



MARC Times

Newsletter of the Murgas Amateur Radio Club and K3YTL

Volume XXX Number 1

January 2018

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Club Station - K3JML

Trustee W. T. Jones

Club Repeater

145.450

Tone – 82.5

Packet - WBLAN

145.05

MARC NET

Every Thursday 9pm

Club Repeater

145.450/PL 82.5

The Murgas Amateur Radio Club meets on the first Wednesday of each month, 8:00 P.M. at the Luzerne County Emergency Management at 185 Water Street Wilkes-Barre. Guests are always welcome.

Articles for publication may be submitted to the club post office box, given to me at a meeting, or sent by e-mail to

news@murgasarc.org .

de K3DBG

First off, I hope everyone had a great Christmas or whatever it is they choose to celebrate. No matter what it is you do celebrate it really is a great time of year. It was great to hear a bunch of things in the news that wasn't negative or violent but instead related to people doing great things for total strangers!

I would like to thank all that helped out last year and welcome all those coming aboard this year! The outgoing VP KC3FKW did an outstanding job as VP and had some great presentations and I know the incoming VP KC3HLT will also do a great job. He has been looking into presentations ever since he became a member!

The Christmas Party/Club Dinner's new location really was great! I had a few things to say about some of the food but I really was in the minority. The place was very nice and the service was great! Thanks to all that made that happen and a very special thanks to Elaine, K3VQR for all she did, just with the dinner! There isn't room here to list all she does for us!

There aren't too many contests coming up this month, but February is packed with some great RTTY contests! There are a couple contests this month and I'll list them in a second, but most importantly is the DXpedition that many of us have been waiting for. It involves the most wanted entity on Club Log's Most Wanted list and no, it is not P5, North Korea. A few of us just ignore that as even being on the list at all as no one will get to operate there until there are "some changes" to put it mildly. So knock P5 off the list you now have the most wanted, "Bouvet Island"!!! 3Y0Z will be on the air starting January 25, 2018 until about March 14, 2018 but that's according to a DX calendar but I'd be surprised if it's that long! Let's hope things work out for the east coast getting a path to 3Y0Z.

North American QSO Party, CW 1800Z, Jan 13 to 0559Z, Jan 14

North American QSO Party, SSB 1800Z, Jan 20 to 0559Z, Jan 21

ARRL January VHF Contest, 1900Z, Jan 20 to 0359Z, Jan 22

CQ 160-Meter Contest, CW 2200Z, Jan 26 to 2200Z, Jan 28

Winter Field Day 1900Z, Jan 27 to 1900Z, Jan 28

One other thing worth mentioning isn't a contest; actually it states it is very much not a contest, but a tradition and way to reflect on how this great hobby got started! Monday January 1st starting at 00:00 UTC and going on until 23:59 UTC January 1st is the ARRL Straight Key Night! Just get on and make contacts using any form of a straight key or anything that you can methodically switch on and off to send CW, just not a set of paddles. There are NO points nor is any score kept! It's just about getting on the air like they did in the beginning!

Let's make 2018 even better than 2017 was! Sadly I can't say we didn't lose any club members or previous club members in 2017. So at the top of the list is to not lose any this year!

I think I said enough for now! I wish everyone a very Happy New Year and a great, healthy and happy 2018! I can't wait to hear how many of us worked 3Y0Z!
-73 de K3DBG

de KC3HLT

I just want to begin by saying, I hope everyone had a wonderful holiday season and to wish everyone a very Happy New Year! I hope it brings great things to you and yours!

We had a wonderful club dinner in December and a pretty decent turn out. I hope we can gather more involvement this year with events and other undertakings; specifically focusing on engaging new members. 2017 was a whirl-wind of a year and I think some good things were accomplished with the club, let's keep up the good work.

I have been looking into a bunch of different topics and ideas for club presentations for 2018. I have found some topics that I believe most of us will find interesting, educational and fun! For the presentation after the January meeting I have chosen one about band pass filters.

As for the rest of the year, I am planning them out now, so if you are interested in a specific topic or would like to present; please let me know.

de KC3HLT

A HISTORIC Net

Hi All!!!!!! If you didn't check in or listen up you missed kind of a HISTORIC Net.

John K3DBG was NCS and had a total of 23!! Or was it 22?? Baa Hum Bug!!!! It was a total of 22. That's my story and I'm sticking to it.

Oh Brother!! 1042 check-ins to date with 1 week left to wrap up the year. The MARC Net has broken the old record of 1037 set back in 2013. It was quite an accomplishment. Thanks to all who made it a reality on Thursday evening.

Also to everyone who checked in during the year. You all made it possible. It will be a long time before the record is broken again.

Everyone have a Merry Christmas!!!!

George K3ZK Net Manager

| 2018 Ham Cram Schedule | | |
|------------------------|-------------|---------------------|
| Class | Date | Registration Closes |
| Technician | January 20 | January 13 |
| General | February 17 | February 10 |
| Amateur Extra | March 17 | March 10 |

Registration Required!
Register via email to [Luzerne County ARES EC](mailto:ARES@luzerne.org)
(Name, Address, email required for response)
Class time - 8:00AM to 3:30PM
Location:
Luzerne County EMA EOC
185 Water St
Wilkes-Barre, PA 18702
Testing conducted following Hamcram.
Testing conducted by the Murgas ARC VE Team.
Two forms of ID (one must be a photo ID) required to take the test.
General and Amateur Extra must supply a copy of their current FCC license.
Testing Fee: \$15

MARC MINUTES Monthly Club Meeting For December 2017

The monthly meeting of the Murgas Amateur Radio Club was held on December 6, 2017. President John Denisco K3DBG called the meeting to order at 8:02 PM. Twenty-two (22) members were in attendance. Also present were Kim Murray KC3JHS and Carmina Chapp KC3JXM. Larry Kwasnick KA3GRS and Ian Kellman K3IK were appointed as auditors. The 2017 financial records will be audited during the January 2018 meeting. There were no upgrades or call sign changes noted. Herb Krumich K2LNS stated that he has applied for VUCC which covers 6 meters through 10 GHz. Various numbers of grid squares are required for each band. Also, Herb noted that the digital activity on these bands has increased substantially. The club's financial report was given by the Treasurer, Herb Krumich K2LNS. The report was accepted. The November minutes as published in the MARC Times were accepted. The secretary, Elaine Kollar K3VQR, noted that the club received its yearly bill for the post office box rental.

Committee Reports:

Club Net - George Miklosi K3ZK thanked club members for all the check-ins throughout the year. The 14th year of the net will wrap up soon. Over that time there have been in excess of 13,000 check-ins and over 700 hours of air time. George also thanked Walt Jones WN3LIF, John Denisco K3DBG, and Larry Titus KB3VQK who serve as net control operators. Also George stated that the Murgas Club has a long history and is well known along the eastern seaboard. George would like to see members be more active to sustain the club's existence. President Denisco thanked George for all the time and effort he puts into the net. George keeps track of all the statistics for the net as well as serving as a net control operator.

VE Team - Rick Rinehimer K3TOW stated that the November 18th Ham Cram was canceled, because many of the participants were out of town in response to national emergencies. The next Ham Cram followed by FCC testing will be held on January 20th.

Hamfest - Herb Krumich K2LNS noted that he has reserved the Polish American Veterans Club for the Hamfest.

Old Business:

Carmina Chapp KC3JXM applied for membership at the October meeting. Her application has been reviewed and she is now eligible for acceptance into the Murgas Club. Ray Gusher KB3ACO motioned to accept Carmina into membership. Ian Kellman K3IK seconded the motion. After agreeing to abide by the club's constitution and by-laws, Carmina was voted into membership. Since Carmina passed her FCC exam at a Murgas testing event, she will receive a free year of membership.

Bill Waters KC3HLT noted that he had finally been contacted by Geisinger personnel in regard to the club's question about letting hospitalized children talk to Santa on the radio. The response was too late to organize anything for this year. Next year the club will begin earlier in the year to organize this event. Since \$200 had been allotted to purchase toys for the children, donating the money to Toys for Toys was discussed. Also a donation to the St. Vincent DePaul Soup Kitchen was proposed. Rick Rinehimer K3TOW motioned to donate \$200 to Toys for Tots and another \$200 to the Soup Kitchen. Bill Sweeney KB3KUJ seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

New Business:

Herb Krumich K2LNS noted that the Murgas Club placed sixth in the 3F category for Field Day. Rick Rinehimer K3TOW stated that with the number of points the club had, we would have been in the top ten in the 3A category.

Rick Rinehimer K3TOW said that the Yahoo Group has been having technical difficulties. Walt Jones WN3LIF suggested moving to the IO Groups. Rick will work on this project.

Kim Murray KC3JHS submitted an application for membership. The application will be reviewed and voted on at the next meeting that Kim attends.

Election of officers for 2018 then began. Ian Kellman K3IK and Carmina Chapp KC3JXM volunteered to count the ballots. A motion to open nominations for President was made by Ray Gusher KB3ACO. Dave Elmore KC3IMJ seconded the motion. John Denisco K3DBG was previously nominated. There were no other nominations. Rick Rinehimer K3TOW motioned to close the nominations and elect John by acclamation.

Frank Czock WB3BOT seconded the motion. Ray Gusher KB3ACO motioned to open nominations for Vice-President. Kyle Burke KC3JMO seconded the motion. Bill Waters KC3HLT was previously nominated. With no other nominations, Frank Czock WB3BOT motioned to close the nominations and elect Bill by acclamation. Bob Folmar KB3VS seconded the nomination. Ray Gusher KB3ACO then motioned to open nominations for Secretary. Frank Czock WB3BOT seconded the motion. Elaine Kollar K3VQR was previously nominated. There were no other nominations. Dave Elmore KC3IMJ motioned to close the nominations and elect Elaine by acclamation. Bill Waters KC3HLT seconded the motion. Ray Gusher KB3ACO motioned to open nominations for Treasurer. George Miklosi K3ZK seconded the motion. Herb Krumich K2LNS was nominated and accepted the nomination. Ray Gusher KB3ACO motioned to close the nominations and elect Herb by acclamation. Frank Czock WB3BOT seconded the motion.

Ray Gusher KB3ACO motioned to open nominations for the Murgas Board of Directors Frank Czock WB3BOT seconded the motion. Previously nominated were Bob Folmar KB3VS, Rick Rinehimer K3TOW, Walt Jones WN3LIF, Bill Waters KC3HLT, Rich Tyira KC3FKW, George Miklosi K3ZK and Bill Sweeney KB3KUJ. Since Bill Waters KC3HLT was elected Vice-President his name was removed as a candidate for director. Additionally Kyle Burke KC3JMO was nominated. Rich Tyira KC3FKW motioned to close nominations. Motion was seconded by Ray Gusher KB3ACO. Voting by paper ballots revealed the following members elected: Bob Folmar KB3VS, Rick Rinehimer K3TOW, Walt Jones WN3LIF, Rich Tyira KC3FKW, and George Miklosi K3ZK.

Announcements:

Ian Kellman K3IK announced that Don W3LR and Jan WB3BJL Curtis sent Christmas greetings to the club. Don and Jan are former members who moved to Florida last year.

Dave Elmore KC3IMJ asked that club members refrain from eating in the meeting room. Drinks in closed containers are still allowed. New carpeting has been installed and the EOC management wants to protect their investment. Eating is still allowed in the kitchen.

Walt Jones WN3LIF noted that in late April there will be an open house at the 911 Center. All are invited to attend. On Saturday, December 16th, there will be a Technical Session at the EOC. This month's topic is APRS general information and use in emergencies. The schedule of Ham Cram Sessions is as follows: January 20 - Technician Class; February 17 - General Class; and March 17 - Extra Class. Classes begin at 8:00 AM and testing will begin at 1:00 PM. Fldigi messages continue to be sent on Sunday evenings.

The Murgas Board of Directors meeting will be held on December 20th at 7:30 PM. The meeting is held in the conference room at the WBRE-TV Building on South Franklin Street in Wilkes-Barre.

The next monthly club meeting will be held on January 3, 2018 at 8:00 PM. The meeting is held in the Luzerne County Emergency Operations Building.

With no further business, Ian Kellman K3IK made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Rick Rinehimer K3TOW seconded the motion. Meeting was adjourned at 9:11 PM.

Following the business meeting, the annual drawing for door prizes was held. Respectfully submitted, Elaine Kollar K3VQR, Secretary

Budget for 2018

A proposed budget for 2018 will be prepared at the Board meeting on January 17, 2018. If you wish to propose a new project for the club that will require funding or a propose purchase of additional equipment the item should be presented to the Board of Directors for their consideration. A description in writing should be delivered with cost estimates and a brief description of benefit to the club.

Members are invited to all Board of Directors meetings.

Ham of the Year 2017

Ham of the year presentation will be at the January meeting.

**Murgas Amateur Radio Club
P.O. Box 1094
Wilkes-Barre, PA 18703**



Dues are due

**First Class Postage
Meeting Notice Enclosed**

CLUB MEETING

January 3, 2017

**Luzerne County Emergency Management 185 Water Street,
Wilkes-Barre, PA 18702**

PROGRAM

Band Pass Filters

BOARD MEETING – January 17, 2017

WBRE Offices – 7:30 PM

68 S Franklin St, Wilkes-Barre

All welcome to attend

Deadline for the MARC Times

February – January 31, 2018