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Affiliated 02/17/1922

Meetings & Programs

(All Are Welcome to attend public RRC Events)

Board Meeting: November 5th, 2024 @ 7:30 PM (Zoom)
General Meeting: November 8th, 2024 @ 7:30 (IBEW) - Come on out!!!
Meeting On the Air (MOTA) - All Other Fridays - 8 PM - W3BN Repeater
FLDigi Net: November 7th, 2024 @ 7:30 PM (146.91 W3BN Repeater)
Simplex Test: November 9th, 2024 @ 1 PM (146.55 then 446.00)
Fox Hunt: Not Scheduled
VE Exam: November 8th, 2024 @ 6:00 PM (at Meeting Site) (See Page 2)

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 Directors Meeting Minutes that are posted online are from the prior month. 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 98 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

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](#)



IBEW
Complex



Simplex Radio Test

BERKS COUNTY SIMPLEX RADIO TEST RETURNS IN NOVEMBER

By Mark Abramowicz NT3V

It's back!

The Reading Radio Club sponsored Simplex Radio Test – also known among VHF operators here in the area as the SRT – returns after an October hiatus.

Plan on taking part in the November test on Saturday, Nov. 9 at 1 p.m. local time on 146.550 Megahertz Simplex.

We'll be running the list of check-ins from past months and would like to add you to the roll call as first-timers are always welcome.

We'll be offering an opportunity to earn the Reading Radio Club's Pagoda award for contacts with club members other than through a repeater.

After that, we'll pick up the check-ins for the 70cm side of the test on 446 Megahertz Simplex.

If you're a regular, we welcome you back. If this is the first time you've heard about it, tune in and find out what you're missing.

There will be NO December SRT because of the scheduled Reading Radio Club holiday luncheon on Saturday, Dec. 14, 2024. We will resume the monthly Simplex Radio Test in 2025.

SPECIAL REPORT

Hi all. From the office of the vice president of our club, I was informed that we will have a guest net control in November .

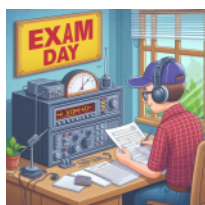
Please be on the radio on the Saturday after our meeting at the IBEW bldg in Spring Township. Of course, the same applies to what frequency and time, an we will be picking a spot to hold the SRT. It could be anywhere in Berks County.

ALSO..... We will NOT have a SRT in December due to the Christmas meal on the same day and at the same time,.. So Decembers SRT is a NO GO .

Next SRT will be January 2025 the day after the general membership meeting.

Thats all for NOW from the VP. Hope you have a great Halloween.

RON 73



VE Test Session

We will be hosting an Amateur Radio Exam session before our November 8th Meeting. Please arrive at 5:45 The exam will begin at 6 P.M. Please register with Stuart by emailing exam@w2slh.com prior to the exam. Cost is 15.00 (Exact Cash or check made out to ARRL-VEC). We will have all 3 levels of exams available.

Good luck.

Reading Radio Club 2024 Christmas Luncheon

Saturday, December 14, 2024

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 is \$ 20.00 per person, includes everything.

Contact Jim Nicholas, W3ITH for reservations at the RRC meetings and nets or Telephone 610-678-9243. Email w3ith@arrl.net.

RRC MEETING HIGHLIGHTS OCTOBER 11, 2024

By: RRC Secretary, Amy Lindenmuth, KB3FSD

The Friday, October 11, 2024, RRC General meeting was held in the Main Auditorium of the Ag Center in Leesport, PA.

1. Prior to the meeting, 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 pm. There were twenty-seven people in attendance, three were guests.
3. Joe Pietruszynski (AC3DI) led the group in the pledge to the American Flag.
4. RRC members and guests introduced themselves.
5. Joe Pietruszynski (AC3DI) had new member letters for Tim Davidson (W3UCA), Matt Davidson (W3MFD), and Mike Kozik.
6. There will be a VE exam on October 12, 2024. Contact Stuart Higgins (W2SLH) to register.
7. The next FLDIGI net is November 7, 2024, at 7:30 pm on 146.91.
8. There will not be an SRT on October 12, 2024, due to the PA QSO party. The next SRT will be November 9, 2024, at 1:00 pm.
9. The RRC Christmas Luncheon will be Saturday, December 12, 2024, at Wegman's on Route 61. Lunch will be served promptly at 12:30 pm. The meal is family style and includes ham, turkey, potato filling, french fries, fruit cup, salad, green beans, cake, and ice cream. The cost is \$20 per person. See Jim Nicholas (W3ITH) to sign up.
10. Ron Dietrich (KC3WBA) won the 50-50.
11. See Amy Lindenmuth (KB3FSD) to purchase RRC jackets, hoodies, long sleeve and short sleeve t-shirts, and hats.
12. Board of Director nominations will be taken at the November 8, 2024, meeting. Nominees must be present at the meeting to accept the nomination.
13. 2025 dues are payable beginning November 2024.
14. Beginning November 8, 2024, the general meetings will be at the IBEW building located at 20 Morgan Drive. Dave Fix (N3AMY) provided directions and pictures of the IBEW building.
15. Joe Pietruszynski (AC3DI) provided an overview of the special event from September 21, 2024. W3CCH was set up at the train museum in Hamburg in a train car and made 359 contacts. W3BN was set up at the site of Steve Dobb's (silent key) home and made 1,163 contacts. At the time of the meeting, 172 contact certificates were sent, 173 are still being worked on, and ten are on hold. Ron Waszk (K3RJW) and Cameron Higgins (W2CMH) made 35 VHF contacts from the fire tower.
16. A mini ham fest will be December 13, 2024, general meeting. Some snacks will be available, and door prizes will be handed out.

17. There will be no Winter Field Day this year.
18. If you have any ideas for fundraisers, please reach out to the fundraising committee.
19. Jason Potter (NG3F) provided an update on the status of the repeater. Cleanup has continued at the repeater site. Chris Schlegel continues to be the technical lead for the repeater. The repeater now has about a 7 to 8 hours of back up for the controller. The committee is trying to get the other repeater installed to assess it and see what it can do. The committee is looking into other backup options. It was suggested that the club ask a company to donate a battery for use with the backup. There is also a propane generator in the room, but it has not been used for years.
20. Ron Waszk (K3RJW) asked for location ideas to conduct the SRT. Please let Al, Mark, Ron, or Jason know your suggestions.
21. Ron Waszk (K3RJW) reminded everyone about the cricket crew on 146.91 at 5:30-5:45 am daily.
22. Ron Waszk (K3RJW) asked for more people to get involved with the club and events. Suggestions are welcome as to activities, events, and suggestions for the RRC. Please share any ideas with the Board Members or at a general meeting. One suggestion was to reach out to the Reading School District and talk to a science class about amateur radio.
23. Ron Waszk (K3RJW) asked for volunteers to help with the SRT.
24. The next RRC BOD Meeting will be Tuesday, November 5, 2024, by ZOOM starting at 7:30pm.
25. The RRC General Meeting will be Friday, November 8, 2024, at the IBEW Building located at 20 Morgan Drive, at 7:30pm.
26. RRC President, Joe Pietruszynski (AC3DI) adjourned the meeting for a time of fellowship.



*Birthdays
of the
Month*

Matt T, W3MBT; Marty K, W3MJK; Alan H, N3ATH; Alex S, KE1FIE;
Tim F, K9SMF, Eric C, KN3M; Nathan L, KB3ZCC; Richard H, W3OKX

RON'S RAVINGS

by Ron Waszk, K3RJW

OK all, I gave a speech Friday at the meeting which I was scared of giving, but after giving it , I WAS TOLD that it was needed to be heard for years now.

It had to do with assisting at our events. It had to do with not only giving ideas on what we should do, but actually assisting in doing it.

We had a great idea Friday in getting the local schools involved, and the person that gave the idea was requested to find out what we could do there. We asked if he could contact the school where he worked and see if its even feasible. Lets listen for his response.

A few of us noticed that when we do have an event, only 10 to 15% help or show up to help.

Its getting old. What i mean is "ASK RON HE WILL HELP". Yes I do enjoy helping, but sometimes its over bearing and wears us out.

How about the work that our editors put in to THIS bulletin. I proved that not a lot read our bulletin. Notice was put out last month and when the members arrived, Lots said they never heard it was going on. I was ashamed of that answer. That info was not only put on the bulletin, but also over the air three times.

We need more response at our events, We need more help at everything we do. Please be an active member. We are volunteers for a reason ... We may be the lifeblood of our communities. JUST as they do at SHTF and Hurricanes as recently. But without practice, you may not be available, or caught up in how we operate. Not know what to do to assist us or the people in general.

Please people, Please members, think about it. We are there to help you too, but how do you think we feel when we are always the ones people ask for when things go south.

Sorry if this hurt your feelings, but many have been rumbling about this for months/years now and I thought it was time to say something since we are having many silent keys disappear. Our helpers are gone, we need more and new helpers.

PS.....How many know where we are meeting in November?????? How to get into the bldg, and where to park. It was on the bulletin last month and Dave F put a lot into getting us the place to have the meeting. (thank you Dave)

Thank you ..
RON K3RJW. 73

Reading Radio Club

Mini Ham Fest

Mark your calendar! The Reading Radio Club Mini-Hamfest

The Reading Radio Club Mini-Hamfest will be held on Friday, December 13, 2024 after our regular monthly meeting. We will have our normal business meeting, including voting for candidates to the RRC Board of Directors.

After the voting is completed, RRC members will have a chance to win a door prize. Members will be given door prize tickets, the number of which corresponds to how many RRC activities they have attended. Prizes include three Talkpro 2 meter/70 cm HTs, MFJ speakers, ARRL books and other items.

Members and non-members may bring items to sell and set up their ham gear for sale on tables (at no cost). If you plan to sell items, you may set up at 6:30, well before the start of the meeting at 7:30 p.m. All sales are cash and are final at the hamfest. The RRC assumes no liability for any sales. If you sell something, the RRC Treasurer, Nate Rosenthal, N2ADD, will be available if you wish to donate a percentage to the RRC.

Please note: We will be at a different location, NOT at the Berks County Agricultural Center. We will be at the IBEW Local 743 building at 20 Morgan Drive in Sinking Spring (across Rt. 724, not far from Lowe's). The Ag. Center will be having renovations done, so for our November meeting, and going forward for an unknown period of time, we will be at the IBEW building. Thanks to Dave Fix, N3AMY, for arranging this location.

Jim Nicholas, W3ITH
w3ith@arrl.net

SPACE STATION PASS THRILLS JOTA HMSR VISITORS

By Mark Abramowicz NT3V

The International Space Station pass over the Hawk Mountain Scout Reservation on Saturday, Oct. 19 was among the biggest highlights of the 2024 JOTA operation staffed by members of the Reading Radio Club at the camp in nearby Schuylkill County.

Ron K3RJW and Ron KC3WBA thrilled a group of some 20 people who gathered around their portable VHF station packed into the back of a pick-up truck behind the Miller Dining Hall on the Camp Duportail side of the reservation.

The group of Cub Scouts – boys and girls – and parents and leaders heard hams engaging in conversations during the 10-minute pass. The youngsters found it fascinating that the space station played such a big part in helping the hams communicate.

Ron and Ron were equally thrilled to share the live audio with the group and answered questions about what was going on.

Organizers of the Cub Scout Family Event said it was the talk of the camp and attracted people up the hill to check out the JOTA operation.

The “Fox Hunt” station set up in front of the dining hall and manned by Walt KB3SBC, Bill W3FRB, and Cameron, W2CMH, was the second busiest part of the JOTA operation. Under the careful guidance of the trio – the Cubs and their parents and leaders – the hunts were successful and fun!

In the Lenni Lenape pavilion just below the dining hall, Chris W3CJW, and Nick KC3SGN, were in charge of an HF and VHF station where visitors got an explanation and some hands on demonstrations on how each worked. The Cubs also had the chance to talk to staff members over the VHF radios and heard some DX stations as well.

Paul AE3U and Mark NT3V were positioned at the back of the pavilion where they gave a presentation on some ham radio basics, including the use of phonetic language, Morse Code, and how hams use their hobby to serve others.

Mark helped each of the Cubs learn their names in phonetic language. Paul gave a brief rundown on the history of Morse Code and had an Ipad loaded with a special program displaying a working Morse Code key which the youngsters used to send dits and dahs.

Some 400 families attended the daylong event which included a pumpkin patch, field games, a hay ride, crafts and shooting on the BB-rifle range.

The JOTA staff had a great time showing off their skills and interacting with the boys, girls, parents and leaders. All on staff hope to be back next year and already are thinking of ways to make it an even better experience for all.



WINTER FIELD DAY

After careful consideration, the Field Day committee has decided not to hold a Club Winter Field Day in 2025. We look forward to returning to Winter Field Day in 2026. Be sure to get on the air and operate from home (using your own call sign of course).

Winter Field Day is January 25 - 26, 2025.

RRC HAMWARE

We have RRC merchandise for sale at each RRC general meeting. See Amy Lindenmuth for jackets, hats, and t- 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



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.

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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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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