

April 28, 2016



ICARC NEWSLETTER

Special Edition in Memory of Mr. Walter E. Dzelsky-W3NFY

Officers for 2016:

President - Doug Fitzsimmons K3LAB
Vice President - Ernest Clark KC3FVX
Treasurer - Terry Carnahan KB3JOD
Secretary - VACANT

Additional Board Members for 2016:

(Officers are automatically board members)

1. Dave Dzelsky N3DZ
2. Craig Bigler AB3XA
3. Jerry Kiehl WB3DUD
4. Phil Kopczyk K3PJ
5. Elmer Sorisio KB3WG
6. Larry Freeman N3LT

Remember to get your dues paid (There are no dues this coming year for those of you who attended the class in October 2015 and received a new license as a result)! There is a new dues structure: \$35 for an Individual membership, \$50 for a Family (two voting members in the same household), and \$20 for a Student/Associate membership. Please visit the W3BMD website and download the application under the Club Info. Tab. If you don't regularly attend the meetings just mail the completed application along with payment (no cash, make checks payable to ICARC) to the address given on the application form.

LOCAL HAPPENING:



Mr. Walter Edward Dzelsky-W3NFY (May 25, 1921-April 5, 2016) was the son of emigrant parents from Poland; Frank and Florence Dzwileski and was born in Johnstown, Pennsylvania. He was fond of telling the story of how, as a young boy, he would ride his bicycle around Johnstown listening to a crystal radio which he made and amplified so it could be heard while riding. It is clear that he became interested in electronics at an early age and this served him very well throughout his life. Walter got into ham radio as a teenager and this led to him being in charge of the communications staff aboard the first US Army Hospital ship, Wisteria, during WWII at the age of 19. By this time he was a master of the Morse Code as well as communications by Semaphore flags and Signal Lights. As a result he spent very much time with the Captain of the Wisteria and became a friend. He once told the humorous story of the Captain letting him "steer" the ship and ending up making all the mates stationed on the fan-tell of the ship seasick due to the zig-zag he imparted to the rear of the ship. He had a "thousand" stories and they all were very interesting. Also, Walt was an avid proponent of having a quality antenna instead of very high power. His ability and knowledge for designing and fabricating antennas of various types was a Godsend of information for club local hams and ICARC members who wanted help to "roll their own". His favorite antenna was a homemade loop or "cloud burner" as they were called. He could discuss these for hours on end. One of his proudest moments in radio was when his son, Dave, N3DZ, obtained his Extra Class license in 1996; something that Walt, himself, did not attempt until 2005 in order to regain frequency privileges that the FCC had taken from hams of his generation. Interestingly enough Walt was so good at morse code that when he took the 20 word per minute code test he copied the full text with no mistakes using no pen or paper to assist. He copied it all in his head.

In addition to radio Walter enjoyed roller skating and met his wife Olive (Wetzel) on the roller rink. They were married on August 18, 1945 and skated as a roller skating dance team at rinks all along the eastern seaboard and up into new england. Amazingly, Walter continued to skate into his mid eighties and his innate talent was still very obvious. He and Olive moved to Homer City after he was out of the service in 1946 and made their life together there. Walter was employed at the Syntron Company in Homer City for his entire professional life. He formed the first Boy Scout troupe in Homer City and was a member of the Homer City United Methodist Church. His passion for amateur radio led him to become a founding member of the Indiana County Amateur Radio Club (ICARC). Walter was always held in high regard by all who knew him and he is and will continue to be missed very much.

More Sad News: Cliff Miller, KB3AGT of Johnstown passed away at Conemaugh Hospital on April 22, 2016. His obituary is on the web page of the Tribune Democrat (<http://obituaries.tribdem.com/stories/search/>)

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Tuesday, May 3, 2016 ICARC meets in the back room of Indiana Eat n' Park restaurant. The board meeting starts at 7:00 pm and the general meeting begins at 7:30 pm. We look forward to seeing you all there.

There is a scheduled test session for October, 2016. For more information contact Mr. Bill McMillen, N3QM (724) 397-2702

Email: wkmcmillen@gmail.com

Possible upgrade class sometimes this year, so stay tuned....

OTHER INFORMATION

(If anyone would like to include information or write an article for the Newsletter please let Larry Freeman, N3n 1972LT, know by email at: wd4hoz@gmail.com or wlf@auxmail.iup.edu) The only caveats are: The editor reserves the right to alter the format for publication purposes. The content may also be modified contingent upon accuracy and appropriateness of the contained material. The latter would, of course, be subject to the approval of the original author.

Walter Dzelsky-W3NFY a founding member of ICARC, is currently in Scenery Hill Manor nursing home under Hospice Care. Our best wishes and prayers are with him.

Rusty O'Donnell-WB3EUQ – contact information:

Rusty is not doing well and remains at the Hollidaysburg Veterans Home, a Pennsylvania state facility just south of Altoona. Please note that he is not in the Altoona VA Hospital. He is in Eisenhower Hall and it's nursing care. The phone number for his room is (814) 695-1635. You may call at anytime. He does have a cell phone. For his cell phone (724) 388-1202.

Rusty's mailing address is :

David O'Donnell

P.O. Box 319

Hollidaysburg, PA 16648

If you go to see Rusty: When you get to Eisenhower Hall (the large building with the WWII tank in front of it, as you first come onto the grounds) You will need to sign in at the Security desk – they will direct you to his unit, North 2. The security guards have room charts and know the residents.

Summary of April 5, 2016 ICARC Meeting

Attendees:

Doug Fitzsimmons-K3LAB, President	Al Fister-N3ZFZ	Dave Overdorf-KC3DTH
Craig Bigler-AB3XA	Phil Kopczyk-K3PJ	Ian Bigler-KC3DTE
Dave Steiner-KA3KFA	Terry Carnahan-KB3JOD, Treasurer	Elmer Sorisio-KB3WG
Larry Freeman-N3LT	Ernest Clark-KC3FVX, Vice President	Alton Strong-N3PHL
Bill McMillen-N3QM	Lauren MacMillen-KC3FVW	Denny Clark-KB3HZM
Jerry Kiehl-WB3DUD	Fred Maize-KM3M	

The business meeting started at 7:00 pm. The regular meeting was started by Doug Fitzsimmons at 7:30 pm. There was no program scheduled. There was a air of sorrow due to the passing of Walt Dzelsky, W3NFY, one of the founding members of ICARC.

The financial report was given by Terry Carnahan and it was approved and adapted by the membership.

Dave Steiner reported on the net operations and indicated there was no NBEMS activity due to the noise on the reporter. He also brought up the scheduling of a fund raising event at HOSS' restaurant and the month of July was finally decided upon.

Repeater News: The control link radio for the repeater, the Kenwood TM-V71A radio with the PG5A data link cable has been obtained and is ready to be installed along with the ARCOM controller. On March 31, 2016 there was another trouble shooting session at the repeater and progress was made on a solution to the crackling noise. It was traced to a problem with the tower guy wires needing more tension. They will be tightened to see if that solves the problem. The Transmitter is now connected to the backup antenna, not on the tower, but on a pole attached to the shack and is, physically, much lower than the receiver antenna, which is still on the tower. This removed the noise but likely reduced the range of the transmitter temporarily.

There was some discussion of a PL tone on the repeater but it was decided to wait until we have everything connected and running with the updates in firmware for the controller and repeater before implementing a tone. Although a tone is recommended by the company, we want to see if the repeater continues to lockup while operating in the Auto mode due to spurious signals. If a PL tone is eventually implemented it will likely be 131.8 Hz.

The MS walk was briefly discussed and at least five people signed up to participate. It will be held on April 30 with the same path taken by the walkers as last year.

Airport Festival: Will be using the same spot, as usual, at the airport and running two stations. One on 40 m and one on 20 m, same as before. Will probably use a G5RV and an end-fed 40 m wire antenna. Larry will provide two laptops for logging. N1MM+ will be used for logging. Dave, Larry, and Doug will set the computers up. The antenna trailer will likely be delivered to the site on the afternoon of Friday June 10, 2016. The event runs from Saturday June, 11 through Sunday, June 12.

Bill McMillen indicated that the next scheduled VE is scheduled for October 1. There was no test for April because no one signed up to take it.

Phil Kopczyk reported that he got three useable broadband WRT servers from IUP which were destined for a surplus auction sell.

Doug Fitzsimmons mentioned the PEMA conference on May 14 - May 18 at Seven Springs. It may not be free of charge this year.

Alton Strong pointed out that the Breezeshooters hamfest has been moved to the Large Butler Fairgrounds.

Craig Bigler, brought up to the club another walking event to benefit veterans. The event will be on the Laurel Highlands Trail and will be about 70 miles long. Do we want to participate? He will get more details about the event.

A Flower arrangement was approved for Walt Dzelsky's funeral.
\$31.00 was donated to the club.