



# MEGAHERTZ TIMES

February 2025

W3AI

PO Box 336, Perkasio, PA 18944

## R F Hill

### Amateur Radio Club 2024

President: Cary Binder, NI2Q

Vice President: Jim Soete, WA3YLQ

Secretary: Jim Reed, KC3LXV

Treasurer: Tom Dumire, K3KKI

News Editor: KS3Z, Charles Schmell  
ks3z@comcast.net

#### 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](mailto:rfhillarc@yahoo.com)

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of the R F Hill Amateur Radio Club, Inc.  
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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 [ks3z@comcast.net](mailto:ks3z@comcast.net)



## February Club Program

### RF Hill Repeater Night

Our meeting this month is dedicated to all things REPEATER. Subjects of discussion include: W3AI Technical Spec's, repeater operating procedures, a "directory" of local repeaters, "Rules of the Road", and PROGRAMING. If you have a Handheld (HT) that is a challenge to program, bring it to this meeting and one of our self-proclaimed "experts" will give you some tips. W3AI/R gets lonely during the day. Let's generate some traffic! Hope to see a few HT's at the meeting!

73 Jim, WA3YLQ

### 2025 Officers

*Congratulations to our 2025 Officers:*

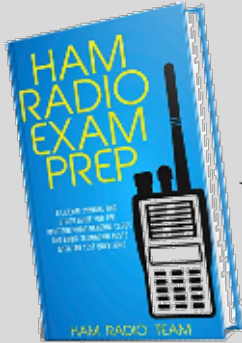
Cary, NI2Q-*President*

Jim, WA3YLQ-*Vice President*

Jim, KC3LXV-*Treasurer*

There's still time to volunteer to be Secretary  
and take the minutes. It's relatively easy and fun!

# VE TESTING



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

100 E Church Ave.  
Telford, PA 18969



## Scheduled VE Exam Sessions

### 2025 Dates:

March 17

May 19

July 21

September 15

November 17

*Preregistration required so candidates  
know what to bring.*

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



## Club 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:** 29.005 MHz on Sunday  
evening immediately following the SEPPTN

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

## SEPPATN Net Control Stations

02/26 KW3P	03/19 KW3P
03/02 KB3DEN	03/23 KB3DEN
03/05 KB3DEN	03/26 KB3DEN
03/09 WA3YLQ	03/30 WA3YLQ
03/12 KW3P	04/02 KW3P
03/16 WA3YLQ	

Contact Jim KB3DEN with any questions or con-  
flicts. 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	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)
NPARC 10 meter net	Tu	8 PM	28.370 USB



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Follow us today!

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<http://twitter.com/W3AI>





**K3WW presentation at the January Meeting!**

## 2025 Dues Are Now Due

Your dues payment is expected no later than the January meeting. Please fill out this form and return it with your payment at a Club meeting or by mail: RF Hill ARC  
PO Box 336 Perkasi, PA 18944. The 2025 dues rates are **\$25.00** per year for regular membership, and **\$12.50** for Retired members and students. No dues required for Life Members.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Call Sign \_\_\_\_\_  
CIRCLE DUES PAID: \$25.00 \$12.50 Life Member  
CHECK ONE: \_\_\_\_\_ No Changes to my info. **(do not go further)**

**\*\*\* ONLY COMPLETE THIS FORM BELOW IF YOU WISH TO INDICATE CHANGES TO YOUR PERSONAL INFO. \*\*\***

E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

License Class \_\_\_\_\_ ARRL Member YES No

ARES/RACES Member ? YES NO

My Contact info may be shared with MEMBERS YES NO

Note: Your Call Book/ULS address will be considered your address of record.

**OPTIONAL DONATION** to support the W3AI Repeater  
and Club operations. Amount enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_ .

# RF Hill ARC January Meeting Minutes

## RF Hill ARC Meeting January 2025 minutes

Date 01/30/2025

**Welcome/Call to Order/Pledge to the Flag** – Cary, NI2Q

**Roll Call** 23 ARO's and 1 XYL present.

### **Officer Reports:**

**President** Cary, NI2Q reported: The Board has begun Hamfest preparations. Tonight, there is a Donation jar for the Pennridge FISH donation.

**Vice President** Jim, WA3YLQ reported: tonight's program will be on DXing presented by Chas Fulp, K3WW. Future programs include February, Repeater night; March, Skywarn, Part 2, with Lou Ruh, WX3I; May, Field Day planning and POTA. Jim gave a brief explanation of the ARRL digital issues available online. "On the Air" is his favorite. Excellent for those new to the Hobby.

Jim will begin working on the paperwork for Hamfest. The Board will be discussing Hamfest preparations.

**Secretary** Jim, KC3LXV reported: The Club received a thankyou note from PBC for our recent donation. Steve, K3ALV, offered a correction to the November ('24) Club Minutes. The vertical antenna available from Irv Fisher's estate is 40 through 6 meters. not 6 meters only. Correction made. November minutes were printed in MHz Times. A motion to accept minutes, as corrected, was made by WQ3Z, seconded by N3QQT. Motion carried.

**Treasurer** Tom, K3KKI, reported that all accounts are up to date. The Club has 30 paid members and 4 life members. More dues payments are expected. A motion to accept the Treasurer's report was made by NQ3T, seconded by N3EOE. Motion carried.

### **Committee Reports**

**Audit Committee** Len, N3EOE, reported that the Committee has found the Club financial records to be in good standing. Len commended Tom, K3KKI on his accurate maintenance of the Clubs records over the past two years. WQ3Z initiated a round of applause for Tom's efforts and all joined in. Thankyou Tom!

**Repeater** KS3Z reported repeater operation is normal.

MHz Times No report. Articles welcomed.

**SEPPATN** Report published in MHz Times. The Net manager, KB3DEN, reported some drop off in activity, however the operation continues Sunday and Wednesday evenings.

**Feds (Sun PM)** WA3NFV reported no activity during cold wx.

**VE** The VE report was printed in MHz Times. Kevin, KW3P reported that at the last session, new Ham and Member, Tyler Smith, KD3AAC, upgraded to General Class. Congratulations Tyler! (He celebrated with a New Rig! Ed.)

**Field Day** Board will begin planning.

**Hamfest** Board will begin planning.

**Old Business** NONE

### **New Business Election for Officers**

The Nominating Committee has produced the following slate of officer candidates for 2025. Nominees are for: President, Cary, NI2Q; Vice President. Jim, WA3YLQ; Treasurer, Jim, KC3LXV. The Office of Secretary is open.

NI2Q asked for nominations from the floor. There were none. WQ3Z made a motion to close the nominations and to direct the Secretary to cast a single vote electing the Nominees. Motion was second and motion carried. Congratulations to our 2025 Officers!

If any member has an interest in joining the Club leadership team as Secretary, or has questions about the duties of that position, contact an officer for more information. (Ed.)

**Adjournment** Being no further business, a motion was made to adjourn and unanimously approved by membership present.

**Program:** Charlie Fulp, K3WW, presented a most interesting program which included an introduction to DXing and a sharing of his experiences as an accomplished DXer and Contester. Thanks Chas!

**Respectfully Submitted:**

Jim Soete, WA3YLQ, *Recorder*

# RF Hill SEPPATN December Report

RF HILL SEPPTN Report January 2025

QNI = 72

$$\text{QTC} = 3$$

## In 9 Sessions

That's a little over 9 Check-in's per session.

Thanks!

73's

Jim – KB3DEN

**Net Controls needed! See Jim, KB3DEN or an officer!**



<b>THE AMERICAN RADIO RELAY LEAGUE</b> <h1 style="margin: 0;">RADIOGRAM</h1> <p>VIA AMATEUR RADIO</p>							
NUMBER	PRECEDENCE	HX	STATION OF ORIGIN	CHECK	PLACE OF ORIGIN	TIME FILED	DATE
TO _____      TELEPHONE NUMBER _____   <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>					THIS RADIO MESSAGE WAS RECEIVED AT AMATEUR STATION _____ PHONE _____ NAME _____ STREET ADDRESS _____ CITY, STATE, ZIP _____		
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <span>REC'D</span> <span>FROM</span> <span>DATE</span> <span>TIME</span> <span>SENT</span> <span>TO</span> <span>DATE</span> <span>TIME</span> </div>							
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 48%;">             THIS MESSAGE WAS HANDLED FREE OF CHARGE BY A LICENSED AMATEUR RADIO OPERATOR, WHOSE ADDRESS IS SHOWN IN THE BOX AT RIGHT ABOVE. AS SUCH MESSAGES ARE HANDLED SOLELY FOR THE PLEASURE OF OPERATING, NO COMPENSATION CAN BE ACCEPTED BY A "HAM" OPERATOR. A RETURN MESSAGE MAY BE FILED WITH THE "HAM" DELIVERING THIS MESSAGE TO YOU. FURTHER INFORMATION ON AMATEUR RADIO MAY BE OBTAINED FROM ARRL HEADQUARTERS, 225 MAIN STREET, NEWINGTON, CT 06111           </div> <div style="width: 48%;">             THE AMERICAN RADIO RELAY LEAGUE, INC. IS THE NATIONAL MEMBERSHIP SOCIETY OF LICENSED RADIO AMATEURS AND THE PUBLISHER OF QST MAGAZINE. ONE OF ITS FUNCTIONS IS PROMOTION OF PUBLIC SERVICE COMMUNICATION AMONG AMATEUR OPERATORS. TO THAT END, THE LEAGUE HAS ORGANIZED THE NATIONAL TRAFFIC SYSTEM FOR DAILY NATIONWIDE MESSAGE HANDLING.           </div> </div>							



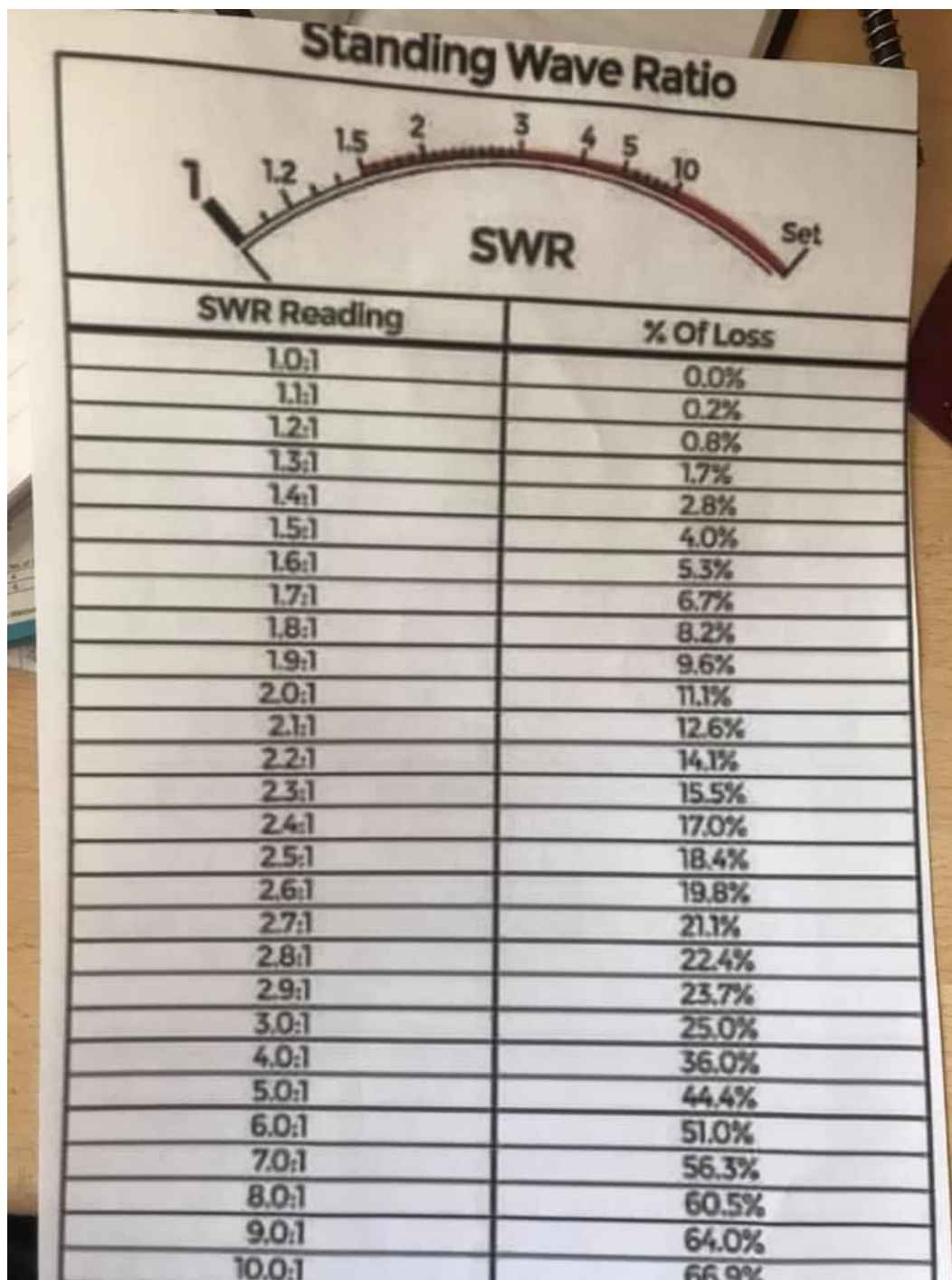
# RF Hill VE session

Next session is March 17, 2025.

Kevin is looking for VE's interested in helping out at the exam sessions. He is getting only about three VE's helping on a regular basis, and more VE's would be a help. Contact us if you need help in gaining VE certification.

Thank you!

Kevin Woolard, KW3P, Secretary, ARCC, VE Liason RF Hill ARC



## DX Opportunities Abound Around ARRL International DX Contest

With Solar Cycle 25 still at peak conditions, and several popular contests this time of year, there have been some interesting, if not totally rare, DX opportunities on the HF bands. Spots have been flying on DX club email reflectors this week. VK9XU on Christmas Island, V73WW on Marshall Island, 5N9DTG in Nigeria, KH7AL/KH9 on Wake Island, and 7Q2MM in Malawi have all been noted, among many others.

The featured DXpedition timeline on [DX-World.net](http://DX-World.net) shows a number of interesting opportunities to add to the logbook totals in the next several weeks. A full slate of operators is fanned out around the world for the [ARRL International DX Contest](http://ARRL International DX Contest). The CW portion was this past weekend, and the phone weekend starts March 1 at 0000z.

“Getting on the air and being familiar with current propagation conditions is a great way to prepare for contests,” said ARRL Contest Program Manager Paul Bourque, N1SFE. Contest activity is on an upward trend with the peaking solar cycle. Bourque hopes more entrants brings an even higher level of excitement to the contest. “Last year,” he noted, “we saw a record number of logs submitted. I hope even more operators participate this year. You don’t have to be a big gun to be part of it. Everyone is welcome, hopefully the solar cycle will give even modest stations like mine access to a global playing field.”

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## Signals Newsletter – ARRL EPA SECTION

The link below contains instructions to subscribe to postings from the ARRL EPA distribution system including “Signals” the bi-monthly newsletter.

<https://epa-arrrl.org/signals-newsletter/>

73, Griff NE3I

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### Special update:

We now have a pair of Possums!

Twinkletoes and Shadow!

Did see their shadows on Feb 2.

WX report as accurate as the Groundhog. (sorry, Phil)

Charles, KS3Z





# EZ Pix

Some pictures copied from EZ Pix by Lamar, K3UCI

