

The W3PIE Letter

VOL. 24 ISSUE 3

MARCH 2001 EDITION

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.

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

UPCOMING VE EXAM TESTING DATES

Sunday May 6th, 2001
Sunday September 16th, 2001
Sunday December 2nd, 2001

CLASSES COMPLETED

Classes to help students prepare for the Technician license exam were held at W3PIE on Tuesday nights in January and February from 6 PM to 8 PM. Most of the students in this class are members of the search and rescue team in Fayette County and have dogs trained for search and rescue operations. These students had been introduced to ham radio by other search and rescue teams in other counties who used 2 meters in their field exercises and searches.

Bert, WA3WAW, was the instructor, and was assisted by George, WA3OGQ, Dave, N3QAS, Tony, KA3VOR, and Tim, W3ZVT. Sometimes the class would continue past 8 PM to cover all of the material on that particular week. And then after the class was over, the instructors would get on the air and see who could be QSO'd with, both HF and VHF, concluding around 9 PM.

Next Club Meeting is
Wednesday,
March 7, 2001!



The Club Group at Dayton in May 2000

The class lasted five weeks, finishing in time for the February 18th VE Exam at the club. The textbook used in the class was the "Now You're Talking" FOURTH edition, the new book that reflects the license restructuring after April 15, 2000, which allows an unlicensed person to prepare for the Technician test. The \$19 book includes the question pool and the chapters of text explaining the material in depth. The Technician test is now a 35 question multiple choice test.

So keep your ears peeled for these new hams on the radio and make sure to say hello to them. Congratulate them and invite them to the W3PIE club meetings. Make them feel that we're glad they joined the ranks of ham radio. (You know all of this already, this last paragraph is just a friendly reminder, hi)

Bert Sesler, WA3WAW

NEW CLASSES?

There may be more of the search and rescue team who want to get a ham license. At the VE exam Bob Vail indicated that he might have more students for us, and we discussed the possibility of starting a new class on Tuesday nights in April: April 3rd, 10th, 17th and 24th, and then Monday April 30th. That would be five nights, 6 PM to 8 PM or later, in preparation for the VE Exam date of May 6. This might be a good time to get a friend or family member into the class so they can enjoy ham radio, too. So we can discuss this at the W3PIE club meeting on

Wednesday, March 7.

Bert Sesler, WA3WAW

UNIONTOWN TRIATHLON VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The Uniontown Triathlon is coming up at the end of June, and as usual, the ham radio operators are needed for communications for the race. More details are available at the W3PIE club meeting. Spaghetti Dinner the night before the race, triathlon tee shirts, etc., 6 AM until about 10 AM on the last Saturday morning in June. Call Bert, WA3WAW at 437-5987 if you want to help as a volunteer, or if you have questions.

UPCOMING HAMFESTS!

Two Rivers ARC, Sunday, March 25, Monroeville, PA. For more info contact Roxane Gaal WB3ROX, at 412-823-6613 or check out <http://www.qsl.net/w3oc/hamfest.htm>

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

THURSDAY NIGHT NET!

CQ, CQ, CQ, This is WB3LUC, I will be "Control operator for the W3PIE Net. This net is open to all hams each Thursday evening at 21:00 hrs local time, on the 147.045 + club repeater. The purpose for this net is to give all participants an opportunity to check the performance of his/her radio system. It is also a good convenient way to get interesting and helpful comments from more experienced operators, and often times, questions can be answered by listeners during the net. The control operator will try to make contacts when requested or necessary. "No Problem". It (the net) is a good place to use your radio. Another good use is the WX (weather) exercise scheduled on March 20th about 8:30. Fayette County EMA will be the command center for this exercise.. All service departments, Utilities, Police, Medical, Red Cross, RACES and ARES personnel will be involved with a Mock Emergency Program. This is a Synthetic Disaster type play. The purpose is for training us to improve our communication ability. Any questions concerning the details can be answered during our Thursday evening nets. These nets are March 1st, 8th, 15th. Please check in.

Pat Pallini, WB3LUC

WORDS AT LARGE!

Fellow club members, I'm very glad that the 147.045 machine is back on-line full force. For the past few months, I would need to switch rx to reverse to hear Pat full quieting. This is the first time that Pat's signal has more gain using the repeater than not. Also, about two weeks ago I took a ride up through Center City in Somerset County to check out their repeater (146.625 minus shift PL 123.0). I was surprised that I was able to bring up the 147.045 machine from Center City and it's response was full quieting! Neat.

Steve Holowach K3SDH

FROM THE OF- FIGE OF THE PRESIDENT.....:

Dear Fellow Members:

I am very grateful the nomination to occupy the office of President of the W3PIE Uniontown Amateur Radio Club. An organization I have dreamed about for years to even join. This prestigious club has been in effect at best, 63 years. My visual of this is as follows. A group of then young amateur radio operators ventured to the Fayette County Court House to dig up topographical maps. After researching one of the highest elevations in the Uniontown area, they formed the W3PIE

amateur radio club as we know it today. The actual history of this is in a 16 page document Tony Summa W3RUK (now a silent key) printed out. Most of you should have received a summary with your membership packet. I have strong feelings for W3PIE club and its history, I hope all of you feel the same. This is why we should keep current our membership, and support the club. Please help me and other members, future, past and present keep W3PIE, and its history a continued memory. Thank you for the nomination and I promise to do all I can for the benefit of W3PIE.

Together we can make the tradition live on.

David G. Watson - N3QAS

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W3PIE MARCH 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
TIM SOXMAN, N3QAS
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

W3PIE

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