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Affiliated 02/17/1922

Meetings & Programs

(All Are Welcome to attend public RRC Events)

Board Meeting: September 10th, 2024 @ 7:30 PM (Zoom)
 General Meeting: September 13th, 2024 @ 7:30 (AG Center) - Come out and see!
 Meeting On the Air (MOTA) - All Other Fridays - 8 PM - W3BN Repeater
 FLDigi Net: September 5th, 2024 @ 7:30 PM (146.91 W3BN Repeater)
 Simplex Test: September 14th, 2024 @ 1 PM (146.55 then 446.00)
 Fox Hunt: Not Scheduled
 VE Exam: TBD

2024 Board Of Directors & Officers

 PRES Joe Pietruszynski, AC3DI (24)
 VP Ronald Waszk, K3RJW (26)
 SEC: Amy Lindenmuth, KB3FSD (26)
 TREAS. Nate Rosenthal, N2ADD (26)

 Janine Galiyano, K4AJZ (24)
 Craig Wanner, K3CRG (25)
 Scott Scheirer, KC3PCS, Editor (25)
 Jason Potter, NG3F (24)
 Dave Fix, N3AMY (25)

You can reach the Board of Directors via email at w3bn.rrc@gmail.com.
 3 Year Terms runs from Jan 1 to Dec 31, Number in parenthesis is term end. Officers are chosen by the Board at the January Board Meeting each Year.

Please note: The Board of Director Minutes are temporarily not currently up to date online. 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 you're 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 95 active members of the Reading Radio Club consisting of multiple license classes and supporting members.

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. Bulletin Email: kc3pcs@outlook.com

H.A.M. HELP A MEMBER

We've gotten very little response. I know there are those out there with specialized skills!!

We have not gotten enough responses to publish a list on the website.

Please let us know if you have a special skill.



Stan - K3STP; Mary Ann - N3TVT; Neil - NE3IL; Steve - NE3F;
Dennis - N3JRW; Mike - N3YQG; Hank - KA3BMS; Scott - KC3PCS

As you may have heard, the Berks County Agricultural Center is being renovated. We are temporarily moving the meeting. See below for details.

FOR EVERYONE THAT REGULARLY ATTENDS THE RRC GENERAL MEETINGS YOU HAVE SEEN THE NEW ADDITION AND REMODEL OF THE SOUTH WING THAT IS STILL GOING ON AT THE BERKS COUNTY AGRICULTURAL CENTER. HOWEVER, WHEN THAT PHASE OF THE PROJECT IS DONE THEY WILL BE REMODELING THE MAIN PART IN WHICH WE HAVE OUR MEETINGS. THEREFORE WE HAD TO AND DID FIND A TEMPORARY PLACE TO HOLD THE MEETINGS WHEN WE CAN'T HAVE ACCESS TO THE AG CENTER AUDITORIUM. THAT LOCATION WILL BE AT THE INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS LOCAL 743, 20 MORGAN DRIVE, SINKING SPRING. THE PROJECTED TIME FOR THIS TO HAPPEN WOULD BE OUR NOVEMBER MEETING AND CONTINUING UNTILL THE AG CENTER BECOMES AVAILABLE AGAIN. PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS COULD CHANGE AT ANY TIME BECAUSE CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS SOMETIMES ARE ON SCHEDULE AND SOMETIMES NOT. ALL PERSONS WHO THINK THEY WILL GO TO THE MEETINGS AT 743 SHOULD DRIVE THERE, AND EVEN DO A DRIVE THROUGH DURING THE WEEKENDS BECAUSE IN NOVEMBER AT MEETING TIME IT WILL BE DARK AND GETTING A LITTLE FAMILIAR WITH THE PLACE BEFORE THEN WOULD BE A GOOD IDEA.

DIRECTIONS

MOST PEOPLE WILL TAKE 222 BYPASS NORTH AND SOUTH AND GET OFF AT ROUTE 724 SHILLINGTON/SINKING SPRING EXIT. EITHER DIRECTION WHEN YOU EXIT AND GET TO 724 YOU WILL TURN RIGHT AND GO DOWN A HILL. (ON THE LEFT WILL BE A WEIS MARKET AND ON THE RIGHT WILL BE STORAGE BUILDINGS.) AT THE BOTTOM OF THE HILL TURN RIGHT ONTO MORGAN DRIVE AND 743 WILL BE THE LAST BUILDING ON THE RIGHT JUST BEFORE OLD FRITZTOWN ROAD. WHEN YOU TURN INTO THE DRIVEWAY FOLLOW THE BUILDING BY GOING RIGHT, AT THE END OF THE BUILDING TURN LEFT AND SOON YOU'LL COME TO AN OPEN PARKING LOT. YOU EXIT BY DRIVING TO THE RIGHT OF THE BUILDING. THE DOOR TO USE GETTING INTO THE BUILDING IS A WALKWAY ALONG SIDE THE EXIT DRIVEWAY.

IBEW Local 743 - 20 Morgan Drive, Reading, PA 19608

Find it on your computer by clicking on or scanning the QR Codes with your phone.

[iPhone Maps](#)

[Google Maps](#)

[Waze](#)



RON'S RAVINGS

by Ron Waszk, K3RJW

Hi everyone, Heres a lesson for everyone, NOT only coax., but those that have ANY sort of SOLAR set ups at their houses.

I watch my Man Cave batteries closely. Yesterday I went and checked the power coming in from my 100 watt panel. The volts were there but WEAK. when it went into the controller it actually got so weak that It was only putting out 12.2 volts.

I started checking the connections (Anderson power pole wire to wire hook ups) and they were ALL OK. But once I got to the last connection at the cellar door, It dropped off bad. I started running my fingers over the wire.. LOW AND BEHOLD , I found a spot where some animal chewed through the NEGATIVE line coming in. At one spot, the wires were chewed through but touching .. and the second spot there were only a few strands were still attached. so the voltage was there but the amperage was not to drive it to charge. Here are the pictures of the cuts in the wire covers. You can plainly tell it was chewed through. I cut the bad part out and used a butt connector and waterproof shrink tubes to repair. I DID check the rest of the lines, but that was the only place it was bad. The wires are now up off the ground on the fence tops.

MY WARNING to all that use either wire for solar, household extensions, or COAX to check your wires closely. Dont forget, put that high RF through a bad coax might cost you a very expensive radio REAL FAST. Just check them, it only takes minutes, but might save you equipment.

Have a great day, and dont forget the upcoming events to include the Reading Railroad Simpex on 146.550 on that day also.

RON K3RJW 73





Technician Class & Exam Session

The Reading Radio Club is offering a Technician Training Class for anyone interested. The two-day in-person class will be held at the Berks County Fire Training Center, Morgantown Road, on October 5th and 12th, from 8:30 AM to 4:00 PM. An online session will take place during the week of October 6th for additional content and questions.

To register for the free training class, please contact Stuart at 484-339-3456 or email training@w2slh.com.

An exam session will be held on October 12th at 2:30 PM for students and the general public.

To Register for the Exam please email exam@w2slh.com or use the following link: <https://hamstudy.org/sessions/66ccc483dded4fdd6a79d05b/1>

Please pass this on to your family and friends as it is a unique opportunity to both learn and gain the information necessary to pass their Technician Exam.

The ARRL exam fee is \$15 for those over 18 and \$5 for those under 18, payable to the Reading Radio Club. New licensees must also pay a \$35 FCC fee, while there is no FCC fee for license upgrades.

SRT TEAM HEADS NORTH TO HAMBURG FOR AUGUST TEST

By Mark Abramowicz NT3V

The team running the Reading Radio Club-sponsored Simplex Radio Test headed to the upper parking lot of Cabela's off Route 61 outside of Hamburg on Saturday, Aug. 10.

The goal: To determine how effective communications would be between Hamburg (site of our Sept. 21 RRC Special Event Station) and the Reading area.

Al K3AJM launched the test at 1 p.m. and logged 22 check-ins on 146.550 Mhz simplex. Signal reports – for the most part – were solid copy going both ways.

However, when Dave N3AMY activated 446.000 MHz simplex, conditions were not as good with only 5 check-ins for the log.

The team concluded while conditions seemed favorable for 2-meter activity, it would likely be better to set up operations for the VHF side of the Reading Railroad 100th anniversary special event station on Sept. 21 atop Mount Penn at the William Penn Memorial Fire Tower.

W3BN will be activated from that location on 146.550 MHz simplex by Al K3AJM and Ron K3RJW at 1 p.m. local time and be on the air until 2 p.m. The VHF operation is aimed at giving those who don't have HF ham gear the chance to work the Reading Radio Club special event station.

The next Simplex Radio Test will be conducted on Saturday, Sept. 14 at 1 p.m.

As the net control says in the opening of the monthly test, the purpose of the SRT is to enable you to check the simplex set-up of your unit, power output and receive of your radio in keeping with our responsibilities tied to the Amateur Radio Emergency Service.

You may respond using your home or base unit, an HT or mobile radio. It is strictly for radio-to-radio contact and no repeater is available or used.

Hope we can add you to the SRT check-in log next month!

Thank you

FOR YOUR SUPPORT

Dear Reading Radio Club members,

Your support has been amazing! We thank each and every one of you for being good friends to Amateur Radio Newsline. Your recent gift helps us offset the costs we incur maintaining our website and related operations so that we can continue producing free weekly reports that keep the world's ham radio community better informed. This helps us fulfill our goal as an independent news outlet.

We rely so much on friends like you who not only listen to our reports week after week but commit to having a stake in our efforts to keep amateur radio operators around the world informed about the things that they need, or simply want, to know.

As an all-volunteer nonprofit organization, Amateur Radio Newsline relies on just this kind of valuable support you give as a benefactor as well as a listener. Please accept this note of thanks on behalf of our officers and board members.

73 and good DX,

Caryn Eve Murray

Caryn Eve Murray KD2GUT

President, Amateur Radio Newsline Inc.



Bike MS: City to Shore Ride 2024

From: John Albright, WA3ZGL

Hello All,

Things are moving along, but we of course need to up our numbers for Route HAMS. Yes, we still could use 25+ more route folks so that we could cover the route with a HAM every 2+ miles. As those of you who have been volunteering for the past 10 years, you know that my volunteer goal has always been 150 HAMS, which gave us coverage of a HAM every mile.

Those of you who know me, or have watched the "What HAMS Do" youtube video know that I have a very personal attachment to Multiple Sclerosis. This event allows me the ability to use my efforts to help all the folks living with MS. To add my little bit to try to find a cure for this Horrible Disease. I PLEAD with everyone, please look into your hearts to try to be available for all or at least part of the weekend, September 28th and 29th , 2024 to come out and help.

With all the problems we had last year, we worked very diligently to try and fix them all. Of course things will never be perfect, but I like to think that as a team, we can get pretty close.

Our sign up form is: <https://forms.gle/LTvDHTUrGgTMZLJH8>

Also, please visit our website at: <https://n3mss.wordpress.com/>

A one stop shop for information about us, what we do, and the event.

We would really like to expand our mailing list, so please forward our emails to everyone you know, and hopefully we will get enough interest that folks will send us a note to add to our mailing list.

Thank you all for allowing me to drone on, as I always do, and to THANK all of you who have volunteered in the past, are volunteering this year, and volunteering for years in the future. I am always proud to call myself a HAM, and look forward to working WITH as many of you as possible for as long as possible.

With all my THANKS,
Joe D (KC2SFB)

With Much Appreciation

73

EvComm

Msg. Phone: (609.795.0909)

The Reading Radio Club 2024 Hamfest

Saturday, August 3, 2024

By Jim Nicholas, W3ITH, Co-chairperson
Mary Anne Nicholas, N3TVT, Co-chairperson

The RRC 2024 Hamfest was held at Heritage Park in Sinking Spring on Saturday, August 3. The site is the location of an authentic train station and freight station that were transplanted from another area of western Berks County many years ago. I would like to remind everyone that our yearly ARRL-sanctioned hamfest actually starts months before the actual event. All of the many small details come together on the day prior to the hamfest, when the hamfest is set up. The hamfest is always the result of hard-working RRC members who donate their time and effort to ensure a successful event.

The publicity efforts done locally and in QST Magazine (now online), contacting vendors, the purchase and display of door prizes, obtaining paper cups, napkins, food, drinks, ice, etc. for the RRC Café, and making sure that the venue is clean (including kitchen and bathrooms) are tasks that only are a glimpse of the pre-game effort that really comes together before the event kicks off.

On the Wednesday prior to the hamfest, Mary Anne Nicholas, N3TVT, and daughter Alex refurbished the road signs that are used to guide traveling hams to the vicinity of Heritage Park. These are placed at the intersections of major highways and close to the site as well.

On the Thursday prior to the event, food and beverages were purchased by Mary Anne, N3TVT. Items needed for the hamfest were loaded up. Estate items to be sold at the hamfest were priced.

So, at 8:30 a.m. on Friday, August 2, a hardy group of RRC members braved the August sun, wet grass and humidity to make more preparations for the event. Members were still busy hours later. The seemingly endless yards of yellow caution tape were strewn and staked around the grounds to provide regular parking spaces and special reserved vendor areas. The set-up crew was composed of the following: Jim Nicholas, W3ITH; Craig Wanner, K3CRG; Ron Waszk, K3RJW; Al Melnyk, K3AJM; Joe Pietruszynski, AC3DI; Dave Fix, N3AMY; Troy Lantz, K3TKL; Joe Morrisey, KZ3OWL; Paul Berthinet, AE3U and Mary Anne Nicholas, N3TVT.

An electronic equipment test area was installed in the antique train freight station, which also housed the kitchen, restrooms, talk-in station, VE testing area tables and chairs, the ARRL tables and a door-prize ticket/information booth which offered free ham literature and ARRL and RRC member applications. The RRC Café was also set up in the freight station.

On Saturday morning at 6:00 a.m., RRC members and significant others arrived at Heritage Park to begin perking coffee, making food, erecting the entrance's portable gazebo, and manning the gate area in anticipation of early bird vendors. The weather was cloudy and the temperature was in the high sixties, perfect for a hamfest. By 7:00 a.m., it was beginning to look like a hamfest, and by 8:00 a.m., the place was in full Amateur Radio output power hamfest mode.

At the entrance to Heritage Park, gate keepers Al Melnyk, K3AJM; Walt Grube, WD8MNE; Mark Abramowz, NT3V; Cameron Higgins, W2CMH; Paul Berthinet, AE3U; and Dennis Goodling, N3JRW, handled the hectic gate and ticket admission duties and directed eager sellers and buyers to parking spaces.

Inside the freight station, Ron Waszk, K3RJW, was busy working at the RRC's 146.91/31 (tone 131.8) RRC W3BN hamfest repeater talk-in station. Craig Wanner, K3CRG, assisted. Jessica Landis, KC3PIG, and Lori Scheirer manned the front cashier table and took food orders from hungry hamfesters.

Mary Anne Nicholas, N3TVT, and Sharon Smith cooked breakfast sandwiches, hamburgers and hot dogs and prepared pastries and ice cream for the eager sellers and buyers.

Also, at the front table in the freight station, RRC T-shirts were available for sale.

By 8:30 a.m., hopeful and sometimes nervous VE test-takers were seated in the freight station under the supervision of the ARRL/RRC VE Team led by Stu Higgins, W2SLH. Other Volunteer Examiners for this test session were the following: Nate Rosenthal, N2ADD; Scott Scheirer, KC3PCS; Joe Pietrusynski, AC3DI; Jonathan Durand, N8EUL; Dennis Goodling, N3JRW; Eric Cintron Ortiz, KN3M and Ron Waszk, K3RJW.

Soon, the door prizes began to be announced every half hour or so. These included two \$50 and two \$25 ARRL gift certificates and a variety of informative ARRL books, and an ARRL handi-tool with a belt case, courtesy of the ARRL. Also given as prizes were two Beofeng UV5R+ 2 meter/70 cm handhelds, donated by the Reading Radio Club, and three Talkpro 2 meter/70 cm handhelds, donated by the Talkpro Corporation.

Also in the freight station, the always friendly ARRL Eastern PA Section Manager, Bob Wilson, W3BIG, who was on hand to greet hams and provide information as needed. We thank the ARRL for donating the two \$50 and two \$25 gift certificates, ARRL books and the ARRL handi-tool with a belt case.

Ham estate items and other ham gear donated to the club were sold in the freight station. These included pieces of test equipment, two HF transceivers with power supplies, two HF amplifiers, three antenna tuners, oscilloscopes, older tubes, connectors, wire, coax, antennas and other parts. As you can imagine, these tables always attract a multitude of hams!

Ralph Hess, KC3KMT, manager of the Radio Shack store in New Holland, was on hand with an assistant selling an endless supply of parts, connectors and just about anything. This is the first time we have had Radio Shack at the hamfest. From Cedar Grove, New Jersey, we once again welcomed Gene Niemiec, K2KJI, of K2KJI Electronics, and his helpers who are also hams. They visit us every year. We appreciate the vendors who always add a bit of flavor to our Berks County hamfest.

By 12:30 p.m., cleanup was in progress and the RRC helpers looked a bit tired, but still were very enthusiastic. The freight station was cleaned, and the outside grounds were given a thorough once-over by to remove any litter. Tables and chairs were reset as we had found them. Highway signs were removed. Trash and recycle items were taken from the site.

This year's attendance did not surpass last year's. This is probably because there was rain forecast for later in the day and the weather experts were correct. We had some rain at about 3 p.m., well after the hamfest had concluded.

Including RRC members and guests, over 175 persons attended. We all had a great time. The thrill of seeing vintage ham gear for sale, the thought of finding that elusive connector or part, or the hope of selling some no longer used ham gear draws hams to a hamfest. And unlike eBay, there is never a charge for shipping, but always lots of eyeball QSOs!

Below is a photo of RRC President Joe Pietrusynski, AC3DI, showing ARRL Eastern PA Section Mgr. Bob Wilson, W3BIG a certificate which commemorates the founding of the Reading Railroad. The certificate will be given to those hams who contact the RRC special event station, which will be held on September 21, 2024.

Thanks to all who participated at the hamfest!



RRC SPECIAL EVENT

W3BN, W3CCH SPECIAL EVENT STATIONS TO CELEBRATE

100th ANNIVERSARY OF READING RAILROAD ON SEPT. 21

BY Mark Abramowicz NT3V

It promises to be one of the biggest operating events of 2024 for the Reading Radio Club!

Two separate locations will be manned by groups of club members operating four HF stations to mark the 100th anniversary of the formal incorporation of the Reading Co., known as the Reading Railroad.

Operators will use W3CCH in the activation of two stations from rail cars parked outside the Reading Railroad Heritage Museum in Hamburg, PA operated by the Reading Company Technical & Historical Society.

Walt Skavinsky KB3SBC is coordinating the Hamburg railroad station operation. To sign up for an operating slot, go to the following link: <https://forms.gle/hXtNbKutzy4Bu9o96>

The W3BN call sign will be used on two HF radios operating from the contest QTH of RRC member Steve Dobbs NE3F. The team is already pretty much in place for Steve's location due to some space limitations. But if you can't make it to the Hamburg operation you can reach out to Mark Abramowicz NT3V to arrange a visit to Steve's location.

Operations from both station locations will get under way on Saturday, Sept. 21 at 9 a.m. EDT local time (1300 UTC) and continue until 9 p.m. EDT local time (0200 UTC).

W3CCH and W3BN will be active on 10, 15, 20, 40 and 80 meters – depending on time of day and band conditions.

The stations will be spotted regularly on the DX Cluster.

W3CCH will also be activated on VHF on 146.550 Mhz Simplex from the area of the William Penn Memorial Fire Tower along Skyline Drive overlooking the City of Reading. That operation will commence on Saturday, Sept. 21 at 1 p.m. EDT local time (1700 UTC) and is aimed at reaching out to all amateurs in the region, especially those who may not have access to an HF radio.

Al Melnyk K3AJM and Ron Waszk K3RJW will be manning the VHF activation. Al and Ron promise to stay on the air from the fire tower location until at least 2 p.m., but may be on longer if stations are still calling.

Reading Radio Club President Joe Pietruszynski AC3DI designed a special, full-color certificate commemorating the event. It will be available to all amateur stations who work either W3BN or W3CCH or both. Simply send an email to receive the certificate to: rdgrr100@gmail.com.

In the email, operators should include your call sign, band, frequency, mode, the date, and time you worked the station.

THERE WILL BE NO QSL CARDS FOR THIS OPERATION.

The personalized color certificate will be emailed to you and you will have the option to print it on whatever card stock you wish, frame it and display it in your shack!

A sample of the certificate is included in this month's edition of the RRC Bulletin.

You can also find more details about the Special Event stations W3BN and W3CCH at the QRZ.com pages for each of the call signs.

Look for coverage of the event on the Reading Radio Club's web page and Facebook page.

Also look for and listen for coverage on Amateur Radio Newsline and the American Radio Relay League, including the EPA Section blog or news page.

Those club member who participate from W3BN or W3CCH will receive an "operator's certificate."

Stay tuned to the weekly Reading Radio Club Meeting on the Air on Fridays at 8 p.m. local time on the RRC repeater – 146.910 MHz for the latest developments.

Or, come to the RRC monthly meeting on Friday, Sept. 13 at 7:30 p.m. in the Berks County Agricultural Center to learn more.



RRC HAMWARE

We have RRC merchandise for sale at each RRC general meeting. Stop by and see Jim Nicholas for short sleeve t-shirts, and Amy Lindenmuth for jackets, hats, and long sleeve shirts. Amy is taking orders for RRC jackets. The next jacket order will be placed when we have 12 people signed up to purchase a jacket. See below for pricing details.

Gildan Short Sleeve T-Shirt: Small \$13, M-XL \$15, 2XL-3XL \$18

Gildan Long Sleeve T-Shirt: Small-XL \$18, 2XL \$20, 3XL \$21

Next Level Long Sleeve T-Shirt: Small-XL \$21, 2XL \$23, 3XL \$25

Hooded Sweatshirt: Small-XL \$27, 2XL \$30, 3XL \$32

Sweatshirt: Small-XL \$21, 2XL \$24, 3XL \$25

Gildan Full-Zip Hoodie

| Size | Price |
|------|---------|
| S-XL | \$40.00 |
| 2XL | \$46.00 |
| 3XL | \$48.00 |
| 4XL | \$50.00 |
| 5XL | \$50.00 |



Hats \$20

Port Authority Light Weight Jacket

| Size | Price |
|------|---------|
| S-XL | \$58.00 |
| 2XL | \$59.00 |
| 3XL | \$62.00 |
| 4XL | \$63.00 |
| 5XL | \$65.00 |
| 6XL | \$66.00 |



Dri Duck Torrent Waterproof Jacket

| Size | Price |
|------|---------|
| S-XL | \$87.00 |
| 2XL | \$89.00 |
| 3XL | \$92.00 |
| 4XL | \$94.00 |





Saturday, October 12th, 2024 1600 - 0400 UTC
Noon - Midnight EDT

Sunday, October 13th, 2024 1300 - 2200 UTC
9:00AM - 6:00PM EDT

<http://www.paqso.org>

“THE FRIENDLY QSO PARTY” IS COMING UP NEXT MONTH IN PA

By Mark Abramowicz NT3V

The PA QSO Party hits the HF bands the second weekend of October – Oct. 12 and 13.

It’s a “no pressure,” operating event that has been growing in popularity in the Keystone State in recent years.

And, it has become a favorite among hams from many nearby states including Ohio, Michigan, and West Virginia. It attracts operators from as far away as California, Texas and New Mexico as well as those from throughout Canada.

So what justifies “The Friendly QSO Party” label?

Simple: If you’re listening to the activity on the air, you can hear the exchanges among most of the operators from PA who take their time, don’t really sound like “contesters,” and are appreciative of each contact and careful to make sure you got the exchange.

That’s right, you really DON’T have to be a contester to play in the PA Party. Many people take their time, are patient and really helpful in coaching first-timers.

Just turn on your HF radio – especially to 40 and 80 meters - and start spinning the dial up the band and listen for the PA stations as well as stations in other states. Listen to what they’re saying. Key your microphone and put out your call.

All you need to give the operator on the other end is the number of the contact (in other words is he the first contact you made, second, or third, etc.) and give your county – in our case, Berks.

So the exchange would go like this between myself and Larry WR1B in Schuylkill County who is calling on a frequency.

Example:

Mark: “NT3V.”

Larry: “NT3V. Thanks for the call! You’re number 28 from Schuylkill – Sierra Charlie Hotel. QSL?”

Mark: “WR1B from NT3V. QSL your number 28 from Schuylkill. You are 25 from Berks – Bravo Echo Romeo.”

Larry: “Thanks Mark for 25 from Berks. 73 and good luck. QRZ PA Party, this is WR1B.”

It’s that simple!

If you’re comfortable using a computer logging program – N3FJP is a popular one as is N1MM used by DX contesters.

If not, there’s always paper logging, but you’ll want to keep a dupe sheet to avoid calling someone you might already have worked.

The whole point of the event is to have some FUN and maybe learn some geography about Pennsylvania. Did you know there are 67 counties in PA?

Wow! That’s a lot of counties!

So, are there hams in every county in PA? Not necessarily. That’s why hams will go out and operate portable – set up in a “rare” county. Or, operators will go mobile and run through multiple counties.

That’s how all the counties get activated!

What happens if I work all 67 counties? The PA QSO Party Association, which runs the event, has a nice colorful certificate for you! Plus, you can order a plaque to commemorate your achievement!

The best source of information about the PA QSO Party is the group’s website: <https://paqso.org/>

Explore the site and find out more about how it works.

Look for KC3BSA operating from the Hawk Mountain Scout Reservation in Schuylkill County this year on 10, 15, 20, 40 and 80 meters. Operations will be primarily on SSB, but look for us at times on CW on 40 and 80 meters. Our team is made up of the following: Mark Abramowicz NT3V, Larry Wolfgang WR1B, Chris Schlegel WI3W, and Camp Ranger Kevin Huneke.

We hope to work you on the air in this year’s PA QSO Party!

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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 © 2024 by the Reading Radio Club, Inc.

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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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PLEASE NOTE: The Reading Radio Club is 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