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Affiliated 02/17/1922

Meetings & Programs

(All Are Welcome to attend public RRC Events)

Board Meeting: December 10th, 2024 @ 7:30 PM (Zoom)
General Meeting: December 13th, 2024 @ 7:30 (IBEW) - Come on out!!!
Meeting On the Air (MOTA) - All Other Fridays - 8 PM - W3BN Repeater
FLDigi Net: December 5th, 2024 @ 7:30 PM (146.91 W3BN Repeater)
Simplex Test: January 11th, 2025 @ 1 PM (146.55)
Fox Hunt: Not Scheduled
VE Exam: Contact Stuart (exam@w2slh.com) to schedule.

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



Board Elections are held at the December General Meetings.

Nominations are accepted during the November meeting and December Meeting up until the election.

The Current Officers whose terms are expiring: Janine, K4AJZ; Jason, NG3F; Joe, AC3DI.

Current Nominees (In Alphabetical order): Jason Potter, NG3F; Joseph Morrissey, KZ3OWL; Joseph Pietruszynski, AC3DI; Tyler Scheirer, KC3LVS, This list is subject to change.

All Reading Radio Club Full Members are encouraged to come out to the December General Meeting to participate in the Election. PLEASE BRING A PEN TO MARK YOUR VOTES.

The full Board of Directors will be installed at the January General Meeting.

The Board of Directors will select the Officers (President / Vice President / Secretary / Treasurer) at the January Board meeting.

A Few Things to NOTE from the Editor:

The list of meetings on the calender on the next page are subject change as is the location of the meetings due to availability of venues.

Please check your email prior to coming to a meeting to make sure nothing has changed. We use Ham Club Online to send out emails throughout the month.

This is YOUR CLUB bulletin. The Editors need material to put into it. Even if you have just an idea for an article, reach out to the editors or to Mark and let them know. We will do our best to work it into the bulletin. We invite you to share the bulletin with your friends as you tell them about ham radio.

The editors appreciate constructive criticism. They DO NOT appreciate you pointing out errors. We realize that things slip by. Unless it's a major flaw, there is no reason to point it out.

Please do NOT respond to the bulletin email. Write directly to kc3pcs@outlook.com.

The Reading Radio Club will NOT be hosting a Winter Field Day 2024 but you are welcome to participate on your own using your own call sign.

Stay tuned in next month's bulletin for some details on changes to Field Day 2025.



Brian B, KC3QB; Jeff N, KC3QLR; Charles Z, W3CMZ; Dave Fix, N3AMY;
Kevin S, N3SYT; Keith S, N3LUU; Jason P, NG3F; Craig H, K3CWH;
Evelyn A, KB3JPY; Don B, WA1ELA

2025 Reading Radio Club

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

*May have to move the date due to a schedule conflict with the Berks Ag Center.

Ag Center meeting dates are not confirmed due to renovations, and they are not currently taking reservations.

The January and February 2025 General Meetings are scheduled at the IBEW Local 743 building located at 20 Morgan Drive, Sinking Spring, due to the renovations at the Ag Center.

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

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 28-29, 2025, Location TBD

Picnic – Date and Location TBD

Hamfest – August 2, 2025, at Heritage Park, Sinking Spring, PA - August 1 set-up

PA/QSO – October 11-12, 2025

Election Day – November 4, 2025

Christmas Luncheon – Date and Location TBD

TREASURER'S NOTES:

In the past, there has been some confusion with renewals and being acknowledged. When the renewal is processed in hamclubonline, you will receive an email stating about a transaction with your new expiration date.

Please also note, that if you get an email from Ham Club Online about your membership expiring, that is automated as memberships run from January 1st until December 31st. There is a grace period after that but please get your dues renewed as soon as possible. Please see the following below from Nate:

Renewal Acknowledgments

The following renewal acknowledgments have been and will be in effect.

1. Renewals at a meeting: I record your payment on a log sheet indicating your call sign, first name, amount paid, and method of payment. You may request a membership card at that time.
2. Renewals mailed to me or the PO Box: Normally, these renewal payments are made by check so you can check your bank statement. I may not deposit these checks right away so you may have to check two statements. Cards will be sent only if you enclose a SASE; you can request a card at a meeting.
3. PayPal renewals: I normally acknowledge PayPal renewals by email. Again I may not check PayPal every day so be patient.

Nate N2ADD
n2add@arrl.net

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

RRC SRT NET CONTROL TEAM ADDS ANOTHER NEW MEMBER

By Mark Abramowicz, NT3V

Amy Lindenmuth KB3FSD joined the Reading Radio Club sponsored Simplex Radio Test net control team for the Nov. 9, 2024 event.

Amy served as net control for the 70 cm side of the test on 446.000 Megahertz Simplex.

Cameron Higgins W2CMH returned as net control for the VHF side of the SRT on 146.550 Megahertz Simplex.

In all, Cameron attracted 16 check-ins for the VHF test; Amy, who is the RRC's board secretary, netted two check-ins for the 446.000 Megahertz Simplex portion.

Al Melnyk K3AJM picked up the mic to call for stations interested in earning the Reading Radio Club's Pagoda Award for contacts with Reading Radio Club members. Unfortunately, Al had no takers.

The November test was conducted on the parking lot of The Pour House located at Route 73 and Route 12, the Pricetown Road, at Breezy Corners.

Ron Waszk K3RJW, SRT technical coordinator, said conditions were "a little rough from that location." But Ron explained that's one of the goals of the Simplex Radio Test – finding strong and weak locations for transmitting and receiving signals.

There will be no Simplex Radio Test for December 2024 so as not to interfere with the Reading Radio Club's Dec. 14 holiday luncheon.

The SRT will return to the air on Jan. 11, 2025 at 1 p.m. EST, local time.

All licensed amateur radio operators are welcome to participate starting on 146.550 Megahertz Simplex, followed by a chance to make contacts for the Pagoda Award.

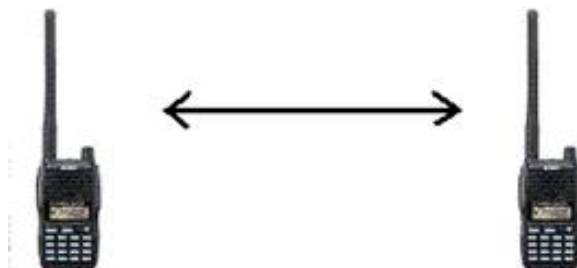
The Fox Hole

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

ATTENTION VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED

I am reaching out for a few volunteers to help in a SUPER FOX HUNT. Sometime in spring (late April to late May) is when I plan to have the big event. I need 2 people to turn on transmitters at different locations. I will start the hunters and after they are dispatched I will go to a 3rd and final spot. When they reach the final spot I hope to have refreshments and prizes. Finally a last surprise hunt at the last spot to find the low power Fox.

Please contact Dave Fix, N3AMY, 484-529-1746, or electriciandhf@yahoo.com.



RON'S RAVINGS

by Ron Waszk, K3RJW

Hi everyone.

It was such a busy month, and now we go into our clubs month with nominations, the mini ham fest, our meal at the restaurant and major holidays.

We went from a MAJOR drought for October, to snowing on the 22 of November.

NOW is the time to prepare for winter if you haven't done so already. Get the antennas checked out as I did. I had to replace my end fed 73 foot wire. It was totally devastated. Having about 10 wires in a strand, there was one point that there were only 6 connected. Only took about 2 hours, and I doubled the wire using both sides of the speaker wire instead of splitting it in half, and going thin. I HONESTLY think that splitting it also caused it to degrade faster being there might have been splits in the plastic covering that caused water to really mess it up. SO I SUGGEST you check your wires, and even the beams/directional s for parts that may have been destroyed by the storms this summer. CHECK YOUR COAX,,,I even found a spot on my power lines from my solar panels to my man cave batteries chewed through by the local wild animals.

I wish everyone a great holiday season,, I hope you didn't get too heavy at Thanksgiving and that your bills are paid so you can buy the presents for your loved ones without burying your bank account.

Don't forget,, to volunteer, we NEED your help.

RON K3RJW Vice Pres.

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.



OPERATION TOY TRAIN GETS HELP FROM HAMS IN EPA By Mark Abramowicz NT3V

(Editor's Note: The following story appeared on the Friday, Nov. 29 edition of Amateur Radio Newslines as heard on the Reading Radio Club Meeting on the Air on the 146.91 Megahertz repeater. The author made some minor adjustments to this article to recognize the contributions of the two RRC members who organized the event.)

A group of hams from eastern Pennsylvania boarded a special train to join Santa in collecting toys for the needy during a nearly five-mile ride through Amish and Mennonite farm country. At the same time, they operated a special event station to promote their charitable mission. Amateur Radio Newslines's Mark Abramowicz NT3V has the story.

Members of the Alburdis Amateur Radio Club and East Penn Amateur Radio club joined forces to organize the Operation Toy Train event in northeastern Berks County, PA in cooperation with the U.S. Marine Corp's Toys for Tots program on Sunday, Nov. 24 - the last Sunday of November. The team, led by Reading Radio Club members Nicholas Hoffke KC3SGN and Walt Skavinsky KB3SBC, activated W3A aboard a Conrail caboose pulled by a train operating along the Allentown and Auburn Railroad.

The duo set up a homemade inverted-L antenna stretched over the roof of a flat rail car to make HF contacts on 20 and 40 meters. They also employed a two-meter radio and antenna to make VHF contacts with local hams along the route.

During the five-hour period, the group collected more than 160 toys at three stops along the rail line and made more than 75 contacts using the W3A call, including QSOs with stations across the continental U.S., Puerto Rico and even Great Britain..

Skavinsky said one guest operator – whose handle is Sierra Alpha November Tango Alpha – was particularly thrilled to learn that all those who made contacts with W3A were on his “nice list.” Skavinsky says Santa was happy with the donations of so many toys brought by those who came out to greet the train and check out the activities of his ham friends. Santa thanked them all and promised he would make sure the toys find homes this Christmas.

I'm Mark Abramowicz NT3V in Kutztown, Pennsylvania.

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

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

2025 ANNUAL DUES NOTICE

The RRC 2025 annual dues are payable starting November 1, 2024. This is the only notice that will be issued. The dues are payable in full by January 1, 2025. The dues are unchanged from 2024 and are per the following schedule.

- 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.

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.

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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