

## McKean County Amateur Radio Club



### SEPTEMBER 2019 NEWSLETTER

**Club Picnic** was held August 25<sup>th</sup>. We had the usual way too much food to eat, so no one should have went home hungry. We set up two HF stations one CW and one phone. We had a deal where the amount of food you were allowed to eat was based on the number of QSO's you made. Della, KD2NAP was busy on the phone station,



Della's plate, based on the number of QSO's

I was on QRP, CW



This is my plate, based on the number of QSO's

We all had a great time, talking, swapping stories and putting up antennas. I don't recall everyone who was there but we had about 15 of us, I think. Looking forward to next year.

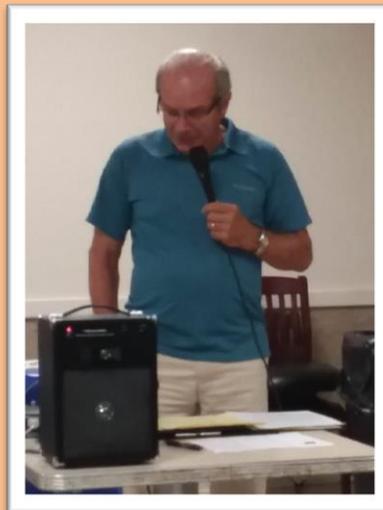
**At the last club** meeting we discussed things to do as a club. Field Day, Pa QSO party, Parks On The Air, Club Picnic were some of the things we do now. It was suggested we all take a trip to West Middlesex, Pa to visit the Contest Super Station of K3LR. So I contacted Tim and we set up a date and time. September 15<sup>th</sup>, we will meet at the 911 center at 0900 and car pool for the 3+ hour trip. As of now we have 10 Amateurs that will be going, but it's not too late. Please contact me at [bmanning@zitomedia.net](mailto:bmanning@zitomedia.net) if you are interested. We have lots of seats available, so we all don't need to drive. I have visited Tim's station before and we should plan on being there for 1-2 hours. Then I thought we could stop at a nearby restaurant for lunch before the drive home. I spoke to Tim last week and he is looking forward to our visit. You do not need to contact me ahead of time, if you wake up Sunday morning and feel like going just show up at the 911 center.

**On August 27** I attended the Mercer County Amateur Radio Club meeting in Sharpsville, Pa. they had 2 guest speakers, Hal Turley, W8HC and Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH. Hal was one to the Amateurs that attempted the Activation of Bouvet Island (number 2 on the most wanted list) in February 2018. They got within ½ mile of the island but had to abort the mission because of a problem with the ship. Hal discussed their disappointment with the DXpedition but are planning a trip to Pitcairn Island (number 65 on the most wanted list) this October. Hal explained some of the logistics in a DXpedition like this. The supplies will be sent by a shipping container ahead of the team's arrival. This will be an easier activation as there are people who live there and they have a place to stay, at a Christian residence, a direct descendant of Fletcher Christian of course. Hal gave us all a little history on the Mutiny on the Bounty.

Hal, W8HC and your editor.



**Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH**, gave us an update on the new ARRL Volunteer Monitoring Program. This is a new program where these trained volunteers will look for violations on the Amateur bands and collected data for the FCC to possibly take legal action against violators. The FCC like many federal agencies do not have the resources to do this so a joint agreement with the ARRL has led to this association. If you have listened to 75 phone in the past several years you know this is needed.



**Update.....One of the clubs** projects is linking the 147.300 2 meter repeater on Prospect Hill with the 147.240 repeater on Hedghog Hill. On Friday August 30<sup>th</sup> we attempted to install the 440 radio at the prospect site. We had a problem with the COR output from the radio. We got the output to 5VDC but it was not able to drive the input to the controller high enough (1.18VDC) to have the controller recognize that the COR was indeed high. Wes, KD3IJ has since fixed the problem and we hope to have the radio installed and the

controller programed on Saturday the 14<sup>th</sup> after our breakfast. Thank you to the following that helped out. Wes, KD3IJ, Gary, KD2RJB, and Don N3ELI.



**STOP the PRESSES!!!!**  
**New Amateur Classes Dates Set!!!**



**The McKean County DES** has given the approval for 3, yes 3, classes next year. First the **Technician** class will be; Saturdays 0900 – 1600 January 4, 11, 18, 25, February 1 and testing on the 8<sup>th</sup>. **General** Saturdays 0900 – 1600 February 22, 19, March 7, 21, 28, April 4, and testing on the 11<sup>th</sup>. **Amateur Extra** will be on Sundays 1300 -1800. February 23, March 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, April 5 and testing on the 9<sup>th</sup>. NOTE: we have never instructed an Amateur Extra course so be prepared for some homework and possibly some more days. Not too sure yet. The McKean DES will purchase the books and provide the space for the classes. DEADLINE for Registrations will be; Technician December 20. General and Amateur Extra will be February 14. Contact me at [bmanning@zitomedia.net](mailto:bmanning@zitomedia.net) to register and any questions. Location will be

McKean County DES, 17175 Rt. 6 Smethport, Pa, 16749 I still need to check on the group from Warren County about the testing. So spread the word to anyone who might be interested.

**If anyone** is interested in attending The McKean County Radio Club Meetings are the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday at 1900 at the McKean County Department of Emergency Services building. 17175 Rt. 6, Smethport, Pa 16749.

## Up Coming Events

**Hamfest:** If you attend a Hamfest, send me a report and some pictures I am sure are readers would be interested. **Not to many** this month, as Snow is just around the corner.

### Hamfest/Convention

09/08/2019 | [Swapfest](#)

**Location:** Butler, PA

**Type:** ARRL Hamfest

**Sponsor:** Butler County Amateur Radio Association

**Website:** <http://w3udx.org>

### Hamfest/Convention

09/14/2019 | [Lancaster Hamfest](#)

**Location:** Lancaster, NY

**Type:** ARRL Hamfest

**Sponsor:** Lancaster Amateur Radio Club

### Hamfest/Convention

09/28/2019 | [44th Annual Elmira International HamFest](#)

**Location:** Horseheads, NY

**Type:** ARRL Hamfest

**Sponsor:** Amateur Radio Association of the Southern Tier & Chemung County Amateur Radio

Emergency Service

Website: <http://www.ARAST.info>

## **Contests:**

**See WB7ANM for information on contests.**

**Another note:** If you have QSL cards to be checked for DXCC, (including 160 meters) WAS or VUCC I can do this. Contact me at [bmanning@zitomedia.net](mailto:bmanning@zitomedia.net)

**As always if you have something you want me to include in the newsletter please let me know. Send it to [bmanning@zitomedia.net](mailto:bmanning@zitomedia.net)**

73 Bruce NJ3K