



QRZ NEWS

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF
SOUTHERN PENNSYLVANIA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC
PO BOX 422- Mount Joy, PA 17552
(Founded June 1960)

AN AFFILIATED SPECIAL SERVICE CLUB OF THE ARRL, INC.
"Public Service through Communication"

Website: WWW. K3IR.org

Email address: k3ir@arrrl.net

Repeaters: 145.230 - 449.975 - Packet 145.030 - ATV 923.250, FN10se
Club site 1715 Breneman Road, Rapho Twp. (Manheim P.O. 17545 NO DELIVERY)

April 2017

President's Message

As we welcome Spring, along with it comes the noisy low bands. But on the positive side 20 meters has been staying open a little longer with the longer days. This Winter was great for low band DX, I hope the DXers in the group got to work some of it. I know I picked up a few I needed on 40 and 80 meters. Even 160 meters was hot most of the Winter. So we are now into the season of portable operating. Expect to hear a lot of it on all the bands this year. It seems that the NPOTA program last year got a lot of first timers outside with their radios. I am one of them. I normally all but pull the plug during the summer. I am not a shack dweller when the weather is warm. I am hoping some other members are interested, because I've got some ideas for some portable operating we can all take part in.

The building is almost complete. Thanks to Tom and Larry, the operating benches are in and they look great! We have some of the smaller details to finish up and the floor needs to go in and that's about it. We are hoping to have some kind of an open house event when everything is finished. All meetings from this point forward will be in the new building at the site or outside by the Tiki Bar. Thanks again to everyone that made this dream ham shack possible. There are a few members that gave up every weekend to come to the site and work on the building. What a great club we have! We've got more activities planned for this year. So stay tuned and please join in. We are going to try to plan activities that are family friendly, so

we don't have to leave our families behind to "play radio".

73

Mark Walton
K3MRK

Table of Contents

President's Message.....	1
DIY Night	1
Site News	Error! Bookmark not defined.
Wireless Communications Students Earn Amateur Radio Licenses.....	Error! Bookmark not defined.
Coming Events.....	2
Astronomy / Earth Science	2
Wanted.....	Error! Bookmark not defined.
New Area Codes ..	Error! Bookmark not defined.
ARES/RACES	3
SPARC Nets	3
Club Officers	4
Membership Info Update Request	4

DIY Night

The frequency counter module kits have arrived. Gerry brought them to the last SPARC breakfast at Gus's to hand out to all who wanted to have them early. The next build date is May 2 at Larry's shop (474 Fruitville Pike). The next kit, an LM386 amplifier board, is on order. At \$2 each they were hard to pass up.

Contact Gerry Wagner, KB3SSZ at gerry.wagner@comcast.net with any questions regarding the kits or the status of the build night.

Coming Events

Membership Meeting

The next membership meeting will be held on Tuesday April 25th. We look forward to seeing you!

SPARC Breakfast

The second Saturday of every month at 0800 is a SPARC breakfast at Gus's Keystone Restaurant, 1050 W. Main St, Mt Joy, PA.

Contact [Gerry Wagner, KB3SSZ](mailto:Gerry.Wagner@KB3SSZ), for more details. Everyone interested in Amateur Radio is invited to attend. See <http://guskeystone.com/> for restaurant details.

Astronomy / Earth Science

May should be a great month for naked-eye skywatchers.

Mercury will be out, briefly, at sunset. Jupiter is now high in the western sky,

Jupiter is hard to miss, high and bright in the western sky.

Saturn is also visible this month, rising in the east as the sun sets. It is in opposition in May 10th, which means that it is nicely lit and closest to Earth than at any other time this year. The ring system is also tilted nicely for observation, although that will take a telescope or a good pair of binoculars.

Venus rises in the early morning, just before sunrise.

The **Sun** continues to be unusually active. A coronal hole and an April 18th CME yielded a geomagnetic storm with auroras seen as far south as Colorado on the 22nd. HF conditions should be expected to be poor as a result. These conditions have continued since at least mid-March.

Entry Level HAM Radio Classes

SPARC is sponsoring a series of classes for those interested in obtaining their Technician Class Amateur Radio License and learning how to use it. The classes will be held on 7 consecutive Wednesday evenings beginning June 7. Time will be 7:00 PM ending around 9:00 PM. We will meet at the SPARC building located at 1715 Breneman Road, Manheim. The classes are free and all study materials will be provided.

No prior knowledge or experience in electronics is needed. We will give you the knowledge you need to pass the test and the experience you will need to use your new license. For more information contact Harry Bauder at (717) 944-7235 or harrybauder@comcast.net.

Solar Powered Lawn Mower

In a case of “the sun made it grow, so the sun can help cut it back”, Gerry Wagner has developed a solar-powered lawn mower system. It started with a Neutron 14” electric mower from a firm in Vermont. This little mower has two SLA batteries in series to power the motor. Rather than plug it in to the wall to recharge, Gerry saw a lot of sun around his house that was going to waste. His plan to harvest that free energy started with a 24-volt panel from Amazon and a charge controller. He mounted the panel just outside his garage, on the central air unit, and ran the wires inside



the garage to the charge controller, which sat next to the mower. After learning he had to disconnect the mower battery charge controllers in favor of the panel's charge controller, he successfully charged the mower each week between cuttings.



Gerry said, "I know this will not make a huge dent in my power bill each month during the summer and that it may take a long time to amortize the cost of the panel (some \$70) but it gives me a sense of satisfaction that I am not wasting all of the free energy that falls on my property each day."



"Future plans call for converting my ham station over to solar energy. I have all the parts (larger 12VDC, 7 watt panel; 12 VDC storage battery, and controller) I'll write another article when that project is finished. Encourage me to move out on this, hi!"

ARES/RACES



As part of the SPARC commitment to emergency communications, the SPARC repeater system is maintained as available for linking with other area repeaters.

Lancaster County RACES VHF Net is held on the first Tuesday of the month at 2030 hours local time on the 145.310 MHz repeater in Rawlinsville.

The Lancaster County primary ARES/RACES repeater is on 145.310 MHz with minus offset and 118.8 PL.

Pennsylvania RACES HF Nets are held at 3993.5 kHz LSB on all Sundays except holidays.

The statewide net is on the first Sunday of the month at 0800 hours local time.

The Central Area (including Lancaster County) net is at 08:30 local time.

EPA NBEMS Net, Tuesday, 7:30pm local EST, 3.5920mhz Mode: Olivia 8/500 1khz, Net Mgr: WA3WSJ@arrl.net

SPARC Nets

[SPARC holds nets every Tuesday at 2100](#) local time on 145.230 MHz minus offset and PL of 118.8Hz. The [449.975MHz](#) PL of 114.8 Hz repeater is linked to the 2m repeater for the net.

Club Officers

Mark Walton, K3MRK, President
Kevin Lampo, K3LLC, Past President
Larry Laughman K3LWL, Vice President
Margaret Hamm, KB3SCA, Treasurer
Gerry Wagner, KB3SSZ, Secretary
David Payne, N3LOM, Repeater Trustee
Harry Bauder, N3FMO, Membership Chair
Tom Hartrandt, KB3ZGF, Member at Large

Membership Info Update Request

Please send all changes of address, email, and ham status to Harry Bauder, 4319 Snavely Rd Elizabethtown, Pa 17022
email harrybauder@comcast.net
home phone 717-944-7235

Nearby Nets of Local Interest

If you need information on access tones etc, the referenced web sites below will usually provide the information needed. For more information, see <http://arcc-inc.org/arc-fdbas.html>

Monday Ephrata Area Repeater Society Lancaster County Two Meter Emergency Net 9:00 PM on the 145.450MHz repeater.
(Ed Note: The EARS web site no longer exists. The Monday night net is still in operation.)

Monday [Keystone VHF Club](#) Combined Club & ARES/RACES Net 8:30PM on 146.970MHz.

[Monday South Mountain Radio Amateurs](#)

SMRA Club Net 9:00PM on [145.430MHz](#)

YORK NETS - Summer TUESDAY

DIGITAL NET is on Summer Hiatus

Feel free to use this time for informal practice amongst yourselves
8:00 PM on 146.97 MHz repeater , PL 123.0 HZ

ELMER NET will continue
at 9 PM on the 146.97 MHz repeater, PL 123.0 HZ

this NET is for newer HAMS and anyone else who may have questions, or wish to discuss projects.

Morse Code Net Tuesday, 2000 local time (8:00p). [SMRA](#) repeater 145.430- (67.0 Hz) with alternate frequency of 146.460+ (1,000 kHz offset, tone 67.0 Hz)

Wednesday York County SSB Net 7:45PM on 50.135MHz. Informal net getting started. Contact Steve Cruse, K3WHC, for more information.

Wednesday [Pottstown Area Amateur Radio Club](#) 8:30PM 50.130MHz Contact [Leonard, WV3P](#) for more information.

Wednesday [Red Rose Repeater Association Net](#) 9:00PM on 147.015MHz.

Wednesday [QCWA Net](#) 9:00PM on 146.97MHz.

Thursday [Lancaster Radio Transmitting Society Net](#) 9:00 PM on 145.390MHz

PACKRAT VHF/UHF NETS

Visit the Mt Airy VHF Radio Club at: <http://packratvhf.com/airtimes.htm> for the latest information on VHF/UHF nets.

NTS Eastern Area Phone net

3.917 at 4:00 PM daily for traffic going to EPA, MDC, WPA and Maryland. We have a callup, pass any traffic, after that a round of comments. Traffic manager is WA3QPX. Net could use more checkins from EPA as we normally only get one checkin from EPA and sometimes none. This is where the Fone traffic for EPA net normally comes from. Any questions I will be on 3.917 at 4:00 PM.

73 , [Paul, WA3QPX](#)



Two EPA Nets Now Accessible via Echolink

Posted By: [egroups_n3sw](#) [egroups_n3sw](#)

Mon Aug 27, 2012 11:40 pm

<>The EPA AA3RG and Echolink Traffic Net (EAETN) has been accessible since its inception via Echolink at node AA3RG-R (#149493). See the group Calendar for more information. [*Thursday 8:00PM*]

<>Now the Capital Area Traffic Net (CATN) is also accessible via Echolink at node N3TWT-R (#743026). See the group Calendar for more information. All (*licensed hams*) are welcome to join in on these nets.

73 -Scott N3SW EPA STM-

AA3C note: To visit our group on the web, go to NTS-EPA Group web site:

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/nts-epa/>

Both nets will utilize the 146.640(tx-) MHz.

Transmit access tone: 82.5 Hz.

AA3RG Repeater: <http://www.aa3rg.org/>

QRZ News Publication

QRZ News is published monthly. The deadline for submission of items for publication is 11 days before the regular membership meeting on the fourth Tuesday of each month. If the material is not copy and paste ready for publication, more lead time is required.

We operate on an exchange basis with other not for profit publications. Articles printed in QRZ News may be reprinted in a not for profit publication provided proper credit is given. QRZ News is archived at <http://www.k3ir.org/>

For Sale by SPARC

SPARC has the following items for sale to members or other interested Hams.

If you are building wire antennas we have a large quantity of insulated wire from 14 gauge to 18 gauge.

Contact Mark, or Harry, N3FMO
