



Officers for 2024

President

Jim Collier KC3GBS

Vice President

James Heath KC3ONX

Secretary

Sue Reisinger KB3MSP

Treasurer

Fred Doten N1OEP

Activities Organizer

Darren Rhoads KC3NAH

Trustees

Tim Gelvin K3TEG

2024

Allan Cooke KB3AC

2025

Ed Beaudoin KK4FYV

2026

Newsletter

Allan Cooke KB3AC

Next Meeting

January 2, 2024 7:00 PM See
qsl.net/w3vpj for current
 location.

As you may have noticed, it's been quite a while since I have been able to get a newsletter out. I'm not sure yet how often I will do this. It will depend on how much input I get from other club members and how many people actually read it. I have always thought it was important to share what's going on with our club with all our members, even those who can't attend our monthly meetings. We'll see how this goes.

If you notice, I have listed the officers for 2024. These are the results from our elections that was announced at the Christmas party/ December meeting.

Club News

We are moving!! Starting January 2, 2024, our monthly meetings will move to our new location. STEAM Innovation Labs, 363 Market St., Sunbury, PA 17801. Here is the website - <https://www.steaminnovationlabs.org/>

We want to thank Gretchen KC3GZV and Brookside Ministries Church for graciously hosting our monthly meetings for the last five years!!

After many discussions during 2023, we agreed this new location would be better to advance our club by being among other technically minded groups. This will give our club more exposure and possibly increase our membership.

Speaking of increases, we voted to increase our dues structure starting January 1, 2024. A full membership is \$25 per year, regardless of age. Students through their senior year and Associate memberships will remain at \$5. Family

Links

[SVARC Website](#)

[Groups.io for SVARC](#)

[STEAM Innovation Labs](#)

SVARC Net

146.820 PL Tone 100.0
Wednesdays 7:00PM

Emergencies

Skywarn
147.180 PL Tone 100
Anytime NWS issues Watches
or Warnings for our area

EPA Emergency Phone & Traffic
3918 kHz LSB Daily 5:00 PM
Or during Any Emergencies

Other Area Nets

Milton Amateur Radio Club
146.985 PL Tone 110.9
(Currently suspended)

Columbia-Montour ARC
147.225 PL Tone 85.4
Tuesdays 7:00 PM

Bald Eagle Repeater Assoc.
Skywarn Test Net
145.330 PL Tone 167.9
Thursdays 7:30 PM

Nittany Amateur Radio Club
146.850 PL Tone 146.2
Sundays 9:00 PM

memberships will continue as one regular membership, plus one half regular membership for each licensed amateur living in the same household.

There were several reasons for this increase. We no longer receive a \$700 donation from the Lewisburg Arts Council. Moving to this new location will cost \$600 per year compared to the \$120 donation we made to Brookside Ministries.

We are hoping to offer our members more benefits such as better resources for more club activities. The ability to have better presentations and possibly a club station available for all members to use.

Club Activities

For our first meeting at our new location, January 2nd, Pat W3RGA will be giving a presentation about the Reverse Beacon Network. Something we can all benefit from, as it can show you current propagation conditions not just predictions. A very useful tool indeed!

Darren KC3NAH has organized another POTA activation, January 20th and 21st at the Milton State Park. An opportunity to test your equipment and operating skills from a remote location. It will be outside in the cold but under a pavilion. This will not be an overnight event. For more information contact Darren Rhoads KC3NAH - darrenrhoads@yahoo.com

The following weekend, January 27th and 28th, is another opportunity to test your skills and emergency preparedness during Winter Field Day. Similar to ARRL's Field Day in June with the added bonus of competing with the cold winds of Mother Nature. James KC3OXN is hosting this event at his hunting cabin in Wellsboro, PA. Fortunately, with some of the basic comforts of home.

Come for a day trip or spend the night. For more details contact James Heath KC3OXN - jdheath6@gmail.com

Our SVARC net continues every Wednesday, 7:00PM, on the 147.18 repeater, PL 100.0 James KC3OXN is usually the NCS, but occasionally he will need someone to fill in. He is looking for anyone to volunteer as an alternate NCS. If you have never done it, give it a try. This is a very casual net and no one will judge. Everyone is welcome.

W1AW Schedule

CW Practice Slow

5, 7.5, 10, 13, 15 WPM

1.8025 - 3.5815 - 7.0475

14.0475 - 18.0975 - 21.0675

28.0675 MHz

Monday 7:00PM

Tuesday 4:00PM and 10:00PM

Wednesday 9:00AM and 7:00PM

Thursday 4:00PM and 10:00PM

Friday 9:00AM and 7:00PM

CW Practice Fast

35, 30, 25, 20, 15, 13, 10 WPM

1.8025 - 3.5815 - 7.0475

14.0475 - 18.0975 - 21.0675

28.0675 MHz

Monday 4:00PM and 10:00PM

Tuesday 9:00AM and 7:00PM

Wednesday 4:00PM and

10:00PM

Thursday 9:00AM and 7:00PM

Friday 4:00PM and 10:00PM

CW Bulletins

18 WPM

1.8025 - 3.5815 - 7.0475

14.0475 - 18.0975 - 21.0675

28.0675 MHz

M-F 5:00PM, 8:00PM and

11:00PM

Digital Bulletins

RTTY, PSK31 or MFSK16

Rotating Schedule

3.5975 - 7.095 - 14.095

18.1025 - 21.095 - 28.095

M-F 6:00PM and 9:00PM

Voice Bulletins

1.855 - 3.990 - 7.290

14.290 - 21.390 - 28.590

M-F 9:45PM

The Winlink Wednesdays Net is now in full operation and has 39 operators on the roster. To learn how to become involved, contact James KC3OXN - jdheath6@gmail.com

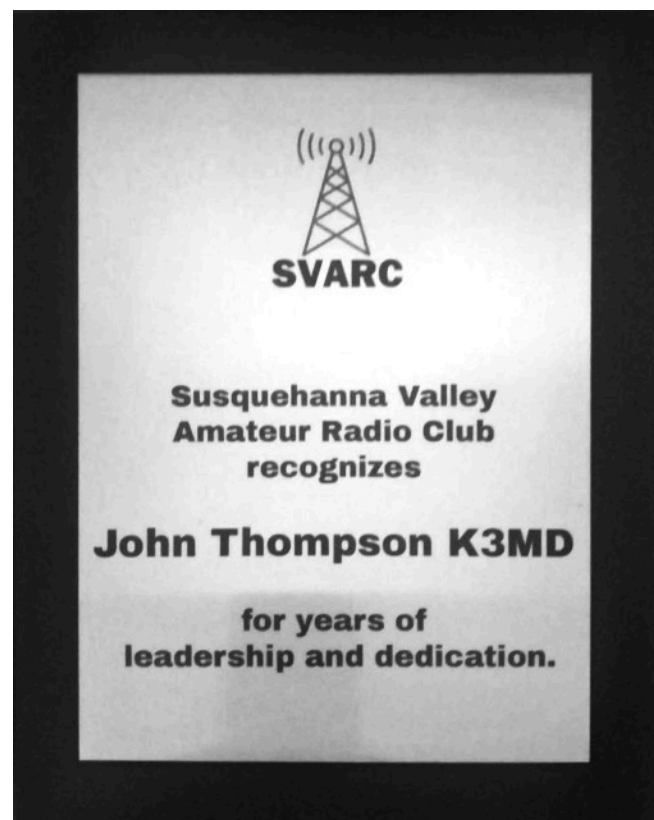
About twenty five people attended our Christmas party at the County Line Restaurant, in Richfield, Pa., on December 9th. A lot of Door Prizes were given out and everyone had a great time!

A special plaque of appreciation was given to John K3MD for his many years of service as our Activities Organizer. John has kept our club involved with multiple events, long before I joined the club in 2012!

Events such as the Lewisburg Arts Festival, ARRL's Field Day, the Pennsylvania QSO Parties, and our annual Christmas dinners. Not to mention, he has been a devoted Net Control Station operator for our weekly net.

John arranged to have many interesting presentations at our club meetings. By example, John has been an huge influence in recruiting many of our members to get involved with contesting as well as CW operating.

THANK YOU John!!!!



On Thanksgiving Day, Tim Gelvin K3TEG, is the only member from SVARC who answered the call for assistance from the CMARC to help with the annual Run for the Diamonds race.

Nice job Tim!!



Photo provided

THEY HELP TO KEEP THE DIAMONDS GOING

Members of the Columbia-Montour Amateur Radio Club assist the officials of the Run for the Diamonds race by posting ham radio operators at locations one mile apart on the 9.2-mile course. As the leading runners reach each location, the operators radio back to the start/finish line the order and the times of the leading runners. Those ham radio operators in the photo taking part in the Run for the Diamonds 2023 were, from left: **Doug Henrie, John Moyer, Curt Bennett, Dennis Nichols** (kneeling), **Dave Lockard, Tim Gelvin** (in wheelchair), **Joel Cunningham, Jere Vietz, Matt Lunger** (with son **Nate Lunger** in foreground), **Bill Hoops, Scott Green, Randy Kishbaugh** and **Bob Foster**.

Member Projects

About a year ago, Fred Doten N1OEP moved here from Connecticut and asked what kind of antenna should he get for the HF bands. Fred KA3IRJ and I offered to visit his house and evaluate the situation. Fred N1OEP lives on a rather small lot and to complicate matters, the power line for his house is attached in the middle of his back roof. This makes it extremely difficult to safely install any type of wire antenna.

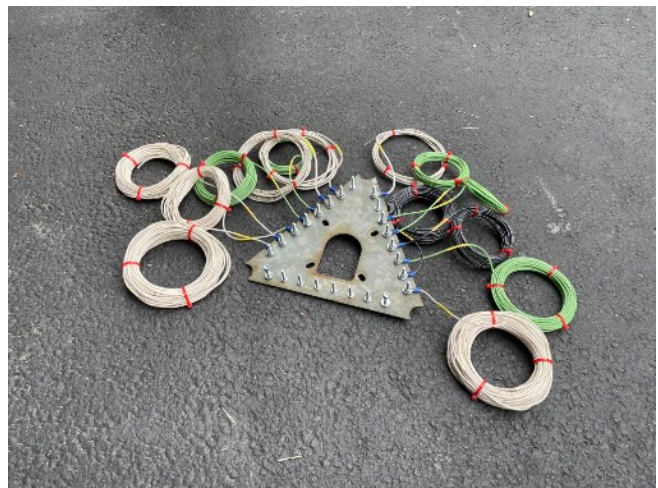


Fred KA3IRJ suggested the only safe option we could see was a Tarheel mobile antenna mounted on his roof. Fred has one on his metal roof and said it works great. Fortunately, there was an unused Dish receiver already mounted in a perfect spot which we could use for the Tarheel antenna.

Fred N1OEP order the proper antenna but they told him their machine was broken and it might be a couple of weeks before he could receive the antenna. Weeks turned into months, which ultimately turned into seven months before it finally showed up!

Like any project, you try to anticipate everything you will need and prepare as much as you can ahead of time so there won't be any surprises that will slow you down. But, there are always little things you don't count on. Like mounting the control cable backwards, putting the wrong connector at the wrong end. Without having the antenna, we had to guess if it was the male end, or female end that connects at the antenna. Naturally, we got it wrong. But rather than rerunning the cable, we will just cut the two ends and swap the connectors.

We did have enough forethought to run ground plane radials in Fred's attic before it got so hot you could bake a cake up there. Fred KA3IRJ, manufactured a very nice ground plate, complete with connectors, hardware, and nicely coiled and labeled radials, so we could easily staple them to the rafters of his roof. Did I say easily?





When we took the antenna up to the roof, we assumed the Dish mount would naturally fit the antenna mount. We were WRONG. The clamps and pipes were not the same size. But not to worry. Fred KA3IRJ is a Master Stick Welder and was able to create a solution with a quick trip to Coles Hardware.

Fred, being the professional that he is, was able weld together the clamps from the Dish mount we reused, to the new antenna mount. You would think it was factory made for this antenna!! Color matching paint and stainless steel hardware to hold everything together.



We have already poked a hole in the side of Fred's house for a ground wire. So now all we have to do is connect that ground wire to the ground plate, that Fred KA3IRJ created earlier, including two radials for each band. Then connect that wire to the antenna mount on the roof. Connect the coax that we also installed earlier this year to the antenna, then to Fred's radio. Hopefully, all of that will get done this weekend. So maybe by the time you are reading this, Fred N1OEP may finally be back on the air!!

As a Reminder...

As usual, the SMARTS Test Group will be offering Amateur Radio testing on the third Saturday of every month, at 0930 at the Montour Preserve Auditorium. All levels of testing are available and those wishing to register should email fred@ksecorp.com, however walks ins are always welcome. We offer a comprehensive guide to all registrants on FRN requirements, ways to study, and what to bring to the test session. KA3IRJ

Check out the sidebars of this newsletter. There is some good information there, along with links to club related websites. You can use the information about W1AW to practice morse code, use those various signals to check the current propagation, test your Fldigi software settings, or just listen to the latest information from the ARRL.

If you have anything you want to sell, tell us about a project you are working on, or some information you recently discovered, send me the information or an article and I am happy to add it to the next newsletter. Photos are appreciated.

Please send in your dues for 2024!

You can send a check to our address below, or even better, bring it, or cash, to the next SVARC meeting! \$25 for each full membership. \$12.50 for each additional member of the same household. Checks made out to SVARC.

SVARC**P.O. Box 73****Hummels Wharf, PA 17831**

Please check into our net on Wednesdays, 7:00 PM, on 147.18 PL 100.0

For Sale

For SALE Heathkit SB-301 receiver and matching speaker 80 to 10 meters (asking \$100.00)
Dave Welker K3SI - 570-286-0787

Wishing everyone Happy Holidays!

73,
Allan
KB3AC