TAMAQUA WIRELESS ASSOCIATION INC.

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

March 16, 2023

OFFICERS:

President: Bill Dale WY3K
Vice President: Ed Boerner KB3AYY
Treasurer: Frank D'Amato KB2MXV
Activities Manager: Karen Putt K3KAP
Public Information Officer: Jim Munley KB3FET
Secretary: Tom Lesisko K3TE

TRUSTEES:	MISC. CONTACTS:
1. Karen Putt K3KAP	**Web Host:** Frank D'Amato KB2MXV
2. Tom Lesisko K3TE	**Webmaster:** Tim Ferrell W3DFX

TWA Home Page: www.w3twa.org

Facebook: TWA Tamaqua Wireless Association

YouTube Channel:

https://www.youtube.com/@W3TWA/videos

Schuylkill County AREAS/RACES NET

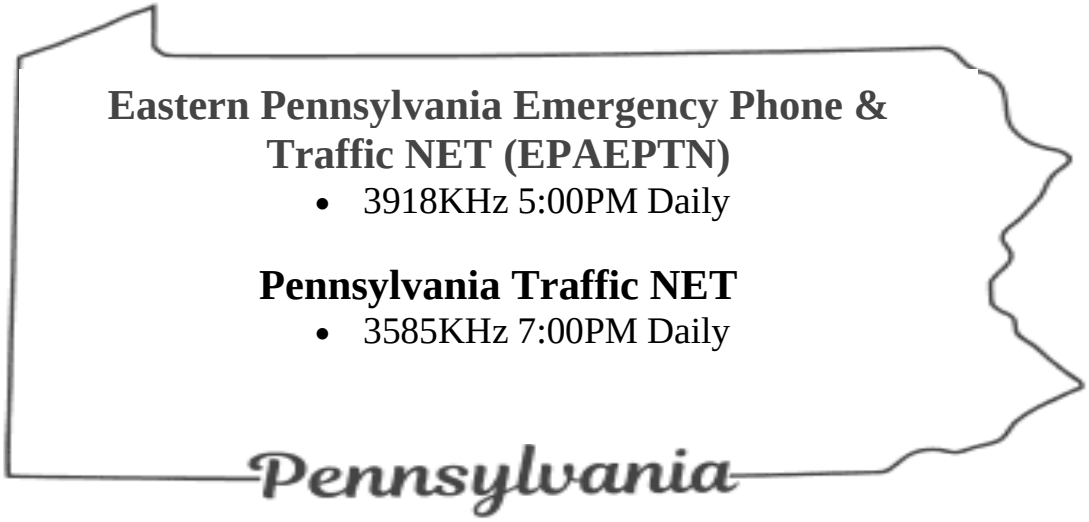
On the last Tuesday of the month, 8PM our NET Control Operator is Jim, KB3FET. Check-in on our linked system

Roundtable NET

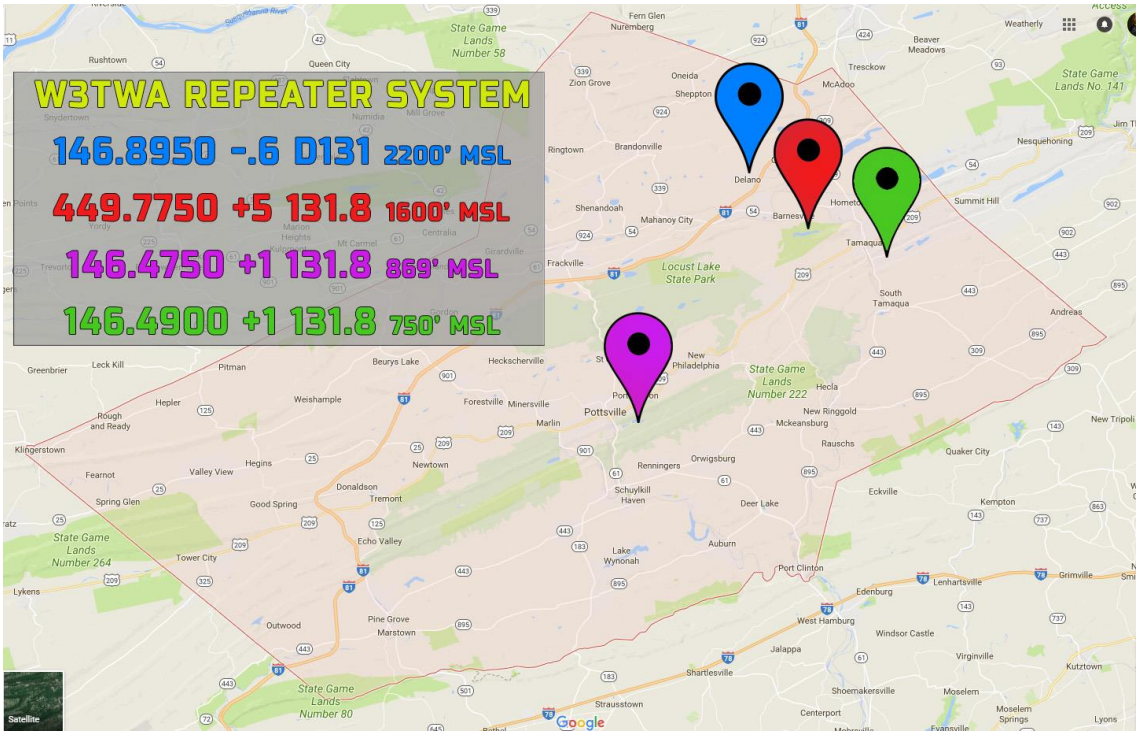
Every Wednesday, 8PM – Many Club announcements can be heard.

- Need Emergency Service in Schuylkill County? **Dial 911**
- Need Amateur Radio Service? Visit W3TWA.org. Under "Info" click on "Contact us"
- We are here to serve the community. If you need radio communications for an event let us know. We will gladly help.

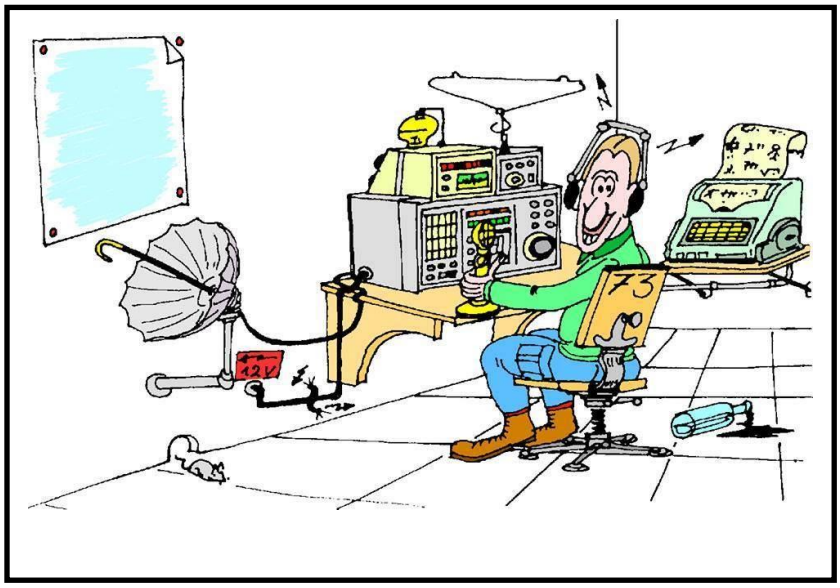
ARRL EPA Section NET:



TWA FM Repeaters:



FM Repeater	Rx	PL/DPL	TX	PL/DPL
Bears Head	146.895	DPL131	146.295	DPL 131
Mountain Valley	449.775	PL131.8	444.775	PL131.8
Pottsville	146.475	PL131.8	147.475	PL131.8
Tamaqua	146.490	PL131.8	147.490	PL131.8



Simplex Mode	Rx & Tx	PL/DPL
FM	146.550	None
FM	223.400	None
FM	446.520	None
FM	927.600	None
DMR All Call	145.100	None
DMR All Call	446.520	None
C4FM	146.580	None
C4FM	442.000	None
D-Star	146.580	None
D-Star	447.000	None

All Meetings will be available On Zoom

Attend in-person or on Zoom.

Welcome Spring, 2023

Although winger 2022 has been mild, we need to get out and check our antenna gear. Check the connections to make sure they are watertight, check the cable to make sure no rodents have been feasting on the jacket, and most importantly, check the ground(s) of your system. Spring has sprung and we need to protect our gear from Mother Nature. Check-in with us on Wednesday nights, 8pm for a little, let us know how the winter treated your antenna system…



Minutes from our March 2023 TWA Meeting



The regular monthly meeting of TWA was held on March 16, 2023, at the Tamaqua Borough Hall 320 East Broad Street in Tamaqua and on Zoom. Presiding was WY3K. The meeting was called to order at 7:01PM.

The following members were present and/or on Zoom for the meeting:

WY3K, KB3AYY, KB2MXV, KB3FET, K3KAP, W3DFX, WA3JDQ, WE3O, KC3RWX, and N3NIK

Previous Meeting Minutes: WY3K

Minutes were distributed via email and reviewed, after a discussion, on a motion by:

1. KB3AYY
2. W3DFX

To accept the minutes of our February 16, 2023, meeting. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: KB2MXV

TWA's current balance is $_____. There are 25 paid members and 17 still unpaid.

Frank gave a breakdown between, general fund, repeater fund, and grant money there was in each. If anyone wants to see the entire bank statement email Frank at kb2mxv@gmail.com
Motion was made by:

1. N3NIK
2. KB3AYY

To accept the Treasurer's report for March 16, 2023, motion passed

Committee Reports:

Activities Manager: K3KAP

March 25th – Girardville St. Patrick's Day parade, See Jim KB3FET for more information.

April 2nd – Breakfast at White Birch Golf Course 9 am

Mid-April – Grove Work party to fix shelter and open

POTA – Mid-April on a weekend other than the Grove Work party

ARES County EC: K3KAP

There will be a Spring Section Emergency Test scheduled for Saturday April 1st. (not an April Fool's joke). It is being held in partnership with American Red Cross.

It is a Winlink- based exercise, no voice nets. Details of the event are below. This is ONLY for registered ARES members. If you can participate with Winlink, please let me know and I will keep you updated on the information as it gets closer. Also, if you participate, please report your

activity to me afterwards so I can make sure you get the proper credit. Bob's email is N3RZI@Yahoo.com

Finance Committee Report: KB3FET

Frank, KB2MXV will prepare a 2022 financial report.

HF Committee: WA3WIJ

No report

VE Session: N3NIK

There are 4 people signed up for our test session on April 1st. WY3K will hand over the "paper tests" for Dave to keep. Volunteers will be needed.

VE Test Sessions for 2023		
Month	Time	Location
~~February 4~~	~~9AM~~	Tamaqua Borough 320 E. Broad Street Tamaqua
April 1	9AM	
June 3	9AM	
August 5	9AM	
November 4	9AM	

Schuylkill County Emergency and Traffic Net: KB3FET
TWA Check-Ins for 2023

Our Net Control is Jim, KB3FET, stop by on the last Tuesday of every month and say hello….

Date	Total	Date	Total	Date	Total	Date	Total
January 31st	8	April 25th		July 25th		October 31st	
February 28th	8	May 30th		August 29th		November 28th	
March 28th		June 27th		September 26th		December 26th	
1st Quarter	16	2nd Quarter		3rd Quarter		4th Quarter	

Our next Tech-Night Demonstration is cancelled for April:

- If you would like to have a topic discussed or if you want to talk about something, please let us know.

Email Frank, KB2MXV@gmail.com if you have any questions.

Roundtable NET at 8PM: KB2MXV

April's NET Control Operators are:

April 5th: KB2MXV

April 12th: N3NIK

April 19th: KB3AYY

April 26th: KB3FET

Members are encouraged to check-in on 146.895, 146.475, 146.490, or 449.775.

Month 2023	Number of Weeks	Number of Check-Ins
January	4	41
February	4	40
March	5	26
April	4	
May	5	
June	4	
July	4	
August	5	
September	4	
October	4	
November	5	
December	4	
Total	52	107

Application for Membership: KB2MXV

None at this time

Technical Committee: KB2MXV

1. KB2MXV reported that all repeaters are working fine. Someone said the input is "noisy" on the input to Bears Head. Frank will investigate.
2. No need to order a Link Radio for Tamaqua currently.
3. There was a discussion on adding a 6-meter beacon to our system in Tamaqua. KB3AYY and KB2MXV will look into it.

TWA Website & Calendar: W3DFX

1. Tim, W3DFX said the website is up to date.
2. VE Testing on the computer has been updated on our website.

Old Business:

1. By-Laws - WY3K read the 1st reading of the bylaw changes. The second reading will be at our April meeting. Then a vote at our May meeting.
2. Small Games of Chance update? Jim KB3FET provided information from the county. There was a discussion, and the idea was tabled at this time.
3. PPL Grant called - Empowering Communities Grants. Application will go on May 1st.
4. Command Bus update, owner of the bus is away. When he gets home, he will contact us.

New Business & Correspondence:

1. License Testing fee procedure – Dave N3NIK, provided a handout how test fee money is spent and transferred. N3NIK is donating the cost of the tablets. Frank KB2MXV will forward email notices from PayPal to N3NIK. There was a discussion on setting up a charity account with PayPal. A discussion on how ARRL will get its money was also discussed. Frank will contact ARRL to setup automatic transaction from us to them. Dave reviewed how our new testing procedures will take place. On a motion by Ed KB3AYY and 2nd by Tim W3DFX to approve the flow chart and how test fees will be distributed. Motion passed. (See end of minutes for flow chart).

2. Members attended a meeting with the Boys Scouts on February 26th. We were asked to talk about "repeaters" to the Boy Scouts. Dave, N3NIK talked about our new testing procedures for online testing. Frank, KB2MXV, Dave N3NIK, Bill WY3K, and Tom K3TE were in attendance. Ron KB3CFV will follow up with the club.
3. A sign of spring…TWA will be opening the grove for 2023. April 22nd with a rain date of April 23rd. Volunteers will be needed!

Good for the Order:

1. Tech Night is canceled for April.
2. Our next regularly scheduled meeting will be at the Tamaqua Borough Hall (weather permitting, and it will be on Zoom) April 20th at 7PM 320 East Broad Street, in Tamaqua

With their being no further business, a motion to adjourn at 8:26PM by:

1. N3NIK
2. KB2MXV

Motion passed.

Minutes prepared and submitted by K3TE, Secretary, Tamaqua Wireless Association.

TWA Lending Program:

1. Just a reminder, TWA has an HF radio to lone out to a member along with an End-Fed antenna, bandpass filters and coax. Please contact Karen at K3KAP@yahoo.com for any borrowing needs.



Features

- .15-30, 50-54 Receive.
- 100 Memories
- IF Shift
- Noise Blanker
- RIT
- 160-6 meters
- 100 Watts on HF
- Dual VFO's
- Built-In Preamp
- TXIT

If anyone has any dual band mobile radios, they are not using, and you want to donate them to TWA. Just let Karen, K3KAP know. We would love to get them in the hands of new members.



The days are getting longer, and the nights are getting shorter. That only means one thing. Spring!!! March 20 is right around the corner. It's time to get out and check your cabling, grounding, and antenna. Keep in touch with TWA.

Girardville Saint Patrick's Day Parade around the corner.



We have a lot of new members at TWA, and I wanted to put this summary together on what we do for the parade. Please contact Jim Munley for more information.

In the past, TWA has assisted the Police with people that "over calibrate" at the parade. We have been asked to help again. Our job at the parade is to blend-in, watch the parade and also, watch for bad behavior, if there is any, we are to report it to our NET Control, usually Jim, KB3FET and then he would notify the police and they would deal with the people. We do not intervene; we just report over the air. A lot of people attend the parade, we help keep it safe for everyone to enjoy. Again, contact Jim Munley, KB3FET for more information. His email is jjmunley2@gmail.com. You can also reach out to him at 570-728-7737.

Membership

Renewal

$25.00

Is now due for 2023.

Email Frank, kb2mxv@gmail.com with any questions.

Membership Drive

Thank You! To everyone for your continued support of the Tamaqua Wireless Association and the Amateur Radio Community. We have 17 members to go… we need your full support.

Always looking for ideas for our minutes/newsletter. If you have something you would like to contribute email Tom K3TE at tlesisko@ptd.net

EPA Section Manager

I received an email from Rich, W3OFD the other day. George Miller, W3GWM, our EPA Section Manager wanted to host a VOTA Planning Zoom Conference with amateur radio clubs in Eastern PA. I thought it was a good idea and I was going to submit my name to join the meeting. Then, two days later, I received another email from Rich, and it stated:



"*Folks, I have double pneumonia and League HQ has seen fit to replace me because of my disabilities.*
It has been a pleasure to represent you for the past 6 years.
Consequently, the Zoom Meeting to discuss VOTA next week is canceled.
My thanks to all for your kindness and cooperation.

Goodbye everyone."

George Miller W3GWM – in baseball, I believe they call that a "***Forced-Out***." Whatever happened to "Equal Opportunity Employer?"

ARES® Resources:



- Download the ARES Manual [PDF]
- ARES Field Resources Manual [PDF]
- ARES Standardized Training Plan Task Book [Fillable PDF]
- ARES Standardized Training Plan Task Book [Word]
- ARES Plan
- ARES Group Registration
- Emergency Communications Training

if you wish to participate in regular Winlink exercises, drop by the EmComm Training Group, www.emcomm-training.org, and check out their events.

Our next regularly scheduled meeting will be:

- April 20th @ 7:00PM

At the Tamaqua Borough Hall 320 East Broad Street Tamaqua

If you can't make it. Contact Frank, KB2MXV to get a link. This way you won't miss a thing. Franks email is kb2mxv@gmail.com. Zoom is only available to members.

Flow Chart of Fee Distribution:

