



FEEDBACK



Web Site k3dn.org

Warminster Amateur Radio Club

October 2013

Next Meeting October 3rd, 2013 – Tower Safety

President's Message

Fall has truly arrived with cool mornings and pleasantly warm days. Great days for outside antenna work, or just about any outdoor activity. September 22nd also brought the Vernal Equinox when the sun is over the equator and Autumn begins in the northern hemisphere. It's also a great time for Dx'ing with good propagation into Asia. It's also the official beginning of Contest season. Here are just a few of the big contests being held in late September through October.

- CQ WW DX RTTY Contest is September 28th through 29th
- Pennsylvania QSO Party is October 12th through 13th
- CQ WW SSB DX contest is October 26th through 27th

A good source for contest can be found at <http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/contestcal.html>

On September 14th we opened the Club station at the Senior Citizens Center for the UHF/VHF contest. Including myself, we had 5 operators participate in the setting up and making contacts; George, N3HBT, Rich K3BFS, George KA3WXV and Bob KB3QAJ. George, KA3WXV brought his radio and we made 51 contacts in 29 Grids working stations on 2M, 440, 220 and 6M. The most active band was 6 Meters. This was an opportunity for us to see what participation we would get if we upgraded the club station and opened for more club activity. Granted this was a limited contest and our club station was opened on a major religious holiday. Before the club spends the money to upgrade the station, I would like to see much more activity. Hopefully someone will volunteer to open up the station for the PA QSO Party in October.

We also have a lot of Public Service events happening in October including the BCARES simulated emergency test on October 12th, Warminster Five Ponds Golf outing on Columbus Day - October 14th and Covered Bridge Race on October 20th.

Our October 3rd club meeting will feature Phil, K3TUF, on Tower Safety.

I look forward to seeing everyone at the October meeting.

73's - Irwin KD3TB

WARC MEETING MINUTES – September 5, 2013

- Meeting called to order 7:30 pm
- Round of Introductions
- K3ZMA noted membership database is being passed around.
- Frank of the DVRA promoted their hamfest, Sept. 14 in West Windsor, NJ. Held at Slayback Rd & Rte 571.
- License upgrades – No report
- Minutes of Last meeting – approved
- Treasurers report – as given

(Continued on page 2)

- Tonight's program – Homebrew, Science fair style.
 - October – open
 - November – open
 - December – Holiday Dinner
- Discussion – possible future programs
- Membership – K3ZMA – 154 total members, includes 31 alumni members
- Public Service
 - N3 HBT – October 14, hole in one golf outing, 5 Ponds. – 8:30 AM
 - November 18 – Canal Marathon –Washington Crossing > New Hope
 - W3ICC noted that the Covered Bridge Bike ride is October 20
 - Karl, K3 KH noted that the BCARES meeting is Sept. 10
 - Saturday, 9 – 28 Flu Drill
 - Sunday, 10 – 6 Phila. ARES Simulated Emergency test
 - October 12 – Bucks county simulated emergency test
 - November 19 – Limerick Drill
- Classes – KA3 WXV – Technician classes begin September 9 and run for 8 weeks, 7-9pm
- VE testing – no session in August
- Repeater – N3 EXA – running well and functioning, but a lack of activity.
- Good and Welfare – contact KD3TC if a card is needed
- Publicity – KB3PCX – Bernice noted that the classes were announced on WRDV
- Old Business – None
- New Business – Club Station – No activity
- Constitution – No activity
- KB3MTW noted that the VHF contest is September 14 – 15, on 6 meters and up. KA3WXV noted that the club station will be open Saturday September 14, 2-6 PM for the VHF contest.
- Break for Refreshments-----
- Dan – K3 NXX noted that there is a rocket launch from Wallops Island VA scheduled Friday night at 11:27 PM. Should be visible from this area.
- Business Meeting Adjourned

TECHNOLOGY: "AMBIENT BACKSCATTER" COULD POWER DEVICES IN THE FUTURE

University of Washington <<http://www.washington.edu/>&?Z> researchers believe we may be one step closer to an "Internet-of-things" reality. UW engineers have created a new wireless communication system that allows devices to interact with each other without relying on batteries or wires for power. Using something they call "ambient backscatter" <<http://abc.cs.washington.edu/>>," these devices can interact with users and communicate with each other without using batteries. They exchange information by reflecting or absorbing existing radio signals. Two devices communicate by reflecting the existing signals to exchange information. The researchers built small, battery-free devices with antennas that can detect, harness and reflect a television signal, which then is picked up by other similar devices. The technology could enable a network of devices and sensors to communicate with no power source or human attention needed.

"We can repurpose wireless signals that are already around us into both a source of power and a communication medium," said lead researcher Shyam Gollakota <<http://homes.cs.washington.edu/%7Egshyam/>>, a UW assistant professor of computer science and engineering. "It's hopefully going to have applications in a number of areas including wearable computing, smart homes and self-sustaining sensor networks."

The researchers published their results at the Association for Computing Machinery's Special Interest Group on Data Communication <<http://www.sigcomm.org/>> August 2013 conference <<http://conferences.sigcomm.org/sigcomm/2013/index.php>> in Hong Kong. Their research received the conference's "Best Paper" award. "Our devices form a network out of thin air," said co-author Joshua Smith <<http://sensor.cs.washington.edu/jrs.html>>, a UW associate professor of computer science and engineering and of electrical engineering. "You can reflect these signals slightly to create a Morse code of communication between battery-free devices."

The original article and video <<http://databaseserver.mistermail.nl/t/1362160/36554732/338450/0/>> are on the UW website. For more information, contact Gollakota and Smith at abc@cs.washington.edu. -- The University of Washington
Courtesy of the ARRL Newsletter

FOR SALE

From a SK WARC member estate sale Astron RS-35M (with volt and amp meters) 35 amp P/S in relatively good condition (few scratches on cabinet).

As far as I know, it works well (put a voltmeter on +/- terminals and it reads a steady 13.8 VDC. I did not test it under a load.

ASKING: \$75 (new ones sell for \$180 and up)

73

Bob Wilderman, K3SRO

dlrwild1@verizon.net

(215) 872-2511 cell

(215) 997-6551 home

Antenna program**FUNDAMENTALS OF ANTENNA MEASUREMENTS IN AN ANECHOIC CHAMBER-NEW!**

Date: Friday, Nov. 8

Time: 10 AM (must pre-register)

Fees: FREE!

Location: Anechoic Chamber 300 E. Bristol Road, Warminster. Entrance will be from the Penn State gate on Bristol Road.

The most common use for an anechoic chamber is the frequency measurement of antenna performance. The staff of the Penn State Anechoic Chamber will present an informative talk on the fundamentals of antenna measurements and will show some basic antennas and how they work, as well as provide a demonstration of an actual antenna measurement.

Space restrictions limit group to 20 people. Call the Warminster Parks and Recreation office at 215-443-5428 to register.

George N3HBT

UHF/VHF Contest from the Club Station on September 14th

George, KA3WXV (on the microphone), Rich, K3BFS (logging) and Bob KB3QAJ (in the background)

TECHNOLOGY: MARS OKAYS HF TRANSMISSION METHODS STUDY FOR PROPAGATION FAILURES

At its meeting in Atlanta, Georgia, September 17-19, US Army MARS <<http://www.netcom.army.mil/mars/>> national leadership approved a study of HF transmission methods for use in extreme propagation failures, and it invited nominations for an IT specialist to coordinate such a project. Program Officer Paul English, WD8DBY, who presided, addressed the need for an HF mode capable of high penetration through adverse conditions, such as an extreme solar event or other potentially catastrophic situation in which HF reception suddenly blacked out.

A leader, hearing no radio activity anywhere, would need to launch a beacon signal informing anyone who manages to hear it where an emergency net would be called up once propagation returned. Some discussion involved existing weak-signal digital modes such as JT65 <<http://hfink.com/jt65/>> and WSJT <<http://physics.princeton.edu/pulsar/K1JT/>> and possible limitations under disaster conditions with unstable power sources. The region directors voted to pursue a solution.

The Atlanta gathering of region directors and HQ staff adjourned after three days that included installation of a new headquarters training coordinator and preparation for a major national exercise <http://www.arrl.org/news/mars-branches-to-join-in-national-communication-exercise> November 3-5 with participation by Air Force and Navy-Marine Corps MARS members. Read more <<http://www.arrl.org/news/mars-okays-hf-transmission-methods-study-for-propagation-failures>>.

US Army MARS via Bill Sexton, N1IN

Courtesy of the ARRL Newsletter

SOLAR UPDATE

Tad "Ain't No Sunspots" Cook, K7RA, Seattle, Washington, reports:

Our sun is still very quiet, but solar flux and sunspot numbers were higher this week than the week previous. Average daily sunspot numbers rose from 42.3 to 75.6, and average daily solar flux rose from 95.3 to 109.6. There were no big geomagnetic events this week.

Predicted solar flux:

- 110 on September 26-October 1
- 105 on October 2
- 95 on October 3-5
- 100, 105 and 100 on October 6-8
- 95 on October 9-10
- 100, 105 and 100 on October 11-13
- 95 on October 14-15
- ...and all the way down to 90 on October 16-19.

Predicted planetary A index:

- 5 on September 26-28
- 8, 10, 12 and 8 on September 29-October 2
- 5 on October 3-9
- 8 on October 10-11
- 5 on October 12-13
- 8, 10 and 8 on October 14-16
- 5 on October 17-19.

Courtesy of the ARRL Newsletter

CLUB INFO

PUBLIC SERVICE

September 28 - 29 – MS 150
 Columbus Day - Warminster Golf outing at 5 Ponds golf course
 October 20 - Covered Bridge Bike ride
 November 18- Bucks County marathon.
 November 28 Thanksgiving Day – 5 k run in Newtown – W3GAD

CLUB STATION

The WARC club station is open to anyone with an interest, on Tuesday evenings between the hours of 7:00 and 9:00 pm. For further information, call George Brechmann N3HBT at 215-443-5656.

WARC ALUMNI MEMBERSHIP

An Alumni membership category is available for WARC members who are unable to attend meetings and club activities on a regular basis because of health considerations, travel impediments, or other hardships. Dues for the Alumni membership are \$10.00 annually. Please contact the Membership Committee for more information if interested."

ATTENTION MEMBERS

The Membership Committee can provide Club badges. Two types are available: an engraved plastic callsign and name badge for \$5 or a free, laminated plastic, photo ID badge/card. The photo id badge is included with your membership when a facial photo is provided by you. Please see members' photos on club website for proper facial composition. If you do not have at least a Warminster Amateur Radio Club badge with your picture on it, please contact your Membership Chairs at the WARC monthly meetings. Otherwise, please contact Membership by email at: membership@k3dn.org.

If you want to have your picture taken to be placed on the 'Members' Photos' section of the www.k3dn.org website, please contact Membership with your interest. When we get enough people who are interested we will post a notice in Feedback and have a camera ready at the following club meeting.

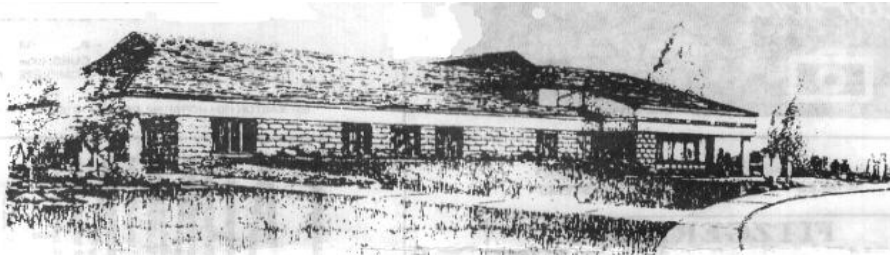
PROGRAMS 2013

October – Tower Safety
 November -
 December - Holiday Dinner

The Club Station - K3DN - is located at the Benjamin Wilson Senior Center, Delmont Avenue, Warminster, PA. The station is open for club members and the interested general public on non-holiday Tuesday evenings from 7 to 9 pm . The station is fully operational on HF (80 meters through 10 meters) both phone and CW. There is an assortment of amateur radio shareware which may be copied under the shareware licensing agreement.

For additional information on the Club Station please call the Station Manager N3HBT - George at 215-443-5656.

- **WARC Meetings are held the first Thursday of each month at 7:30 pm at the Benjamin Wilson Senior Center, Delmont Avenue, Warminster, PA. Talk in is available on the 147.09 & 443.950 repeaters.**



2013 Contest Calendar

October

21-25 School Club Roundup
26-27 EME 50-1296 MHz-Round 1

November

2-4 Nov. Sweepstakes – [CW](#)
16-17 EME 50-1296 MHz-Round 2
16-18 Nov. Sweepstakes – [Phone](#)

December

6-8 60 Meter
14-15 10 Meter
22 Rookie Roundup–[CW](#)

QSO Parties

California 1600Z, Oct 5 to 2159Z, Oct 6
Pennsylvania 1600Z, Oct 12 to 2200Z, Oct 13
Arizona 1600Z, Oct 12 to 2359Z, Oct 13
New York 1400Z, Oct 19 to 0200Z, Oct 20
Illinois 1700Z, Oct 20 to 0100Z, Oct 21

➤ ATLANTIC DIV. HAMFESTS - 2013



October 6 - Maryland State Convention (CARAFest)

Howard County Fairgrounds
2210 Howard County Fair Road
West Friendship, MD 21794
<http://carafest.org>

October 20 - RF Hill ARC Hamfest

Sellersville Fire House
50 North Main Street
Sellersville, PA 18960
<http://www.rfhill.ampr.org>

October 26 - Delaware State Convention (Delmarva Radio & Electronics EXPO)

Sussex Technical High School 17099 County Seat Highway (Route 9)
Georgetown, DE 19947
<http://www.radioelectronicsexpo.com>

October 26 - Southern Maryland Tailgate Fest

Hollywood VFD Bingo Hall 24801 Three Notch Road
Hollywood, MD 20636
<http://k3nhk.org>

October 27 - Mason-Dixon Hamfest

Carroll County Agriculture Center 706 Agriculture Center Drive
Westminster, MD 21157
<http://www.qis.net/~k3pzn>

V.E. TEST LOCATIONS

Confirm all information, in advance, with the contact person. Licensed applicants must bring the original, and one photocopy of their license. All applicants, including children, must bring two forms of positive ID. Also bring the original, and a copy, of any Certificate of Successful Completion needed to prove current status. The ARRL VEC'S 2013 test fee is **\$15.00**.

Warminster Amateur Radio Club,

Monthly, Last Mon. 7:00 pm at the Wilson Senior Community Center 580 Delmont Avenue Warminster, PA 18974
George Brechmann (215) 443-5656.

Atco, NJ, The fourth (4th) Tuesday of each month, at 7 p.m. Winslow Township Senior Center, 33 Cooper Folly Road, 08004-2603.

Mark (K2AX) jtra@comcast.net

Levittown, PA, Monthly, 3rd Monday at 6:30. Falls Township Building - Ben Johns, K3JQH, 215-657-5994

Telford, PA, Monthly, RF Hill ARC. 3rd Monday at the Indian Valley Library. Charles Schmell, KB3CEZ, 215-257-6368 days 215-538-7458 evenings.

Philadelphia, PA, Testing is done on the 4th, non holiday Thursday of the month at the, Community Ambulance Association of Ambler, 1414 E Butler Pike, Ambler PA 19002 at 7:00 PM We also are testing on Saturdays at least once per quarter at 9:00 AM. For further information contact James McCloskey at jmccloskey@msn.com and by phone 215-275-2979.

Lansdale, PA Testing on the first non-holiday Tuesday of the month starting at 7:00 PM. The Lansdale Library Community Room Vine St. and Susquehanna Ave. Lansdale, Pa. Registration is required 48 hrs. or more before the scheduled exam date. If there are no registrations the scheduled exam date will be canceled. NO WALK-INS. You can register by contacting:

Olaf N. Markert ----- Phone (610) 517-5074, E-mail w3pa@arrl.net

SKYWARN INFORMATION

MOUNT HOLLY NWSFO SKYWARN Weekly Information Net: EVERY THURSDAY AT 21:00 HOURS
SKYWARN Net Repeater Listing/ Streaming Audio of scheduled SKYWARN Net: <http://www.skywarnnet.net>
You do NOT have to be a certified SKYWARN Weather Spotter to check into the Net

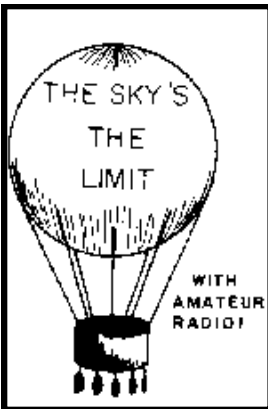
Bucks County SKYWARN Weather Spotter PRIMARY FREQUENCY: 147.300MHZ (+ 131.8)
 Fairless Hills, PA (many remote access locations throughout Bucks County)

Mount Holly NWSFO SKYWARN Homepage:
<http://www.erh.noaa.gov/phi/skywarn/index.html>

SKYWARN Basic Weather Spotter Educational Programs URL:
<http://www.erh.noaa.gov/phi/skywarn/training.html#sched>

➤ **CLUB EQUIPMENT**

WARC has purchased four Vertex Standard 2-meter HT's that are available for use by members of the club. The HT's are available on a month-by-month basis and have been purchased primarily to help new hams get on the air. However, they may also be used by any club member who is in need of a temporary 2-meter radio. They are also available for use by participants in WARC's public service activities.
 DE, Irwin Darack KD3TB 215
 -343-8170



*The Warminster Amateur Radio Club
 Announces Free Ham Radio Instructional Classes*

If you're interested in Ham Radio, or think you might be, this is your opportunity. Perhaps you'd like to learn about digital communications, Morse code, VHF, UHF, satellite, or perhaps you'd rather sit down and chat with someone in South Africa, Russia, Great Britain or in the space station.

Classes will be offered starting on Monday, September 9th, 2013. The classes will start at 7:00 pm and last until 9:00 pm and run for 8 Mondays. The Classes are free, but the students will be responsible for any study guides.

For further information contact George Brechmann, N3HBT at -443-5656.

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Bucks County Amateur Radio Emergency Service (BCARES)

www.bucksares.org
 Bucks County ARES will be on the air Wednesdays, at 9:00 PM. We will be using Warminster Amateur Radio Club's repeater on 147.090, pl 131.8. This net is linked as shown in the Net Schedule box for the Wednesday night net. It may also be linked to 147.300.

Winlink Gateway Stations:

Upper Bucks	NJ3A-10	145.610 Riegelsville
Lower Bucks	NY3J-10	145.530 Bensalem
Montco	W3CF-10	145.950 Hatfield
Chester County	W3EOC-10	145.690

Net Schedules

Sunday	2100	10 Meter Net	28.445 MHz
Wednesday	2030	2 Meter Net	147.09 Rptr.
Wednesday	2030	Linked w/ 2 Meter Net	443.95
Rptr. Wednesday	2030	Linked w/ 2 Meter Net	53.230 Rptr.
Sunday	2030	Informal Net	223.5 Simplex
Thursday	1900	Mont. Cnty RACES Net	146.835 Rptr.

Area Repeaters

VHF

- 145.310 R.F. Hill
- 145.350 Doylestown R.C.
- 146.790 Penn Wireless
- 145.330 Hilltown
- 146.670 DVRA
- 146.685 Holmesburg
- 146.925 Willingboro
- 147.000 Ham Buegers
- 147.030 Phil-Mont
- 147.090 Warminster
- 147.270 Frankford
- 147.300 BEARS
- 147.390 CBRA

220

- 224.580 PackRats
- 223.76 K3NAL

UHF

- 442.650 DVRA
- 443.250 TAG
- 443.050 Metro-Comm
- 443.950 Warminster
- 444.200 BEARS
- 447.475 WR3B
- 448.225 Penn Wireless

D-STAR

- 146.61000 K3PDR DV
- 445.18125 K3PDR DV
- 445.01875 AA3E Montco RACES

6 Mtr

- 53.030 WA3BXW
- 53.230 N3DQZ
- 53.320 K3MFI

Are you submitting an article for the Feedback ?

Contributions of articles to be published are always accepted for consideration. Please follow these guidelines:

- E-Mail to:
wa4ywm@comcast.net
Or via snail mail to:
FEEDBACK EDITOR
Warminster Amateur Radio Club
Box 113
Warminster, Pa 18974
- Use both upper and lower case letters.
- Use your program's spell check.
- If you don't have a computer, then typewritten sheets are o.k. but please use both upper and lower case.
- Put your name and call at the beginning or end of the article, and show credits if you are using material from another source.
- Deadline for articles is the Saturday before the regular meeting.

For general club correspondence:

k3dn@k3dn.org

Visit our Home Page at:

<http://www.k3dn.org>

The annual dues rate structure is as follows:

Full Member:	\$ 20.00
2nd Family Member:	\$ 10.00
Student:	\$ 10.00
Alumni:	\$ 10.00
Associate:	\$ 5.00

- Are your dues current ?
- Check the date on your Feedback mailing label.

2013 Officers

Executive Officers

President	Irwin Darack	KD3TB	215-343-8170
Vice-President	Richard Luce	AG3L	215-441-8264
Secretary	Alan Ash	KA3YCG	215-357-9286
Treasurer	Bill Ballantine	K3FMQ	215-766-0764
Director (A)	George Brechmann	N3HBT	215-443-5656
Director (E)	Mark Kempisty	AA3K	215-953-1493
Director (A)	Al Konschak	WI3Z	215-491-9941
Director (A)	Brian Taylor	N3EXA	215-257-6303
Past President	Larry Abbott	WA3ELQ	215-704-3282

Committee Chairpersons

Archives			
ARES/RACES Liason	Karl Harris	K3KH	215-264-1855
Arri Liason	Richard Luce	AG3L	215-441-8264
Awards Manager	Vince Pironti	KD3TC	215-674-0446
Classes	George Altemus	KA3WXV	215-855-3856
Digital and APRS	Ron Wenig	NY3J	215-638-9257
DXpedition	Doc Whitticar	W3GAD	215-968-6397
Feedback Editor	Jim Elmore	WA4YWM	215-538-1889
Field Day 13	Mark Kempisty	AA3K	215-953-1493
Fundraising	Adam Huffnagle	KB3JCP	215-442-9526
Hamfest 13	Richard Luce	AG3L	215-441-8264
Hamwear	Alan Berkheiser	KB3VYX	
Holiday Dinner	George Brechmann	N3HBT	215-443-5656
Membership	Michelle London	KB3MTW	215-672-7578
Membership	Bill Strunk	K3ZMA	215-822-0749
Net Manager	George Brechmann	N3HBT	215-443-5656
PA QSO Party	Mark Kempisty	AA3K	215-953-1493
Publicity	Bernice Kraut	KB3PCX	215-884-8195
Refreshments	Doc Morein	KA3RAU	215-542-0593
Refreshments	Randy Gehman	N3LJE	215-822-9473
RF Interference	Andy Vavra	KD3RF	610-287-3295
RF Interference	Bill Ballantine	K3FMQ	215-766-0764
Repeater Coordinator	Brian Taylor	N3EXA	215-257-6303
Safety Officer	Vinny Porcaro	K3VJP	215-493-0783
Skywarn Liason			
Station Trustee	George Brechmann	N3HBT	215-443-5656
Sunshine Club	Vince Pironti	KD3TC	215-674-0446
Township Liason	Richard Luce	AG3L	215-441-8264
VE License Testing	Larry Abbott	WA3ELQ	215-704-3282
VHF/UHF/MW	George Altemus	KA3WXV	215-855-3856
Website Coordinator	Al Konschak	WI3Z	215-491-9941
Youth Programs	Steve Larson	WW3Y	215-822-1511