



The VHF Transmitter



Keystone VHF Club, Inc.

W3HZU

Founded 1955 – York, PA

VOL 61 No 8

CIRCULATION 185

October 2016

Guy Clippinger W3CRL A Silent Key

Guy L. Clippinger, 91, passed away Thursday, September 15, 2016 at Manor Care South

Guy, W3CRL was a life member of the club. He was one of the original 13 members that met on that December night in 1955. He always was just know as "Clip" be all of us.

According to club records, Clip joined the club in November of 1955 (actually before the club was chartered). In 1955, he was a Novice with the call of WN3CRL, the following year, he upgraded to General. He was a very active member of the club back then, he took part in all the club activities. He hid a transmitter for a transmitter hunt and locked himself in the truck of a car. If we had not found him he would still be there (see below). In the years 1985 & 1986, Guy also served terms as Vice President for the club.

Dave Germeyer W3BLJ of Dillsburg and Ray Shaub, W3AXC are the last 2 of that original 13 that created the Keystone VHF Club.



From KVHFC history files ... Another night hunt Guy Clippinger "W3CRL" borrowed a car from his Fathers car lot and parked along a street in Dallastown. He located the Transmitter and himself in the TRUNK. Someone did find him, but it was a difficult one.

See also "Ronald Boltz, K3TZJ" A Silent Key on page 3

Sandy Goodman, N3ECF Presented with Award at SPCG Meeting



The Southern Pennsylvania Communications Group (SPCG) William Molnar, WA2ORG Memorial Amateur Radio Community Service Award is given annually to an Amateur Radio operator that has demonstrated a willingness to give of themselves to others, especially giving to the Amateur Radio community. We give special emphasis to those who give to the Emergency Communications (EmComm) Community.

Sandy, N3ECF has served as the secretary of the South Central Task Force, Amateur Radio Work Group (ARWG) since 2009. She has helped plan and has participated in several Task Force exercise involving Amateur Radio. She has served as the Emergency Coordinator (EC) and Auxiliary Communications Service Officer (ACSO) for York County since 2013. She is a Life Member of the Keystone VHF Club, in which she has served as secretary since 2011 and held the office of President in 2010. She plans many of the 'Special Events' in which YARS participates. These include but are not limited to the Buckridge Burn Hike, York MS Walk, Ironmasters Challenge Hike, Double Creek Half Marathon, Red Lion Street Fair, MS Bike Tour in Gettysburg, and the KTA Superhike.

Boy Scout/Cub Scout J.O.T.A. Jamboree on the air at the KVHFC

Saturday, October 15 - 9 AM to 3 PM

Boy Scouts & Cub Scouts of York to talk on HAM radio with Scouts across the USA and around the world.

York County Emergency Communication Command truck on display. 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM

The Boy Scouts of America- the Keystone VHF Radio Club [W3HZU] will be hosting the 59th Annual JOTA /JOTI (**Jamboree-on-the-Air** and Jamboree-on-the-Internet) event at the Keystone VHF radio club in York, PA. Scouts from all over York are invited to share ideas and Scouting experiences with their Scouting peers around the world using two-way amateur radio and satellite links as well as the Internet. Youth can also participate in a radio beacon fox hunt onsite. York County citizens are also invited to stop up to learn about Scouts and HAM Radio.

Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts or any scouting organization will be able to talk on amateur, or HAM radios with other Scouters on the airwaves in the USA and around the world.

Can you help with this event? We need radio operators to help the scouts get on the air. We will be operating SSB, CW, and probably some of the Digital Modes (including SSTV) during the day on HF. Even if you can spend only an hour, this would help. Both Jeff Patterson, KB3RCT and Brian Klimes, K3BEK will be at the club meeting this coming Thursday to discuss this. We really would like a list of club participants and scheduled times so we know where we are light with help.

Happenings at the Clubsite

On 8 Sept we held a Tech Committee meeting up at the club to discuss the status of several on-going projects:

1. Procuring a ductless mini-split Heat Pump for the clubhouse.

A good idea, we are in the process of getting three (3) estimates. The first, from H.B. Mclure came in at \$3,808 for a 24,000 BTU unit from Fujitsu. Two estimates follow, one from Strines Heating & Cooling, another from G.F. Bowman.

2. Get our backup 2 meter repeater finished & operational

The repeater & recently repaired PA are installed in a 6 foot rack. We are currently having 6 cavities sent out to be set to the repeaters input & output frequencies.

3. Resolve problems with one of our computers, one of our computer monitors, and an intermittent problem with one our Heil headsets.

Dan Melato, KB3JSV resolved the computer problem. There was a bad strip of RAM ... replaced. Skip Falkenhan, N3VTX replaced a bad power connector on the computer monitor. Skip also tested the Heil headset and could find no problem. Suspects a dirty audio receptacle.

4. Install our new 6 meter Yagi on the 60 foot tower and realign our 432 SSB antenna on 100 foot tower.

Scheduled for 24 Sept. Unfortunately, one of our climbers became ill. Will be rescheduled.

5. Install our new video server

TBD - target date for completion, 30 October

Continued on Page 4

NEXT MEETINGS

**Thursday, October 6th at the York County EOC
and Thursday, November 3rd at the EOC**

Schedule of Keystone VHF Club Sponsored VE Testing for 2016

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 or phone 717-792-1017.

Location is York EMA Office at 120 Davies Road, York

Testing dates

Nov 12

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.*

VE exams will be sponsored by Southern Pennsylvania Communications Group (SPCG). These sessions are 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 Nate, WN3I at wn3i@comcast.net.*

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.

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.

The Keystone VHF Club Digital Net on **Tuesday at 8 PM** on the York 146.97 Repeater ... *to restart on September 6.*

The Keystone VJF Club ELMER Net on **Tuesday at 9 PM** on the York 146.97 Repeater right after the Digital net

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

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

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

6 Meter Magicians Net from Pottstown Wednesdays at 8:30 PM on 50.130 USB. At 9 PM, they switch to 50.400 and run A.M. modulation and call themselves the Mini Boat Anchor Net.

Trustee's Report



Tim, W3TWB



Dick, WA3USG



Jeff, KB3RCT

Hope for good weather gang! Autumn clean-up work party on Saturday, October 8th. Breakfast at Round the Clock Diner at 8 AM ... be up at the club by 9 AM. We should be done by noon.

Scheduled Club P.S. Events for 2016

* **Oct 30, 2016 - Michaux Team Challenge** *** SJ

POC: Dan McGlothlin kb3mun@mcglothlin.us

* **Dec 24-25, 2016 - Glen Rock Carolers**

POC: Stan Walters, AB3EM abacuspc@comcast.net

*** SJ (Your Slim Jim will work here)

KTA Super Hike Wrap-Up

I want to send a big THANK YOU to all for an excellent day of amateur radio support. It was certainly an eventful day, and the heat meant needing extra support. Many of you went well beyond providing radio communications. The host of drop-outs (that weren't a surprise due to the heat) kept both Lock 12 (CP2) and Posey Rd (CP3) hopping.

We got to practice REAL emergency support. Kudos to Dick, WA3USG, and Evan, W2EDT, for their help with the hiker experiencing heat exhaustion. Thanks to Tom, N3PNF, for doing that difficult technical climb down into Kelly's Run from Pinnacle to provide EMT aid until the emergency teams got there. (How was that for an introduction to this event?)

IMPORTANT TAKE-AWAYS

1. If cell service is available, the radio operator at the scene needs to make the 911 call so that emergency services have the best target for where they need to go.

2. Reminder to our operators: we aren't the ones who would be required to transport a critically injured patient out of the woods. When it gets critical, you are the **LINK** to get the TRAINED Emergency Workers to the incident location.

At Checkpoint 3, operators there were hearing about and seeing hikers approaching who were running out of water and energy. They set up a 2nd communications point and carried water and Gatorade down the hill into the woods. Several hikers were hitting the wall prior to that checkpoint.

Personal point to Jim, KC3EWN, who handled Net Control during the emergency incident. You are the new go to guy for Net Control. We need to have you run NCS at a quieter event to prove you are NOT a jinx. It's your quiet control that helped all of us settle and deal with that kind of emergency.

Thanks Again.

Sandy Goodman N3ECF

Check out the new webpage for Amateur Radio EMCOMM on York OEM's website at

<https://yorkcountypa.gov/emergency-services/emergency-management-office/volunteer-respond/amateur-radio.html>

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Kings Gap Time Trails Wrap-up

By Micah Neff, KB3TGY

Hi, Micah - Thank-you so much for all of your hard work to make this year's Kings Gap Time Trial a success. I wanted to send you a "snail mail" thank-you, but wasn't sure of the address. :)

Please pass along my sincere thank-you to the rest of your crew. Thank-you!!!

Nicole Haverstraw, 2016 Kings Gap Time Trial Coordinator

Nicole really appreciated us being able to see the numbers on the riders as they got near the top. They had a few No Shows and some of us were able to keep a decent count and notice numbers were missing.

We did good.....again thnx so much to everyone who came out to get the job done. And, it was a beautiful day to be outside! They also liked having the FRS radios, even though the lady had a few bumps to get over knowing how to use them ... lol. I think she was holding her key open constantly before they got to her to help her out!



York County Simplex Test

8:30 PM on Monday October 17, 2016 on 144.34 MHz FM Simplex. This NET will be held in lieu of the Combined York County Club and ARES/RACES NET normally held on the W3HZU repeater.

We will be testing the range of simplex communications throughout York County. It will also be used for the ARES Simulated Emergency Test (SET).

Chris Palm, WY6Z, will run the net on 144.34 MHz simplex. He will call for check-ins requesting the Call-Sign, and the number for the operator's location, and notification if the operator will be using emergency power (battery or generator). He will acknowledge those stations that he can copy from his location. He will then call for any stations to advise if they heard other operators that he did not hear.

Watch for more detailed instructions (to be sent October 14) from Sandy Goodman, N3ECF, York County ACSO/EC.

Don't forget about our "Elmer Net" on every Tuesday evening starting at 9 PM on the 146.97 machine. A great place to ask questions about anything or just to talk about

HAM RADIO !

FOR SALE/WANTED

This needs to find a new home. This National HRO M X has a crystal filter works that well on CW and SSB and has been re-capped. The radio dates to 1937 and was used by the English as a German monitor before WW2. This unit was probably part of the lend lease program. I got it from someone that picked it up in England.



If interested, please make offer

Bob Riese, K3DJC riese-k3djc@juno.com

I have a nonworking Heathkit SB-200 amp with a pair of 572B tubes for sale as is. It was my backup amp which has been sitting on the shelf for an extended period of time. Dug it out a week or two past and thought I would see if it still works. Turned it on and all was well. Then tried pumping a signal into it and bang, it was all over. I suspect the power module is the culprit since to my knowledge it is original.

The following has been done to the amp since I received it:

All of the following from Harbach Electronics:

Soft Start Module SS 201 added

Soft Key Module SK 201 added

Fan FM 200 replaced (fan is noisy, but not really a problem)

The Power Supply Module PM 200 is available from Harbach Electronics for \$95.00

It is an ugly looking beast, but it served me well when in use.

I have a spare case for it if you would like to make it look pretty.

Asking \$100.00 firm

Bob Gundlach N3NBT
2829 Glen Hollow Dr.
York, PA 17406-9706

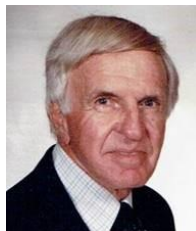


Father of Club Member Ron Boltz, K3TZJ has passed away

Gerald C Boltz, 98, of Lebanon died September 5 at the Cornwall Manor Health Care Center. A graduate of Lebanon High School class of 1936, Gerald served during WW2 as a 1'st Lieutenant, 12th Air Force, 319th Bomb Group in the Mediterranean Theater. He later served 12 years in the PA National Guard, 28th Division as a Military Police Lieutenant. Gerald retired from Bethlehem Steel in 1980 where he worked at the Lebanon and Steelton Plants as Superintendent of Data Processing.

He is survived by three sons, Gerald M Boltz and his wife Jeanne of Cornwall, Ronald L Boltz and his wife Jo of York, and Jay P Boltz of Harrisburg. A daughter, Judith L Boltz, preceded him in death. Also surviving are 3 grandchildren and 7 great grandchildren.

Interment was at the Indiantown Gap National Cemetery with full military honors.





**Keystone VHF Club
General Meeting Minutes of
September 1, 2016**

By Sandy Goodman, N3ECF – Secretary

The General Club Meeting held at Keystone VHF Club was called to order by Pres. Mike, N3VQH, at 19:01. There were 30 members present and 1 new member applicants.

TECHNICAL HAPPENINGS:

Ray Shaub, W3AXC, showed some old pieces of equipment, including a 2 meter FM rig that was built in the 1970s. It had no dial, no display, was crystal controlled, and limited to 10 watts. Ray also talked about the frequency history of the Keystone repeater.

John Martina, K3NXU, from Miklor.Com, donated a Baofang UV-6R radio. The club is selling raffle tickets for this radio this month and October. The winning ticket will be drawn at the October meeting.

Dan, KB3JSV, talked about a kit for a ZDRX-40 from the latest show on HamNation. Look for K7AGE on You-Tube for information on building one.

SECRETARY REPORT: Sandy, N3ECF. Joe, KB3TCM, moved to accept the August minutes as published, 2nd by Steve, WB3EFA. Motion carried.

TREASURER REPORT: Anne, KB3ZLJ, reported for August: Money was transferred from the regular checking into the Trustee account. Income: \$1,198.12; Expenses: for both accounts \$628.37 (electric was \$265.49);

Balances: Club CD \$7,654.79; Checking Acct \$3,657.36; Trustee Acct \$540.83; Total \$11,852.98. Steve, WB3EFA, moved to accept the report. Bob, WB3EAF, seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Anne showed Mike the bill for the propane gas. The cost is \$2.59 per gallon. It was thought that was high. Mike will make a phone call to check that out.

Sandy, N3ECF, reported on the Corn Roast and Chicken B-B-Q. We took in \$277 for payment for chicken. We spent \$220 on the corn and chicken, plus \$288.52 for picnic supplies.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

TRUSTEE REPORT –

A clean-up party is scheduled for Oct 8 at 9 AM, to be preceded by breakfast.

TECHNICAL COMMITTEE REPORT -

Work on the dish is taking shape. Work on antennas and rotors need to be done. The committee needs to plan for climbers. A Technical meeting will be held.

EMCOMM/PUBLIC SERVICE NEWS –

For public service, we did the Red Lion Street Fair, where it was VERY hot and fewer attendees than usual. At the MS Bike Tour, it was again hot and resulted in one emergency where a bike rider collapsed. Just as a heads up, the date may change again next year, possibly moving into October. Instructions and directions for the upcoming KTA Hike will be coming out soon. Dick, WA3USG, will put up the Keystone portable repeater at Pinnacle Overlook, so our usual repeater will be unavailable on September 10.

In place of the usual Monday Night NET, on October 17, we will do a Simplex Test. Chris, WY6Z, will be Net Control that evening. He will designate those he hears as relays to try to hear other stations that he cannot hear. The goal is to see how many operators we can contact on 2 meter simplex.

VE/ED REPORT -

September 10 is the next VE Exam. Steve, WB3EFA, was appointed as a Laurel Deputy VEC Co-ordinator.

Ralph, K3HQI, and Kathy, KA3THC, are coordinating for a weekend Technician License Class.

CONTEST REPORT -

September 10-12 is the VHF contest.

NEWSLETTER/WEBSITE –

Website is up to date. The newsletter went out.

OLD BUSINESS:

Second readings were held for Barry Johnson, KT4GG, and Caleb Bailey, N3AUO. Both were voted into membership.

The blue bin in the shed has junk that needs to be disposed of. Ed, KA3LJL, has the manuals for equipment folks got from him.

NEW BUSINESS:

The Nominating Committee was assigned: Eric Smyder, KB3CNH, Rich Diem, W3OKU, and Jim Fry, KC3EWN.

Some discussion was held about the article Dick, WA3USG, included in the newsletter. The club's air conditioner is only 12,000 BTU. Dick found one at Home Depot that would run 18,000 BTU. A committee was assigned to look for a solution to improve the club's a/c: Dick, WA3USG, Rich, W3OKU, Steved, K3WHC, and probably add Greg, KE3CW.

GOOD OF THE CLUB - none

50-50 Chris, WY6Z, won \$15.

Adjourned at 19:59.

Happenings at the Clubsite ... continued from Page 1

6. Progress continues on our 15 foot communications dish to be used for EME and Radio Astronomy. We hope to have this in place atop its supporting tower by mid November ... before the snow hits!

Mount Zion Lutheran Church Fun Run Wrap up

By Dick Goodman, WA3USG

This was one of our smallest events but it paid dividends in a big way. Mount Zion Lutheran Church in Boiling Springs puts on a free community dinner the first Saturday of every month. I help to organize and run this.

There is an adult group home for the mentally & physically handicapped located near the church. The residents from the home usually attend our dinners. To them, this is a night out on the town & it's a big deal! These folks are seriously handicapped and that home is the only real chance that they have at a somewhat normal life.

Places like that always need a "little extra" in niceties like a new TV in the rec room, perhaps puzzles or games, some extra snacks, a birthday present, maybe new furniture ... who knows. We thought it would be appropriate to have a fund raiser to give them this little extra. Since I help organize and work at public service events, I thought that a short 3 mile Walk/Run would be the right thing to do.

I've helped organize these things before, I knew that I could get great help from the club (both Keystone & SMRA), and the church council seemed to be enthusiastic. It took about 4 months of planning. At first we went to the township to get their blessing (and permission) but that was a BIG MISTAKE! After one meeting, we realized it would be a lot easier to ask for forgiveness than permission ... a church is into the forgiveness thing anyways right?

I bicycle in that area a lot so I knew the roads. We laid out a route, did a little advertising, and then decided to integrate this with our Community dinner on Saturday, October 1st. So last Saturday, we held it.

It was rainy, windy, miserable and I thought no one would come. We had 29 participants! Each participant paid \$10 ... for this they got a BIB number and a T-Shirt (donated by the Churchtown Historical Society). I guess that the spirit was within everyone because those 29 participants left about \$535.00 in the money box.

After the Run, everyone went into Fellowship Hall to eat. We had Hot Dogs, Burgers, Corn on the Cob, incredibly delicious yet deadly home made beans, and deserts made by the ladies of the church. We probably had 100 or so attend this ... and they left us about another \$250 in donations. All of the food was donated so we ended up giving the home almost \$800. We then decided to make this an annual event.

The help that I got from both Keystone and the SMRA was superb. From Keystone we had Kip Glunt, WB3AFL; Steve Steffan, WB3EFA; Tony McMonagle, KC3EED; his XYL Chris McMonagle, KC3EUV; Donna Lee Hoover, N3VPJ, and of course my XYL Sandy, N3ECF. From the SMRA we had Ed Crossley, W3SMF; his XYL Joyce, KC3APE; and Robin Cartwright, KC3CEK. All of these folks braved the cold wet afternoon and manned checkpoints along the route. Of special note is that Chris McMonagle, KC3EUV spent the entire evening helping me cook burgers, Hot Dogs, and Corn on the Cob (her OM, Tony helped too).

This was just simply a great event! It was easy to set up, everyone had fun, and we raised \$800 for a great cause ... win win win! Thanks to everybody who helped out ... you guy's & gal's are the BEST! We hope that you will be back next year. If the weather is good, we will have much higher numbers!

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
\$25.00 annually & one time \$5.00 Application fee
- Family** → Sponsoring members call: _____
Privileges same as Full membership
\$6.25 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
- OCWA 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: _____	