



# The VHF Transmitter



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

VOL 47 No 4

“Circulation 188”

April, 2001



## April 2001 CALENDAR

Edited by Bob Gundlach, N3NBT  
n3nbt@aol.com

### Every Wednesday 8:00 PM-10 meter net

- Apr. 1 April Fools Day
- Apr. 1 Daylight Savings Time
- Apr. 2 VE Exam-Myerstown 717-933-5301
- Apr. 3 Hilltoppers ARC meeting
- Apr. 4 SPCG ARC meeting
- Apr. 5 Keystone ARC meeting-CYBER Center
- Apr. 7 **WORK DETAIL-Club site 8:00 AM**
- Apr. 7-9 QCWA QSO Party
- Apr. 9 144 MHz Spring Sprint
- Apr. 10 York ARC meeting-Red Cross
- Apr. 12 Keystone ARC E-Board meeting
- Apr. 13 Good Friday
- Apr. 13-16 DXYL-NAYL Contest-phone
- Apr. 13-16 Lighthouse Spring Lites QSO Party
- Apr. 14 VE Exam-Shrewsbury 717-235-0273
- Apr. 15 Easter
- Apr. 17 222 MHz Spring Sprint
- Apr. 21-22 Holyland DX Contest
- Apr. 25 432 MHz Spring Sprint
- Apr. 28-29 Six Meter Sprint
- Apr. 29 Hamfest-New Castle, DE

## WHAT OUR MEMBERS ARE DOING

By Dick Goodman, WA3USG  
wa3usg@compuserve.com

Lot's of things are happening with our members. Our "Prez", Ruthanna Pearson, WB3CQN, is sporting a brand new Dell Pentium 4 computer running at 1.3 GHz. She has it interfaced to her shack and is now running PSK31 and Slow Scan TV. I must say that her machine is the nicest computer that I've ever seen! It's kind of neat seeing all these people who you'd never think would get interested in computers take to them so readily!

Our own Bob Riese, K3DJC has become the Cecil B. DeMille of the Keystone VHF Club. Bob purchased a new Pentium 3 running at 800 MHz a few months ago at a computer show up in Harrisburg. He also obtained a remarkable graphics card that contains a TV tuner and is capable of processing and storing video from a variety of sources. Bob is working on converting some of our old club 8 mm home movies (taken in the 50's) to CD ROM. Many of these flicks were originally taken by John Shaffer, W3SST. They show the early construction of the clubhouse by many of our oldest members. They also contain movies from Keystone Club events dating back over 40 years! These along with other historical items from our organization will be available on CD ROM within the next year.

Ray Shaub, W3AXC, John Shaffer, W3SST, Bob Riese, K3DJC and I have been getting together and trying to come up with a good way to preserve the rich history of the Keystone VHF Club. About 2 years ago, we wanted to create a "Club Directory" of photo's and information in reference to our members. Much of the information has been gathered, but back then, there was no good, inexpensive way to disseminate this information to the club membership. With CD ROM media down to less than 50 cents for a blank disk, and CD writers down to about \$150, we've found a way. We are currently gathering & consolidating all the archival information that we have. We hope to have CD's containing all past Keystone Newsletters, videos of past events, meeting minutes, member photo's, shack photo's, and other neat stuff available for purchase at vary reasonable prices ... naturally, any profits will go into the club coffers. If you have anything that you as a KVHFC member would like to have "immortalized", please get in touch with one of the people above.

Gene, AD3E is going to be building a "Warbler" kit from the last issue of QST. This is a complete HF transceiver used for PSK31 on the 75 meter band. It is about the size of a 3" X 5" index card and runs a power output level of about 3 watts. The cost of the entire kit is about \$45. He is also interested in making this a "Club Project". Running this low power will still enable plenty of PSK31 contacts and will prevent any TVI with your neighbors. If you don't have HF capability, or **if you live in an apartment where you don't have the room to set up an HF station & big antennas, then this project is for you!** Reliable 24/7 coverage over a radius of 200 miles is the norm with world wide DX possible in the evenings. Interested? Give Gene, AD3E a call!

Sterling Tate, NO3C was been taking wildlife photographs in this area for the last several years. He is now sharing these over Slow Scan Television. We have been on SSTV with Sterling both on 2 meters and 10 meters in the last couple of weeks. He is using the MMSSTV program and puts out a beautiful signal. His photographs rival those seen in National Geographic magazine! Check out his shack in this issue of the VHF Transmitter.

One of our younger members, Josh Hoke, KB3DXO has also gotten active in SSTV. The uses the MMSSTV program on his computer along with one of the inexpensive "Internet cameras" to send interesting live images from his home. Josh is also an active Amateur Astronomer who, with his dad's help, has built a home brew Astronomical CCD camera. Josh has shared his images of objects hundreds of light years away, taken through his telescope, via Slow Scan TV. Josh and his Dad Bob, KB3DXN joined our club back in August of 1999. They are both very active in Amateur Astronomy and Ham Radio!

For the next several months, we will be publishing a column on the *History of the Keystone VHF Club*. We are starting off with Ray Shaub's (W3AXC) article that has it's beginnings in 1955. This will run for at least two months. Following this will be articles from John Shaffer (W3SST) and Bob Riese (K3DJC). It's hard to believe that our organization has been around for over 46 years now ... and we still have many of our Charter members in our midst! While it's still early, we might want to start thinking about what we as a club would like to do to celebrate our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary!

**Please check your mailing label, if it is yellow, then we have no record of receiving your dues for 2001. This will be your last newsletter. Please send a check for \$20 made out to the "Keystone VHF Club" to: Sandi Barefoot 3040 Muirfield Dr. Dover, PA. 17315**

**NEXT MEETING  
April 5th, 7 PM  
at the Cyber Center**



**From the President**  
 By *Ruthanna Pearson, WB3CQN*  
 wb3cqnl@aol.com

Tomorrow is a work day at the club and it is raining and suppose to rain tomorrow and I hope that didn't stop all of you from going to the club site as there is lots to be done on the inside!! Remember you don't have to wait for a Sat. to go up to the club to work, those that are retired and would like to help, there is outside work you can do like rake, pickup branches etc. So if we get a nice spring day head for the hill with your rakes, leaf blowers, and whatever else you might need!!!

Like most of you I am looking forward to spring and warmer weather, weather permitting our April meeting will be at the club site, and the following Thur, executive meeting will be at the club site too.

Those of you who haven't paid your dues, please send your check to Sandy we need all of you to support the club, and you don't want to miss our GREAT NEWSLETTER!!!

Not much on the DXing this time I haven't had the time to get on the radio one evening I did get on PSK and worked Greece that was a new one for me in that mode. Don't forget the Wed. night 10 meter net 8PM 28.350 plus or minus QRM



**VE & Public  
 Education  
 Committee Report**  
 By *Ray Shaub,  
 W3AXC*  
 w3axc@arrl.net

Congratulations are in order for one of our members, **Bruce Budinger KB3FKG**. On March 6, Bruce upgraded to **Amateur Extra class** at the testing session that was held at the Adams Electric Co-op. This is quite an accomplishment. Give Bruce a slap on the back and a handshake for a job well done!

**Pig Roast ticket go on sale at the April meeting. Bring cash or your checkbook and purchase your tickets early. Ticket price is \$10 each. The Roast will be held on June 16<sup>th</sup> at the Club Site.**

**MS BIKE-A-THON UPDATE**  
 By *Dick Goodman, WA3USG*

Donna Lee, N3VPI and I attended another MS meeting up in Harrisburg. At this time, the event bike course has not been finalized. We do know however that for both Saturday & Sunday, the course will start and end at Gettysburg College. The Lunch Rest Stop will also be at the college. In past Bike-a-thons, there was a rest stop devoted to serving lunch ... that will not be the case this year. Who ever mans Gettysburg College will effectively be handling three functions... the start point, the lunch stop, and the end point. For us this cuts down on manning requirements. We only need one person instead of three. We were promised that we would be given the course at the April MS meeting. The Bike-a-thon is held this years from 14-15 July. It will be held rain or shine. We need your help!

**ARE YOU A MEMBER OF THE  
 ARRL?**  
*Now more important then ever!*

To all those members who switch Internet Service Providers: **Please ensure that you get me your new E-mail address so you continue to get your newsletter**

**The VHF Transmitter**

published monthly by the  
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Printed Hard Copy & distribution via Internet by  
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 199 Maple Lane  
 Mechanicsburg, Pa.  
 (same as above)

**Have you paid your Dues ?**

Your club membership dues for the year 2001 are still due and payable.

(Just in case that you forgot !)

**Full Membership only \$20.00**  
**Family Members still \$ 5.00**  
**Full members under 18 \$10.00**

Make checks payable to: Keystone VHF Club

See your treasurer at the next club meeting or for same day service send check directly to:

**Sandy Barefoot**  
**3040 Muirfield Dr.**  
**Dover, PA. 17315**

**Paul Miller, K3AVF**  
**Keystone VHF Club Life Member**  
*By John Shaffer, W3SST*  
**Bob Riese, K3DJC & Dick Goodman, WA3USG**



*Photo by John Shaffer, W3SST*

My first contact with Paul was through Geary Russell, W3OWW. Geary was transmitter engineer at WGCB in Red Lion. Paul was involved with his church and supervised their radio broadcasts on WGCB. Paul lived at 114 N. Franklin Street in Red Lion and his radio location was the envy of many of the VHF/UHF hams in the area. In the beginning he was very active on six meters which worked well from his location. However it also created problems due to channel 2 in Baltimore being a very popular station in the Red Lion area. In those days TV sets were very broad and poorly filtered. It didn't take a very strong signal from six meters to completely wipe out channel 2 reception.

In later years two meter FM became the rage and Paul was able to access repeaters all over a 50 to 100 mile radius. Many frequencies he would key up several repeaters at the same time. During the early eighties he was receiving fast scan TV on the 70 cm band but never quite made it to regular two way work with this mode. Several times a transmitter was used briefly but not an ongoing situation.

His wife Nettie passed on early in 1980. Paul is and Nettie was one of the closest friends my wife and I have. I have never heard anything but high praise from their friends and associates from all ages and areas of their activities. **Paul is currently residing at Manor Care facility at Dallastown and welcomes visitors.** He is again monitoring several local two-meter repeaters and hopefully will return to transmit activity in the near future.

..... *From friends John & Lois Shaffer*

The first time that I ever met Paul was during the dead of Winter in 1977. Paul was very active in Amateur Fast Scan Television. During this time, I lived in the Baltimore area and also was active in FSTV. Paul used to talk quite regularly to the gang on the Baltimore Radio Amateur Television Society's (BRATS) repeater on 147.03 MHz. He lives on top of a big hill in Red Lion, Pa. and while he hit the 2 meter repeater with a strong signal, he wasn't able to see the ATV repeater from Baltimore very well.

The night was dark, there was an ugly wind howling, and the temperature was in the low 20's. Fred Merker, K3TAZ and I left Baltimore at about 7 PM for Red Lion. We were determined to climb up on Paul's roof and find out why he wasn't receiving the ATV machine. About 2 hours later, all three of us nuts stood up there ... just shivering and not really able to do anything. It was just so darned dark, cold, and windy ... but isn't this what ham radio's is all about?

Paul was able to finally see the BRATS ATV machine but it wasn't because of anything we did that night.

I can remember Paul sitting out in his back yard on his bench swing while chatting on 2 meters. I believe that he had a Kenwood TR-2400. This was back in the late 1970's.

Paul was also very active in model railroading. He has a very nice layout set up down in his basement.

..... *from memories of Dick, WA3USG*

Paul was one of my first contacts on 6 meters AM. At this time I was just a freshly licensed 18 year old Ham and living at Home. The rig was a kit that ran around 15 watts input and the antenna a vertical Dipole. As working Red Lion was kinda like DX it was always good to talk to Paul .... *from Bob Riese, K3DJC*

*From the K3DJC QSL Collection*



The Keystone VHF Club President, Ruthanna Pearson, WB3CQN down in her well equipped shack. Ruthanna who is the "DX Queen" of York, also writes our monthly DX column.

## Enjoy Breakfast Out ?

The club now holds two (2) Saturday morning breakfasts. The first starts at 7 AM at the "Round the Clock Diner" on route 30. This is for you early birds or club members who will be attending work parties up at the club site. Our second breakfast is held at 9 AM at the Dover Family Restaurant right along Route 74 in Dover. It's for those of us who like to sleep just a little later on Saturday mornings.



**BOB'S TECH TALK**

ELF  
LF  
HF  
ATV  
ANTENNAS  
SSB  
SECRET  
STUFF !

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

There has been a lot of Microwave activity in York County over the winter and everyone is looking to warmer weather for more mountain hopping. Fred W3MMH is on the final finish up stage of a 5760 Down East Microwave transverter board. This is a 12 dollar board which you add a few parts to and some Pipe cap filters and you are on 5760 with several MW and a receive noise figure of around 6 to 8 dB. Not too bad for about 20 dollar total.

This transverter board can be improved with a power amplifier to get the transmit power up to 20 mw or so and by adding an RF receive amplifier you will improve the system and make it a pretty nice performer. When Fred gets his system up and running I may build one as well.

W3HMS a real "**Steckdosenamateur**" has equipment for all the bands from 2304 up to 24 Gig. This is gear from a German company and was designed by DB6NT. John has had several contacts from Sam Lewis Park and worked around 100 miles into New Jersey and also worked W3EKT while Bud was at the MQH site. All this activity was on SSB and CW. I still am on 10 and 24 gig Wide Band FM and hope to up grade the equipment over the next yeas or so.


Actually Joe WA3PTV has my converted Qualicomm transverter board and has made some progress in getting it working / tuned up. There was a bad RF device and as the system was never tuned. Joe may be able to do the impossible and get it working. I loaned the stuff to Joe so he could use it as a guide to do the conversion on his Qualicomm stuff. A wise man has said " 'tis easier to convert this stuff than to get it working " and Joe may end up the miracle worker. The bottom line is you need to have test equipment that is pretty much designed for these frequencies or you aren't going to get much done... HI.

I have found a source of really inexpensive Beacon Iders and intend to send for two of them and get the 432 beacon back on the air again. These are pretty neat and consist of a programmable device that can have up to 7 different Ids programmed into it and with the addition of a couple of 2N2222s, use it to key a transmitter. The old Ider I used just wasn't up to the constant use. It really was just a keyer that I faked into a continuous repeat mode but it would shut down from time to time and I just got tired of running up to Arendtsville to reset it.

There have been several problems kinda related the weather at the MQH site. One problem is that the Omni directional antenna I built for 432 wasn't able to stand up to the elements, even though it lasted a year OK at my QTH. Dick and I decided to use the 432 Omni antenna that they use during contests ... the beacon isn't on the air then anyhow. That also may be an excuse to put a beacon on 144 and use the 144 Omni antenna from Dicks as well. If all goes well, there could be beacons on 432, 144 and 10 gig from the K3MQH site.

Well here is hoping that by now we all had a good time at the Timonium Fest and the weather has turned nice and the Onion Snow is past and beach weather is on its way.

*WOW ! Super article .... isn't that Bob something !!!!! But if he's not careful he's going to give himself one heck of an RF burn!!!*



**Trustees Report**  
*By Bob Secrist, N3LSN*

Hello members ... It's time to write the trustee's column for the april newsletter. By the time you read this, Spring will have already begun. Officially, March 20. That should perk up one's energy to get outdoors and attend to all those chores around the house and in your yard.

Speaking of chores, at the march meeting I scheduled a work party for Saturday, April 7<sup>th</sup> at the club to clean up the yard and pavilion so it's ready for our seasonal functions. However, before I started to write this column, I checked my computer for e-mail. And yes there was a message calling for an additional work party on Saturday, March 17 which will be past when you read this letter, this will at least make a dent in these chores. We should be able to finish the clean up at the April 7 work party. We don't usually have two work parties to do the same thing three weeks apart but in this case, we need both of them!

There will be work projects on several Saturdays during the Spring & Summer I'm sure so come out and help when you can, for whatever amount of time you wish to give.

Enjoy your grass cutting ..... Bob, N3LSN



**Way's & Means Committee Report**  
*By Barb Green, N3RMI*  
bgn3rmi@cs.com

There are two projects scheduled for the upcoming months! First, we will be handing out order forms for our Submarine/Stromboli sale. Any members who do not attend that want subs must notify any member of the Ways & Means Committee. Cost is \$3.75 each. This is a money maker! So let's get some orders!

I will be getting a case of the York County Bonus Books to hand out. This is a good project that does not take much effort to sell. We make \$5.00 per book, and we can sell as many as we want. So if sell 25 books, we make \$125.00. We will give it a try and see what happens. They run from April 2001 to April 30, 2002.

Charlotte Markley is starting to get our Cookbook together. I think we finally have enough recipes! Thanks to all who gave us recipes!

I hope with the arrival of Spring, we can get ourselves motivated for these projects!

Barb Green N3RMI  
Ways & Means Chairperson

Any newsletter articles will be very cheerfully accepted by Dick Goodman,  
WA3USG at E-Mail:  
wa3usg@compuserve.com

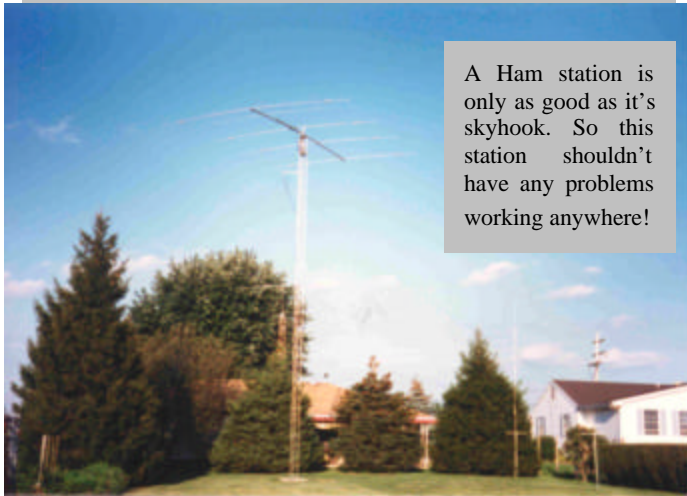


STERLING TATE  
 NO3C  
 "A GOOD GUY  
 JUST TRYING TO  
 STAY OUT OF  
 TROUBLE"

I'm sorry but I just can't believe that in all these years we haven't had an article about good old Sterling! This guy does it all! Not only is he an excellent Ham Op, but he's also an accomplished SCUBA diver and an excellent Wild Life Photographer. You can get in touch with Sterling almost any morning on 97'. He is usually on his way over to Pinchot Lake by 8 AM to shoot 35mm pictures or just to generally check out the ducks!



From his well appointed shack, Sterling works a plethora of modes. These include CW, SSB, PSK31, Fast Scan TV, and SSTV.



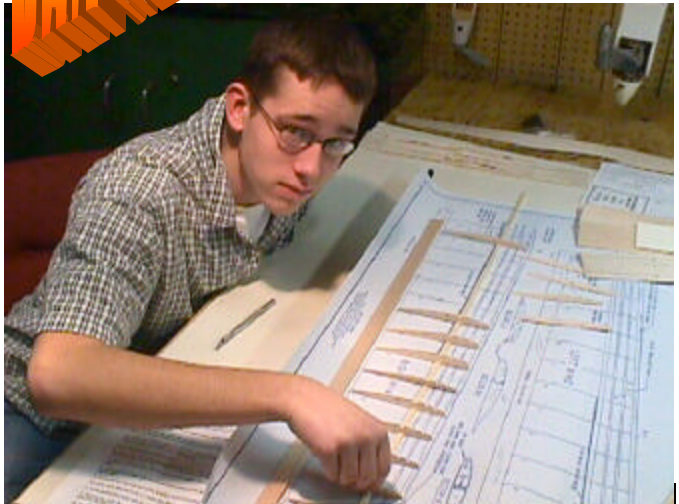
A Ham station is only as good as it's skyhook. So this station shouldn't have any problems working anywhere!



**Denizens of the Deep!**

Sterling & I used to be dive buddies. This underwater image was taken on 28 July, 1991. Sterling is on the right, I am on the left. We were diving on the wreck of an old cable layer about 30 miles off the coast of North Carolina. Our depth here was about 90 feet. Oh ... the stories we could tell of dropped weight belts & terminal sea sickness !!

**DANGER!** WATCH THE SKIES OVER YORK !!



Tim, AA3BJ and Adam, N3SUI are pursuing a really cool hobby ... remote control model aircraft. Shown above is Adam in the primary building stage of an electrically powered remote controlled airplane. This aircraft will fly for about 10 minutes before it's batteries are expended. It then takes about 15 minutes to recharge and he's back in the air again. When completed, Adam's plane will look like the inset above.

Tim is also building an airplane. In his case, it is a scale model of a Piper J-3 Cub. His aircraft has a wingspan of about 6 feet and is powered by a 4 cycle gasoline engine. Tim will be controlling his model on the 6 meter allocation for remote control devices. Tim ultimately plans to fly an Amateur Television transmitter in his plane. This gives the pilot on the ground a birds eye view from the aircraft! I'll try and get over to the Barefoot's residence in the next week or two and shoot some pictures of both these guy's with their toys!

**MARCH OF DIMES WALK-A-THON**  
 By Jack Dellinger, N3BQB  
*jkdelli@aol.com*

The annual WalkAmerica event will occur on Sunday, April 29, 2001. This will be the second year for the walk on the 'Heritage Rail Trail. The amateur Radio community is again providing communications for the walk. We will be covering the same locations as last year and expect to use the KVHF repeater as our main network. As of now approximately 35 Hams are participating. The local chapter of March of Dimes is very grateful for the assistance we have provided them for more than 10 years. This year we will be given T-shirts for our efforts!!!! I understand that they also plan to give each amateur a 'note of appreciation'.

If you have not signed up to help and would like to join this fun and fulfilling day, please send me an email or call me at 741-3932. I will be out of town from April 7 thru April 21, but I will have a week back before the walk to find a good spot for you!!!!

# THE HISTORY OF THE KEYSTONE VHF CLUB INC.

By Ray Shaub, W3AXC

## CHAPTER ONE THE BEGINNING

This is the history of the Keystone VHF Club Inc. of York Pennsylvania (KVHFC) as one old timer remembers it. It was the summer of 1955, I had just been licensed in January so I was a neophyte to the world of ham radio. I was a member of the York Amateur Radio Club Inc. as was everyone else that belonged to a ham club because the YARC was the only club in town. This was the era of the Gonset Communicator and the government surplus VHF rigs. All were AM modulation. There were also a few modulated oscillators and superregen rigs around. The VHF bands especially the 2 meter band were becoming rather active because there was equipment available that was relatively inexpensive

There were a few hams that were interested in the VHF bands rather than the HF or low frequency bands. This, I believe was because the new hams with the Novice license were allowed on a portion of the 2 meter band between 145 and 147 MHz. The YARC was basically a HF band club and although there were a few members interested in VHF the vast majority were interested in DXing, contesting and paper collecting. Those interested in VHF were in the minority and could not persuade the others to invest in club owned VHF equipment. However this minority believed there were enough hams interested in VHF to form a group outside of the YARC.

Sometime during the Fall of 1955 as I remember, the word was passed around that there was a new club being formed and there would be a meeting of interested parties at the home of Art Hafer W3OCI.

So on an evening in November 1955 (the date of which escapes me), but I believe it was late in the month we met at Art Hafer's house in the basement to see how many were interested in forming a new VHF club. Art's house was in Haines Acres, a new housing development at that time. Those in attendance were the local pioneers of the VHF bands and a handful of new hams like myself. I can't remember all that were in attendance, I can tell you we all had W3 calls because the FCC hadn't started to issue K3 calls. Some of us had re-issued calls. The FCC had started through the alphabet the second time to issue old vacated calls.

Those in attendance were:

Clair (Bob) Holtzapple W3QFM

Art Hafer W3OCI ?

John Shaffer W3SST

Myself, Ray Shaub W3AXC

Geary Russell W3OWW

George Gable W3EDO

Bill Barefoot W3UQJ

Stan Winter W3HFG

Chalmers Shaffer W3ZNN

Charlie Guise WN3CGG

Guy Clippinger W3CRL

Dale Rahe W3AJD now N3ATI

Dave Germeyer W3BJG

This is a complete list of those present, as taken from the secretaries book. We used this list to confer life membership on those still licensed in the 1970's

The second meeting was again held at the home of Art Hafer this meeting was in December because if I remember correctly Art had a Christmas tree in his basement game room where we met. Some of the items that were discussed at these first meetings were:

A name for the club.

The aim of the club would be to promote activity on the VHF bands and that full members would have to be active on the bands of 6 meters and above. The club would hold a ham picnic, ( which became the

York Hamfest). The club would sponsor contests on the VHF bands.

Sometime later, in the early part of 1956 we began meeting at the WSBA TV and FM studios. And a month or two later we also decided to also meet at WNOW TV. The word had gotten around and more hams began coming out to the meetings. The new attendees were considered charter members of the club and those that were still licensed in the 1970's were elected life members. Those new members were: Edwin Weiler W3LHG ( now K4AYL), Rosalie Russell W3DEX, Guy Clippinger W3CRL, George Gadbois W1\_ \_ \_ (now W3FEY), and Ned Clark WN3BSW.

During the next several meetings More hams came on board. Most of the business that was attended to was to pick a name for the club, pick a name for a newsletter and to write a constitution. We obtained a copy of the constitution for the York club and used it for a guide in writing one for the new club. A slate of officers was presented and an election was held at one of the first meetings. The officers that I remember being elected were John Shaffer W3SST who was the first president, George Gable was the first Treasurer. George held that office for more than 20 years. He finally turned the Treasurers job over to Frank Bair K3GDI sometime in the late 1970's. Rosalie Russell W3DEX was elected Secretary and I was elected as the first three year trustee. There were of course Two Vice presidents and assistant secretary and treasurers elected however these are lost to my memory.

It was at one of the meetings at the WSBA TV studios that I suggested the Name Keystone VHF Club. Other names that were presented were the White Rose VHF Club, The York County VHF Club and possibly others that I don't remember. The Keystone VHF Club seemed to agree with the majority of the members present and so that became our name. It was sometime later that we became incorporated.

About this time the club also contacted the ARRL to see what was required to become affiliated with them. Very soon there after we became an ARRL affiliated club. Sometime later on in the late 60's or early 70's we became an inactive ARRL member club due to lack of leadership in the club and a waning membership.

In the beginning there was much enthusiasm among the new club members and one meeting was just not enough. One of the first decisions about how the club would operate was to have two meetings every month. This was a natural decision because the YARC had been holding two meetings a month for quite some time. We decided to hold the first meeting of the month on the first Wednesday evening and the second meeting on the third Sunday afternoon.

One of the earliest club activities were the transmitter hunts that were held on Sunday afternoons. The activities committee presided over the hunts and wrote the original rules for transmitter hunts. I don't remember all the rules but a couple were: The transmitter had to be hidden somewhere in York County and could be not more than 50 feet from a hard surface road. In August of the first year we had a transmitter hunt that ended at the Summer cabin of the Shaub family near Lewisberry and concluded with a corn roast.

The first issues of the "VHF TRANSMITTER" as the new newsletter was named were cranked out on a used mimeograph machine that was procured by one of the members from their place of employment. The newspaper staff met once a month and wrote and printed the newsletter. In those days the newsletter was published just after the meeting. I instituted the printing date to be the week before the meeting to be used as a reminder of the meeting date when I was president and newsletter editor in 1972.

The TVI committee of the club was kept rather busy during the first years of our existence. Many of the members were Technician class licensees and were allowed on 6 meters about the middle of 1955 and later. The mode of modulation on 6 meters in those days was AM same as the video of channel 2. Everybody that was on 6 meters " clobbered " channel 2 the second harmonic fell in the FM band. The fourth harmonic fell in channel 11. York was out of the service area for both of these channels in Baltimore. However many people in the York area

See "History" on page 7



**Keystone VHF Club  
General meeting Minutes  
of  
1 March, 2001  
By Charlotte Marklev. N3URR**

Meeting called to order at 19:15 by Ruthanna WB3CQN. 34 members were present.

**SECRETARY'S REPORT:**

Charlotte N3URR. James WA4EED made motion to accept minutes as in newsletter, Linda KB3EBV 2<sup>nd</sup> motion, members agreed.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:**

Report read by DonnaLee N3VPJ.

Balance in Certificate of Deposit	\$2,111.60
Balance in First Capitol Account	\$3,590.50
Balance in Merrill Lynch Account	\$4,278.95
Total Cash and Bank Accounts	\$9,980.95

Treasurer's Report filed for Audit.

**TRUSTEE'S REPORT:**

Bob N3LSN, work party at club site on April 7.

**VEC/EDUCATION REPORT:**

Ray W3AXC, VE testing on March 6<sup>th</sup> at Adams Electric Co-Op.

**RACES/ARES REPORT:**

Jack N3BQB, Bike A Thon July 14, 15. TMI drill to be held in May.

**CONTESTING REPORT:**

Gene AD3E, sent contest results in for Jan. VHF contest.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Suggestion made to put announcement on repeater for club meeting time, and date.

Bill W3PN, Yars is doing away with Ares Data.

50/50 drawing won by Lee Driscoll N3LD, \$22.50

Final Announcements

Motion made by Ernie N3XGF to adjourn, Ed K4AYL 2<sup>nd</sup> motion. Meeting adjourned 19:30

**History ... Continued from page 6**

were trying to watch them, and this became a severe problem for the hams on 6 meters. It should be pointed out here that the club had no home and no equipment of it's own and a very limited treasury, probably less than \$100.00. However there was an equipment committee appointed to look into obtaining some gear for use on the VHF bands.

I don't remember who all was appointed to this committee, but I know that Geary Russell W3OWW was the chairman and I was on the committee. We met at Geary's home in Stewartstown. We decided to build transmitters for 6 meters, 2 meters and 11/4 meters. The plan was to build the AM transmitters and to buy surplus ARC5 receivers that tuned 6-9 megahertz (in those days it was megacycles). We would buy 3 of the receivers to be used as IF's and build converters for each band. These were all tube equipped pieces of equipment and had to have high voltage and filament power supplies built for them. I'm not sure how long it took to put the rigs together but I know the committee members worked at our homes to finish the gear. We had purchased the ARC5 receivers from a guy in Harrisburg that had several garages full of government surplus equipment. Believe it or not that homebuilt gear served the club well into the next decade.

These were the days of real club camaraderie, all of the members worked together for the common good of the club.

**Keystone VHF Club  
E-Board Minutes of 8 March, 2001  
By Charlotte Markley, N3URR  
Secretary**

Meeting called to order at 19:00 by Ruthanna WB3CQN. 6 officers and 2 committee persons were present.

**SECRETARY'S REPORT:**

Charlotte N3URR, Minutes for Gen. Meeting March 1, 2001 were read and approved as read.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:**

Nothing changed since Gen. Meeting report.

**TRUSTEE'S REPORT:**

Chuck N3VKE, work party March 17, 2001. Also not getting involved with 79 machine.

**NEWSLETTER REPORT:**

Dick WA3USG, 2/3 of members are getting newsletter by e-mail. Anyone with a change of e-mail address please inform Dick WA3USG.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Certificate of Deposit will be renewed for another 13 months.

Meeting Adjourned at 19:45

**YES .... EVEN MORE PRETTY DOG  
GONE COOL WEB SITES!!**

<http://home.mindspring.com/~bert.carter/hamlinks.html>

**Amateur Radio Links !!!** and I mean lot's & lot's of em! If you can't find it here, it probably doesn't exist !!!

<http://www.nitehawk.com/rasmit/dsp50.html>

**DSP Interchange for weak signal reception.** Really a cool site if you want to find out what's happening in the world of weak signal reception.

<http://www.elfrad.com>

The world below 100 KHz. Really strange & weird stuff goes on here. "Natural" radio, Whistlers, Dawn Chorus, Sprites, etc ... Thomas Edison tried communication with the dead down here ... naturally, your results may vary!

<http://www.seds.org/billa/obs/obslst.html>

Whoa! Look at the homebrew observatories that amateur astronomers are building for their telescopes! If I ever built something like these in my back yard, my wife would wack me up along the side of my head!!! (Only kidding .. I hope).

<http://www.qsl.net/k3pgp/>

Now this is a real sleeper! LASER communication ... Guy's are using the retro reflectors left on the moon by the Astronauts in 1969 and are bouncing their lasers off of them! On a night with a new moon, it can be seen with the naked eye!

**FOR SALE**

.001 mfd ceramic disk capacitors 250 WVDC (only 2 left)  
Great for canceling out excess inductance. Also super for allowing AC to pass while offering an extremely high impedance to DC .... only \$350 (both for \$600).

**Call Dick, WA3USG at (717) 697-2353 ... hurry, at these prices they won't last!!!**



The VHF Transmitter  
C/O: Dick Goodman  
199 Maple Lane  
Mechanicsburg, PA.  
17055

**DATED MATERIAL**



**CLUB  
REPEATERS  
FM**

**IN/OUT  
29.580/29.680  
52.97/53.97**

**146.370/146.970  
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 WEB SITE: Any volunteers to create one?**

**CLUB SPONSORED NETS**

**All Nets: 146.97 (-) except 10M**

**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.  
WED 8PM KVHFC 10 meter net 28.350 usb  
THUR 8PM York County YL Net (well??)**

**Club meetings are held on the 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of each month  
at the Cyber Center, York, PA**