



MEGAHERTZ TIMES



June 2023

W3AI

PO Box 336, Perkasio, PA 18944

RF Hill Amateur Radio Club 2023

President: John Morell KB3EWW

Vice Pres.: Cary Binder NI2Q

Secretary: Unfilled

Treasurer: Tom Dumire K3KKI

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 normally meets at
7:30 PM on the last Thursday of the
Month

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

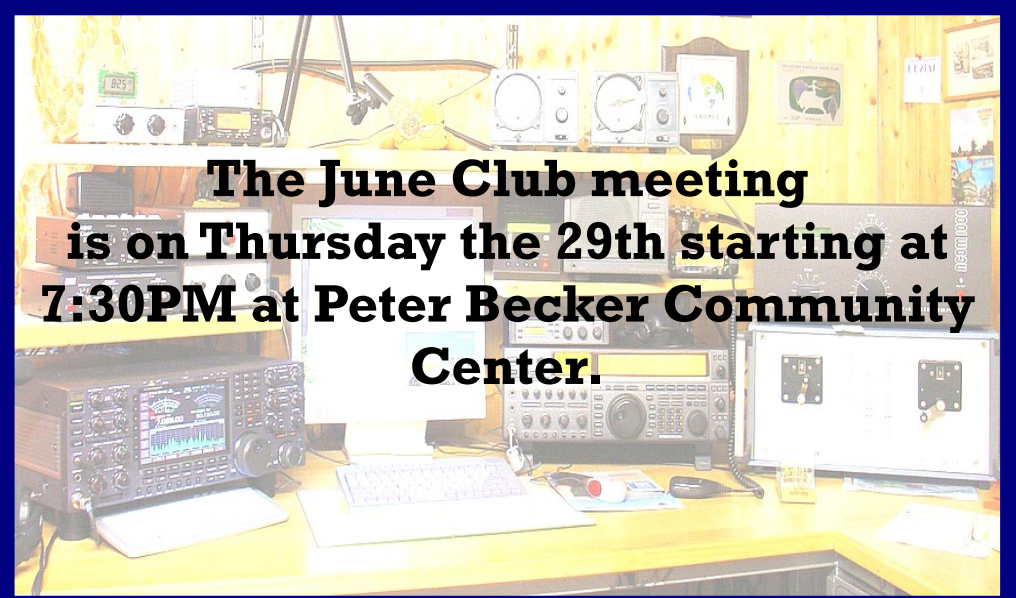
Email: rfhillarc@yahoo.com

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DEADLINE for article submission is 6 days before the meeting! Please submit in Open Office (.odt) or MS Word (.docx) format. No PDFs please!

Send to bill@tribley.org



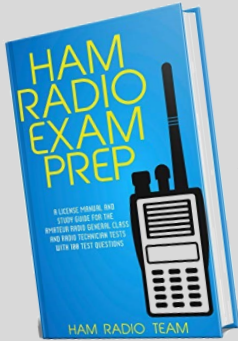
Meeting Program

Club Auction — Cary NI2Q



RF Hill Amateur Radio Club
W3AI

VE TESTING



VE testing for Technician, General and Extra Class licenses is held at 6:00PM at the Indian Valley Public Library in Telford:

100 E Church Ave.
Telford, PA 18969

Scheduled VE Exam Sessions

- July 17
- Sept. 18
- Nov. 20

Direct questions to Kevin KW3P at kw3p@arrl.net or by cell phone at 215-378-6978.



Highlighted 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

RF Hill CW Squad Net: Operates on 28.370.600 CW at approx. 7pm Tuesday stopping before the NPARC net at 8pm. This is a non formal CWs - slow speed - net for beginners and ranges in speed from 5-15 wpm.

Net Control Stations

06/25 NE3I	09/03, 09/06 WA3YLQ
06/28 W3WTT	09/10 NE3I
07/02 NE3I	09/13 W3WTT
07/05 W3WTT	09/17 NE3I
07/09, 07/12 KB3DEN	09/20 W3WTT
07/16, 07/19 WA3YLQ	09/24, 09/27 KB3DEN
07/23 NE3I	10/01, 10/04 WA3YLQ
07/26 W3WTT	
07/30 NE3I	
08/02 W3WTT	
08/06, 08/09 KB3DEN	
08/13, 08/16 WA3YLQ	
08/20 NE3I	
08/23 W3WTT	
08/27 NE3I	
08/30 W3WTT	

Contact Jim KB3DEN with any questions or conflicts. 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

AREA NET LISTINGS

SEPPTN Southeastern PA Practice & Traffic Net	Su/W	8 PM	145.31-
EPAEPTN - EPA Emergency Phone/Traffic Net	Daily	5 PM	3.918 +/-
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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RF Hill SEPPATN May Report

QNI = 95

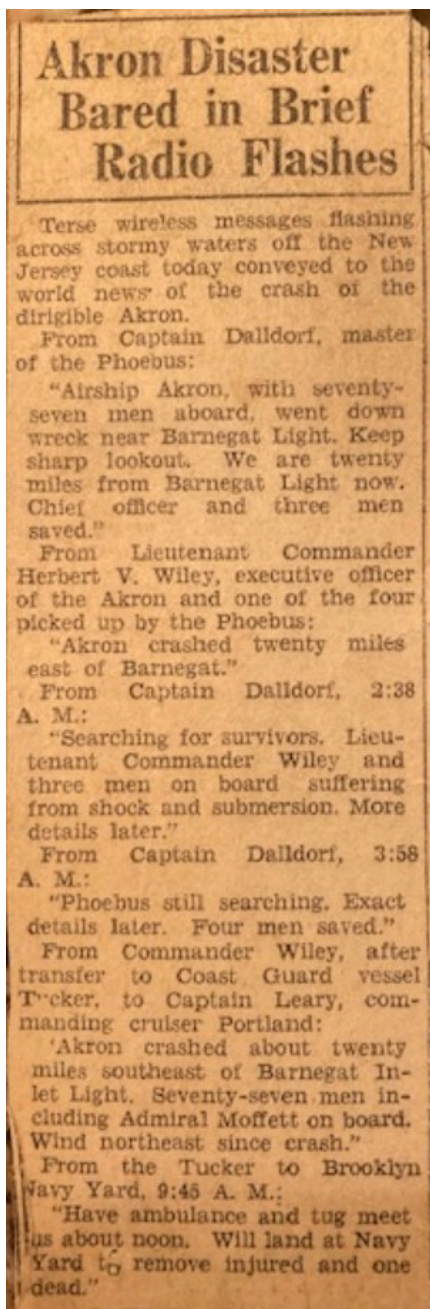
QTC = 4

In 9 Sessions

That's over 10 Check-in's per session!

73's, Jim KB3DEN

Wireless Messages



Looking for some easy reading before bed the other night, I pulled Tom Swift and His Wireless Message (Victor Appleton copyright 1911) from my library. About 50 plus years ago, my Grand-mom gave me multiple original Tom Swift volumes. These are the first generation of Tom Swift stories not, the ones familiar to us as young people in the 1950s and 1960s. I began reading. In this story we are talking about Spark Gap "Radio." Eventually, Tom appears to have saved the day by constructing a "Wireless Machine" on a Caribbean Island and sending "CQD" after a hurricane struck. Anyway, as I was leafing through the book, I came across the attached newspaper clipping that had apparently been residing within the book for 90 years. Research indicated that the Navy's USS Akron Dirigible "Airship" tragically went down in a storm about 20 miles off of Barneget Light in 1933. Of the 77 men on board, one of whom was Admiral Moffet, whom I believe, may have been a Congressional Medal Of Honor recipient from World War One. Only four were saved. I thought that some of you might get a kick out of the circumstances of this find, the messages reported and the USS Akron story. My Mother would have been about 12 and two of my uncles in their early teens in 1933, when a reader apparently placed this clipping within this volume of Tom Swift and His Wireless Message.

—... ..— Griff NE3I

6M Loop Antenna

Hello all,

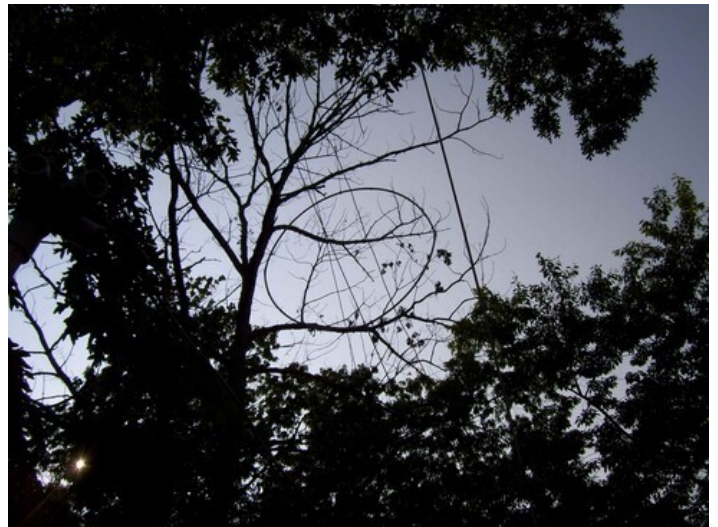
My longtime friend from teen years, Hank, WX3W (ex WA3LZP), recently constructed a 6 meter loop antenna which he hung from tree. So far he is very pleased with the results. Here is his narrative followed by pictures:

Hi Len, here's a pic taken from my bedroom window. Antenna Built using 2 10 ft 1/2 inch pvc using 1/2 couplings to hold the loop together. I used 20ft 1 inch of #12 solid copper wire as antenna fed with 38 3/4 inch of rg59/u stub soldered to rg 58/u to the shack. swr excellent! I made my first contact today, i was 5/9 in Miami, Florida.

73 WX3W

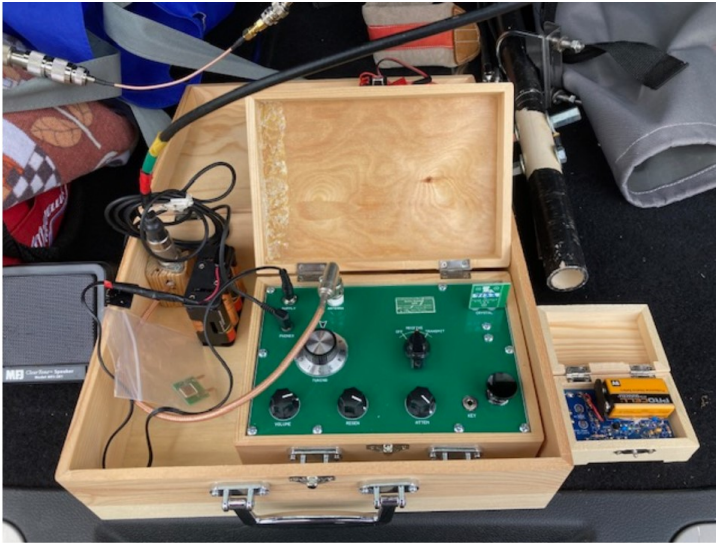
(Additional pictures taken by Hank from the ground)

73, Len N3EOE



FEDS May 21 At Franconia Community Park

The RF Hill Field Expeditionary Deployment Squad, "FEDS", deployed to Franconia Community Park on Sunday, May 21, 2023. The 2 hour outing practiced and tested various portable field antenna structures, radios and auxiliary power equipment on 2, 10, 15, 17, 20 and 40 Meters. Though a little windy, it was a beautiful afternoon to be "In the Field" doing real radio. RF Hill Members Dan, WA3NFV, Len, N3EOE, Gene, W2GXR and Griff, NE3I were on site.



Griff's Bayou Jumper ("BJ"), 5 Watt replica World War Two Para-Set made a QSO on 7.030 MHz with a station in Cape Cod, Massachusetts using the ARRL's version of a 40 End Fed Half Wave antenna. Note the 7.030 MHz Crystal and the "Crystal Spotter" with 9 volt battery along side. The Crystal Spotter is used by pressing the two legs of the Crystal down on the two contacts shown to the immediate left of the 9 volt battery. (There is tiny switch on the underside.) This causes the Crystal Spotter to oscillate on the Crystal's frequency and, in the receive position, the BJ can then be tuned to what will be its transmitting frequency using that Crystal. The BJ's excellent receiver has a 150 KHZ tuning range on 40 Meters. The other Crystal shown (by the 8x1.5 volt battery power source) is for 7.122 MHz, a favorite frequency for BJ Operators and the 4 States QRP Club, the origin of the BJ and other kits.



Gene, W2GXR, made several DX and U.S. CW QSOs with his End Fed 43 Foot Vertical on 17 and 20 Meters.



Dan, WA3NFV analyzing his Solar Panel charging system with Len, N3EOE looking on at the WA3NFV TV Tray 10 Meter Vertical and Station. Dan also show cased his new charger/controller and its multitude of connection leads and adapters. In the interim, Len made his first CW QSO using his new Yaesu FT 991 (with Griff, NE3I and the Bayou Jumper) and also worked a station in Argentina using a Mag-Mount Vertical and only 20 watts on 10 SSB.

FEDS May 21 continued...



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All FEDS May 21 photos and text courtesy Griff NE3I

FEDS May 29 at Markey Park

Sunday of the Memorial Day holiday weekend, a skeleton RF Hill ARC Field Expeditionary Deployment Squad, “FEDS” crew deployed to Markey Park, West Rock Hill Township, Bucks County, PA. Their primary mission was to determine whether or not the AC Line Noise interference discovered in an earlier visit was still present. Such interference could significantly impair the RF Hill Field Day planned for June.

Len, N3EOE and Griff, NE3I, scanned HF frequencies and other bands and did not detect any appreciable AC Line Noise interference while on site. Meanwhile, Lloyd, W3LMR, set up his Radio Amateur apparatus. Thereafter, Lloyd, Griff and Dan, WA3NFV (from home), received signal reports from a station in Banger, Maine on 29.005 AM. Len and Lloyd followed up with an experiment using their 10 Meter Quarter Wave mobile antennas with tuners and made successful QSOs on 20 Meters. Griff worked about a dozen stateside and European Qs on 15 Meter in the CQ WPX CW Contest.

The photos below depict W3LMR’s “Mega Coil Mag Mount Vertical” and the NE3I 15 Meter End Fed Half Wave Wire Vertical employed in those operations.

73. Griff NE3I



FEDS June 4 at Hilltown Park

On June 4, 2023 the Field Ops/FEDS activity was held at Hilltown Park, Upper Bucks County, PA. With temperature in the 70's with light wind it was a delightful day for portable operation. A total of 9 participants expeditiously deployed various antennas and rigs, then working the 40M through 6M bands. A good deal of testing of rigs and antennas, socializing, as well as contacts were made. A very successful outing. Looking forward to many more of these events in the future.

Len N3EOE



FEDS June 11 at Franconia Community Park



Griff NE3I's push up mast supporting the 6 Meter "Hamstick" Style Dipole and 2 Meter Halo antennas that were used for a QRP Portable entry in the ARRL 2023 June VHF Sweepstakes. Operations on 6 and 2 Meters and 70 CM yielded 27 contacts in 11 grids. The Halo was effective on both 144 and 432 MHz (40 Meter Dipole Rule), HI.



Dan WA3NFV seated before his 10 Meter TV Tray Radio and Antenna with Vincent W3OTZ and his wife, Bernadette looking on.



Gene W2GXR enjoying CW on 40.

All FEDS June 11 photos and text courtesy Griff NE3I

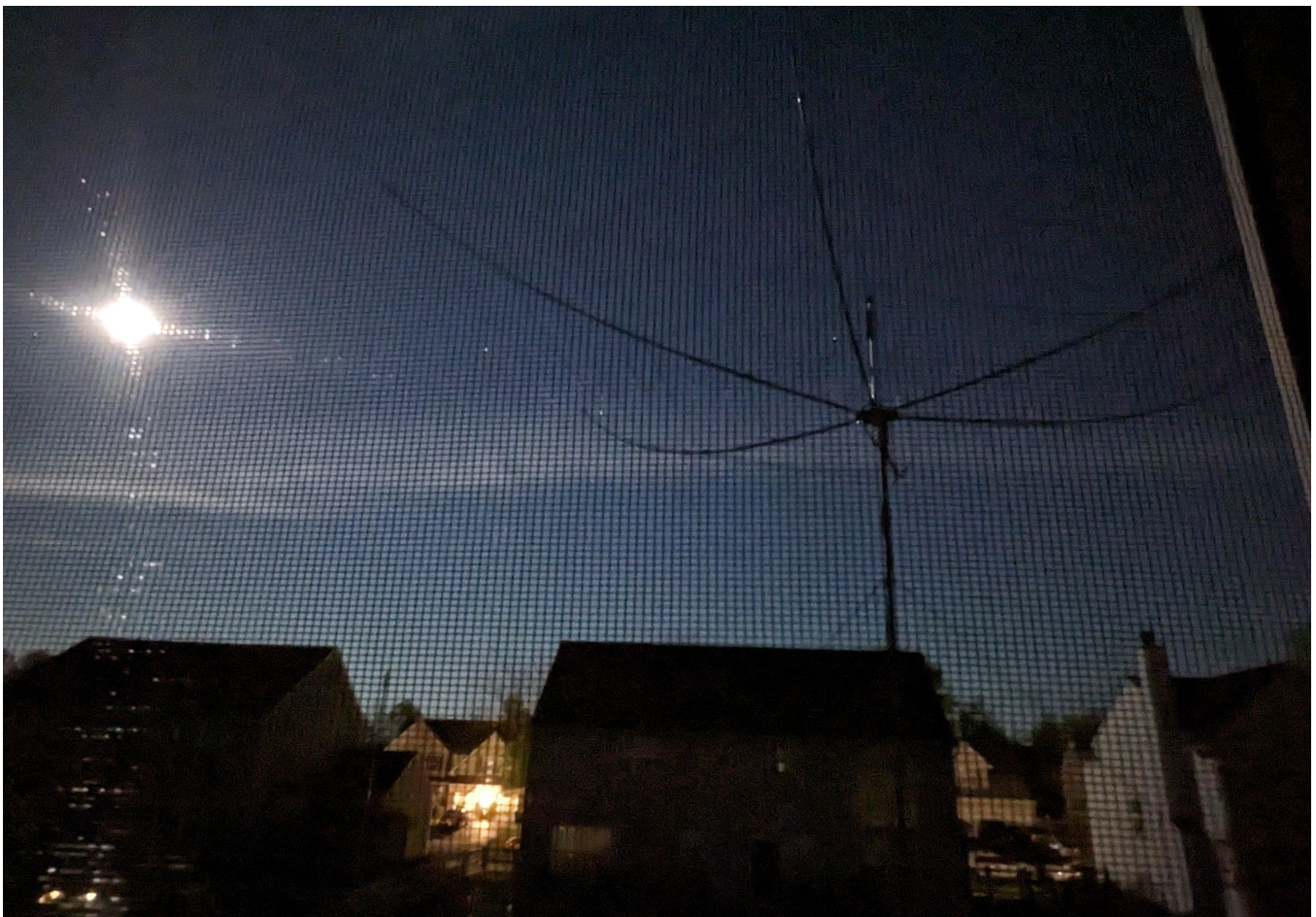
Upcoming POTA Opportunities

The two remaining POTA events are July 8, and August 19; all Saturday mornings from 9 am to 1 pm. The individual participants will decide what modes, bands, and frequencies they will use to demonstrate their setups.

I will encourage each participant to post their callsign, mode, frequency on the POTA app along with the Washington Crossing Park number, K-1634, once they are actively CQ'ing Hunters. The Operators become successful Activators once they have 10 QSOs at the Park. Depending on the band conditions, many options and modes are available.

The Hunters will need to go on the POTA site: <https://parksontheair.com> to find us and make the QSOs with Stations at the Park.

- Mike KD2ZZA, tel. 908-892-3016 at the request of George AC2NX as discussed on SEPPATN



Night view of the Hex Beam at about 30 feet.

– Cary NI2Q
