



# The VHF Transmitter



Keystone VHF Club, Inc. W3HZU Founded 1955 – York, PA

VOL 59 No 5

CIRCULATION 150

May/June, 2014

## John Shaffer, W3SST A Silent Key

From Johns family to his friends at the Keystone VHF Club:

*Our father, John Shaffer aka W3SST passed away Saturday, April 12th at 12:01am at home with us and Mom at his side. Many of you are aware he was placed under hospice care just before Christmas due to end-stage heart and kidney failure with expectations of a few weeks at that time. He proved the doctors wrong and was doing well until early last week and, mercifully, his decline was rapid so he did not have an extended confinement in bed. We are following Dad's wishes for final arrangements to be private however if you would like to drop Mom a note we're sure she would love to hear from you. Her address is 6706 Gilette Dr., Reynoldsburg, OH 43068.*

*Thank you for being a part of Dad's legacy and the friendship you shared with him.*



In the February issue of the newsletter, we had a front page article reminiscing about the many years that John was with us. John was the personification of the Keystone VHF Club.

Many of the members who knew him are now themselves Silent Keys. John's era in the club was from an age where just about everything we were doing was new and exciting. It was during the time when we were shifting from vacuum tube technology over to solid state. Simply generating a signal on the VHF bands was a real technical accomplishment ... and there was NO commercial equipment available other than military WW2 surplus stuff. Johns vision for the club made it possible for many hams to become active on those magic VHF and later, UHF frequencies. During the 1950's and 60's, John and many of our now old timers were true technological pioneers!



John, W3SST in the front working on what was probably a 2 meter collinear array ... looks like this was taken in the late 1940's or early 50's. This was a REAL homebrew antenna! Check out the car on the right.



Up at the club in the early 1960's. I think that John is the one sitting with his back to us. I believe that George Gable, W3WDO is to the left. I'm fairly certain that all of this was vacuum tube equipment ... nary a transistor to be found!

If you are interested in learning about the history of the Keystone VHF club, Starting in the April, 2001 issue of the newsletter and running all the way through to the March 2002 issue, Ray Shaub, W3AXC wrote a comprehensive series of articles detailing the rich history of our organization.

All of these can be found up on our website in the newsletter section. We also have many newsletters going back to 1955 that are on our website. Check out a few of these and compare what was being done back then to today. You will find that we had many of the same concerns that we do now.

However in retrospect, none of this would have happened at all if it had not been for the clubs founding father ... John Shaffer, W3SST. Everyone who knew you will miss you.

**NEXT MEETING**  
**Thursday, June 5th, at the Club Site**  
**Spaghetti Dinner at 6:30 PM!**  
**A Special thanks to Skip Falkenhan, N3VTX on Page 4**

## Scheduled Club P.S. Events for 2014

- \* **June 28 & 29 - PA Hope Ride for Cancer**  
POC: Marty Gutekunst, KB3BAA mpgutekunst@comcast.net
- \* **July 13 to 20 - CAN-AM Police Fire Games**  
POC: Sandy Goodman, N3ECF slgoodman@verizon.net
- \* **July 26 & 27 - MS Bike Tour Gettysburg**  
POC: Sandy Goodman, N3ECF slgoodman@verizon.net
- \* **September 6 - KTA Superhike**  
POC: Ken Wiggins, N2DYK n2dyk1940@yahoo.com
- \* **September 20 - Three Creek Century Bike Tour**  
POC: Sandy Goodman, N3ECF slgoodman@verizon.net
- \* **October 19 - Hershey Half marathon**  
POC: Marty Gutekunst, KB3BAA mpgutekunst@comcast.net
- \* **October 26 - Michaux Team Challenge**  
POC: Dan Mcglothlin, KB3MUN kb3mun@mcglothlin.us
- \* **December 7 - Jingle Bell Run**  
POC: Jack Dellinger, KC3JD jkdelli@aol.com
- \* **December 24 - Glen Rock Carolers**  
POC: Stan Walters, AB3EM abacusp@comcast.net

The CAN-AM Fire and Police Games are still looking for volunteers, especially for traffic control at the Opening Ceremonies. If you're willing to volunteer for any events during the July 13-20 activities, go to their website to volunteer.

[yorkcanamgames.com](http://yorkcanamgames.com).

*NOTE: we have had NO request for Communications volunteers.*

I wanted to let you know that we have received the preliminary report from FEMA, for last week's drill. York County successfully demonstrated all evaluated criteria for the Peach Bottom Atomic Power Station Exercise and is heading into the next drill with no issues. Our office thanks all of you for your hard work, dedication and commitment to ensuring the safety of York County's residents. Everyone did an excellent job! We look forward to working with you throughout the year.

Thanks again,

Shen H. Kreiser, Nuclear Planner/Trainer  
York County Office of Emergency Management  
120 Davies Dr.  
York, PA 17402

### NCS SCHEDULE FOR YORK COUNTY NET

NCS	CALL	2014 DATES			
Walt	K3DQB	Jan 06	Apr 07	Jul 07	Oct 06
Micah	KB3TGY	Jan 13	Apr 14	Jul 14	Oct 13
Jon	KB3IGH	Jan 20	Apr 21	Jul 21	Oct 20
Lorna	KB3SST	Jan 27	Apr 28	Jul 28	Oct 27
Ralph	K3HQI	Feb 03	May 05	Aug 04	Nov 03
Tom	KB3ETG	Feb 10	May 12	Aug 11	Nov 10
Fran	WA3GYW	Feb 17	May 19	Aug 18	Nov 17
Jack	KC3JD	Feb 24	May 26	Aug 25	Nov 25
Dick	WA3USG	Mar 03	Jun 02	Sep 01	Dec 01
Stan	AB3EM	Mar 10	Jun 09	Sep 08	Dec 08
Rich	KR3EE	Mar 17	Jun 16	Sep 15	Dec 15
Nate	WN3I	Mar 24	Jun 23	Sep 22	Dec 22
Sandy	N3ECF	Mar 31	Jun 30	Sep 29	Dec 29

### AED TRAINING AVAILABLE

As mentioned at the May Keystone Meeting, CPR-Now has offered to train up to 15 operators for the AED because of lack of a proper demonstration with their equipment.

If you are interested in taking that training, please let me or Jeff Patterson, KB3RCT, know of your interest. You can reply to this email, or email Jeff at jdp1964@comcast.net

If we get more than 15 people interested, we will give priority to those who did NOT attend the 1st Aid/CPR/AED training spring of 2013, and/or those folks who are frequently up at the Keystone Clubhouse when multiple people are likely to be there.

*Thanks, Sandy Goodman N3ECF, Keystone Secretary*

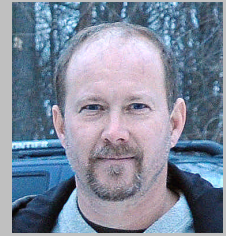
## Trustee's Report



Tim, W3TWB



Thierry, KB3TPX



Jeff, KB3RCT

Please give our Trustees a helping hand! The Keystone club is extremely fortunate to have the property that we do but it requires a good bit of maintenance. The Summer months are especially busy because of one item that all of us property owners love ... MOWING! So far this year has been a wet one and to keep the clubsite looking up to par among all of the \$300,000 homes that surround us, we have to mow at least once per week. Would you sign up to mow just one time this year? It takes between 45 minutes to an hour ... our Trustees don't mind mowing but if a few of us signed up for just one mowing session, it would give them a break. A sign up list is below, you could mow any day of the week that you commit to. We will get you access to the equipment and I will even send you an e-mail notification when it's your turn. Plus it's a GREAT workout!

Week of June 2:	Dick Goodman, WA3USG
Week of June 9:	_____
Week of June 16:	Mike Sullivan, WS3C
Week of June 23:	_____
Week of June 30:	_____
Week of July 7:	Dick Goodman, WA3USG
Week of July 14:	_____
Week of July 21:	_____
Week of July 28:	_____
Week of August 4:	Dick Goodman, WA3USG
Week of August 11:	_____
Week of August 18:	_____
Week of August 25:	_____
Week of September 1:	Dick Goodman, WA3USG
Week of September 8:	_____
Week of September 15:	_____
Week of September 22:	_____
Week of September 29:	_____
Week of October 6:	_____
Week of October 13:	_____
Week of October 20:	_____
Week of October 27:	_____

*Please pick just one slot (however you are not limited to just one) and drop me an e-mail to the below address.*

*wa3usg@verizon.net*

## Help Needed for the MS Bike Tour, 2014 In Gettysburg By Sandy Goodman, N3ECF

It's that time when I start reaching out for the MS Bike Tour Volunteers.

This year, MS is returning to a two day event, Saturday July 26th and Sunday July 27th. It will remain in Gettysburg, with the bikers riding down to Thurmont, MD and returning. We will again man 7 Rest Stops and as many SAG vehicles as we can muster. A few of us will need to be operational from 6 AM to about 5 PM. But the Rest Stops and SAG vehicles will have staggered start and end times depending on location.

*Continued on Page 7*





## THE QCWA CHAPTER 165 NEWSLETTER FOR JUNE 2014

By Ray Shauib, W3AXC

Our June meeting is the annual family picnic. Our normal day, the second Saturday in June is the ARRL June VHF contest weekend. Some of our members participate and the VHF Club is busy that weekend so we move to the only other weekend June 21. The last weekend is the ARRL Field Day and again the VHF Club is busy.

We will meet at the VHF Club's pavilion about 11AM and plan for lunch at noon. As usual the chapter will supply the hot dogs, hamburgs, rolls cold drinks ( lemonade, iced tea ) and condiments. You bring a covered dish , potato salad, baked beans, cold salad and or chips pretzels, etc.

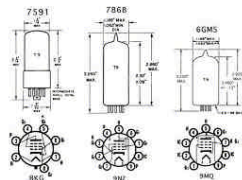
Deserts are always welcomed. Bring what ever you like. **But you must let me know if you will attend by at least the week before so we know how many hot dogs etc. to buy. Just send me an email with how many will attend.**

Let's have a good turnout for the picnic. See you there.

73 Ray W3AXC

Sec/ Treas

[rayw3axc@gmail.com](mailto:rayw3axc@gmail.com)



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Editor: Dick Goodman, WA3USG

ADDRESS LETTERS TO THE EDITOR and ARTICLES TO

DICK GOODMAN, WA3USG Voice: (717) 697-2353  
199 MAPLE LANE e-mail:  
MECHANICSBURG, PA 17055 [wa3usg@verizon.net](mailto:wa3usg@verizon.net)

Website: <http://www.w3hzu.com>

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To change your  
address for the  
Newsletter, contact:

Dick Goodman, WA3USG  
199 Maple Lane  
Mechanicsburg, Pa.

*You are cordially invited  
to attend a*

## *Heroes Tribute*

*An evening of respect honoring  
fallen military, wounded warriors, first responders,  
all veterans and families of veterans.*

*Veterans Gold Star Healing & Peace Garden,  
1000 Vander Avenue in York's Memorial Park  
Friday, June 20, 2014.*

*Activities begin at 5:45p.m., ending at dusk.*



*For more information please contact Frances Courtright  
at [nefra@nefra.com](mailto:nefra@nefra.com) or call 717-755-1112 Ext. 10.*

The public is invited to a "Heroes Tribute" — an evening of respect honoring fallen military, wounded warriors, first responders and all families of veterans at the Veterans Memorial Gold Star Healing & Peace Garden, 1000 Vander Avenue in York's Memorial Park.

Gold Star Garden is a living memorial dedicated to all veterans. It displays the names of the Pennsylvania's fallen during the war on terror.

Activities begin on June 20, 2014 at 5:45 PM at the memorial. This event features "A Walk for Heroes" traveling across PA to raise awareness and funds for wounded veterans.

- Cherriney Kondor, Gold Star Mother and founder of the Veterans Memorial Gold Star Healing & Peace Garden will give opening remarks.
- Al Pulice, representing the "PA Walk for Heroes" a (A501c3) nonprofit veterans support group; will give remarks as they raise awareness for wounded warriors on the walk from Philadelphia to Pittsburgh. Contact Mr. Pulice at 412-862-1672 or [alpulice@comcast.net](mailto:alpulice@comcast.net) regarding any questions related to the walk.
- CW4 Dirk E. Slack, US Army Aviator, Veteran of Operation Enduring Freedom and the Global War on Terrorism will be the keynote speaker.

Keystone Wounded Warriors will also be represented.

For more information; contact Frances Courtright at NeFra 3433 E. Market Street, York, [nefra@nefra.com](mailto:nefra@nefra.com), 717-755-1112 x10.

## Bob Potts Marathon Kudo's

Thanks again to everyone that helped this year. A quick look back shows we didn't lose anyone and the marathon was actually completed more then an hour earlier than last year. Communications was pretty good. Only doing this one once a year causes some ragged edges especially at the beginning but we all got up to speed quickly. Look forward to your suggestions and comments.

Sean Potts sends his thanks. He actually said "You don't know how much better the marathon goes since you (Ham Radio) started helping."

Jack KC3JD



## Schedule of Keystone VHF Club Sponsored VE Testing for 2014

Laurel VE Group Testing sponsored by the Keystone VHF Club are held the second Saturday of the odd months. All tests are at 10 AM, pre-registration is appreciated except at the Hamfest. Contact, Ralph Brandt at [ralph.brandt@comcast.net](mailto:ralph.brandt@comcast.net) or phone 717-792-1017.

Locations are York EMA Office at 120 Davies Road, York, or Keystone VHF Club on Deininger Road, York, near the Rocky Ridge Park

### Testing dates:

Keystone VHF Club sponsored testing by the Laurel V.E. Group. These sessions are held in the Training Room at the York County EOC, 120 Davies Rd., York, PA. Testing starts at 10:00 AM. Preregistration is appreciated. *Contact Ralph Brandt at:*

*Ralph.brandt@comcast.net or phone 717-792-1017 to register.*

**July 12    September 13    November 8**

VE exams will be sponsored by Southern Pennsylvania Communications Group (SPCG). These sessions are held held at the Shrewsbury Borough Building, 35 Railroad Ave., Shrewsbury, PA. Testing starts at 9:30 AM. The point of contact for these sessions is the same as above.

**June 14    August 9    October 11    December 13**

### The Tasty Ham Radio Tid Bit #1

How many of you use the free "Chirp" app to program your HT or other radios? I got a call from Ed, W3SMF in Camp Hill asking how to print off the frequency list from within Chirp. Ya know ... I don't think you can do it from within the program. However Chirp has an Export function which allows you to make a CSV file of your frequencies ... Microsoft Excel will display that & you can print from Excel.

### Local area nets:

Capitol Area Traffic Net starts **Monday at 8 PM** on the South Mountain Radio Amateurs (SMRA) repeater on 146.46 (67.0 tone), 1 MHz offset. All properly licensed radio amateurs are invited to check in.

The Combined Club ARES/RACES Net meets **Monday at 8:30 PM** on the Keystone 146.97 Repeater (Tone: 123 Hz).

South Mountain Radio Amateurs (SMRA) Net on **Monday at 9 PM** on the 145.43 (Tone: 67 Hz) repeater located in Mt. Holly Springs. *After the normal FM net, a group moves off to 144.210 MHz and operates SSB.*

The Keystone VHF Club Digital Net on **Tuesday at 8 PM** on the York 146.97 Repeater.

The Digital Familiarization Net on **Wednesday at 8 PM** on the SMRA 145.43 Repeater.

The Keystone 75 meter net on **Tuesday at 9 PM** on a frequency to 3820 to 3840 KHz (+ or - the QRM). In the Summer, the net is suspended.

The Quarter Century Wireless Association (QCWA) net meets on **Wednesday 9 PM** on the York 146.97 repeater. **(Net currently not held)**

A local FM Simplex Net runs **Thursday at 8:30 PM** on a frequency of 146.55 MHz.

The South Central PA 10 Meter Net **Friday at 8 PM** on 28.495 MHz USB

**\*\* Listed below are some local 10 meter nets \*\***

Ham Shack Talk Net - Monday at 9 PM: 28.335 MHz.

Delaware Lehigh Valley ARC Net - Sunday 4:00 PM: 28.430 MHz

Do Drop In net - Sunday 8:30 PM: 28.450 MHz

Penn- Mar Club net - Friday. 8:30 PM: 28.495 MHz.

10 Meter Ragchew Net - Every evening starting 7:30PM: 28.600 Mhz

## A Very Special Thanks to Skip Falkenhan, N3VTX !

Many of you probably know that the Civil Air Patrol (CAP) donated to the club a Kenwood Model TKR-750 VHF Repeater. It was delivered to the club in early May. Not only did we get a Repeater but also a complete set of duplexers.

The problems started when we took a closer look and found the Repeater was stuffed to the gills with mouse nests and all of the nasty stuff that goes along with it! This was most likely because the equipment sat in a remote, unattended site for a good while. Please note that we in no way fault the CAP for this. They probably had someone simply pick it up and deliver it to the club.

The amount of mouse material in the equipment was astounding. I would estimate at least a shoebox full. The main problem however was with all of the mouse urine inside the equipment. We immediately placed the repeater in plastic garbage bags to ensure no one would breath in the fumes ... and boy were there ever fumes! I wasn't sure what to do with it until Skip came to the rescue!



I really didn't think that there was any hope for this unit. You could see the corrosion on the outside caused by all of this "stuff". I could only imagine what the inside was like. Skip offered to take it home and attempt to clean it all out. No one was really very optimistic that this would work.

To the right is an image of Skip probably getting ready to take the repeater out of the garbage bags!

Below: After shaking the loose stuff out, this was left in the accessory bay.



The nest material which consisted of chewed up fabric, wood shavings, and "other" solid material seemed to come out fairly easily but the urine had dried to the consistency of a tacky resin and seemed to coat everything.



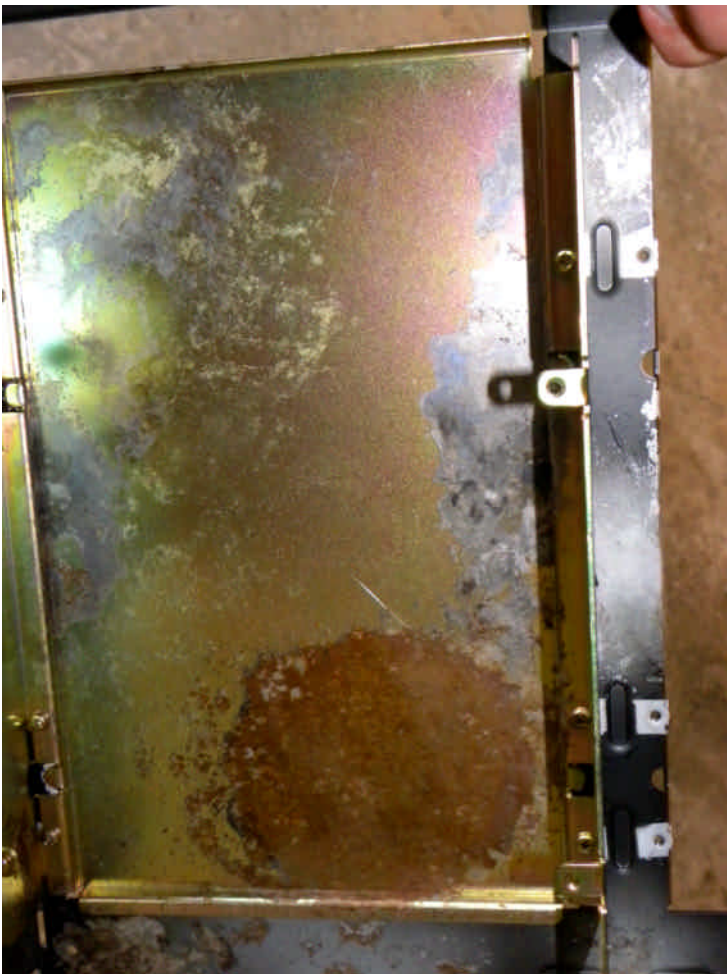
**Yuck!**

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On Page 5

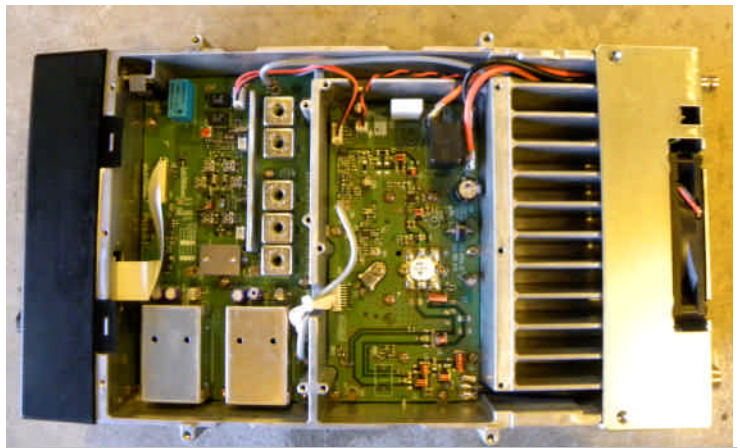




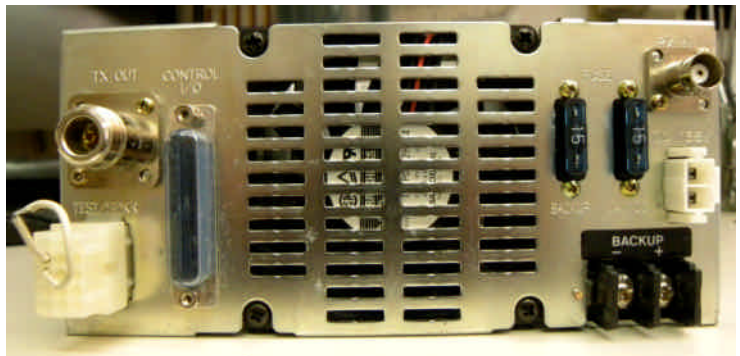
Utilizing a high pressure power washer, Skip took the repeater outside and washed out the accessory bay.



After considerable effort with the power washer, this is the result of cleaning the accessory bay. All of the nasty material was gone but the metal inside took a lot of damage. The protective coating that is sprayed on the paint is almost totally gone. The mouse urine actually etched the metal to the point where it corroded. It looks like some of the corrosion took place where the urine had not actually touched the surface of the metal. The concentration of toxic vapors inside the equipment was enough to damage the surface without actually being in contact with it. Throughout all of this, Ship had to wear a face mask to keep from breathing in these vapors himself.



The rest of the repeater seemed to fare much better. Skip removed the top cover to check out the circuit boards. The mice didn't seem to be able to get in here.



Above - The rear of the repeater unit after a little cleaning & polishing. Below - The completed, reassembled repeater after all cleaning was done. All that should have to be done is reprogramming to our frequency and some testing.



Due to Skips fine work, the club now has a nice Kenwood VHF repeater that we can install in the same rack with MSF-5000. If something happens to the main machine, we can move two cables (antenna input and output), apply power, and we will be on line with another repeater.

**Finally, I would sincerely like to thank Skip for all the work he put into this. It was a terribly messy job and Skip, without hesitation took the equipment home and two weeks later, we had a nice clean repeater back.**

## Club Projects

On Thursday, May 29, we held a planning meeting to discuss the status of our club projects. While much has been accomplished, there is still a lot to do. At this meeting we tried to place a rough time on when the project would be completed and who would be working on it. Our main goal is to have all of these completed this year. Items highlighted in yellow were discussed. Listed below are the 18 attendees:

Mike Stackpoole, N3VQH	Chris Shover, KB3TWW
Tim Barefoot, W3TWB	Nate Kirschman, WN3I
Dick Goodman, WA3USG	Bob Poff, WB3AWJ
Mike Sullivan, WS3C	Brad Kline, KO3T
Dan Shortencarrier, N3EEI	Rich Reese, KR3EE
Tim Snook, KB3WZX	Joe Imgrund, KB3TCM
Dan Melato, KB3JSV	Kip Glunt, WB3AFL
Jeff Patterson, KB3RCT	Kevin Magloughlin, KA0JQO
Jack Dellinger, KC3JD	Andy Hertz, KB3RFH

## Main Club Room

### Completed

- Cleaned and repainted floor
- Refurbished surface of operating positions
- Replaced chairs with 5 from Staples
- Removed unused cabling (Between Main room & repeater room)
- Installed new shelving for each operating position
- Relocated the 3 computers to associated operating positions
- HF position (FT-920) - completely operational all digital modes
- Purchased new monitors, keyboards, & mice for each computer
- Replaced our lightning damaged big screen TV with new one
- Installed Internet Access Point (A.P.) in main clubroom
- New A.E.D. has been mounted in main club room

### To be completed

- Secure all recently installed shelving units with screws  
*This will be completed at the next Thursday tech session night*
- Evaluate what additional flooring we might need  
*Tim Snook was going to donate & install a tile floor. Since we painted the floor with Epoxy paint, the leveling compound that he was going to use will not adhere to the floor. At this time we are considering Vinyl planking. Tim will have an estimate by the meeting.*
- Get TS-2000 operating position operational on digital modes  
*We need to obtain an additional Signalink USB. An appropriation for this will be requested at the next meeting. This will be installed at the next Thursday night Tech session. Cost will be approximately \$110.00*
- Install cameras & integrate with security system  
*Two FOSCAMs (steerable IP cameras) at approximately \$80.00 each and one external IP camera at \$129 will be ordered within the next two weeks. These will be integrated into our security system by the end of June. \$329.00 was approved for this at the March 6 meeting.*
- Install card reader on door  
*Tim Barefoot, W3TWB has provided a circuit board that will enable us to implement a card reader to use for access control at the front door for a very inexpensive price. This unit contains a Web Server and is programmed via an IP connection. Dick, WA3USG will evaluate this unit to see if it will work for our application. This will be determined within the next 4 weeks.*

## Repeater Room

### Completed

- Cleaned up repeater room - relocated unused equipment to shed
- Removed unused cabling (between repeater room & attic)
- Installed baseline 2 meter MSF-5000 2 meter repeater
- 6 meter & 70 CM repeaters operational with AllStar connectivity
- EchoLink operational on 70 CM repeater
- Two 3500 watt UPS units installed in rack in repeater room

### To be completed

- Arcom Controller integration with MSF-5000 (already procured)  
*Kevin Magloughlin, KA0JQO will try and have this operational by the end of June.*
- Remote receiver system to be reinstalled on the MSF-5000  
*Kevin, KA0JQO is currently working on adding a Quantar receiver (already procured), a 220 MHz link Receiver (already procured), and an 8 channel LDG voter (donated by members of the Technical committee). This should be installed shortly after the controller is operational*
- EchoLink to be added to MSF-5000  
*Bob Poff will add this as soon as the controller is operational*
- Batteries to be procured for both UPS units (8 batteries needed)  
*We will only be using one of the UPS units at the club so only 4 batteries will be needed.*
- UPS units wired into clubhouse electrical system
  - Unit #1 to provide backup & protection to main clubroom
  - Unit #2 to provide backup & protection to repeaters  
*The tech committee has reevaluated this project. Due to the expense of the batteries required by these UPS units, it was decided that only one UPS would be used. This will reside in the repeater room and will back up our repeaters in instances of power failure until the generator comes up on line. \$320 was approved to purchase batteries at the Dec 5th, 2013 general meeting. We will only need \$160 and work on this will not be started until all repeater projects are completed.*
- New router to be installed in clubs network (already procured)  
*Dan Melato, KB3JSV will have this installed within the next 2 weeks*

## Antenna Work

### Completed

- New rotor cable installed on 60 foot tower

### To be completed

- Reguying of 60 foot tower  
*Rich Reese, KR3EE has offered to supervise this project. We need to dig an additional Guy anchor point and replace the existing guy lines. We will be starting this project on Wednesday, June 4th (weather permitting) by digging the new guy anchor. Our goal is to have this done by the end of June.*
- Installation of MA-5B 5 band HF beam on 60 foot tower (beam donated)
- Installation of 6 meter beam on 60 foot tower (our old 6 meter beam)
- Installation of new antenna rotor (already procured)
- Running new feed lines for the antennas above (already procured)  
*The above 4 items should be completed about 2 weeks after the tower has been reguyed.*
- Removal of following antennas and outrigger from 100 foot tower
  - 144 MHz contest beam
  - 432 Mhz contest beam
  - 1296 MHz contest beam
  - 220 MHz beam  
*This should be able to be completed during a Saturday morning work party sometime in July or August depending upon availability of climbers.*
- Mount utility box with preamps (already procured)
- Replace above antennas on single mast  
*This should be another Saturday morning work party*
- Replace antenna rotor damaged by lightning

## Gregs Site

### Completed

- Install back up repeater for 146.97

### To be completed

- Hold another clean-up work party
- Install DTMF decoder to enable remote control of above repeater
- Install receiver multicoupler for 146.37 MHz receivers
- Reinstall remote receiver using 223 link back to club
- Evaluate condition of antennas

*Continued on page 7*



## Other Outside Work - clubsite

### Completed

- Clean out shed - get rid of unused items
- Install outdoor Internet Access Point (already procured)

### To be completed

- Final organization of shed - catalog equipment (it never ends)
- Inspect & clean/maintain all tower guy anchors
- Replace camera on 180 foot tower (already procured)
- Take scrap cabling/wire/junk to salvage yard

## The Pennsylvania Amateur Radio Conference (PARC)

By John Jaminet, W3HMS

### \*\*\* Mark your calendars now for Oct 4, 2014 \*\*\*

The South Mountain Radio Amateurs (SMRA) of the Carlisle, PA area are pleased to announce a conference devoted to inspiring new technologies in our beloved hobby. **This will be held at the Whispering Pines, a special events lodge, north of Carlisle, PA from 1200-1600 on Saturday 4 Oct 2014.**

Whispering Pines is situated in a delightful country setting with parking for more than 300 cars. Directions are on their Web site googled with "Whispering Pines".

We have been able to schedule speakers who are outstanding in their specialty. They speak at the level achieved by the annual conferences such as Microwave Update, Southern VHF Society, Central States VHF Society, Northeast Weak Signal Society and others throughout the US.

Attendance at these events often consumes more time from work and money than desired. Our intent is to make car pooling and low-costs in a single-day event the hallmark of the conference. Thus, the fee is \$9 for early on-line registration with complementary coffee, soft drinks, and cookies available throughout the event. We do, however, recommend eating outside of event hours, HI!!

There are many restaurants in Carlisle but none near Whispering Pines.

In keeping with the event level, business-casual dress is highly recommended.

### Agenda includes:

- \*\* Building High Quality VHF and UHF Antennas ... yourself!
- \*\* Live demonstration of the latest HF Flex Radio software defined (SDR) transceiver.
- \*\* Working the World on the low power HF WSJT-X data modes
- \*\* A photo visit to an outstanding HF, VHF, UHF, microwave, contest station
- \*\* Automating Your HF/VHF Station logging and control of radios

Target Audience: Whether you have been licensed for 80 minutes or 80 years, whether your interests are HF, VHF, microwave, 2 M FM, other, or all the above, this is an opportunity to expand your knowledge of what is possible today and what may be doable for you even sooner than YOU may imagine. Don't miss the opportunity to attend a top flight conference focused on great presentations with ease of attendance. Seating will be limited, so sign up at your earliest possibility. For lodging, please google on Carlisle, PA lodging noting that the well-known motels are situated along 1-81. We intend to have Power point copies of each presentation on a Web site after the conference with details being announced at the conference. Please bring your own paper/pens/other for note taking.

## YARS Spring Flooding Drill Recap

### THIS IS A DRILL... THIS IS A DRILL !

National Weather Service State College has published a Flood Advisory.. Urban and Small Stream flooding anticipated. York OEM has advised that the EOC and ACS will probably be activated. ACS operators may be asked to do some observing at local stream/creek flood prone areas in the York area. Please advise me of your availability for potential assignment on Saturday May 31st. **Keep watch for further advisory and information.**

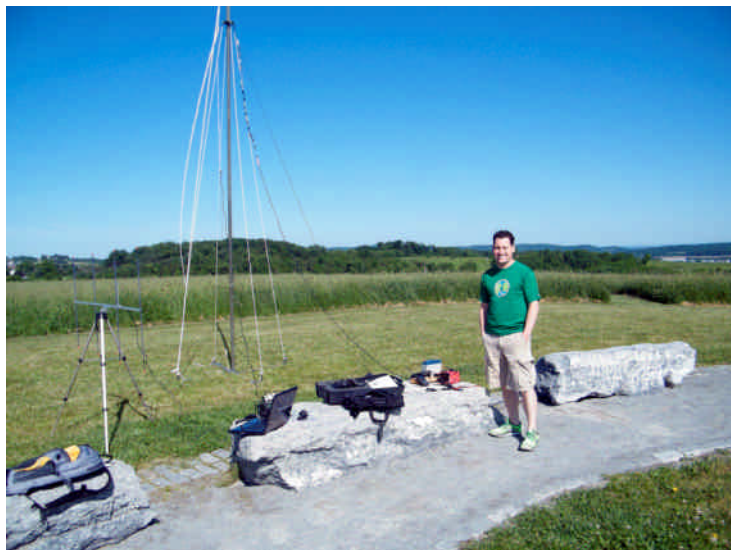
On Saturday, May 31, YARS in conjunction with the York County OEM held a "Spring Flooding Drill". The goal of this exercise was to simulate reporting river/creek/stream levels and conditions to the York County EOC. Since these conditions would be representative of conditions in other low lying areas, this information could be used to help local government & emergency managers make decisions on what actions to take. **Full details of this exercise are in the February issue of the newsletter on page 7 (on website).**

This drill was different from anything that we've done in the past in the respect that it was organized and called out by YARS (not the county). It was also more realistic in regard to participant activation as we actually asked for participation the way it would be done if this was a real event. The Friday before, Sandy, N3ECF went out with e-mails, phone calls, and alerts over the 146.97 repeater asking for volunteers. While it was predetermined who the participants were to be, everyone received notification.

The EOC was activated with YARS members in the RACES room and the observation sites around the York area were manned. Everyone set up portable equipment and successful communications was established between the appropriate stations and the York County EOC on the 146.97 repeater, on 2 meter simplex, on 80 meter SSB, and 10 meter SSB. Actual Slow Scan images taken in real time were also successfully transmitted from four of the observation sites back to the EOC. This was a great chance for everyone to test out their Go-Kits and there were very few problems!

After the drill, everyone met at the EOC for a drill Debrief/Hotwash. This went extremely well, lasted for over an hour, and was very productive.

As far as I know, this is the first time that we as Amateurs have initiated a drill ourselves and It was quite successful! **Kudo's go out to Sandy, N3ECF, our EC/RO for all the planning that she put into this.**



Dan Melato, KB3JSV operating the drill from Highpoint Scenic Overlook near Wrightsville. This position had an Inverted Vee on 10 meters, a "Slim Jim" on 2 meters, and a 4 element yagi, also on 2 meters. Successful contacts back to the EOC were made on 2 meter FM, 10 meter SSB, and Slow Scan Television (SSTV)

## MS Bike Tour ... Continued from page 2

I expect some changes in the routes, as well as waiting to them to determine the Sunday routes. Saturday will have the usual 3 options (30, 62, and 100 miles). They usually drop the 100 mile route on Sunday to make for a shorter day.

Rooms are available Friday and Saturday nights in Apple Hall, which is across the street from the Athletic Center and the parking lot where the bikers will start and finish. The rooms contain 2 single beds, with pillow, linens, and blanket provided. The rooms are in suites, with either 2 or 3 bedrooms in each suite. Each suite has its own bathroom, so you don't share with the entire floor. Note -- key to your room MUST be turned on Sunday morning. I have had no word about meal availability, so you may still need to handle that on your own. The suites do contain a refrigerator and stove, but no dishes.

Please let me know if you are available to assist. Tell me if you can work BOTH days, or if you can only work one day, please tell me which day. Also let me know if you want a room for overnight and which night(s).

### THESE ARE THE VOLUNTEERS ALREADY SIGNED UP:

#### REST STOP VOLUNTEERS


- 1 Jack & Kathy Dellinger
- 2 Bob & Mary Gundlach
- 3 Valli Hoski & Harry Fasick
- 4 Bob & Patti Single -- (one day only)
- 5 Don Inscho
- 6 Don Schmitt

#### SAG VOLUNTEERS

Donna Lee Hoover (medical)  
Dick Goodman with Donna Souder  
Ralph Brandt  
Dan Shortencarrier  
Walt & Jonathan Bilous  
Tom Graybill (one day only)  
Franz Niedermeyer  
Jack Reed  
Perry Wood  
Jason Meyer

Thank you for your support  
Sandy Goodman, N3ECF  
MS Bike Tour  
Communications & SAG Chair





**Keystone VHF Club  
General Meeting Minutes of  
April 3, 2014**  
*By Sandy Goodman, N3ECF – Secretary*

The General Club Meeting held at Keystone VHF Club was called to order by Pres. Dick WA3USG at 19:05. There were 42 members present, 4 HAM guests (2 from York Township, 1 new member request, 1 getting into Amateur Radio). We also had the 2 guests who gave the AED presentation.

#### GENERAL HAPPENINGS:

Tim Barefoot reported what he thought was a shock from an electric line, turned out to be multiple shocks from his defibrillator. He was in the hospital to get that reprogrammed and his medicine changed. He spent hours remotely running JT-65 during his hospital stay.

George "Skip" Lehman and Lynn Seachrist from CPR-NOW gave a presentation on the operation of the AED (Automated External Defibrillator) that the club purchased.

A Life Membership was presented to Sandy Goodman, N3ECF. Sandy started actively participating in Keystone Club in 2008, taking over as Assistant Secretary from Sue Graybill, then full Assistant Secretary in 2009, President in 2010, and since 2011, Secretary. She handles the registrations and coordination for our yearly Holiday Party. Sandy also is the Auxiliary Communications Service Officer and ARRL ARES

Emergency Coordinator for York County with the YARS EMCOMM group. Sandy assists Dick, WA3USG, with several of the public service events, and coordinates the yearly MS Bike Tour.

**SECRETARY REPORT:** Sandy, N3ECF. Jack, KC3JD, moved to accept the March minutes as published, with a second from Steve, WB3EFA. Motion carried.

**TREASURER REPORT:** Linda, KB3EBV, reported for March: Income: \$2,801.93; Expenses: \$782.79; The income was high due to a donation for the purchase of the AED. Money was moved from the regular checking into the Trustee's checking to cover payments being made.

Balances: Club CD \$7,607.41; Checking Acct \$8,132.86; Trustee Acct \$736.26; Total \$16,493.31.

Joe, KB3TCM, moved to accept the report. Dan, KB3JSV seconded the motion. Motion carried.

#### COMMITTEE REPORTS:

**TRUSTEE REPORT** – report is in the newsletter. Jeff advised that April 19<sup>th</sup> would be the spring work party at the club. Breakfast at Stony Brook, meet at the club at 9:30 am. If anyone can bring a pick-up truck, they would like to take some loads to the scrap yard. The fridge has been restocked with goodies. They will be changing the door codes soon. Those with access will need to get the new code.

#### TECHNICAL COMMITTEE REPORT -

The committee is asking that no one put software on the computers without permission from the Technical Committee. There should be 2 operating positions available now for digital. The new router is in. Bob, WB3AWJ, advised that the Signal Link used with the FT-920 needs work to boost the audio levels. The HF antennas should go up soon.

#### EMCOMM/PUBLIC SERVICE NEWS – Sandy, N3ECF

Peach Bottom Nuclear Drill will be held Tuesday, April 8<sup>th</sup>. All operators can pre-stage at 4 PM. Sandy will put out the ICS-205 with frequencies. The planned YARS Spring Flood exercise has been postponed from April 5<sup>th</sup> until May 5<sup>th</sup>. We did complete a Functional Drill and discovered that we need some additional review of procedures. That will be done at the April 23<sup>rd</sup> YARS meeting.

Public Service: We have March for Babies at Rudy Park, and the Iron Master's Hike at Pine Grove Furnace on April 27<sup>th</sup>. The Bob Potts Marathon will be on May 24<sup>th</sup>. Managers of those events will take additional volunteers, but posts are mostly manned.

#### VE/ED REPORT -

Nate, WN3I, is finishing the final reviews for the Technician License Class on Tuesdays and Thursdays. There will be 2 opportunities to test. Two students have already passed both Technician and General License tests. Tests are given on April 12, Saturday, at both the Shrewsbury Borough Building and at the York HAMFEST.

Nate and Walt, K3DQB, are working on possibly doing a General License Class.

At the last Keystone VE Exams, 16 passed: 8 new Technicians, 5 General, and 2 Extra. One student had failed at the Keystone testing, but did pass the Technician test in Lebanon.

#### CONTEST REPORT - none

**NEWSLETTER/WEBSITE** – Dick, WA3USG, published the newsletter.

#### OLD BUSINESS: none

#### NEW BUSINESS:

Chris, KB3TWW, talked about getting orders for Keystone VHF Club T-Shirts and Sweatshirts.

The T-Shirts range from Small to XXX-Large, at a cost of \$6 to \$8. The Sweatshirts are the zippered hoodie sweatshirt, same sizes, at a cost of \$22 to \$24. Sandy will send out an email to take orders. We will need to order a minimum of 48 units.

Tim, W3TWB, suggested we do a spaghetti dinner prior to the June meeting. Members can bring desserts.

Jeff, KB3RCT, advised that the Boy Scouts will be using the club's pavilion on Tuesday, April 22.

**Continued on Page 9**



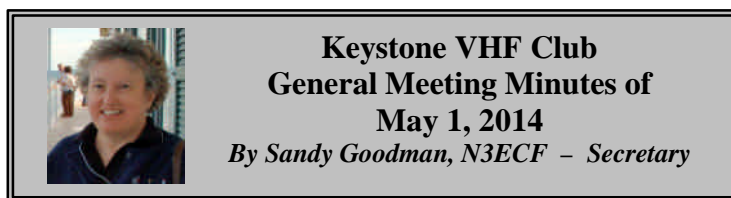
Jeff, KB3RCT, requested a copy of Ham Radio Deluxe under the club's call sign to be used for contests. Software plus one year of support will cost about \$99. That would allow it to be installed on all three computers. Brad, KO3T, moved to allow the purchase. Steve, WB3EFA, seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The Tech Committee would like to purchase new monitors. The 22 inch screen costs \$130 each, for a total of \$390. After discussion, Steve, WB3EFA, moved to purchase the 22 inch screen monitors at a cost of \$160 each. Joe, KB3TCM, seconded the motion. Motion carried.

First readings were done for Nevin Frankel, KE3W, and David Facemire, no call yet. David is attending Nate's class and should pass his Technician License on April 12<sup>th</sup>. We also re-instated Steve Cruse, K3WHC, back into the club.

GOOD OF THE CLUB - Reminder of the Timonium HAMFEST on April 5, and the York HAMFEST on April 12.

50-50 - Larry, N3LED, won \$31.50 Adjourned at 8:30 PM



The General Club Meeting held at Keystone VHF Club was called to order by Pres. Dick WA3USG at 19:15. There were 39 members present and 5 applicants for membership.

Dick announced that John Shaffer, SK - W3SST, had requested that his ashes be spread at the Keystone VHF Club. (John was one of our club founders.) Jack, KC3JD, moved to spend up to \$75 on a donation in John's name. Steve, WB3EFA, seconded the motion. Motion passed. Dick will get in touch with John's daughter to request where a donation can be sent.

Jack, KC3JD, mentioned Dan Wolfson, SK - KA3NKA, had been a member back in the 1990s. After a cancer treatment, Dan had returned to health and was actively running in New Jersey several years ago.

#### TECHNICAL HAPPENINGS:

The SMRA Carlisle Club will sponsor an event on October 4<sup>th</sup> at Whispering Pines in Carlisle. They hope to get Joe Taylor, developer for JT-65, as a speaker. More info to come.

**SECRETARY REPORT:** Sandy, N3ECF. Correction is needed for Steve Steffan's call sign where he seconded the motion to accept the minutes. Jack, K8UYC moved to accept the April minutes as corrected. Steve, WB3EFA seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**TREASURER REPORT:** Linda, KB3EBV, reported for April: Income: \$0.55; Expenses: \$2,357.41. (The large expense was for the AED, for which a donation had been made in March.) Balances: Club CD \$7,625.17 (as of 4/30/14); Checking Acct \$5,736.05; Trustee Acct \$733.82; Total \$14,095.04. Lee, WB3HNA, moved to accept the report; 2<sup>nd</sup> by John, KB3SSS. Motion carried.

#### COMMITTEE REPORTS:

**TRUSTEE REPORT** - Tim advised that about 15 people helped at the work party. The grounds are well cleaned up. We still need to spray the parking lot. Two shelves have been put in to hold radios; and wireless keyboards and mice are in place at operating positions. Tim Snook provided floor tile which needs to be laid. Leveling compound, mortar, and grout are needed to complete the flooring. Steve, WB3EFA, moved to allow \$300 to make the necessary purchase. Tim, KC3BWP, seconded the motion. Motion carried.

CPR-NOW, who sold us the AED, has offered to give free AED training for up to 15 of our members. That is to make up for their demo equipment which didn't work at April's meeting. Those interested should contact Sandy, N3ECF.

#### TECHNICAL COMMITTEE REPORT -

A meeting needs to be held to discuss antenna work. We received a Kenwood repeater with duplexers from CAP. Don, N3OSO, advised that the cans may be too wide-banded to be used. The Tech Committee will be meeting in the next 2 weeks to work on a plan of action for all the projects that need to be done.

#### EMCOMM/PUBLIC SERVICE NEWS

Sandy, N3ECF, mentioned the completed Iron Masters Hike and March of Dimes Walk, as well as the Peach Bottom drill. On May 4<sup>th</sup>, we have the MS Walk in Rudy Park, where we could use another operator or 2. Bob Potts Marathon is coming up on May 25. The Spring Flood Exercise was again rescheduled to May 31<sup>st</sup>. There will be no further delays.

#### VE/ED REPORT

Steve, WB3EFA, reported that testing at the Hamfest resulted in 4 new Technicians, 3 General, and 1 Extras. Nate, WN3I, and Walt, N3DQB, rejoice in the number of graduates who completed their Technician License class. They had a rough winter to keep the classes going. They are planning a General License class. If anyone is willing to co-instruct, please let Nate know. If they get enough assistance, they might be able to also conduct an Extra License class.

#### CONTEST REPORT -

June VHF Contest is the 2<sup>nd</sup> weekend in June (14-15), and Field Day is the 4<sup>th</sup> weekend (28-29). We've had 1344 contacts confirmed in LOTW/EQSL. We're missing Montana for Worked All States. The Hilltoppers will hold their Field Day at their club house. There will be a CW Ops World Wide on Memorial Day.

#### NEWSLETTER/WEBSITE -

Dick, WA3USG, will combine May and June in the next newsletter.

#### OLD BUSINESS:

Sandy, N3ECF, advised that we have over 45 orders for t-shirts and sweatshirts. Additional orders will be taken after the meeting. The order will be sent in a few days. Dick has changed our electric supplier back to Met Ed. We only got a low cost from American for one month.

Second Readings were done for Dave Facemire, KC3CRC, and Nevins Frankel, KE3W. Both were voted into membership.

#### NEW BUSINESS:

Sandy, N3ECF, would like to purchase a file cabinet to store Secretary's and Treasurer's records at the club rather than in the Goodman home in Mechanicsburg. Tim, W3TWB, advised that there is a file cabinet in the shed that can be used.

Corn Roast is scheduled for August 16<sup>th</sup> (3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday). We will cook chicken halves for \$5 each. We'll gather at 3 pm, to eat at 4 pm.

First readings for new members: Tom Alsted, N3PNF, Richard Diem, KC3CFV, Steven Cline, KC3CPL, Brian Klimes, KC3CFW, and John Brownlee, KC3BOJ.

Ray, W3AXC, advised that Charlie Byers XYL has donated amateur documentation and handbooks. The club needs to check what we may want to keep. Extras will be available for club members to take.

Jeff, KB3RCT, will have the Boy Scouts here on Tuesday, June 3<sup>rd</sup>.

#### GOOD OF THE CLUB -

There will be a Spaghetti dinner prior to the June Club meeting. Members may bring dessert. Dinner will be at 6:30 pm.

Lee, WB3HNA, is donating a Baofang Radio to be given or loaned to someone new to the hobby in need of a radio.

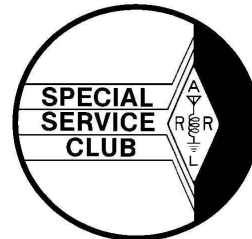
50-50 Danny Waldrop, KC3BXG, won \$31 and donated it back to the club. Thank you Danny.

Adjourned at 8:30 pm

# KEYSTONE VHF CLUB OF YORK, PA



## W3HZU



### Membership Application

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Callsign: \_\_\_\_\_ Expires: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Lic Class: \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

### Membership Desired

**Full** → Full Club Privileges  
\$20.00 annually & one time \$5.00 Application fee

**Family** → Sponsoring members call: \_\_\_\_\_  
Privileges same as Full membership  
\$5.00 annually & a one time \$5.00 Application fee

**Associate** → Repeater Support  
\$20.00 annually & a one time \$5.00 Application fee

Are you a member of:

ARRL Y-N

ARES Y-N

RACES Y-N

QCWA Y-N

### Special Areas of Interest (circle all that apply)

AM Antenna building ATV Contesting CW Digital (Packet, RTTY, PSK-31, etc)  
DX FM HF QRP Satellites SSB SSTV SWL Tower climbing LF DSP  
UHF/Microwaves VHF Astronomy Photography Other: \_\_\_\_\_

### Application & Dues Mailing Address:

Make checks payable to: *Keystone VHF Club Inc.* Mail to: *PO Box 20143*

*York, Pa. 17402-0140*

#### FOR CLUB USE ONLY

First Reading Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Second Reading Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Date voted IN-OUT: \_\_\_\_\_ Date Dues Collected: \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant Sponsored by: \_\_\_\_\_