



# The **W3PIE LETTER**

VOLUME 24 ISSUE 4

APRIL 2001 EDITION

## TECHNICIAN CLASSES

From 6 PM until 8 PM (or later) Beginning Tuesday April 3rd. This class will be using the "Now You're Talking" textbook, 4th edition, available at Radio Shack or AES. You should get it ahead of time, i.e., **BEFORE** the class starts. The class will last 5 weeks, meeting each Tuesday night in April and then Monday April 30. This will help prepare the students for the May 6 VE Exam date at the club, mentioned elsewhere in this newsletter. Questions? call Bert, WA3WAW at 437-5987, or at sesler@hhs.net

## NEW MEMBER



Please welcome Steve Holowach, K3SDH as a new member of the W3PIE UARC group.

*David Watson – N3QAS*



WA3OGQ COLLECTING 2001 DUES

## **Next Club Meeting is Wednesday, APRIL 4, 2001**

## JOHN SYNER IS SPEAKER AT APRIL MEETING

At the April 4th club meeting, John Syner, WA3UVU, an electrical engineer for Allegheny Power Company will give a presentation. Information that John brings to us should be most interesting in light of the recent power shortages on the west coast. John has a BSEE degree from Penn State and was very active in the club in past years. Don't miss this!

## UNIONTOWN TRIATHLON VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Mark your calendar. The Uniontown Triathlon will be Saturday morning, June 30, at 6 AM, and hams are needed to provide communications along the route. The organizational dinner is at 6 PM Friday evening June 29th at Asbury United Methodist Church, where you get the free Spaghetti dinner and your assignment for the race route. Also, a list of hams and intersections will be issued at that time, and you should pick up your free race tee shirt (to be worn along the route to identify you as race communication personnel). The race consists of three activities: swim, bike, and run. The "swim" is done in the Uniontown High School pool, then the "bike" route goes down Grant street and out the back roads thru Hopwood to the foot of the mountain and loops back to the school, and the "run" route goes from the front of the school up Fayette Street, down Main Street, thru the Rotary walk, up Lebanon Avenue and Braddock to the convenience store at Albion and (*continued*)

**The Monthly Club Meeting is Wednesday April 4th, 2001**

Morgantown Street, down Morgantown and out Fayette Street ending up in the High School Stadium. The race utilizes a staggered start, so participants will be steadily running the course throughout the morning, from 6 AM until about 10 AM. If you have never helped out in a public service communications exercise, this is a great opportunity for you to get involved. Call Bert Sesler, WA3WAW, at 437-5987 if you can volunteer, or if you have questions. Please give Bert your tee shirt size, and whether or not you will be attending the Friday night dinner when you volunteer. Or if you prefer, Bert's email is sesler@hhs.net. Ham radio has always been an important part of the race, and your help is appreciated and needed. Thanks for helping out if you can.

*Bert Sesler – WA3WAW*

## W3PIE VE EXAM TESTING DATES

The next VE Exam session will be **May 6th** at the club, Sunday afternoon at 2PM. Plan to arrive at the club before 2 PM, bring a copy of your license and the original, also an additional form of ID such as a driver's license, and two number 2 pencils. The exam fee is now ten dollars. Technician, General, and Extra exams will be available. Walk-ins are welcome. Other future exams: **September 16, December 2.** Good Luck!

*Bert Sesler – WA3WAW*



## TONY ALVIAR, KA3VOR HAS HARMONIC

Congratulations to Tony Alviar, KA3VOR and his wife Jeanie, on their new arrival, Morgan Edison Alviar, Born February 19, 2001 3:21 PM, 9 pounds 6.5 ounces. Tony and Jeanie have been married since June 25, 1999. The happy couple and new baby are residing in the beautiful Ohiopyle area in the mountains, not far from the breathtaking waterfalls, river trails and Frank Lloyd Wright's famous residence, Fallingwater, built for the Edgar Kaufmann department store family. Tony is a computer systems analyst for the Fayette County 911 center in Uniontown, and is secretary of the UARC.

FEEDBACK  
ARTICLES, ETC.  
FOR THE  
NEWSLETTER  
SEND TO

wa3waw@arrl.net  
vze27z5x@verizon.net

## THURSDAY NIGHT NET!

Please check in 147.045 + @ 9:00 PM every Thursday. Try to check into this net to update yourself on W3PIE club activities. How will you know what is going on if you don't listen or check in.?

*Pat Pallini, WB3LUC*

**Can You find these words..?**

**Hamradio Word Search List**

**of Words: AMPS, ANTENNA, ARRL, CAPACITOR, COLLINS, CURRENT, EXTRA CLASS, GMT, HAM, HEATH-KIT, HERTZ, LINEAR, MEGACYCLE, MOBILE, MORSE CODE, NEWINGTON, NICAD, OHMS, OSCAR, QRZ, RESISTOR, SINE WAVE, SSB, TUBE, VOLTAGE, WPM.**

Answers on page 5 of newsletter



**COLLECTORS CORNER**

Of all the semiautomatic keys manufactured in the world, there was only one that was manufactured as a kit. This was the Electric Specialty Company bug manufactured starting in 1939. Two versions were made of this bug, one with a shorting lever and one without. The bug has a yoke similar to the Vibroplex "Original" and a damper similar to the one on the Speed X 500 series of keys.

The bug was nicknamed the "Cedar Rapids Key" since the company was based in Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

The base is cast and measures 7 1/2" by 3". Cast into the bottom of the key is the legend "ELECTRIC SPECIALTY MFG CO, CEDAR RAPIDS IOWA". The base is finished in black crackle finish and the feet were press fit black rubber on each corner.



The company identified the key with a circuit closing switch as a "Telegraph Key" while the one without the closing switch is classified as a "Radio Key". Besides these designations the Cedar Rapids key can be identified as "Old Model-Model 1" and "New Model-Model 2". The major differences that allow you to readily identify which model you are looking at are:

- Old Model:**
- a. Straight 3" circuit closer lever on right side.
  - b. Damper frame cast brass, painted black.
- New Model:**
- a. Circuit closer is right angle and mounts under paddle.
  - b. There is a platform between the two rear feet that allows the mounting of a fifth higher foot to al-

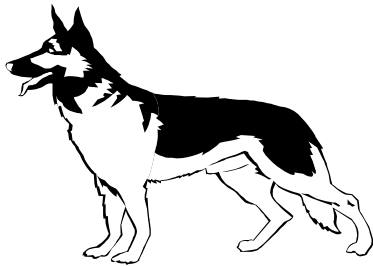
low the rear of the key to be raised off the desk.

- References:
- 1. Perera Telegraph Collectors Guide
  - 2. N7CFO Keyletter #21



Tim Soxman - W3ZVT

LETTER FROM THE  
FAYETTE COUNTY  
SHERIFFS  
TACTICAL SEARCH  
& RESCUE TEAM



March 9, 2001

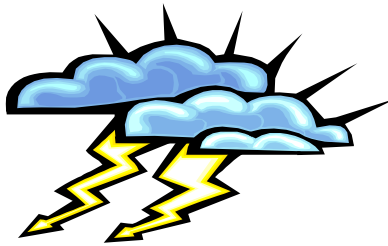
Dear Bert,  
The Fayette County Search and Rescue Team would like to thank you and your colleagues for your help in studying for our Technician license test. It is through individuals such as yourselves, that this team is growing and will be better able to serve our community. We are proud to be affiliated with people like you. Again, thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

Gary Brownfield  
Fayette County Sheriff



WEATHER DRILL



On Tuesday morning March 20, 2001, there was an severe weather emergency exercise drill. The National Weather Service in Pittsburgh in conjunction with SKYWARN and EMA, and amateur radio operators test their equipment and skills in handling and/or monitoring the severe weather test messages during this drill.

At the Fayette County 911 Center, Pat, WB3LUC, Kirk, N3EKP, and Mike, KA3WOI, operated the ham gear for the drill, and other hams checked in via 2 meters including KE3RS, KA3WSO, K3FQI, K3FCY, KB3BKW, N3ROA, WA3WAW, N3YSX, KA3WOH, W3ICX, WA3HQK, KB3AQK, and WX3PIT at the National Weather Service in Pittsburgh (NOAA Weather Radio).

The 147.045 repeater was used for the drill on 2 meters, also 3990.5 kHz on 75 meters was to be used, but a solar disturbance cut the signal strengths way down on that band, so the activity on 75 was low. Some local hospitals, schools, and nursing homes are equipped with weather radios tuned to 162.55 MHz with a tone squelch circuit designed to open on the alert signal from

the weather service. Hams called to verify that the simulated severe weather test signals were in fact received by the various locations. Pat said that the test was successful and it was a good exercise. Pat said that Roy Shipley, the Fayette County EMA director/911 Director was quite pleased with the turnout of the event.

*Pat Pallini – WB3LUC*

OUR DEEPEST  
SYMPATHY

To our good friend and W3PIE member, Tim Soxman, W3ZVT, who lost his mother, Louise Soxman, on March 20, 2001.

GET WELL  
WISHES

The W3PIE UARC would like to extend our get well wishes to the following members that may have become ill over the past month or so.

Paul Renninger, K3ECZ went through extensive kidney surgery. Paul is recovering from this very well, and is home as we read this.

Charmaine McDermott, WB3BWA undisclosed illness and is also recovering at home.

Wanda Leckemby, N3UOX Ongoing illness for some time now.

Our prayers are with you all.



Puzzle answers from Page 3  
On right of page

## RENEWAL INFO

KA3YFR 2001-04-02  
CHARLENE KOSCO, UNION-  
TOWN, PA

N3JBE 2001-04-02 KEITH A.  
CHANEY, UNIONTOWN, PA

N3GYS 1999-04-04 THOMAS  
BOHAN, GREENSBORO, PA

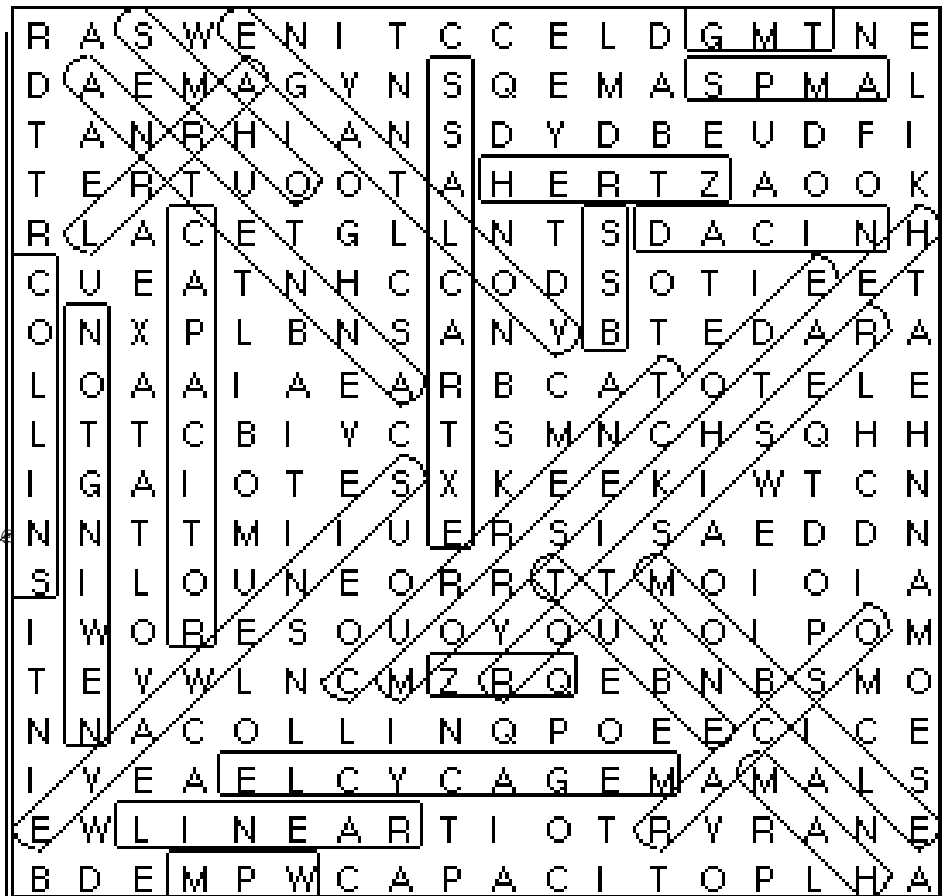
**If anyone has contact with  
any of the amateurs above  
please let them know that it  
is time for their renewal..!!**

## APRIL BIRTHDAYS

Roy Derryberry KD3LZ 4/10  
Ed Rockwell N3OVU 4/15  
Bert Sesler WA3WAW 4/15  
Tom McDermott WB3BVZ 4/28



If we missed your birthday, it's be-  
cause we don't have your birthdate on  
file.



## EXHAUST FAN FOR W3PIE

In an effort to provide cleaner  
air at the club meetings, plans  
are in the works for the club to  
utilize some sort of fan and/or  
air filtration system so that all in  
attendance can enjoy breathing  
cleaner air. While the club  
members who desire to smoke  
after the meetings can enjoy  
their cigarettes and the smoke  
can be exhausted to the out-  
side rather than filling the room.

## COMPUTER ACCESS FOR COMMUNITY

Laurel Computer Systems,  
(Lcsys), has asked the club if  
we would permit them to locate  
an internet radio link at the club  
site. This very high speed 9

MPS at a 2.5 GHz frequency  
link to their downtown facility  
allows them to cover their local  
area customers who have inter-  
est in this high speed system.  
At the last W3PIE meeting, the  
membership decided to permit  
installation of this new technol-  
ogy. Club access coming  
soon.!

## PSK31 KITS

Anyone interested in purchasing a  
kit for \$25 from K4ABT please  
contact Dave N3QAS at 724-437-  
4733 or email Dave at  
vze27z5x@verizon.net These kits  
should do SSTV, Packet, RTTY,  
PSK31, CW, etc., all through the  
sound card of your computer. So  
far, the club has ordered one, and  
as of 3/22/01 5 other hams are in-  
terested. If we can get more,  
maybe we can get a reduced rate.  
Check out <http://www.packetradio.com>  
for more information.

## UPCOMING HAMFESTS!

Maryland State ARC Convention, Saturday, March 31st, and Sunday, April 1st, Timonium, MD. For more info contact Sharon Dobson, K3DUH, at 410-426-3378 or check out <http://gbhc.org>

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WACOM Hamfest  
Washington Amateur Communications Club APRIL 29th, 2001  
**Contact:** Jim Burtoft, KC3HW  
71 Beagle Club Road  
Washington, PA 15301  
Phone: 724-228-0546  
Email: [jbur@mlynk.com](mailto:jbur@mlynk.com)

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Warminster ARC May 6th, 2001  
**Contact:** Tony Simek, N3YNH 340  
Centennial Road  
Warminster, PA 18974  
Phone: 215-674-5218  
Email: [tsimek@aol.com](mailto:tsimek@aol.com)

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Jackson County ARC APRIL 21st  
**Contact:** Edgar Dempsey,  
KD8XL110 Morton Street  
Jackson, OH 45640-1335  
Phone: 740-286-3239  
Email: [kd8xl@ohiohills.com](mailto:kd8xl@ohiohills.com)

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Athens County ARA April 29th  
**Contact:** Drew McDaniel W8MHV  
61 Briarwood Drive  
Athens, OH 45701  
Phone: 740-592-2106  
Email: [dmcdaniel1@ohiou.edu](mailto:dmcdaniel1@ohiou.edu)

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Twenty Over Nine Radio Club  
**Contact:** Don Stoddard, N8LNE  
April 29th, 2001  
55 South Whitney Avenue  
Youngstown, OH 44509  
Phone: 330-793-7072  
Email: [N8LNE1@juno.com](mailto:N8LNE1@juno.com)



## DAYTON !!!!

That time of the year is back! The time when a large number of amateur radio operators migrate to Dayton, Ohio for the Annual Hamvention. This year marks the 50th year for the Dayton Hamvention. Celebration of 50 years begins on Friday, May 18, 2001 and ends on Sunday, May 20, 2001.

Each year many members from W3PIE make the annual pilgrimage to Dayton for fun, sun, and spending money on the hobby! If you are interested in joining the club group in going to Dayton, please contact George Syner, WA3OGQ for more information.

Now if you want to go with the W3PIE club group, the cost is roughly \$150., this includes transportation to and from Uniontown, Hamfest admission ticket for all days, lodging at an area motel, breakfast and supper (lunch you are on your own). The trip usually leaves Uniontown early Thursday morning, and returns home late Sunday night. There is roughly a dozen guys that go on the club trip each year, and other members of the club sometimes go on their own, since the club guys tend to be a wild bunch! (Just Kidding!) The club gets a flea market space in the Dayton flea market and the van is located

outside with the club banner in full view. Lots #526 & #527 Stop by and get your ticket laminated.

More information on the Dayton Hamfest may be accessed at <http://www.hamvention.org>

## ATTENDANCE AT MARCH W3PIE BUSINESS MEETING

N3OVV	Bill Dickinson
N3EKP	Kirk Dorn
WB3LUC	Pat Pallini
K3SDH	Steve Holowach
N3QAS	Dave Watson
WB3BVZ	Tom McDermott
KA3WSO	Herb Shaffer
KE3RS	Hank Duke
WA3DHH	Don Moser
KC3YR	Chuck French
WA3WAW	Bert Sesler
N3YSX	Valerie Sesler
KB3GEV	Brian Hair
KB3GEU	Dan Hair
WA3DJG	Dave Kir
W3ZVT	Tim Soxman
WA3OGQ	George Syner
WA3HQQ	Carl Chuprinko
WZ3Z	Tina Martin
KA3YRD	Bob Martin



# MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

UNIONTOWN AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.—W3PIE  
433 Old Pittsburgh Road  
Uniontown, PA 15401  
724-439-8158



PLEASE PRINT

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Call \_\_\_\_\_ License Class \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Birth Date \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Full Membership	Associate Membership	Student Membership	Family Membership
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\$2.50 per month And a one time Registration Fee of \$5.00 Cost is \$30/year	\$15.00 per year	\$15.00 per year and one time Registration Fee of \$1.50	\$5.00 per Family Member per year
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ALL THAT APPLY

I am applying for?  Full Membership \* \_\_\_\_\_  
 Associate Membership \_\_\_\_\_ Sponsor  
*\*Requires Sponsor*  Student Membership \*  
 Family Membership \*

Is this application a renewal?  Yes  No  
Are you an ARRL Member?  Yes  No  
May we list your phone number on the club roster?  Yes  No  
Would you like a 2nd autodial number? (Full members only)  Yes  No

If yes, list the optional number \_\_\_\_\_

Make all checks payable to: **Uniontown Amateur Radio Club, INC**

**Total Amount Paid** \_\_\_\_\_

*Being genuinely interested in Amateur Radio, I hereby apply for Membership in the Uniontown Amateur Radio Club, Inc. As a Member I will abide by the Constitution of the Club. Also, I will support the Club to the best of my ability.*

X \_\_\_\_\_  
*Signature of Applicant* *Date*

## W3PIE APRIL 2001 NEWSLETTER

PUBLISHED PERIODICALLY FOR THE UARC MEMBERSHIP AND INTERESTED PARTIES. CLUB HOUSE IS LOCATED JUST OFF RT 51 & 119 BY-PASS IN UNIONTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA ON OLD PITTSBURGH RD

THE CLUB REPEATERS: 147.045+, 147.255+, 443.750+ FULL TIME PL OF 123.0  
AFFILIATE REPEATER: WB3LUC 145.170- FULL TIME PL OF 131.8  
PACKET NODE: W3PIE-1/UARC 145.690

PRESIDENT: DAVE WATSON, N3QAS, 724-437-4733  
VICE PRESIDENT: CARL CHUPRINKO, WA3HQK, 304-594-3779  
SECRETARY: TONY ALVIAR, KA3VOR, 724-329-4499  
TREASURER: GEORGE SYNER, WA3OGQ, 724-439-1554  
CALL SIGN TRUSTEE: JOHN RUDIK, WB3JNP, 724-437-2526  
TRUSTEES: JOHN RUDIK, WB3JNP, 724-437-2526  
TIM SOXMAN, W3ZVT  
HERB SHAFFER, KA3WSO

THE CLUB HOLDS ITS REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING ON THE FIRST WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH AT 7:30 PM AT THE UNIONTOWN AMATEUR RADIO CLUB CLUBHOUSE.

### Newsletter staff for this issue

John Cermak, WB3DOD	Dave Watson, N3QAS	Tony Alviar, KA3VOR
Jim Takacs, NC3K	Pat Pallini, WB3LUC	Steve Holowach, K3SDH
Bert Sesler, WA3WAW	Tim Soxman, W3ZVT	

## W3PIE

*Uniontown Amateur Radio Club, INC*  
433 Old Pittsburgh RD  
Uniontown, PA 15401