Web Site k3dn.org

Warminster Amateur Radio Club

February 2019

# Next Meeting February 7th - Club Auction

## **President's Message**

Well, the rush of the holidays is past. All the decorations are packed up and have been tucked away in the attic. Maybe it's finally time to catch up on some of the "Ham" stuff I have either been putting off or just haven't had time to do. A couple of back issues of QST and CQ magazines are on my desk along with a couple of Ham Radio catalogs. I will now get a chance to look at these and I have some 100 Watts and Wire podcasts that are in the cue and waiting to be listened to.

Don't forget that the club auction is the program on tap for the February meeting. It is a great time to clean out the shack and donate any items to the club to be sold. It is also a great time to stock up on stuff to put in the newly cleaned out shack now that you have some more room. Another reminder- dues are due. If you haven't paid your dues yet go to the club website, K3DN.org and click on the Join and Renew tab. With a short scroll down the page, you will find the PayPal link.

Now that the weather is turning nasty be sure you are prepared. Do you have extra gas for the generator? When was the last time you started the Generator? How about batteries for the flashlight and HT's? A little advance planning will make any coming storms easier to deal with. Also, with the inclement weather we may not be able to travel as we normally would. If you can't make it to club meetings keep in touch with fellow hams by connecting on nets (WARC's net is Wednesday evenings at 8:00PM, on the club's repeater 147.090; pl 131.8) There are plenty of nets out there, you can search the web to find lists of them. In case of bad weather on a meeting night, keep tuned to the club's repeater for information. Also like the club's Facebook Page where information on any cancelations will be posted. If the Ben Wilson Senior Center is closed due to weather on a meeting night, the meeting will be canceled.

And speaking of weather; The Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency (PEMA) activated the Auxiliary Communication Service (ACS) Net for the storm we had over the weekend of January 19<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup>. The net is activated for the reporting of local weather conditions to help PEMA respond to emergencies across the state. For more information and how to sign up go to their website: www.pema.pa.gov/responseandrecovery/paauxiliarycommunications/Pages/PA-Auxilliary-Communications-Program.aspx

Be safe and stay warm! 73, George, KC3ESH KC3ESH@outlook.com

> **WARC General Membership Meeting Minutes January 3, 2019**

#### Attendance:

#### Call to Order George KC3ESH

Introductions—pass mic No minutes from the December meeting since it was the Holiday Dinner

### **Committee Reports**

**Treasurer's Report**: Herb KB3VMN not in attendance; no report

Programs: Jacek KC3HXF February-Club Auction

March-3D Printing

April – Tom Nolan W3EX High Speed Microwave Networks

May – Hamfest Preparation

June – Hamfest recap and Pizza night **Membership**: Norm AB3ZZ not in attendance

Reminder that your 2019 membership dues are now due. Pay at the meeting or pay on line with the PayPal link on

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the web site, www.k3dn.org.

**Public Service**: George N3HBT

No events at this time

Classes: George KA3WXV/Ron WB2OOB

Ron WB2OOB – Next weekend there is a tech class at 117 Oak Road, Audobon, NJ. 8-5 Saturday; 8-12 Sunday with VE testing after the class ends

George KA3WXV – classes will begin 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday in March, not sure of the format

**VEC Testing**: Larry WA3ELQ

December early – 4 successful to General, 1 new Tech and a few folks who did not pass and are invited to come back and try again.

January 28 next test session

Repeater: Brian N3EXA

Nothing to report; everything is working

Good and Welfare: Vince KD3TC

He will be sending a card out to Herb KB3VMN

He is looking for someone to take over the position. He has been working at this position for over 20 years and would like to step down.

#### **Other Committees**

Hamfest – Michael MAS reported that he has rented the tables. Next month he will start asking for volunteers to head up committees

Radio Sport – Irwin this weekend is the ARRL RTTY roundup contest. Network Time Protocol. Joe Taylor has lots of information regarding digital modes and how to contest.

#### **Old Business**

Union League Special Event – Joe Horanzy AA3K – nothing to report at this time

Continuing Education – The board is still working on a plan

**Constitutional Review 2019** - Larry WA3ELQ – there is a committee together that will be meeting soon. If anyone has noticed anything that needs to be changed or reviewed, please let Larry know.

#### **New Business**

No new business

#### **Motion to Adjourn**

Motion made and approved for adjournment at 8:03pm

#### Video Presentation

#### The K7RA Solar Update

Tad Cook, K7RA, Seattle, reports: The past week saw increased solar activity, with average daily sunspot numbers rising from 5.3 to 19.6 and average daily solar flux from 69.8 to 74.5. We haven't seen such strong activity since the beginning of last summer, when we reported average daily sunspot number at 22.6 and average daily solar flux at 75.3.

Predicted solar flux is 73 on January 31; 71 on February 1; 72 on February 2 - 7; 69 on February 8 - 12; 72 on February 13 - 27; 70 on February 28 - March 3; 69 on March 4 - 11, and 72 on March 12 - 16.

Predicted planetary A index is 20, 18, 12, 10, and 8 on January 31 - February 4; 5 on February 5 - 18; then 12, 20, 12, and 8 on February 19 - 22; 5 on February 23 - 26; then 8, 18, 10, and 8 on February 27 - March 2, and 5 on March 3 - 16.

In this week's bulletin, look for a report from Jon Jones, N0JK, in Kansas, concerning FT8 activity on 6 meters.

Sunspot numbers for January 24 - 30 were 19, 27, 26, 22, 16, 15, and 12, with a mean of 19.6. The 10.7-centimeter flux was 73.5, 73.1, 75.8, 75.1, 76.6, 75, and 72.4, with a mean of 74.5. Estimated planetary A indices were 19, 13, 7, 5, 1, 2, and 2, with a mean of 7. Estimated mid-latitude A indices were 13, 10, 5, 3, 0, 0, and 0, with a mean of 4.4.

Courtesy of the ARRL Newsletter

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## **FOR SALE**

Nine (9) aluminum military mast sections sold by the MAST COMPANY, high quality aluminum, each section about 3.75 feet once overlapped on each other for a total height of approximately 34 feet. Brand new in shipping carton. I can bring them to one of the meetings if you are interested. Contact, Bob, K3SRO at dlrwild1@verizon.net

267-535-9189 cell ASKING: \$110 cash or check

WELZ TP05 Power Meter WELZ TP05 Power Meter

Yaesu FT 60

FNB-83 Battery Packs (2) FNB-83 Battery Packs (2)

G3 Globe Traveler Radio G3 Globe Traveler Radio

YAE VX-170 Transceiver YAE VX-170 Transceiver

3 ft Cable with Connectors 3 ft Cable with Connectors

SO-239 Connectors

Travel Alarm Clock

Don (Byron) Rector W3UBF

Apt 2102

84 Dernstine Rd

Hatfield, PA 19440

215-723-1421

donaldrector1932@yahoo.com

Kenwood TS-520S in good working order priced at 250.00.

Kenwood R-2000 Receiver with optional YG-455C included 250.00.

Both Items sell on EBAY for well over 300.00.

Elliott Ressler W3YEP

erressler27@gmail.com

Tel: 215-635-4893

## **Amateur Radio Contesting in February and Early March 2019**

Normally I just send out a WARC Talk Email listing the monthly contests. Since there are so many during this period, I thought I would include them in the Feedback. Obviously we are at the doldrums of the solar cycle 24 minimum. If I look today, January 21st, the SFI is at 69. That equates to no visible sun spots. That does not mean the bands are dead, just that you need to work a little harder to pull in some good DX during a contest. I would expect over this period that 20M, 40M and 80M should have the most activity, with minimal activity on 15M and a very rare opening on 10M.

Here are just some of the contests in February and Early March.

## February 2<sup>nd</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup>

We find three QSO parties, Vermont, Minnesota and British Columbia. Local stations send their RST + County or District for Canadian stations while non-local stations send RST+State/Province. This is a SSB & CW contest. These are always fun contests to work.

10-10 International Winter Contest - I don't expect much here, but you never know if there will be a 10 Meter opening. This

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is a great 10 watt, primarily for 10-10 members only, contest when the sun comes back again. Members send their RST+ 10 -10 numbers + State/Province, while non-members send RST+0+State/Province. This is a SSB contest.

Mexico International RTTY Contest. This is listed as a RTTY only contest, so I am not sure if they will start to include FT8 too. Mexico stations send RST+State, while non-Mexico stations send RST+Serial number. February  $9^{th}$  to  $10^{th}$ 

CQ WW RTTY WPX Contest. This is currently listed as a RTTY only contest. Stations send RST +serial number. This is one of the big RTTY contests. February  $16^{th}$  to  $17^{th}$ 

ARRL International DX CW Contest. This is a major ARRL World-wide CW contest with lots of DX activity. The object for US/ Canadian stations is to work as many DX stations as possible, while the object for DX stations is to work as many US/Canadian Stations. US/Canadian Stations send RST + State/Province, while non-US Stations send RST + Power. Since it's a CW contest, most DX station will use "CW Cut-Numbers". For example instead of 599, they send 5nn; and instead of a 1000W, most send K or KW. Listen for a while and you will get the hang of it. Rules for this contest can be found at: <a href="http://www.arrl.org/arrl-dx">http://www.arrl.org/arrl-dx</a>. February 2<sup>2nd</sup> to 2<sup>4th</sup>

CQWW 160 Meter SSB Contest. US/Canadian Stations send RS +State/Province, while non-US/Canadian Stations send RS+ CO Zone.

North America RTTY QSO Contest. North America Stations send their Name+State/Province/Country, while non-North America Stations send just their Name. March  $2^{nd}$  to  $3^{rd}$ 

ARRL International DX SSB Contest. This is a major ARRL World-wide SSB contest with lots of DX activity. The object for US/Canadian stations is to work as many DX stations as possible, while the object for DX stations is to work as many US/Canadian Stations. US/Canadian Stations send RST + State/Province, while non-US Stations send RST + Power. If you want to work some great DX this weekend, get on the air. Along with Andy, KD3RF, we have worked this contest as a DX station from Antigua. Rules for this contest can be found at: http://www.arrl.org/arrl-dx.

A great source for contests can be found at: https://www.contestcalendar.com/contestcal.html.

Even if you only have a few hours to spare, get on the air and have fun. Remember, to submit your logs to the contest sponsors. Some of them have a short time from the end of the contest to the due date.

Remember, you worked hard to get your license,

Irwin KD3TB

#### ARRL LAUNCHING NEW PODCAST GEARED TOWARD NEW RADIO AMATEURS



"So What Now?" podcast hosts Michelle Patnode, W3MVP (left), and Joe Carcia, NJ10.

For those just getting started on their Amateur Radio journey, ARRL is launching a new podcast aimed at answering your questions, providing support and encouragement for newcomers to get the most out of the hobby. The podcast, "So Now What?," will launch on Thursday, March 7, and new episodes will be posted every other Thursday, alternating new-episode weeks with the "ARRL The Doctor is In <a href="http://">http:// www.arrl.org/doctor>" podcast.

Co-hosting "So Now What?" will be ARRL Communications Content Producer Michelle Patnode, W3MVP, and ARRL Station Manager Joe Carcia, NJ1Q. Presented as a lively conversation, with Patnode representing newer hams and Carcia the veteran operators, the podcast will explore questions that newer hams may have and the issues that keep participants from staying active in the hobby. Some episodes will feature guests to answer questions on specific topic areas.

"No other podcast is really aimed at this segment of the Amateur Radio community...that is being underserved, that is not getting the answers to the many questions they have," said ARRL Communications Manager David Isgur, N1RSN, who will serve as the podcast's executive producer.

Topics to be discussed in the first several episodes include getting started, operating modes available to Technician licensees, VEC and licensing issues, sunspots and propagation, mobile operating, contesting, Amateur Radio in pop culture, and perceptions of Technician license holders.

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Given the growing popularity of podcasts, Isgur believes that providing this information in a podcast format will be a very effective method of reaching out and engaging this particular part of the Amateur Radio community, which is important for building and maintaining Amateur Radio interest and activity.

Patnode said she is excited to ask questions she has about different aspects of Amateur Radio, such as how to incorporate ham radio with newer technologies like Raspberry Pi computers and Arduino microcontrollers, and to learn more about the hobby right along with the audience.

Carcia believes the "So Now What?" podcast will be a perfect complement to the podcasts that the ARRL already offers -- "ARRL The Doctor Is In" and "ARRL Audio News."

In addition to serving as co-host, Patnode is also the audio editor/producer of the podcast. ARRL Graphics Department Supervisor Sue Fagan, KB1OKW, designed the podcast logo, and ARRL Radiosport Administrative Manager Sabrina Jackson, KC1JMW, will voice the introduction and closing.

Listeners can find the "So Now What?" podcast at Blubrry.com, Apple Podcasts, Stitcher, or wherever you get your podcasts. Episodes will also be archived on the ARRL website.

"So Now What?" will be sponsored by LDG Electronics <a href="http://www.ldgelectronics.com/">http://www.ldgelectronics.com/</a>, a family owned and operated business with laboratories in southern Maryland that offers a wide array of antenna tuners and other Amateur Radio products.

\*\*Courtesy of the ARRL Newsletter\*\*

#### EUROPE'S YOUNGSTERS ON THE AIR ENTHUSIASM BREEDS EXUBERANCE IN US



Youth Contesting Program participants at ES9C in 2016. [Photo courtesy of YOTA]

Some of the enthusiasm engendered by Youngsters on the Air (YOTA <a href="https://">https:// www.ham-yota.com/>) in International Amateur Radio Union (IARU <a href="http://">http:// www.iaru.org/>) Region 1 (Europe and Africa) has spilled over into IARU Region 2 (the Americas). A group of a half-dozen young radio operators calling itself "Team Exuberance" will visit the contest superstation of Tim Duffy, K3LR, in late March for the CQ World Wide WPX <a href="https://www.cqwpx.com/">https://www.cqwpx.com/> SSB event. The team was inspired in part by YOTA's Youth Contesting Program (YCP <a href="https://www.ham-yota.com/youth-contesting-program/">https://www.ham-yota.com/youth-contesting-program/</a>) in Europe, which arranges for youthful IARU Region 1 members to participate in contests from top stations. Last year's YCP station hosts included ES5TV, 9A1A, EC2DX, 4O3A, and DM9EE, with more YCP events planned for 2019. YOTA also sponsors an annual summer camp gathering of some 80 young radio amateurs -- this year in Bulgaria -- and the monthly YOTA Youth Sked <a href="https://">https://</a> www.ham-yota.com/yota-youth-sked-new-edition-2019/>. A handful of young US radio amateurs have attended recent YOTA summer camps. A similar initiative is the annual Dave Kalter Youth DX Adventure (YDXA <a href="http://">http://</a> www.qsl.net/n6jrl>), which offers a group of young contesters the opportunity to operate from a DX location.

The Young Amateurs Radio Club (YARC <a href="https://yarc.world/">https://yarc.world/</a>) in IARU Region 2 picked up the ball <a href="https://yarc.world/about/">https://yarc.world/join/</a> is free, and applicants do not have to be licensed. ARRL's Collegiate Amateur Radio Initiative (CARI <a href="https://www.facebook.com/groups/ARRLCARI/">https://www.facebook.com/groups/ARRLCARI/</a>) also has been generating contesting and operating enthusiasm at campus ham radio clubs.

YARC, which sponsored summer and winter QSO parties in 2018, has offered to coordinate and facilitate station visits between US and Canadian hosts, recruiting operators within easy travel distances of a host station. Station hosts in Central America, the Caribbean, and South America are invited to recruit teams of young operators for contests.

Visit <a href="https://yarc.world/ycp">https://yarc.world/ycp</a> the YARC website to offer your station, or email <a href="https://yarc.world">ycp@yarc.world</a> with station particulars. YARC will try to connect you to young operators in your area, with the rest up to the host and participants. Young radio amateurs may connect with other YARC members via the Young Hams Discord <a href="https://discordapp.com/invite/E7GY7fR">https://discordapp.com/invite/E7GY7fR</a> group and via online and HF nets <a href="https://yarc.world/nets/">https://yarc.world/nets/</a>.

-- Thanks to the ARRL Contest Update <a href="http://www.arrl.org/the-arrl-contest-update">http://www.arrl.org/the-arrl-contest-update</a> via Ward Silver, N0AX

Courtesy of the ARRL Newsletter

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#### RTTY AND FT8 SUCCESSFULLY COEXIST IN 2019 ARRL RTTY ROUNDUP

Based on informal exit polling and log-submission trends, it appears that RTTY and FT8 successfully shared spectrum during the ARRL RTTY Roundup over the January 5 - 6 weekend. The event is seeing a dramatic uptick from last year in the number of logs submitted, with more than 2,400 and counting received by midweek, as opposed to 1,622 in the 2018 running.

"The 30th running of the ARRL RTTY Roundup is now in the books," ARRL Contest Branch Manager Bart Jahnke, W9JJ, said. "All indications are that the event -- in both RTTY and other digital categories -- gained significant additional attention and increased popularity with the inclusion of FT8 in the digital lineup." Jahnke said digital operating experience gained through the RTTY Roundup should benefit participants in the upcoming ARRL January VHF Contest <a href="http://www.arrl.org/january-vhf">http://www.arrl.org/january-vhf</a> and in future VHF contests, where WSJT-X protocols such as JTx, MSK144, and FT8 continue to gain popularity as a means to work hard-to-reach grids beyond the usual 400-mile tropo-scatter range, and for slower activity periods.

Jahnke reminds those submitting RTTY Roundup logs to make sure they're entering in the correct category. All entries that made contacts in FT8 or PSKxx (with their multi-channel decoder technology) must enter in one of the Unlimited categories, unless they're Multioperator entries. Contact <contests@arrl.org> the ARRL Contest Branch with any questions.

The inclusion of FT8 for the first time in the RTTY Roundup had generated considerable pre-contest debate, but when all was said and done, many stations tended to operate one mode or the other, although some took advantage of both (and perhaps of other digital modes), judging from logs posted on the 3830scores <a href="https://www.3830scores.com/currecscores.php?">https://www.3830scores.com/currecscores.php?</a> arg=7Lcgsozuisms4 website. The RTTY Roundup came close on the heels of the inaugural FT8 Roundup <a href="https://www.rttycontesting.com/ft8-roundup/2018-results/">https://www.rttycontesting.com/ft8-roundup/2018-results/</a> over the first weekend in December, which was deemed a success (it was the first-ever contest for the winner -- only licensed for 2 years – and for one other Top 10 finisher).



Alex Panoiu, YO9HP, in Romania, said he was initially hesitant about the idea of mixing RTTY and FT8, but he set up for both modes anyway. "Definitely in the first hours, the rates were three times higher in RTTY compared to FT8," he said in his 3830scores comments. "But later, when less 'fresh meat' was available in RTTY and propagation became marginal, FT8 became interesting. I noticed that most of the calls worked in FT8 never appeared in my RTTY log." He logged 369 digital contacts and 639 RTTY contacts.

The WW4LL Multi-Single, High Power team made about one-third of its contacts using digital modes. J42L, operating Multi-Single, Low Power from SV2DCD, avoided RTTY altogether, logging 535 digital contacts.

FT8 co-developer Joe Taylor, K1JT, operating Single Operator Unlimited, Low Power used only FT8, logging 585 contacts. He noted "close to zero" inter-mode

interference between RTTY and FT8 signals.

NCJ Digital Contesting Editor Ed Muns, W0YK, said he was very impressed with how the first RTTY Roundup to permit FT8 worked out.

"FT8 has significant advantages for a much larger group of contest participants who are constrained by geography, housing limitations, solar conditions, power, and noise," Muns said. "The amazing explosive growth of FT8 activity since its introduction in mid-2017 also means that there are many more participants for all of us to work in contests."

Muns said he initially didn't believe that RTTY and FT8 could coexist in the same contest. "Of course, like many things we can debate ad infinitum, a little bit of actual experience goes a long way to inform our [preconceived notions]," he added. "I'm very impressed with how it all worked out."

Courtesy of the ARRL Newsletter

# FCC REACHES \$900,000 SETTLEMENT IN UNAUTHORIZED SATELLITE LAUNCH CASE

The FCC has settled an investigation into an alleged unauthorized launch and operation of small satellites by Swarm Technologies. The company agreed to a Consent Decree <a href="https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/FCC-18-184A1.pdf">https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/FCC-18-184A1.pdf</a> that included a \$900,000 penalty, an extended period of FCC oversight, and a requirement of pre-launch notices to the FCC, among other stipulations.

"We will aggressively enforce the FCC's requirements that companies seek FCC authorization prior to deploying and operating communications satellites and earth stations," FCC Enforcement Bureau Chief Rosemary Harold said. "These important obligations protect other operators against radio interference and collisions, making space a safer place to operate."

In April 2017, Swarm applied for an Experimental license to deploy and operate two Earth stations and four tiny 0.25 U CubeSats

called SpaceBEEs. The FCC denied Swarm's application in December 2017 over concerns about the ability to track the satellites. Swarm nevertheless launched the satellites <a href="http://www.arrl.org/news/launch-of-spacebees-unauthorized-fcc-tells-california-technology-developer">http://www.arrl.org/news/launch-of-spacebees-unauthorized-fcc-tells-california-technology-developer</a> on January 12, 2018, on a vehicle that also carried an Amateur Radio satellite into space. After reports of the unauthorized SpaceBEEs launch surfaced, the FCC launched an investigation last March.

The FCC determined that Swarm had launched the four SpaceBEEs from India and had unlawfully transmitted signals between Earth stations in Georgia and the satellites for more than a week. In addition, the FCC discovered that Swarm had also performed unauthorized weather balloon-to-ground station tests and other unauthorized equipment tests prior to the launch. All these activities required FCC authorization.

The December resolution requires Swarm to pay a penalty of \$900,000 to the US Treasury and to submit pre-launch reports to the FCC for the next 3 years. The FCC said Swarm has committed to a strict compliance plan to prevent future FCC rule violations. The FCC issued an Enforcement Advisory <a href="https://go.usa.gov/xPFwB">https://go.usa.gov/xPFwB</a> last April to remind satellite operators that they must obtain FCC authorization for space station and Earth station operations. The advisory cautioned satellite operators and launch companies against proceeding with launch arrangements following a license denial or prior to receiving an FCC authorization. -- FCC Media Release

Courtesy of the ARRL Newsletter

# HISTORIC SCHOONER THAT CARRIED HAM RADIO ON ARCTIC EXPEDITIONS UNDERGOING ADDITIONAL RESTORATION

The nearly century-old schooner Bowdoin, built in 1921 and relaunched nearly 3 years ago, after some extensive renovation and refitting, is once again in dry dock to restore its hull. During explorer Donald B. MacMillan's Arctic Expedition of 1923 and on the MacMillan-McDonald-Byrd Expedition of 1925, the sailing vessel relied on Amateur Radio operators for communication. Built in East Boothbay, Maine, the Bowdoin has made more than two dozen visits to the Arctic under MacMillan's command. It was named after MacMillan's alma mater, Bowdoin College, and has become the official vessel of the state of Maine, a national historic landmark, and the flagship <a href="http://mainemaritime.edu/waterfront/schooner-bowdoin/">http://mainemaritime.edu/waterfront/schooner-bowdoin/</a> of the Maine Maritime Academy (MMA) Vessel Operations and Technology Program. Work on the vessel is currently under way at Boothbay Harbor.



At Wiscasset, Maine, with the schooner Bowdoin, ARRL sponsors check out the receiver furnished by Zenith for the 1923 Arctic Expedition. From left to right: F.H. Schnell, 1MO, Traffic Manager; K.B. Warner, 9JT, Secretary-Manager, and Hiram Percy Maxim, 1AW,

"Our goal is to maintain the boat to the highest standard, to go above and beyond in order to preserve this living piece of history," MMA Marine Operations Manager Dana Willis said in a December media release <a href="https://mainemaritime.edu/about-mma/press-releases/schooner-bowdoin-undergoing-hull-restoration-at-bristol-marine-the-shipyard-in-boothbay-harbor/">hothbay-harbor/</a>>. One such preservation update has been supplementing Bowdoin's sails with a diesel engine.

In 1923, MacMillan had turned to ARRL for help in outfitting his expedition with better wireless gear, and, as Michael Marinaro, WN1M, explained in his June 2014 QST article, "Polar Exploration <a href="http://www.arrl.org/files/file/QST/This%20Month%20in%20QST/June2014/Marinaro.pdf">http://www.arrl.org/files/file/QST/This%20Month%20in%20QST/June2014/Marinaro.pdf</a>," that help "was enthusiastically provided." ARRL Co-Founder Hiram Percy Maxim and the ARRL Board agreed to furnish support and recruited Donald H. Mix, 1TS, of Bristol, Connecticut, to serve as the shipboard operator. Board member M.B. West custom-designed the equipment, which was built by radio amateurs at his firm, Zenith Electronics. The transmitter operated on medium-wave frequencies with a power of 100 W and used the call sign WNP -- for "Wireless North Pole"

As Marinaro explained in his article, "WNP transmitted weekly 500-word press releases and listings of stations worked and heard. Once received by amateur stations, these reports were de-

livered to local affiliated newspapers of the North American Newspaper Alliance; from there, they were distributed syndicate-wide by telegraph."

In 1925, the Bowdoin headed to Greenland. "The outstanding accomplishment of the expedition was in the sphere of radio," Marinaro wrote. "Utilizing shortwaves, the expedition was in consistent contact with the outside world throughout the journey, to the delight of the amateurs who were able to work them. The phenomenal success proved to the Navy that shortwaves were definitely superior to the long and ultralong waves on which the fleets had been relying."



The Bowdoin is launched from Wiscasset, Maine, for the 1923 MacMillan Arctic Expedition.

The Bowdoin is expected to be seaworthy again for the summer sailing season, when it will serve once again in MMA sail training courses. --

Thanks to Maine Maritime Academy

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#### **CLUB INFO**

#### PUBLIC SERVICE

#### **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 2019**

February – Club Auction

March – 3D Printing w/ Dean KC3JXT

April – Tom Nolan W3EX High Speed Microwave Networks

May – Hamfest Preparation

June – Hamfest recap and Pizza night

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.

#### 2019 Contest Calendar

#### **February**

#### 11-15 School Club Roundup

Monday through Friday from 1300 UTC Monday through 2359 UTC Friday

#### 16-17 International DX – CW

Starts 0000 UTC Saturday; ends 2359 UTC Sunday

#### March

#### 2-3 International DX- Phone

Starts 0000 UTC Saturday; ends 2359 UTC Sunday

#### April

#### 14 Rookie Roundup - Phone

1800 UTC through 2359 UTC

#### **QSO Parties**

Vermont 0000Z, Feb 2 to 2400Z, Feb 3

Minnesota 1400Z-2400Z, Feb 2

South Carolina 1500Z, Feb 23 to 0159Z, Feb 24 North Carolina 1500Z, Feb 24 to 0059Z, Feb 25

#### > ATLANTIC DIV. HAMFESTS > 2019

#### March 16 - Fredfest '19

Independent Hose Company 310 Baughmans Lane Frederick, MD 21701 http://frederickarc.org

## April 14 - JSARS Hamfests

Riverwood Park, Building #2 Riverwood Dr,

Toms River, NJ 08753

http://jsars.org

#### April 27 - York Hamfest

Elicker's Grove Park 511 Roth Church Road

Spring Grove, PA 17362

http://www.yorkhamfest.org

#### April 27 - Delaware State Convention (Delmarva Radio & Electronics EXPO)

Cheer Community Center 20520 Sand Hill Road

Georgetown, DE 19947

http://radioelectronicsexpo.com

#### May 5 - Eastern Pennsylvania Section Convention (Warminster ARC Hamfest)

Bucks County Community College - Lower Bucks Campus 1304 Veteran Highway Bristol, PA 19007

http://www.k3dn.org/hamfest/

## 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 2019 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

Page 10 **FEEDBACK** 

## **SKYWARN INFORMATION**

## **Bucks County SKYWARN Weather Spotter PRIMARY FRE-QUENCY: 147.300MHZ (+ 131.8)**

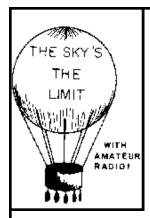
Fairless Hills, PA (many remote access locations throughout Bucks County)

## Mount Holly NWSFO SKYWARN Homepage:

https://www.weather.gov/phi/Info

## **SKYWARN Basic Weather Spotter Educational Programs URL:**

https://www.weather.gov/phi/classes



#### 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.

Classes will begin 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday in March.

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	2000	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		223.5 Simplex
Thursday	1900	Mont. Cnty RACES 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, Jacek Ostrowski KC3HXF

## 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 N3DOZ 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?

# 2019 Officers

## **Executive Officers**

President	George Acker	KC3ESH 215-815-7783
Vice-President	Jacek Ostrowski	KC3HXF 215-343-1899
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	Tony Cuttone	W3FLH 267-679-9297

## **Committee Chairpersons**

ARES/RACES Liason	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	WA4YWN	1215-538-1889
Field Day 19	Doc Whitticar	W3GAD	215-968-6397
Hamfest 19	Michael Shanblatt	W3MAS	267-491-5773
Hamfest 19	Tony Cuttone	W3FLH	267-679-9297
Hamwear	Kathy Acker	KC3FBY	215-815-7978
Holiday Dinner	George Brechmann	N3HBT	215-443-5656
Membership	Norm Miles	AB3ZZ	
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