Tamaqua Wireless Association

Splatter Bulletin

Amateur Radio Club since 1967 Vol I #6 2016

Officers

President: Gary Fleischut KA3FUL (ka3ful@yahoo.com)
Vice President: Jim Shellhamer KC3DXS (whip@ptd.net)
Secretary/Treasurer: Frank Bobick N3OGG (fjbcab@ptd.net)

Splatter Editor: Tom Lesisko K3TE (tlesisko@ptd.net)
Web Master: Ed Neville (ed@sepenn.com)



Tamaqua, PA

Club Repeater

146.490 / 147.490

(PL 123.0)

Located on top of the Tamaqua ABC High-Rise

Simplex: 146.550

W3CMA Home Page:
www.w3cma.org

- Need Emergency Service in Schuylkill County, dial 911
- Need Amateur Radio Service, contact one of the officers above



VE Test Sessions 2016

- ~~April 2nd~~
- ~~June 4th~~
- August 6th
- November 5th

9am Tamaqua Borough Hall

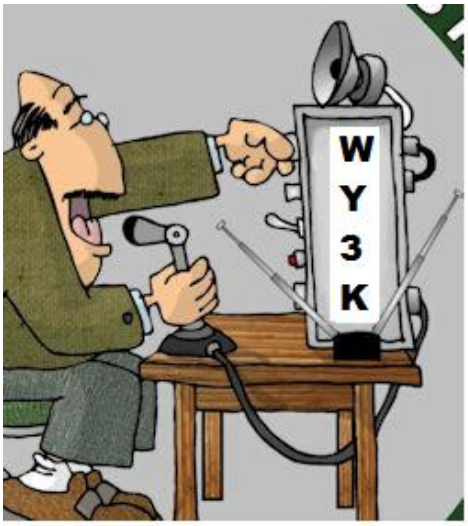
VE's are needed for each session. Please contact Bill Dale at 570-386-2384 or email him at bdalejr@ptd.net if you are interested in any of these test dates.

Calendar of Events:



- July 4th Independence Day - Show your colors!
- July 15th Club meeting 7:30 Grove
- August 6th Ham Radio Test 9am Tamaqua Borough Hall
- August 19th Club meeting 7:30 Grove
- September 16th Club meeting 7:30 Grove
- October 8th and 9th PA QSO Party
- October 21st Club meeting 7:30 Legion
- October 25th Halloween Parade – Volunteers needed for communications! This is a tentative date.
- November 5th Ham Radio Test 9am Tamaqua Borough Hall
- November 18th Club meeting 7:30 Legion – election of officers at this meeting
- December 10th Club Christmas Party 3:00PM Chantilly's followed by our meeting and year-end report

Here is what's going on with the TWA this month.



- The third reading of the by-laws changes were read and adopted.
- The dues were set: $15 for individual, $20 for family
- There were 9 members in attendance and 1 guest John Matz Schuylkill EMA Director attended the meeting
- John Matz discussed numerous items going on with the EMA in Schuylkill County. He will be making his rounds for field day. I have included what he talked about later in *Splatter*. See below.
- Field day was discussed, set up, who is bringing what in equipment, and food.
- Tamaqua repeater no issues, the new 147.270 repeater still at 50 watts. The upper end of the repeater needs to be upgraded to go high power (250W)
- I received an email from Jeff DePolo from ARCC. He said there are no frequencies available at the HAAT and EIRP that we are requesting. I asked if we turned down the power what would be available. I am still waiting for a reply.
- Purchasing a commercial grade antenna was discussed; it was decided not to move forward at this time because of field day, Fourth of July coming up and John Matz working on getting our second repeater site at Summit Hill. We will revisit this at the July's meeting.
- We added one new member to the roster, Tom Smith from Mary-D. Welcome aboard Tom!
- Bob McClintock asked for volunteers for NET operators. There is definitely a need for traffic NET managers. Bill Dale volunteered to train anyone for that position.

Famous ham radio operator:

Do you know who this operator was?



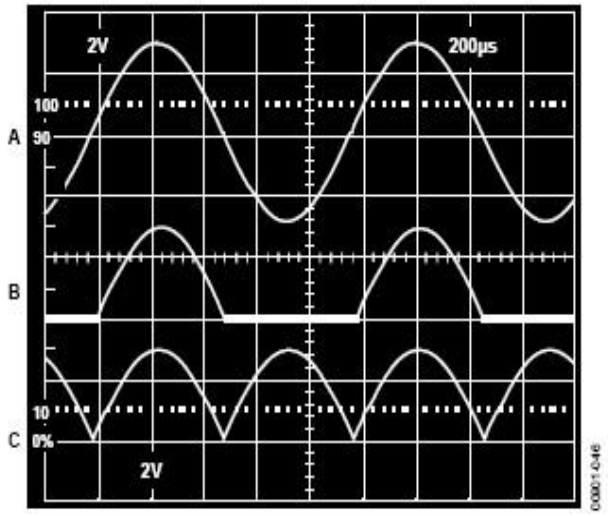
Dark Sarcasm



Turn on the attenuator.....pleeeessee!

Does this happen to anyone else? Or is this just at my house?

Test Your Knowledge:



On the Oscilloscope screen to the left, what are the three common signals in a power supply?

A. ?

B. ?

C. ?

Answer at the end

HIGHLIGHTS FROM FIELD DAY 2016

I would like to thank the members for coming out and supporting Field Day 2016. **I thought it was a huge success**! This was my second field day; my first one was a washout. Anyway, I learned a lot and I look forward to many more. – Tom (K3TE)



Set up for field day – a lot of chiefs here. Where are the Indians?



KB3CFV (Ron) and KC3DXS (Jim) installing the phone antenna. Ron trying to read the smoke signals from the chiefs.



KB3CFV (Ron) and N3OGG (Frank) discussing the most important part on field day, food!



WA3WIJ (Jim) trying to figure out which wire goes where? Where's Dee-Dee?



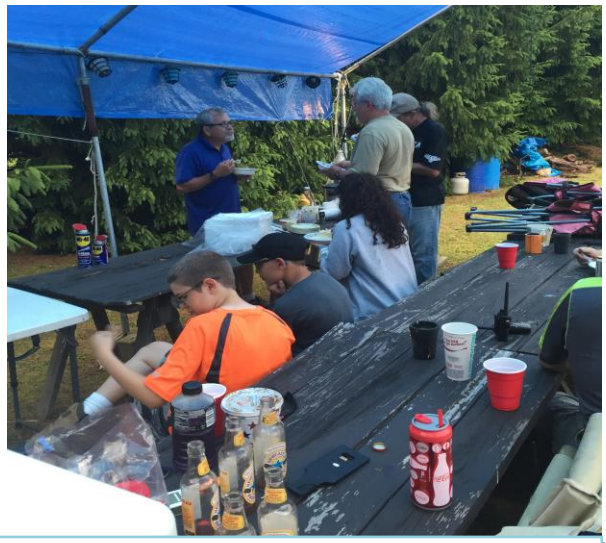
K3KNL (Mike) and WA3WIJ (Jim) along with Dee-Dee working the 80 meter CW



KC3DXS (Jim) and N3OGG (Frank) strategizing on how to work the 40 meter band



KA3FUL (Gary) and KC3CRS (Tom) installing the ladder line



A break in the action



Betty and KC3ASZ (Kelly) working Facebook



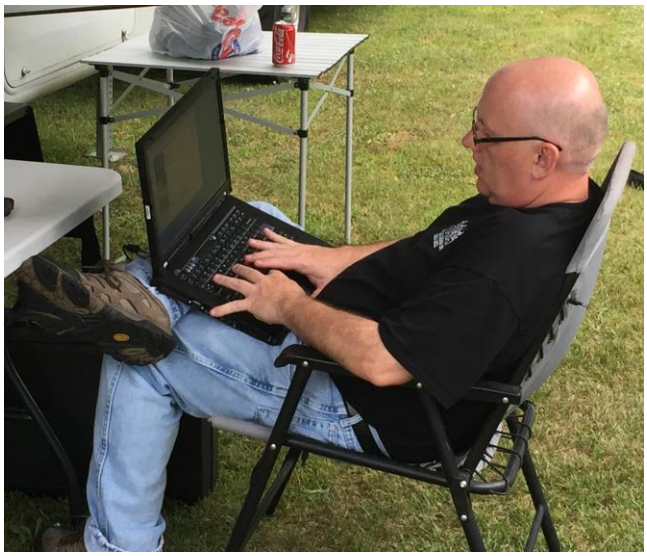
Our 20 meter rig setup at Ed and Kelly's camper

Enjoy - pictures courtesy of Ron Creitz













Now you could attach your "license plate" to emails, letters, etc. Click on the blue link, and have fun. Great idea!

Make your own License Plate

http://www.acme.com/licensemaker/



Below I found this sign on the internet. This would be a get idea to post on a building with our repeater is in. Maybe it would stop any possible vandalism. Who knows? Click below for more details



http://www.radhaz.com/store.php/fcc-signs



Brewing and Bottling when not on the radio

– By KC3DXS

Brew Day



Home brewing is an addiction very much akin to being an amateur radio operator in the respect that it can be as simple, or as complicated and complex as you want it to be.

There are basically 2 different types of home brewing, extract and all-grain. With extract brewing, all the work is done for you. So you simply need to add a bunch of extract to water, boil it, add your hops, ferment it, bottle it and wait. From start to finish, about 2 hours.

But with all-grain brewing all the little nuisances, if you choose, come into play. Typically an all-grain brew day lasts about 5 hours, from setup to clean-up. But the end result can be a spectacular beer, or a spectacular failure and in my opinion, it's the attention to detail that makes the difference.

Gristing, or cracking, your grains and then mixing them with water to make your mash. Selecting the right mash temperature and time for the style of beer. Selecting the right hops for bittering, flavor and aroma. Last but not least selecting the best strain of yeast for the style you want to produce. All these things go into brewing your own beer.

I've been asked if there is anything I do to make my beer "better" than others. That depends on your individual tastes in beer. Of course I think my beer is better, but that's because I made! But I don't believe in being bound by the standard conventions of a "beer-style" such as an English Ale, or a German Kolsch. I love the experimentation. Using a Tennessee Whiskey Yeast to make a dark brown ale was one of my favorite experiments. Forget about styles. Something else that I believe makes my beers better is that I don't filter or force carbonate my beers. Everything in my beer is achieved naturally, by the power of the yeast.

In the course of learning to brew I've studied chemistry and bio-chemistry as it pertains to malting grains, kilning grains, mashing, boiling, and fermentation. Kind of like studying orbital mechanics for the Extra class exam. But if you are going to bounce a signal off a satellite, it's

something you're going to need. Likewise, if you are going to brew a great beer, you can trust to luck, but more knowledge never hurts!

If anyone would like more information about how to do this or would like a sample of Jimmy's home brew email him at whip@ptd.net or catch him on the radio his call is KC3DXS. He would be glad to assist you!

- Great Job Jim! I look forward to more articles in the future. Tom





Meeting Locations:

Spring & Summer: Grove, 555 Tuscarora Mtn. Road, Barnesville
Fall & Winter: American Legion, West Broad St. Tamaqua
Always 3rd Friday of the Month – 7:30PM, if bad weather, go to American Legion



The dues for 2016-2017 are now due:

- Individual $15
- Family $20

Highlights from our club meeting on June 17th, by John Matz Schuylkill County EMA Coordinator

- John wants to inspect the "Go Kits" if you have one bring it to field day on Saturday June 25th he wants to inspect them.
- On our behalf, John wrote a letter to Lehigh Anthracite supporting the need for an amateur repeater on top of Summit Hill so HT's could be utilized at the eastern and western part of Schuylkill and Carbon County's
- John met with Pete from Green's at the 911 center. Recently the 911 center put a rubber roof on and John wants the HF equipment up and running again. They came up with putting a Delta loop antenna on top of the center.
- John asked the county for a list of county towers. He wants to increase coverage with amateur repeaters in the county and wants to make sure that every county owned tower has an amateur repeater on it. That is as long as there is space.
- Photo ID's will be taken at the grove on field day. If you need one or need an upgrade please plan on attending field day 2016
- At the Federal Prison in Minersville there is a 70 foot tower. If someone with a Federal ID they could go in and get it. Provided they have it taken down.
- Possibly running table top exercises with a school district, an example would be what to do if this happens. . .
- The State is concerned about auxiliary communications they use 80 meters
- There will be an exercise with the Susquehanna
- Nuclear Power Plant on October 17th & 18th. More info to follow on this as I get it.
- EMA's website is: http://www.scema.org/



John Matz

My First. . .

Everybody always remembers their first. . . Their first kiss, first car, first radio, but Ron (KB3CFV) will remember his first selfie.



It's a Boy! TWA welcomed our Newest member . . .
Tom Smith KC3CRS on June 17th.
Welcome aboard Tom! Nice to have you in the club! You can reach Tom on 490, 370, and 270. TWA just keeps growing, and growing.. .



Congratulations Stanley Lashock for passing his Technician Test on June 4. His call sign is KC3HGM.
Welcome to the hobby!

What's New in Ham Radio?

Yaesu FTM-3100R – Non-digital Radio



MFJ
http://www.aesham.com/product/new_items/mfj-226/



Powerwerx
http://www.aesham.com/product/ham_radio_accessories/powerwerx-panel-pole/



Click on the BLUE Link, and let the web do the rest!

If you have anything you want to submit to the club bulletin please email Tom Lesisko: tlesisko@ptd.net

Answer to famous Ham Radio operator:
Marlon Brando -FO5GJ
Test your knowledge:
a, Is a sine wave b. Half-Wave rectifier c. Full-Wave rectifier

Next time – The history of Schuylkill County

Until next time – 73's