



W3BN W3CCH

The Reading Radio Club Bulletin

Volume 61

Issue Number 11

November 2023



The Reading Radio Club Was Established March 10th, 1921 ,
ARRL Affiliated February 17, 1922

Keep up to date with the RRC at <http://www.readingradioclub.org>
Manage your club profile & email address at <http://www.hamclubonline.com>
<http://www.facebook.com/RRCW3BN>



Club Email: w3bn.rrc@gmail.com

2023 Board Of Directors & Officers

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PRES	Joe Pietruszynski, AC3DI	(24)
VP	Ronald Waszk, K3RJW	(23)
SEC.	Harry Hoffman, W3VBY	(25)
TREAS.	Nate Rosenthal, N2ADD	(23)

	Chris Schlegel, K3ADA	(23)
	Janine Galiano, K4AJZ	(24)
	Jason Potter, K3WDF	(24)
	Craig Wanner, K3CRG	(25)
	Scott Scheirer, KC3PCS, Editor	(25)

A normal 3-year term runs from Jan. 1 to Dec. 31. Number in parenthesis is when their term ends.

The four officers of the RRC are elected from the BOD by the NINE board members at the annual RRC Board of Directors Reorganization Meeting held in January of each year. Please note that ALL nine BOD members have voting power. You can reach the Board of Directors via email at w3bn.rrc@gmail.com.

Please note: The Board of Director Minutes are available by written request or online at:

<http://www.readingradioclub.org>. Email Joe Pietruszynski, AC3DI (JFP0250@comcast.net) if you wish to participate in or have something brought up at the board meeting.

Send **ALL** USPS Mail pertaining to
the Reading Radio Club to :

READING RADIO CLUB INC
ATTN: (Person your sending to)
PO BOX 6453
Wyomissing, PA 19610-6453

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The W3BN Repeater is owned & operated by the Reading Radio Club and is located in Alsace Township up on the mountain.

146.91 MHZ (Input 146.31 MHZ) with a PL Tone of 131.8 hz.

It is available from 5:30 AM until 12:30 AM.

**There are currently 100 active members of the Reading Radio Club
consisting of multiple license classes and supporting members.**

The Reading Radio Club is an IRS-designated 501(c)(3) organization holding tax identification number 23-1660585. Contributions to the Reading Radio Club are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.

TAKE NOTE

meetings

Next Board Meeting: **Tues, November 7th, 2023 at 7:30 PM via Zoom**

Next General Meeting: **Fri, November 10th, 2023 at 7:30 PM at the AG Center.**

Topic: Board Member Nominations & More. You have to be there to find out.

Location: Berks County Agricultural Center—Rear Entrance (Auditorium)

1238 County Welfare Road, Leesport, PA 19533

Be sure to monitor the W3BN Repeater and your email for any changes to meetings.

From The Fundraising Committee

Is your ARRL Membership renewal coming up? Why not help the RRC out? Renew your membership through the RRC. It doesn't cost you anything extra.

Please see Jessica L, KC3PIG or Scott S, KC3PCS, or email w3bn.rrc@gmail.com for the form. You can pay by cash, credit card, or check. The club gets \$5.00 for each renewal and \$15.00 for each new ARRL member who signs up for membership (to the ARRL) through the club.

We thank you for your continued support in our fundraising efforts.

Please be sure to sign into Ham Club Online. If there are any errors, please send an email to us at w3bn.rrc@gmail.com and we will correct the relevant fields. Once you sign in, you can update your email / phone. (Please note, these are not accessible to the public or other members. This helps us to get information out to you quicker.)

Thank you.



BOARD NOMINATIONS WILL TAKE PLACE AT THE NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER GENERAL MEETINGS. THE ELECTION OF BOARD MEMBERS WILL TAKE PLACE AT THE DECEMBER MEETING.

The following board member terms expire this year:

Chris, K3ADA; Ron, K3RJW; Nate, N2ADD

Why not run for the board? Support your club!!!

Meeting Highlights

RRC MEETING HIGHLIGHTS OCTOBER 13, 2023

By: RRC Secretary Harry Hoffman W3VBY.

The Friday evening October 13, 2023 RRC General Meeting was held in the Main Auditorium of the Ag Center in Leesport, Pa.

1. Prior to 7:30 p.m. Jim Nicholas, W3ITH, was taking attendance and selling 50-50 tickets.
2. RRC President Joe Pietruszynski, AC3DI, called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. In attendance were 34 RRC members and 5 guests for a total of 39.
3. RRC President Joe Pietruszynski, AC3DI, led the group in the pledge to the American Flag.
4. The microphone was passed around and RRC Members and guests introduced themselves. The guests were: Martin Papilano Jr.; Emily Hutcheson, Charles Lamonte, N3VUO; Mrs. Mountz (XYL of KC3VZJ); and Lori Scheirer.
5. RRC President Joe Pietruszynski, AC3DI, presented an RRC Associate Membership Letter to Nathan Lis, KB3ZCC. Welcome to the RRC!
6. RRC President Joe Pietruszynski, AC3DI, presented an RRC Supporting Membership Letter to Thomas Lucca. Welcome to the RRC!
7. RRC President Joe Pietruszynski, AC3DI, presented an RRC Associate Membership Letter to Thomas Mountz, KC3VZJ. Welcome to the RRC!
8. A moment of silence was held for Silent Key Duane Redline W3UQH. We will all miss Duane. He was a long time RRC Member, Past President, Vice President, BOD Member, and all-around active member. Duane was an Honorary Member of the RRC.
9. A sympathy card was passed around to be signed and sent to the family of Duane Redline.
10. It was announced that Richard Bossler, KC3VTK, recently passed his General Class Exam. Congratulations Rich!
11. No Pagoda Award tonight.

12. We discussed the possibility of designing a new QSL card for the RRC. We do have quite a few RRC QSL Cards with the Pagoda Picture.

13. All RRC Members had been sent a copy of the proposed changes to the RRC By-Laws that eliminated the "Associate Member" classification. A voice vote of the RRC Full Members present was taken to accept or reject the proposed change to the By-Laws. A unanimous voice vote was in favor of the change to the RRC By-Laws.

14. Jim Nicholas, W3ITH, has RRC T-Shirts for sale.

15. Amy Lindenmuth, KB3FSD, has sign-up sheets for RRC Hats and Jackets.

16. Saturday October 14th & 15th is the PA QSO Party. See the RRC Newsletter for more information. (We will not conduct the SRT on the 14th).

17. We will conduct the next SRT on Saturday November 18th on 146.55/446.00 at 1300.

18. Thursday November 2nd is FLDIGI on the 146.91 repeater starting at 7:30 p.m. This event is held the first Thursday of every month.

19. Reserve Saturday December 16, 2023 for the RRC Christmas Dinner at Wegmans. Doors open at 12 noon. Dinner will be served at 12:30 p.m. - family style - all you can eat. The cost is \$19 each. See Jim Nicholas, W3ITH, with your reservation.

20. It was announced that RRC Dues may be mailed directly to the RRC Treasurer's QTH. The paper work will be changed to reflect this change. See the RRC Bulletin for details.

21. The Club mailing P.O. Box has been changed. See the RRC Bulletin.

22. The 50-50 Drawing was won by Lori Scheirer.

23. The "Friends Helping Friends" Boscov's fund raiser ends soon. Tickets are \$5 and go directly to the Club. They can be redeemed at Boscov's on October 18th See Jessica Landis, KC3PIG.

24. Contact Harry Hoffman, W3VBY, if you are interested in taking a VE exam at 610-678-8976 or E-mail: harryhoffmanjr@juno.com. At present we do not have a date set up for a future exam.

25. Our next RRC BOD Meeting will be held on Tuesday evening, November 14, 2023 by ZOOM starting at 7:30 p.m.

26. Our Next RRC General Meeting will be held on Friday November 17, 2023 at the Ag Center Main Auditorium starting at 7:30 p.m. We will nominate 3 BOD Members,

27. At our December 15th RRC General Meeting well have a mini-hamfest and Christmas Party. We will also vote for 3 BOD Members.

27. Our entertainment for tonight was a great presentation on the duties of the RRC Committee chairs. Ron Waszk, K3RJW, went through a long list of RRC Member names and what they have accomplished for the Club. Thank you, Ron, for a great presentation and thanks for what our Members have done for the Club. .

28. The operation of the Special Events Station on September 9th celebrating the 275th anniversary of the founding of the city of Reading was a huge success. 253 Special Event Certificates were earned. Steve Dobbs, NE3F, was the Station Master. RRC President Joe Pietruszynski, AC3DI, presented certificates to those operators who operated the Special Event Stations. Congratulations for a job well done!

29. RRC President Joe Pietruszynski, AC3DI, adjourned the meeting at 8:45 p.m. for a time of fellowship.

"Helping Hams"



Installing a Tower at Steve, NE3F's House



Reading Radio Club Mini-Hamfest

Friday, December 8, 2023

Jim Nicholas, W3ITH

At our DECEMBER RRC general meeting on Friday, December 8, we will be voting for candidates for the RRC Board of Directors and hosting a Mini-Hamfest. The meeting starts at 7:30 p.m., but you may bring items to sell earlier and set up on tables which are provided at no cost. Remember to use the Ag Center side door and avoid the stairs. There is no vendor fee, but if you sell something, a five to ten percent donation to the Reading Radio Club would be a nice gesture.

The RRC is an IRS-approved 501(C3) corporation which may accept tax-deductible donations. We have receipts available to provide you proof of a donation (when filing taxes) if you choose to do so. So if you sell something and make a donation at the Mini-Hamfest or make an outright donation anytime, you may receive a receipt. All are welcome to participate in the Mini-Hamfest.

At the Mini-Hamfest, we will have a variety of door prizes: A sampling of ARRL books, a Beofeng 2-meter/70 cm HT, ARRL multi-tools, ARRL battery-operated lanterns, and other items. Only RRC members will be issued door prize tickets, the number of which depends on how many club activities the member attended.

As usual, the RRC cannot assume liability for items sold at the event. Items should be of an amateur radio/computer/electronic related nature. Assume that there are no warranties for items purchased. Sellers prefer cash for payment.

FOR SALE



FOR SALE: Military surplus - Heavy duty aluminum hand

crank-up telescoping mast, Manufactured by the F & M Manufacturing Corporation, for the United States Army Corps of Engineering.

Used, with minimal deliberate damage.

About twenty-two feet long when extended.

About six feet long when retracted.

Used at several Field Day events.

As is, where is. PLUS, a well-used cart.

W3WJC73@gmail.com Rich Ahrens, W3WJC

\$99.95 Cash.



RRC TEAM CONTRIBUTES TO JOTA SUCCESS AT HMSR

By Mark Abramowicz NT3V

A blast of fall air swept through the Hawk Mountain Scout Reservation in nearby Schuylkill County on Saturday, Oct, 21.

But the chill didn't dampen the enthusiasm of more than 200 Cub Scouts and their adult partners as they took part in the annual Cub Scout Adventure Day program.

A big part of that program was the annual local observance of Scouting's amateur radio event - Jamboree on the Air.

A team of Reading Radio Club operators and members of the Education Alliance for Amateur Radio set up demonstrations featuring various aspects of ham radio communications.

Paul AE3U and Chris K3ADA, were among the Reading contingent, that gave the youngsters lessons in the "language of ham radio" during presentations under a pavilion at the Indian Village near the picturesque camp lake

Chris taught the groups the phonetic language used by amateurs around the world to communicate and even explained how to use that language in spelling their names, including his, "Charlie Hotel Romeo India Sierra."

Paul demonstrated the use of Morse Code and how the sound of the dits and dahs formed letters to compile messages which amateurs used to communicate over radio waves many years ago and still use to communicate today.

Seated nearby, Bill W3FRB and Nick KC3SGN, both from the Education Alliance, demonstrated one of the popular digital elements of amateur radio. They made contacts across the country and beyond on FT8. In all they compiled, 58 QSOs – 23 on 20 meters and 35 on 10 meters.

The map below shows the reach of the station and the location of the contacts.

Just up the trail at another pavilion near the Indian Village, Ron K3RJW and Jason K3WDF, set up a combination HF and VHF operation.

The Cubs and adults were treated to the sounds of QSOs on 40, 20 and 15 meters with a station in France and another in Belize engaging with Jason as he transmitted only 10 watts on a vertical end-fed wire.

The groups also heard from stations in Canada, South Carolina, Iowa, Nebraska, Ohio and Illinois.

Ron coaxed even the "mic shy" among the groups to engage in brief exchanges on the radio with other staff members on VHF 146.590 Megahertz Simplex.

Ron also set up a satellite receiving station and managed to monitor transmissions from the International Space Station as it made three passes overhead during the day.

While none of the groups of youngsters and adults was present at the time, Ron says the adult staff members who came to check out his operation were thrilled to hear the activity.

Dave N3AMY and Stan K3STP had a great time engaging the groups in fox hunting activity in the chapel area located right across from Ron and Jason's operation.

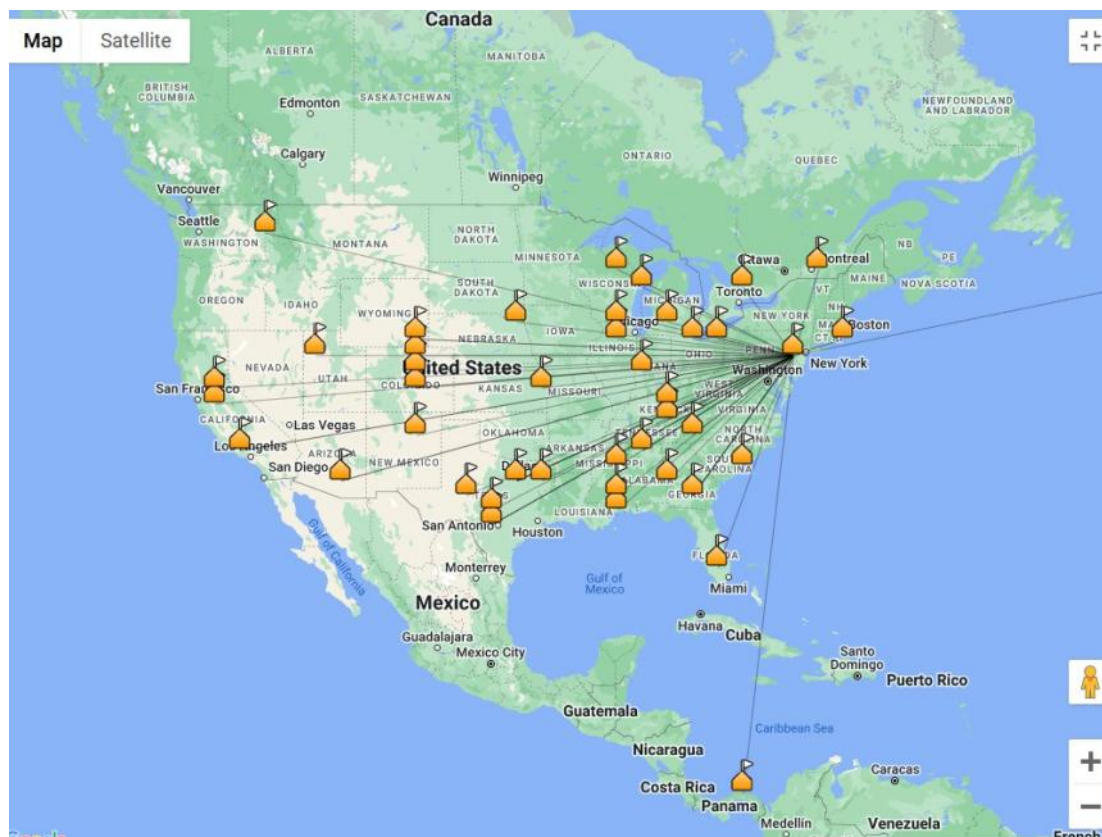
The youngsters got a kick out of the "taunting voice" from one of the foxes challenging them to find "him."

The Cub groups also took part in a series of Olympic-style challenges in the field in front of the Indian Village in keeping with the theme of the day's Cub Scout activity.

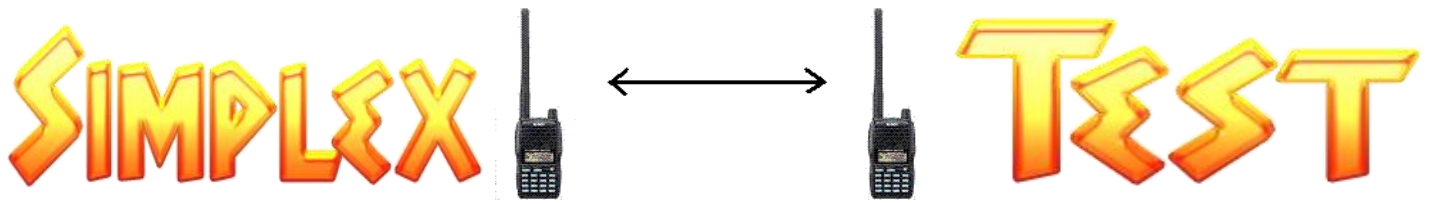
That section of the "station" was led by Tom Wolfinger, a veteran Scout leader. Wolfinger is among the charter members of the Crew 59 Association, which has been organizing JOTA activities at Hawk Mountain Scout Reservation for several years.

The Scout camp event managers praised the JOTA team for its professionalism and enthusiasm as they engaged the Cubs and their family members for the day.

Congratulations to Paul AE3U; Chris K3ADA; Ron K3RJW; Jason K3WDF; Dave N3AMY; Stan K3STP; Bill, W3FRB; and Nick, KC3SGN for a job well done!







By Mark Abramowicz, NT3V

SIMPLEX RADIO TEST RETURNS AFTER ONE-MONTH HIATUS

By Mark Abramowicz NT3V

The Reading Radio Club-sponsored monthly Simplex Radio Test – which was suspended for October because of activity in the PA QSO Party – will resume on Saturday, Nov. 11, 2023 at 1 p.m. local time.

Ron K3RJW will serve as net control for the November session on 146.550 Megahertz simplex. Jason K3WDF will resume net control duties for the 446 Megahertz simplex portion of the test.

The site for the test has yet to be determined. However, Ron is urging those who tune in and participate to prepare to assist with “relays” of calls.

The monthly tests are designed to challenge each operator’s ability to make radio-to-radio contact without the use of a repeater. Hams are urged to alternate between base and mobile or portable operations or use of an HT to make the contact with the net control.

The Simplex Radio Test is open to all amateurs in Berks and surrounding counties. It is conducted to test our flexibility and operational capabilities as hams in the event of disruptions of local amateur radio repeaters during an emergency.

At the conclusion of the test on 2-meters, the net control opens the opportunity for operators to make contact with any Reading Radio Club members who checked in to earn the coveted Pagoda Award.

Troy, K3TKL, is in charge of reviewing and approving applications. Information on how to earn the award is available at the Reading Radio Club website: <https://www.qsl.net/w3bn/>

One other announcement on the SRT calendar: A multi-county Simplex Radio Test initially planned for December is being postponed until the spring. Watch this space for an announcement on the new date.

Reading Radio Club 2023 Christmas Luncheon

Saturday, December 16, 2023

Wegman's Restaurant

4401 Pottsville Pike

Reading, Pa 19605

Doors open at 12 noon, luncheon is served at 12:30 p.m. in our private room.

Family-style all-you-can-eat.

Fruit cup, tossed salad with French and Italian dressings.

Roast turkey and grilled ham.

Potato filling and French fries.

Corn and green beans.

Coffee, iced tea and hot tea.

Trivia game with candy bar prizes.

Cake and ice cream for dessert.

Cost \$ 19.00 per person.

See Jim Nicholas, W3ITH for reservations.

Telephone 610-678-9243.

Email w3ith@arrl.net.

READING RADIO CLUB, INC
2024 ANNUAL DUES NOTICE

The RRC 2024 annual dues are payable starting November 1, 2023. This is the only notice that will be issued. The dues are payable in full by January 1, 2024. The dues are unchanged from 2023 and are per the following schedule for Full and Associate members.

18 YEARS OF AGE, \$21.00\$ _____

UNDER AGE 18, \$5.00\$ _____

SUBSEQUENT FAMILY MEMBERS AGE 18, OR OVER, LIVING IN
THE SAME HOUSEHOLD – HALF RATE, \$10.50\$ _____

DONATION (Tax deductible – we are 501(c)(3))..... (OPTIONAL) \$ _____

TOTAL \$ _____

Please complete the following information to insure credit to your membership account and to confirm our records. Also, if your US mailing address, email address, telephone number, or license class has changed in the past year, **please print** the new information on the “NEW INFO” lines below.

NAME: _____ CALL SIGN: _____

NEW INFO: _____

NEW INFO: _____

LICENSE CLASS: (circle one) EXTRA ADVANCED GENERAL TECHNICIAN NO LICENSE

LICENSE EXPIRATION DATE: _____

MEMBER OF THE ARRL: (circle one) YES NO EXPIRATION DATE: _____

EMAIL ADDRESS FOR THE **RRC BULLETIN**: _____

IF paying Treasurer at RRC Meeting please bring this form with you. Thank You!
PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: READING RADIO CLUB, INC.

IF MAILING PAYMENT, INCLUDE THE ENTIRE COMPLETED FORM WITH YOUR PAYMENT.
(DO NOT CUT FORM APART)

MAILING ADDRESS FOR **DUES PAYMENTS**:

READING RADIO CLUB, INC
C/O NATHAN ROSENTHAL, TREASURER
148 WEST ST
POTTSTOWN, PA 19464

YOU MAY ALSO PAY USING THE PAYPAL LINK ON OUR WEBSITE (SMALL FEE APPLIES).

Thank you for your payment and continued support of the READING RADIO CLUB.

2024 Reading Radio Club**Meeting Dates at Ag Center**

Tuesday – BOD Meeting - 7:30 PM BY COMPUTER ZOOM	Friday – General Meeting 7:30 PM in the Ag Center Main Auditorium
ZOOM	IN PERSON
January 9 th	January 12 th
February 6 th	February 9 th
March 5 th	March 8 th
April 9 th	April 12 th
May 7 nd	May 10 th
June 11 th	June 14 th
July 9 th	July 12 th
August 6 th	August 9 th
September 10 th	September 13 th
October 8 th	October 11 th
November 5 th	November 8 th
December 10 th	December 13 th

Ag Center Meeting Dates entered by Shannon, Lynn, Lisa Hetrick, Penn State Cooperative Extension Office

Tel 610-378-1327 **FAX 610-378-7961** on **8-31-2023**

(Dates & Meeting locations have been entered in the Ag Center schedule book)

(Ag Center Security Telephone # 610-373-0776 Ext. 2538)

From – **Harry Hoffman RRC Secretary Tel 610-678-8976 FAX 610-670-0135**

The AG Center address is: 1238 County Welfare Road, Leesport, PA. 19533

The Heritage Park / Freight Station - entrance is at the end of Clematis St (GPS: 992 Clematis St, Sinking Spring, PA. 19608)

The Reading Radio Club, Inc. is a support service of the Berks EMA and is supported by an organized group of local volunteers who are FCC Licensed Amateur Radio Operators.

Other Events:

(Field Day - June 22nd -23rd, 2024 at Heritage Park, Sinking Spring, PA) *weekend - (June 21st set-up)*

(Picnic – July 20, 2024 at Heritage Park, Sinking Spring, PA) – *Saturday - (arrive 11 a.m.)*

(Hamfest – August 3, 2024 at Heritage Park, Sinking Spring, PA) – *Saturday - (August 2nd set-up)*



2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
			1 QCWA Breakfast	2 FLDIGI 7:30 PM	3 MOTA (8 pm)	4
5	6 ARES/RACES (8 pm.) 147.18	7 Board Meeting - 7:30 PM—Zoom	8	9	10 Gen. Meeting 7:30 PM Ag	11 Simplex Test 146.55 1:00 PM
12	13 ARES/RACES (8 pm.) 147.18	14	15	16	17 MOTA (8 pm)	18
19	20 ARES/RACES (8 pm.) 147.18	21	22	23 	24 MOTA (8 pm)	25
26	27 ARES/RACES (8 pm.) 147.18	28	29	30		

PLEASE NOTE:

On the Fridays, that we do not have an in-person meeting we will have a “Reading Radio Club Meeting On The Air” (RRCMOTA) on the RRC 146.910 MHz repeater starting at 8:00 p.m. The CTCSS is 131.8 Hz. The RRCMOTA Net Control will play Amateur Radio Newslines, then Announcements, and roll call. After that, a call for missed and new check-ins. Please note, you must check in every so often to remain on the roll call list.

November Birthdays: Matthew T, W3MBT; Marty K, W3MJK; Alan H, N3ATH; Alex S, KE1FIE; Eric C, KN3M; David S, K3BN; Richard H, W3OKX

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The main purpose of The Reading Radio Club Bulletin, is to provide, to the Membership and other readers, timely information about the activities of the Reading Radio Club, Inc.

Additionally, the RRC BULLETIN provides an easily searchable and accurate historical record. The RRC strongly recommends membership in the American Radio Relay League (ARRL) as well as membership in a local Amateur Radio Club. The READING RADIO CLUB BULLETIN is copyright © 2023 by the Reading Radio Club, Inc. Opinions expressed in the RRC BULLETIN are those of the writers, editors, and article sources. They do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Reading Radio Club, Inc, the RRC BOD, or the RRC membership. Material from this RRC BULLETIN may not be reproduced in whole or part, without permission.

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The RRC Bulletin Email Version was started on February 10th, 1998
It is emailed to most RRC Members, Other Clubs and Friends of the RRC.
It is published on a monthly basis.

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**Deadline for all bulletins is the 25th of the prior month.
NO SUBMISSIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED AFTER THAT.**

Please submit to kc3pcs@outlook.com.

**** Please note that the editors reserve the right to
accept, change, reject anything submitted for the RRC Bulletin. ****

PLEASE NOTE: The Reading Radio Club is now using Ham Club Online to help manage the club. The bulletin and other email messages may come from a new address. Please DO NOT respond to the email the bulletin comes from. **Please email w3bn.rrc@gmail.com about the club or kc3pcs@outlook.com about the bulletin.**

We are also using the site to keep track of attendance, and events.

They use the latest encryption and are very secure. Nobody's information is public (other than what the FCC Records list).

If you have any questions, please contact us at w3bn.rrc@gmail.com