

The W3PIE Newsletter

June 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 ladies and gentlemen I see by the old calendar on the wall, it's newsletter time again. Let me begin by telling all of you that the Dayton Hamvention was great. It rained early Friday morning, but by the time the gates opened the rain was over, the sun came out and the heat came with it. I did a lot of walking in the flea market area, which was HUGE, I might add. The saying is if you can't find it at Dayton it hasn't been made or at least you don't need it. I did purchase a few trinkets and I did have a great time. Everyone should attend the Dayton (Xenia) Hamvention at least once, or twice!

On another note, the POTA event took place on Saturday, the 20th - the same day as the National Pike Festival, and according to what I have heard a good time was had by all the attended. (I'm sorry that I wasn't able to make it to that event but the next one for sure)

Speaking of the next one, Field Day is just around the corner, June 25th and 26th. We are planning on operating four stations so I hope that we will have a lot of attendees to not only visit but help us to operate as well. The location is up in the mountain past Nemaocolin on route 40. Make a left on Dinner Bell Road and about five miles out on the left you will see a logged entrance way. We will be up that road just a short distance on the left. If you get lost just give a call on 147.045 for directions. I'm sure that there will be more information about this at our June meeting and on the Thursday night net as well.

Well, that's it for me for this addition. Please try to make the meetings, log into our net on Thursday evening at 9:00PM and be as active as you can. We are growing at W3PIE and you will really enjoy the interactions, I'm sure.

73 from WA3NGA

BUNNY

TECH WEDNESDAY

Special thanks again to Jim Kenney, KC3BHN and his presentation on NTS, Radiograms and ICS-213 forms.



With preparations in mind, there will be no Tech Wednesday in June. More details will be forthcoming regarding July's topic and presenter.

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

On Wednesday, June 1st we will gather at 19:30 to conduct the business of the club, as well as get together with friends. We hope to see you all there!

WAYS AND MEANS

Our Ways and Means planning meeting will take place at 19:30 on Wednesday, June 15th. As summer weather allows to take action on projects and upcoming events in 2022 (Field Day, Gabfest, etcetera, you can enjoy another excellent opportunity to catch up with your fellow club members. As always, guests are encouraged.

TECHNICIAN QUESTION POOL CHANGES ARE COMING

If you know of any pre-hams that are studying to earn their Technician license, the current question pool will be getting updated, effective July 1st. While the majority of the questions in the pool will remain unchanged, there are some new ones being added and some being taken away or revised.

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.

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	Daylight Savings Starts
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.

Hopefully we are finally out of the season for this - but as it is Western Pennsylvania - if it snows, spin your VFO to 28.600 MHz at 19:00 and check in to the Snowbird Net. Herb Shaffer, KA3WSO, will be your net control operator.

POTA UPDATE – Mark Pierson, K3PPP

This last Saturday May 21, 2022. W3PIE had another POTA activation. This time we chose to activate Fort Necessity Battlefield at the Braddock's Grave Annex. We did this during the National Pike Festival since it was right along route 40. KC3BHN and K3PPP loaded up the night before and met for Breakfast before heading to Braddock's Grave.

It took about 45 minutes to setup. We had a few technical issues. One was not solved till later. (Turns out the FTDX10 is picky on the amount of current it pulls during transmission. If it does not have enough, it shuts off). So, we learned that for Field Day running on batteries for the FTDX10 maybe an issue. Several people showed up during the day. KC3QWL, KA3WSO, KC2IAK, KC3PPL and a couple non or out of licensed hams also. We got to watch the wagon train roll through, and 3 different operators made enough contacts to activate the park. Thanks for everyone who showed up and enjoyed the day with us!





If you're going to start charging money from people for something that used to be free, at least make it painless for them to pay you. These business words of wisdom were apparently lost on the Federal Communications Commission.

On Tuesday, April 19th, the FCC began collecting fees for amateur radio licenses, in a system previously detailed by various sources. Midday on Wednesday, April 20th, the FCC announced that the licensing system was down and had been since Tuesday. They requested that submission of all license applications be immediately suspended.

Later that day, the FCC announced that they had corrected the flaws in the system and that they were now processing applications. Five days later, the FCC again announced that the licensing system was not, in fact, working and again requested that no more applications be submitted.

Finally, on Monday May 9th, the FCC announced that the system was (really, really) fixed and that applications were again being processed. In summary, from Monday, April 18th (Tax Day) through Monday May 9th, no amateur radio license applications had been processed.

We can only surmise why it required 21 days to mitigate significant errors in a software change – or - how much attention had actually been committed into implementation and testing.

Of note, no mention has been publicly made about any problems with the Commission being able to accept payments from applicants. Presumably, that part of the “upgrade” worked as intended.

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.

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.

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

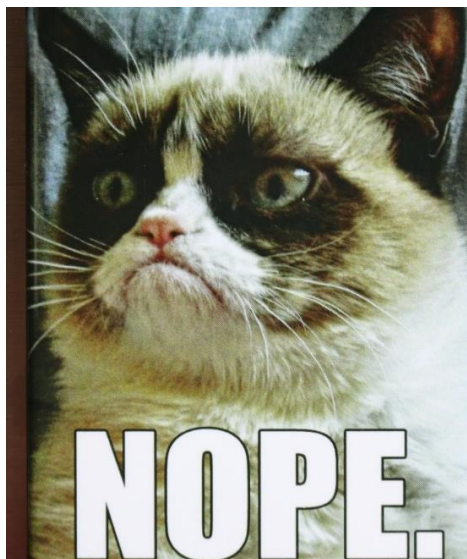
They are like new in the box. Come with manual etc. as new. Please contact Barry at barky15401@yahoo.net or on the 147.045 repeater.



FIELD DAY 2022

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

Breezeshooters Hamfest



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

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
Sanctioned

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



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
n8ooy@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

FIELD DAY 2022

Field Day is coming soon. Taking place June 25th through 26th – the last full weekend in the month – W3PIE will once again mount an effort that demonstrates our organization's ability to provide communications for emergencies, as well as other ways to provide support to our communities.

As mentioned above, the station will be set up on land off Dinner Bell Road, in Farmington – graciously made available for our use by our local Bruderhof Community. For more information or to sign up for some operating time (positions are still open) contact Pierre, KA2QPG at ka2qpg@mailstack.com.

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.

OF INTEREST

With apologies from your editor, this issue is rather late. Lots of reasons for that, but as I was taught many years ago: “No one want to hear about the labor pains, they just want to see the baby.” Our July issue will be back on schedule, and will include some pictures and tales from Hamvention 2022. We might just have a Field Day post-mortem and some pictures from that, as well.

As a reminder, the cutoff date for July issue submissions is Friday, June 24th.

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.

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. Only the mediocre are at their best all of the time.