts, 53% use it for contesting, 56% use it for DX'ing, and 13% use it for VHF/UHF contacts.

In addition to the above, others use logging software for Worked All States Awards, Nets and D-Star contacts in the 13 Colonies on-the-air events.

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When asked what logging software the responders used for **Logging General Contacts** with other stations and DXing, the majority use Ham Radio Deluxe, N3FJP or N1MM+ software.

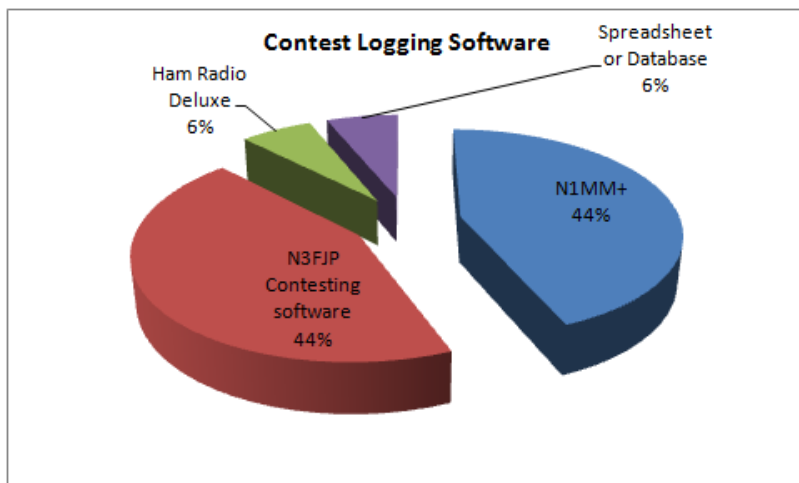
(NOTE: The list of logging software in the survey was derived from eHam.net's list of top logging software.)

QSO Logging Software Percent Responders Use

Ham Radio Deluxe 31.6%
 N3FJP (including AC Log and N3FJP Contesting software) 23.7%
 DXLab by AA6YQ 5.3%
 N1MM+ 7.9%
 MacLogger DX 2.6%
 Other Spreadsheet or Database 2.6%
 Dx4Win 0.0%
 ProLog2K 0.0%
 Win-EQF 0.0%
 Winlog32 0.0%
 Other (please specify) 26.3%

Others included Log40M, Vhlog32, N1MM, QRZ.COM, W3KM software, W3KM Genlog Ham Log, RUMLog and Pignology Hamlog. One response was that they were currently evaluating logging software.

When asked what logging software is used for **Logging Contests Contacts** the majority of responders who participate in contesting use either N1MM+ or N3FJP. An additional 29% of responders do not participate in contests and are not included in the results for this question.



Contest Logging Software Percent Responders Use

I do not participate in contests 28.9%

N1MM+ 18.4%

N3FJP Contesting software 18.4%

Ham Radio Deluxe 2.6%

Spreadsheet or Database 2.6%

DXLab by AA6YQ 0.0%

Writelog 0.0%

CT by K1EA 0.0%

Other (please specify) 28.9%

Others included: Vhflog32, W3KM General Log for VHF Contests , and Pignology Hamlog.

Editors Note. There are numerous logging software tools available, both for logging contacts (QSO's) and contests. I keep both a paper and electronic log. Not sure why; probably just an old habit from the days before logging software became available. The leading contests sponsored by the ARRL and CQ require that logs be submitted in an electronic format (Cabrillo File). The ARRL Log book of the World, although will allow you to enter contacts manually, prefers that they be submitted in an electronic format. QSL Cards can still be checked locally or submitted to the ARRL for checking for awards.

The majority of logging software tools today include radio connectivity, connections to spotting networks, QRZ and awards programs such as the ARRL Log Book of the World, among other features. Some of the logging software tools are free while others are not, requiring both an initial fee and in some cases an on-going support fee. In addition, the majority offer support through user groups.

My experience is that there does not seem to be any difference in support from the authors or user groups from those tools that are free versus those offered for a fee. I have found that all of the tools available that cost a fee, allow you to try them for a limited time before purchasing.

Meeting Minutes WARC General Membership Meeting**June 2, 2016****Attendance:**

Call to order – Tony W3FLH

Jim Z0ZPG has 45' tower and other equipment that he needs to take down and sell. Photos and other information shared with group. Information will be added to Feedback.

Introductions- pass the mic

Minutes from last meeting – approved as printed in Feedback

Committee Reports

Treasurer's Report – Bill K3FMQ – as reported at the meeting.

Programs – Vinny K3VJP

July – TX/Microwaves

August – Homebrew night

September – QSL Cards

October – ARRL lab (?)

Membership – George KC3ESH

133 members

5 new members since last month

Sign-in sheet will be at front table from now on, please sign in when you enter the meeting.

Public Service – George N3HBT

Warminster Memorial Day parade cancelled due to weather. No makeup parade. Ceremony to be held at township building on Saturday.

Monday, June 20 – Hole in one golf outing at Five Ponds. Signup sheet at meeting. Start time is 1:00 pm. Onsite at 12:30 pm for assignments.

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No other public service events at this time.

Classes – George KA3WXV

Tech classes will resume with Ron Small, WA2OOB on September 12 from 7pm-9pm for 8 weeks on Monday nights, with the last night corresponding with testing night.

General classes will also resume the same night and the same time. This class will be subject driven in that the discussions will be based upon what the attendees want to talk about and review.

VE Testing – Larry WA3ELQ

Last session had 4 attendees, with 3 passing tech and 1 passing general. Next session will be June 27. No testing in August.

Repeater – Brian N3EXA

Brian not in attendance, Echolink is fixed. Does work with iPhones and android. Repeater working.

Good & Welfare – Vince KD3TC

Vince not in attendance, but was reported that Alan Ash's mom passed away.

Andy KD3RF back in the hospital but doing well and should be home soon.

No other Committees reporting.

Old Business

Kit Building Session – Tony W3FLH – We have 17 kits available for those interested in building. The cost is \$20 per kit.

There is a signup sheet with several date options of Saturday's in September. Sign up with name and call sign and which date is better. Elmers will be available to assist.

Trip to ARRL HQ – Tony W3FLH – Signup sheet available tonight for this interested in attending. There are 2 dates, Tuesday, August 9 or September 20, to choose from. Cost of trip is approximately \$55 per person. We need a minimum of 40 people; other clubs are more than welcome to join us. Sign up with name and call sign and which date you prefer.

Field Day update will be part of presentation after refreshments.

New Business

Introduce Kathy Acker, KC3FBY as secretary. The board voted that she start her term early due to Andy KD3RF stepping down.

2 new committees:

Committee to discuss membership levels and simplify membership levels. George, KC3ESH will head up this committee along with a board member, Bill, K3FMQ and an at-large, regular member. Constitution will need to be amended once the decision is made. If you are interested in helping see George, KC3ESH.

A redundancy committee headed up by Andy, KD3RF, will be reviewing key positions in the group and look into backups to make sure positions are covered in case someone cannot perform their duties. We also need one at-large regular member on the committee as well. Please see Andy, KD3RF if interested.

Middletown Grange is having a work day on Saturday, June 4 from 8-12. Club members are encouraged to go over and help out. They request you bring gloves, hammers and drills.

WI3Y Outstanding HAM of the Year Award – looking for nominees. If you would like to nominate someone, send the board a note with the name of the person and the reason why you are nominating them. The vote will take place at the September board meeting and presented at our holiday party in December.

Congratulations to Laura Floyd, KC3GWL, Receives Directors Award at State Science Fair. She attended the PA State Science Fair last weekend at Penn State. Her presentation on detecting radio emissions from planets not only scored a perfect score from 3 individual judges, but also earned her the Director's Award in the category Earth/ Space of which only one presenter in each of the 13 categories out of 3000 students was awarded.

Motion to adjourn at 8:10 pm.

Presentation: *Field Day Preparations 2016.*

FIELD DAY PHOTOS



HARD AT WORK ON 6



CAN YOU SEE IT? (15M)



LAURA LEARNING THE ROPES (20M)



40M



NO EXPLANATION NEEDED



NOW THIS IS A REAL PLAN



FOOD TENT



SATELLITE



SUPERVISORS

YOUNG
HAM



CLUB INFO

PUBLIC SERVICE

Tor de Cure, June 4—Michael KB1JEY

Golf Outing - Monday, June 20 - 1 PM start.

For further information, call George Brechmann N3HBT at 215-443-5656.

MS-150 City to Shore bike run. Sept. 24 - 25. For more info, Contact Jim WA4YWM.

CLUB STATION

The WARC club station is open to anyone with an interest, on Tuesday evenings between the hours of 7:00 and 9:00 pm. For further information, call George Brechmann N3HBT at 215-443-5656.

WARC ALUMNI MEMBERSHIP

An Alumni membership category is available for WARC members who are unable to attend meetings and club activities on a regular basis because of health considerations, travel impediments, or other hardships. Dues for the Alumni membership are \$10.00 annually and are approved by the Board. Please contact the Membership Committee for more information if interested."

ATTENTION MEMBERS

The Membership Committee can provide Club badges. Two types are available: an engraved plastic callsign and name badge for \$5 or a free, laminated plastic, photo ID badge/card. The photo id badge is included with your membership. Pictures for the club badge will be taken before club meetings on even numbered months. If you do not have at least a Warminster Amateur Radio Club badge with your picture on it, please contact your Membership Chairs at the WARC monthly meetings. Otherwise, please contact Membership by email at: membership@k3dn.org.

If you want to have your picture taken to be placed on the 'Members' Photos' section of the www.k3dn.org website, please contact Membership with your interest. When we get enough people who are interested we will post a notice in Feedback and have a camera ready at the following club meeting.

PROGRAMS 2016

July – Weak Signal Operation

August - Chile Radiotelescope - Derrick Pitts of Franklin Institute

September – Homebrew Night

October - Open

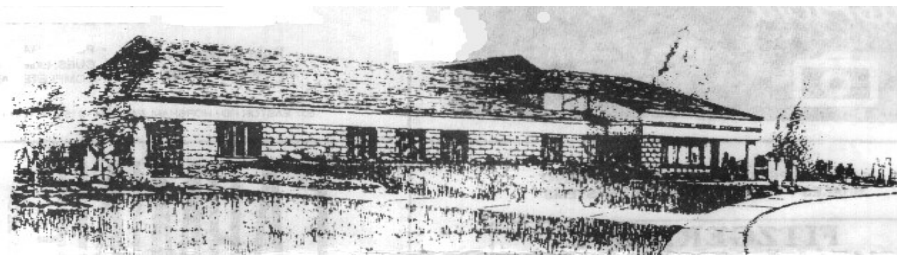
November - Understanding HF Transceiver Data from QST Product Reviews, What do these values mean? - Bob Allison ARRL

December - Holiday Dinner

The Club Station - K3DN - is located at the Benjamin Wilson Senior Center, Delmont Avenue, Warminster, PA. The station is open for club members and the interested general public on non-holiday Tuesday evenings from 7 to 9 pm . The station is fully operational on HF (80 meters through 10 meters) both phone and CW. There is an assortment of amateur radio shareware which may be copied under the shareware licensing agreement.

For additional information on the Club Station please call the Station Manager N3HBT - George at 215-443-5656.

- **WARC Meetings are held the first Thursday of each month at 7:30 pm at the Benjamin Wilson Senior Center, Delmont Avenue, Warminster, PA. Talk in is available on the 147.09 & 443.950 repeaters.**



2016 Contest Calendar

JULY

IARU HF World Championship

July 9-10, 1200 UTC Saturday and ending 1200 UTC Sunday

AUGUST

10 GHz & Up

August 20-21, Operations may take place for 24 hours total on each contest weekend. Each weekend begins at 6:00 AM local Saturday though 12:00 midnight local Sunday.

Rookie Roundup (RTTY)

August 21, 1800 UTC through 2359 UTC.

SEPTEMBER

September VHF

September 10-12, 2016, Begins 1800 UTC Saturday and runs through 0259 UTC Monday

10 GHz and Up

September 17-18, 2016, Operations may take place for 24 hours total on each contest weekend. Each weekend begins at 6:00 AM local Saturday though 12:00 midnight local Sunday.

V.E. TEST LOCATIONS

Confirm all information, in advance, with the contact person. Licensed applicants must bring the original, and one photocopy of their license. All applicants, including children, must bring two forms of positive ID. Also bring the original, and a copy, of any Certificate of Successful Completion needed to prove current status. The ARRL VEC'S 2016 test fee is **\$15.00**.

Warminster Amateur Radio Club, Monthly, Last Mon. 7:00 pm at the Wilson Senior Community Center 580 Delmont Avenue Warminster, PA 18974 George Brechmann (215) 443-5656.

Atco, NJ, The fourth (4th) Tuesday of each month, at 7 p.m. Winslow Township Senior Center, 33 Cooper Folly Road, 08004-2603.

Mark (K2AX) jtra@comcast.net

Levittown, PA, Monthly, 3rd Monday at 6:30. Falls Township Building - Ben Johns, K3JQH, 215-657-5994

Telford, PA, Monthly, RF Hill ARC. 3rd Monday at the Indian Valley Library. Charles Schmell, KB3CEZ, 215-257-6368 days 215-538-7458 evenings.

Philadelphia, PA, Testing is done on the 4th, non holiday Thursday of the month at the, Community Ambulance Association of Ambler, 1414 E Butler Pike, Ambler PA 19002 at 7:00 PM We also are testing on Saturdays at least once per quarter at 9:00 AM. For further information contact James McCloskey at jmccloskey@msn.com and by phone 215-275-2979.

Lansdale, PA Testing on the first non-holiday Tuesday of the month starting at 7:00 PM. The Lansdale Library Community Room Vine St. and Susquehanna Ave. Lansdale, Pa. Registration is required 48 hrs. or more before the scheduled exam date. If there are no registrations the scheduled exam date will be canceled. NO WALK-INS. You can register by contacting:

Olaf N. Markert ----- Phone (610) 517-5074, E-mail w3pa@arrl.net

➤ ATLANTIC DIV. HAMFESTS

➤ 2016

July 9 - Valley Forge Hamfest

Kimberton Fire Company Fairgrounds Route 113 Kimberton, PA 19442

<http://www.marc-radio.org>

August 6 - READING RADIO CLUB HAMFEST

Heritage Park

992 Clematis Street

Sinking Spring, PA

<http://www.readingradioclub.org/>

August 21 - Carroll County Tailgate Fest

Sportsman's Hall Skating Rink

15500 Hanover Pike

Upperco, MD 21155

<http://www.qis.net/~k3pzn>

September 11 - 38th Annual Gloucester County ARC Hamfest

Gloucester County 4-H Fairgrounds

235 Bridgeton Pike (Route 77)

Mullica Hill, NJ 08062

<http://www.w2mmd.com>

SKYWARN INFORMATION

MOUNT HOLLY NWSFO SKYWARN Weekly Information Net: EVERY THURSDAY AT 21:00 HOURS

SKYWARN Net Repeater Listing/ Streaming Audio of scheduled SKYWARN

Net: <http://www.skywarnnet.net>

You do NOT have to be a certified SKYWARN Weather Spotter to check into the Net

Bucks County SKYWARN Weather Spotter PRIMARY FREQUENCY: 147.300MHZ (+ 131.8)

Fairless Hills, PA (many remote access locations throughout Bucks County)

Mount Holly NWSFO SKYWARN Homepage:

<http://www.erh.noaa.gov/phi/skywarn/index.html>

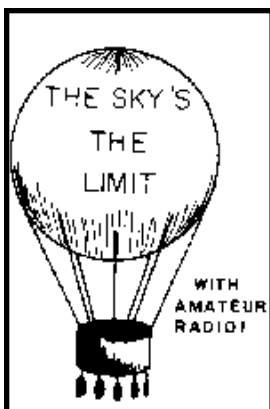
SKYWARN Basic Weather Spotter Educational Programs URL:

<http://www.erh.noaa.gov/phi/skywarn/training.html#sched>

➤ CLUB EQUIPMENT

WARC has 2 Baofeng UV-5R dual band HT's and a Yaesu FT-2900 2M mobile that are available for use by members of the club. The radios are available on a month-by-month basis and have been purchased primarily to help new hams get on the air. However, they may also be used by any club member who is in need of a temporary 2-meter radio. They are also available for use by participants in WARC's public service activities.

DE, Vinny Porcaro K3VJP
215-493-0783



The Warminster Amateur Radio Club Announces Free Ham Radio Instructional Classes

If you're interested in Ham Radio, or think you might be, this is your opportunity. Perhaps you'd like to learn about digital communications, Morse code, VHF, UHF, satellite, or perhaps you'd rather sit down and chat with someone in South Africa, Russia, Great Britain or in the space station.

For further information contact George Brechmann, N3HBT at 215-443-5656.

Bucks County Amateur Radio Emergency Service (BCARES)

www.bucksares.org

Bucks County ARES will be on the air Wednesdays, at 9:00 PM. We will be using Warminster Amateur Radio Club's repeater on 147.090, pl 131.8. This net is linked as shown in the Net Schedule box for the Wednesday night net. It may also be linked to 147.300.

Winlink Gateway Stations:

Lower Bucks NY3J-10

145.530 Bensalem

Net Schedules

Sunday	2100	10 Meter Net	28.445 MHz
Wednesday	2000	2 Meter Net	147.09 Rptr.
Wednesday	2000	Linked w/ 2 Meter Net	443.95
Rptr. Wednesday	2000	Linked w/ 2 Meter Net	53.230 Rptr.
Sunday	2030	Informal Net	223.5 Simplex
Thursday	1900	Mont. Cnty RACES Net	146.835 Rptr.

Area Repeaters

VHF

145.310 R.F. Hill
145.350 Doylestown R.C.
146.790 Penn Wireless
145.330 Hilltown
146.670 DVRA
146.685 Holmesburg
146.925 Willingboro
147.000 Ham Buergers
147.030 Phil-Mont
147.090 Warminster
147.270 Frankford
147.300 BEARS
147.390 CBRA

220

224.580 PackRats
223.76 K3NAL

UHF

442.650 DVRA
443.250 TAG
443.050 Metro-Comm
443.950 Warminster
444.200 BEARS
447.475 WR3B
448.225 Penn Wireless

D-STAR

146.61000 K3PDR DV
445.18125 K3PDR DV
445.01875 AA3E Montco
RACES

6 Mtr

53.030 WA3BXW
53.230 N3DQZ
53.320 K3MFI

Are you submitting an article for the Feedback ?

Contributions of articles to be published are always accepted for consideration. Please follow these guidelines:

- E-Mail to:
wa4ywm@comcast.net
Or via snail mail to:
FEEDBACK EDITOR
Warminster Amateur Radio Club
Box 113
Warminster, Pa 18974
- Use both upper and lower case letters.
- Use your program's spell check.
- If you don't have a computer, then typewritten sheets are o.k. but please use both upper and lower case.
- Put your name and call at the beginning or end of the article, and show credits if you are using material from another source.
- Deadline for articles is the Saturday before the regular meeting.

For general club correspondence:
k3dn@k3dn.org

Visit our Home Page at:
<http://www.k3dn.org>

The annual dues rate structure is as follows:

Full Member: \$ 20.00
2nd FamilyMember: \$ 10.00
Student: \$ 10.00
Alumni: \$ 10.00

- Are your dues current ?

2016 Officers

Executive Officers

President	Tony Cuttone	W3FLH	267-679-9297
Vice-President	Vinny Porcaro	K3VJP	215-493-0783
Secretary	Kathy Acker	KC3FBY	215-815-7783
Treasurer	Bill Ballantine	K3FMQ	215-766-0764
Director (A)	Michael Shanblatt	W3MAS	267-491-5773
Director (E)	Larry Abbott	WA3ELQ	215-704-3282
Director (A)	Jim Elmore	WA4YWM	215-538-1889
Director (E)	George Brechmann	N3HBT	215-443-5656
Past President	Irwin Darack	KD3TB	215-343-8170

Committee Chairpersons

ARES/RACES Liason	Karl Harris	K3KH	215-264-855
Arrl Liason	Richard Luce	AG3L	215-441-8264
Awards Manager	Vince Pironti	KD3TC	215-674-0446
Classes	George Altemus	KA3WXV	215-855-3856
Digital and APRS	Ron Wenig	NY3J	215-638-9257
Feedback Editor	Jim Elmore	WA4YWM	215-538-1889
Field Day 16	Doc Whitticar	W3GAD	215-968-6397
Hamfest 16	Mike Karabin	WJ3O	215-317-4029
Holiday Dinner	George Brechmann	N3HBT	215-443-5656
Membership	George Acker	KC3ESH	215-815-7783
Net Manager	George Brechmann	N3HBT	215-443-5656
Publicity	Bernice Kraut	KB3PCX	215-884-8195
Refreshments	Brandon Penglase	KC3DYT	
RF Interference	Andy Vavra	KD3RF	610-287-3295
RF Interference	Bill Ballantine	K3FMQ	215-766-0764
Repeater Coordinator	Brian Taylor	N3EXA	215-257-6303
Safety Officer	Vinny Porcaro	K3VJP	215-493-0783
Station Trustee	George Brechmann	N3HBT	215-443-5656
Sunshine Club	Vince Pironti	KD3TC	215-674-0446
Township Liason	Richard Luce	AG3L	215-441-8264
VE License Testing	Larry Abbott	WA3ELQ	215-704-3282
VHF/UHF/MW	George Altemus	KA3WXV	215-855-3856
Website Coordinator	Al Konschak	WI3Z	215-491-9941
Youth Programs	Steve Larson	WW3Y	215-822-1511