



# The **W3PIE LETTER**

VOLUME 27 ISSUE 8

AUGUST 2004 EDITION

## **W3PIE VE EXAM**

### **TEST DATES**

Upcoming VE Exams are on Sept 19th and December 5th at the Uniontown Amateur Radio Club. 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 twelve dollars. Element 1 through 4 exams will be available. Walk-ins are welcome.

-W3PIE VE Team

## **NEW COFFEE POT AT THE CLUB**

Thanks to Charlene D. (KA3RXY) W3PIE now has a brand new pot along with some gourmet coffee. So, at the next club meeting, be prepared to sit down and enjoy a great cup of java. Brenda, N3TRG, will be the official brewer!!!

-Herb, KA3WSO

## **FIELD DAY 2004**

There were approximately 25 operators at the Club House operating Field Day at any given time until about 10:00PM, then it started to thin out a bit. There were 2 rigs in operation at all times. The club HF rig, a Yaesu FT-990, and Wayne's (N3TRF) Kenwood TS-820S, worked flawlessly throughout the event. We worked primarily off the 10-meter antenna just raised that morning and an 80-meter dipole. Additionally both rigs were worked exclusively off of a generator and for a brief

time the FT-990 worked solely off battery power and solar panels. Jake Tennant (K8JWT) visited us from West Virginia to demonstrate A.P.R.S. and an attempt at slow scan TV was made though not totally successful. Although, point wise, we did not do extremely well, all persons I spoke to had a wonderful time and enjoyed the day out to meet with the other operators in the area and to catch up on old times. As usual, the food was top notch lead primarily by Mike's (KA3WOI) chili! Around 2:00AM Sunday we wrapped it up for the event everyone satisfied, happy and ready to find their bed. 73's

-John, K3JAE

**Next Club Meeting  
is Wednesday,  
August 4th  
2004**



## **AUGUST & SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS**

Terry Ronzio KA3OLF	8-08
Sam Zehel N3PSQ	8-10
Anthony Pyzdrowski	
N3JZN	8-23
Dave Kir WA3DJG	8-29
Tony Alviar KA3VOR	8-31
Don Rebar KA3EBT	9-01
John Martinelli N3RNU	9-04
Wayne Cavendar N3TRF	9-06
Joyce Chuprinko KA3CUT	9-07
Geno Boyd WA3IOU	9-07
Jim Hertok K3JH	9-16
Sherman Gary KC3XD	9-25

**HAMFEST!**  
Saturday, September 4,  
2004 at the UARC  
Club House

Editor's Note: John (former KB3LGP) has applied for a vanity call sign and as of Saturday, July 24, 2004 is now K3JAE!

**The Monthly Club Meeting is Wednesday August 4th 2004**



**FIELD DAY  
2004**

# **AUGUST & SEPTEMBER AREA TESTING**

14-Aug-2004

**Sponsor:** BREEZE SHOOTERS/  
NORTH HILLSARC

**Time:** 12 NOON (Walk-ins allowed)

**Contact:** ROBERT W BENNA  
(412)366-0488

**VEC:** ARRL/VEC

**Location:** PERRYSVILLE VOL FIRE  
CO

985 PERRY HWY  
HANDICAP PLEASE REGISTER  
PITTSBURGH, PA 15237

11-Sep-2004

**Sponsor:** WPA HILLTOPPERS

**Time:** 10:00AM (Walk-ins allowed)

**Contact:** DENNIS M TANNER  
(412)885-8073

**VEC:** ARRL/VEC

**Location:** CATHEDRAL OF LEARN-  
ING

UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH  
FORBES AVE @ BIGALOW ST  
CATHEDRAL OF LEARNING-G-19A  
OAKLAND, PA 15213

11-Sep-2004

**Sponsor:** BREEZE SHOOTERS/  
NORTH HILLSARC

**Time:** 12 NOON (Walk-ins allowed)

**Contact:** ROBERT W BENNA  
(412)366-0488

**VEC:** ARRL/VEC

**Location:** PERRYSVILLE VOL FIRE  
CO

985 PERRY HWY  
HANDICAP PLEASE REGISTER  
PITTSBURGH, PA 15237

14-Sep-2004

**Sponsor:** TWO RIVERS ARC

**Time:** 7:00 PM (No walk-ins)

**Contact:** ROBERT L QUINN  
(412)678-1206

**Email:** ROBERTQ27@MSN.COM  
**VEC:** ARRL/VEC

**Location:** MCKEESPORT AREA  
HIGH SCHOOL  
SOUTH HALL - ROOM 112  
1960 EDEN PARK BLVD  
PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED  
MC KEESPORT, PA 15134

18-Sep-2004

**Sponsor:** SOMERSET COUNTY ARC

**Time:** 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)

**Contact:** STEWART R SAYLOR-  
PRESIDENT

(814)444-0637

**Email:** PRESIDENT@K3SMT.ORG

**VEC:** ARRL/VEC

**Location:** JB SCHROCK COMMU-  
NITY PARK BLDG

700 SOUTH ST  
BERLIN, PA 15530

19-Sep-2004

**Sponsor:** UNIONTOWN ARC INC  
W3PIE

**Time:** 1:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)

**Contact:** LEONARD F BARON  
(724)438-7470

**Email:** SCOTLAND@CHARTERPA.  
NET

**VEC:** ARRL/VEC

**Location:** UNIONTOWN ARC W3PIE  
CLUBHOUSE

433 OLD PITTSBURGH RD  
UNIONTOWN, PA 15401

**FEEDBACK, FOR-  
SALE, ARTICLES, ISO,  
ETC, FOR THE  
NEWSLETTER  
SEND TO:**

**w3pie@fcema.org**

**THURSDAY  
NIGHT 147.045  
W3PIE NET**

As always, please check in to the 147.045 + repeater @ 9:00 PM every Thursday. Try to check into this net to update yourself on W3PIE club activities. If you are available to help run the net, please contact the newsletter staff. Currently we have four individuals that are operating in rotation to keep our net operating. How will you know what is going on if you don't listen or check in?

*W3PIE OFFICERS*

## **FROM THE WEB!**

Have an interesting Web site that you think fellow hams might enjoy? Forward the link and a brief description of the web site to the newsletter staff and we will be sure to get it in the newsletter. [w3pie@fcema.org](mailto:w3pie@fcema.org)

Web site of the Month

This months web site is inspired by all the tinkering that has been going on lately by our members! This web site has TONS of technical reference from basic soldering techniques to schematics and radio mods. Explore the web site and have fun with it. Hopefully this will help some of our members with basic and advanced tinkering alike. Happy building!

<http://ac6v.com/techref.htm>

Happy Hunting!

*David N3LML*

## **REPEATER REPORT**

As of August 1, 2004

**147.045 +** Repeater operational, although reduced power output due to additional site problems. Antenna was replaced on Saturday June 19, 2004.

**147.255 +** is up and running good. (No Phone Patch)

**145.170-** is up and running good. (No phone patch) Call sign change occurred on July 27, 2004 (See Below)

**443.750 +** Is not operational at this time.

145.090 Packet

144.390 APRS

(repeater report continued)

## **147.045**

On Saturday, June 19, 2004 around 10:45 in the morning. A crew of people consisting of: Tony, KA3VOR, Bert, WA3WAW, Ralph, KB3LBB, Herb, KA3WSO, Jay, WB3JNP, Wayne, N3TRF, Brenda, N3TRG, John, KB3LGP, Rick, KA3WUO, and a friend of the club Mark Cook assembled at the 147.045 tower site. Unfortunately the weather was not cooperating and we encountered rain when we arrived. Those that were there at the tower site consulted with the NWS Weather radar via Internet connection on VOR's laptop computer and decided to wait out the storm. All the equipment was assembled and all the man power was ready and willing to wait out the storm. To help pass the time, VOR ordered pizza for everyone to munch on while we waited for the weather to clear. Around 1:15 or so, the weather cleared and we were able to start work. Some troubles were encountered as wind blew, light rain fell, and the deaf crew on the ground tried to communicate with the hard of hearing at the top of the tower. (How come nobody thought to bring a few radios that weren't on a ham frequency to allow Cookie, aka Mark Cook to talk to us. . . ) After several hours of work by all, the new antenna was installed and some additional problems found. A cable jumper between the antenna and hard line was found to be faulty. Connectors to make a new jumper are on order (back ordered actually) and should be

here any day and this cable replaced. Power output is currently on the low side due to this problem. We are currently limping along at 25 watts out of the duplexer. (See attached picture of Cookie on the job.)

## **145.170**

As many are aware, and many not aware, Pat Pallini, WB3LUC will be retiring soon and relocating to Ohio with his son. This means that the 145.170 repeater has been passed on to someone else. Jay Rudik,

WB3JNP will be assuming ownership of this repeater. No changes are planned for the location of the machine (County EMA is aware of the ownership change and is passing our tower arrangement on to Jay). However, the callsign for the repeater will be changing to WB3JNP. This change is occurring/has occurred on Tuesday, July 27, 2004. (Newsletter was typed prior to the change over)

*-Repeater Maintainers*



## **BUILDING**

### **RENOVATION!**

There has been lots of work going on at the clubhouse. New siding has been put up over all the wood, brush cut around the clubhouse, a tower put up which has a 10 meter beam and 10, 15 and 20 meter beam installed on it, a new light put up on one of the towers, fixed the roof over the furnace room, and there has been a lot of cleaning inside of the building.

A lot of club members have put a lot of time in at the clubhouse working on different things. There is still more work that needs done. The plan in the next month or so is paint the building, redo the outside kitchen, paint the floor inside the building, put a new roof over the

porch, and what ever we find that needs done.

If there is anyone that would like to help by donating time, materials, or money please contact George (WA3OGQ) or Wayne (N3TRF). Wayne can be reach on 147.045 or at N3TRF@msn.com. The club members that have helped were George (WA3OGQ), Bert (WA3WAW), Dave (N3QAS), Dave (WA3DJG), Herb (KA3WSO), Paul (K3ECZ), John (K3JAE), Ralph (KB3LBB), Tony (KA3VOR), Brenda (N3TRG) and Wayne (N3TRF). I would like to thank everyone for helping with the work and a special Thank You to Uniontown fire department for bring their bucket truck up to help us to take one our antennas down.

73,

*-Wayne, N3TRF*

a full member of PIE for 1 year. That brought a huge smile to his face as I read it to him. I then gave him the results of passing the hat around at the last meeting. He was totally blown away. He asked me to send a BIG thank you to all the PIE members. He said all the goodies were not necessary, as he was happy to help us out, just because he could. I sure wish I could have video-taped him during all of this, and shown it at the next meeting. Anyhow, thanks to Cookie, and a good group of club members, the new antenna on 045 is up and sounding GOOD!!! Cookie says that after the high school football season is over this year, he is going to get into the hobby of ham-radio. And, don't be surprised to run into the Cook-Meister at one of our regular club meetings in the next month or so. If you don't know him, just walk up and introduce yourself. He will be glad to meet you. Houston, we have a winner!!!

*-Herb, KA3WSO*

## **COOKIE**

### **SENDS**

### **A BIG**

### **THANK**

### **YOU!!!**

I recently had the honor of presenting Mr. Mark Cook (Cookie) of Belle Vernon with items sent to him by the members of W3PIE. To say that he was appreciative would be the understatement of the year. I first gave him the certificate put together by Tony, KA3VOR, and Dave, N3LML, making him

## **FOR SALE ITEMS**

Yaesu 757 HF transceiver, rig covers 10 thru 160 meters, rig is in excellent condition, checked over by W3WSX, if interested contact Herb Shaffer KA3WSO on 147.045 or call 724 326-8810 or send an e-mail to [herbliz@lcsys.net](mailto:herbliz@lcsys.net)

Mail version does not include all photos published in the Electronic E-Mail Version. Should you wish to receive the newsletter via e-mail, send us a note at [w3pie@fcema.org](mailto:w3pie@fcema.org) with your e-mail addy in the body of the message and Newsletter on the subject line.



# W3PIE BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, July 7, 2004

**Members Present:** Brenda, N3TRG, Wayne, N3TRF, Herb, KA3WSO, Ray, KB3HQV, Brenda, KB3KFS, Keith, KB3IOK, Tim, W3ZVT, Bob, KB3GES, Henry, KE3RS, Bert, WA3WAW, Joyce, KA3CUT, Dave, WA3DJG, Rick, KA3WUO, Mike, KA3WOI, Tony, KA3VOR, George, WA3OGQ, Pat, WB3LUC

**Guests Present:** John Etling, KB3LGP, Keith Chaney, N3JBE

The Monthly Meeting of the Uniontown Amateur Radio Club was called to order at 1931 hours by Vice President Mike Kosco, KA3WOI with 17 members and 2 guests present.

**Secretarys Report** was read and approved as read. Motion by Tim, W3ZVT, Seconded by Wayne, N3TRF

**Treasurers Report** was read and approved as read. Motion by Tim, W3ZVT, Seconded by Bob, KB3GES

## **Old Business**

**Scout Meeting**— There will be a group of Scouts present at the UARC building on Monday August 2, 2004 time anticipated to be around 7:00. This group is brought up by former member Deb Gottfried to see what amateur radio has to offer.

**Field Day**— There were approxiamtely 25-30 people present throughout the Field Day festivities. Our log sheets will be submitted to the ARRL for credit.

**Building Work**— Lots of work has been completed in the month of June. The building has new siding and roof work completed. Tower work has been attempted yielding a collapsed tower at the club. Newer tower donated and placed back up already. Additional towers have been donated to UARC and are in the process of being taken down.

**Triathalon**— 20 members assisted. All went smooth

**Ticket Sales**— Members are reminded that there are still tickets available to sell for the October fund raising ticket.

**Newsletter**— The newsletter staff has advised the membership that there will be an August newsletter. Folks are asked to submit articles or information via email to the newsletter email addy of w3pie@fcema.org

**Club Picnic**— There will be a club picnic at the Wharton Township Park on August 8 Food will be served starting between 12:30 and 1PM. Contact WB3LUC, Pat Pallini for more information. Directions will be in the newsletter

**Repeater Report**— 147.045 antenna work was completed on Saturday June 19, 2004. Work appears to have been successful. There are still some minor troubles with the repeater system but coverage is back up to where it should be. Membership was reminded that at an earlier meeting, the membership authorized a PL decoder to be placed on .045 with the ability to be turned on/off as needed to help during interference. Once the remainder repeater problems have been resolved, the PL equipment will be placed on the machine. An upcoming newsletter will explain the setup.

## **New Business**

**Membership Application**— John Etling, KB3LGP presented his application for full membership. This will be the first reading.

**Hamfest Prizes**— Officers are working on getting hamfest prizes secured for the September hamfest

**Followup to repeater report**— Mark Cook, a friend of KA3WSO and N3LML as well as a non club member, volunteered his time to climb the 147.045 repeater tower to assist UARC in changing the antenna. In recognition of his work to assist the club, Rick Sikora, KA3WOI made a motion, seconded by Bert Seslar, WA3WAW, to make Mark Cook a one year Honorary Full Member of the Club. This motion so carried. In addition, the hat was passed and funds gathered as a gift to Mark for tower climbing services.

**Nets**— A brief discussion was conducted to explain the various net operators and the net operator rotation necessary to keep the nets going. An upcoming newsletter article will detail the net operations.

**Tower Donation**— A new 40' tower was donated to the club by Ray Gottfried, KA3QFD. Ray won this tower at the Dayton Hamfest. This donation is hingent upon UARC paying shipping to get the tower to Uniontown. Tony, KA3VOR made the motion, seconded by Wayne, N3TRF, to spend \$93.26 to have the tower shipped to Uniontown.

A motion to adjourn was made by Tim, W3ZVT, and seconded by Wayne, N3TRF to adjourn the meeting. Meeting was adjourned at 20:31 Hours

—Respectfully submitted, Tony Alviar, KA3VOR

# Uniontown Amateur Radio Club 55th Annual HAMFEST Saturday, September 4, 2004



**The Uniontown Amateur Radio Club will conduct the 55<sup>th</sup> Annual GABFEST on the Saturday of Labor Day Weekend on Saturday, September 4, 2004!**

The gates open around 8:00 AM with vendors welcome at any time prior to 8:00 AM!

The GABFEST will be held at the Radio Club Grounds located on Old Pittsburgh Road just off RT 51 and US RT 119 in Uniontown, PA

**Talk in will be provided on 147.045 + and 147.255 +. Just call for W3PIE Gabfest Talk-In. This talk-in is provided for directions and Gabfest information. No check in is needed if you know how to get here!**

As always, free parking is available!  
Refreshments available!  
Free Swap-N-Shop Set-up with registration!

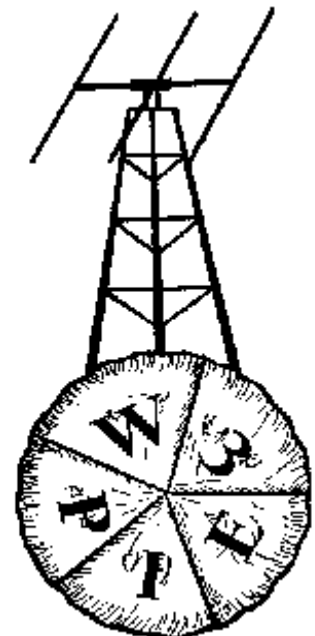
## Door Prizes!!

1 <sup>st</sup> Prize	Kenwood TM-271A Mobile Transceiver
2 <sup>nd</sup> Prize	Icom ICT-2H 2M Handheld Transceiver

*Additional Prizes to be announced the day of the GABFEST!*

Contact Carl Chuprinko, WA3HQK at 304-594-3779 or Tony Alviar, 724-430-1277 (M-F 8-4) if more information is needed. Also, Information is available anytime on 147.045 +

**Look forward to seeing everyone this year!**



# **W3PIE AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 2004 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 145.090  
APRS 144.390

PRESIDENT: DAVID WATSON, N3QAS, 724-437-4733  
VICE PRESIDENT: MIKE KOSCO, KA3WOI 724-437-3943  
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  
DAVE KIR, WA3DJG

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. **ALL AMATEURS ARE WELCOME**

## Newsletter staff for this issue

Dave Watson, N3QAS      Tony Alviar, KA3VOR      Brenda Cavandar, N3TRG  
Dave Wadsworth, N3LML      John Etling, K3JAE  
Wayne Cavandar, N3TRF      Herb Shaffer, KA3WSO

## W3PIE

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