TAMAQUA WIRELESS ASSOCIATION INC.

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

May 19, 2022

OFFICERS:

President: Bill Dale WY3K
Vice President: Frank Bobick N3OGG
Public Information Officer: Jim Munley KB3FET
Activities Manager: Karen Putt K3KAP
Treasurer: Frank D'Amato KB2MXV
Secretary: Tom Lesisko K3TE

TRUSTEES:	MISC. CONTACTS:
W3CMA: Jim Shellhamer KC3DXS	**Web Host:** Frank D'Amato KB2MXV
W3TWA: Tom Lesisko K3TE	**Webmaster:** Frank D'Amato KB2MXV

Minutes from our May Meeting

The regular monthly meeting of TWA was held on May 19, 2022, at the Lower Owl Creek Reservoir Dam, Owl Creek Road, Tamaqua. Presiding was WY3K. The meeting was called to order at 7:08PM.

The following members were present for the meeting:

WY3K, N3OGG, KB2MXV, KB3FET, KA3FUL, N3HHH, WA3WIJ, KC3CRS, W3DFX, KC3RWX, WA3JDQ, and K3TE

Previous Meeting Minutes: WY3K

Minutes were distributed via email. Corrections were made, a motion was made by:

1. N3HHH
2. WA3JDQ

To accept the minutes of our April 21, 2022, meeting. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: KB2MXV

See attachment(s)
If anyone wants to see the entire bank statement email me.
Motion was made by:

1. WA3WIJ
2. WA3JDQ

To accept the Treasurer's report for May 19, 2022, motion passed

The membership fee for 2022 has been set at $25.00. Please make arrangements with Frank, KB2MXV at kb2mxv@gmail.com or find him on our repeater network or attend a meeting. **Thank you for your support of TWA and Amateur Radio.**

Committee Reports:

Activities Manager: K3KAP

1) Breakfast June 5th at 9 am White Birch Golf Course
2) Field Day June 25 & 26 at Owl Creek Reservoir.
   Set up the evening of the 24th? Yes or No, If yes, what time? Hot dogs and burgers?

   Finish setting up morning of the 25th. What time will we start?

   Lunch? Potluck? Club buys meat again? BYOB?

   3 stations? Anyone can bring their radio and use it, but we want to designate 3 or 4 stations. A couple of wires will be put up and then a spot for verticals can be designated further away. We only want to run 3 stations at a time, but the equipment can be switched in and out.

   Sunday breakfast – probably, Karen K3KAP will be asked to take a survey

   Should have banners setup for field day!

3) POTA – Parks On The Air, Karen said there are a few people interested in going out and activating. How does June 4th sound? Location?

Hamfests -

a. 30th Annual Bloomsburg Hamfest on June 11th at the Lime Ridge Community Center in Lime Ridge.
b. Pennsylvania State Convention is July 2nd at the Harrisburg Firecracker Hamfest.
c. Murgas Hamfest in Wilkes-Barre on Sunday July 3rd.

ARES County EC: K3KAP and/or KC3CRS

20th & 21st Simulated Emergency Test has been postponed. From late email from N3RZI

Finance Committee Report: KB3FET

Tom, K3TE attended a Zoom session with ARRL. Updates later in the year.

VE Session: WY3K

Our next test is scheduled for June 4th.

VE Test Sessions for 2022		
Month	Time	Location
~~April 2~~	~~9AM~~	Tamaqua Borough 320 E. Broad Street Tamaqua
June 4	9AM	
August 6	9AM	
October 15	**12PM**	**Boy Scout Jamboree, tentative**
November 5	9AM	

Schuylkill County Emergency and Traffic Net:
TWA Check-Ins for 2022

Date	Total	Date	Total	Date	Total	Date	Total
January 25th	9	April 26th	5	July 26th		October 25th	
February 22nd	10	May 31st		August 30th		November 29th	
March 29th	11	June 28th		September 27th		December 27th	
1st Quarter	30	2nd Quarter	5	3rd Quarter	0	4th Quarter	0

Roundtable NET at 8PM: K3TE

June's NET Control Operators are:

June 1st: Tom, K3TE

June 8th: Tom, KC3CRS

June 15th: Tim, W3DFX

June 22nd: Tara, KC3NWO

June 29th: Tom, KC3NPG

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

Month 2022	Number of Weeks	Number of Check-Ins
January	4	51
February	4	48
March	5	56
April	4	44
May	4	31
June	5	
July	4	
August	5	
September	4	
October	4	
November	5	
December	4	
Total	52	230

Application for Membership: KB2MXV

None

Technical Committee -K3TE

1. **Mountain Valley 449.775** – Should have a work party clean up around the site probably the end of June
2. **Bears Head 146.955** – Testing stage, purchased a paging filter for the frequency.
3. **Tamaqua 146.490** – Controller sounds "bassy" probably needs a good going through
4. **Pottsville 145.190** – Noisy at times, the link radio seems like it times out quickly

TWA Website & Calendar: KB2MXV

Go to TWA's website, Click on Menu, go to the Calendar of Events, at the bottom of the page there will be instructions on how to link the calendar to your device. Contact K3KAP or KB2MXV for help or to put stuff on the calendar.

License Expiration Notice: KB2MXV

KB3ACD – Ed Sheganoski, Jim KB3FET was given the task to remind Ed about his license renewal.

Old Business

1. Bylaws meeting was held on May 5th via Zoom.
2. Ed, KB3AYY contesting with FT8 update. Karen sent an email out.
3. N3JJD update on two-way radios available – no report

4. Tech-Night update – possibly an hour or two prior to our regular business meeting. Articles need to be sent prior to our next meeting.
5. Paging Filter update – filter has been purchased and will be installed this weekend.

New Business & Correspondence:

1. Equipment insurance update – KB2MXV - $280.00, on a motion from WA3WIJ and 2nd by KC3CRS to pay our insurance. Motion passed.
2. Mailbox fee – WY3K $70, Motion by N3OGG, 2nd by K3TE to pay our mailbox fee. Motion passed.
3. Bylaws update: K3TE, there was a lengthy discussion on our bylaws. K3TE plans on getting the revision out this weekend.
4. Field Day – Equipment – 3 to no more than 4 stations. Plans are to setup antennas on Friday night June 24th
5. Field Day – Refreshments – Jim, KB3FET mentioned that he would buy the chicken this year. Also, bake potato, salad,
6. Field Day Swag – K3KAP – email Karen if you are interested in Field Day "stuff"
7. K3TE attended a Zoom Meeting with ARRL's, "Club Grants Program" on May 4th.
8. Christmas Party – K3TE will book the Tamaqua Train Station for December 10th 2pm to 4pm

Documented Interference Issues with 146.9550

1. 4/19/2022 - W3TWA 146.9550 Repeater placed on air
2. 4/19/2022 - Constant key-ups on SARA machine while talking on W3TWA 44 times in 2 minutes (Audio has been archived)
3. 4/20/2022 - The SARA 146.955 repeater no longer requires a PL tone of 123.0, The repeater is activated with CSQ
4. 4/28/2022 - Email and certified letter sent to N3AS (W3SC Trustee) notifying of deliberate interference to a coordinated repeater
5. 4/29/2022 - PL tone of 123.0 placed back on the SARA 955 machine

Good for the Order:

1. Schuylkill ARES NET Tuesday 8PM – 145.370
2. On the last Tuesday of the month, the ARES NET is on the TWA system
3. TWA Roundtable NET Wednesday 8PM
4. Looking for NET Control Operators. You will only work once a month!
5. Our next regularly scheduled meeting will be June 16th, 7PM at the Owl Creek Reservoir Dam, Tamaqua
6. Report bad weather to the National Weather Service State College - **800-697-0010**

With their being no further business, a motion to adjourn at 9:06PM by:

1. KC3CRS
2. N3OGG

Motion passed
Minutes prepared and submitted by K3TE, secretary, Tamaqua Wireless Association.

Treasures Report:

TWA Account Activity Summary: 4/21/2022 Thru 5/18/2022

Date	Check #	Pay To	Memo	Catagory	Deposit	Withdraw
5/1/2022		Andy Hitzel - N3HHH	2022 Club Fees	General Fund	$25.00	$0.00
5/3/2022		Paypal	Par Electronics Filter	Bears Head Project	$0.00	$133.00
5/16/2022		USPS	Post Office Box - 1 Year	General Fund	$0.00	$70.00
5/16/2022		Bill Dale Jr. - WY3K	Donation - Cash	General Fund	$70.00	$0.00
				Activity Totals	**$95.00**	**$203.00**
				Total Difference		**($108.00)**

Bears Head Project	**$892.00**
General Fund	**$1,271.60**
Repeater Fund	**$867.22**
Account Balance	**$3,030.82**
Checking	**$2,930.82**
Cash on Hand	**$100.00**

Letter to Trustee

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

April 27, 2022

Sent PDF to ruddog@ptd.net and Certified Mail

Mr. Carmen J. Perfetta
FCC License Trustee, Schuylkill Amateur Repeater Assn. (W3SC)
13 First St.
Kelayres, PA 18231

Re: W3SC Repeater Interference

Dear Mr. Perfetta:

This letter is being sent to you in your capacity as the FCC license trustee of the W3SC repeater operating on 146.955MHz. We advise you that the W3SC repeater is causing interference to the recently coordinated W3TWA repeater on the same frequency using a DCS131.

The Schuylkill Area Repeater Association (SARA) is operating an uncoordinated repeater located on the Burma Rd near Pottsville. Up until 4/19/2022, a PL tone of 123.0 was required to access the W3SC repeater, but it's now operating CSQ. The removal of the required PL Tone 123.0 on the W3SC repeater *appears intentional*.

When a user is in range of both repeaters and transmits using DCS131 on the input frequency of 146.355MHz, both repeaters begin transmitting causing a heterodyning effect to users monitoring 146.955MHz, as well as desensing when users try to use both repeaters at the same time.

The interference occurs regularly, it is ongoing, and adversely affects communications by and between users within the coverage of the coordinated repeater.

W3TWA is requesting you activate the PL tone of 123.0Hz at a minimum to limit the interference. Once the PL tone is back on the W3SC repeater, additional testing will determine if the W3SC can remain on the same frequency. We await your response to this matter.

Thank You,

Thomas M. Lesisko

Thomas M. Lesisko
Trustee, W3TWA