TAMAQUA WIRELESS ASSOCIATION INC.

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

January 18, 2024

OFFICERS:

President: Karen Putt K3KAP
Vice President: Ed Boerner KB3AYY
Treasurer: Frank D'Amato KB2MXV
Activities Manager: Tim Farrell W3DFX
Public Information Officer: Jim Munley KB3FET
Secretary: Tom Lesisko K3TE

MISC. CONTACTS
Web Host: Frank D'Amato KB2MXV
Webmaster: Tim Farrell W3DFX
VE Test Coordinator: Dave Stephens

TRUSTEES
Karen Putt K3KAP
Tom Lesisko K3TE

TWA Home Page: www.w3twa.org
Facebook: TWA Tamaqua Wireless Association
YouTube Channel:
https://www.youtube.com/@W3TWA/videos

Schuylkill County AREAS/RACES NET

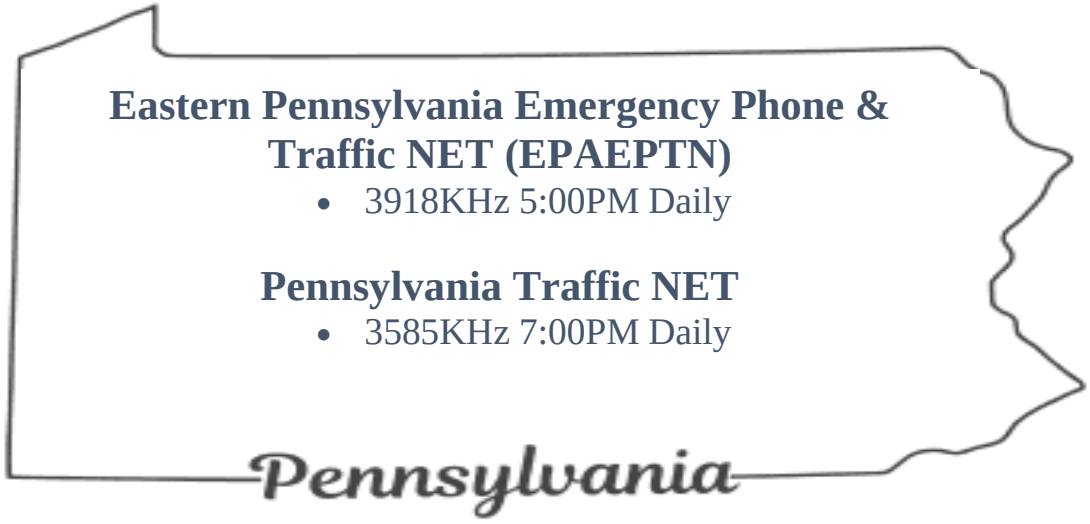
On the last Tuesday of the month, at 8PM our NET Control Operator is Jim, KB3FET. Check-in on our linked system

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:



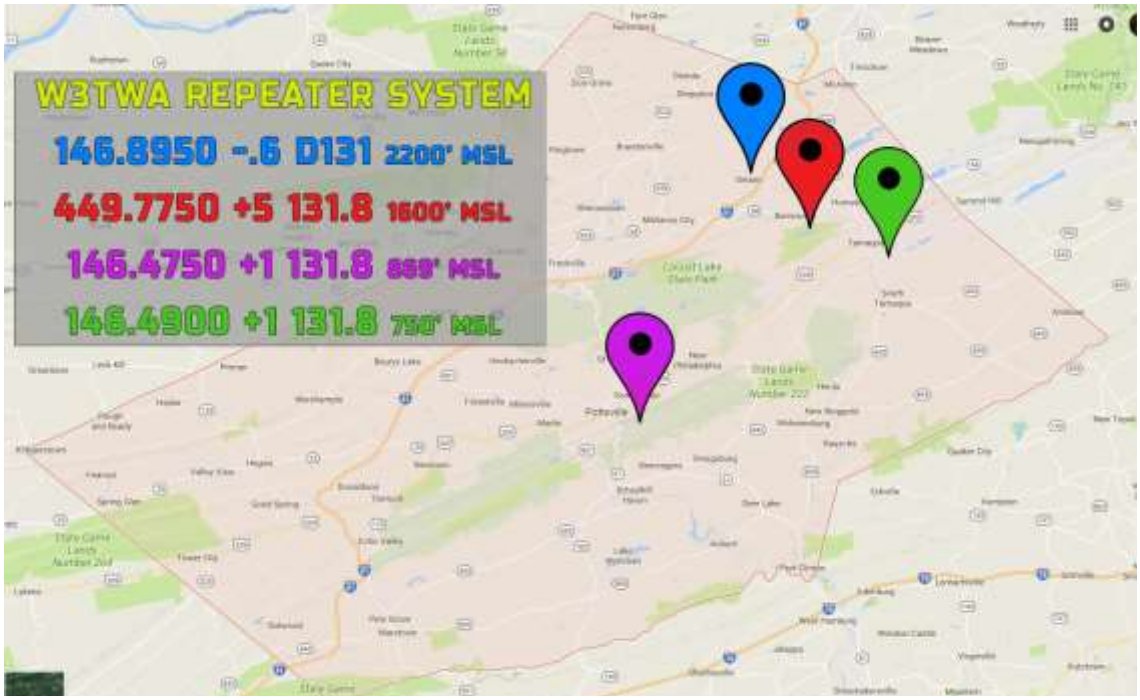
Eastern Pennsylvania Emergency Phone & Traffic NET (EPAEPTN)

- 3918KHz 5:00PM Daily

Pennsylvania Traffic NET

- 3585KHz 7:00PM Daily

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 January 2024 TWA Meeting

The regular monthly business meeting of TWA was held on January 18, 2024, using the Zoom platform. Presiding was Karen, K3KAP. The meeting was called to order at 7:00PM.

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

K3KAP, KB3AYY, W3DFX, KB2MXV, N3KJL, WY3K, W3OFD, N3NIK, N3UAZ, KC3VVZ, KC3RWX, K3QQD, KC3SFT, KC3CRS, and K3TE

Previous Meeting Minutes: K3KAP

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

1. KB2MXV
2. N3UAZ

To accept the minutes of our December 9th meeting. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: KB2MXV

TWA's current balance is $ all in the checking account. Cash on hand $0.00
Treasurers Report was submitted.

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.

Committee Reports:

Activities Manager: W3DFX

1. Breakfast – February 4th at White Birch Golf Course
2. ARRL VHF contest - Jan 20th and 21st - if the weather is okay, we'll activate from the Grove
3. Winter Field Day - Jan 27th and 28th - Ed and Kelly's camper or on your own. /
4. Hamcation – February 9th to 11th Central Florida Fair Grounds

ARES County EC:

Karen, K3KAP said FEMA conducted a survey on national preparedness.

Finance Committee Report: KB3FET

No Report

Public Relations: KB3FET

K3TE said he was in contact with the EMA Director.

VE Session N3NIK:

The first test session is coming up on February 3rd. An email will be sent for VE volunteers.

VE Test Sessions for 2024		
Month	Time	Location
February 3	9AM	Tamaqua Borough 320 E. Broad Street Tamaqua
April 6	9AM	
June 1	9AM	
August 3	9AM	
November 2	9AM	

2023 Wrap up:

Technician Level: 9
General Level: 4
Extra Level: 3
Total 16

Schuylkill County Emergency and Traffic Net: KB3FET
TWA Check-Ins for 2024

2023 total Check-Ins = 80, 1st qtr – 22, 2nd qtr. – 14, 3rd qtr – 27, and 4th -17
2 dates April 25th and November 28th we didn't have a NET.

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 16th	4						
January 30th		April 30th		July 30th		October 29th	
February 27th		May 28th		August 27th		November 26th	
March 26th		June 25th		September 24th		December 31st	
1st Quarter	4	2nd Quarter		3rd Quarter		4th Quarter	

Application for Membership: K3TE

1. Kevin Lee, Technician, K3KJL, lives in West Penn Township, can help with field day and help with antenna crew. After a discussion, on a motion to accept Kevin Lee as a regular member, 1: W3DFX and 2nd: N3NIK
   Motion passed unanimously.

2. Dr. Thomas Dirnberger, General, K3QQD, lives in Tamaqua, can help with antenna crew. After a discussion, on a motion to accept Dr. Dirnberger as a regular member, 1: N3NIK and 2nd: KB2MXV.
   Motion passed unanimously.

2023 Summary: Only two new members.

Technical Committee: K3TE

1. Bears Head - A New Station Master antenna was purchased and donated by Jim WA3WIJ. The cost to swap out the antenna was covered by Frank KB2MXV and Tom K3TE.
2. Mountain Valley amp was repaired. The club paid $300, KB2MXV and K3TE paid the balance. A new Telewave Duplexer was purchased and donated by Jim WA3WIJ for Mountain Valley. Frank and I plan to get up there as soon as possible. Until then, run the Roundtable Net and Schuylkill Emergency Service Net on Bears Head.

3. Would like to get Mountain Valley on the internet this year. A onetime fee of $120 for the cellphone router and a yearly fee of $240 for the service.
4. Is there any interest in installing a (UHF)Wires-X simplex at Bears Head? Rich, W3OFD said he has a Wires-X and a new Diamond 200 antenna. Tom, K3TE said he would donate his FTM-100 radio.
5. Kevin, N3KJL donated a UHF Station Master antenna as a backup to MV. It will be installed at the tower site at MV when the weather breaks.

TWA Website & Calendar: W3DFX

A discussion about a periodic table of events. Tom, K3TE will email Tim, W3DFX. Frank, KB2MXV talked about linking it to a Google Calander.

Roundtable NET at 8PM: K3TE

February 2024 NET Control Operators are:

February 7th: Frank, KB2MXV

February 14th: Tim, W3DFX

February 21st: Tom, K3TE

February 28th: 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 2024	Number of Weeks	Number of Check-Ins	Digital Check-Ins
January	5	24	
February	4		
March	4		
April	4		
May	5		
June	4		
July	5		
August	4		
September	4		
October	5		
November	4		
December	4		
Total	52	24	

2023 Wrap up – 407 analog check-ins.
5 DMR check-ins

Old Business:

1. Christmas Card to Schroeders family.

New Business & Correspondence:

1. Groundhog NET, after a discussion, members present agreed to have Jim, KB3FET host the GHN.
2. Snowstorm January 5, KB3FET: K3TE and I discussed an impromptu Net for the impending snowstorm with several stations checking in on Saturday and on Sunday morning with snowfall amounts, temperature, windspeed and direction. As per EC McClintock, we are to keep the records unless requested to send them to him later.
1. During and a snowstorm NET – Check in with KB3FET for snow totals if you can. Members present thought it was a good idea for Jim to run a Snow NET.
2. Any interest in a DMR NET? Frank will reactivate DMR at Bears Head and do some testing.
3. Certificates of Liability Insurance were sent out to 6 businesses.
4. Tower that was used at K3TE's house was returned to grove on December 31st.

5. Dave N3NIK asked who was going to open up the Borough Hall for him to do testing. After a discussion, Karen will give Dave the key to get into the Borough Hall.
6. Frank, KB2MXV said the gate at Bears Head is locked, Frank has a key from DCNR.

Good for the Order:

1. Our next regularly scheduled meeting will be on February 15th 7PM using the Zoom platform.

With their being no further business, a motion to adjourn at 7:51PM by:

1. Frank, KB2MXV
2. Dave, N3NIK

Motion passed.

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