



Est. 3/10/1921

W3BN

W3CCH

RRC B U L L E T I N



Affiliated 02/17/1922

Meetings & Programs

(All Are Welcome to attend public RRC Events)

Board Meeting: June 10th, 2025 @ 7:30 PM (Zoom)
General Meeting: June 13th, 2025 @ 7:30 (IBEW)
Meeting On the Air (MOTA) - All Other Fridays - 8 PM - W3BN Repeater
FLDigi Net: June 5th @ 7:30 PM (146.91 W3BN Repeater)
Simplex Test: June 14th, 2025 @ 1 PM (146.55)
Fox Hunt: June 21st, 2025. See Page 11.
VE Exam: Contact Stuart (exam@w2slh.com) to schedule.

2025 Board Of Directors & Officers

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PRES	Joe Pietruszynski, AC3DI	(27)
VP	Ronald Waszk, K3RJW	(26)
SEC:	Amy Lindenmuth, KB3FSD	(26)
TREAS.	Nate Rosenthal, N2ADD	(26)

Ronald Dietrich, KC3WBA	(27)
Craig Wanner, K3CRG	(25)
Scott Scheirer, KC3PCS, Editor	(25)
Jason Potter, NG3F	(27)
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 88 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.w3bn.org>
Manage your club profile & email address at <http://www.hamclubonline.com>

Find us on Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/RRCW3BN>
Club Groups.Io Page: <http://www.groups.io/g/W3BN>
Club Email: w3bn.rrc@gmail.com. Bulletin Email: kc3pcs@outlook.com

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.



It's finally here June. That means FIELD DAY. Be sure to check out the Field Comms Article further in the bulletin.

It's been a bit soggy but what better time to get on the air? Your stuck inside, fire up the radio and get on the air.

We have 2 exciting fundraising events coming up. We are having a Raffle and a BBQ Chicken Fundraiser. See details further in the bulletin.

We also want to remind you to check out the club's website <http://www.w3bn.org> to keep up to date. It is updated regularly. We also have facebook and a groups.io. All this information is on the website's front page.

Lastly, Please, please do not wait until the 24/25th to get your articles in. The editors are busy people too and would like as much time as possible to get the bulletin in order and ready to send out.

Hope everyone has a great month and hope to see the members at Field Day.



Nate, N2ADD; Leonard, KC3VZK; Craig, K3CRG; Corinne (XYL Rich, W3WJC)

Due to the Berks Agricultural Center Building renovation project being behind schedule, The Reading Radio Club will continue to have our in person General Meeting's at the IBEW743 Building.

The address is 20 Morgan Drive, Sinking Spring.

As any information becomes available to the RRC about our return to the Agricultural Center for meetings the RRC will let you know.

RON'S RAVINGS

by Ron Waszk, K3RJW

He everyone its time for an update on the Fox hunt changes. Dave and I are working on a real life type FOX hunt test/search.

We have decided to make changes to how we hunt after learning a lot during the recent hunt we had last satuready (the 17th of May).

We are presently discussing HOW we are going to alert those for actual hunts, How we are going to work DURING the hunts with frequencies, and How we are going to notify those that can help to find the ROGUE transmitters. To include what frequencies we are going to use during the hunt. That will be explained later during the instruction phase.

As Dave keeps trying to get hunters from the four points on the map, we are trying devise a way to use those people as very important reporters.

I MUST SAY, EVEN if you do NOT have a directional antenna, a report as simple as what happened on Saturday in that we had ONE report that the signal could NOT be heard from a VERY high elevation that was important to keep us from traveling toward that location. It could have saved MILES as it did saturday,

I have a pet peeve, and as does a few others on the Board of Directors to include a few on the Monday evening net for ARES.

The pet peeve is that the nets are used to check the equipment, NOT signing in someone else. That deletes the use of the nets for that person. We hear you sign in, that means your equipment is working and can reach either repeater. We dont do the nets to see HOW many sign in by having someone else sign them in but to keep our equipment working properly.

Please be respectful of those that CANNOT reach the repeater, but CAN hear it. Then you can assist as a RELAY. I believe its an important part of the nets, And it falls in line with proper use of the radio.

Ron, K3RJW

RRC Club Picnic

Reading Radio Club Picnic
Saturday, July 12, 2025
11 a.m. until 3 p.m. Eat at Noon

Please note:

We will be at a different location this year--The Bicentennial House, 201 Playground Drive, West Reading, PA 19611. (Behind the West Reading Fire Department and very close to the West Reading Playground.)

Tune into the Reading Radio Club Repeater (146.91/.31 tone 131.8) for directions if needed.

The event is free for RRC members and significant others.

The RRC supplies hot dogs, American cheese, hamburgers, rolls, potato salad, chips, pretzels, sodas, ice cream, water, napkins, utensils, mustard, ketchup, table cloths, and ice.

To reserve a seat, please see Jim Nicholas, W3ITH at an RRC monthly meeting, or email him at w3ith@arrl.net.

Notes From The Field Comms Committee

June is Field Day Month.

This year Field Day is June 28/29th. We are setting up Saturday around 8 am and takedown is after 2 pm Sunday.

We are having it at Camp Bynden Wood (South Mountain YMCA Camp). The Address is 201 Cushion Peak Rd, Reinholds, PA 17569.

There will be 3 HF Stations (2 Voice/CW, 1 Digital (FLDigi / FT8). There will also be a solar station along with the talk in station with contact to the RRC W3BN Repeater.

This year's event is for club members only. This is due to insurance and safety concerns.

Anyone over the age of 18 who comes up to the camp will be required to furnish their PA License or State ID. The YMCA staff will scan it. This is for the protection of the youth that are camping there that weekend.

As always, we plan to have a good time and lots of contacts.

Food will be provided but the goal this year is to get everyone on the radio.

Let's make this the best field day we've had in years.

There will be a short presentation at the June meeting about Field Day.

See you at Field Day.

P.S. Be sure to read the next page to see the Field Comms new initiative.

Reading Radio Club Field Comms Launches Monthly Parks on the Air Activations from the Field Comms

The Reading Radio Club's Field Comms is proud to announce a new initiative to bring our members out of the shack and into the field. Starting this month, the committee will be organizing regular Parks on the Air (POTA) activations, offering club members the opportunity to operate their radios from local parks and public lands about once a month. These events are open to all members, regardless of experience level, and are intended to encourage hands-on radio operation in dynamic, real-world environments.

Our first activation is scheduled for Saturday, May 31st, at Blue Marsh Lake in State Game Lands 280. We'll be meeting at 2:00 p.m. in the upper lot of the Dry Brooks Day Use Area, with GPS coordinates at 40.38833, -76.03639. We plan to have at least three stations and four antennas on site. Everyone is encouraged to bring their own portable rigs, go-boxes, and any gear they'd like to test or show off. Each operator will work under their own call sign, so it's a great chance to earn POTA credit, build your logbook, and practice deploying your personal station in the field.

For those unfamiliar with it, Parks on the Air is an international program that promotes amateur radio activity in designated parks and natural areas. It's built around two core roles: "activators," who go out to operate from the parks, and "hunters," who try to contact those stations from home or elsewhere. It's not a contest, but the program does offer awards and leaderboards that add an element of friendly challenge and engagement. Above all, POTA is about enjoying amateur radio outdoors, testing your equipment in new environments, and building connections both locally and globally.

This new effort from the Field Comms is more than just an excuse to enjoy a nice afternoon in the park. One of our core goals is to encourage club members to gain field experience, something that can be critical in emergency situations or public service scenarios where rapid deployment and adaptability are required. Operating outside your home shack forces you to think differently about power, antennas, terrain, interference, and station setup. These monthly activations offer low-pressure, collaborative space to experiment, learn, and gain confidence with portable gear.

However, the benefits go beyond individual preparedness. POTA activations build camaraderie within the club, offering members the chance to share knowledge, troubleshoot together, and simply enjoy each other's company face-to-face. They also help forge connections with the broader amateur radio community, as hunters from across the country and around the world reach out to contact our station. In doing so, we extend the presence of Reading Radio Club well beyond our local area.

Whether you're a seasoned portable operator or someone who's never set up a radio outside before, we invite you to come out and join us. These events are all about participation, learning, and having fun with radio in the open air. Bring your gear, bring your questions, and bring your enthusiasm. Let's make this a strong, consistent tradition within the club and a great reason to get on the air together.

The Fox Hole

MAY FOX HUNT WAS FUN AND SUCCESSFUL

ON MAY 17, AT 1:00 PM. THE FOX WAS ON AND TRANSMITTING A SIGNAL ON 146.5500 MHZ. THE FIRST REPORT WAS FROM DON WA1ELA STATING HE COULD NOT HEAR THE FOX FROM SOUTH HEIDELBERG NEAR CARON FOUNDATION. THE SECOND REPORT WAS GIVEN BY DAVE N3AMY STATING FROM THE INTERSECTION OF MUSEUM RD AND LANCASTER AVE OF 98°. RON K3RJW AND AUSTIN KD3ACU STARTED OUT NEAR THE HIGHLANDS OF WYOMISSING WITH A HEADING OF 130°. CAMERON W2CMH AND STUART W2SLH STARTED OUT AT PLOW CHURCH WITH A HEADING OF 350°. AFTER SEVERAL DIFFERENT HEADINGS WERE RECORDED DID THE HUNTERS GET ON THE RIGHT TRACK.

APPROXIMATELY 1 HOUR AFTER THE START I SAW RON K3RJW DRIVE PAST THE ENTRSNCE TO WHERE THE FOX WAS, AND THEN THE BATTERY FOR THE FOX WENT DEAD. I MADE AN ANNOUNCEMENT FOR BATTERY CHANGE AND WITHIN 5 MINUTES RON DROVE IN. RIGHT AFTER THAT CAMERON AND STUART WALKED ACROSS THE BALL FIELD TO THE FOX. FOLLOWING CAMERON AND STUART WAS TOM KC3VZJ AND XYL EILEEN. I SHOULD NOTE THAT TOM AND EILEEN ONLY HAD AN HT WITH NO DIRECTIONAL ANTENNA OR ATTENUATOR AND FOUND IT. LAST ONE IN WAS AUSTIN BUT HE FOUND IT. I HID THE FOX AT THE GIBRALTAR PLAYGROUND AT THE INTERSECTION OF 724 AND GIBRALTAR ROADS. WE HAD REFRESHMENTS AND GOOD CONVERSATION ABOUT THE UPS AND DOWNS OF FINDING THE FOX. IT APPEARS THAT HILLS AND VALLEYS MADE THE SIGNAL BOUNCE ALL OVER THE PLACE. THE NEXT FOX HUNT WILL BE JUNE 21 WITH A RAIN DATE OF JUNE 22. TIME WILL BE DETERMINED LATER. I THANK ALL THOSE WHO PARTICIPATED. I HOPE TO GET MORE INVOLVED WITH THE GAME (FIND THE FOX).

Reading Radio Club's 2025 Raffle

Date: August 2, 2025 at 4:30p.m.

Cost: \$15.00 per ticket

Prizes:

- 1. \$300 Visa Card**
- 2. \$125 Amazon Card**
- 3. \$75 Target Card**

Drawing Held At:

Tractor Supply Parking Lot

5370 Allentown Pike, Temple

You do not need to be present to win.



Proceeds benefit the Reading Radio Club, Inc. Please visit www.w3bn.org to find out more about our organization and what we do.

For tickets contact Amy Lindenmuth at 610-406-2238 or w3bn.rrc.tickets@gmail.com.

SGOC License No. G-25-045910-M

Reading Radio Club's

Kauffman's Chicken BBQ



Date: August 2, 2025

(Rain or Shine)

Time: Pick up 2 - 5 pm

Cost: \$12.00 per dinner



Chicken BBQ Dinner includes:

½ chicken, baked potato, and water

Tickets must be purchased in advance
by July 27, 2025.

Pick Up At:

Tractor Supply Parking Lot

5370 Allentown Pike, Temple

For tickets contact Amy Lindenmuth at 610-406-2238
or w3bn.rrc.tickets@gmail.com.

May Simplex Radio Test Helps Identify Berks EOC radio, antenna issues

By Mark Abramowicz NT3V

As soon as the Simplex Radio Test team began the test on Saturday, May 10 inside the Berks County Department of Emergency Services building just off Route 183 near the Reading Regional Airport they knew they had a problem.

The team's cell phones were being pounded by texts and even a few phone calls from regular participants who reported they could barely hear the 2-meter transmissions on 146.550 Megahertz Simplex from the SRT net control Shawn Malone W3JZ.

Before he even finished the opening announcements, Shawn and the team decided to stop the test to try to identify whether the problem was with one of the two, 2-meter radios inside the Berks ARES/RACES Emergency Operations Center. Or, was it one of the antennas.

Under the skillful guidance of Al Melnyk K3AJM, who as Emergency Coordinator runs the Berks AREAS/RACES operations, the net control team – which also included Ron Waszk K3RJW and Craig Wanner K3CRG – began working the problem.

Al said they quickly decided to activate the second radio inside the center to see if that would work and resume the net.

But Al said they had to learn to navigate the programming instructions of the radio for simplex operations – it was programmed for repeater use. So, he said they had to consult the radio's manual on one of the center's computers.

Al said there was another complication: They needed to hit the SAVE button on the radio to tell the radio it was being programmed for Simplex and not a repeater offset as it had been set for use during the last Limerick nuclear plant exercise.

Al said it seemed like a lifetime had passed until the team finally got operational again. But, he conceded, it was probably a little over 10 minutes.

Once all was ready, Shawn took the mic and restarted the first part of the roll call of stations. Craig picked up the rest.

In all 16 operators checked in from throughout the area and reported the signal from the EOC was good after the second radio was activated.

Al said upon further investigation, it is believed the problem is connected to either the feedline running up to the antenna on the roof of the building or the antenna itself.

He said it's possible the connector may have come loose from the antenna or one of the radials separated from the antenna. Al said it's something the county emergency management personnel will investigate and identify what needs to be repaired.

"It was a good place to do the test from," Al said. "We knew we had good Simplex capability from there because we tried it before during an SEC test we did a few years ago.

"But, we wouldn't have known about this problem if we hadn't done it from there this month."

The Reading Radio Club-sponsored Simplex Radio Test for June will be held on Saturday, June 14, 2025 at 1:00 p.m. EDT. All are welcome to take part in the test using your base, mobile or portable radio to check in.

The team has identified an elevated location in the northeastern section of the county for the June test.

Hope to hear you on the air!

Meeting Highlights

RRC MEETING HIGHLIGHTS APRIL 11, 2025

By: RRC Secretary, Amy Lindenmuth, KB3FSD

The Friday, May 9, 2025, RRC General meeting was held at the IBEW Local 743 located at 20 Morgan Dr, Reading, PA 19608.

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 p.m. and led the group in the pledge to the American Flag.
3. RRC members and guests introduced themselves. There were twenty-eight people in attendance.
4. The RRC currently has ninety-two active members.
5. The next fox hunt is May 17, 2025, at 1:00 p.m. on 146.55.
6. The next SRT is May 10, 2025, at 1:00 p.m. on 146.55. Net control will be operating from the Emergency Operations Center off Route 183.
7. The next FLDIGI is June 5, 2025, at 7:30 p.m. on 146.91. Paul Berthinet (AE3U) proposed moving the FLDIGI net to the 3rd Thursday of every month and is looking for feedback on the proposed change. Please email him at AE3U@arrl.net with feedback.
8. Al Melnyk (K3AJM) explained the purpose of the Limerick communication drill that occurs every two years in coordination with FEMA and PEMA. He said ARES/RACES is part of the drill as a backup to the county communications.
9. Field Day is June 28-29, 2025, at Brynden Wood Day Camp on South Mountain YMCA. Anyone over eighteen must provide photo identification to enter the camp. No alcohol, tobacco, or vaping products of any kind are allowed on the grounds. This year's Field Day is not open to the public and will not be listed on the ARRL website. Due to not being open to the public, there will be no VE test session offered.
10. The RRC picnic is on July 12, 2025.

11. The RRC Raffle and Kauffman's BBQ Chicken Sale will be held on Saturday, August 2, 2025, in the parking lot of Tractor Supply located at 5370 Allentown Pike, Temple. The chicken dinners will be available for pick up between 2-5 p.m. and the raffle drawing will be at 4:30 p.m. Amy Lindenmuth (KB3FSD) will have raffle tickets and BBQ tickets available to members to buy and sell at the June meeting. Amy requested help from members with selling tickets and the day of the event to hand out dinners.
12. Cameron Higgins (W2CMH) won the 50-50 drawing.
13. Amy Lindenmuth (KB3FSD) had Hamware available for purchase before and after the meeting.
14. Discussion ensued with members present about the need for volunteers on various committees. Amy Lindenmuth (KB3FSD) discussed the Hamware, By-Laws, and Fundraising committees. Please consider volunteering for one of the many committees we have. Reach out to Joe Pietruszynski (AC3DI) or Ron Waszk (K3RJW) if you are interested in volunteering or for more information about a committee.
15. The next RRC BOD Meeting is Tuesday, June 10, 2025, by ZOOM at 7:30 p.m.
16. The next RRC General Meeting is Friday, June 13, 2025, at IBEW Local 743 at 7:30 p.m.
17. Joe Pietruszynski (AC3DI) adjourned the meeting for a time of fellowship.

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 \$16, 2XL/3XL \$18

Next Level Long Sleeve T-Shirt: Small–XL \$18, 2XL/3XL \$21

Hooded Sweatshirt: Small-XL \$24, 2XL/3XL \$28

Sweatshirt: Small-XL \$19, 2XL/3XL \$21

Gildan Full-Zip Hoodie

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



Hats \$15

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



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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 © 2025 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