TAMAQUA WIRELESS ASSOCIATION INC.
PO Box 165 Tamaqua, PA 18252
Website: www.w3twa.org
E-Mail: tlesisko@ptd.net

January 18, 2019

Minutes of January 18, 2019 Meeting

The regular monthly meeting of TWA was held on January 18, 2019 at the American Legion 206 West Broad Street, Tamaqua. Presiding was WY3K. The meeting was called to order at 7:00PM.

The following members were present

WY3K, KC3CRS, K3VNN, KB2MXV, N3OGG, KC3MIU, KB3CFV, WA3WIJ, N3HHH, K3KAP, and K3TE. There was one quest present, AB3ZI- John from Wilkes barre.

Previous Meeting Minutes: K3TE.

Motion was made by:

1. N3OGG
2. KC3MIU

To accept the minutes of the December 8, 2018 meeting, motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: K3VNN

1. **Checking account : 719.70**
2. **22 members are paid for the year**
3. **Donations:**
4. **Grove Maintenance: $50.00**
5. **Repeater Fund: $888.69**
6. **PayPal: $45.00**
7. **Dues Collected: $30.00**
8. **50/50:**
9. **(Expenses): (76.37) Dinner for Schroeder's**
   (43.12) for grounding supplies purchased from M&S Hardware.

Total: $1613.90

Motion was made by:

1: N3HHH

2: KB3CFV

To accept the Treasurer's report, motion passed

Dues for 2019 are now due. Because we changed our fiscal year, the people that paid in 2018 will be charged ½ price for 2019. Contact Kevin at K3VNN@gmail.com to make arrangements to pay your dues. Or just attend one of our meetings.

Committee Reports:

Antenna Crew: KA3FUL

Absent

ARES County EC: KC3CRS

Bob N3RZI and Tom K3TE have been in contact with each other about installing a repeater at the Good Samaritan Hospital in Pottsville. Tom gave a report about the location and was given a contact. After discussion, the members present made a motion to continue with the possibility of installing a repeater and linking it to Mountain Valley.

1. KC3CRS
2. KC3MIU

Motion passed.

VE Test Sessions for 2019		
Month	Time	Location
April 6th	9AM	Tamaqua Borough Hall **Rear** of 320 E. Broad St.
June 1st	9AM	
August 3rd	9AM	
November 2nd	9AM	

VE Session: WY3K

Bill gave a report about test dates. He stressed that we promote the back entrance of the borough building.

He also stated that the FCC will not issue licenses until the impasse in Washington is over.

Schuylkill County Emergency and Traffic Net Manager: KC3CRS

Jim Munley KB3FET has been running the NET on Tuesday night at 8pm.

Roundtable NET now at 8PM: K3TE

Yearly Report: We had a total of 51 weeks and 375 people checked in. We hope to grow that number for 2019.

February's Control Operators are:
February 6th: Bill WY3K

February 13th: Tom KC3CRS

February 20th: Karen K3KAP

February 27th: Tom K3TE

Members are encouraged to check-in. You can find the list of repeater frequencies at www.w3twa.org

Month 2018	Number of Weeks	Number of Check-Ins
January	5	63
February	4	32
March	3	21
April	4	25
May	5	41
June	4	43
July	4	28
August	5	31
September	4	21
October	5	14
November	4	23
December	4	33
Total	51	375

Month 2019	Number of Weeks	Number of Check-Ins
January	3	25
February		
Total	3	25

HF Net follows the Roundtable NET: KC3CRS

February 13th: 10 meters 28.360
April 10th:
July 10:
October 9th:

Application for membership: K3TE

None at this time

Technical Committee Chairman: K3TE

On Sunday December 30th members met at the White Birch Gold Course for breakfast. Following breakfast KB2MXV, KC3CRS, WA3WIJ, WA3OFD, KB3AYY, and K3VNN went up to Mountain Valley and installed a ground rod and grounding cable to the tower. There was a discussion about the tower giving off RF interference and the tower is better grounded at this time.

1. I emailed Jim Munley for a contact at the Good Samaritan Hospital.
2. We had some "issues" with the 27 controller, we are monitoring.
3. There is a Telewave Pass/Notch Duplexer available, used on eBay.
4. The 49 repeater was accidently taken off line due to the fact that the Highrise is getting a new roof. Someone turned off the breaker. Tony Fannock was notified and he ran an extension cord over to the repeater. 49 is back on line, but the controller is acting up at this time.

Bulletin Board Website: KB2MXV

Frank N3OGG had an article printed in QST on December 8, 1941. KB2MXV said he will scan it an posted it on our website. Below is a link to the article.
http://www.w3twa.org/bb/viewtopic.php?f=4&t=43

TWA Website: KB2MXV

1. I did receive and replied to Mark Savage on 12/26 via our website. He asked for assistance on studying for the technician exam

2. There was a request by Dennis Williard KA3BVJ to set up a packet radio system. See copy of his email.
   John – AB3ZI demonstrated how packet radio works and said he would be around to help us if we wanted more information and/or help with setting up a node.

Old Business & Correspondence:

1. Liability insurance for 2019 was paid by Kevin. Insurance Certificates have been sent to Mountain Valley, ABC High-Rise Building, Tamaqua Borough, American Legion, and the Schroeder family. Kevin said he will look into if our insurance company sent certificates to the Borough, American Legion, and the Schroeder family.

New Business: see attachment(s)

1. Sponsoring the "New Years Eve Ball Drop" at the high-rise for 2019? $275.00
   a. After a discussion, members present were in favor of sponsoring the ball drop at the high-rise. Contact Tom K3TE @ tlesisko@ptd.net if you are interested in contributing to this sponsorship.
2. Date(s) for quarterly HF NET – we will be running an HF NET on January 9th following the Roundtable NET. Tom Smith KC3CRS will be the Net Controller.
3. Phone chain – in case of emergencies. This should be updated if we need to get a hold of people.
   a. After discussion, members will look into what would be needed to set up a contact list – Motion by KC3MIU and 2nd by K3KAP. Motion passed
4. Appoint a committee to look into what we would need as a club to provide emergency communications (shelter, generator, radio(s), and antenna) just in case we would get asked.

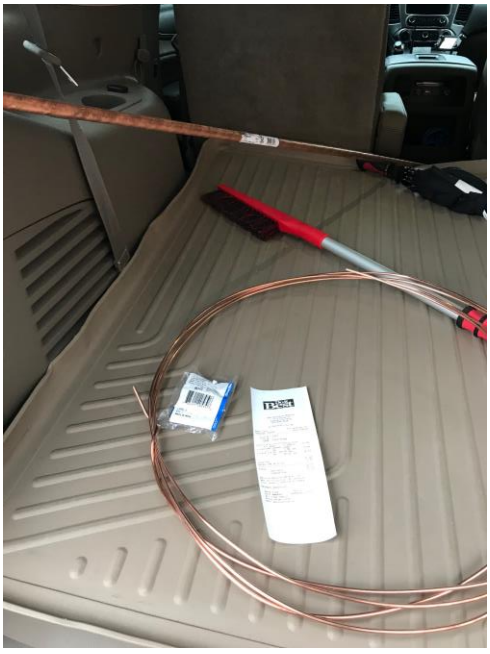
   a. After discussion, Bob KC3MIU will look into what Homeland Security requires for preparedness.
5. Appoint a committee to look into technology and see what we would need to get our system updated?
6. Membership needs to be looked at for 2019. I would like to mail dues statement to members that don't come to meetings or hear from during the year.
   a. After discussion, members present motioned that Kevin K3VNN send a letter to members that haven't paid dues for 2017-2018. Motion by N3OGG and 2nd by KC3CFV, motion passed.
7. Purchasing stamps to send out due's statements?
8. Kevin's new software for dues, call sign tracking, etc.
9. Since Nativity location may not happen does anyone have a contact at The Good Samaritan Hospital in Pottsville? I will contact Jim Munley to see if he has any contacts for this location.
10. Jim Munley sent an email detailing applying for grants. See attachment
11. Bob N3RZI and I had some email conversations about installing a repeater at Good Sam.
12. Members thought that it would be a good idea to purchase fluorescent vests and have TWA logo printed on them. There was a discussion on why we would need them and the quality of the material.

Motion to adjourn at: 8:07PM by:

1. N3OGG
2. KB3MXV

Minutes prepared and submitted by – K3TE

Attachments





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January 19, 2019

Greetings fellow Amateur Radio Member,

TWA has gone through tremendous changes for 2018. We are now a nonprofit corporation, have multiple linked repeaters in Schuylkill County, we are running a 2m/70cm NET on Wednesday's at 8PM, and once a quarter we are doing an HF NET. We would love for you to check in.

This past fall we updated our by-laws. Since becoming a 501c3 nonprofit organization, the IRS mandated our Fiscal Year be January 1st through December 31st. Our biggest change in the bylaws is how we collect fees (dues). If you paid for 2018-2019 at the old rate, we are asking you to pay a prorated fee (dues) for the rest of 2019. If you didn't pay your 2018-2019 fees (dues) when it was due then your fees (dues) will be a little higher than normal. Let me stress that there was NO increase in fees (dues) for 2019.

Because of our nonprofit status we are now applying for grant money to keep our equipment fresh. However, we do incur expenses and we pay for those expenses through fees (dues). Please support TWA today. Below is a breakdown of the fee (dues) schedule for 2019.

2019 fees (dues) are now payable to:

Tamaqua Wireless Association
PO Box 165
Tamaqua, PA 18252

Individual membership, if you paid in 2018-2019 - $7.50 _____

Family membership, if you paid in 2018-2019 - $10.00 _____

Individual membership, if you didn't pay last year - $22.50 _____

Family membership, if you didn't pay last year - $30.00 _____

If you would like to donate toward our repeater system, insurance(s), or post office box please include it with your fee. Also, if you updated your email please use the space below for that. If by chance you don't want to receive any announcements via email. Please indicate that below too.

Thank you for your continued support of the Tamaqua Wireless Association. We are looking for an exciting 2019.

Tom Lesisko – K3TE
Secretary

Email: _____

I called the Snayberger Trust in Buffalo New York and talked to Mr. Peter Pantano regarding TWA INC. Mr. Pantano is one of the administrators of the Trust, he e-mailed me the grant application form, I called back and went over some of the questions, now that we are a 501{c} 3 we are eligible for grant money. He said he will send everything including an application in the regular mail as applications must be sent by regular mail, not via e-mail.

Regarding the amount, he said that is determined by the board, there is a line on the questions asking the amount we are requesting asking Mr. Pantano what we should request he said no organizations receive more than $ 2500.00 Two thousand five hundred dollars. and "suggested," we ask for $1500.00 One thousand five hundred dollars, he said that doesn't mean if we get approved, we will get that much. I will keep the officers and members informed and if I need anything, I will let you know, this is open for discussion among our members as we have until March 31, 2019, to send in the application.

M&T Bank also has an application process. I called Sharon at the bank and went over some questions regarding their application. I know a lot of the people at that Bank from when I was secretary of another amateur radio organization.

Please feel free to let me know your thoughts and questions

A CAUTIONARY TALE.

I have had a lot of experience with grants with being township supervisor and secretary of our ambulance organization in Lost Creek. To any of you not familiar with them they are not what we think they should be, and even when everything is done right and filled out right they are not automatic, and as I said to all of you last year I thank you for your trust in me and I promise to do my best and pursue these and other sources of revenue that will help our organization and will keep all of you informed in the process.

Jim Munley

KB3FET