

**PENN WIRELESS ASSOCIATION**

# X-MITTER



***PUBLIC SERVICE  
THROUGH COMMUNICATION***



**May 2015 Vol. 54 No. 5.1**



**PWA CLUB TABLE  
WARC Hamfest, May 3**



**We made it to another Field Day!**

We may be challenged this year to effect another great

Field Day experience, but a challenge is what Field Day is all about.

The challenge this June 27 and 28th will be to do more with less. We expect fewer people before, during and after the event. Antennas will be shorter and more difficult to raise since fewer people means a prolonged installation effort and a compromised antenna configuration.

Field Day will come and go in an instant. That 24 hours from 2pm Saturday to 2pm Sunday will vanish as quickly as the wink of a firefly.

To make it all happen successfully, one must make a commitment to dream, plan, gather, organize, implement, deploy, restore and report the Field Day effort.

A half year of commitment beginning in January when we choose a location and reserve it, and ending in July when we report results to ARRL.

Our luck with fine weather experienced over the recent years can't be expected to continue. This means rain from Friday until Sunday afternoon. I hope I'm wrong.

Funding this year has been surprisingly ample, as we are on

## FROM THE EDITOR

track with the frequent and generous donations of club members at our monthly meetings.

It's only May but by the time you read this short editorial our Spring season will be half over.

### Let's Get Started

Now is the time to gather the Field Day paraphernalia and make it ready for the mad dash beginning June 27.

Which antenna, what radios, who are my operators, where to setup, and how to get there?

Most importantly, are YOU willing to make this commitment, bring up YOUR stuff to the task? Join in now for the fun.

### PERSONAL PACKLIST —

I suggest all FD participants pack these items at minimum.

- Medications
- Boots
- Sneakers
- Rain Slicker
- Sun Hat
- Sunglasses
- Work gloves
- Hooded Sweatshirt
- Floodlight and batteries
- Change of Clothes
- Rain Umbrella
- Cellphone and Charger
- Camera, film or SD card, batteries
- Wallet with cash

### TACKLE —

If you are planning to raise a tent whether for station use or sleeping consider packing these item.

- Rigging stakes
- Clothesline
- Sleeping Bag
- Inflatable Mattress, air pump
- Ground Tarp
- Weed Wacker and Fuel
- Tent, tent pegs
- Mosquito Netting
- Large Trash Bags

### FIELD FOOD AND DRINK —

Some of these items will be supplied by PWA, however you may want to include these as personal items, just for convenience.

- Water bottles
- Sodas
- Thermal Insulated Box
- Bag of Ice
- Sat noon sandwich
- Snacks
- Sun morning cereal
- Instant coffee packs

### OPERATING EQUIPMENT —

These items should be supplied by the Station or Band Captain.

- Laptop with logging, CW software
- HF and VHF/UHF Rig
- Paddle-key (if cw) and harness
- Mike and battery
- Headphones and harness
- Power Supply and harness
- 2m HT and charger
- Backup-battery, fused
- Bound copies of equipment O+M instr.
- Electrical Extension Cord
- External PA Speaker

### OPERATING TABLE —

More items that should be supplied by the Station or Band Captain.

- Pencils and sharpener
- Paper

# PENN WIRELESS ASSOCIATION

- Folding table
- Desk-light with antbug bulb
- Small Fan
- Clock (battery operated)
- Bridge-chair
- Field Day Rues
- Paper Log Sheet
- Blank Disks or CDs
- Thermos bottle
- Copy of FCC License

## ANTENNA —

These items should be supplied by the Station or Band Captain.

- HF Wire antenna
- 2m portable antenna
- Pole support
- Transmission line
- Ground braid and rod
- Antenna tuner w/SWR meter
- Support line and pulley
- Insulators

## FIRST AID KIT —

These items can make an extended stay at FD safer and more pleasurable.

- granola bar
- insect repellent
- sunscreen
- lip ointment
- sting swab
- wash-up towellettes
- antiseptic wipes
- lens wipes
- bandage strips
- safety pin
- pain relief tablets
- brown scrubbing soap
- toilet paper
- toothpaste and brush
- disposable shaver
- ace bandage
- gauze pads
- burn ointment

## TOOLS AND TEST EQUIP —

Inventory your go-kit tool box,

too.

- ARRL Handbook (any year)
- Clamp-on ammeter
- SWR Meter
- Soldering iron and supplies
- Small hand tools
- Tape Measure
- VOM and batteries
- Black Tape
- Duct Tape
- Folding Knife
- Scientific Calculator

## POWER GENERATOR & MAINTENANCE —

Well, someone has to provide power. If you're that person ...

- Generator (0.5-1KW)
- Oil
- Starting Ether
- Rags
- Paper Towels
- Alerting Horn
- Hearing Protection
- Gloves
- Plastic Bags
- Fuel
- Engine Working Tools
- Ignition Working Tools
- Printed Engine Documentation

## ADMINISTRATIVE

And yes, the Field Day Chairman has something to pack, too.

- Signage
- PWA Brochures
- Tyler State Park Authorization
- Emergency phone numbers
- Club member phone numbers
- Regional maps (Talk-in)
- ARRL Field Day Rules
- Band Allocation Assignments

Howard, N3FEL

## On The Cover

Sunday morning, May 3rd brought with it a beautifully clear and sunny day, this after a few days of wet weather in Bucks County , Pennsylvania. Doors opened to vendors at 6AM that morning. Just an hour later, our club filled the table with all matter of electronics and gadgets.

Many shoppers passed by our table giving exposure to PWA. We enjoyed the chance to meet old friends and make some new friends, too. We anticipate further interest in our club from some of these shoppers.

We stayed until closing, the last of the indoor and outdoor vendors to leave the Middletown Grange fair-grounds.

All sales made at the club table contributed a full 10% of the sales revenue to the club treasury. Even after deducting the table fee of \$15, the club's net profit totaled about \$28.

Special thanks to all club participants at this hamfest. Standing left to right are Paul, N3TMX, Betsy, WB3U, Howard, N3FEL, and Dell, KC8HFH.

# PENN WIRELESS ASSOCIATION

## CLUB INFORMATION

W3SK VHF Analog Repeater Frequency: 146.790 MHz (-0.6, 131.8pl)  
W3SK UHF *Fusion* and Analog Repeater Frequency: 448.225 MHz (-5.0, 131.8pl)  
Echolink to W3SK Repeater System: Via W3SK-L (node# 502543)

PWA Webpage URL: [PennWireless.org](http://PennWireless.org)

PWA Email: [PennWirelessARC@gmail.com](mailto:PennWirelessARC@gmail.com)

PWA Executive Board: [PWA-EBoard@googlegroups.com](mailto:PWA-EBoard@googlegroups.com)

Technet Email Reflector: [PWA-Technet@googlegroups.com](mailto:PWA-Technet@googlegroups.com)

**Penn Wireless Association** holds regular meetings consisting of general club business, current committee reports, group discussions, featured programs and a social period. This meeting is held at the Falls Township Building, 188 Lincoln Highway, Fairless Hills, PA on the third Monday of each month at 8:00 pm. Please contact the club vice president to add your business topic to the meeting agenda.

**ALL VISITORS ARE WELCOME!**

## PWA-Technet @ [googlegroups.com](http://googlegroups.com) Email Reflector User Account Policy

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Contents and General Meeting Review	5	The N3FJP Field Day logging software was presented to the group. Although many would see it as an overview, some new operators were introduced to the contest operating screen. Howard reviewed the Setup>Network information and proposed a way for the station captains to determine who and how many stations would be operating at any moment during the contest. Our goal is to maintain five HF operating stations and one VHF/UHF station throughout the 24 hour contest period. Logging computers will be numbered. Any client station can use the Network information screen to identify bands and modes in use, so to avoid more than one station on any band-mode or too many operating stations.
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Field Day Opportunities	18	Mark and Howard reviewed the sequence of activities needed to prepare the field, electrify, raise antennas, operate and terminate operations over the four days beginning Thursday June 25, through Sunday, June 28. The 50/50 was won by Ron Wenig who donated his \$20 share to PWA. Thank You!
Hamfests, Auctions, Conventions	19	

# PENN WIRELESS ASSOCIATION

## APRIL MEETINGS



### **PWA Executive Board Minutes**

**Date:**  
**04/13/15**

Meeting Opened at: 7:40PM

In Attendance:

Tom Stafford (KE3QC)

Vice President

Howard Rubin (N3FEL)

Treasurer

Jim Petrosky (KE3LA)

Recording Secretary

Guests:

Scott Pycik- (KD2EQP)

Old Business:

Treasurer's Report:

Gain: 213.00

-

Dues: 60.00

50/50: 42.00

Auction: 49.00

Donations: 62.00 (Field Day  
Can)

Outflow: 50.98

25.98 Network Solutions

25.00 - DCNR Pavilion rental

Field Day Fund -

Gain: 62.00 donation

Board accepted by unanimous  
vote.

Repeater: No reported issues.

Membership:

Jim (KE3LA) plans to distribute  
Membership survey at next  
General meeting.

Activities:

Field Day: Board agreed to al-  
locate time at the next Gen-  
eral meeting to confirm Field  
Day details.

Bob Hecht (KA3ZKJ) to present  
CW in Vietnam at the April  
General Meeting.

New Business:

Tom (KE3QC) proposed a for-  
mat change to both the E  
board and General member-  
ship meetings. He suggests  
removing most of the busi-  
ness aspects from the General  
meeting, and replacing them  
with brief reports from the  
Committee chairpersons, al-  
lowing more time at the Gen-  
eral meeting for presentations  
and open discussion topics.

Scott (KA2EQP) reported on  
new website progress. PWA  
has regained control over the  
pennwireless.org domain  
name. Redirection to the new  
web page should occur within  
the next two weeks.

Board discussed addressing  
Constitutional issues. Sugges-  
tion was made to form a com-  
mittee headed by Ben (K3JQH)  
to work on it.

Jim (KE3LA) mentioned several  
queries on the PWA Facebook  
page regarding to lack of ac-  
cessibility with certain smart  
phones. Howard (N3FEL) be-  
lieves there may be an issue  
with port forwarding on our  
Echolink setup and requested  
help from anyone who may be  
versed on this issue.

Meeting Closed at: 9:00 PM  
Submitted by: Jim (KE3LA) Re-

### **PWA General Member- ship Meeting Minutes**

**Date: 04/20/15**

Call to Order: 8:03 P.M.

Opening ceremonies: Pledge  
of Allegiance, Introductions  
In Attendance: KE3LA, N3TMX,  
KE3QC, N3FEL, KB3MTW,  
KA3ZKJ, WA3QVU, K3FKW,  
NY3J, N3HTZ, N3SXW, N3OJB,  
K3JQH, K3TX

Guests: KB3OXW and Dennis  
Powell (no call yet)

Old Business:

Treasurer's Report: By N3FEL  
March beginning balance:  
\$1228.29

Revenue: \$ 162.00 (dues, auc.  
Donations, 50/50)

Outflow: \$ 50.98 (Network So-  
lutions, DCNR)

March ending balance:  
\$1390.31

FD Fund starting balance:

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\$327.39

Gains: \$ 62.00 - Donations

FD fund ending balance:

\$389.39

Repeater: By N3HTZ Cully reports that he reset the audio level on the UHF side. Echo-link operating well. Needs assistance to clean up installation.

Membership: By KE3LA Jim (KE3LA) Membership Survey form to be distributed this meeting for members to complete.

V.E. Report: By K3JQH One candidate successful on Tech exam.

Program: CW Operations in Vietnam Bob (KA3ZKJ)

Break: 8:30 P.M.

Meeting reconvened: 9:05 P.M.

X-Mitter: Howard (N3FEL) April edition of X-Mitter available online at via reflector on goglegroups. Editor rotation working well, call for additional articles from the membership.

Activities/Public Service: K3TX recognized for his work on the PA Section Traffic Net

March for Babies 4/26 Tyler  
*(Continued on page 12)*

## Aluminum Antenna Farm, by Michelle London

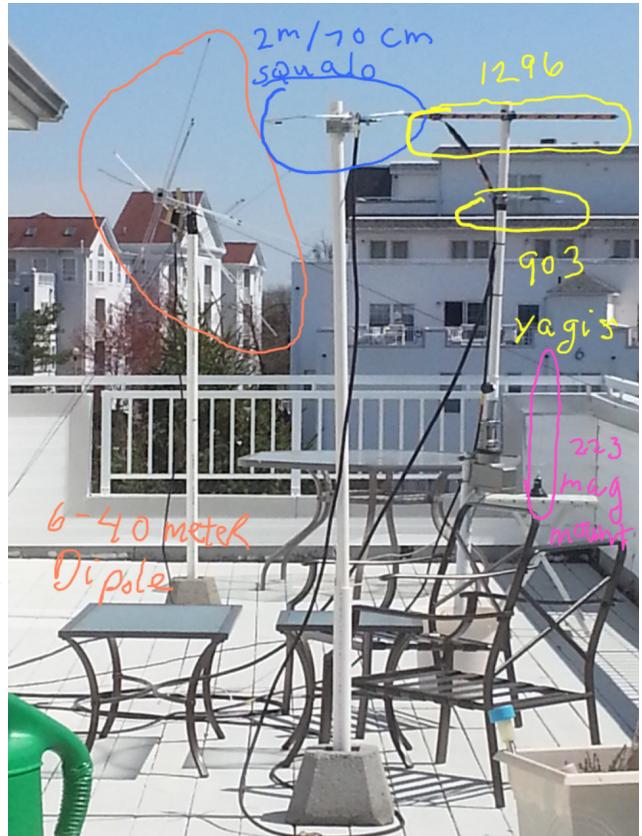
Well here is the aluminum farm at the QTH de KB3MTW. As you can see we have the capability to operate on 40 meters to 1.2 Gigs.

There is a lot of tweaking to be done like getting the high frequency Yagis teethered to the PVC better. They used to both face the same way, but have wandered off a bit.

What do you expect with tie wraps and duct tape?

The best thing would be if we could find a nice telescoping mast where we could hand crank up and down for nets and contesting.

A fellow ham who lives 2 blocks away in a house has all of his antennas on a crank down mast. Most of the time it is low to the ground, but during nets and contests, he can



be heard for miles.

All in all not bad for a cave dweller.

Michelle, KB3MTV

## WHAT WOULD YOU DO?



By Dan Romanchik,  
KB6NU

For the past three or four years I've

been threatening to buy a new radio to replace my ICOM IC-746PRO. The IC-746PRO is a great rig and I've had trouble pulling the trigger on a \$3-5k or more purchase. The radio that I've had my eye on is the Elecraft K3. Without a doubt the K3 is a better rig than the 746PRO, and it's certainly worth the price that Elecraft is asking. The question I keep asking myself is Am I going to have \$5,000 more fun with a K3?

To put it another way, assuming that I have a \$5,000 budget to spend on amateur radio gear over the next year, two or three, what's the best way to spend it? How can I maximize my purchases so that I have the most fun?

At this point, I think that I've decided not to buy that new rig and instead buy equipment that will help me make my own rigs. Some of the items that I have my eye on include:

- \* Aoyue 968A+ SMD Digital Hot Air Rework Station (I have actually already purchased this unit.)

- \* Rigol DS1102E 100MHz, Dual Channel, 1 GSa/s Digital Oscilloscope

- \* Rigol DSA815-TG Spectrum Analyzer

- \* A more professional workbench to replace the folding table that I'm currently using.

- \* Peaberry SDR V2 Kit

- \* More keys! I'd love to get a fancy Begali or N3ZN paddle, and the other day someone told me about the UR5CDX keys, which look like great deals.

Even if I purchased everything on this list, I'll have spent less than \$5,000.

One consequence of going this route is that I'll have less time for operating. I'm betting (hoping?) that the extra time spent on tinkering will be just as much or even more fun than I'm having now.

It also means that I'll be going to Dayton with a much different mindset than I have the past couple of years. Instead of spending my time configuring in my head the

perfect K3, I'll be looking for kits and scouring the flea market looking for parts.

I may be overthinking this, but like most amateurs, I have a limited budget to spend on amateur radio. That being the case, making conscious decisions about how to spend that money should help me have more fun with ham radio, and that's the goal. Isn't it?

What do you think? Is this the right way to go, or am I going to regret this decision? If you've made a similar decision, I'd love to hear from you.

=====

When not making crucial decisions about his amateur radio career, you'll find KB6NU working on updates to his "No Nonsense" study guides, teaching one-day Tech classes, or blogging about amateur radio at [www.kb6nu.com](http://www.kb6nu.com).

## CLASSIFIED ADS



**BEGALI CW KEY**

The **Sculpture Mono** was designed to represent the ultimate key of its type, combining materials and state-of-the-art techniques that set it apart from anything else on the market.

The CW Key, SN#871 is brand new, with documentation and original packaging.

\$500 Retail, Sale \$399 Exc. Cond.

Donated by Bob Hecht, PWA benefits 100%

Email [n3fel@arrl.net](mailto:n3fel@arrl.net) or call Howard at 267-304-6949.

[http://www.i2rtf.com/html/sculpture\\_mono.html](http://www.i2rtf.com/html/sculpture_mono.html)



**BEOFENG BF-F8+ HT**

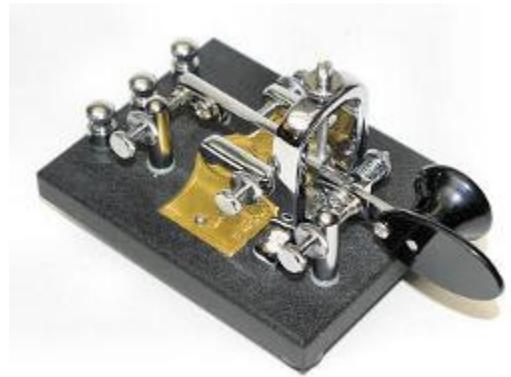
Frequency Range: 65-108 MHz (Only commercial FM radio reception) VHF: 136-174 MHz (Rx/Tx). UHF: 400-520 MHz (Rx/Tx), Broad (Wide) / Narrowband (Narrow), High power / low (5W/1W), selectable.

Selectable Frequency Step/2.5/5/6.25/10/12.5/25 kHz, Function "VOX" (Voice Operated Transmission), "OFFSET" (frequency offset for repeater access).

Dual-band handheld transceiver.

\$70 Retail, Sale \$35 Unused, Like new. Donated by Bob Hecht, PWA benefits 100%

Email [n3fel@arrl.net](mailto:n3fel@arrl.net) or call Howard at 267-304-6949.



**VIBROPLEX KEY**

**Vibrokeyer Standard**

Standard non-jeweled spring-loaded movement single lever paddle with ECO-BLACK powdercoated textured base. Bright decorative chrome top parts. Top screw adjustment point.

\$169 Retail, Sale \$85 Exc. Cond. Donated by Bob Hecht, PWA benefits 100%

Email [n3fel@arrl.net](mailto:n3fel@arrl.net) or call Howard at 267-304-6949.

**PENN WIRELESS ASSOCIATION**

**May 2015**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>
WARC Hamfest  Technet 8PM						
<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>
Mothers Day  Technet 8PM	PWA E-Board Meeting 7:30PM					
<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>
Technet 8PM	PWA General Meeting 8 PM			Arduino uP SIG Mtg 7:30p Falls Rm 205		
<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>
Technet 8PM						
<b>31</b>						
Technet 8PM						

**PENN WIRELESS ASSOCIATION**

**June 2015**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>
Technet 8PM	PWA E-Board Meeting 7:30PM					
<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>
Technet 8PM	PWA General Meeting 8 PM U.P.Field			Arduino uP SIG Mtg 7:30p Falls Rm 205		
<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>
Fathers Day Technet 8PM				FIELD DAY SETUP 6pm	FIELD DAY SETUP 12pm	FIELD DAY CONTEST 7Am
<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>				
FIELD DAY CONTEST & CLEANUP 12AM Technet 8PM						

# PENN WIRELESS ASSOCIATION

## LOCAL NETS SPRING/SUMMER OPERATING SCHEDULE

(Continued from page 7)

Park contact N3HBT@arrl.net

Afternoon/Evening Schedule: Ames [w3jy@arrl.org](mailto:w3jy@arrl.org)

EPA Emergency Phone & Traffic Net (EPAEPTN)  
3917kHz, 6:00pm daily Manager: Tom Mills  
[af4nc@arrl.net](mailto:af4nc@arrl.net)

EPA Echolink Traffic Net AA3RG (FN10tm) 146.640-PL 82.5, 8:00pm Thursday Echolink node AA3RG-R Manager: Scott Walker  
[n3sw@arrl.net](mailto:n3sw@arrl.net)

Pennsylvania Traffic Net (Formerly EPA) 3585kHz, 7:00pm and 10:00pm daily K3MIY Net Manager Manager: Ron Zond K3MIY  
[rzond9@comcast.net](mailto:rzond9@comcast.net)

### Frequencies (MHz)

-----

NTSD 3RN MBO W3JY (FN20fa) HF Pactor center frequencies (kHz) MBO/BBS 3591.9; 7091.4; 10142.9; 14112.4 Sysop: Joe Ames  
[w3jy@arrl.org](mailto:w3jy@arrl.org)

WINLINK RMS -- TARGET STATION W3JY (FN20fa) HF Pactor center frequencies (kHz) RMS 3593.9; 7102.4; 14112.4 Sysop: Joe Ames  
[w3jy@arrl.org](mailto:w3jy@arrl.org)

NTSD 3RN VHF Packet Node (Southeastern Penna.): 145.010 MBO/BBS W3JY-1 RMS W3JY-10 Sysop: Joe

Notes:  
ARES/RACES stations may send Radiogram formatted email traffic to [W3JY@WINLINK.ORG](mailto:W3JY@WINLINK.ORG) for injection to the international NTS Digital Network with outlets in all ARRL Sections in US and Canada, also Great Britain, Germany and all EU states per international agreement. Contact [w3jy@arrl.org](mailto:w3jy@arrl.org) for detailed instructions.

Follow us on Twitter @EPAARRL and on the web [www.epa-arrl.org](http://www.epa-arrl.org)

Remember to visit our Section nets:

\* EPA Emergency Phone and Traffic Net (EPAEPTN) nightly at 6pm on 3917kHz

\* Pennsylvania Traffic Net (formerly "EPA") nightly at 7 and 10pm on 3585kHz

\* EPA Echoilnk Net (EAETN) Thursday at 8pm on AA3RG 146.640- 82.5 and on Echolink AA3RG-R

WARC Hamfest 5/3 Grange Fairgrounds  
Table 1 Fusion Demo  
Table 2 FD donations table  
Table 3 Ken & Dell  
Table 4 PWA

Field Day Donation can out to accept donations. Discussion on Field Day expenses and assessing nominal charge for people operating at Field Day. Mark (WA3QVU) presented initial thoughts on classification, band assignments, hardware requirements and field layout. Mark polled the membership regarding inviting the BCARES group to join PWA for Field Day

Mark (WA3QVU) gave a brief report regarding club members activities to get the WIRELESS-X link up for the System Fusion repeater. Doug (N3OJB) attempting to get system up and running.

Additional: 50/50 drawing winner Ron NY3J

Meeting Adjourned at: 10:00 P.M.

Submitted by: Jim (KE3LA)  
Recording Secretary



K3TX

On  
Field  
Day  
Operating

## ... and Contest Operating in General. by Dave Heller

Always the big question: Is Field Day an emergency exercise or is it a contest? It's truly both. Contesting usually is pre-arranged for maximum comfort of operating while getting as many contacts as possible. Field Day the same except the station is arranged at the last minute, and comfort may or may not be acceptable, and seldom is maximized. True emergency operations usually have absolute minimum comfort, but the operating requirements are the same: make contact under roughest conditions, say what you gotta say and no more, make sure it was received exactly, and go on to the next.

We have one member far better qualified to tell how to operate contest than I – Bud Trench, AA3B. Looking at his results year after year, he must be doing something

right. I hope he will agree with my advice.

I am most qualified to tell how to work Field Day CW – but I will make comments about SSB because I have worked it a bit. As far as other exotic digital modes, I have nothing to offer.

On Field Day as in all contest there are those who spend most of their time finding a frequency and CQ'ing; others spend most if not all of their time operating hunt-and-peck. Obviously we need both! In general, the big signal stations will be the CQ-ers and the little guys hunt-and-peck, but this is not absolute. You'll always hear a few QRP CQ'ers. Both can be productive, but when the bands are busy, I and most others find CQ'ing by far the easiest and best. Especially on Field Day where the 100W station is nearly universal and KW's rare.

I like to find a clear spot --- comparatively clear is the best anyone can hope for – on the fringe of the bulk of QRM. The middle of the pile will get those operators who can copy through the worst of QRM but the weaker signals and poorer operators will be totally lost. Keep the CQ'ing short. Very Short. "CQ FD W3SK?" once with a second or two break is plenty. Longer calls will scare off the better operators who

will thenceforth totally ignore you. You hear a station call you; you give his call, W3SK 5A EPA K, and listen. Repeat part or all only if he asks for it. You get his response, hopefully for example, 3A MN, but often a few more words which you ignore; then "TU W3SK K" or maybe "R W3SK K" Omit no matter what the perennial QSL crap. Keep it ultra-short and if you have others waiting to work you they'll wait. Otherwise they'll go elsewhere. But under no condition may you fail to identify at the end of each and every contact. Our results summary include the statement that we have complied with applicable regulation, which in our case come from the FCC. ID in English at the end of each and every contact or ten minutes, whichever comes first, or else our entry should be disqualified whether it is or not.

You will get some calls at very low speed – for them slow down. If you're one of the slow CW operators you'll do much better if CQ'ing to be as far as possible from the mass of QRM; you will get calls. A very slow hunt-and-peck won't do very well in busy times.

SSB operating should be similar to CW but unfortunately the phone bands will have the

*(Continued on page 17)*

## Volunteer Examiners

### Take the FCC Amateur Exam...

Our ARRL/VEC VE Team is ready and willing to administer any license grade/upgrade or code element test. Confirm your intention to test with Ben Johns, VE Contact at 215-657-5994 not later than the Friday evening before the 3rd Monday of the month. Please advise us in advance of any special needs you may have in successfully completing the intended test. Our testing session begins promptly at 6:30 pm and remains active until all license grades desired are administered. We do not recommend, nor is it our practice, to administer repeat examinations of similar license grades to any candidate. However, progressive license grades may be attempted by any applicant at no additional charge. Please come prepared with the following items.

- ◆ Confirmation of appointment letter, email, note, etc. Walk-ins are not guaranteed a test session.
- ◆ Test fee of \$15 in cash or personal check payable to ARRL/VEC.
- ◆ Either of the following ID methods:
  - One legal photo ID (driver or non-driver license, passport, radiotelegraph license, or other legal photo ID)

OR

- Any two of the following IDs: Non Photo ID/Driver License, Social Security Card, Birth certificate, Minor's work permit, Utility bill, bank statement, business correspondence specifically naming the person, postmarked envelope ad-

ressed to the person at their mailing address as it appears on the FCC Form 605

- ◆ Any of the following ID numbers: Taxpayer ID (Social Security Number), IRS issued EIN (Employer Information Number), Alternate taxpayer ID Number (ATIN), FCC Issued Registration Number (FRN), FCC Issued Licensee ID Number
- ◆ The **\*\*original\*\*** plus one copy of your FCC license or CSCE (Certificate of Successful Completion of Examination). The original will be returned immediately to you.
- ◆ If applicable, a Physician's Statement if necessary to validate your claim of difficulty at reading, writing or speaking when requesting special assistance.
- ◆ A calculator is recommended and allowed if ALL internal memories are cleared and can be demonstrated free of information. A simple four-function calculator is suggested.
- ◆ One or more black-lead pencils and eraser, and a ball point pen.



*Penn Wireless Association  
P.O. Box 925  
Levittown, PA 19058*



**APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP**

*Personal Information (please print):*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date : \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Home: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

Birth Mo/Day: \_\_\_\_\_ Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_  active  retired

*License Information:*

Call Sign: \_\_\_\_\_ Class:  Novice  Tech  General  Advanced  Extra

Year First Licensed \_\_\_\_\_ Previous Calls: \_\_\_\_\_

*Preferences:*

ARRL Member? \_\_\_\_\_ Other Clubs? \_\_\_\_\_

Bands/Modes Frequently Operated \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Power? \_\_\_\_\_ Portable/Mobile? \_\_\_\_\_

*Favorite Amateur Radio Activities: (note all that apply)*

- |   |  |  |  |
|---|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Antennas       | <input type="checkbox"/> Digital Radio | <input type="checkbox"/> MARS/RACES/ARES | <input type="checkbox"/> QSL Card Collection |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Awards         | <input type="checkbox"/> Education     | <input type="checkbox"/> Net Traffic     | <input type="checkbox"/> Rag Chewing         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CW Morse Code  | <input type="checkbox"/> Field Day     | <input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter      | <input type="checkbox"/> Renewable Energy    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Contesting     | <input type="checkbox"/> Fox Hunting   | <input type="checkbox"/> Projects        | <input type="checkbox"/> Rig Restoration     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> County Hunting | <input type="checkbox"/> Fund Raising  | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Service  | <input type="checkbox"/> _____               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> DX'ing         | <input type="checkbox"/> Hamfest       | <input type="checkbox"/> QRP             | <input type="checkbox"/> _____               |

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

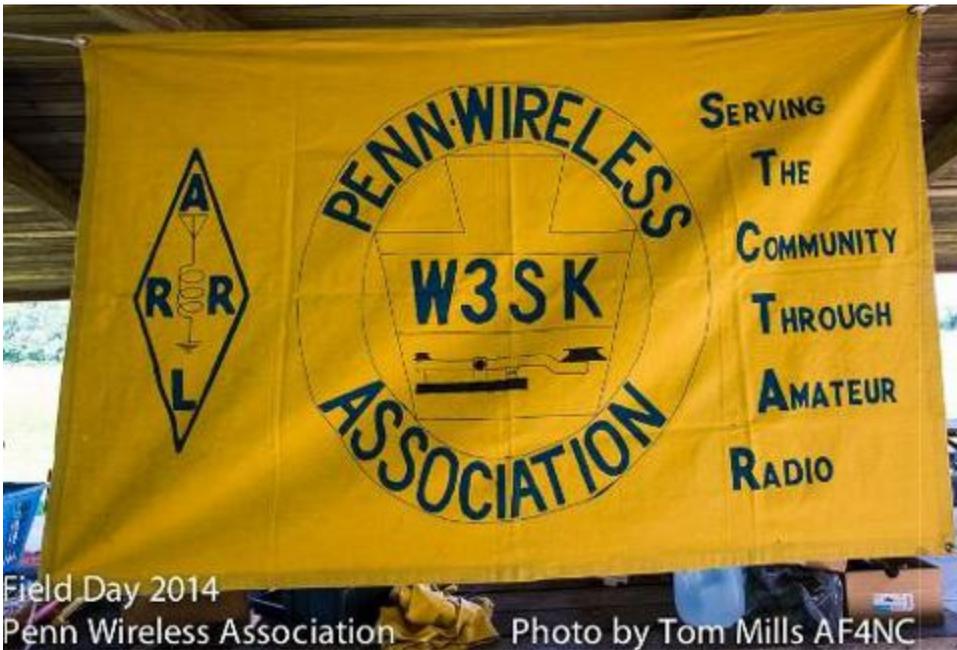
Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Sponsored By: \_\_\_\_\_ Annual Dues Month \_\_\_\_\_

# PENN WIRELESS ASSOCIATION

## Executive Board ...

PRESIDENT	<b>PAUL CEGLIA, N3TMX</b> 610-608-9584	cegtv1@aol.com
VICE PRESIDENT	<b>TOM STAFFORD, KE3QC</b> 215-584-3428	ke3qc@ke3qc.com
RECORDING SECRETARY	<b>JIM PETROSKY, KE3LA</b> 215-943-7654	ke3la@comcast.net
TREASURER	<b>HOWARD RUBIN, N3FEL</b> 267-304-6949	n3fel@arrl.net
CORRESP. SECRETARY	<b>ALEX GROSS, KB3SYY</b> 215-639-8306	kb3syy@yahoo.com



### *Silver Service Award*

Penn Wireless Association sponsors the Silver Service Award to recognize amateurs who have performed outstanding service to their club, their community and Amateur Radio. Nominations are accepted throughout the year and a candidate is selected to be honored at our annual banquet or holiday dinner. Nominations should be mailed to PWA Silver Service, c/o Penn Wireless Association, P.O. Box 925, Levittown, PA 19058.

## PENN WIRELESS ASSOCIATION

*(Continued from page 13)*

most inefficient operations. Just don't let W3SK be one of them. Keep the CQ'ing ultra short. "CQ W3SK GO" – wait a second or two and repeat. Same on answering a call: His call, 5A EPA, go. Too often you'll hear, "I QSL your xxxx" or "Thanks for the contact, good luck in the contest," and more, including his dog's biography. Just ignore – don't even listen – just call CQ again right over him. Like as not you can make a couple good contacts while he is still talking. When you're the CQ'er, which you should be, after getting your contact's message, just say, "Thanks W3SK Go." Nothing more no matter what. But never omit the W3SK part – so says FCC, and

even if they're not listening at the moment we want zero violation.

About phone phonetics: it's W\_3\_Sierra\_Kilo. Don't try to get cute. We want intelligibility. The W part is easy. At times Sky King is a bit shorter and seems to get through without garbles. Fortunately it is an easy call both Phone and CW. Don't screw it up.

Like as not, you've been sitting on a frequency for a while getting a fair rate just calling CQ. Someone else comes real close, or even right on top of you. Just keep calling like he wasn't there. Maybe mention a few times, "This frequency is busy." When there's a lull, or, on CW "QRL Here" – and hope. Often you can keep a

frequency a couple hours with only a few short spells of annoying QRM, but just stick with it.

Conversely, when you find a frequency that looks good, before going full-blast, ask if the frequency is busy a couple of times, or on CW, send QRL? At least 2 or 3 times with a second or two breaks. Frequency stealing is not good sportsmanship, and it's not your own call, it's the PWA call that must be known countrywide as meaning quality operating. One sloppy operator, whether CW or Phone or whatever, for just a short period, can do immeasurable harm to our collective image.

D. Heller, K3TX

### Time to get your ducks in a row



© Tom Mills 2015

**Field Day is a time for amateur radio operators to show the world what grass roots communication is all about.**



## Class 1A

Join PWA at our annual Field Day exercise. Sign up now for a station assignment. Station locations are to be awarded soon (see note.) Don't hesitate, as the best assignments and locations will no longer be available. Field Day committees are forming now. Plan to serve on one or more of the following and help Penn Wireless Association bring out the best exercise

- |                                       |                                       |   |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|
| ✓ <b>GOTA Station / Recruitment</b>   | ✓ <b>Safety / First Aid</b>           | ✓ <b>Field Day Ways and Means</b>       |
| ✓ <b>Antenna Planning / Setup</b>     | ✓ <b>CW, SSB, &amp; Digital Modes</b> | ✓ <b>Power Generator / Distribution</b> |
| ✓ <b>Public Awareness / Relations</b> | ✓ <b>Education/Training</b>           | ✓ <b>Food Planning / Preparation</b>    |

*Note: Station assignment and location options are initially offered to participating band captains of FD 2014. After that, assignments are offered to band captain applicants in descending order of highest license class on a first-come, first served basis. For additional details, contact your Field Day 2015 Chairman, Mark, WA3QVU.*

# PENN WIRELESS ASSOCIATION

## HAMFESTS, AUCTION & CONVENTIONS

<http://www.bara.org>

### May 23

(Saturday) Tinton Falls, NJ - Garden State Amateur Radio Association (GSARA)  
MOESC (Monmouth/Ocean Educational Services) Center, 100 Tornillo Way, GSP Exit 105, Rt. 18 Exit 15 to Wayside Rd south; off the corner of Shafto Rd (Rt. 547) and Wayside Rd  
E-mail: [HAMFEST@GardenStateARA.org](mailto:HAMFEST@GardenStateARA.org)  
<http://www.gardenstateara.org/hamfest>

### May 24

(Memorial Day Weekend) West Friendship, MD - Maryland FM Association (MFMA), Memorial Day Hamfest  
Howard County Fairgrounds, 2210 Fairgrounds Rd, West Friendship, MD; I70 to Exit 80, Rt 32 South to MD Rt. 144 W, one mile West of Rt. 32  
Maryland FM Association  
E-mail: [MarylandFM@verizon.net](mailto:MarylandFM@verizon.net)  
<http://www.marylandfm.org/Hamfest.htm>

### May TBD

(Saturday) Wall Township, NJ - OMARC Tailgate Hamfest  
InfoAge Project Diana Site (former Camp Evans Complex), 1600 Marconi Road, Camp Evans, Belmar (Wall Township), NJ, off Route 18 (Exit 7), near Exit 100 of the Garden State Parkway  
Ocean-Monmouth Amateur Radio Club, Inc  
E-mail: [N2LXM@arrl.net](mailto:N2LXM@arrl.net) or [N2LXM@juno.com](mailto:N2LXM@juno.com)  
<http://www.n2mo.org>

### May TBD

(Saturday) Township of Washington (Bergen County), NJ - Bergen Amateur Radio Association (BARA)  
Westwood Regional High School, 701 Ridgewood Road, Washington Township, NJ 07676  
Bergen Amateur Radio Association,  
E-mail: [hamfest@bara.org](mailto:hamfest@bara.org) or [k2zo@arrl.net](mailto:k2zo@arrl.net)

### June TBD

(Saturday) Lime Ridge (Bloomsburg), PA - Columbia-Montour Amateur Radio Club (CMARC)  
Bloomsburg Hamfest & Computer Show  
E-mail: [N3JPV@verizon.net](mailto:N3JPV@verizon.net)  
<http://www.qsl.net/cm-arc>

### June TBD

(Saturday) Piscataway, NJ - Raritan Valley RC, W2QW Hamfest  
Piscataway High School Lot # 11/12, 100 Behmer Road at Hoes Lane, Piscataway  
Raritan Valley Radio Club, c/o Drew Moore, W2OU, 30 Ethel Rd, Piscataway, NJ 08854  
E-mail: [W2OU@arrl.net](mailto:W2OU@arrl.net)  
<http://www.w2qw.org>

### June 06

Greece (Rochester), NY - Rochester Hamfest and Technology Expo & ARRL Atlantic Division Convention  
Barnard Firemen's Field in Greece, NY  
<http://www.rochesterham.org>

### June 21

(Fathers Day) Upperco (formerly Timonium), MD - BARC, Greater Baltimore Hamboree and Computer Fest  
Arcadia Volunteer Fire Company grounds, 16020 Carnival Avenue, Upperco, MD  
Baltimore Amateur Radio Club  
E-mail: [gbhc2013@yahoo.com](mailto:gbhc2013@yahoo.com) or [w3ft67@yahoo.com](mailto:w3ft67@yahoo.com)  
<http://www.gbhc.org>

### June

(Thurs - Sat) Timonium, MD - Mid-Atlantic Antique Radio Club (MAARC) RadioActivity 2014  
Holiday Inn Timonium, 9615 Deereco Road  
Timonium, Maryland  
Mid-Atlantic Antique Radio Club  
E-mail: [chrisk33@cox.net](mailto:chrisk33@cox.net)  
<http://www.maarc.org>

**X-MITTER  
P.O. BOX 925  
LEVITTOWN, PA 19058**

*If undeliverable as addressed,  
return requested*

