Web Site k3dn.org

Warminster Amateur Radio Club

October 2017

# Next Meeting October 5th - ARRL Night - Bob Famiglio, K3RF

# **President's Message**

Yet another hurricane has hit the US, this time Hurricane Maria in Puerto Rico. In situations such as this, the ability of Amateur Radio operators to carry out communications where other means fail is in the spotlight, and the operators that do so are truly heroes to those in need. Our prayers and best wishes are with all those in the affected areas.

The Sun has been toying with us recently, alternately shutting down propagation on all bands, then giving us a huge opening on 10m, as if it were a peak from the 1970's! How many of you have taken advantage of the conditions when they've been good, or been frustrated by them when they're bad? With the influx of users on the digital modes, there seems to be DX somewhere all times of the day, sunspots or not...

The nominations for the Dave Simpson WI3Y Outstanding Ham of the Year Award have been closed, and the Board will be choosing a recipient in the next several weeks. There is a fine slate of deserving nominees this year, and the choice will not be an easy one. The OHOTY Award is presented at our annual Holiday Dinner in December, with the winner receiving a custom plaque along with a donation of \$100 in their name to the ARRL Spectrum Defense Fund.

Of course, that means that our Holiday Dinner is right around the corner, and will be here sooner than you think. This year's festivities take place on **Thursday, December 7, 6:30pm** at the Ben Wilson Senior Activity Center, the site of our regular monthly meetings. Though it replaces our regular December meeting, keep in mind that *the start time is one hour earlier*. Payments can be made via the PayPal link on our website, or by cash or check in person at a monthly meeting or the door the night of (with prior notice). Cost is \$15.00 per adult, \$12.00 for children 12 and under.

This month is ARRL Night, with featured speaker Bob Famiglio K3RF, ARRL Atlantic Division Vice-Director. Come hear Bob's take on the state of the League and ham radio in general; he will be taking your questions as well. Also assisting will be WARC's own Tom Mills AF4NC, EPA Asst. Section Manager. Hope to see you there.

de Tony, W3FLH

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# **Open Letter from the President**

As you are all aware, there has been discussion over the last two months regarding the compensation that WARC gives to our hosts at the Ben Wilson Senior Activity Center (BWSAC) for the access and accommodations that the club currently enjoys. The debate, though slightly heated at times, has remained cordial, if not adversarial, and the situation certainly merits a review.

The Warminster Amateur Radio Club has been a presence at the BWSAC since its inception, as noted on the Center's own website, and we appreciate the hospitality they continue to show us. Although the exact details of the original arrangement may have been lost to time and memory, all parties agree that, at the outset, the Warminster Board of Supervisors deigned that WARC was to be allowed to host our General Membership meetings monthly at the Center, at no charge. The club was also granted space in the loft at that time, which we continue to utilize as our club station and some storage space. Since then, we have expanded our use to include our monthly Board meetings, VE test sessions, licensing classes, the occasional club activity (such as our kit building session), and some bulk storage.

While we do not pay on a monthly basis, the assertion that the club "pays nothing" for our use of the BWSAC is incorrect, and more than a little misleading. Our club has for years given a sizeable annual donation, sometimes monetary, sometimes as a requested material gift, to the Center in exchange for our use of the facility. Additionally, the club has contributed to the Center in the form of club member's labor and expertise, such as the purchase, installation and upkeep of the wireless microphone system, or the conversion of wasted attic space into accessible and useful storage; WARC had even supplied and installed the WiFi router the Center had employed for many years. While not appearing on any budgets as line items, or contributing directly to anyone's bottom line, these

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goods and services were items the Center did not have to pay for, or rely on their members to supply, and which they currently use daily.

Questions have been raised in regards to the club assets, namely the amount of money WARC has in our accounts. Let me point out that the Treasurer's report is read openly at every General meeting, and that the budget is printed and presented for approval to the general membership annually; the WARC Constitution and By-Laws clearly establish what expenses the Board can incur on their own, and what must be presented to the membership for approval. The finances of the club are transparent, and we are indeed a healthy organization, but a review of our recent past reveals a steadily downward trend in our balances. Our current budget is slated for a shortfall, as it has for the last several years, due to the expenditures that WARC takes on in service to its members. Events like our upcoming Holiday Dinner, where members are charged for attendance only at the cost of catering, while WARC supplies drinks, desserts, door prizes and such from our treasury. And Field Day, a free event for all attendees, whether club members or not, where the club foots the entire bill for the rental of the grounds and the main dining tent, reimburses for all food and drink costs, and supplies easy-ups, tents, tables and equipment for several of the stations. Or take a look at our Hamfest, one of the best - and last - in the area, where our hard work has paid off with being tapped to host the EPA Section Convention, but for the last several years has been a break-even proposition at best. Although we hope to see a surge in attendance (and hopefully income) in the coming years, we made the decision as a group to continue to host the event as a service to our fellow hams in the region.

In addition to the benefits listed above, and perhaps most crucial of all expenses, is the care and feeding of our repeater system – the "face of the club" on the air. Brian Taylor N3EXA does a masterful job of implementing, updating and servicing the system on both the 2m & 70cm sides, but this does not come cheap. He volunteers his time, which is substantial, but the hardware expenses are reimbursed by the club – some as budget line items, others as needed. Having the reserves that we do ensures that, in the event of catastrophic damage, WARC will be able to replace our repeater system and get it back in service as rapidly as possible.

All of the above is possible despite that fact that WARC has not raised membership dues during the entire tenure of my membership (at least 8 years), and certainly even longer. While we do receive donations on occasion from the estates of local SK's, and garner a bit of income from those and the annual club auctions, our funds continue to diminish.

That being said, the Board has been presented with a situation that deserves diligent consideration. As a Board, we strive to steward the club to the best of our abilities, and to keep the best interests of all members in mind when decisions need to be made. I assure you that we will give proper weight to all positions and opinions on this matter, and will work with the Center on a solution that suits both entities. We want to keep the relationship between BWSAC and WARC as strong and mutually beneficial as it has been since the beginning.

Tony Cuttone, W3FLH President, Warminster Amateur Radio Club

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# WARC General Membership Meeting Minutes September 7th, 2017

#### **Attendance:**

Tony W3FLH - President

Those that won their silent auction bid see Andy KD3RF to pick up your items and pay Herb KB3VMN

#### **Minutes from last Board Meeting**

Additions/Corrections - Motion made and minutes were approved with no additions and corrections

#### **Committee Reports**

Treasurer's Report: Herb KB3VMN

As reported at the meeting

**Programs:** George KC3ESH

September - Home Brew Night

October – ARRL Night – Bob Famiglio K3RF

November – Contesting/Tim K3LR (via Skype)

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December - Holiday Dinner

January – Stump the Chumps/Gameshow

February - Club Auction

Membership: Jacek KC3HXF

2 new applications

Total 138 active members

**Public Service:** George N3HBT

Columbus Day, October 9 – Hole in One Part 2. Will need 8-10 HAM operators sign-up sheet on the table near refreshments

May possibly be a 5K run for Craven Hall in Warminster

Dean – Covered Bridge Run, October 15 – over 1000 bikers ride – need at least 11 HAM operators to help out. Drex will be running point from the club on this event.

Classes: George KA3WXV/Ron WB2OOB

Start on Monday, September 11 for Tech and General from 7pm-9pm

Ron WB2OOB will be starting the Tech classes and run for 6 weeks, George KA3WXV general classes will run for 8 weeks

**VE Testing:** Larry WA3ELQ

No August session

Next session will be Monday, September 25, 2017

Repeater: Brian N3EXA

Everything seems to working properly Looking for 2 meter site near Center City

Working on a few things

Good and Welfare: Vince KD3TC

Sent some cards out over the past month

#### Other Committees Old Business

WI3Y OHOTY Award – Nominees – we have 6-7 nominees, if anyone has any nominees we need to get them to Tony. We will vote at the September board meeting.

Estate Sale/Online Auction – (Andy KD3RF) – Everything was picked up this evening and we netted approximately \$700-\$800. There are a few small items that will be taken to Mullica Hill Hamfest to be sold.

Holiday Dinner – (George N3HBT/Kathy KC3FBY) – Holiday dinner notice is on the website with PayPal link. \$15 for adults, \$10 for children 12 and under. Payment can also be made at the meeting with Kathy KC3FBY. We would like to have everyone pay in advance so we can get a good head count.

Kit Building session (Marty NR3Z) – See Marty after the business meeting to talk about what you would like to build. This was successful last year and we are looking forward to this event again this year.

BWSC donation (Tony W3FLH) – Tony presented the membership with the proposal that the board came up with at the last board meeting that we donate the 50/50 proceeds to the Ben Wilson Senior Center each year in addition to our material donation that we do each year. The topic has been tabled until next month after additional information was brought up.

#### **New Business**

WARCTalk postings/moderation (Tony W3FLH) - After some discussion and finding out that the recent posting was

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inadvertent, the board decided that Irwin's response to the posting was appropriate and sufficient.

## Motion to Adjourn was made and approved at 8:09 pm

**Presentation**: Home Brew Night

### **Kenwood TM-281A For Sale**

The box containing the radio has never been opened. I would like to receive \$100 for the sale.

Doc KA3RAU sylvan.morein@gmail.com

#### **COVERED BRIDGE BIKE RUN**

We are looking for additional volunteers to assist with manning rest stops, net control positions, and Support and Gear vehicles (SAG Wagons) for the Covered Bridges (charity) Ride sponsored by the Central Bucks Bicycle Club.

The ride is on Sunday, October 15. Posts are manned and net operations begin at 8 AM. The ride is generally over by 3 PM. Operators may be released early as their rest stop closes, or the course they are covering is completed by the last of the riders.

SAG vehicles are normally provided by and driven by CBBC members. The ham operators ride along as communicators and keep track of where the vehicle is along the course.

With more than one operator at each rest stop, this is an ideal opportunity for newly-licensed hams to participate and be mentored. Positions to be covered are:

Net Control at start/finish (3 operators) SAG vehicle communicator (4 operators)

Coverage for rest stops (1 necessary, two preferred per rest stop) at:

Durham-Nockamixon Elementary School, next to Palisades High School (this is usually the first rest stop to be closed) Weisel Youth Hostel

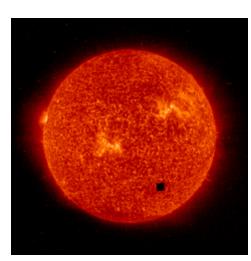
Lorber's Plumbing Supply in Pipersville (this is usually the last rest stop to be closed)

Ottsville Fire Company - Bulls Island State Park

There are 5 courses:
Rest stops and hours:
Bulls Island/20 & 30 mile routes: (9:30-2:30)
Ottsville/33 mile route (9:00-1:00)
Pipersville/33, 50 & 63 mile routes (9:30-3:00)
Weisel Youth Hostel/50 & 63 mile routes (9:30-1:00)
Durham-Nox Elementary/50 & 63 mile routes (9:00-12:00)

Operators will need a mobile radio, mag-mount antenna, and portable power. An operator with only a hand-held radio can be assigned to the start/finish as a runner. Rest stop operators may power radios from their own vehicles. SAG communicators should be prepared to provide power in addition to the vehicle, because some drivers are using the only source of aux power for their portable GPS units.

If you wish to volunteer, but lack recommended equipment, loaner radios, antennas, and power are available. To volunteer, contact: Drex, W3ICC (215) 598-3934 or Dean Hedin, Communications Coordinator for this year's Central Bucks Covered Bridge Ride (267) 760-3114. Please provide call sign and contact information for yourself, your preferred assignment, whether you need loaner.



## THE K7RA SOLAR UPDATE

Tad Cook, K7RA, Seattle, reports: The past week was a good one for HF propagation. Average daily sunspot numbers doubled from the previous week, rising from 13.6 to 27, while average daily solar flux rose from 72.6 to 84.3. Average daily geomagnetic numbers were lower, with average planetary A index declining from 21.1 to 9.9 and average daily mid-latitude A index from 17.1 to 7.6. Last Friday was the autumnal equinox, so we should see a seasonal improvement in HF conditions.

Predicted solar flux is 91 on September 28-October 1; 88 on October 2-4; 90, 95, 90, 85, 76, 75, 74, and 73 on October 5-12; 72 on October 12-15; 71, 74, 73, 78, 80, 87; and 90 on October 16-22; 95 on October 23-November 2; 90, 85, 76, 75, 74, and 73 on November 3-8, and 72 on November 9-11.

Predicted planetary A index is 32, 26, 14, 12, and 6 on September 28-October 2; 5 on October 3-10; 25 on October 11-13; 20 and 15 on October 14-15; 8 on October 16-17; 5 on October 18-21; 16, 8, 20, 25, 20, 10, and 8 on October 22-28; 5 on October 29-November 6; 25 on November 7-9, and 20 and 15 on November 10-11.

Sunspot numbers for September 21-27, 2017 were 22, 22, 12, 22, 36, 40, and 35, with a mean of 13.6. The 10.7-centimeter flux was 73, 77.5, 81.2, 86.9, 89.9, 90.7, and 91, with a mean of 72.6. Estimated planetary A indices were 7, 5, 5, 6, 5, 4, and 37, with a mean of 21.1.

Estimated mid-latitude A indices were 7, 5, 4, 5, 5, 3, and 24, with a mean of 17.1.

Send <k7ra@arrl.net> me your reports or observations.

Courtesy of the ARRL Newsletter

# Advisory: Requests for Information from the Public and the Press

Many individuals have loved ones in Puerto Rico, and they are understandably hopeful that Amateur Radio operators can relay messages to them. As a result, some are contacting amateurs with requests to pass message traffic to the island.

At the same time, individual amateurs and clubs have reported that local media representatives have contacted them to request information about Amateur Radio involvement in Puerto Rico. This likely will increase as word spreads in the national media about our activities.

For inquiries from the public, ARRL advises that these individuals be informed that amateurs traveling to Puerto Rico to support the American Red Cross effort will be tasked with handling outbound traffic only. Members of the public concerned about family and friends in Puerto Rico should access the American Red Cross Safe and Well Website <a href="https://safeandwell.communityos.org/cms/index.php">https://safeandwell.communityos.org/cms/index.php</a>. Status information from friends and relatives in Puerto Rico will be entered into the system as it arrives from amateurs stationed there.

For media inquiries, please ask reporters to contact ARRL directly <mpatnode@arrl.org>. A system has been established at ARRL Headquarters to respond to media inquiries in a timely and accurate manner.

Courtesy of the ARRL Newsletter

# "FORCE OF 50" STEPS UP TO ASSIST HURRICANE-RAVAGED PUERTO RICO

Members of the Amateur Radio community have volunteered to assist in the ongoing recovery from Hurricane Maria, which devastated Puerto Rico and Dominica and, to a lesser extent, the US Virgin Islands. This week, 50 of the most accomplished US radio amateurs responded within 24 hours to a call from the American Red Cross (ARC) to deploy to Puerto Rico and provide emergency communications assistance there. At the ARC's request, ARRL rallied the US Amateur Radio community to provide up to 25 two-person teams of highly qualified hams. ARRL CEO Tom Gallagher, NY2RF, said that more than 350 answered the call, from nearly every state.

"This generous outpouring of response represents the finest qualities of the Amateur Radio community," he said. "These indi-

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viduals are dropping whatever they are doing now, heading off to an extended hardship-duty assignment, and offering their special talents to Americans who have been cut off from their families, living amid widespread destruction and without electrical power since Hurricane Maria struck the Caribbean region last week."

The group's principal mission will be to move health-and-welfare information from the island back to the US mainland, where that data will be entered in the Red Cross Safe and Well <a href="https://safeandwell.communityos.org/cms/index.php">https://safeandwell.communityos.org/cms/index.php</a> system. The Salvation Army Team Emergency Radio Network (SATERN <a href="http://www.satern.org">http://www.satern.org</a>) has been asked to assist these operators when they check in with tactical, health-and-welfare (H&W), and Safe and Well messages.

SATERN and other active nets are not accepting incoming H&W inquiries. The Caribbean Emergency and Weather Net (CEWN) is taking incoming H&W inquiries via e-mail for Dominica <a href="WelfareDominica@CEWN.org">WelfareDominica@CEWN.org</a>. The Puerto Rico Federal Affairs Administration (PRFAA) is taking inquiries (only one per sender) via e-mail for Puerto Rico <a href="mail.org">mail.org</a> (prfaa.pr.gov). Inquiries should include the full name and location of both the sender and the individual(s) being sought and the sender's e-mail address.

Denis Santiago, WP4KJJ (right), and Raul Gonzalez, KP4RGD, organized the communication network in Puerto Rico and operate the station at American Red Cross's temporary San Juan headquarters, "with a great number of hams who left their families to help Puerto Rico to recover," ARRL Puerto Rico Section Manager Oscar Resto, KP4RF, told ARRL.

The group will be in Puerto Rico for up to 3 weeks. ARRL has equipped each team with an HF transceiver, software, a dipole antenna, a power supply and all connecting cables, fitted in a rugged waterproof container. In an unprecedented and crucial move, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) agreed to help get the Ham Aid gear to Puerto Rico.

The League also is sending two VHF repeaters, a dozen hand-held transceivers, five mobile radios, what Gallagher described as "5 cubic feet of batteries," a number of small 2-kW portable generators, and solar-powered battery chargers. The hams and their equipment will be sent to Red Cross shelters extending from San Juan to the western end of the island.

In addition, ARRL has committed to purchasing up to \$50,000 worth of new Ham Aid gear for this and for future emergencies.

Ham Aid kits are packed and ready for shipping at ARRL Headquarters.

ARRL's Emergency Preparedness Manager Mike Corey, KI1U, said this was the first time in the nearly 75-year relationship between ARRL and the ARC that such a request for assistance had been made. "Hurricane Maria has devastated the island's communications infrastructure," Corey said. "Without electricity and telephone, and with most of the cell sites out of service, millions of Americans are cut off from communicating. Shelters are unable to reach local emergency services. And, people cannot check on the welfare of their loved ones. The situation is dire."

The Yasme Foundation <a href="http://www.yasme.org">http://www.yasme.org</a> announced this week that it has made a grant to ARRL's Ham Aid <a href="http://www.arrl.org/ham-aid">http://www.arrl.org/ham-aid</a> fund, in support of the Amateur Radio response to the recent hurricanes in the US and Caribbean. The Ham Aid fund was created in 2005 in response to the need for equipment and resources to support the Amateur Radio response to hurricanes Katrina, Rita, and Wilma.

A September 27 CNN report <a href="http://www.cnn.com/2017/09/27/us/puerto-rico-maria-ham-radio-operators-trnd/index.html">http://www.cnn.com/2017/09/27/us/puerto-rico-maria-ham-radio-operators-trnd/index.html</a> documented the personal impact of the storm on Puerto Rico and Amateur Radio's role in the recovery.

#### How You Can Help

ARRL President Rick Roderick, K5UR, has asked for contributions to ARRL's Ham Aid <a href="http://www.arrl.org/ham-aid">http://www.arrl.org/ham-aid</a> fund. "Equipment has been flying out the door since Hurricane Harvey struck the US mainland," he emphasized. "From meeting requirements in aid of Hurricane Irma victims in the US Virgin Islands and Florida, our store of Ham Aid kits has been depleted."

ARRL's Ham Aid program loans Amateur Radio equipment kits to established Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES®) groups and partner agencies during disaster responses, in order to establish Amateur Radio communication support. Ham Aid is supported by donations from individuals and corporations, including many of our ham radio industry partners.

ARRL has previously staged Ham Aid equipment in Texas as well as supplied kits to Florida, the US Virgin Islands, and Puerto Rico. With the Ham Aid inventory depleted, donations are needed now. Contributions to Ham Aid are 100% tax deductible. To donate online, select "Ham Aid" from the ARRL donation form <a href="http://www.arrl.org/arrl-donation-form">http://www.arrl.org/arrl-donation-form</a>. To donate by mail, print a donation form, and mail it with your check payable to ARRL, noting "Ham Aid" on the memo line of your check. Mail to ARRL, 225 Main St., Newington, CT 06111 USA.

Courtesy of the ARRL Newsletter

#### AMATEUR RADIO VOLUNTEERS FILLING COMMUNICATION GAP IN THE CARIBBEAN

Puerto Rico and the US Virgin Islands both suffered substantial damage from Hurricane Maria, although Puerto Rico took the bigger hit, and it is there that Amateur Radio has been filling a huge telecommunications gap. The FCC said at mid-week that 91% of cell telephone sites were still out in Puerto Rico. In the US Virgin Islands, the figure is about 60%.

"The situation in Puerto Rico is very devastating across all the island," Puerto Rico SM Oscar Resto, KP4RF, said over the weekend. "Communications via land phone or mobiles are almost nil." Repeaters are down, he said, and hams have been using the 2-meter simplex frequency of 146.52 MHz, although he hoped to see some repeaters come back on line (the 448.225 repeater in Bayamon has been online <a href="http://www.youtube.com/channel/UCIX9YyVhBp\_BZb5fdu5WaRg/live">http://www.youtube.com/channel/UCIX9YyVhBp\_BZb5fdu5WaRg/live</a>, handling health-and-welfare traffic).

With police repeaters also down, law enforcement has been using 2 meters as well.

American Red Cross Headquarters suffered the loss of its emergency generator due to flooding. A temporary ARC headquarters has internet and cell service, he said.

Red Cross volunteers have been busy assisting those affected by Hurricane Maria.

Resto said radio amateurs have also been assisting <a href="https://www.elnuevodia.com/noticias/locales/nota/">https://www.elnuevodia.com/noticias/locales/nota/</a>
<a href="radioaficionadosayudanconlacomunicacionenlaaee-2360141/">https://www.elnuevodia.com/noticias/locales/nota/</a>
<a href="radioaficionadosayudanconlacomunicacionenlaaee-2360141/">https://www.elnuevodia.com/noticias/nota/</a>
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Radio amateurs in Puerto Rico have been operating brisk and busy ad hoc health-and-welfare traffic nets on 7.175 and 14.270 MHz, as has the Salvation Army Team Emergency Network (SATERN <a href="http://www.satern.org">http://www.satern.org</a>) on 14.265 MHz. Gerry Hull, W1VE, reported that the net on 14.270 MHz has handled thousands of messages in the past week. Hull has also been active on the SATERN net. Today will mark Day 11 of the Hurricane Maria activation for SATERN, surpassing the 8-day SATERN operation for Hurricane Irma and making it the longest activation since Hurricane Katrina in 2005.

"Calls to family are very emotional," he told ARRL. "I am getting all kinds of calls day and night for people desperate to hear about family in Puerto Rico, but hams cannot provide inbound traffic." He directs them to the Red Cross website <a href="http://www.redcross.org/cruz-roja/contactanos-programa-internacinal-de-reconexion-familiar">https://www.redcross.org/cruz-roja/contactanos-programa-internacinal-de-reconexion-familiar</a>.

"Lots of contesters are helping with their big stations," he said.

Courtesy of the ARRL Newsletter

# Salvation Army Seeks Amateur Radio Operators for Possible Caribbean Deployment

The Salvation Army Team Emergency Radio Network (<u>SATERN</u>) has been asked to recruit SATERN Amateur Radio operators for potential deployment to TSA's Puerto Rico and Virgin Islands Division. SATERN National Liaison Bill Feist, WB8BZH, emphasizes that this is a recruitment request to be on standby only.

"This will not be an easy deployment so operators interested in deploying on behalf of The Salvation Army should carefully read and ensure that they can meet the conditions and requirements," Feist said.

SATERN is seeking Communications Specialists who can provide their own radio gear and be able to handle at least a 2-week deployment in the Caribbean under "hardship" conditions. Deployment could be as early as next week.

Courtesy of the ARRL Newsletter

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#### **CLUB INFO**

#### **PUBLIC SERVICE**

Columbus Day (October 9) golf outing at Five Ponds. We will need 10 hams. Central Bucks Covered Bridge Ride - October 15.

#### **CLUB STATION**

The WARC club station is open to anyone with an interest, on the first Thursday of the month (meeting night) between the hours of 6:30 and 7:30 pm. with the exception of the December dinner meeting. 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 \$8 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.

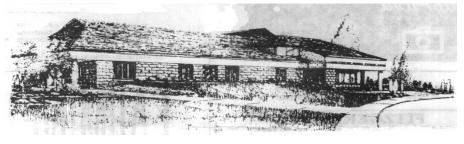
If you want to have your picture taken to be placed on the 'Members' Photos' section of the www.k3dn.org website, please contact Membership with your interest. When we get enough people who are interested we will post a notice in Feedback and have a camera ready at the following club meeting.

# PROGRAMS 2017

October - ARRL Night - Bob Famiglio, K3RF, Vice Director Atlantic

November - Contesting from DX Engineering – Tim K3LR Skype call December - Holiday Dinner January – Stump the Chumps February - Club Auction

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 the first Thursday of the month (meeting night) between the hours of 6:30 and 7:30 pm. with the exception of the December dinner meeting. 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.

#### 2017 Contest Calendar

#### October

7 - 8 EME - 50 to 1296 MHz

0000 UTC on Saturday through 2359 UTC Sunday

16 - 20 School Club Roundup

1300 UTC Monday through 2359 UTC Friday

#### November

4 - 5 EME - 50 to 1296 MHz

0000 UTC on Saturday through 2359 UTC Sunday

4 - 6 Nov. Sweepstakes - CW

2100 UTC Saturday and runs through 0259 UTC Monday

18 - 20 Nov. Sweepstakes - Phone

2100 UTC Saturday and runs through 0259 UTC Monday

**OSO Parties** 

California 1600Z, Oct 7 to 2200Z, Oct 8 Arizona 1600Z, Oct 14 to 0600Z, Oct 15 and

1400Z-2359Z, Oct 15

Pennsylvania 1600Z, Oct 14 to 0500Z, Oct 15 and

1300Z-2200Z, Oct 15

New York 1400Z, Oct 21 to 0200Z, Oct 22 South Dakota 1800Z, Oct 21 to 1800Z, Oct 22 Illinois 1700Z, Oct 22 to 0100Z, Oct 23

#### > ATLANTIC DIV. HAMFESTS > 2017

October 6 - Mid-Atlantic States VHF Conference Holiday Inn Bensalem-Philadelphia 3327 Street Road Bensalem, PA 19020 http://packratyhf.com

#### October 15 - RF Hill ARC Hamfest

Sellersville Fire House 50 North Main Street Sellersville, PA 18960 <a href="http://www.rfhillarc.org">http://www.rfhillarc.org</a>

October 22 - Mason-Dixon Hamfest

Sportman's Hall Roller Skating Center

15500 Hanover Pike

Upperco, MD 21155

http://qis.net/~k3pzn

**December 9** - Second Annual American Legion PGCERA SantaFest American Legion Youth Camp

9201 Surratts Road

Cheltenham, MD 20623

http://pgares.org/santafest/index.html

# 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 2017 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, RF Hill ARC. Indian Valley Library. Held the third Monday of odd months (January, March, May, July, September, November)
Contact: Jim Soete 215-723-7294
wa3ylq@arrl.net.

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 fourth non-holiday Thursday 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
Alt Contact: Jim, 610-287-5630

#### 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)

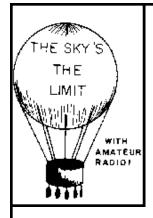
Fairless Hills, PA (many remote access locations throughout Bucks County)

### 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



#### 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											
2000	10 Meter Net	28.445 MHz									
2000	2 Meter Net	147.09 Rptr.									
2000	Linked w/ 2 Meter Net	443.95									
2000	Linked w/ 2 Meter Net	53.230 Rptr.									
2030	Informal Net	223.5 Simplex									
1900	Mont. Cnty RACES Ne										
	2000 2000 2000 2000 2000 2030	2000         10 Meter Net           2000         2 Meter Net           2000         Linked w/ 2 Meter Net           2000         Linked w/ 2 Meter Net           2030         Informal Net									

# > 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, George Acker KC3ESH

# 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

444.759 RF Hill Analog/ **Fusion** 

#### **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.

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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?

# 2017 Officers

# **Executive Officers**

President	Tony Cuttone	W3FLH 267-679-9297
Vice-President	George Acker	KC3ESH 215-815-7783
Secretary	Kathy Acker	KC3FBY 215-815-7978
Treasurer	Herb Hickmott	KB3VMN 267-718-3601
Director (A)	Michael Shanblatt	W3MAS 267-491-5773
Director (E)	Larry Abbott	WA3ELQ 215-704-3282
Director (A)	Brandon Penglase	N3UO 215-259-7255
Director (E)	George Brechmann	N3HBT 215-443-5656
Past President	Irwin Darack	KD3TB 215-343-8170

# **Committee Chairpersons**

Committee Chairper	<u>sons</u>		
ARES/RACES Liason	Karl Harris	K3KH	215-264-1855
ARRL Liason	Irwin Darack	KD3TB	215-343-8170
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 18	Doc Whitticar	W3GAD	215-968-6397
Hamfest 18	Michael Shanblatt	W3MAS	267-491-5773
Hamwear	Kathy Acker	KC3FBY	215-815-7978
Holiday Dinner	George Brechmann	N3HBT	215-443-5656
Membership	Jacek Ostrowski	KC3HXF	
Net Manager	George Brechmann	N3HBT	215-443-5656
Publicity	Bernice Kraut	KB3PCX	215-884-8195
Refreshments	Brandon Penglase	N3UO	215-259-7255
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	Mike Malone	W3MJM	
Station Trustee	George Brechmann	N3HBT	215-443-5656
Sunshine Club	Vince Pironti	KD3TC	215-674-0446
Township Liason	George Brechmann	N3HBT	215-443-5656
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