Tamaqua Wireless Association

Splatter Bulletin

Amateur Radio Club since 1967 Vol. I #10 2016

Officers

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Tamaqua, PA

TWA Repeaters

146.490 / 147.490 (PL 123.0)

147.270 / 147.870 (PL 131.8)

147.270 is our Fusion repeater

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

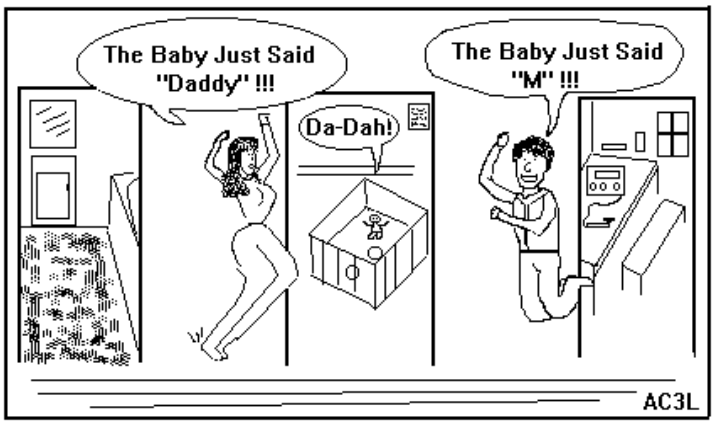
VE's are needed for each session. Please contact Bill Dale at 570-386-2384 or email him at bdalejr@ptd.net if you are interested in any of these test dates.

Calendar of Events:



- November 5th Ham Radio Test 9am Tamaqua Borough Hall – our last one this year!
- November 5th turn your clocks back 1hour tonight!
- November 8th General Election – Get out and vote today!
- November 11th Veterans Day
- November 18th Club meeting 7:30 Legion
- November 24th Thanksgiving
- November 25th Black Friday – a lot of deals going on at HRO!
- December 10th Club Christmas Party 3:00PM Chantilly's followed by our meeting and year-end report
- December 24th Christmas Eve
- December 25th Christmas
- December 30th New Years Eve

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



- In attendance for October's meeting: Bill WY3K, Ron KB3CFV, Tom KC3CRS, Andy N3HHH, Ed KB3AYY, Jim KC3DXS, Frank N3OGG, and Gary KA3FUL
- The members discussed the Susquehanna Steam Electric drill that took place on October 18th and 19th
- New for TWA, tune in on the Thursday before our scheduled meeting. You will hear many club announcements at 7:30PM on 147.270
- It seems we have hit a political snag; Summit Hill is waiting for a letter of support from the Carbon 911 Director. As of this writing Gary Williams has not supported our efforts!
- Our Christmas Party is quickly approaching, save the date, December 10th 3PM at Chantilly's followed by our year-end meeting. I hope to see everyone there!

Famous ham radio operator:

Do you know who this operator is?



Dark Sarcasm:





Test Your Knowledge:

1. The FM broadcast band is . . .
   a. 550-1,600KHz
   b. 10.7MHz
   c. 88-108MHZ
   d. 98.7-118.7MHZ

2. The maximum audio frequency for FM is . . .
   a. 7.5KHz
   b. 15KHz
   c. 20KHz
   d. 10.7KHz

Answers at the end

The End of Summer

Another summer has come and gone as TWA members gathered to winterize our equipment at the grove. Although the weather was a little damp and dreary, the trailer was tarped, antennas were lowered and the old TWA trailer was cleaned out for removal. Members in attendance were KA3FUL, KC3CRS, KC3DXS, N3HHH and WY3K. Thanks guys for a job well done!









There will be a VE test session on November 5th at the Tamaqua Borough Hall 9AM. Information on who attended, passed, etc. will be in the December Newsletter.

Veterans Day is November 11th

Originally, Veterans Day was called "Armistice Day," and the date was chosen to commemorate the signing of the armistice with Germany that ended hostilities during World War I. Thank you to all veterans from all services that allow us to enjoy our freedom.

Our next regularly scheduled meeting will be:

- November 18th at 7:30PM

At the American Legion in Tamaqua. Hope to see you there!



MARK YOUR CALENDAR'S NOW!

Winter Field Day 2017 is January 28th & 29th 2PM to 2PM Weather Permitting

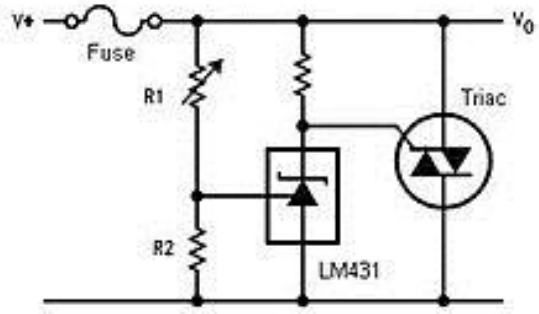
Tamaqua Heritage Day 2016

I would like to thank the members for coming out and supporting Heritage Day. I know it was a little chilly and windy but I think we did what we needed to do…
Got the word out about TWA, hopefully we can get some new members and had a little fun raiser to help the kitty grow somewhat.
Pictured above is KB3ASZ Kelly, WY3K Bill, KB3AYY ED, and below is KC3DXS Jim.



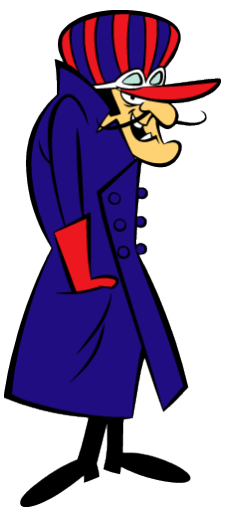


Crowbar Circuit



A crowbar is a metal rod, one end resembles the end of a hammer to remove nails the other almost has a pick to it to dig into objects. The bar comes in a variety of lengths. Picture a crowbar placed cross a power supply. It will short out the power supply if you do that!

This is precisely how a "crowbar" circuit is supposed to work. Its job is to short out the power supply when there is a problem, crude, but effective. The circuit above is typically called a crowbar circuit. The Triac is in this example is used but an SCR could work fine also. The input voltage on the left side of the power supply is producing a DC voltage, let's say 15 volts. "R1" and "R2" setup the "turn-on" for the LM431 (Zener diode) to "fire" or turn-on. The Triac is in parallel with "Vo" and ground. Under normal operations the Triac is sitting there doing nothing. To some, this circuit is a waste of money. It does nothing for 99.9999999% of the time. However, let's say for some unknown reason the input voltage increases to a point where the Zener diode turns on and conducts putting a low voltage on the gate of the Triac and turning it on, MT2 and MT1 terminals will conduct with low resistance the two terminals are placing the Vo at approximately ground potential causing the in-line fuse to open. Causing the output voltage to go to 0 volts protecting whatever is connected to the DC output.



Are you having trouble with your rig? First, check the power supply for proper voltage. Then check those dastardly electrolytic capacitors! Then check for bad solder connections!



Meeting Locations:

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



Do you want something published in this newsletter? Do you have anything you want to sell or looking to buy? I am looking for articles for the newsletter. Please email me at tlesisko@ptd.net if you have something

FYI: Dues for 2016-2017

- $15.00 for individual
- $20.00 for family

Battery Backup

We are still looking for someone to sponsor a deep cycle marine battery or 2 or 3. We need to back up our 270 repeater. If anyone would like to help please email me at tlesisko@ptd.net in the event of power interruption we need to have uninterrupted service! FYI: our 490 is on a generator backup.



What we need: 3 deep cycle marine batteries, one for the Fusion and two for the amplifier

Archive Update

I would like to thank Jeff Kunkel K3NZD for his incite on the photo below.

-Tom

From left to right: Allen Breiner - W3TI Silent Key (Founding member), William Dale - WY3K, Anthony Sfarra - KB3ABY Silent Key Jeff Kunkel (myself) - K3NZD (KB3ACB at time of photo)



ARES Vests?

Just a suggestion for any ARES/Emergency Event:

1. **Tractor Supply offers vests**

http://www.tractorsupply.com/tsc/product/carhartt-high-visibility-class-2-vest?cm_vc=-10005

2. **ARRL offers vests too.**

http://www.arrl.org/shop/search.php?mode=search&page=1



Why was Thanksgiving created?

It has been celebrated as a federal holiday every year since 1863, when, during the American Civil War, President Abraham Lincoln proclaimed a national day of "**Thanksgiving** and Praise to our beneficent Father who dwelleth in the Heavens", to be celebrated on the last Thursday in November.

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

Governor George Pataki - K2ZCZ Answers

1. C
2. B

Until next time – 73's