TAMAQUA WIRELESS ASSOCIATION INC.

PO Box 165 Tamaqua, PA 18252
Website: www.w3twa.org
E-Mail: k3te@ptd.net

August 17, 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
Karen Putt K3KAP	**Web Host:** Frank D'Amato KB2MXV
Tom Lesisko K3TE	**Webmaster:** Tim Farrell W3DFX
	VE Test Coordinator: Dave Stephens

TWA Home Page: www.w3twa.org

Facebook: TWA Tamaqua Wireless Association

YouTube Channel:

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

Schuylkill County AREAS/RACES NET

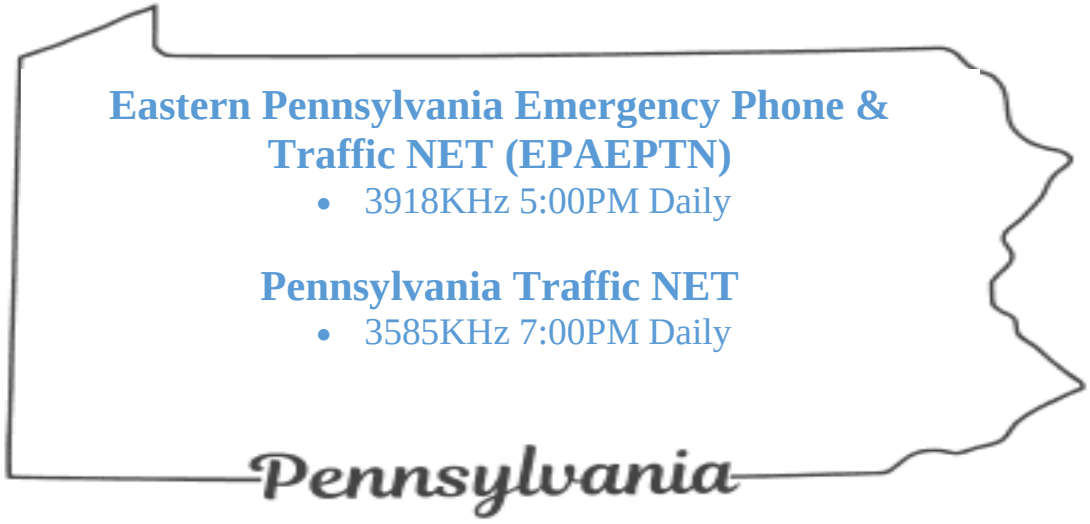
On the last Tuesday of the month, at 8PM our NET Control Operator is Jim, KB3FET. Check-in on our linked system

Roundtable NET

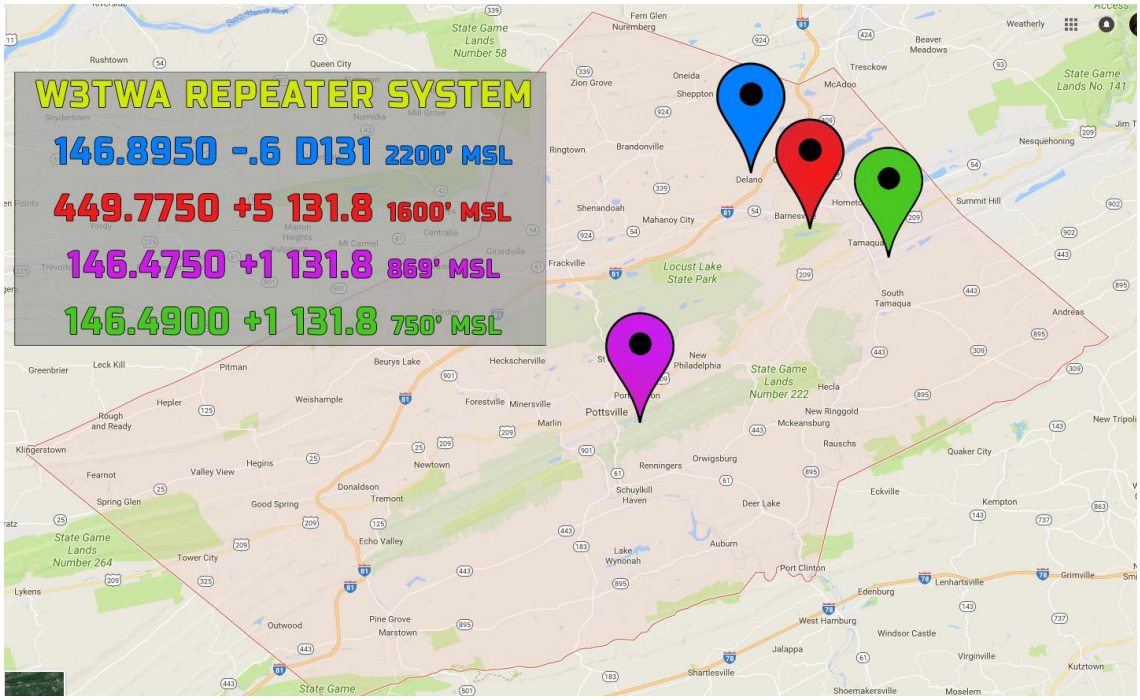
Every Wednesday, at 8PM – Many Club announcements can be heard.

- 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 Repeater Sites in Schuylkill County:



Emergency Service Pager Frequencies:

Carbon County EMS Pager: 155.205 and 453.100
Lehigh County EMS Pager: 154.175
Luzerne County EMS Pager: 157.450
Schuylkill County EMS Pager: 154.070

Club Repeater and Simplex Frequencies:

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

You can attend in-person or on Zoom.

DMR
DIGITAL MOBILE RADIO ASSOCIATION

Bears Head – DMR – No internet

146.895 Rx & 146.295 Tx			
Color-Code	Time Slot	Name	Talk Group
7	1	Local 9	1
7	2	Local 2	2

Tamaqua – Fusion – No Internet

146.490 Rx & 147.490 Tx

YAESU
System Fusion

Minutes from our August 2023 TWA Meeting

The regular monthly business meeting of TWA was held on August 17, 2023, at Schroeder's Family Farm 555 Tuscarora Mountain Drive in Barnesville and on Zoom. Presiding was WY3K. The meeting was called to order at 7:00PM.

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

WY3K, KB3AYY, KB3FET, K3KAP, KB2MXV, KC3CRS, N3NIK, W3DFX, KB3ASZ, K3KAP, N3HHH, WE3O, KC3VVZ, and K3TE

Previous Meeting Minutes: WY3K

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

1. N3NIK
2. K3KAP

To accept the minutes of our July 20th meeting. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: KB2MXV

TWA's current balance is

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. KB3AYY
2. N3HHH

To accept the Treasurer's report for August 17, 2023, motion passed

Committee Reports:

Activities Manager: K3KAP

Breakfast at White Birch Golf Course September 3rd at 9 am. A POTA demonstration will be held after breakfast across the street from White Birch.

End of Summer Picnic Saturday, September 9th at noon – a relaxing time for the whole family, bring your family.

- Short club meeting first and then a potluck lunch. Please let me know what you will bring.
- BYO drink, chair, and bug spray

ARES County EC: K3KAP

Bob, N3RZI asked Jim, KB3FET to run the ARES NET in September, Andy, N3HHH said there are 5 Tuesdays in September and Jim was asked to work one (or two). Jim noted that not all ARES NETs are being sent to the section manager. Reports are not given to Bob in a timely manner. Jim stated that all his reports are given to Bob.

Finance Committee Report: KB3FET

Nothing at this time, however, we will need to have a meeting to put together our 2024 budget.

Public Relations: KB3FET

Jim, KB3FET gave an update on a letter to John Matz, he said it is almost done. Jim did give an idea what was in the letter during the meeting.

VE Session N3NIK:

- Michael Sciammarella passed his Technician test
- Carl Vasiliou KC3VVC upgrade to Extra
- James Chadwick Jr, KC3JHC upgraded to Extra.

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	

After the VE test, Dave informed the VE's present that he would like to move to Exam-tools for our online test portal for the next test session. He will send an email out to the group later. Pictures of the event can be seen at the end. Our next test session will be November 4th, as of now, there is no Boy Scout Test. Dave did request that all VE's get an Exam-tools account so he could add you in the VE session.

VE's present: John WE3O, Jim KB3FET, Bill WA3JDQ, Jim WA3WIJ, Ed KB3AYY, Bill WY3K, Dave (VETC), N3NIK, and Tom K3TE

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	0	July 25th	10	October 31st	
February 28th	8	May 30th	8	August 29th		November 28th	
March 28th	6	June 27th	6	September 26th		December 26th	
1st Quarter	22	2nd Quarter	14	3rd Quarter	10	4th Quarter	

Application for Membership: KB2MXV

1. Carl Visiliou, KC3VVZ, Carl would like to help with teaching or assisting in licensing, help with the VE test sessions, Field-Day, and assist with antenna crew. Carl is from Lansford. After a discussion, on the recommendation of Jim, KB3FET, and 2nd by Karen, K3KAP to accept Carl as a regular member of TWA, motion passed. Carl was welcomed by members.

Technical Committee: K3TE

1. Mountain Valley – the RF power is not stable, Frank and I spent many hours at MV, we feel that the circuit breaker is failing and needs replacing. The controller had a firmware update, Ken, owner of Arcom said this should take care of the audio dropping. Some other minor fixes in our software also need to be tweaked.
2. Pottsville – the input to this repeater is 146.470, it was changed because there is interference on 146.475. Pottsville's duplexer will be readjusted in September.

3. Bears Head – a jumper and DIN connector was ordered, still waiting for the jumper to come in. Once that is in, the installer will be notified, and we will see if this takes care of the problem.
4. Tamaqua – Ed said that Tamaqua is up and running, he did mention that the audio drops out. With the new firmware by Arcom the problem should be fixed. Frank, KB2MXV said he will get up to the repeater when Ed has some time.

TWA Website & Calendar: W3DFX

1. Tim, W3DFX, said the new VE testing info has been posted.

Roundtable NET at 8PM: K3TE

September NET Control Operators are:

September 6th: Ed, KB3AYY

September 13th: Tom, KC3CRS

September 20th: Tim, W3DFX

September 27: Jim, KB3FET

Thank you to all that volunteer their time to be

NET controllers!

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	Digital Check-Ins
January	4	41	
February	4	40	
March	5	40	
April	4	31	
May	5	44	
June	4	26	
July	4	36	
August	5	19	5
September	4		
October	4		
November	5		
December	4		
Total	52	281	5

Old Business:

1. Our Christmas Party will be December 9th at the Tamaqua Train Station from 2PM to 4PM.
2. Update on removal of trailer? Will the owner take it or is it going to the junk yard?
3. Ron, KB3CFV called the owner of the property and asked if she wanted the trailer. She said no. Ed said he will get rid of it. He was thinking about getting a flatbed to hull it to the junk yard. Ed requested help. Bill WY3K, Tom, KC3CRS said to let them know and they will help.

New Business & Correspondence:

1. It was reported that Dan Schroeder, owner of the grove passed away in July.
2. Club picnic and meeting Saturday September 9th from 12 noon to 3pm. Email Karen about what you plan on bringing.
3. Update on Boys Scouts – Karen K3KAP, Ed AC3PV asked for some help with the "Camporee" held on September 8th, 9th, and 10th. It will be held at the #9 Mine Museum. Ed asked for an hour of time for youngsters to get their radio merit badge. Jamboree on The Air will be held on October 20th, 21st, and 22nd.
4. Ed, AC3PV asked for club donations of wire, HF radio, UHF and VHF antennas.
5. Digital NET on Bears Head? We had 5 check-ins on August 2nd.
6. Tamaqua Halloween Parade October 24th or 31st? Ed will check with Brian and get back to us.
7. Tom, K3TE thanked John, WE3O for his donation of a "speakerphone" for Zoom meetings.

Good for the Order:

1. Our next regularly scheduled meeting will be at the Schroeder's Family Farm, 555 Tuscarora Mountain Drive, Barnesville. Saturday September 9th, 12 noon to 3pm. In case of bad weather, we will meet at the Tamaqua Borough Hall. Tune into our repeater network for any announcements about location.

With their being no further business, a motion to adjourn at 7:50PM by:

1. N3NIK
2. KB3AYY

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

TWA Digital Radio Net

8/2/23

1. N3SUR – Terrill, West Penn, Portable
2. KB3AYY – Ed, Tamaqua, Mobile & Portable
3. W3DFX – Tim, Walker Township, Portable
4. KB2MXV – Frank, Barnesville, Portable
5. K3TE – Tom, West Penn, Mobile

VE Test Session – August 5th

Pictured to the right is VE Bill, WA3JDQ and our newest member, Carl KC3VVZ. Welcome to TWA Carl! Carl upgraded his General License to Extra.
Carl will be at future VE test sessions. He recently Submitted his credentials to be a Volunteer Examiner.



VE Test Session – August 5th continued



Pictured to the left is our own VETC (Volunteer Examiner, Test Coordinator) Dave, N3NIK. Dave has been instrumental in On-Line testing this year. This is Dave's 1st year as VETC and is doing a great job!
Sitting next to Dave is Michael Sciammarella, Michael passed his Technician License, and his call sign is KC3WNP. Michael is from Shoemakersville and should be able to get into our Network.

Finally, to the right, sitting is VE Jim, WA3WIJ, Jim has been a VE for many years and was able Help with this test. Standing to his right is James Chadwick. James is no stranger to TWA's testing Sessions. James upgraded to Extra on Saturday. His call sign is KC3JHC. James lives in Jim Thorpe.

As always, if you hear them on our repeater system Congratulate them on their license and upgrades.

