



# The VHF Transmitter

KEYSTONE VHF CLUB, INC.

W3HZU

FOUNDED 1955 - YORK, PA



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CIRCULATION 183

MAY, 1999



## MAY 1999 CALENDAR

*Edited by Bob Gundlach, N3NBT  
n3nbt@aol.com*

- May 1 Hamfest,  
Graysonville, MD
- May 1-2 10-10 International  
Net Spring CW QSO  
Party
- May 2 Hamfest,  
Hagerstown, MD
- May 6 Keystone VHF Club  
Meeting-Club Site
- May 8 Spring Sprint- 902,  
1296 & 2304 MHZ
- May 9 Mothers Day
- May 13 E-Board Meeting-  
Club Site
- May 14-16 Dayton Hamvention
- May 15 Armed Forces Day
- May 15 Special Event sta  
tion, Baltimore, MD-  
10, 15, 20 & 40 M
- May 15 Special Event station  
K3A, Altoona, PA  
10, 15, 20 & 40 M
- May 16 Spring Sprint, 6 M
- May 22 Hamfest, Winfield  
(Milton) PA
- May 30 Hamfest, Howard  
County, MD
- May 31 Memorial Day

<p><b>NEXT MEETING</b> <b>MAY 6</b> <b>at Club Site</b></p>
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## Newsletter To Go Electronic

*By Ted Rodes, KE3SO  
ke3so@juno.com*

The cost to produce the newsletter, that is printing and postage, represents a considerable portion of the club's monthly operating budget. A way had to be found to reduce these costs so Dick Goodman, WA3USG and I began looking at a variety of ways this could be accomplished.

Very shortly, the newsletter is going to be available as a printed document or an electronic version called a PDF file which will be sent directly to a member's internet account or e-mail account if they have JUNO GOLD or JUNO INTERNET.

At the present time, we have identified 71 members who would be willing to receive the newsletter via their internet or e-mail accounts instead of receiving the printed version. This represents a substantial reduction in printing and postage costs and hopefully as more and more members see the value of the electronic version over the printed version, more members will get on board the new way to receive the newsletter.

**What will you need in the way of equipment and services in order to receive the electronic version of the newsletter?** A computer, modem, Adobe Reader and internet service from a provider. A color inkjet printer would be nice if you want to print out the newsletter.

Many club members have e-mail accounts with JUNO which in its simplest form does not allow for receiving attachments. In order to receive attachments, you must have at least JUNO GOLD which costs about \$38 per year. (You pay this on a yearly basis rather than monthly).

**How will the electronic version differ from the printed version?** Content and initial layout will be identical, but those who receive the newsletter via a PDF file will see full color in the photographs and graphics used in the newsletter. Instead of the fuzzy and grainy black and white photos you see in the printed version, members receiving the newsletter via their internet or e-mail accounts will see full 24 bit color photos rich in color and detail.

Another nice feature of the electronic version is that you will always get it. No more walks out to the mail box in the snow and ice to get your newsletter because it will be sent directly to your account as a file attachment. And if you switch accounts, all you have to do is notify me of your new e-mail or internet address and your address will be changed instantly.

**When will the newsletter be available in electronic form?** Hold on to this issue of the newsletter, for you are holding in your hand the last



## From the President

By Ernie Mellinger, N3ZCW  
emellinger@aol.com

Several months ago during a work party break several of the folks started reminiscing about past meetings and activities. As I listened, Tim (AA3BJ) told us about the old club house and the good times that were had there. Out of this conversation we decided to revive a Frank Bair tradition.....Hot Dogs at our summer meetings. We will be conducting our May through September meetings at the club site utilizing our new pavilion and will be serving FREE grilled hot dogs to all those attending.

I am looking forward to our trip to the Smithsonian on May 16, 1999. Ray tells me that he has five tickets available to anyone wishing to go. This is a wonderful opportunity to visit the exhibits there WITHOUT having to drive in that traffic. I hope you will come and enjoy what promises to be a delightful and fun filled day with us.

The Pig Roast is rapidly approaching and the tickets are going fast. Please see a member of the Ways and Means committee to get your tickets before they are all gone. The Pig Roast will be held at our new pavilion and the dinner will include pork, beef, baked potatoes and much more. There will be a cut off for ticket sales with no tickets being sold the day of the event.

Contest time is fast approaching and this contest promises to be one of our best efforts in years. Ruth, (WB3CQN) is in charge of this event and is already laying plans for this event. In an effort to get some of our new members as well as some of our shy older members involved Ruth will be scheduling time slots for operators on the different rigs. If you have ANY desire to experience the excitement and thrill of a new contact in a new grid square please give Ruth a call or see her at the club meeting. Ruth is planning a session or two prior to the con-

test to go over what will be happening as well as providing tips to help you operate and make you feel at home before you pick up the mike and call CQ.

We are trying to locate a plaque / contest award that was to be passed on each year to the person who contributed the most points toward the clubs total points. According to Bob Reese this plaque contained a Ham Radio stamp. If you have this plaque or if you know who does contact Bob or one of the E-board members.

We need your help both at the club site and at Greg's for work parties. Any time you can give will be greatly appreciated!!!!

I also want to thank Bob (N3LSN) for the fantastic job he has done with the cabinets in the club house. You won't believe the difference. I am looking forward to seeing you at 7:00 PM for our May meeting at the CLUB SITE for Hot Dogs and fellowship.

### Ways and Means Report

by Ray Shaub, W3AXC  
w3axc@juno.com

## The VHF Transmitter

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**KEYSTONE VHF CLUB, INC**

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e-mail address now can receive binary files

**To change your  
address for the  
Newsletter, contact:**

Dutch Hildebrand, K3UVJ  
4725 Horn Rd., York, PA 17406  
or Fax (717) 755-7522 or  
e-mail: K3UVJ@AOL.com

**The Bus Trip May 16th.** You must be at the Queensgate Shopping Center not later than 7:45 AM the bus will leave at 8:00 AM and arrive at the Smithsonian at about 10:00AM.

If you have a HAND HELD BRING IT ALONG.

Check with Ray W3AXC there may be bus seats available. Parking will be at the first turn off to the right as you enter the shopping center from the Spring Woods Road entrance. Park between the entrance road and the first row of lamp posts.

ED NOTE - Ray's full Ways and Means Report will appear in the June issue.



## MICRO-WAVE Report

By Bob Riese, K3DJC  
riese-k3djc@juno.com

Well we have had a pretty mild winter and there has been some progress both on 10 gig and 24 gig. At this time the best DX on 24 gig is 1/4 mile. Although I don't have equipment for the band I guess I will have to invest in a gunnplexer and see if we can't push that distance out a bit.

By the time you go from 10 gig to 24 gig (24,000Mhz) you begin to have to take into account humidity factors, rain etc as moisture is a pretty good attenuator and will cut down distance, by increasing path loss. Rain is a Pain.

There has been some progress on converting to SSB on 10 Gig and I believe all of us who have the surplus equipment from the west coast have the synthesizers working. This is the heart of any system and provides a stable local oscillator to operate the transmitting and receiving equipment. The Qualcomm PLL uses a 10Mhz oscillator, stable and accurate to 1 cycle. This locks a 2500 Mhz free running osc and puts it right on frequency. The power out of these PLL at 2.5 Gig is around 5 to 7 MW and is used in the Qualcomm main board to develop a frequency for operating at 10,360 Mc. minus 144 which will be our IF frequency.

I have been in touch with Larry Filby and have received the DEM prototype 10 gig transverter lay-

out. Looks like a pretty good circuit board as most things are from DEM. I also received info on a Home Brewed 10 gig transverter and have made the printed circuit board and added the pipe cap filters and looks like the local oscillator stages are going to work. I fed some reference signal into the multiplier stage and the current increased in that stage and the filter tuned. As soon as I have access to the spectrum analyzer I will know how well it works.

This may be a VERY easy thing to build from scratch and be an easy way to be on 10368 SSB. I will bring the thing along to the next meeting, and will perhaps have a demo of Doppler radar on 5600 mc.

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NEWSLETTER - Continued from p 1

printed only version of the newsletter. I'm shooting for the June newsletter to be available in both mediums as a number of procedures and kinks need to be worked out. Selected members will be receiving the May issue as a file attachment for feedback and comment.

**If you have a computer and modem and have an internet account or JUNO GOLD account, what can you do right now to get ready to receive the newsletter?** Go to the Adobe web site (www.adobe.com) and download version 4.0 of Adobe Reader. If you are already using Adobe Reader 3.0, that's OK because the files are backward compatible, but my tests have shown version 4.0 is faster and well worth the 5.5MB downloading time.

**Finally, if you want to receive the newsletter via your internet**

**or e-mail account, you must notify me.** Send me an e-mail - ke3so@juno.com

Mark the subject: **Electronic Version**

In the text of your message, please indicate your e-mail address for the newsletter.

This is the addresses we will use regardless of the address you used to send the e-mail message.

If everything goes as planned, your first issue will be the June, 1999 issue of the newsletter and you will no longer receive the printed version.

As we get more and more members to sign up, we'll start seeing those printing and postage costs drop dramatically.

## Tech Committee Report



By Tim Barefoot, AA3BJ  
aa3bj@netrax.net

New 2 meter machine will go on line in May. It will be on display at next club meeting.

The 440 machine needs a new amp. We will vote on buying one at the next club meeting.

Finally, the Contest 2 meter antenna. still needs to be repaired.

Climbers are needed! Please contact me if you can climb.



Photo by Bobbie Barnhart, N3XTP

## YARS Report

by *Buzz Kutcher, K3GWK EC/RO*  
 Buzn3gkp@aol.com

Thanks for all the support you have given to the MS Walk and Walk-America. The MS Walk went very well and, baring bad weather, Walk America will be a great operation.

The next big challenges facing YARS this year is the TMI drill on June 8. We will need 25 to 30 operators to staff the local EOC sites, the EMA radio room, Red Cross and mass care center. Many of you have supported this drill in the past and YARS is hoping you will come through again this time. I will have a list of "unmet needs" at the May meeting. We have several sites that need complete new staffs due to the passing of four of our members. Also this year, several sites must demonstrate a shift change, I will explain this at the May meeting. I hope I can count on the club for continued support of our commitment to the EMA and emergency communications in York county.

We have begun to plan the communications effort for the 250th Anniversary Parade. This will be a big job. The parade may last for 6 hours so shift changes will be required at most of the positions. There will be ham operators at aid stations along the route and with each of the 10 divisions expected to march in the parade. The first estimate of operator requirements is 70 to 80 hams with operations beginning at 0800 on Sunday morning and continuing until 2030 Sunday evening. I think we are up to the challenge. This will be a chance for amateur radio to really shine.

The next training session is May 15, 0830 at the EMA office. The TMI drill will be the subject of the session. Tom Dunham will be back in June (6/19 @ 0900) for a SKYWARN session. The training will be held at the New Freedom Community Center. Check in to the YARS net at 2030 on Mondays to keep up with the latest ARES and RACES information. The net is open to all and can be found on the 146.970 repeater.

## TRUSTEES REPORT

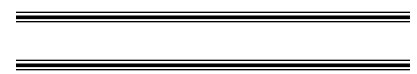
By *Chuck Miller, N3KVE*  
 cm-n3kve@juno.com

First of all, I would like to thank everyone who helped make the past couple of work parties a tremendous success. We had lots of people supplying their talents and resources to get these projects flying.

The Pavilion project is really shaping up nicely, and is almost complete. The property outside looks great, the computer's (yes there is more than one) are humming away, we have a new kitchen area inside the club, and the 440 Machine is back on the air!

I also have inside information that tells me the ATV machine is coming along nicely also. It sure is great to see so much getting done by a few people who like to dedicate a little time to the club to get this stuff done and have a lot of fun doing it.

Hope to see you at the club soon. Don't forget the PIG ROAST June 5th.





## VHF Contest

by Ruthanna Pearson,  
WB3CQN  
wb3cqn@aol.com

The VHF Contest will be held June 12-13, 1999 and we will be operating from the club site. It is important we have operators to log and work the contest. In order for me to have some kind of organization, I am making a list for those who would like to operate the contest and the times they will be there.

We will have 2 meters, 440, 6 meters and we need a 220 FM rig or an all mode rig. If you have a 220 rig please let Ernie or me know if we can use it.

Please let me know if you plan on operating, what time and whether you will use CW or voice. Again, I need to know when you can be at the club and what hours. I am going to make a schedule and if you're not on the schedule and you just stop in and all the slots are filled, you can watch.

We want this to be a club effort. Everyone is welcome and if you have never operated or logged we will help you get started. Prior to that Saturday, we will let everyone know what night we will pick to have a meeting and go over the rules and how to operate in a contest. Dick, K3MQH, will meet with us and give us lots of pointers.

If you have any questions feel free

*Support ARRL. It's good for you, it's good for our club and it's good for Ham Radio*

**ARRL**

## VE and Public Education

by Ray Shaub, W3AXC  
w3axc@juno.com

The No Code Technician classes started on April 6th as was reported last month. We were surprised with 10 students. The class is made up of students from the grade school level to retirees. All eager to learn the requirements for the technician license.

The volunteer instructors for these classes are Buzz K3GWK, Bob K3DJC, (who by the way is a new advanced class operator having passed the code at Shrewsbury on April 10), John W3SST, Tim AA3BJ and myself W3AXC.

The class will end with a testing session at the club building on June 1 at 7PM. We will take additional applicants for testing if they are pre-registered. We must make this limitation due to our limited space at the club site. Anyone wishing to take the tests that are not part of the class should contact me at 292-3529. Each applicant will need two forms of identification at least one with a picture, any previous license or valid CSC.

The testing fee for 1999 is \$6.45.

## SILENT KEY

by John Shaffer, W3SST  
w3sst@juno.com

It is with much sadness that I report the passing of W3OWW. Geary O. Russell passed on Good Friday after many years of Hamming. Geary was a Charter member of the Keystone VHF Club. He was listed on the membership list dated January 15, 1956 as one of the first twelve members to sign up. At the time

he lived at the north end of Stewartstown on the main street through town.

He was the first License Trustee of the club's Station License W3HZU. Club members gathered at Geary's house to build the Club's first 6 and 2 meter transmitting equipment. It was Geary's design using 6360 tubes in the final stages. They ran about 25 watts input and were AM rigs. Geary was a pioneer operator on 432 Mhz band in this area. His Homemade antenna arrays were a sight to behold. If he didn't hold the record for distance worked on that band in the early days it was very close to it.

Geary had a Radio and TV Sales and service in the early days and later became Chief Engineer for WGCB in Red Lion. This required him to move closer to the station and he never did find time to continue his extensive operations on the VHF bands.

Geary's family was truly a Ham Radio family as his entire family was licensed by the end of 1956. A contact with each one earned the ham a special card. Geary is the last licensed ham in his family. Rosalie and Geary Eugene have allowed their licenses to lapse.

The old-timers in the area already miss Geary. God speed Geary.

## CLASSIFIED

For Sale - Icom IC-T8A Triple-band transceiver. Almost new, battery charged 5 times. Case included. \$225  
Contact: Jeff Heller, N3NEM at (717) 767-5314

Larson NMO Dual Band Trunk Mount Antenna. Excellent condition, \$45. Chuck N3KVE 767-7720



The VHF Transmitter  
P.O. Box 7462  
York, PA 17404-0462

## DATED MATERIAL

BULK RATE  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
York, PA  
Permit #413

### CLUB REPEATERS

FM

IN/OUT

29.580/29.680

52.97/53.97

146.370/146.970

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TONE 123.0

442.275/447.275

ATV

426.25 IN

439.25 OUT

923.25 OUT

PACKET 145.090

PBBS W3HZU-1  
KA-NODE W3HZU-7  
W3HZU-8  
(Digi, Alias YORK)

Keystone VHF Club, Inc. W3HZU

P.O. Box 7462

York, PA 17404-0462

CLUB WED SITE: <http://yourpage.blazenet.net/stack>

### CLUB SPONSORED NETS

All Nets: 146.970 (-)

MON	8:30PM	York ARES/RACES Committee
MON	9PM	York County 2-Meter Net
TUES	8PM	ATV Net (146.970 for audio)
WED	9PM	Quarter Century Wireless Assoc.
THUR	8PM	York County YL Net

Club meetings are held on the 1st Thursday of each month  
at the Cyber Center, York, PA

REV 06/98