



W3BN W3CCH

The Reading Radio Club Bulletin

Volume 59

Issue Number 5 May 2021

The Reading Radio Club Was Established March 10th, 1921 , ARRL Affiliated February 17, 1922

A Monthly Publication of the Reading Radio Club, Scott & Lori Scheirer Editors (kc3pcs@gmail.com)

Keep up to date with the RRC at <http://www.readingradioclub.org>



<http://www.facebook.com/RRCW3BN>

MEETINGS

Next Board Meeting: **Tues, May 11th at 7:30 PM via Zoom**

Next General Meeting: **Fri, May 14, 2021 at 7:30 PM (VE Exam at 6 PM)**

Topic: To be Determined

Location: Berks County Agricultural Center—Rear Entrance

1238 County Welfare Road, Leesport, PA 19533

All other Fridays, we have a **Meeting on the Air at 8 PM** on the W3BN Repeater.

2021 Board Of Directors & Officers

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PRESI. Chris Schlegel, K3ADA	Sutehk.CS@gmail.com	(23)
VP Joe Pietruszynski, AC3DI	JFP0250@comcast.net	(21)
SEC. Harry Hoffman, W3VBY	HarryHoffmanJr@juno.com	(22)
TREAS. Nate Rosenthal, N2ADD	Nate01PA@comcast.net	(23)
Art Becker, KB3LDI	ABeckerBeConCo@msn.com	(21)
Jason Potter, K3WDF	Radio.K3WDF@gmail.com	(21)
John Engle, AB3SR	No Public Email	(22)
Ronald Waszk, K3RJW	PolishPICL@aol.com	(23)
Scott Scheirer, KC3PCS, Editor	kc3pcs@arrl.net	(22)

The two-digit number, in brackets, to the right of the BOD member's email address, is the year that their term ends on December 31.

(A normal 3-year term runs from Jan. 1 to Dec. 31, three years later).

The four officers of the RRC are elected from the BOD by the NINE board members at the annual RRC Board of Directors Reorganization Meeting held in January of each year. Please note that ALL nine BOD members have voting power.

Please note: The Board of Director Minutes are available by written request or online at:

<http://www.readingradioclub.org>. Email Chris Schlegel, k3ada@arrl.net if you wish to participate in a board meeting.

Send **ALL** USPS Mail pertaining to the Reading Radio Club to :

ATTENTION TO ** (Person your sending to)
READING RADIO CLUB INC
PO BOX 13777
READING PA 19612-3777

W
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B
N

The W3BN Repeater is owned & operated by the Reading Radio Club and is located in Alsace Township up on the mountain.

146.91 MHZ (Input 146.31 MHZ) with a PL Tone of 131.8 hz.

It is available from 5:30 AM until midnight.

Drez Says

You learn something new everyday...

I was always under the impression that the 1922 ARRL Affiliation certificate was the earliest proof of the club's organization date. Rich, W3WJC, sent me a previous article that was published in the Bulletin showing proof of the club's March 10, 1921 origination date! See the club's website for the article. Thank you Rich for the very interesting information. The club's history is filled with interesting events and people. Keep an eye on the club website's history section as we try to populate it with information.

Centennial Celebration Fundraising...

We hams love good food! Keep an eye out for details on a new fundraiser, the Reading Radio Club Dine to Donate, hosted by Texas Roadhouse in Wyomissing. Simply dine in or dine out at Texas Roadhouse on May 18th and the RRC will receive 10% of your bill as a donation toward the centennial celebration. Anyone can participate, they just need to show the flyer when ordering or at pick-up. So spread the word far and wide. Details will follow in later pages.

That's all for now folks.

Chris, K3ADA

The Reading Radio Club is an IRS-designated 501(c)(3) organization holding tax identification number 23-1660585. Contributions to the Reading Radio Club are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.

Reading Radio Club and Texas Roadhouse Dine to Donate

To help raise funds for the RRC's 100th anniversary celebration the fundraising committee has organized a Dine to Donate event with Texas Roadhouse in Wyomissing. The event will be held on **Tuesday, May 18th from 4pm to 10pm**. Dine in or order to-go and enjoy Hand-Cut Steaks, Fall-Off-The-Bone Ribs, and many other items on the menu all while donating 10% of the bill to the RRC for the centennial celebration.

To participate, show the attached flyer to your server if dining in. If ordering online or through the mobile app, take your receipt and the flyer to the to-go pickup to make sure that it is included. The flyer may be shared far and wide on social media, email, or in print to members and non-members alike. Flyers are not allowed to be handed out on the restaurant property. A cell phone image of the flyer is also acceptable! There will also be printed copies at the meeting.

Chris, K3ADA

From the Fundraising Committee:



DINE TO DONATE

»» *Support* ««

READING RADIO CLUB

TUESDAY, MAY 18

4PM-10PM

10%

DONATION NIGHT

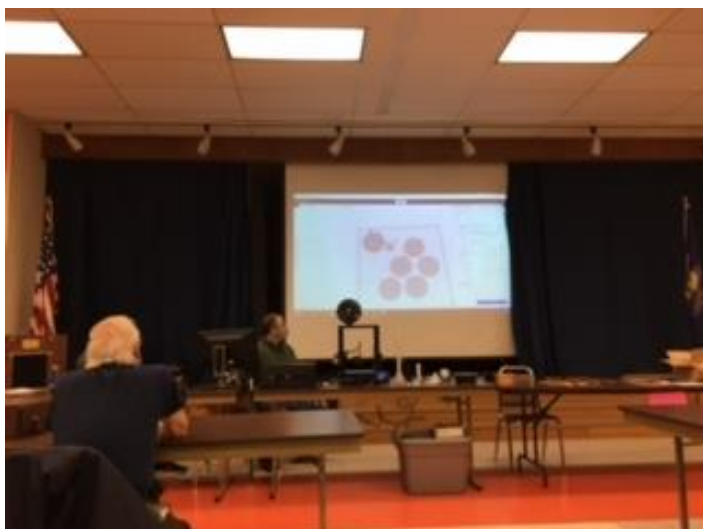
for **Reading Radio Club.**

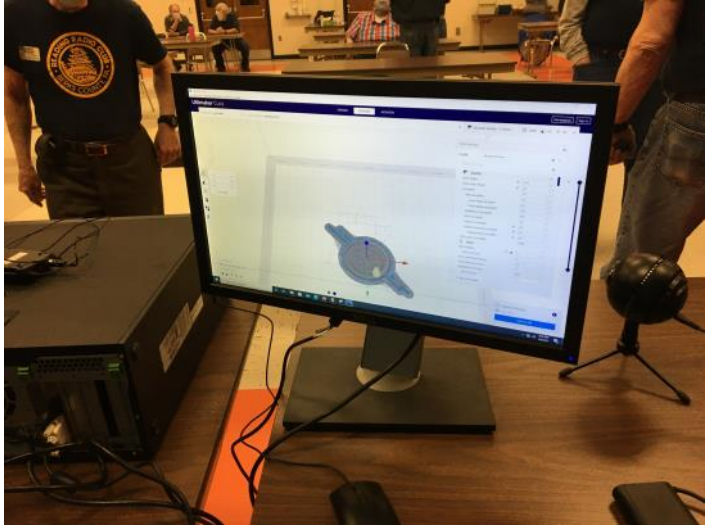
Present this flyer at the Wyomissing location and Texas Roadhouse will donate **10%** of your total food purchases to **Reading Radio Club!**



610-373-9600
2803 PAPERMILL ROAD
WYOMISSING, PA

CLUB SNAPS





A PROMISE KEPT, by John Engle, AB3SR

Many years ago, as a Boy Scout, I was collecting merit badges to advance to Star Scout. Two of them were Radio and Electricity. I needed a professional to help me complete the projects to qualify for the badges. I met a gentleman who was the retired Chief Engineer of WEEU. He was both a licensed First Class Commercial Radiotelephone Operator and an Amateur Extra Class Ham Operator. His name was Harold Schearer. He became my best mentor. He encouraged me, in a positive way, to

consider a career in broadcasting. While he exposed me to Ham radio, my focus was on getting a Commercial Operator ticket. He taught me important things that are not found in books. I passed my exam for my Second Class license while still a teenager. He advised me to attend technical school, advancing my technical knowledge. I graduated Highest Honors and a First Class commercial operator. After several years of working as a broadcast engineer in the tri-state area, Harold contacted me and told me of an opening at WEEU. They were looking for a maintenance engineer. Since he knew that I was working with new technologies at several stations, I would be a good choice for WEEU. I was hired by WEEU and eventually becoming their chief engineer, just like Harold. I never forgot about Harold. I would visit with him many times. He had entered a nursing home. I was told by Harold's daughter that I was the last person to visit him at the nursing home before he passed away. During that visit we spoke of many things. He enjoyed when I told him about new technologies at WEEU. He eventually asked if I had gone to get my amateur ticket. I said that I had not. He said come on get your Ham license. I know that you can do it! I promised to him that I would. He died peacefully the next morning after my visit.

It has been many years since that day, but I have never forgotten Harold. While working in my basement at home, I found an old license plate with the radio call sign W3MB on it. That call sign was Harold's. I remembered my promise, that is when I started my process of becoming a Ham radio operator. Harold was a member of Reading Radio Club and Quarter Century Wireless Honoree. As a good starting point, I contacted a Reading Radio Club member and announce that I would like to become a Ham. I was invited to attend a club meeting. At that meeting I discovered, certain club members, Volunteer Examiner Coordinators, VEC's for short, conduct regular testing sessions and that the next one would be held during The ARRL Field day June 22, 2013 held at Heritage Park in Sinking Spring, Pa. At that Field day I took my tests. First was the Tech class exam. It took me about 10 minutes to complete. The VEC said that I had passed with only 2 wrong out of 35 questions. Next I took the General class test .

It took about 15 minutes to complete. The examiner scored my results and said that I had a perfect score out of 35 questions," excellent ". Finally the Extra class exam, which has 50 questions. I took me about half an hour to complete. The VEC scored the test and said to me "congratulations" we have a new Extra Class Ham. I only had a few wrong.

Within a few weeks the Federal Communications Commission issued the Amateur Radio Call sign " AB3SR"

I kept my promise and wish to honor my departed mentor, Harold E. Schearer W3MB.

I am John Engle , AB3SR Extra Class Ham and Chief Engineer of Radio Station WEEU.

RRC MEETING ON THE AIR (RRCMOTA)

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By: Rich Ahrens, W3WJC (04.25.2021)

Check into the **RRC MEETING ON THE AIR** on the Friday evenings that we do not have an in-person meeting. The net, on 146.910 MHz, starts at 8:00 p.m. with the latest AMATEUR RADIO NEWSLINE REPORT from the West Coast.

We then have an exchange of information that may be of interest to the members of the Reading Radio Club as well as those that are not RRC members.

The last part of the net is a roll call where we usually have 13 to 56 stations check-in and test their two-meter FM analog equipment. The roll call is last, so that late comers are not missed.

NOTE: The Continuous Tone Coded Squelch System, (CTCSS) frequency is 131.8 Hertz (3B). The CTCSS is often referred to as "PL" (Motorola's trade name).

The net has been in operation since Friday January 21, 1994, when we had 13 check-ins during that first session, over 27 years ago.

On Friday April 30, 2021, we had session number 1157. Dave Wiley, K3MXS, was the Net Control.

The next RRCMOTA will be on Friday May 7, 2021, starting at 8:00 p.m., on the Reading Radio Club's 146.910 MHz, W3BN analog repeater. Rich Ahrens, W3WJC will be the Net Control.

NOTE: The next in-person RRC meeting is scheduled for Friday May 14, 2021, at the Berks County Agricultural Center, in Bern Township. Put the following address in your GPS device or GOOGLE MAPS:

1238 County Welfare Road Leesport PA

Face **MASKS** must be worn

FYI: AMATEUR RADIO NEWSLINE is the "Amateur Radio's independent on the air news and bulletin service" and is not a service of the American Radio Relay League.

Everyone, RRC Members and those that are not members, are invited to tune in and check into the,

READING RADIO CLUB MEETING ON THE AIR

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Tune in Weekday mornings to the W3BN Repeater from 6 am until about 6:30 am for our informal morning group. We've been dubbed the "Sunrise Crew". Everyone is welcome to join in. No net control. We just have a nice roundtable discussion of different topics.

Be sure to also tune in to the ARES/RACES net on Monday night on 147.18 at 8 pm and QCWA net on the W3BN Repeater at 9 pm.

Don't Forget the 3/7/10 Initiative started by Rich Ahrens. Hop on the repeater at those times and see who is on. No net control, just friendly chat.

RON'S RAWINGS

by Ron Waszk, K3RJW

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Well everyone, I must apologize. I am not a weatherman, and trying to schedule a fox hunt in April is very sketchy. Joe and I picked the 25th of April thinking it would be a good day for the hunt. Well as you can see, it was hit and miss. We got a lot of rain the night before and the weather never really cleared enough to have the hunt. As stated on the MOTA, I would rather cancel than put any hunters health in jeopardy being out the damp, muddy, and very chilly area to hunt the transmitter. So we might reschedule for May again HOPING the weather allows us to have it. The SMOTA (Simplex meeting on the air) can wait till the winter, or colder months. Besides, with the virus getting less and less, we should be able to enjoy a day out in May without too many worries about catching anything. Then again, look at last year when they said, "Wear your mask for 14 days and we should be clear of this". Well a year later, and we are just about as bad, but we are getting better.

Next, Pottstown is holding a fox hunt on Saturday morning at 0930 at Pottsgrove high school, OR should I say, HELD a fox hunt.. We will see how that turns out. Need to get this letter to Scott for the bulletin.

Still looking for Pagoda award requests. Get that neat award for your Ham shack wall, THEN go for the 25 addition.

Looking forward to holding a test for licenses in May or June. That's up to Harry. That's all I got. Have a good month.

RON K3RJW 73

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Please note: Ads placed here will run for 2 bulletins unless you let the editor know you still want them posted, deleted, or changed.

WANTED: Radio Amateur Call Book Magazine, Spring 1954, Volume 32, Number 1.

Contact Rich Ahrens, W3WJC, at W3WJC73@gmail.com



KITS For Sale:

- Vectronics 80 meter receiver \$35
- Sound to light unit. \$22
- IR remote checker. \$15
- Wheel of Fortune. \$20

These are basic printed circuit kits. Follow the instructions and they should be fun to build and hours of fun to use.

Don W3FCT 610 693 5945



For Sale

QST Magazines, 1960s to present. Good condition.

Low price.

Call Bill Wentzel, K3BW

at 610-488-0231.

Please Note: The Editors and/or RRC are not responsible for items listed on this page.

Descriptions & Pictures are supplied by the Seller.

Membership Statistics

Send all license and mailing address changes to:
 RRC Treasurer Nate Rosenthal, N2ADD, at NateØ1PA@comcast.net or N2ADD@arrl.net
 Please let us know if you upgrade your license. Email to Scott, KC3PCS, and Lori at
 KC3PCS@gmail.com with updates.

By: Rich Ahrens, W3WJC - RRC Historian

(04.22.2021)

STATS AS OF MAY 1ST, 2021

Full Voting Members: 68
 Associate (Non Voting) Members: 12
 Supporting (Non Voting) Members: 2
 Total: 82
 1/4 of Full Voting Members
 required for a quorum. (17)

39 RRC voting members are members of the ARRL (57%).

To be a "Local Amateur Radio Club" affiliate of the ARRL, 51% of the voting members must be Full or Associate members of the ARRL. Note: This is the club's voting members, not necessarily the total membership.

"Life Member"
 Rich Ahrens, W3WJC
 By RRC BOD action on June 6, 2006.

"Honorary Membership for Life"
 Jim Nicholas, W3ITH
 By RRC BOD action on December 8, 2009.

"Life Member"
 Harry Hoffman, W3VBY
 By RRC BOD action on November 10, 2020.

82 = Total RRC membership as of May 1st, 2021

87 = May 2020	99 = May 2009
87 = May 2019	101 = May 2008
85 = May 2018	112 = May 2007
78 = May 2017	113 = May 2006
73 = May 2016	119 = May 2005
80 = May 2015	118 = May 2004
82 = May 2014	124 = May 2003
85 = May 2013	124 = May 2002
88 = May 2012	123 = May 2001
88 = May 2011	120 = May 2000
97 = May 2010	111 = May 1999

There were 193 Members in 1978

Extra Class:	34	42 %
Advanced:	5	6 %
General:	21	26 %
Technician:	20	24 %
Novice:	0	0 %
No License:	2	2 %

May not total 100% due to rounding.
 Data may not be up to date.
 Checked FCC for upgrades Sep. 22, 2020,
 by Rich Ahrens, W3WJC.

RRC Calendar of Events

May 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3 ARES/RACES (8 pm.) 147.18	4 RRC BOD Meeting ZOOM 7:30 PM	5 QCWA Virtual Breakfast 9:30	6 Digi Net 146.91 7:30 PM	23 MOTA (8 pm)	8
9	10 ARES/RACES (8 pm.) 147.18	11 RRC BOD Meeting ZOOM 7:30 PM	12	13 Digi Net 146.91 7:30 PM	14 RRC Meeting AG Center 7:30 PM	15
16	17 ARES/RACES (8 pm.) 147.18	18	19	20 Digi Net 146.91 7:30 PM	21 MOTA (8 pm)	22
23/30	24/31 ARES/RACES (8 pm.) 147.18	25	26	27 Digi Net 146.91 7:30 PM	28 MOTA (8 pm)	29

PLEASE NOTE:

May 5th, 2021—9:30 AM — QCWA Virtual Breakfast—W3BN Repeater

May 11th, 2021—7:30 PM — Board Meeting— ZOOM

May 14th, 2021—7:30 PM — Club Meeting— AG CENTER (and streaming online)

On the Fridays, that we do not have an in-person meeting we will have a "Reading Radio Club Meeting On The Air" (RRCMOTA) on the RRC 146.910 MHz repeater starting at 8:00 p.m. The CTCSS is 131.8 Hz.

May Birthdays: John Freeman, K3CBE; Tyler Scheirer, KC3LVS; Ron Adams, KC3FJY; Robert Warner, KC3OWK; Harry Hoffman, W3VBY; Susan Zuber, KB3JQE; John Engle, AB3SR; Michael Lubic, KC3QGU; Frank Lyter, KC3JQT; John Augustine Jr, N3AOF; Eric Wegman, K3OGL;

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The PRIMARY purpose of The Reading Radio Club Bulletin, is to provide, to the membership, timely information about the activities of the Reading Radio Club, Inc.

IN ADDITION, the RRC BULLETIN provides an easily searchable and accurate historical record. The RRC strongly recommends membership in the American Radio Relay League (ARRL) as well as membership in a local Amateur Radio Club. The READING RADIO CLUB BULLETIN is copyright © 2021 by the Reading Radio Club, Inc. Opinions expressed in the RRC BULLETIN are those of the writers and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Reading Radio Club, Inc, the RRC BOD, or the RRC membership. Material from this RRC BULLETIN may be reproduced in whole or part, without Additional permission, if credit is given to the READING RADIO CLUB BULLETIN and the authors.

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May 1st, 2021 - EMAIL VERSION STARTED ON FEBRUARY 10, 1998.
CIRCULATION: 90 RRC - 106 RRC ELIGIBLE NON-MEMBERS,
FIVE CLUBS WE SWAP BULLETINS WITH, PLUS 10 OTHER CLUBS.
THE FREQUENCY OF PUBLICATION IS MONTHLY.
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Deadline for all bulletins is the 25th of the prior month. However, earlier is better. Please submit to kc3pcs@gmail.com. ** Please note that the editors reserve the right to accept, change, reject anything submitted for the RRC Bulletin.