



# The **W3PIE LETTER**

VOLUME 27 ISSUE 12

December 2004 EDITION

## **Elections! On Wednesday, December 1 @ 7:30 PM**

### ELECTIONS!

The UARC Officers would like to remind the membership that the December meeting is the election of officers. This years lineup of officers for the election is as follows:

- President Dave, N3QAS
- Vice Pres Mike, KA3WOI  
Wayne, N3TRF
- Treasurer George, WA3OGQ
- Secretary Tony, KA3VOR
- Trustee Tim, W3ZVT  
Herb, KA3WSO

Only two spots are running with opposition. Full members will find a ballot and return envelope included in the newsletter. Please fill out and mail back to UARC so that the envelope arrives to us by Wednesday, December 1, 2004. You can also bring your ballot to the meeting, or vote at the meeting itself!

*UARC Officers*

### CHRISTMAS PARTY

UARC has decided to have a family oriented Christmas party on December 8 at 6 PM. A de-

**Next Club Meeting  
is Wednesday,  
December 1st!**

cision by our membership at the November meeting, decided that this Christmas party will be held at the Club House! UARC will be supplying meat & cheese trays and vegetable trays. If you would like to bring a covered dish, please contact Brenda, N3TRG @ n3trf@msn.com or 724-329-4098 for more information or to advise what dish you will be bringing. Since this is a Christmas Party, any and all desert items will be greatly appreciated. UARC members and family are invited to help celebrate the Holiday Cheer!

Happy Holidays!  
*Brenda, N3TRG*

### MORE BUILDING

### RENOVATIONS!

As if the work already done wasn't enough, our members have helped us do more! I want to tell our membership how nice the club house looks inside. Since the Hamfest, there has been a lot of work done to the interior of our club house. Some of our members got together to paint the walls in the meeting room and the kitchen. After looking at the inside, these same folks decided that the ceiling needed some work as well. Our building crew decided to re-

place the ceiling tile in the meeting room as well.

The following members assisted in the painting of the building interior: Paul (Teedle) K3ECZ, Wayne, N3TRF and Brenda N3TRG (Providing the necessary supervision to Teedle and Wayne!) The following members assisted in putting up the ceiling tile: Herb KA3WSO, Paul (Teedle) K3ECZ, Brenda N3TRG and Wayne N3TRF. I hope to see you at the next meeting so you can see how nice everything at the clubhouse looks. Thanks to everyone who has made our building look the way it is today!

*Wayne, N3TRF*

### 147.045 W3PIE

### WEEKLY 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*



## DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Barry Miller, NJ3X	12/02
Andy Hrebner, N3DWU	12/04
William J Wagner, W3OET	12/09
Ed Williams, W3GAM	12/17
Roye Leckemby, N3ROA	12/23

If you have looked in this column and wondered, why haven't I seen my birthday? Perhaps the club officers do not have your birthday on file. Please contact the Secretary to ensure that your correct membership information is on file. Items such as telephone number, address, birthday, license class, and the such do not frequently change, but are sometimes overlooked when updates are made (At least to everything except for your birthday!). Please take a moment and drop us a note with your name, address, telephone number, e-mail address, call sign, license class, and birth date so that we can update our records!

*Newsletter Staff*

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

**newsletter@w3pie.org**

## 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. Let us know at [newsletter@w3pie.org](mailto:newsletter@w3pie.org)

## WEB SITE OF THE MONTH

My latest find happened by accident. I stumbled upon it while looking for reference material on a particular antenna I wanted to try out.

<http://www.hamuniverse.com/> is a web site run by N4UJW. There are links in here that cover anything from ham radio to the twisted pair. A few of the hams at W3PIE are studying for their code test and he even has a link in there for tricks and tips to help you get your upgraded ticket. There are several links to scanner tips, HF and Shortwave, VHF and so much more. Take a peek and let me know what you think. Happy surfing!  
[n3lml@verizon.net](mailto:n3lml@verizon.net)

*David N3LML*

## REPEATER REPORT

As of November 16, 2004  
**147.045 +** Repeater operational, although reduced power output due to additional site problems.  
**147.255 +** is up and running good. (No Phone Patch)  
**145.170-** is up and running good. (No phone patch)  
**443.750 +** Is not operational at this time.

145.090 Packet  
144.390 APRS

A note is necessary regarding the 145.170 repeater. Around July, ownership of the 145.170 repeater transferred to John Rudik, WB3JNP. John has allowed the repeater to remain as a UARC controlled & affiliated repeater. If you have noticed a change to the call sign on the repeater, this is why.

## FOR SALE AND WANTED ITEMS

Joe Ealy, N3IHZ has located an HF rig and is no longer actively seeking the 85-95 Vintage Kenwood HF rig mentioned in our last newsletter

Ralph Bliss has for sale the following item:  
Kenwood TS-520S with a Kenwood MC-60 Microphone, and operator's manual. Available for \$250. If you are interested, please contact Ralph Bliss, KB3LBB @ 724-438-5182.

## CODE CLASS

John Etling, Michael Etling, Keith Jones, Wayne Cavendar, and Brenda Cavendar have been taking advantage of the code classes available at UARC to help learn the code. Due to work schedules of everyone involved, modifications were made and code classes are currently running on Monday and Tuesday of each week to allow everyone to have an opportunity to learn. Thanks to Bert Sesler and Paul Renninger for assisting UARC in this venture!

## UARC WEBSITE

Perhaps you have noticed that [www.w3pie.org](http://www.w3pie.org) is now host to UARC's web site. At the November meeting, a motion was passed that will make available e-mail addresses to our membership at a cost of \$5 per annual period of the [w3pie.org](http://w3pie.org) website. What this means is our renewal term is August 2004-August 2005. Paying \$5 now will provide you an e-mail address through August 2005. Your \$5 contribution will go to help provide the longevity of the W3PIE Web site. Should you purchase this email now, we will get you set up and notify you in July for your renewal of your e-mail account.

If you would like to have an email address (such as [your\\_callsign@w3pie.org](mailto:your_callsign@w3pie.org)) with a mailbox size of 10 MB, a web interface to check your email, and limited spam filtering, please contact Tony, KA3VOR [talviar@fcema.org](mailto:talviar@fcema.org), or John, K3JAE, [k3jae@w3pie.org](mailto:k3jae@w3pie.org) for more information.

The goal of this email service is to allow us to provide for [w3pie.org](http://w3pie.org) long term at little or no expense to the club.

*Website Committee*

## SILENT KEY

Mr. G. Curry Stitt, KB3FLS, recently passed away. I was informed of the sad news by Charlene, KA3RXY. Curry and Charlene used to spend a great deal of time on the 147.270 repeater. She told me that she will miss him greatly. Curry was a member of W3PIE, living in Charleroi, and although he never attended any meetings due to health problems, he always loved to

keep updated on what was happening up at PIE, and how the members that he knew were doing. Before his physical condition declined, he enjoyed talking to Dave, N3LML, Wayne, N3TRF, Brenda, N3TRG, Lee, KB3JFY, Chip, W3WSX, and myself, KA3WSO. There were also other Mon-Valley hams who used to help Curry get through some of those "rough" days with a pleasant conversation on 2 meters. Even though he was going through a number of serious medical problems, FLS always had me smiling after a QSO with him. His laugh always reminded of Santa Claus. Curry was a good man, and a good ham. He will truly be missed by his wife, his son, Grant, and all who knew him.

*Herb Shaffer, KA3WSO*

## CEILING AT THE CLUB HOUSE

As indicated in an earlier article, the ceiling in the main meeting room at the UARC Club House was replaced with new ceiling tile. At the November Meeting, the hat was passed and approximately \$80 was raised to help offset the expense. The ceiling tile cost came it around \$160. We still need to raise approximately \$80 to keep UARC expense free for this project.

Should you wish to contribute to the ceiling fund, please contact George, WA3OGQ or stop in at the December meeting.

A Big Thank You is extended to all that have helped make this and other projects possible through generous donations of materials to the painting, ceiling, and various other projects

*UARC Officers*

## AREA EXAMS

05-Dec-2004

Sponsor: UARC INC W3PIE

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

Contact: LEONARD F BARON  
(724)438-7470

Location: UNIONTOWN ARC W3PIE CLUBHOUSE

433 OLD PITTSBURGH RD  
UNIONTOWN, PA 15401

10-Dec-2004

Sponsor: NORTH HILLS ARC/K3NHC

Time: 3:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)

Contact: ROBERT W BENNA  
(412)366-0488

Location: NORTH HILLS SR HIGH SCHOOL

53 ROCHESTER RD  
ROOM C349 - 3RD FLOOR  
PITTSBURGH, PA 15229

13-Dec-2004

Sponsor: FOOTHILLS ARC

Time: 7:30 PM (Walk-ins allowed)

Contact: CHARLES L MILLS  
(724)744-0935

Email: [W3YNI@COMCAST.NET](mailto:W3YNI@COMCAST.NET)  
Location: CENTRALWESTMORE-

LANDCAREER&TECHCENTER  
240 ARONA RD

PRE-REGISTRATION PREFERRED  
NEW STANTON, PA 15672

14-Dec-2004

Sponsor: TWO RIVERS ARC

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

Contact: ROBERT L QUINN  
(412)678-1206

Email: [ROBERTQ27@MSN.COM](mailto:ROBERTQ27@MSN.COM)  
Location: MCKEESPORT AREA HIGH SCHOOL

SOUTH HALL - ROOM 112  
1960 EDEN PARK BLVD

PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED  
MC KEESPORT, PA 15134

18-Dec-2004

Sponsor: SOMERSET COUNTY ARC

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

Contact: STEWART R SAYLOR-  
PRESIDENT

(814)444-0637

Email: [PRESIDENT@K3SMT.ORG](mailto:PRESIDENT@K3SMT.ORG)  
VEC: ARRL/VEC

Location: JB SCHROCK COMMUNITY  
PARK BLDG

700 SOUTH ST  
BERLIN, PA 15530

## VIBROPLEX DECALS

There was a period of time in the early 1900s where decals were placed on Vibroplex keys by the manufacturer. One was a very colorful decal and the only mention of Albright on the key. The other was a small Vibroplex trademark that was not used after the trade mark "bug" was included on the key tag.

The Albright decal was used during the period 1912 to 1916. The "Bug" decal was used during the period 1919 to 1921. After that date the familiar red bug appeared on the Vibroplex tag and the decal was no longer required.

Here are some examples:



## BPL UPDATE

ARRL-NEWINGTON, CT, Nov 15, 2004--Working with the BPL industry through the IEEE Broadband over Power Line (BPL) Study Group and in other venues, the ARRL is taking part

in efforts aimed at defining and establishing key technical standards for the technology. Among other issues, these standards will address the avoidance of interference from BPL to licensed radio services. The study group already has held three meetings this year, and the next session is set for January 14 in San Diego. The study group met most recently in Piscataway, New Jersey, on October 13, the day before the FCC adopted new Part 15 rules to govern BPL deployment. ARRL Lab Manager Ed Hare, W1RFI, told those attending the New Jersey session that any BPL standards must address issues of electromagnetic compatibility (EMC).

"The consensus of the committee is still that dealing with emissions and EMC is very high on the importance list," Hare said later. He further recommended that the IEEE EMC Society (IEEE-EMC) be directly involved in developing the EMC aspects of any IEEE standards affecting BPL. In terms of EMC, he said, the components of any IEEE BPL standard

should "include the needs of the BPL industry to have a workable environment in which to manufacture and market BPL technology while addressing the need for licensed radio services to operate in an environment that does not result in harmful interference."

Hare's presentation focused on explaining why the BPL industry's measurements using spectrum analyzers and test probes differ from the impact BPL emissions have on communications receivers attached to typical amateur antenna systems.

"I also continued to extend our offer to work cooperatively with industry representatives," Hare said. The ARRL and the FCC's Enforcement Bureau have a long history of cooperating in resolving Part 15 interference complaints resulting from power line noise.

Hare and ARRL Chief Technology Officer Paul Rinaldo, W4RI--who attended a July study group meeting in Piscataway--has been charged with drafting the part of the IEEE study group's "white paper" dealing with affected radio services, including Amateur Radio. Other aspects of the document will include safety; compatibility between access BPL and in-home BPL; compatibility with utility distribution systems, and security, privacy and authentication issues.

After the July study group meeting, Rinaldo said the consensus of participants was that the core issue confronting the BPL industry was dealing successfully with the issue of interference from and to BPL. "BPL won't survive unless that fundamental problem is solved soon," Rinaldo asserted. Rinaldo also took part in a Power Line Communications Association (PLCA) Strategic Summit and Business Briefing in late October in the DC area. His presentation concluded, among other things, that the IEEE, the BPL industry and radio users should continue to cooperate in setting standards for the technology, and that the best practice for the BPL industry would be to avoid Amateur Radio spectrum at the equipment design level.

Nonetheless, Rinaldo also pointed out that §15.5 of the FCC rules requires operators of RF devices to cease operation upon notification by an FCC representative that the device is causing harmful interference, and to not resume operation until the condition causing the harmful interference has been corrected.

-ARRL Web Site  
<http://www.arrl.org>

# W3PIE BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, October 6, 2004

**Members Present:** Brenda, N3TRG, Wayne, N3TRF, John, K3JAE, Herb, KA3WSO, Teedle, K3ECZ, Tim, W3ZVT, Dave, N3LML, Dave, N3QAS, Roye, N3ROA, Keith, KB3IOK, Mike, KA3WOI, Dave, WA3DJG, Bert, WA3WAW, Ralph, KB3LBB, Joyce, KA3CUT, Paul, KB3DLT, Len Baron, WA3EGS, Pat, WB3LUC, Tony, KA3VOR

**Guests Present:** Michael Etling, KB3LMT, Keith Chaney, N3JBE, Ray Gottfried, KA3QFD, Debbie (with Ray), David Franks, Brian Button, Michael Adamsky

The Monthly Meeting of the Uniontown Amateur Radio Club was called to order at 1931 hours by President Dave Watson, N3QAS with 19 members and 7 guests

**Treasurers Report** was read by Secretary Tony Alviar.

## **Old Business**

Hamfest— Hamfest was held on Saturday, September 5, 2004 and conducted with much success. Club profited from this years hamfest.

Tower donated by Ray Gottfried was shipped and cost UARC \$179 and change to have shipped.

Constitution & Bylaws question from September Meeting- Due to Secretary's work schedule, no research was completed on this question and report will be made at the November 2004 General Meeting.

VE Exam— A VE Exam was conducted on Sunday, September 19. A total of 5 people were tested. A total of \$90 from the various tests given was turned in by the VE Team.

Pat Pallini Recognition Dinner- UARC Friends and Members met on Saturday, September 11, 2004 at the Sun Porch Restaurant to present a Lifetime Achievement Award to Pat Pallini for his dedication and service to the Ham Radio Community in our area. Due to some slight confusion on the part of the officers, a printed certificate of achievement was not available and was presented at the October meeting to Pat.'

## **New Business**

Code Class— A code class to assist those desiring their 5 WPM Code certification will start on Tuesday October 12th, 2004

Tower Removal— October 16 is a scheduled work day for a tower removal at Skip Snyder's house. Contact George, WA3OGQ, or Dave, WA3DJG

UARC Web Site— A motion by Tony, KA3VOR, seconded by Wayne, N3TRF to make available e-mail addresses in the form of email\_address@w3pie.org for the cost of \$5 per web site renewal term (I.e. next renewal term is from August 2005 to August 2006). This offer will be valid as long as the UARC web site is active. Motion Passed

Mike, KA3WOI reported that the Skyview Amateur Radio Club would like to have a tour of the UARC facilities. They are unable to make it to our Wednesday night meetings. Mike will coordinate this tour.

Work Night— A work night is scheduled for Wednesday October 13, 2004 to cut trees behind the UARC building

A motion to adjourn was made by Dave, N3LML, and seconded by Dave, N3QAS, to adjourn the meeting. Meeting was adjourned at 20:21 Hours

—Respectfully submitted, Tony Alviar, KA3VOR

# W3PIE BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, November 3, 2004

**Members Present:** Brenda, N3TRG, Wayne, N3TRF, Herb, KA3WSO, Dave, N3QAS, Dave, N3LML, Teedle, K3ECZ, Tim, W3ZVT, John, K3JAE, Keith, KB3IOK, Ray, KB3HQV, Ralph, KB3LBB, Pat, WB3LUC, Mike, KA3WOI, Tony, KA3VOR, George, WA3OGQ, Dave, WA3DJG

**Guests Present:** Michael Etling, KB3LMT

The Monthly Meeting of the Uniontown Amateur Radio Club was called to order at 1934 hours by President Dave Watson, N3QAS with 16 members and 1 guest present.

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

## **Old Business**

Joe Corcoran, KA3VPP, has passed away since our last meeting  
Curry Stitt, KB3FLS, has passed away since our last meeting

Constitution & Bylaws question from September Meeting— A question at the September meeting was posed regarding the wording in the Constitution and the number of autodial slots and on what repeaters those autodial slots were usable was asked. Review of our Constitution revealed that nothing appears to the number of autodial slots. Secretary, Tony Alviar, KA3VOR after brief review of the Constitution indicated that the Constitution may need to be reviewed by a committee to determine if any changes are needed. A committee consisting of Secretary Tony Alviar, KA3VOR, John Etling, K3JAE, Ralph Bliss, KB3LBB, and Bert Sesler, WA3WAW will convene starting in January 2005 to review the Constitution and make recommendations for changes. One area indicated for definite review was: Unclear formal definition of benefits due a Full Member of UARC.

Code Class— Teedle reported briefly on the Code class and advised that due to schedules of the parties wanting to learn code, an additional night of Classes is being conducted on Monday of each week.

SET (Simulated Emergency Test) was conducted on Saturday, October 23, 2004 with 9 check ins.

Calendar Ticket— Secretary Tony Alviar reported that UARC possessed 117 unsold tickets for this ticket and profited \$790 after all winners are payed.

## **New Business**

Building Renovations— Interior of building has been painted at no expense to the club

Veteran's Day Parade— Uniontown Police Auxilliary is seeking communications volunteers to assist with the parade in Uniontown on Thursday, November 11, 2004. Assistance is needed from 8A to 12 Noon. Contact John Etling, K3JAE if available.

Nominations of officers: President, Dave Watson, N3QAS; Vice President, Wayne Cavendar, N3TRF & Mike Kosco, KA3WOI; Treasurer, George Syner, WA3OGQ; Secretary, Tony Alviar, KA3VOR; Trustee, Tim Soxman, W3ZVT, Herb Shaffer, KA3WSO. Trustees: Dave Kir has one year remaining in his term, Paul Renninger, K3ECZ has two years remaining in his term

Christmas Party— An informal Christmas party will be conducted at the UARC club house on Wednesday December 8 at 6 PM. This will be a family Christmas Party. Anyone wishing to attend, please be at the clubhouse on this date. If bringing a covered dish, please contact Brenda, N3TRG @ 724-329-4098

A motion by George, WA3OGQ, jointly seconded by Wayne, N3TRF, and Dave, WA3DJG to purchase Meat & cheese trays, and vegetable trays for the Christmas Party and collecting donations at the Christmas Party to pay for these items was made. Motion passed unanimously.

UARC is collecting donations to replace the ceiling tile in the meeting room. Approximately 70 tiles are needed and will be replaced prior to the December meeting.

A QRP Rig has been donated to the UARC radio room by Teedle, K3ECZ

A motion to adjourn was made by Dave, WA3DJG, and seconded by Wayne, N3TRF, to adjourn the meeting.

Meeting was adjourned at 20:45 Hours

—Respectfully submitted, Tony Alviar, KA3VOR

# 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 DECEMBER 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: WB3JNP 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: TIM SOXMAN, W3ZVT  
DAVE KIR, WA3DJG  
PAUL RENNINGER, K3ECZ

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	Bert Sesler, WA3WAW
Dave Wadsworth, N3LML	John Etling, K3JAE	UARC Officers
Brenda Cavandar, N3TRG	Herb Shaffer, KA3WSO	

## W3PIE

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