



# FEEDBACK



Web Site [k3dn.org](http://k3dn.org)

Warminster Amateur Radio Club

January 2020

Next Meeting January 2nd - V26 Dxpedition, Irwin, et al

## In Memoriam



George Acker KC3ESH SK

December 20, 1958 - December 21, 2019

As all of you probably know by now, George Acker KC3ESH became a silent key on Saturday December 21, 2019. George has served as club president for 2 years. His leadership was exemplary and his dedication to the club and to the hobby of Amateur Radio was extraordinary. Both he and Kathy came into the club with their sleeves rolled up ready to work and work they did. George embraced the club and had tremendous passion for all of us. He was progressive and wanted all HAMS new and old to get the most out their association with the Warminster Amateur Radio Club.

George served many roles in the club and I do not think there is any member who was prouder to wear or owned more clothing with the club logo on it. There was never a club project or another HAM needing help with something that George was not right there leading the charge.

Following George's lead and preserving his legacy is our duty. We need more people like George to step up and take on some leadership in the club but to also see that no one is left behind when it comes to HAM radio.

The next few months will be difficult and as a group we will band together and make the organization stronger. We want Kathy and her family to know we will be there for her.

To quote Billy Joel- Only the good die young!

73's George, until our next contact- rest easy!

Herb Hickmott  
KB3VMN  
Club Treasurer

### FCC Proposes Largest-Ever Fine for Unlicensed Broadcasting

The FCC has proposed fining an alleged pirate broadcaster in the Boston, Massachusetts area more than \$450,000. According to the FCC, Gerlens Cesar, who operated Radio TeleBoston, used three separate transmitters for his broadcasting enterprise, resulting in three separate violations of the law.

"The Commission proposed imposing the statutory maximum forfeiture amount for each of these three apparent violations," the FCC said in a *Notice of Apparent Liability (NAL)* released on December 12. Under the Communications Act, it is illegal to transmit above certain low-power levels, defined within FCC Part 15 rules, without an FCC license.

"Such pirate radio broadcasting can interfere with licensed communications including public safety transmissions," the FCC said. The FCC said Cesar apparently simulcasts Radio TeleBoston on three unauthorized transmitters on two different frequencies. "His operation thus had the potential to cause interference in various locations in and around Boston and at different channels on the FM dial," the FCC said. "As a result of the scale of this operation, its potential impacts, and its continuous nature, the Commission proposed the maximum penalty for all three transmitters."



The FCC reported receiving complaints from Boston-area residents of an illegal station operating at both 90.1 and 92.1 MHz. One complaint identified Cesar as the operator of Radio TeleBoston. The FCC said it had issued multiple warnings. -- *FCC Media Release*

*Courtesy of the ARRL Newsletter*

**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](mailto:dlrwild1@verizon.net)

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

Kenwood TS-570D HF Transceiver. 10-160 meters. Automatic Antenna Tuner. SSB and CW (500hz) filters. Includes hand mic, power cord, and original box.  
PS-40 Power supply for the radio.

Asking \$550.00 for both.

Emtech ZM-2 ATU (BNC, pre-built) - \$60

MFJ 9201 QRP Antenna Tuner. - \$40

Marty NR3Z  
[Skitch@SkitchFamily.net](mailto:Skitch@SkitchFamily.net)  
[NR3Z@ARRL.net](mailto:NR3Z@ARRL.net)

**AztechSat-1 CubeSat to Demonstrate Intra-Satellite Communication**

The [AztechSat-1](#) CubeSat, which traveled to the International Space Station (ISS) earlier this month on the 19th Space-X Commercial Resupply Services (CRS-19) mission for NASA, will listen for emergency messages in the 439 MHz range and retransmit them for amateur radio operators to copy on its 437.300 MHz downlink using the Winlink protocol, once the CubeSat has been placed into orbit. The satellite is a project of Mexico's Universidad Popular Autónoma del Estado de Puebla (UPAEP). Aztechsat-1 is set for deployment from the ISS in late January.

"The primary objective of the project is to establish communication with the commercial GlobalStar satellites in order to improve data transmission to Earth," a UPAEP news release said. AztechSat-1 will create a saturation map of 435 - 438 MHz by listening for the whole orbit and returning captured data to the ground station on the 437.300 MHz amateur radio downlink (9k6 GMSK or FSK) plus a 1600 MHz GlobalStar link. Emergency messages received via Globalstar to the AztechSat-1 ground station will be shared on the project's website.



A certificate will be available for amateur stations receiving the emergency message (s) and reporting these for confirmation by the AztechSat-1 team.

Details are on the [AztechSat-1 website](#) and on the [IARU Amateur Radio Satellite Communication](#) page.

The project is part of NASA's [CubeSat Launch Initiative](#), which offers universities, high schools, and nonprofit organizations the opportunity to fly small satellites. "Innovative technology partnerships keep down the cost, providing students a way to obtain hands-on experience developing flight hardware," a NASA [report](#) said.

NASA explained, "The investigation demonstrates communication within a satellite network in low-Earth orbit. Such intra-satellite communication could reduce the need for ground stations, lowering the cost and increasing the number of data downloads possible for satellite applications."

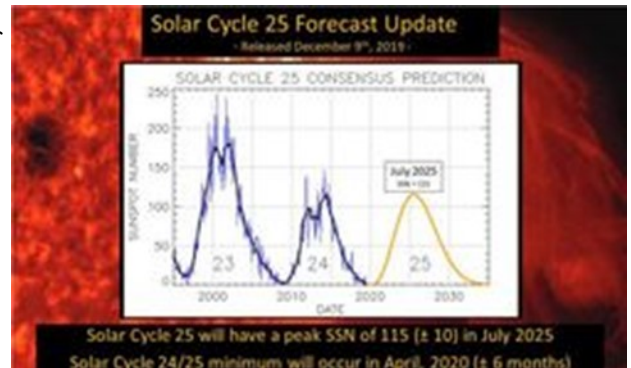
*Courtesy of the ARRL Newsletter*

### NOAA/NASA Panel Concurs that Solar Cycle 25 will Peak in July 2025

The NOAA/NASA-co-chaired international Solar Cycle Prediction Panel has released its [latest forecast](#) for the coming Solar Cycle 25. The panel's consensus calls for a peak in July 2025 ( $\pm 8$  months), with a smoothed sunspot number of 115. The panel agreed that Cycle 25 will be of average intensity and similar to Cycle 24. The panel additionally concurred that the solar minimum between Cycles 24 and 25 will occur in April 2020 ( $\pm 6$  months). If the solar minimum prediction is correct, this would make Solar Cycle 24 the seventh longest on record at 11.4 years. In its preliminary forecast released last April, the scientists on the panel forecast that Solar Cycle 25 would likely be weak, much like the current Cycle 24.

"Solar Cycle 25 may have a slow start, but is anticipated to peak with solar maximum occurring between 2023 and 2026, and a sunspot range of 95 to 130. This is well below the average number of sunspots," the panel said last spring, adding with "high confidence" that Cycle 25 "should break the trend of weakening solar activity seen over the past four cycles." The panel said the expectation that Cycle 25 would be comparable in size to Cycle 24 suggests that the steady decline in solar cycle amplitude seen from Cycle 21 through Cycle 24 has ended and that there is no indication of an approaching "Maunder-type" minimum. Cycle 24 peaked in April 2014 with an average sunspot number of 82.

The Solar Cycle Prediction Panel forecasts the number of sunspots expected for solar maximum, along with the timing of the peak and minimum solar activity levels for the cycle. It is comprised of scientists representing NOAA, NASA, the International Space Environment Services, and other US and international scientists.



*Courtesy of the ARRL Newsletter*

### Oldest Known US Ham Receives ARRL Centurion Award



The oldest known US radio amateur, Cliff Kayhart, W4KKP, received his ARRL Centurion Award plaque in November. The award

recognizes hams who have achieved centenarian status. Kayhart, who lives in White Rock, South Carolina, is 108. The ARRL Board of Directors conferred the award on Kayhart at its July 2019 meeting.

At the November meeting of the Dutch Fork Amateur Radio Group in Little Mountain, South Carolina, ARRL Roanoke Division Director Bud Hipsisley, W2RU, headed an ARRL delegation that presented the Centurion Award plaque to Kayhart, who was first licensed as W2LFE in 1937 (he's also held W9GNQ). With Hipsisley for the presentation were Roanoke Division Vice Director Bill Morine, N2COP, and South Carolina Section Manager Marc Tarplee, N4UFP.

Kayhart served in Iwo Jima during World War II, shortly after the US victory there, setting up long-range radio communication from the island to Tokyo to arrange for the eventual surrender by Japan.

Kayhart remains active, checking into several nets from his assisted living facility. Centurion Award recipients have their annual ARRL membership fees waived while continuing to receive *QST* and other ARRL member benefits. Kayhart was profiled in the June 2018 issue of *QST*.

*Courtesy of the ARRL Newsletter*

## 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](mailto:membership@k3dn.org).

If you want to have your picture taken to be placed on the 'Members' Photos' section of the [www.k3dn.org](http://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.

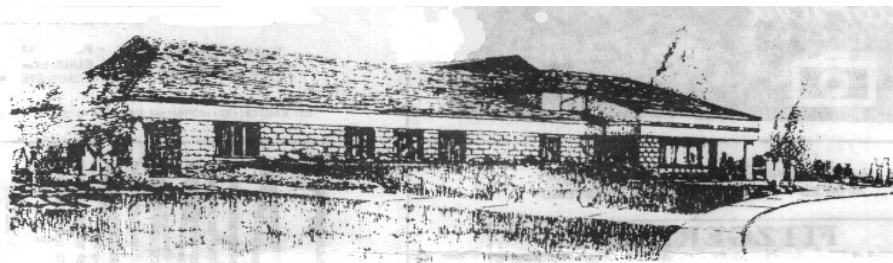
## PROGRAMS 2020

**January-V26 Dxpedition, Irwin, et al**

**February-Homebrew**

**March-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.

### 2020 Contest Calendar

#### January

##### 1 [Straight Key Night](#)

0000 UTC - 2359 UTC January 1

##### 4 [Kids Day](#)

1800 UTC through 2359 UTC

##### 4-5 [RTTY Roundup](#)

1800 UTC Saturday through 2359 UTC Sunday

##### 18-20 [January VHF](#)

1900 UTC Saturday through 0359 UTC Monday

#### February

##### 10-14 [School Club Roundup](#)

1300 UTC Monday through 2359 UTC Friday

##### 15-16 [International DX – CW](#)

0000 UTC Saturday through 2359 UTC Sunday.

#### March

##### 7-8 [International DX– Phone](#)

0000 UTC Saturday; ends 2359 UTC 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 2020 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:w3pa@arrl.net)  
Alt Contact: Jim, 610-287-5630

### ➤ ATLANTIC DIV. HAMFESTS ➤ 2020

#### January 11

##### [WinterFest](#)

Vietnam Veterans of America 8000 Derry Street Harrisburg, PA 17101

<http://www.w3uu.org>

#### January 26

##### [Post Holiday Hamfest](#)

Odenton Volunteer Fire Company 1425 Annapolis Road Odenton, MD 21113

<https://sites.google.com/site/marylandmobileers/hamfests-1/hamfest-2>

#### April 18

##### [DELMARVA Amateur Radio and Electronics EXPO, ARRL Delaware State Convention](#)

CHEER Community Center 20520 Sand Hill Road Georgetown, DE 19947

<http://www.radioelectronicsexpo.com>

**SKYWARN INFORMATION**

**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:**

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

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

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

➤ **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, Marty Squicciarini NR3Z

**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 Buegers
- 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

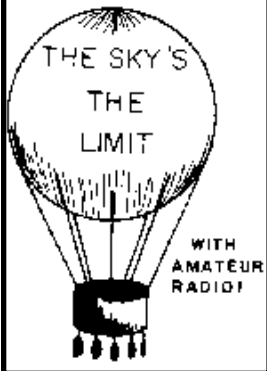
**6 Mtr**

- 53.030 WA3BXW
- 53.230 N3DQZ
- 53.320 K3MFI

*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, 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](http://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	Informal Net	223.5 Simplex
Thursday	1900	Mont. Cnty RACES Net	146.835 Rptr.

### 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 ?

## 2020 Officers

### Executive Officers

President			
Vice-President	Marty Squicciarini	NR3Z	215-872-9644
Secretary	Norm Miles	AB3ZZ	267-625-9117
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	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 20	Doc Whitticar	W3GAD	215-968-6397
Hamfest 20	Michael Shanblatt	W3MAS	267-491-5773
Hamfest 20	Tony Cuttone	W3FLH	267-679-9297
Hamwear	Kathy Acker	KC3FBY	215-815-7978
Holiday Dinner	George Brechmann	N3HBT	215-443-5656
Membership	Mary Miles	KC3KJZ	267-625-8538
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	215-639-2175
Station Trustee	George Brechmann	N3HBT	215-443-5656
Sunshine Club	Ken Lichtenstein	K9KJL	847-697-1188
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