



The VHF Transmitter



Keystone VHF Club, Inc.

W3HZU

Founded 1955 – York, PA

VOL 62 No 1

CIRCULATION 185

January, 2017

Club Member Projects



Two weeks ago at one of our Thursday evening Tech Sessions, Ryan Duke, KC3FSJ brought in his Go Kit. Actually, it's a complete 100 watt class portable station that covers from 160 meters through 70 cm ... all modes! The Go Kit itself consists of a Kenwood TS-2000 all mode transceiver, a SignalLink USB interface for the digital modes, and a cross reading wattmeter.



This kit is completely self contained and includes a 7 AH Gel Cell battery capable of operating the TS-2000 and accessories for several hours. Ryan also included connectors to enable operation from a variety of external power sources (with Anderson Powerpoles) ... but it doesn't end there!



Ryan has also fabricated a Quadrifilar Helix antenna capable of receiving the signal from the NOAA APT weather satellites. Using these satellites, Ryan can download images showing weather systems all over the United States. This is not just a Go-Kit but a complete satellite Ground Station. The Quadrifilar Helix receives the 137 MHz satellite signal with virtually no fades from horizon to horizon during each pass. The antenna also displays a good SWR on 2 meters ... a big plus! *Seeing Ryan's system inspired me to get back into Weather Satellite reception. The software is free and it's not hard to do ... I'm sure that Ryan will put you on the track to success if you're interested!*

More projects on Page 3

Charlie Kuhn, KC3DRS A Silent Key



Charles E. Kuhn, KC3DRS born February 27, 1957 in Gettysburg, passed away peacefully Friday, December 16, 2016 at his home following his courageous battle with cancer. He was the husband of Joanne (Redding) Kuhn for 37 years. He was the son of the late Charles E. Kuhn, Sr. and Marie Sterner Kuhn.

Charlie had worked for County Line Quarry in Wrightsville. He graduated from Gettysburg High School in 1975 and was a member of Upper Bermudian Lutheran Church in Gardners for more than 20 years.

Charlie joined the Keystone VHF Club in July of 2015 and shortly after, became a member of the York ARES-RACES Skywarn (YARS). He immediately jumped in with both feet and took part in several major public service events, sometimes acting as Net Control. Charlie also was able to get in excess of 4 square yards of concrete donated from the County Line Quarry in Wrightsville for our EME project. In the short time he was a member of the club, he made a big impact and he will be sorely missed.

He was also involved with the Cub/Boy Scouts for a number of years. He received his Eagle Scout Award in 1972, he was a Vigil Honor member of Tuckahoe Lodge 386 and was Cub Master for Pack 88 in Lake Meade for several years, Treasurer of Upper Bermudian Lutheran Church for 13 years, Treasurer of the Parish for 12 years, Commander of Gettysburg Camp 112 for the Sons of the Union Veterans of the Civil War

Continued on Page 3

The Keystone VHF Club Annual Banquet

Date: January 14, 2017

5:30 pm to 8:30 pm

Snow Date: January 28, 2017

Price: \$20.00 per person

Location: Viking Athletic Club
318 N. Adams Street
York, PA.

**There will be entertainment
(See page 4)**

Menu: Turkey or Stuffed Chicken Breast, Mashed potatoes, Green Beans, Fruit Cup, Dinner rolls, assorted pies or cakes for dessert, Water, Iced Tea, Open bar

Registration is due NLT December 31, 2016 (*but you could still call now*) Advise if you can attend both dates, or only 1 date (advise which one)

To register, e-mail your number attending to Sandy Goodman
N3ect@arrl.net

Checks may be made out to the "Keystone VHF Club"

You may pay at the keystone meeting (on Jan5), at the party, or mail check to: *Sandra Goodman 199 Maple Lane Mechanicsburg, PA. 17055*

NEXT MEETINGS

**Thursday January 5 and February 2nd
at the York County EOC**

Schedule of Keystone VHF Club Sponsored VE Testing for 2017

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 the York EMA Office at 120 Davies Road, York,

Testing dates: Jan 14 Mar 11 May 13 Jul 8 Sep 9 Nov 11

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.*

Feb 11 Apr 8 Jun 10 Aug 12 Oct 14 Dec 9

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.

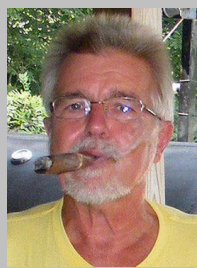
10 Meter Ragchew Net - Every evening starting 7:30PM: 28.600 Mhz

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.

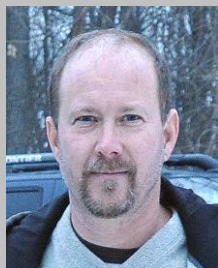
Trustee's Report



Tim, W3TWB



Dick, WA3USG



Jeff, KB3RCT

Scheduled Club P.S. Events for 2017

- * **April 9, 2017 - Buckridge Burn Hike Pine Grove ***SJ**
POC: Dick Goodman, WA3USG wa3usg@verizon.net
- * **Date April 11, 2017 - TMI Nuclear Power Drill**
POC: Sandy Goodman, N3ECF slgoodman1@verizon.net
- * **April 23, 2017 - York MS Walk**
POC: Sandy Goodman, N3ECF slgoodman1@verizon.net
- * **April 30 2017 - Ironmasters Challenge Hike *** SJ**
POC: Dick Goodman, WA3USG wa3usg@verizon.net
- * **May 14, 2017 - The York Marathon *** SJ**
POC: Jack Dellinger, KC3JD jdelli@aol.com
- * **May 7, 2017 - March of Dimes March for Babies**
POC: Jack Dellinger, KC3JD jkdelli@aol.com
- * **June 11 2017 - 5K/Walk Run (Rudy park)**
POC: (Brian, KC3CFW bkimes@klimesgroup.com)
- * **June 17, 2017 - Double Creek Half Marathon**
POC: Sandy, N3ECF slgoodman1@verizon.net
- * **July 29 - 30, 2017 - Camp Muckelratz Horse Performance Ride**
POC: Sandy, N3ECF slgoodman1@verizon.net
- * **Date August 12, 2017 - Red Lion Street Fair**
POC: Jack Dellinger, KC3JD jdelli@aol.com
- * **Sept 9, 2017 - KTA Superhike *** SJ**
POC: Ken Wiggins, N2DYK n2dyk1940@yahoo.com
- * **Date TBD, 2017 - Kings Gap Time Trials**
POC: (Micah Neff, KB3TGY tortmentor@aol.com)
- * **Oct 14 - 15, 2017 - MS Bike Tour Gettysburg *** SJ**
POC: Sandy Goodman, N3ECF slgoodman1@verizon.net
- * **Oct 29, 2017 - Michaux Team Challenge *** SJ**
POC: Dan McGlothlin kb3mun@mcglothlin.us
- * **Dec 24-25, 2017 - Glen Rock Carolers**
POC: Stan Walters, AB3EM abacuspc@comcast.net

** SJ - Your Slim
Jim is advisable here

Gang ... We're involved with quite a few events. Think about what you want to do. Consider volunteering for one or more Public Service events (see above). Also check out what's happening on pages 7 & 8. Some of these would make a great club "Field Trip." I'm going to try and make both events down at the "National Electronics Museum" in Maryland. Both of those look extremely interesting. I'd like to especially like to thank Walt Bilous, K3DQB for calling our attention to them. And please, seriously consider stopping up at the club and operating during the ARRL VHF contest (page 9)!

The VHF Transmitter

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| To change your address for the Newsletter. contact: | Dick Goodman, WA3USG 199 Maple Lane Mechanicsburg. Pa. |
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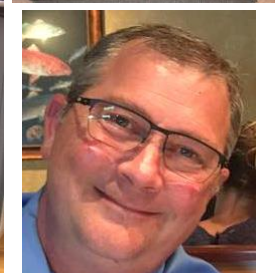
Jeff Patterson, KB3RCT built this Quadrifilar Helix antenna out of 3/8" copper tubing and PVC pipe. While primarily designed to be resonant around 137 MHz (NOAA Weather satellite frequencies), it also is very usable on our 2 meter band with an SWR of less than 2 to 1 across the entire band. In this image, we are sweeping the antenna. Detailed instructions may be found to build this antenna at the link below the picture. Jeff snagged some great images from NOAA 15 & 19 using his Kenwood TS-2000. For Christmas however, he was presented with an "SDR Play" receiver which promises even better performance.

See review of "SDR Play" on Page 5

<http://www.gregorystrike.com/2010/05/16/quadrifilar-helix-antenna-137-mhz/>



Undoubtedly Dave Smith, KC3GMQ (picture below) is the current **KING** of boat anchor equipment in the Keystone VHF Club! Hardly a week goes by where you don't hear Dave talking about his latest "acquisition"! Vacuum tubes forever!



I know that I left a lot of people out who are into really interesting projects ... please, as you read this, e-mail me what you are doing and I'll get it in here! I know that Eric, KB3CNH is working on a Hallicrafters receiver, a Heathkit SB200 Linear Amplifier, a new 6 meter beam and has been playing around with optimizing the antenna he uses for 160 meters.

We have Patrick Hock, W3CND, Andy Hahn, KB3CHT, Smitty, KC1EWD, Tony McMonagle, KC3EED, Tim Snook, KB3WZX, and Ryan Duke, KC3FSJ building Black Widow Vertical antennas.

There's so many of you guys building stuff that I can't keep it straight anymore Please keep it up!

for two years, served as Department Commander for the State of Pennsylvania for two years, Commander in Chief for the National Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War for a year. He was in charge of the Gettysburg Memorial Day Parade for 13 years and the Remembrance Day Committee for 12 years, President of Lincoln Fellowship for a year, member of Sons of Veterans Reserve and a member of the Good Samaritan Lodge #336 in Gettysburg.

Services were held on Friday, December 23, 2016 at 11 a.m. from St. James Lutheran Church, York Street, Gettysburg.

Sandy, N3ECF and I both attended and it was the most beautiful funeral I ever witnessed. Charlie impacted so many people's lives. There were 200 - 300 in attendance, many in full Civil War regalia, and during the ceremony, at least a dozen stood up and related stories of Charlie and how he touched their lives. Our club was privileged to have him for the short time we did ... SK my friend.



W3UU - Harrisburg Radio Amateurs' Club - WinterFest

Saturday JANUARY 21nd 2017

WINTERFEST

"A Harrisburg Pa. Hamfest"

Vietnam Veterans of America
8000 Derry Street, Harrisburg Pa. 17111
40.26807 -76.75216

8:00 am to 11:00 am

TALK-IN 146.76 (PL 100 hz)



Join us for the
**Story of the
 Keystone VHF
 Club ...**
 presented at the
 Holiday Party
 on January 14th

You'll Laugh
 You'll Cry
 You'll Kiss
 \$20 Bucks
 Goodbye!

For those of you who dare to attend our Gala Holiday Party at the Viking Athletic Club on Saturday, January 14th. You will be presented with the "Story of the Keystone VHF Club" as told by club members who have "been around for quite a long time"! Please keep in mind that some of these members like to exaggerate things "just a little".

This will be a "Multimedia Masterpiece" and will cover many unique happenings in the club from 1955 to the present.



See ... how whatever this is relates to Amateur Radio in the York area and to the Keystone VHF Club! Wouldn't you like to know??



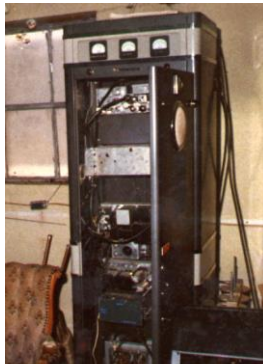
At one time, York had a major Amateur Radio dealer located downtown. JRS Distributors started out as a Radio sales & radio parts shop ... this was before the days of TV.



Inside the clubhouse approximately 1965



Digging the foundation for the club house



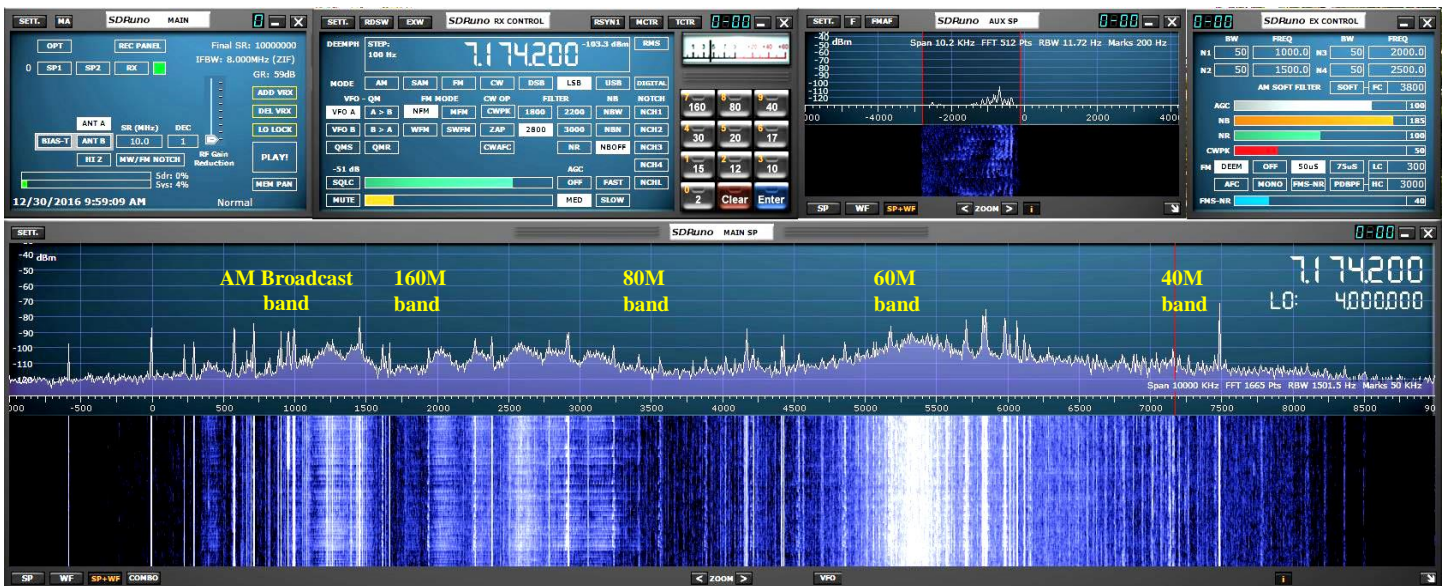
The very first 146.97 repeater circa 1974. It used to be on 146.94 MHz.

Tim Barefoot, W3TWB and I are going to put this together and hopefully will be able to show it at the Holiday Party. The club has had a lot of high (and some low) points along its rich history. From the time our Charter members purchased the land in 1959, to the building of the clubhouse in 1960, to the loss of our windmill tower in 1995. Painfully few of these original members are left. I hope that they realize what they started and enjoy the fact that our membership has never been larger. Amateur Radio has taken many unanticipated twists and turns over the last 20 years and I feel that we've weathered the changes quite well.

2016 a Good Year for the KVHFC

Last year was a good one for the KVHFC. We had 16 new members (see below). Many of them have become very active either in the club, or in Ham radio in general. We welcome all of you guy's (and gal's! I hope that you've enjoyed it as much as we have.

| Members Who Joined in 2016 | | | |
|----------------------------|-------------|--------|-----------|
| FIRST | LAST | CALL | JOINED |
| Kristian | Bearscove | KB1EAR | 10/1/2016 |
| Barry | Johnson | KT4GG | 8/4/2016 |
| Caleb | Bailey | N3AUO | 8/4/2016 |
| Joe | Rossi | KC3FSI | 6/2/2016 |
| Ben | Klimes | W3BLK | 6/2/2016 |
| Bill | Rosevear | KC3GTX | 4/7/2016 |
| Dave | Smith | KC3GMQ | 3/3/2016 |
| Dave | Case Jr. | KC3EKR | 3/3/2016 |
| Andy | Hahn | KB3CHT | 3/1/2016 |
| Chris | Gianos Jr. | K2HAE | 3/1/2016 |
| Charles | Golembewski | KC3FAF | 2/4/2016 |
| John | Ingram | KC3AJH | 1/18/2016 |
| Rick | Hamm | KB3SCB | 1/1/2016 |
| Peg | Hamm | KB3SCA | 1/1/2016 |
| Gary | Noblit | KC3GG | 1/1/2016 |
| Mike | Weiss | KC3GEM | 1/1/2016 |



The Radio Spectrum Processor Ver2 (RSP2)
 From SDR Play
 By Dick Goodman, WA3USG

The SDR Play RSP2 is a small box about 3" X 3" and about an inch deep. It is a good performing all mode communications receiver that covers from 1 KHz to 2 GHz with no gaps in coverage.



It has two 50 ohm SMA antenna ports and a high impedance antenna port (all selectable from the main screen). The 50 ohm ports are limited to 1.5 MHz to 2 GHz. The high impedance port, designed for open wire feeders, covers from 1 KHz to 2 GHz. This could also be used with 50 ohm unbalanced coax with or without a balun.

The RSP2 is powered by USB and comes with an incredible software suite called "SDR Uno". With this software, you can display up to a 10 MHz wide swath of frequencies that are in the 1 KHz to 2 GHz coverage of the receiver. Think about it ... you can look at the entire AM broadcast band the entire 160 meter band, all of 80 meters, all of 40 meters, and all of 60 meters ... spread out "for your viewing pleasure" across one screen (see top of page)! Running windows XP and a dual processor, I'm limited to about a 4 MHz swath. Using Windows 7 with a quad core I5 processor, I can easily get the entire 10 MHz swath.

This receiver will receive AM, FM, CW, SSB and much more. Under each of these modes there are options. Under "AM" is regular "AM" or synchronous AM. The latter is used with some international short wave stations to improve coverage. Using "FM", you get various band widths that covers everything from wide band broadcast FM to the 5 KHz deviation that we use on our repeaters

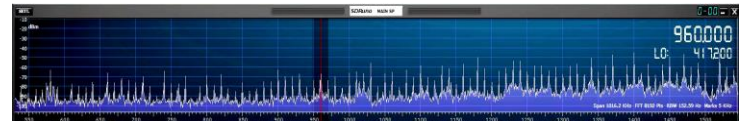
Generally, receivers in this price category fall short in dynamic range (ability to copy weak signals in the presence of strong ones), front end overload, and interference from signals on adjacent frequencies. This one does not.

The SDR Play has a 12 bit Analog to Digital converter (A/D). Compare this with the 8 bit A/D in the typical USB dongle receivers. With 8 bit A/D you get a dynamic range of 256 levels. (the range from weakest to strongest signal). With 12 bit A/D, you get a dynamic range of 4,096 levels. That is a 12 dB performance increase ... with each 3 dB being a doubling of dynamic range.

Where I think this manifests itself is listening in to the crowded 80 meter band in the evenings. Even with two or more stations within the same filter bandpass, I can copy the desired station almost as good as I can with my Flex. Listening to standard AM and shortwave broadcast stations is also a treat. There still is a lot of music being transmitted by both of these services and between the increased dynamic range and the ability to increase the bandwidth of the receiver, sometimes the broadcast quality rivals that of commercial FM (in my opinion anyway).



Above: Daytime Spectrum display narrowed enough to show the entire AM broadcast band. Each vertical pip is a radio station. I'm tuned to AM960 in Carlisle, an "Oldies" station. They're playing "Listen to the Music" by the Doobies.



Above: Same spectrum after dusk. The number of distant stations has doubled. More appear as the evening progresses. Notice how much weaker local stations are as they are required to reduce power after dusk. Still listening to same station.

Another area where the SDR Play really shines is in the reception of images from the NOAA weather satellites on 137 MHz. These are in low earth orbit and are above the horizon for a maximum of about 20 minutes during each pass. These satellites don't send down a complete image. Rather they scan one line at a time as they continue on their orbit. You receive each of these lines and build up the complete image in your computer. After a typical pass, you will end up with a nice high resolution image from down slightly below Cuba ending up into Canada.

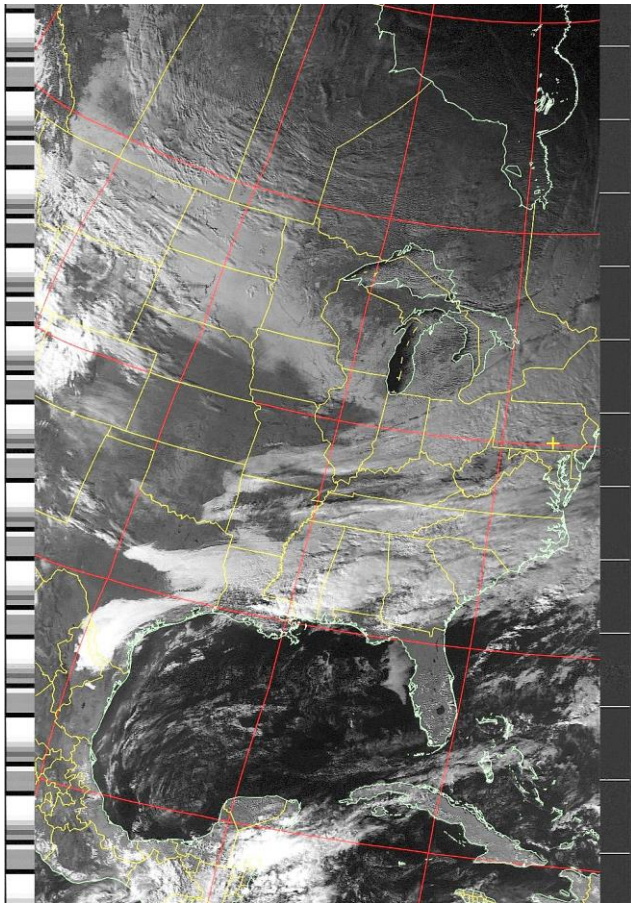
The nice thing about this receiver is that you can tailor the RF passband to exactly optimize image reception. Right now Ryan Duke, KC3FSJ, Jeff Patterson, KB3RCT and I are enjoying this capability.

The receiving unit itself also has interface connections that allow the referencing to a high precision 10 MHz oscillator or GPS. There is also an output that allows the referencing of several SDR Play receivers with each other ... **Remember, this is a \$169 receiver!!! (goto page 6)**

SDR Play ... Continued from Page 5

Rather than have you read more about this really cool receiver here, I suggest that you log on to YouTube and do a search on "SDR Play". You will find many demonstrations with actual reception of signals off the air. You will be impressed!

Finally, check out the image below. This was direct reception of NOAA 15.



- * Monitor any Amateur frequency up through 1.2 GHz and beyond, any mode.
- * Just listening to AM Broadcast Radio ... you'll think that you're listening to FM ... and there's still good programming on AM.
- * AM Broadcast DXing ... this receiver coupled with an E-Field probe antenna is amazing! One of the stations that I listen to almost every evening is AM740 out of Toronto Canada. Zoomer Radio ... Great Oldies!!
- * Covers all of the international shortwave bands with fidelity second to none.
- * Decode JT65, JT9, PSK31, SSTV, and any other digital mode using free communications software (MMSSTV, FLDIGI, etc)
- * Monitor CB (if you want) and absolutely all existing analog public service frequencies.
- * Interface with widely available (free) API's to decode and listen to virtually all of the digital voice modes (P25, DMR, Fusion, etc)
- * Listen to Family Radio System (FRS) HT's and GMRS. Listen to the folks at the drive thru at McDonalds or what's happening at WalMart ... did they catch that shop lifter?
- * Interested in Radio Astronomy? This would make a great receiver for an Amateur Radio Telescope capable of receiving the Hydrogen Line on 1420 MHz.
- * Explore the radio spectrum ... there's a lot out there and this radio covers most of it!

Status of Mini Split Heat Pump

The Heat Pump was installed on Saturday, December 31st.



Our goal was to have a 24,000 BTU Mini Split Ductless heat pump installed with a WIFI enabled thermostat. We had an estimate from H.B. McClure for \$3,800 (not including taxes or thermostat). Strine's Heating and Cooling came out but were unsure that the unit would work with a WIFI thermostat. They also never gave us an estimate, even after 3 phone calls. I don't think that they really wanted the job. Then **Tim Snook, KB3WZX** informed us that his Son **Derek Snook** worked for a HVAC company and was allowed to do side work. He came out, did a survey, and gave us an estimate of \$3,465, including taxes & the WIFI Thermostat. We felt good about it. Last Saturday, they came out and installed a Daikin 2 ton (24K BTU) system. The system is working great! Thanks guys ... a job well done!

FOR SALE/WANTED

- * MFJ-989C Versa tuner 3KW antenna tuner)
- * MFJ- 269 HF/VHF SWR analyzer with Ni.cad Batteries, Covers 160 through UHF
- * 1 KW linear amplifier 40 through 10 meters home built with a pair of 7094 tubes. approximately 15 watts in for 1 KW out.
- * HTACHI V320 30 Mhz. dual trace scope.
- * HD-20 Heath 100Kc crystal calibrator
- * Heath Kit Signal Tracer
- * MPA-20 Realistic mobile / fixed public address amplifier 12 VDC/ 115VAC

Prices are negotiable ... Contact Ray Shaub, W3AXC
w3axc@yahoo.com



Free to a Good Home

Tectronix 317 oscilloscope. Worked but hasn't been fired up for some time. Best to bring it up using a variable transformer. Is a nice older scope

Yaesu FT530 Dual Band HT. I don't have a charger for it. worked the last time I used it.

Call Bob Riese, K3DJC - 717-854-8624



8th Annual Techno-Swap-Fest

Feb 25, 2017 - 9am to 2pm

National Electronics Museum

1745 West Nursery Road, Linthicum MD



Attention All Hobbyists

- *Is your workshop so cluttered that you can barely work on your projects?*
- **Did you buy something online that didn't fit into your plans?**
- ***Are you still looking for that perfect gadget, part or tool?***

If you answered YES or NO to any of these questions, you need to attend the 8th Annual Techno-Swap-Fest to buy, sell and gawk at all the precious junk that other hobbyists crave.

Here are just some of the hobbies represented last year:

- R/C (boats, planes, tanks, cars, trains, geese, monsters)
- Robotics (competition, combat, R2D2, micro-bots, junk-bots)
- Electronics (hackers, makers, crackers, phreaks, HAMs)
- Mechanical (steam engines, CNC, animatronics, whimsical)

And some of the precious stuff (a.k.a. junk) you'll find:

Motors, gears, tools, parts, radios, batteries, materials, wheels, circuits, gadgets, cases, plans, complete projects, never-completed projects, models, books, and much, much more



***** Door Prizes : Most Unusual, Least Useful, Best Dust Collector *****

All proceeds support the National Electronics Museum:

| | |
|--------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Entrance Donation: | Adults \$5, Kids under 16 FREE |
| Seller's Table: | \$10 (limited number, reserve early) |
| Club Sponsorship: | FREE (just send us your info) |

For more information, to reserve a table or become a sponsor send email to:

techno.swap.fest@gmail.com

<http://sites.google.com/site/technoswapfest2>

*** Your choice for a wintry Saturday morning ***

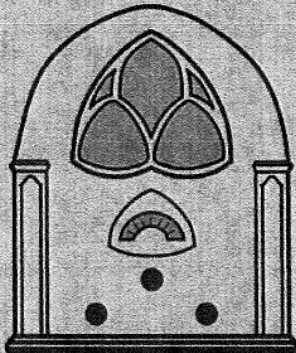
- Attend Techno-Swap-Fest and experience the thrill of hunting for junk
- Help put up new wallpaper in the guest bathroom



Announcing RadioWinterFest

An all-indoor meet and auction to be held at
the National Electronics Museum facility
near Baltimore-Washington Airport (BWI)
January 15, 2017

Museum Entrance open: 8:00 am
Vendor unloading and set-up (no selling): 8:00 am—9:00 am
In-door Flea Market: 9:00 am—11:30 am
Auction Consignment: 10:00 am—11:30 am
Lunch Break and Auction set-up: 11:30 am—Noon
Auction: Noon



Open to all vintage electronics
Tube Radio and TV
Vintage Audio and Hi-Fi
Old Military and HAM gear
Guitar amps, Transistor sets, etc.

\$5.00 per person General Admission
includes Museum Exhibits and Event
admission.
Good toward Museum membership.

No charge for tables
Tables are limited in number.
First come, first serve.
One per vendor or as available.

Vendors should arrive around 8:00 to get a table and unload in the load-
ing area. Non-vendors can tour the fine museum exhibits at this time. No
buying/selling allowed until 9:00 am. Museum exhibits open all day.

Snow Date, one week later: January 22, 2017.

Map on back

Presented jointly by the Mid-Atlantic Antique Radio Club
and the National Electronics Museum
More details at www.Maarc.org



**For those of you who are adventurous and willing to try
radio communications in Winter Temps:**

The Winter Field Day Association (WFDA) is a group of
amateurs who practice emergency communications in a winter
environment. This year's event will be held January 28 and 29, 2017.

See the following link to check out the details. If any of you
participate, please send me a report so I can forward that to our ARES
and ACS associates.

<http://www.winterfieldday.com/index.html>

Thank you and Good Luck. Sandy Goodman, N3ECF

The Night of the Contest

By Eric Smyder, KB3CNH



Tim, W3TWB in a Santa
Suit!

Eric wrote this on Christmas
Eve ... not quite in time for
the last newsletter. I was
thinking about including it in
next year's December
newsletter but perhaps this
will help keep our Christmas
Spirit alive for yet another
month!

**MERRY
CHRISTMAS
AND A
HAPPY
NEW YEAR!**

'Twas the night of the Contest, with all at the club,
Not a contact was made, and we should have been at the pub;

The operators were snoozing without any care,
In hopes that someone would show up on the air;
The early shift was nestled all snug in their cots,
While one was keyed down not minding his watts.
The chili had gone cold, and the beer it was warm,
The fire was out but there was no harm.

When out on the lawn there arose such a clatter,
I sprang from the chair to see what was the matter.

Away to the door and tripped over a wire,
Someone had to get up and light up the fire.
Some headlights reflected off the new fallen snow,
Giving the impression of mid-day to objects below;

I thought it was something from the ionosphere,
But red Ford truck did finally appear,
With a grumpy old driver, just out of the blizzard,
I knew in a moment it was the bearded wizard.

More rapid than RTTY his shouts they came,
And he whistled, and shouted, and called them by name:
"Now! Steve, now! Rick, now! Jeff, and Ryan,
"On! Craig, on! Brad, on! Big Mike, and Dan;
"Get your asses out here and pick up some wood!"

We all got up as fast as we could,
The logs they were passed hand over hand,
And soon things were hopping and we got on the bands;
We called out CQ and the responses they flew,
The loggers were so busy sorting the crew.

The rotors they spun in the sky as we searched,
But the one got stuck and started to lurch.
And then in a twinkling, I heard on the roof
The wizard was jarring the tower for proof
That the antenna was turning, we shouted hooray,
All shuffled to the stations from the doorway.

A wink of his eye and a twist of his head
Soon gave me to know I had nothing to dread.
He spoke not a word, but went straight to his work,
And pounded CW, then turned with a jerk,

And giving a nod, he finished the Q
There was such a pileup we had so much to do.
He tuned up the amp with a bit of a whistle,
Running with power is always so blissful.
The contest was through, we'd done it just right,
Happy DX to all, and to all a good night.



**Keystone VHF Club
General Meeting Minutes of
December 1, 2016**
By Sandy Goodman, N3ECF – Secretary

The General Club Meeting held at York County Emergency Management Center was called to order by Pres. Mike, N3VQH, at 19:14. There were 37 members present and 2 new member applicants, and 1 guest. George Klinedinst (no call yet) and Jeff Elliott, KC3IBR, introduced themselves.

TECHNICAL HAPPENINGS:

Dick, WA3USG, advised that he will be hiking in Pine Grove Furnace on Sunday (Dec 4) and will make contacts on 40 meters using a Black Widow antenna. Start listening about 1 PM.

SECRETARY REPORT: Sandy, N3ECF. Rich, W3OKU, moved to accept the November minutes as published, 2nd by Tim, KB3WZX. Motion carried.

TREASURER REPORT: Anne, KB3ZLJ, reported for November : Income: \$938.60; Expenses: \$494.84; Balances: Club CD \$7,658.64; Checking Acct \$4,282.11; Trustee Acct \$540.83; Total \$12,481.58. Ed, KB3WQI, moved to accept the report; 2nd by Ed, KA3LJL. Motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

TRUSTEE REPORT –

A couple of estimates are in for the HVAC. Another one is coming on Saturday. After discussion, Dave, KC3GMQ, moved to allow the Trustees to accept one of the estimates up to \$4000 for the new system. Rich, W3OKU, seconded the motion. Motion carried. Discussion was held about making donations to support that purchase. Dan, KB3JSV, said he could set up a Go-Fund-Me account. Once that's done, an email will be sent advising how to make donations.

Tim, W3TWB, wants to purchase Google Chrome. That will cost \$40 out of the Trustee account.

A work party is scheduled for Saturday, December 2, to do several things.

TECHNICAL COMMITTEE REPORT -

A duplexer is at Triangle being tuned up.

The back-up repeater is almost ready.

We will need to replace the 220 rig for connection between Greg's site and the main repeater.

The January VHF contest on January 21 starts at 1 PM. Dan, KB3JSV, will set up a network.

EMCOMM/PUBLIC SERVICE NEWS –

We will participate in the December 14 PEMA Weather drill from 9 AM to about Noon.

Stan, AB3EM, is looking for volunteers for the Glen Rock Carolers on Christmas Eve.

Sandy, N3ECF, mentioned that Valli Hoski, N8QVT, is working on setting up a STEM program in local libraries to demonstrate amateur radio. If anyone is willing to set up something to teach children, let Sandy know. Examples of activities: build a quartz crystal radio, do a few letters in CW for a short message.

We mentioned that the 2017 public service year starts in April. MS Bike Tour date is changed to October 14-15. York Marathon will be May 14 (Mother's Day).

VE/ED REPORT - no report

CONTEST REPORT - As mentioned, January VHF Contest is Jan 21-22. A 10 meter and 160 meter contest will be in November.

NEWSLETTER/WEBSITE – up to date.

OLD BUSINESS:

Second reading was done for Kris Bearscove, KB1EAR. He was then voted into membership.

The Holiday Party in January had been planned for the Victory Club. But we would need a sponsor who is a member of the club. We need to find a new place. Information will be provided by email as soon as we have news.

Drawing was held for the Baofang Radio. The club netted \$84 from the raffle.

NEW BUSINESS:

First readings were done for George Klinedinst, and Jeff Elliot, KC3IBR.

GOOD OF THE CLUB –

Jim, K3JIM, wants to give away a Military Signal Generator from the 1960s.

50-50 was won by Mrs. Noblit (XYL of Gary, KC3GG) for \$41.

Adjourned at 20:07.

January 21-23, 2017 (at the Club!)

The Winter ARRL VHF/UHF Sweepstakes!

Begins: 1900 UTC Saturday, ends 0359 UTC Monday.

Objective: To work as many amateur stations in as many different 2 degrees x 1 degree grid squares as possible using authorized frequencies above 50 MHz

HAM RADIO CLASS

Preparation and Test for FCC Amateur Radio Technician License

February 18, 2017 (0800-1600) – February 19, 2017 (0800-1200)

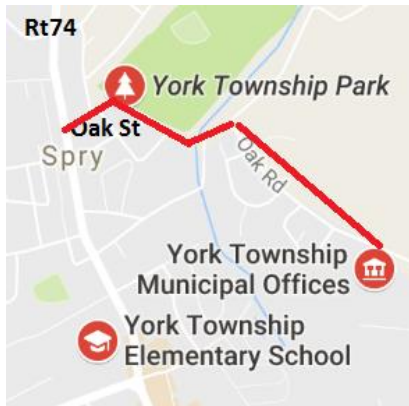
FCC License Testing February 19 (12-3 PM)

Inclement Weather Reschedule – February 25-26, 2017

No Charge for the class

There may be \$15 FCC License Testing Fee*

Come with an open mind, pen and paper. We discourage the use of iPhones, etc. in the class except for emergencies. Please put on vibrate. A simple calculator and a windows PC are useful. Class is held at the York Township Building 190 Oak Road, Dallastown PA 17313



Contact: Ralph Brandt K3HQI 717-885-3063 or ralph.brandt@comcast.net Pre-registration helps planning but payment is at the time of testing on Sunday. Please give a phone number where you can be reached in case bad weather. Upon passing the test an FCC license is usually issued within a week. You will need a government issued photo ID for the testing. If you do not have one, contact Ralph for alternatives. *The license fee I determined by the testing team that is independent of the instructor. Some teams have no fee and I work with them if possible.

Ham Radio is Amateur Radio, FCC Part 97. It is a licensed service. The class is targeted to prepare the student to pass the Technician Class License test which is restricted to frequencies above 28 Mhz. There are many hand held and mobile transceivers available for use in these bands for as low as \$35 for Handheld and \$100 for Mobiles. There are many repeaters in the area that extend the range of these radios. A ham license is a good tool for a family in times of disaster when land lines and cell phones often are not useable.

KEYSTONE VHF CLUB OF YORK, PA



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: _____ | |