



# MEGAHERTZ TIMES



March 2020

W3AI

PO Box 336, Perkasio, PA 18944

## RF Hill Amateur Radio Club 2020

**President:** KC3HHK,  
Jeff Lapin

**Vice Pres.:** KB3EWV,  
John Morell

**Secretary:** WA3YLQ,  
Jim Soete

**Treasurer:** KC3LXV,  
Jim Reed

**News Editor:** W3WTT, Bill Tribley  
bill@tribley.org

### CLUB INFORMATION

**Mailing address:**  
PO Box 336, Perkasio, PA 18944

**Club Repeaters:** 145.31 MHz; input  
144.71 MHz PL 131.8 (2 meters)  
444.75 MHz, input 449.75 MHz PL  
103.5 (70 cm)

**Meetings:** The club meets at 7:30  
PM on the last Thursday  
of the Month

**Web page:** <http://www.rfhillarc.club>

**Email:** rfhillarc@yahoo.com

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**DEADLINE** for article submission is 10 days before the meeting!  
Send to rfhillarc@yahoo.com



Due to the Covid-19 threat, Peter Becker, as well as most senior living facilities, have closed their campuses to visitors. The administrator at PBC will let us know when that changes.

Be advised that EPA Sec Manager, George Miller, W3GWM, has recommended that EPA Clubs suspend activity until May 1. He cites the fact that many of our members are in the age bracket that is at serious risk.

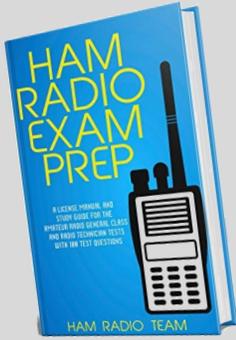
Note that I canceled the VE session for Monday, March 16. I personally notified the one local ham who pre-registered. Three others contacted me Sunday evening to "double check" on the status of the session. The library, in fact, closed Friday (13<sup>th</sup>) for two weeks. Always best to pre-register.

Stay safe and best 73,  
Jim Soete, WA3YLQ, Secretary, RF Hill ARC, VE Team Liaison



RF Hill Amateur Radio Club  
W3AI

# VE TESTING



VE testing for Technician, General and Extra Class licenses is held regularly at the Indian Valley Public Library in Telford:

100 E Church Ave.  
Telford, PA 18969



*The next exam will be*

**May 18, 2020**

**Subject to cancellation—Preregister!**

**Session starts at 6:30 pm sharp**

Bring license or CSCE originals and copies if upgrading,  
2 forms of ID (one photo) for new licenses.

To pre-register or for more information

Contact Jim Soete, WA3YLQ  
215-723-7294 eves./weekends.  
wa3ylq@arrl.net

**The fee is \$15.00**

**Pre-registration is appreciated.**



## Traffic Nets

**SEPPTN traffic nets** are on Sundays & Wednesdays at 8:00 PM local time at 145.310 MHz (-600). These nets are for anyone who would like to learn how to handle traffic as well as an on the air meeting place for members and future members.

**RF Hill A-R-C Ten Meter AM Net:** 29.005MHz on Sunday evening immediately following the SEPPTN

## Net Control Stations

3/29 , 4/1 WA3YLQ	5/17 , 5 KB3DEN
4/5 , 4/8 W3WTT	5/24 , 5/27 WA3YLQ
4/12 , 4/15 KS3Z	5/31 , 6/3 W3WTT
4/19 , 4/22 KB3DEN	6/7 , 6/10 KS3Z
4/26 , 4/29 WA3YLQ	6/14 , 6/17 KB3DEN
5/3 , 5/6 W3WTT	6/21 , 6/24 WA3YLQ
5/10 , 5/13 KS3Z	6/28 , 7/1 W3WTT

Any questions or conflicts, please let me know. If at the last minute, the assigned net control station doesn't show-up, any net control station on frequency should run the net.

Thanks to everyone for your continued support.  
Jim – KB3DEN [KB3DEN@aol.com](mailto:KB3DEN@aol.com)

## AREA NET LISTINGS

SEPPTN Southeastern PA Practice & Traffic Net	Su/W	8 PM	145.31-
EPAEPTN - EPA Emergency Phone/Traffic Net	Daily	6 PM	3.917 +/-
Pennsylvania Traffic Net (CW)	Daily	7,10 PM	3.585
Third Region Net	Daily	4 PM	7.243 (3.917 -alt)
Eastern Area Net (EAN)	Daily	2:30 PM	7.243
Bucks County ARES	W	9 PM	147.090+
Montgomery County ARES	Th	7 PM	146.835- (pl 88.5)
EPA echo link traffic net (EAETN) Echolink AA3RG-R	Th	8 PM	146.640- (pl 82.5)



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# February Meeting Photos



# More February Meeting Photos



# February Meeting Program



*Photos provided by Dave Carroll N2VUZ and Jesse Hagey N3RSG*

# RF Hill ARC Meeting Minutes for February 27, 2020

**Welcome/Call to Order/Pledge to the Flag** – Jeff Lapin, KC3HHK, President

Roll Call 24 ARO's present

## **Officer Reports**

**President** Jeff welcomed all to the meeting. Jeff introduced two non -member visitors, Jim, KJ3P, and Al, W3GD. Jeff reported that the Board is interested in restoring public service type events to the Club calendar. A brief discussion followed.

**Vice President** John, KB3EWV, reported on upcoming programs. Included are “Stump the Experts” in March, and the Club Auction and Sale in April. Programs are planned thru August. John will be looking for fall programs.

**Secretary** Jim Soete, WA3YLQ, reported that the January minutes were published in the MHz Times. A motion to accept the minutes as published was made by KS3Z and seconded by KW3P. Motion carried.

A first reading of the membership application of Vincent Sasso, KC3OTZ, was offered. Vincent lives in the Schwenksville area and passed his Technician exam at a recent RF Hill VE session. Vincent works in software development. His second reading will be at the March meeting.

**Treasurer** Jim Reed, KC3LXV, reported that the books are in order and bills have been paid. He also reported that Board members met with our Bank representative and the checking account and safe deposit box matters are up to date.

## **Committee Reports**

**VE** No report.

**Repeater** Following user comments, Charles, KS3Z, has adjusted the deviation on the W3AI 2 meter repeater.

**Hamfest** WA3YLQ reported that the ARRL has approved our Hamfest on Oct. 18, 2020.

**Auction** WA3YLQ reported that the Auction and sale will be on April 29<sup>th</sup>. Plans are on-going.

**Field Day** KB3EWV reported that plans are on-going. F/D is on June 27 and 28. Set up is on Friday the 26<sup>th</sup>.

**Public Events** KB3EWV led a brief discussion on the types of events that might be of interest to club members. This is an area that the Board would like to pursue.

**MHz Times** no report.

**NETS** KB3DEN reported that SEPPATN had 93 check-ins in January with 9 pieces of traffic passed. WA3NFV reported that the 10 mtr. AM net continues with several stations serving as NCS and typically 8 stations checking-in. Also, many RF Hill members check in to the NPARC 10 mtr. SSB net on Tuesday evenings. Dan encouraged members to look at the gallery of 12 converted CB rigs on the web site.

**Audit Committee** N3EOE reported on the January audit. The committee found all in order. Len offered several suggestions to improve Club audit procedures in the future. A motion to accept the report was made by KS3Z and seconded by W3TFF. Motion carried.

*Continued on the next page ——>*

# Meeting Minutes for February 27, 2020 Continued

**Old Business** None

**New Business** KB3EWV announced that he would be organizing and “antenna day” .A brief discussion followed concerning types of antenna day activity and possible dates. John will post additional information to the reflector.

**Adjournment** Being no further business, by an informal vote from the floor, the meeting was adjourned.

**Program:** “How to Talk Like an Old Timer in Twenty Minutes”, presented by WA3NFV. Thanks Dan!

**Respectfully Submitted:**

Jim Soete, WA3YLQ, Secretary  
RF Hill ARC

# Special Announcement

From George Knodel, AC2NX on 5 February

Bill:

As I explained on the W3AI net the other evening, we will be liquidating the amateur radio equipment for the widow of a recent silent key, WA2BZF, Jim Pitts, at Cherryville Repeater Association's Ham-Fest this coming March 14, 2020, to be held at North Hunterdon High School in Clinton NJ. Go to <https://www.qsl.net/w2cra/> on the internet and click on the link labeled Hamfest for times, directions, and other pertinent information.

Thanks for offering to post this for us. G.

## Inventory of WA2BZF's Gear (SK)

### **In shack (finished room over attached garage):**

(low mileage, hardly, if ever used)

- BTECH UV-50X2 2m/70cm 50W transceiver
- Yaesu FT-2900 2m 75W transceiver
- Yaesu FP-1023 23 ampere switching power supply
- ICOM SP-10 4 ohm, 5W external speaker
- unmarked 2m/70cm mag-mount whip antenna
- Yaesu FT-450D HF/6m 100W transceiver
- Yaesu MD-100 mic w/desk stand
- Astron RS-35A power supply
- LDG YT-450 HF/6m 1W – 100W automatic antenna tuner, 2000 preset memories
- Truline M# 43, 50 ohm, 100W, 2-30MHz directional watt meter
- Mini-load 52 ohm, 500W pep paint can dummy load
- Radio Shack headphones
- AUVIO headphones
- unmarked (economy grade) straight key

### **Outside and in truck in garage:**

- Comet CHA-250BX 6m–80m multi-band 200W vertical antenna w/ xfmr
- Unmarked 10m? 15m? vertical antenna w/ short radials
- Yaesu FT-7900R 2m mobile transceiver
- MFJ 1412 2m/70cm 200W mobile antenna w/clamp-on mount

### **Gathered and spread out on dining room table:**

- 5 ea. Vibroplex bugs – various condition
- Vibroplex Vibrokeyer Deluxe single paddle, dual contact keyer
- DJG-K4 straight key
- Miscellaneous old HTs and other

# MARCH CONTESTS

NSARA Contest	1200Z-1600Z, Mar 1 and 1800Z-2200Z, Mar 1	UBA Spring Contest, 2m Wisconsin QSO Party	0700Z-1100Z, Mar 15 1800Z, Mar 15 to 0100Z, Mar 16
SARL Hamnet 40m Simulated Emerg Contest	1200Z-1400Z, Mar 1	Run for the Bacon QRP Contest	1900Z-2400Z, Mar 15
North Carolina QSO Party	1500Z, Mar 1 to 0059Z, Mar 2	Bucharest Digital Contest	1800Z-2059Z, Mar 16
RSGB 80m Club Championship, Data	2000Z-2130Z, Mar 2	RSGB FT4 Contest Series	2000Z-2130Z, Mar 16
ARS Spartan Sprint	0200Z-0400Z, Mar 3	CLARA Chatter Party	1700Z, Mar 17 to 1700Z, Mar 18
AGCW YL-CW Party	1900Z-2100Z, Mar 3	and	1700Z, Mar 21 to 1700Z, Mar 22
QRP Fox Hunt	0200Z-0330Z, Mar 4	QRP Fox Hunt	0100Z-0230Z, Mar 18
Phone Fray	0230Z-0300Z, Mar 4	Phone Fray	0230Z-0300Z, Mar 18
CWops Mini-CWT Test	1300Z-1400Z, Mar 4 and 1900Z-2000Z, Mar 4 and 0300Z-0400Z, Mar 5 2000Z-2100Z, Mar 4	CWops Mini-CWT Test	1300Z-1400Z, Mar 18 and 1900Z-2000Z, Mar 18 and 0300Z-0400Z, Mar 19
UKEICC 80m Contest	1800Z-1900Z, Mar 5 (CW) and 1900Z-2000Z, Mar 5 (SSB) and 2000Z-2100Z, Mar 5 (FM) and 2100Z-2200Z, Mar 5 (Dig)	NAQCC CW Sprint	0030Z-0230Z, Mar 19
NRAU 10m Activity Contest	2000Z-2200Z, Mar 5	NCCC RTTY Sprint	0145Z-0215Z, Mar 20
SKCC Sprint Europe	0145Z-0215Z, Mar 6	QRP Fox Hunt	0200Z-0330Z, Mar 20
NCCC RTTY Sprint	0200Z-0330Z, Mar 6	NCCC Sprint	0230Z-0300Z, Mar 20
QRP Fox Hunt	0230Z-0300Z, Mar 6	BARTG HF RTTY Contest	0200Z, Mar 21 to 0200Z, Mar 23
NCCC Sprint	0000Z, Mar 7 to 2359Z, Mar 15	Russian DX Contest	1200Z, Mar 21 to 1200Z, Mar 22
Novice Rig Roundup	0000Z, Mar 7 to 2400Z, Mar 8	Virginia QSO Party	1400Z, Mar 21 to 0400Z, Mar 22
ARRL Inter. DX Contest, SSB	0600Z-0629Z, Mar 7 and 0630Z-0659Z, Mar 7 and 0700Z-0729Z, Mar 7 and 0730Z-0800Z, Mar 7	and	1200Z-2400Z, Mar 22
Wake-Up! QRP Sprint	1200Z, Mar 7 to 2400Z, Mar 8	AGCW VHF/UHF Contest	1400Z-1700Z, Mar 21 (144) and 1700Z-1800Z, Mar 21 (432)
SKCC Weekend Sprintathon	1800Z-2059Z, Mar 7 (Low Band)	Feld Hell Sprint	2000Z-2159Z, Mar 21
Open Ukraine RTTY Championship	2100Z-2359Z, Mar 7 (Low Band)	UBA Spring Contest, SSB	0700Z-1100Z, Mar 22
and	0800Z-1059Z, Mar 8 (High Band)	SKCC Sprint	0000Z-0200Z, Mar 25
and	1100Z-1359Z, Mar 8 (High Band)	QRP Fox Hunt	0100Z-0230Z, Mar 25
UBA Spring Contest, CW	0700Z-1100Z, Mar 8	Phone Fray	0230Z-0300Z, Mar 25
WAB 3.5 MHz Phone/CW	1800Z-2200Z, Mar 8	CWops Mini-CWT Test	1300Z-1400Z, Mar 25 and 1900Z-2000Z, Mar 25 and 0300Z-0400Z, Mar 26
4 States QRP Group Second Sunday Sprint	0000Z-0200Z, Mar 9	UKEICC 80m Contest	2000Z-2100Z, Mar 25
QRP Fox Hunt	0100Z-0230Z, Mar 11	RSGB 80m Club Championship, SSB	2000Z-2130Z, Mar 26
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AWA John Rollins Memorial DX Contest	2300Z, Mar 11 to 2300Z, Mar 12	FOC QSO Party	0000Z-2359Z, Mar 28
and	2300Z, Mar 14 to 2300Z, Mar 15	CQ WW WPX Contest, SSB	0000Z, Mar 28 to 2359Z, Mar 29
NCCC RTTY Sprint	0145Z-0215Z, Mar 13	QCX Challenge	1300Z-1400Z, Mar 30 and 1900Z-2000Z, Mar 30 and 0300Z-0400Z, Mar 31
QRP Fox Hunt	0200Z-0330Z, Mar 13		
NCCC Sprint	0230Z-0300Z, Mar 13		
YB DX RTTY Contest	0000Z-2359Z, Mar 14		
RSGB Commonwealth Contest	1000Z, Mar 14 to 1000Z, Mar 15		
South America 10 Meter Contest	1200Z, Mar 14 to 1200Z, Mar 15		
SARL VHF/UHF Analogue Contest	1200Z, Mar 14 to 1000Z, Mar 15		
F9AA Cup, SSB	1200Z, Mar 14 to 1200Z, Mar 15		
AGCW QRP Contest	1400Z-2000Z, Mar 14		
Oklahoma QSO Party	1500Z, Mar 14 to 0200Z, Mar 15		
and	1400Z-2100Z, Mar 15		
Stew Perry Topband Challenge	1500Z, Mar 14 to 1500Z, Mar 15		
EA PSK63 Contest	1600Z, Mar 14 to 1600Z, Mar 15		
TESLA Memorial HF CW Contest	1800Z, Mar 14 to 0559Z, Mar 15		
QCWA QSO Party	1800Z, Mar 14 to 1800Z, Mar 15		
Idaho QSO Party	1900Z, Mar 14 to 1900Z, Mar 15		
QRP ARCI Spring Thaw SSB Shootout	2200Z-2300Z, Mar 14		
North American Sprint, RTTY	0000Z-0400Z, Mar 15		

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