



# The **W3PIE LETTER**

VOLUME 27 ISSUE 5

MAY 2004 EDITION



## W3PIE VE EXAM TESTING DATES

### FOR 2004

**May 2nd, Sept 19th, and December 5th.** 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*

## OFFICERS FOR 2004

**President David Watson N3QAS**  
**V. Pres Micheal Kosco KA3WOI**  
**Secretary Tony Alviar KA3VOR**  
**Treas. George Syner WA3OGQ**  
**Trustee Dave Kir WA3DJG**

## FROM THE ARRL

NEWINGTON, CT, Jan 19, 2004--The ARRL will ask the FCC to create a new entry-level Amateur Radio license that would include HF phone privileges without requiring a Morse code test. The League also will propose consolidating all current licensees into three classes, retaining the Element 1 Morse requirement--now 5 WPM--only for the highest class. The ARRL Board of Directors overwhelmingly approved the plan January 16 during its Annual Meeting in Windsor, Connecticut. The proposals--developed by the ARRL Executive Committee following a Board instruction last July--are in response to changes made in Article 25 of the international *Radio Regulations* at World Radio communication Conference 2003 (WRC-03). They would continue a process of streamlining the amateur licensing structure that the FCC began more than five years ago but left unfinished in the Amateur Service license restructuring *Report and Order* (WT 98-143) that went into effect April 15, 2000

## **Next Club Meeting is Wednesday, May 5th 2004**

### W3PIE WHO'S WHO!



**Name:** Pat Pallini  
**Call Sign:** WB3LUC  
**License Class:** General  
**Licensed Since:** 1960  
**Place of Birth:** Uniontown  
**Date of Birth:** June 14, 1917  
**Hometown now:** Jumonville  
**Dream Vacation:** Avalon, N.J. shore  
**Spouse:** Hazel, WB3LUD  
**Children:** Fred & Diane  
**Hobbies:** Flying  
**Most Memorable HAM Moment:** My first CW contact the first day I had my license to Fairfax, VA. Washington D.C.  
**Favorite Hamfest:** W3PIE Gabfest  
**Favorite Radio:** Kenwood 520S  
**Favorite Band:** 75 Meters  
**Favorite Mode:** Voice  
**Most Used Frequency:** Varies  
**Another HAM you would like to see interviewed:** Anyone at W3PIE

**The Monthly Club Meeting is Wednesday May, 5th 2004**

## MARCH OF DIMES WALK AMERICA

This event on Saturday April 24th. With seven Ham operators and five Auxiliary police directing and controlling traffic, the marchers safely were led through the streets of Uniontown for a worthy cause. The Marchers met at 8:30 AM. Start time was postponed until 10:00 due to a few mix ups. The event went well other than the few mix ups, being the walk path had changed and for the late start. It's a good thing we had the Hams that volunteered and the Auxiliary Police.

*Pat WB3LUC*



## WEDDING BELLS

On Saturday, October 18, 2003, John Rudik, WB3JNP and Kathy Meyer joined hands with friends and family present. George Syner, WA3OGQ was best man. Tony Alviar, KA3VOR, was Usher. Bert, WA3WAW & Valerie Sesler, N3YSX were in attendance for the ceremony and reception. Dave Kir, WA3DJG was in attendance for the reception.

The Officers and membership of UARC wish to extend a congratulations to John and Kathy Rudik!

## MAY BIRTHDAYS

David Wadsworth N3LML	5-14
Andrew Boni KB3CIN	5-05
Leonard Baron WA3EGS	5-07
Wayne Thomas NT3T	5-22
Marion Dorn N3EKM	5-24
Steve Priselac N3KTF	5-26
Chuck Johnson K3CFJ	5-29



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

**w3pie@fcema.org**

## APRIL MEETING ATTENDANCE

At the April meeting there were 19 members present. Thank you to all who showed up to participate.

### **Members Present**

Brenda Cavendar	N3TRG
Wayne Cavendar	N3TRF
Dave Wadsworth	N3LML
Herb Shaffer	KA3WSO
Keith Jones	KB3IOK
Paul Renninger	K3ECZ
Tim Soxman	W3ZVT

Bert Sesler	WA3WAW
Ray Williams	KB3HQV
Brenda Williams	KB3KFS
Dave Kir	WA3DJG
Dave Watson	N3QAS
George Syner	WA3OGQ
Tony Alviar	KA3VOR
Mike Kosco	KA3WOI
Jacob Tennant	K8JWT
Bob Vail	KB3GES
Roye Leckemby	N3ROA
Pat Pallini	WB3LUC

## FIELD DAY

Uniontown Amateur Radio Club is interested in reviving UARC's participation in the ARRL's annual Field Day. This event is designed to help amateur radio operators evaluate how prepared they are to communicate.

If you are interested in participating at the club, please contact Mike Kosco, KA3WOI.

# COLLECTORS CORNER

## THE KIXIE

Just finished building and testing the Elecraft KX1. Took about fifteen hours from box to ham shack and was worth every bit of the time.

The KX1 was designed to be a backpackable transceiver with low current drain and maximum flexibility. The basic KX1 is a 40/20 meter transceiver using a DDS VFO and a very sophisticated control program. Additional options are an Iambic key that fits on the transceiver and a random wire antenna tuner and the 30 meter option. Put it all together and you have a shirt pocket size transceiver with an internal battery pack (six AA alkalines) which will give you about a watt and a half output. Just sling a random length of wire into the trees and you're on the air!

If you use an external 12 volt supply you will have between 3 and 4 watts output. My favorite tactic is to use a RC car 9.6 Volt NiMH pack which gives about 2.5 to 3 watts out. Eventually I'll build up a tabbed C cell NiMH pack that will run off a small solar panel and I'll be able to go full bore out in the field.

The rig has a fine receiver with variable crystal bandwidth and draws a minimum of 32 ma if you are using headphones, transmit draw is less than an amp.

For those individuals that are sight impaired the KX1 can be set to echo information on all the switch settings and VFO frequency in Morse Code. Once you are familiar with the menu and switch positions this is one radio that you can operate blindfolded.

For an antenna the Elecraft Manual recommends a 24-28 foot long wire with a 16 foot counterpoise. It just so happens that Radio Shack has a small plastic reel type short wave antenna for a discounted price that has the right length of wire on the reel. Barring that, a trip to Walmart and a search of the camping section will get you a camping clothesline for less than two bucks. Get two of those and wind your wire on the reels instead of rope.

For those who like to get on the air from the wilderness with minimal weight and hassle the KX1 is the way to go.



KX1 with Iambic Paddle and Radio Shack Reel Antenna



Portable Station



Complete Portable Station Ready to Go

## EDITORS NOTE:

Tim Soxman W3ZVT has been writing articles for some time now. Tim is a member of W3PIE and is a dedicated amateur radio buff. Tim invented and builds the "Sox Key". A picture of this key has been used as a logo on the top left of page one of this letter. If you are interested more about this key you can go to the web page to see more.

<http://www.mtechnologies.com/soxman>

*W3PIE Newsletter Staff*

## REPEATER REPORT

As of May 1, 2004

**147.045 +** Repeater operational, although reduced coverage due to antenna problem. Antenna is currently sitting on the floor of the radio club building awaiting, weather, and tower climbing crew to be together at the same time.

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

**145.170-** is up and running good. (No phone patch—see below)

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

145.090 Packet

144.390 APRS

In 1995, the WB3LUC Repeater moved from the Fulton's Knob T-Tower to the County Tower at Springfield Pike, Connellsville. At that time, Fayette County Emergency Management placed a phone line in service available to both the Fayette County PEMARS (453.525) repeater and to the WB3LUC 145.170 Repeater.

Since the phone patch was placed in operation in 1995, Fayette County EMA has paid for the phone line for the phone patch. As with all good things, eventually a change occurs. Fayette County has decided to drop the phone line for the 145.170 repeater. . . As of this newsletter, the phone patch at 145.170 is OUT OF SERVICE.

Prior to the March 2004 Business Meeting, UARC received a coordination waiver request from Phil Heck, KE3EI who is wishing to place a repeater on 147.255 in Tionesta, PA.

Western PA Repeater Council (WPRC) regulations require that repeaters be separated by 120 miles. The location specified for this repeater would place the Tionesta 147.255 repeater 106 miles away. After much careful evaluation by the officers and repeater staff, UARC determined that allowing this repeater on the air would cause us trouble on our 147.255. Communication with the WPRC revealed that we could place restrictions on the "new" repeater should we desire as part of the waiver request grant. After careful evaluation of all system parameters, UARC Officers and repeater staff determined that regardless of system parameters, we would receive interference of a user to system nature. No changes of system parameters to the new repeater would prohibit this from occurring. Club membership at the March meeting denied this waiver request. Denial letter was read at the April Meeting.

## 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. 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)

I'll start things off with my latest find. <http://www.geocaching.com> This is a very interesting site. Take a peek and see what you think. It's almost like foxhunting for hams but with a new twist. Geocaching is an entertaining adventure game for gps users. Participating in a cache hunt is a good way to take advantage of the wonderful features and capability of a gps unit. The basic idea is to have individuals and organizations set up caches all over the world and share the locations of these caches on the internet. GPS users can then use the location coordinates to find the caches. Once found, a cache may provide the visitor with a wide variety of rewards. All the visitor is asked to do is if they get something they should try to leave something for the cache.

Happy Hunting!

*David N3LML*

# W3PIE BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, April 7, 2004

**Members Present:** Brenda, N3TRG, Wayne, N3TRF, Dave, N3LML, Herb, KA3WSO, Keith, KB3IOK, Teedle, K3ECZ, Tim, W3ZVT, Bert, WA3WAW, Ray, KB3HQV, Brenda, KB3KFS, Dave, WA3DJG, Dave, N3QAS, George, WA3OGQ, Tony, KA3VOR, Mike, KA3WOI, Jake, K8JWT, Roye, N3ROA, Bob, KB3GES, Pat, WB3LUC

The Monthly Meeting of the Uniontown Amateur Radio Club was called to order at 1932 hours by President Dave Watson, N3QAS with 19 members present.

**Treasurers Report** was read and approved as read. Motion by Tim, W3ZVT, Seconded by Roye, N3ROA

**Secretarys Report** was read and approved as read. Motion by Tim, W3ZVT, Seconded by Dave, WA3DJG

## **Old Business**

Secretary Tony Alviar reported on the status of the Ohio Department of Revenue sales tax issue. The attorney UARC contacted in Ohio has been able to determine that we need to file "amended" sales tax returns and file with appropriate filing fees and sales tax owed for first half 2002, second half 2002, and first half 2003 to clear the books between UARC and the State of Ohio. Club Secretary and Club Treasurer have completed this task, and submitted payment in the amount of \$57.31 to Ohio Department of Revenue. The attorney indicated that State of Ohio advised we would either have no penalty, a reduced penalty, or no more than one \$200 penalty for all back taxes owed. As of the April 7 meeting, no additional taxation notices of penalty fees and/or interest payments has been received.

147.255 Repeater- UARC has received a coordination waiver request from Phil Heck, KE3EI to place a repeater on 147.255 in Tionesta, PA. Western PA Repeater Council regulations require 120 mile separation between systems. Our calculations show a distance of 106 miles. The March Business Meeting denied this coordination request. Club Secretary read the prepared letter that will be mailed to Phil Heck regarding denial of the coordination waiver.

Timonium Hamfest was last weekend (March 27 and March 28). Several UARC Members attended and reported that attendance was down from previous years.

147.045 Repeater- Antenna is here. Awaiting weather and climber availability to happen on the same date.

Pat Pallini- Pat was present and reported that he is feeling well. Pat reported that he would like to keep our current net operator schedule in place.

## **New Business**

Membership Application— Jacob Tennant, K8JWT presented his application at the March Meeting. Jacob was voted in as full membership at the April Meeting.

Anyone wishing to attend the Dayton Hamfest is to see George Syner, WA3OGQ

President Dave Watson placed the following members onto the newsletter committee. Herb Shaffer, KA3WSO, Dave Wadsworth, N3LML, Brenda Cavendar, N3TRG, Tony Alviar, KA3VOR, Dave Watson, N3QAS

Field Day Activities- UARC would like to reinstate Field Day Activities at the Club. If interested, please contact Mike Kosco, KA3WOI

Triathlon—Bert Sesler reported that the Uniontown Triathlon will be conducted on Saturday June 26th. Communicators are needed.

A motion to adjourn was made by Dave, WA3DJG, and seconded by Dave, N3LML to adjourn the meeting.

Meeting was adjourned at 20:20 Hours

—Respectfully submitted, Tony Alviar, KA3VOR

## MAY TESTING IN THE AREA

08-May-2004 **Sponsor:** BUTLER COUNTY ARA **Time:** 9:00 AM (No walk-ins) **Contact:** GERALD H WETZEL (724)282-6777 **Email:** W3DMB@ARRL.NET **VEC:** ARRL/VEC **Location:** MO-RAINETRAILS COUNCIL-BOYSCOUT CENTER 850 MORTON AVE PRE-REGISTER 48 HOURS AHEAD TEST FEE \$12 BUTLER, PA 16001

---

08-May-2004 **Sponsor:** BREEZE SHOOTERS/NORTH HILLSARC **Time:** 12 NOON (Walk-ins allowed) **Contact:** ROBERT W BENNA (412)366-0488 **VEC:** ARRL/VEC **Location:** PERRYVILLE VOL FIRE CO 985 PERRY HWY HANDICAP PLEASE REGISTER PITTSBURGH, PA 15237

## UPCOMING CONTESTS

**June 12 - 14 ARRL June VHF QSO Party**

For rules goto:

<http://www.arrl.org/contests/rules/2004/june-vhf.html>

---

**June 19 Kid's Day**

For rules goto:

<http://www.arrl.org/contests/rules/2004/kd-rules.html>

---

**June 26 - 27 ARRL Field Day**

For rules goto:

<http://www.arrl.org/contests/rules/2004/rules-fd-2004.html>

## 2003 W3PIE PICTURES



# 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
-----------------	----------------------	--------------------	-------------------

\$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
--	------------------	---	--------------------------------------

ALL THAT APPLY

I am applying for?

Full Membership \*

Associate Membership

Student Membership \*

Family Membership \*

*\*Requires Sponsor*

\_\_\_\_\_ Sponsor

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 MAY 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  
Dave Wadsworth, N3LML  
Tim Soxman, W3ZVT

## W3PIE

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