

The W3PIE Newsletter

July 2022

Summarizing just a few of the things that are going on at the Uniontown Amateur Radio Club:



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE – Bunny Horvath, WA3NGA

Well folks as we move forward, Field Day has wrapped up. A special thank you to all of you that made it possible.

Thanks to Pierre for allowing us to use the Bruderhoff field off of Route 40 in the beautiful mountains of Western PA. This was a great location for our activity. Thanks to Tony for coordinating with the county to supply us with a generator that was very adequate for our needs along with two canopies to provide shelter from the sun's rays. I would be remiss if I didn't thank our setup crew, George, Jim, Mark, and Mark for helping us to get everything in place for our event.

We had a great time and we did beat our score of last year by a considerable amount. The final tally will probably be in the December issue of QST. I was a little disappointed that we didn't have more operators for the event but perhaps the hot weather played a part in that regard. Pierre's family helped us pick up the slack in that area and a big thank you to them for their participation.

Our next big event is the W3PIE GABFEST. Mark your calendar for August 13th. This is the event that we rely on to help support our club for the entire year, so we really need everyone's support for this venue.

We need volunteers to make it happen and we need folks to purchase the tickets. The advance tickets are on sale now and you can get a real deal if you purchase them early. You can go to the web site to see the particulars of the ticket purchase and the benefit of buying early. We look forward to seeing all of you there.

Also, KJI Electronics is coming all the way out from New Jersey to be with us. This makes the W3PIE GABFEST an excellent opportunity for you to pick up a new radio and shack-enhancing accessories. Please support them and encourage them to return next year.

All of the particulars are on the web page flyer and in the HAMFESTS section of this newsletter. With all of that said - PLEASE, PLEASE - support the W3PIE GABFEST. We are hoping for good weather for this event and as always, the flea market spaces are FREE and the food is excellent!

73 from WA3NGA
BUNNY

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

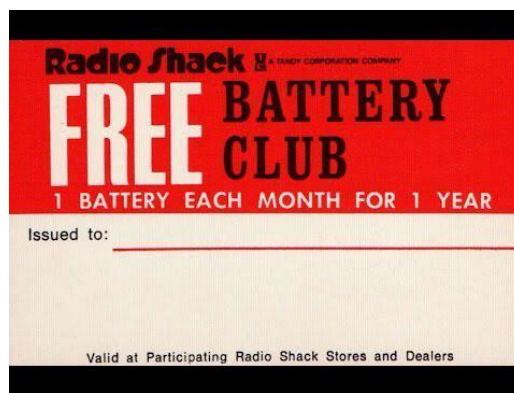
On Wednesday, July 6th we will gather at 19:30 to conduct the business of the club, as well as get together with friends. We'll also have a recap of Field Day 2022. We hope to see you all there!

WAYS AND MEANS

Our Ways and Means planning meeting will take place at 19:30 on Wednesday, July 20th. As summer weather allows to take action on projects and upcoming events in 2022 (the Gabfest is just weeks away), you can enjoy another excellent opportunity to catch up with your fellow club members. As always, guests are encouraged.

TECH WEDNESDAY

In June, we gave Tech Wednesday the month off. Coming up in July will be a presentation on all things batteries, presented by Mark Pierson, K3PPP.

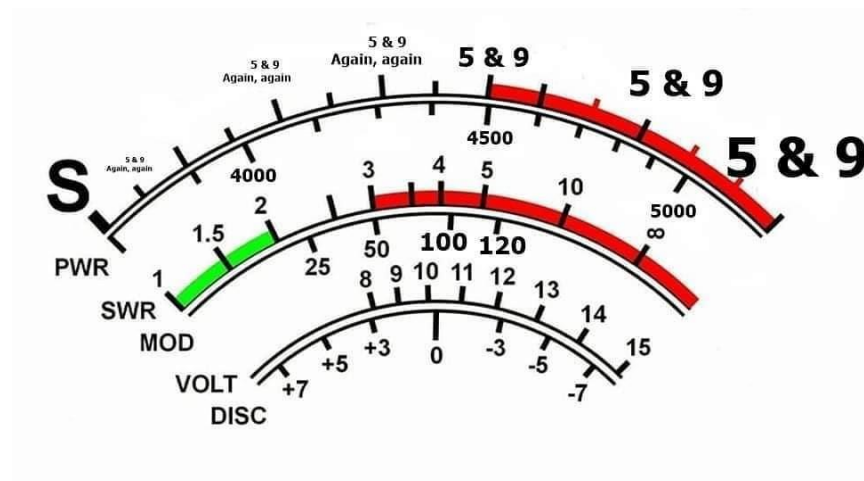


Come out to the clubhouse on July 27th to learn more about the devices we use to power our portable electronics every day, plus ask questions you might have on what type of battery make the most sense for a particular application, as well as their proper care and feeding.

TECHNICIAN QUESTION POOL CHANGES ARE HERE

Effective July 1st the Technician class license question pool and associated test forms are in use. For those who plan to take the test in July or later, please ensure that any study guides (ARRL, Gordon West, etcetera) or supplemental learning tools are updated to reflect the new pool.

S-METER OVERLAY FOR WORKING DX / CONTESTS



BRING A FRIEND

Do you know someone at work or a fellow member of some other organization you are associated with that may be interested in becoming an active member of the amateur radio community, as well as an important member of our growing Club?

How about a friend who is already a ham but doesn't regularly attend meetings? A gentle reminder or offer to give them a ride may encourage interest and possibly help them (once again) become active on the air.

TRADING POST

This section is open to members who are wishing to sell, trade, or acquire ham radio related items. Please contact the listing member directly through the information provided.

Icom ic2300 65 Watt 2 meter mobile \$150

Yaesu FT 2980 80 Watt 2 meter mobile \$150

Icom IC-86 2 meter handheld with all accessories \$115

They are like new in the box. Come with manual etc. as new. Please contact Barry at barky15401@yahoo.net or on the 147.045 repeater.

CALENDAR FOR 2022 ACTIVITIES

Day	January
1	New Years Day
5	W3PIE Reg Meeting
17	Martin L King
19	W3PIE W&M Meeting
26	W3PIE Workshop
29	Winter Field Day
30	Winter Field Day

Day	February
2	Groundhog Day
2	W3PIE Reg Meeting
6	VE Testing
14	Valentines Day
19	W3PIE W&M Meeting
21	Presidents Day
23	W3PIE Workshop

Day	March
2	W3PIE Reg Meeting
	Daylight Savings Starts
14	W3PIE W&M Meetings
16	W3PIE W&M Meetings
17	St. Patrick's Day
20	Spring Begins
23	W3PIE Workshop

Day	April
6	W3PIE Reg Meeting
15	Tax Day
20	W3PIE W&M Meeting
27	W3PIE Workshop
TBA	DX Road Trip

Day	May
4	W3PIE Reg Meeting
8	Mothers Day
15	VE Testing
18	W3PIE W&M Meeting
25	W3PIE Workshop
29	Memorial Day
TBA	DX Road Trip

Day	June
1	W3PIE Reg Meeting
14	Flag Day
15	W3PIE W&M Meeting
19	Father's Day
20	Summer Begins
22	W3PIE Workshop
25	Summer Field Day
26	Summer Field Day

Day	July
1-7	13 Colonies Contest
4	Independence Day
6	W3PIE Reg Meeting
20	W3PIE W&M Meeting
27	W3PIE Workshop

Day	August
3	W3PIE Reg Meeting
7	DX Eng. Hamfest
13	Gabfest
13	Extra VE Testing
17	W3PIE W&M Meeting
24	W3PIE Workshop

Day	September
7	W3PIE Reg Meeting
4	VE Testing
5	Labor Day
21	W3PIE W&M Meeting
22	Fall Begins
28	W3PIE Workshop

Day	October
5	W3PIE Reg Meeting
8-9	PA QSO Party
10	Columbus Day
19	W3PIE W&M Meeting
15-16	BSA JOTA
19	W3PIE W&M Meeting
26	W3PIE Workshop
31	Halloween

Day	November
2	W3PIE Reg Meeting
	Daylight Savings Ends
11	Veterans Day
16	W3PIE W&M Meeting
24	Thanksgiving

Day	December
3	W3PIE Xmas Party
7	W3PIE Reg Meeting
4	VE Testing
21	W3PIE W&M Meeting
21	Winter Begins
24	Christmas Eve
25	Christmas
31	New Years Eve

NETS

The Uniontown ARC holds the Information and Traffic Net on the 147.045 MHz repeater every Thursday evening at 21:00. Should the 147.045 MHz repeater be inoperative or become inoperative, wait two (2) minutes then tune to the backup repeater, which is 145.170 MHz.

Detailed repeater information such as mode capabilities and offset / PL tone can be found [HERE](#)

In addition, the Keystone-Wide net occurs at 20:00 on Sunday nights, accessible through WIRES-X room 60328. Any System Fusion radio that can reach the Club's 443.750 MHz repeater is your ticket to participate. (We now have that capability on the 147.255 MHz machine, as well). Repeaters and nodes from the western and eastern sections of Pennsylvania are connected to Keystone-Wide. In addition, we have had check-ins from as far away as Australia.

The network is up at all times, so give a call and see who you might be able to chat with - local and not so local.

OF NOTE - FCC Proposes Record \$34,000 Fine for Alleged Interference and Unauthorized Transmissions During Idaho Wildfire – ARRL News 2022/06/09

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) has proposed a \$34,000 fine against Jason Frawley of Lewiston, Idaho, for allegedly interfering with radio operations of the U.S. Forest Service during firefighting activities for the Johnson Creek Fire near Elk River in July 2021. The FCC issued a *Notice of Apparent Liability for Forfeiture (NAL)* on June 8, 2022 to Frawley. The FCC states in the NAL that Frawley holds an Extra-class Amateur Radio Service license, WA7CQ, and is the owner/operator of Leader Communications LLC, licensee of eight microwave licenses and one business license.

The FCC alleged in the *NAL* that "On July 17, 2021, using his amateur hand-held radio, Frawley transmitted five (5) times, and on July 18, 2021, Frawley transmitted three (3) times on frequencies allocated and authorized for government use, apparently causing harmful interference with his apparently unlawful transmissions."

The frequencies with which Frawley is alleged to have interfered were being used to coordinate firefighting crews from the U.S. Forest Service and Idaho Department of Land to fight the 1,000-acre Johnson Creek Fire, including the communications between fire suppressant aircraft and ground crews.

The *NAL* includes details of the Forest Service's complaint and the FCC's investigation. On July 18, 2021, the Johnson Creek fire operations section chief drove to the Elk River airstrip and hanger where Frawley, who had disclosed his location, was found holding a radio next to a banner that read, "Leader Communications." Frawley admitted to transmitting on government frequencies and identifying himself as "comm tech." He argued that he was not trying to cause interference but instead was transmitting to provide information to the fire fighters.

"[A]t no time was I trying to disturb any other communications or air traffic. I was honestly just giving them information I had since I have been working on the butte since the early 90's . . ." wrote Frawley in his October 15, 2021 response to a Letter of Inquiry from FCC Special Counsel Laura Smith.

The FCC however concluded that "Frawley's admitted unauthorized transmissions on frequencies for which he did not have a license had the potential to cause substantial harm to life and property."

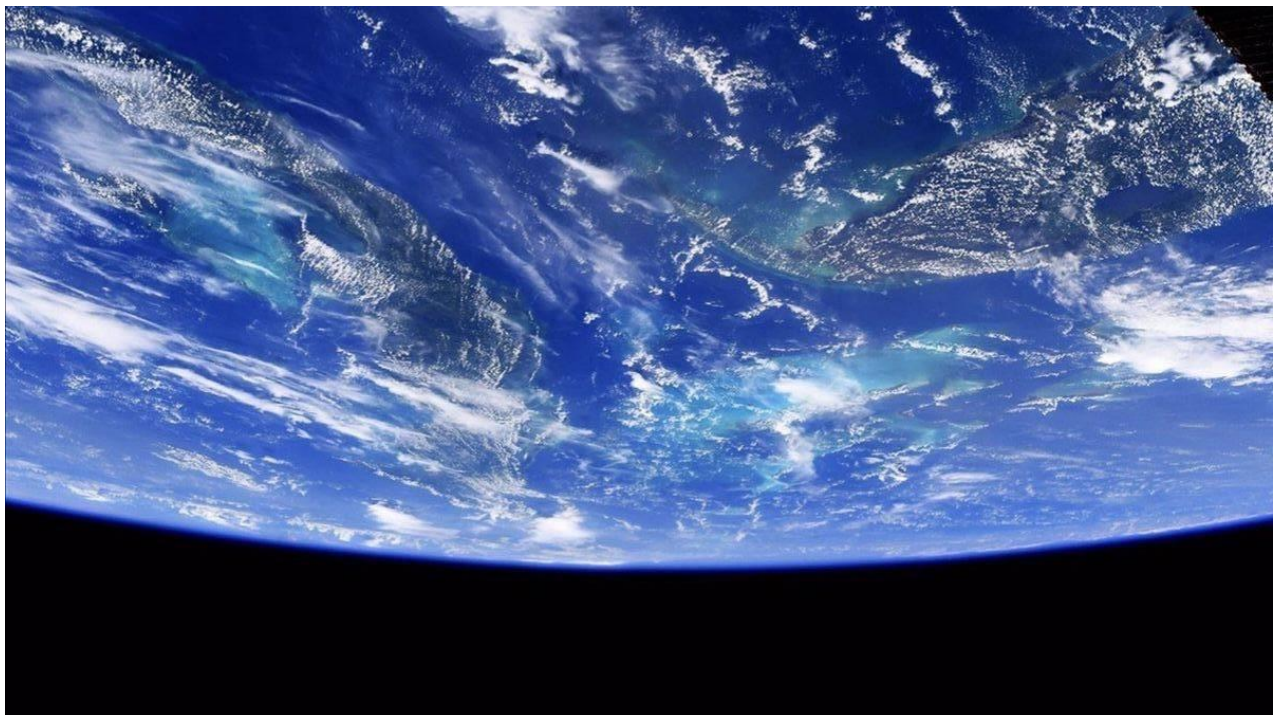
The FCC held that Frawley, by his own admission, apparently willfully and repeatedly violated the Commission's rules when he made eight separate radio transmissions on a frequency for which he did not have a license. The FCC stated that unauthorized transmissions on frequencies licensed to public safety entities using those frequencies to respond to emergencies also constitutes a violation of Section 333 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended.

A [news release](#) from the FCC states that the fine is the largest of its kind proposed. "The Communications Act prohibits such interference with authorized radio communications and the Commission takes very seriously any interference with public safety communications," said the FCC. In a separate [statement](#), FCC Chairwoman Jessica Rosenworcel added, "You can't interfere with public safety communications. Full stop. So today we propose the largest fine of its type for this interference that put fire suppression and public safety itself at risk."

What are your thoughts on this? – editor

SUPPORT W3PIE THROUGH AMAZON

An additional way to support our club is to designate UARC as your charity of choice, when shopping through the www.smile.amazon.com portal. A small percentage (which adds up) of your purchase goes to support us, as we are a registered non-profit 501(c)(3) organization. Best of all, there's no cost to you.



"Hey, I can see the W3PIE Field Day site from here!"



FIELD DAY 2022



Photos courtesy of K3PPP. More to come – in out next issue

I WAS JUST THINKING – JEFF MARTIN, N3ABJ

I was thinking about amateur radio awards. Funny because I'm not a paper chaser but that doesn't keep me from thinking about it. You know... Worked All States (WAS) and DXCC and dozens of others. I was thinking how difficult some of those awards are to earn. Then I started thinking about how hard they must have been to earn back in the day. You know! Back in Georges (WA3OGQ) day.

Is it fair that a baseball player gets to claim the most homeruns with today's technology, bats and sports medicine when the Babe had to do it with a stick? How about the men that made NASCAR what it is today. They didn't have the technology, the radio communications and the safety gear that racers have today. Hell! The safety inspectors probably looked to make sure there was no glass in the window openings and that the driver had a seatbelt which, he may or may not have worn.

Where am I going with this? I'll tell you. Thirty years ago, if you wanted to work all states, you had to put your time in at the dial. No panadapter or spectrum scope to show you where the signals were. No Internet to announce the latest rare spot which, by the way, you can route directly to your phone for instantaneous updates and alerts. No DXMaps to show you which bands were open. And no internet based SDR so you could listen to the other fella's station in his own country.

Yep! Nowadays you don't even have to hear his signal on your antenna or receiver. You can just dial him up! Nope! If you wanted to work all states or earn your DXCC, you had to order QST magazine or something similar. You waited for it to come in the snail mail and you sat down with your calendar and your work schedule and you tried to figure out the most opportune times to reach your goal, whatever it was at the time. Then came the hard part. Sit down in front of the radio and switch from band to band and tune that

VFO from one end of the dial to the other. All that just to earn an award that no one else in the family could possibly care about.

And let's not forget this very important fact... back then, you had to learn CW just to be able to make your gallant attempt to work all states or, whatever! So do I think these awards are somewhat outdated nowadays...

Yes! I honestly do but, as we have often said on the local repeater.... Enjoy yourself! Do what makes you happy! Collect all the awards you can if that keeps you active in the hobby. But I think if you are going to get any award with all that you have at your disposal nowadays, you should have to meet the criteria at least three times over and you still have not managed to match the efforts put in by the old timers.

YOUR IDEAS

Are there some things that you would like to get involved with at the Club? Are there topics you would like to suggest for Tech Wednesdays? Would you like to know more about the stations we have, that are available for member use? Do you have some questions on antennas, digital modes, some new (to you) aspect of ham radio, upgrading your license, helping to mentor others, etcetera? Then come on out and let us know. Or, just send an email to: officers@w3pie.org with the details.

THANK YOU!

To our contributors, both regular and irregular, a big THANK YOU goes out for each and every one. Your additions to this newsletter are appreciated by many. If you have something you would like to share with your fellow club members, please send your contribution to wa3uvv@gmail.com.

As a reminder, the cutoff date for August issue submissions is Friday, July 22nd.

TICKETS, PLEASE...

The order form for Advance Tickets for the Gabfest is on page 13 of this newsletter. Your purchase of advance tickets rewards you with extra tickets – something you will miss out on, so act now!

Increase your chances of winning – and – support the Club and the many things we do throughout each year to advance our amateur radio community.

UPCOMING HAMFESTS, CONVENTIONS, CONFERENCES, AND OTHER EVENTS IN OUR AREA

2022 NW PA HAMFEST

Hosted by the Wattsburg Wireless Association

Saturday, July 9, 2022

Hamfest Opens at 8:00 am

2022 Special - Free Hamfest no charge for

Tailgaters, Vendors or attendees.

Free tables available if needed.

Call In Freq. 147.315, CTCSS 186.2

Make your plans now to attend!

The Hamfest is held at the Greene Township Municipal Building

9333 Tate Road, Erie, PA 16509

Convenient!!! 2 miles South on Route 8 from Interstate 90! 3 miles from Erie City line

For more information email:

hamfest@wattsburg-wireless.us

Tailgating - Vendors - Food - Restrooms - Off street parking

Outdoor picnic area & grills - Large playground for kids - VE Exams

Ham Radio License Exams @ 9 AM

GOOD FOOD !!

Coffee, Doughnuts, Hot Dogs, Burgers, Pop and Water will be there for sale.

Somerset County PA Hamfest



Presented by the Somerset County Amateur Radio Club
P.O. Box 1241
Somerset, PA 15501

Date Change

Talk-In on K3SMT Repeaters
147.195+ PL 123 and 443.250+ PL
123

Same Place



ARRL
Sanctioned

Free Parking

Free Coffee

Sunday, July 10, 2022- 8:00 AM to 1:00 PM

Where: Somerset County Technology Center
281 Technology Drive, Somerset, PA 15501

Grounds Open at 6:00 AM for vendors and tailgaters.

Entrance Fee: **Adults \$5.00, children under 13 FREE**

Indoor Tables: Pre-Registration Required

ARRL VE Testing
at 10:00 AM
Fee \$15.00

Main Prizes by KJI Electronics

FIRST PRIZE

Yaesu FT-891 HF/50Mhz All Mode Mobile Transceiver

SECOND PRIZE

Yaesu FTM-6000R Dual Band FM Transceiver

THIRD PRIZE

Yaesu FT-70DR Dual Band 64FM Digital HT

FOURTH PRIZE

Yaesu FT-4XR Dual Band FM HT

Main Prize Tickets \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5 or 25 for \$20

Additional main prizes from DX Engineering, ARRL and more!

Door prizes from EJI and more!

and Black Box Drawing 50 tickets at \$5.00 each



Food menu by My Girls



KJI Plans to Attend



SOMERSET - PENNSYLVANIA

No-cost Pre-Registration
REQUIRED
for indoor space
contact Stew, AK3J at
ak3j@arrl.net or 814-444-0637
for flyer updates visit
www.k3smt.org

**Directions from PA
Turnpike Exit 110**

Go straight off
ramp and turn left
at 4th stoplight onto
Route 31 East

Go 2.0 miles and
turn left onto
Technology Drive.

The Hamfest will be
on your right
behind the building



For more local events and attractions see: www.laurelhighlands.org
for Hamfest updates www.k3smt.org and
www.arrl.org/hamfests/somerset-county-arc-hamfest



64th

West Virginia



State Amateur Radio Convention

Saturday, July 30, 2022

Days Inn and Conference Center - Flatwoods, West Virginia



South on I-79

- Take Exit 67
- Turn left
- Turn Right
- Turn left on Days

North on I-79

- Take Exit 67
- Turn Right
- Turn Right
- Turn left on Days

Talk-In: -145.29 (pl 91.5) WB8WV Repeater

Flea Market

QCWA Booth

MARS Booth

Awards to be presented:

- WV Outstanding Amateur of the Year
- Field Day
- WV QSO Party

ARES Forum/ WV Nets meeting

Technical Forum

Keynote Speaker: TBD

ARRL Forum:

- Dr. Jim Boener, N2ZZ
Roanoke Division Director
- Bill Morene, N2COP
Roanoke Division Vice Director

DX Forum:

WV DX Association

VE Exams

WV State Radio Council Meeting @ 1:00 PM

Main Prize drawing & WVSARC Auction @ 5:00 PM

Royal Order of the Wouff-Hong

Lodging

Days Inn & Suites
350 Days Dr. Sutton, WV
Reservations (304) 765-5055
Group rate (Amateur Radio)

Table Reservations/Pre-ticket sales

Rich Clemens KB8AOB
Treasurer, WVSARC
(304) 439-8421
kb8aob@arrl.net

Questions:

Ed Messenger N8OYY
President, WVSARC
(304) 517-9715
n8oyy@arrl.net

For Convention updates, watch the WV State Amateur Radio Council and WV ARRL Section Manager websites:

<https://www.qsl.net/wvsarc>

<https://www.wvarrl.com>

Main Prizes

- ICOM IC-7300 HF/50 Mhz
- Yaesu FTM-3100R VHF/UHF-FM Mobile
- Yaesu FT-4XR VHF/UHF 2M Handheld
- Yaesu FT-4XR VHF/UHF 2M Handheld



Uniontown Amateur Radio Club

72nd Annual Gabfest

Saturday, August 13, 2022

NEW DATE!!!!



The Uniontown Amateur Radio Club – W3PIE will conduct our 72nd Annual GABFEST on a NEW DATE Saturday, August **13**, 2022!

The gates open around 8:00 AM with vendors welcome at any time prior to 8:00 AM! As current Pennsylvania Covid-19 restrictions are changing frequently, please check our web site www.w3pie.org for Covid 19 restriction updates. Social distancing is a must!

The GABFEST will be held at the Radio Club Grounds located on Old Pittsburgh Road just off Northgate Highway/RT 43 Mon Fayette Expressway--- near RT 51 and US RT 119 in Uniontown, PA

Talk in will be provided on 147.045 + (Full Time PL 131.8) Just call for W3PIE Gabfest Talk-In. This talk-in is provided for directions and Gabfest information. No check in is needed if you know how to get here!

As always, free parking is available! Refreshments available! Free Swap-N-Shop Set-up with registration! Check our web site prior to the event for Covid 19 Restriction Updates.

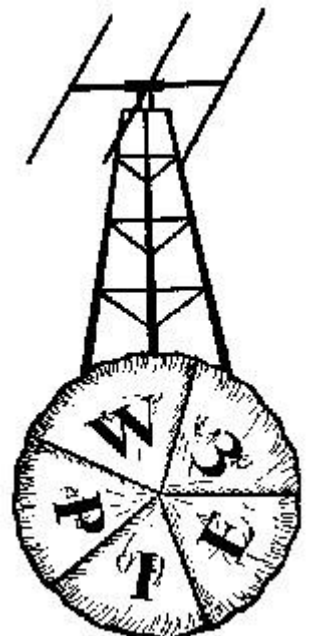
KJI Electronics will be attending!

<https://www.kjielelectronics.com/>

Hamfest Prizes for our event
1 st Prize- Yaesu FTM200DR VHF/UHF Fusion Mobile Radio
2 nd Prize- Yaesu FTM3100R VHF/UHF Mobile Radio
3 rd Prize- Yaesu FTM3100R VHF/UHF Mobile Radio
4th Prize- SDR-FE-Play HF-2GHz Receiver
5th & 6 th Prize- NanoVNA-H4 4" Display handheld VNA

Address of UARC-W3PIE is 433 Old Pittsburgh Rd, Uniontown, PA

Contact Tony Alviar 724-430-1277 (M-F 8-4) or George Syner 724-439-1554 (leave message if no answer) if more information is needed. Also, Information is available anytime on 147.045 + (Full Time PL 131.8). Additionally- email officers@w3pie.org for information



Uniontown Amateur Radio Club

UARC-W3PIE would like to announce that this year -
Advance Registration is available for the hamfest and for prizes.

Prices are as follows for tickets:

5 tickets for \$5 15 tickets for \$10 35 tickets for \$20
80 tickets for \$40 100 tickets for \$50 250 tickets for \$100

**DEADLINE FOR ADVANCE PRICES IS
AUGUST 3, 2022!!**

As an incentive for advance registration we are offering:

2 additional tickets if you spend \$5 for advance registration
5 additional tickets if you spend \$10 for advance registration
15 additional tickets if you spend \$20 for advance registration
30 additional tickets if you spend \$40 for advance registration
50 additional tickets if you spend \$50 for advance registration
100 additional tickets if you spend \$100 for advance registration

Please fill out the form below and return with your check or money
order payable to Uniontown Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

Uniontown Amateur Radio Club, Inc., W3PIE

George Syner, Treasurer

433 Old Pittsburgh Road, Uniontown, PA 15401

I would like to purchase: (Please check one)

(Advance price ticket deadline is August **3,2022**, Order form AND PAYMENT must be received by then!!)

<input type="checkbox"/> 5 Tickets + 2 free for \$5	<input type="checkbox"/> 80 tickets + 30 free for \$40
<input type="checkbox"/> 15 tickets + 5 free for \$10	<input type="checkbox"/> 100 tickets + 50 free for \$50
<input type="checkbox"/> 35 tickets + 15 free for \$20	<input type="checkbox"/> 250 tickets + 100 free for \$100

Please select one of the following options:

I will be attending this year's hamfest. Please hold my tickets and stubs in Will Call, I will pick them up at the hamfest.

I will not be attending the hamfest but would like to support W3PIE. Please mail my tickets, put my name on the stubs and place in the prize barrel! (Your tickets may not arrive at your home before the hamfest but your stubs will be placed in the barrel when we receive your check.)

Call Sign: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Telephone Number: (In case we have questions concerning your order) _____

Skyview Swap N Shop

HAMFEST/CONVENTION

08/28/2022

Start Date: 08/28/2022

End Date: 08/28/2022

Location: Skyview Radio Society clubhouse
2335 Turkey Ridge Road
New Kensington, PA 15068

Website: <http://skyviewradio.net>

Sponsor: Skyview Radio Society

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Talk-In: 146.640 pl 131.8

Public Contact: John Italiano , WA3KFS
661 Ridge Ave. New Kensington, PA 15068
Phone: 724-339-3821

Email: radiofreebob@gmail.com

BCARA/W3UDX Swapfest 2021

Date: September 12th, 2021

Time: 8:00am - 3:00pm

Location: Unionville Fire Department (See Map)
Address: 102 Mahood Rd Butler, PA 16001

Latitude: 40.938728 N

Longitude: 79.959711 W

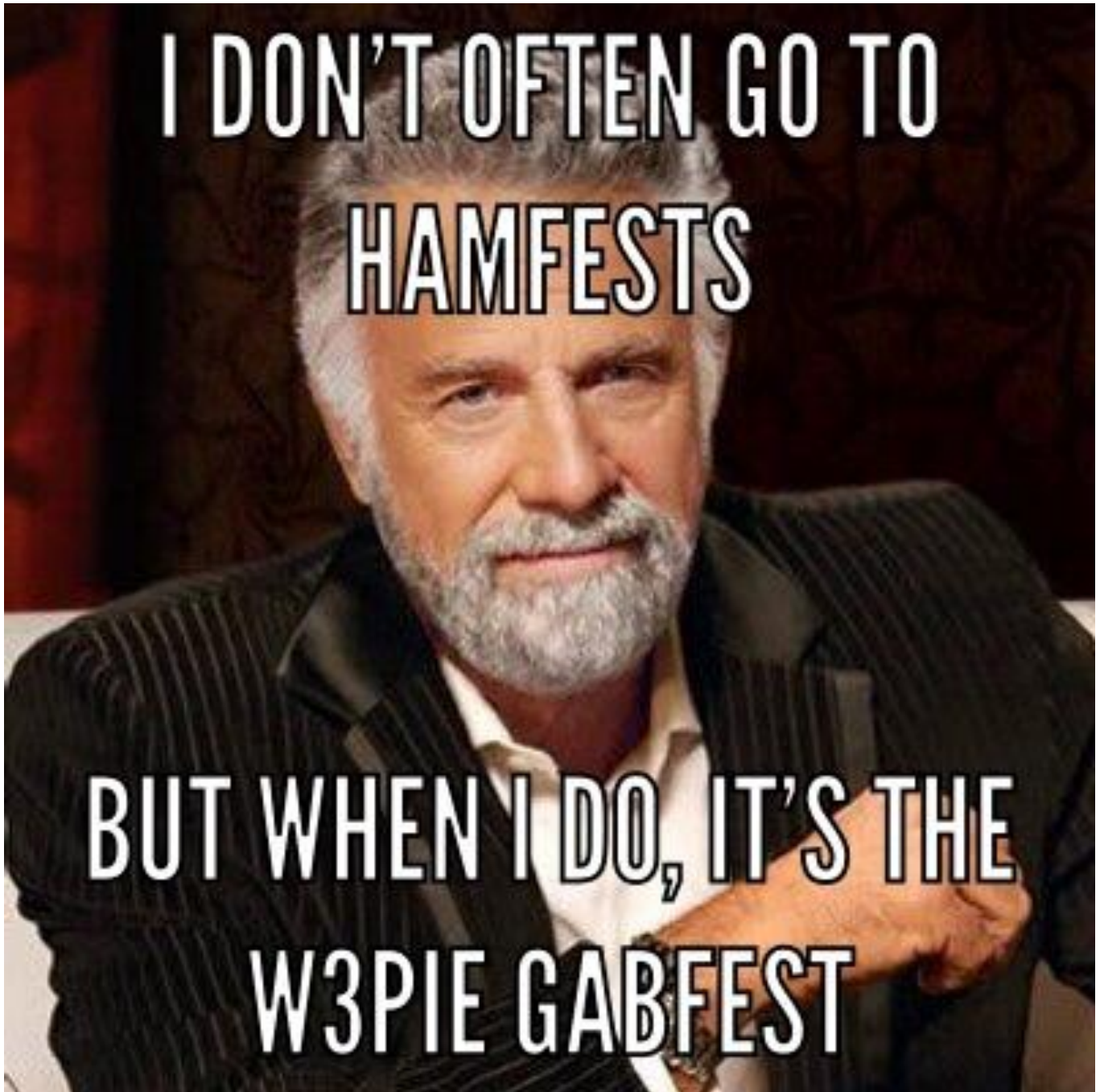
Talk-In: 147.360 + (0.600) 131.8 Hz

**In case of inclement weather, the SwapFest will be,
held indoors at the fire hall, and parking will be
available on the asphalt.**

Breakfast and lunch is available.

VE Testing during the Swapfest

FREE COFFEE!



HOUSEKEEPING

Any opinions expressed are those of the individual contributors, writers or editors alone and are not necessarily those of the Uniontown ARC. Times used in this publication are local, unless otherwise specified. All donations mentioned will be treated as anonymous, unless otherwise specified. All articles and contributions to the contents of this publication will be credited to the respective source, unless otherwise specified. Trading Post items are to be of a personal, non-commercial and amateur radio related nature. Multitasking is doing twice what you should, half as well as you could.