

# *The W3PIE Newsletter*

## *May 2022*

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

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## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE – Bunny Horvath, WA3NGA**

Hello All,

Well, it's that time of the year again when we start to think about hamfest and our club is no different. At the ways & means meeting we discussed the particulars of the hamfest. We are looking for volunteers to help in various areas such as parking, working in the kitchen, and just various areas where we will need help. We also need help with the donations for the hamfest, primarily items that will be used in the kitchen. If you can help in any of these areas, please contact the officers or attend the next club meeting which is May 4th. Any and all help would be greatly appreciated.

We had a 911 SIMULATED emergency activation on April 20th that went very well. We had 15 participants on the 147.045 repeater, which was a good turnout for our organization. This test was coordinated through the Fayette 911 organization. As I said this was only a SIMULATED emergency weather test.

By the time that you read this we will have already completed the event but on Saturday April 23rd we had a POTA activation on Game Land #51 which was behind the Jumonville Cross. We are looking to have another activation in May but the exact location has yet to be determined. We are thinking about having it the 3rd week in May which would coincide with the National Pike Festival. We are hoping to get some good participation and exposure through this event for our club.

Just a reminder, the Dayton Hamvention is May 20, 21, and 22. This is one of the biggest if not the biggest hamfest in North America. If you want to attend a large hamfest, this is your opportunity.

We will be having VE testing on May 15th at the club, 2:00pm is the time, but please plan to come a little early if you plan to test for a new license or upgrade. Please note that the new pricing for the test will take place and you do need an FRN number from the FCC to test.

That pretty much brings things up to date as far as I know at this time. As I have said in the past, there are many activities taking place at the club and our club is growing. If you haven't been to a club meeting recently, PLEASE think about attending or if you know of someone that hasn't been to a meeting lately, make an effort to bring them along. We encourage NEW hams to attend. There are many sources of information and personnel available at the club to help with any questions or problems that any of us may have.

Thanks and 73 to all.  
Bunny - WA3NGA

## TECH WEDNESDAY – STUMP THE BAND

Special thanks again to Tim Duffy, K3LR and his presentation on “Grounding and Bonding”, March’s Tech Wednesday presentation.

The next installment of our continuing education program is at 19:00 on Wednesday, April 27<sup>th</sup> when we will hold our rescheduled open topic Q&A session. Bring your burning questions and be amazed when / if our self-appointed panel of panelists provide answers.!

The plan for May’s Tech Wednesday is a program that focuses on the proper way to initiate, relay, and deliver ARRL Radiograms – through the National Traffic System – presented by Jim Kenney, KC3BHN



## GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

On Wednesday, May 4<sup>th</sup> 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, May 11<sup>th</sup>. 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.

# 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	<b>VE Testing</b>
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	<b>VE Testing</b>
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	<b>Summer Field Day</b>
26	<b>Summer Field Day</b>

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	<b>Gabfest</b>
13	<b>Extra VE Testing</b>
17	W3PIE W&M Meeting
24	W3PIE Workshop

Day	September
7	W3PIE Reg Meeting
4	<b>VE Testing</b>
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	<b>VE Testing</b>
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

W3PIE conducted its first POTA activation of the year on Saturday. The POTA group set up at the Eagle Scout parking lot on State Game Lands 51 along Klink Road. For locals that's up behind the cross. We loaded up at the club house at 8:00 am and pulled out around 8:30 am. John, Bunny, Mark, and I got everything loaded up and went up to the spot. Jim met us there. (Thanks for the Donuts and Bunny Thanks for the coffee!) It took about 45 minutes to get everything set up and operational.







We had one of the Club's FT-DX10s, Bunny's new QRP rig and my FT-891 setup. For antennas we had Bunny's new QRP antenna, Jim's new MFJ vertical, a Chameleon EMCOMM III Horizontal and an Eagle 1 vertical. We ended with 94 contacts for activation and Bunny had 8 POTA and several other nets he checked into. We had 22 people show up for the event with most staying the entire time. We had a great time talking about equipment, the club, and other operations the W3PIE can get involved in.

I would like to thank EVERYONE who helped out making this POTA such a success!!!!!! We got to meet a bunch of new hams and also got to see other hams from around the region. Thank you Thank you Thank you.

We are hoping to get setup for another activation during the National Pike Festival. Hopefully Activating Braddock's Grave will let others outside of HAM gain an interest in HAM radio.

## **VE SESSION COMING IN MAY**

Our next VE session will be held on Sunday, May 15<sup>th</sup> at noon. That's plenty of time for you to study the General or Extra class exam. Also, plenty of time to talk to someone you know about becoming a ham and earning their Technician class license. The ARRL test fee – payable to the VE team – remains at \$15.

For more information, please contact Dave Watson, N3QAS.

## **NEW MEMBERS**

We welcome the following as new members:

Mark Horvath, KC3TME

## **METRIC SHORTCUTS - TEMPERATURE**

Every country uses the metric system, except for the one that has successfully put men on the moon. Whenever you are talking to some DX station and they mention the local weather, you could figure out the Celsius to Fahrenheit conversion – or – quickly guesstimate it based on these easy to remember benchmarks.

4C = 40F

16C = 61F

28C = 82F

40C = 104F

## **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.

## **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 1<sup>st</sup>. 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.

## **FCC LICENSE FEES STARTED ON APRIL 19<sup>th</sup>**

Effective April 19<sup>th</sup>, the FCC will require a fee of \$35 for amateur radio license applications and renewals. License modifications, such as upgrades and mailing address changes, remain free of charge. All FCC fees are paid directly to the FCC and do not pass through the hands of Volunteer Examiners.

## **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](http://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.

# N3P Special Event Station

## Hams for PanCAN



April 30 – May 1, 2022

**SSB - 20m(14.200) 40m (7.172), 80m(3.960)**

4/30/2022 3:00UTC to 10:00 UTC (10-5pm EDT)

5/1/2022 5:00UTC to 10:00 UTC (Noon-5pm EDT)

SEARCH [N3P/WQ3Q](#) OR GO TO

[THE SPECIAL EVENT LISTINGS ON THE ARRL WEBSITE.](#)

*Pancreatic cancer* does not stop or slow down, and neither will I. That is why, as a patient, I have planned this special event to coincide with the *Pittsburgh's Purple Stride* gathering on April 30th. Its purpose is to raise awareness of the PanCAN resources, and to help raise donations for research to help patients like me. Because of my tumor's location, it is inoperable. My only hope is for research to find a way to eliminate it. With the thousands of hams across our area, we should be able to reach and even surpass the goal I've set. While you are not required to donate, it would be appreciated if you would. After you have made your QSO, please go to this page:

[https://secure.pancan.org/site/TR/PurpleStride/PurpleStride?pg=personal&fr\\_id=2357&px=3163046](https://secure.pancan.org/site/TR/PurpleStride/PurpleStride?pg=personal&fr_id=2357&px=3163046)

A Special Event QSL card will be mailed out if you include a self-addressed, stamped envelope along with your QSL card to:

RRYBA,WQ3Q/PANCAN  
C/O SKYVIEW RADIO SOCIETY,  
2335 TURKEY RIDGE ROAD,  
UPPER BURRELL, PA 15068.  
BONUS STATION: [N3P/WQ3Q](#)

A special certificate of appreciation will also be included for anyone who contributes to the PanCAN Purple Strides fundraiser.

73, -Rich/WQ3Q (Quack Quack)

## **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.

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

**Breezeshooters Hamfest**

**Butler County Fairgrounds**

**June 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>**

**No Flyer**

**See their web site for more details as they emerge**

**+++**

**Somerset ARC Hamfest**

**Tentatively Scheduled for July 10<sup>th</sup>**

**No Flyer**

**See their web site for more detail as they emerge**





# 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

## 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](mailto:officers@w3pie.org) with the details.

## OF INTEREST – PANGRAMS TO HELP WITH CW PRACTICE

The quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog.  
Two driven jocks help fax my big quiz.  
Fickle jinx bog dwarves spy math quiz.  
Public junk dwarves hug my quartz fox.  
Quick fox jumps nightly above wizard.  
Five quacking zephyrs jolt my wax bed.  
The five boxing wizards jump quickly.  
Pack my box with five dozen liquor jugs.  
When zombies arrive, quickly fax judge Pat.  
Woven silk pajamas exchanged for blue quartz.  
The quick onyx goblin jumps over the lazy dwarf.  
Foxy diva Jennifer Lopez wasn't baking my quiche.  
My girl wove six dozen plaid jackets before she quit.  
Grumpy wizards make a toxic brew for the jovial queen.  
A quivering Texas zombie fought republic linked jewelry.  
All questions asked by five watched experts amaze the judge.  
Back in June we delivered oxygen equipment of the same size.  
The wizard quickly jinxed the gnomes before they vaporized.  
We promptly judged antique ivory buckles for the next prize.  
Jim quickly realized that the beautiful gowns are expensive.

## Resistor Color Code Chart as a Handy Reference

Five Band



Color	1st Digit	2nd Digit	3rd Digit
Black	0	0	0
Brown	1	1	1
Red	2	2	2
Orange	3	3	3
Yellow	4	4	4
Green	5	5	5
Blue	6	6	6
Violet	7	7	7
Grey	8	8	8
White	9	9	9
Gold			
Silver			

X

Multiplier	Tolerance
1Ω	
10Ω	
100Ω	± 1%
1KΩ	± 2%
10KΩ	
100KΩ	± 0.5%
1MΩ	± 0.25%
	± 0.1%
0.1Ω	± 5%
0.01Ω	± 10%

# 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.

## 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. You should never be too busy to listen, because it's the ultimate form of respect anyone can give to another human being.*