



MARC Times

Newsletter of the Murgas Amateur Radio Club and K3YTL

Volume XXIX Number 10

October 2017

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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

I apologize if I leave anything out, but I'm not in the best mindset right now as I've been tending to a sick friend. My angelic kitty has not been well. She has lost a lot of weight and has been taking seizures (Horrorific sight). I didn't even power up the HF station up for the CQ WW RTTY DX contest this past weekend. You know, the one I've been talking up this past month. I was actually at the vet's for the start of the contest on Friday and then she seized on Saturday night and again Sunday afternoon. I can't verbalize how special she is, and, without going into detail, she has been with me everyday thorough a very trying journey over these past 11 years! To some it may sound silly, but these furry guys are family!

I'm glad the SSES practice drill is over and was successful!

This is the last MARC Times and club meeting before the PA QSO Party on the weekend of October 14th and 15th. Remember, get on and even try to make 50 contacts! If you just started at the bottom of 40 meters and worked you way up you could probably work 20-30 stations, then you work back down and pick up those ya missed! Even if that's all you do, it's better than not getting on at all! This is OUR contest and is close to the largest state QSO Party of the year. California probably has us beat, but I can't help but think ours is the friendliest contest of the year! So if you have an HF rig, get on! If you've never done it before, ask someone that has what to expect and what's needed. If you don't have HF, then I ask you at least be there on VHF/UHF for the club's "Feeding Frenzy" at Sunday, October 15th at 4pm (I think). I will gladly let you know on the upcoming Murgas ARC Thursday Night Nets! Also listen for K3YTL operating from Lycoming County on 40 and 80 meters (possible 20?) this year thanks to our Secretary and Treasurer Elaine K3VQR and Herb K2LNS! The Bonus Station for the 2017 PAQSO Party is the Frankford Radio Club and will be using the call signs **W3FRC**, **W3F**, **W3R**, and **W3C**.

Lastly, here is where you will find all the rare counties and bonus stations spotted: <http://www.nittany-arc.net/paqsoreflector.html>
-73 everyone! Good luck in the PAQP and hope to work ya in the contest!
de K3DBG

de KC3FKW

It looks like we dodged the bullet when Hurricane Irma decided to track in a different direction this past month. Unfortunately, Florida bore the brunt of the storm, and they are in the beginnings of a long recovery process. Hurricane Maria continued the damage, virtually leveling Puerto Rico and causing billions of dollars in damage, along with loss of life.

Ask anyone in Florida or Puerto Rico - that's not the proper attitude to have. We should never become complacent just because we have been missed in a major disaster such as those experienced in the Southeastern U.S.

Did you know that on September 6th there were two significant solar flares (the largest in 12 years), followed up a day later by two mid-level solar flares. Even though these flares hit the earth at an oblique angle, they still resulted in a radio blackout for about an hour on the sunlit side of the earth. If the trajectory were just slightly changed and it hit the earth directly, it would have resulted in massive damage to satellites, communications and power systems.

But disasters do not need to be as massive as the two described. Around here we have experienced small stream flooding, localized power failures, intense snow storms, fires, all of which are disruptive to our normal way of life. It is foolish to be totally unprepared, and that means more than just running to the local grocery store for milk, bread and eggs.

That is why the topic for the October meeting is a timely one. Larry Kwasnick (KA3GRS) will be doing a presentation on Emergency Preparedness titled "R U Red Dee". This is Larry's second presentation of the year, and I am sure everyone will enjoy this one equally as much as the first.

As a reminder, the club dinner is coming up on December 8th, and reservations can be made beginning with the next meeting. Also, nominations for club officers will be taken at the November and December meetings. If you are interested in holding an office, you can let your intentions be known to any of the current officers or board members, or talk it up with other club members. All it takes is a nomination and a second. By holding an office, you are doing your part in shaping the future direction of the club.

Hope to see everyone at the October meeting.

73 Richard W. Tyira de KC3FKW

Club Dinner de K3VQR

I remember when Bob Michael N3FA arranged the club dinners his articles would start out with first call or second call depending on the month. In that spirit, I suppose this is the "first call" for the 2017 Murgas Club Dinner. The dinner will be held on Friday, December 8th, at the Coal City Tavern located at 75 Main Street in Luzerne. Social hour will begin at 6:00 PM. Family style dinner service will start at 6:45 PM with salads and hot entrees will be served at 7:00 PM. The menu consists of sliced roast beef, roasted turkey breast, and chicken parmesan. There will also be salad, coleslaw, mashed potatoes, green beans and ice-cream for dessert. Beverages are also included. The cost is \$20 per person. There will be some prize drawings and the Ham of the Year will be announced. You can make your reservation by signing up at the next meeting or contacting Elaine Kollar K3VQR at 570-735-8190. I hope to see you there.

MARC MINUTES Monthly Club Meeting For September 2017

After enjoying a delicious cookout dinner prepared by Walt Jones WN3LIF, the monthly meeting of the Murgas Amateur Radio Club was called to order by President John Denisco K3DBG at 8:01 PM on September 6, 2017. Twenty-two (22) members were in attendance. There were no upgrades or call sign changes noted. Herb Krumich K2LNS reported on the club's finances. The report was accepted. The August minutes as published in the MARC Times were accepted. The secretary, Elaine Kollar K3VQR, had no correspondence to report.

Committee Reports:

Club Net - President Denisco KC3DBG stated that the Murgas Net is doing well.

VE Team - Rick Rinehimer K3TOW noted that a Technician Class Ham Cram will be held on September 23rd with testing to be held immediately afterwards. To date, thirteen people have registered. The assistance of any VE's will be appreciated.

Old Business:

The Club Dinner will be held on Friday, December 8th, at the Coal City Tavern (75 Main Street in Luzerne). Time and menu are yet to be determined. Cost is \$20 per person. Nominations for Ham of the Year are due by the November Board of Directors meeting.

Last month applications for membership were received from Tina Waters and Anthony Kapolka N3XH. Both may now be considered for membership. Bob Montgomery W3ZR motioned to accept Anthony Kapolka N3XH into membership. Ray Gusher KB3ACO seconded the motion. After agreeing to abide by the club's

constitution and by-laws, Anthony was accepted into membership. Rick Rinehimer K3TOW motioned to accept Tina Waters as an associate member. Ray Gusher KB3ACO seconded the motion.

After agreeing to abide by the club's constitution and by-laws, Tina was accepted into membership.

The PA QSO Party will take place on October 14th and 15th. If any one needs help with antennas or logging programs, please contact President Denisco K3DBG.

New Business:

There were no items discussed under new business.

Announcements:

Bob Nygren N3RN stated that he was reading some old copies of the MARC Times and noted that Tony Kapolka N3XH was the Murgas Vice-President in 1999.

Ian Kellman K3IK announced that the Quarter Century Wireless Association will meet on Saturday, September 16th at 2 PM. Normally the group meets on the last Saturday of the month, but due to holidays, the meeting date was changed. The meeting takes place at the Perkins Restaurant in Pittston and all are invited to attend.

Rick Rinehimer K3TOW noted that the Hurricane Watch Network has been very active. You can listen to the net on 14.325 or 7.268. It's also available on the internet at www.hwn.org

The Murgas Board of Directors meeting will be held on September 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 October 4th 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. Ray Gusher KB3ACO seconded the motion.

Respectfully submitted, Elaine Kollar K3VQR, Secretary

Board of Directors Meeting September 2017

The monthly Board of Directors meeting of the Murgas Amateur Radio Club was held in the WBRE-TV conference room on September 20, 2017. Vice-President Rich Tyira KC3FKW called the meeting to order at 7:31 PM. Directors present were Rich Tyira KC3FKW, Elaine Kollar K3VQR, Bob Folmar KB3VS, George Miklosi K3ZK, and Bill Waters KC3HLT. Also present was Tina Waters.

Elaine Kollar K3VQR stated that the menu and serving time for the Club Dinner was determined. Social hour will begin at 6:00 PM. Dinner service will begin at 6:45PM with salads and hot entrees will be served at 7:00 PM. Elaine will see that the details are printed in the MARC Times.

Bill Waters KC3HLT and Tina Waters want to get more young people involved in amateur radio. They suggested Wilkes-Barre Technical School may provide a good way to reach out to high school age young people. Contacting Boy Scout Troops, Girl Scout Troops, and Bear Creek Charter School was also suggested. Bill KC3HLT and Tina will try to make some of these contacts. George Miklosi K3ZK recalled that earlier in the year the Board of Directors discussed visiting local hospitals at Christmas time. Children who are patients would be given the opportunity to talk to Santa. Bill KC3HLT will contact Geisinger Wyoming Valley to see if this is possible.

Bob Folmar KB3VS gave a brief recap of the recent SSES Drill. Bob also suggested inviting local repeater owners and their spouses to the club dinner as a thank-you for maintaining local repeaters. The idea will be presented at the next meeting.

Rich Tyira KC3FKW noted that the programs for the rest of the year are the same as previously announced. In October Larry Kwasnick KA3GRS will present a program on emergency preparedness and in November Rick Rinehimer K3TOW will discuss the Logger 32 program. Nomination of officers will be held at the November meeting with election of officers to follow in December. Door prizes for the December drawing were discussed. The idea of having a drawing at every meeting was proposed.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:56 PM.

Respectfully submitted, Elaine Kollar K3VQR, Secretary

From the History Book

25 Years Ago - October 7, 1992 - President Bob Nygren WA3YON (now N3RN) announced that the November membership meeting would be held in the Luzerne County EOC on Water Street, with a return to the normal meeting site for the December meeting at which time a decision would be made on changing our location.

Looking for a Trade or Sale

Steve Levan WB3FLG is looking to trade or sell the following items:

- MFJ-4035MV power supply
- MFJ-989D antenna tuner
- MFJ-2240 isolated dipole antenna
- MFJ-2220 isolated dipole antenna
- MFJ ground rods - 4ft - quantity 3

Steve's phone number is 570-394-2070.

COMING EVENTS		
Dates	Event	Location
09/30/2017	42nd Annual Elmira International HamFest Amateur Radio Association of the Southern Tier & Chemung County Amateur Radio Emergency Service http://www.ARAST.org Talk-In: 147.360+ (no PL tone) & 146.700- (no PL tone)	Chemung County Fairgrounds Horseheads, NY 14845
10/01/2017	CARAFest Columbia Amateur Radio Association http://www.carafest.org Talk-In: 147.390+ (PL 156.7)	Howard County Fairgrounds West Friendship, MD 21794
10/06/2017	Mid-Atlantic States VHF Conference : Mt. Airy VHF Radio Club (Packrats) http://packratvhf.com	Holiday Inn Bensalem-Philadelphia Bensalem, PA 19020
10/07/2017	BARA Fall Hamfest Bergen Amateur Radio Association http://bara.org Talk-In: 146.19/79 (PL 141.3)	Westwood Regional Jr./Sr. H S Township of Washington, NJ 07676
10/07/2017	Red Rose Repeater Assn. Hamfest Red Rose Repeater Association http://www.rrra.org Talk-In: 147.015 (PL 118.8)	West Earl Community Park Talmage, PA 17580
10/14/2017 10/15/2017	PA QSO Party A club activity you can do from home. For Rules and forms http://www.nittany-arc.net/PAQSO.html	Your STATION
10/15/2017	RF Hill ARC Hamfest RF Hill Amateur Radio Club http://www.rfhillarc.org Talk-In: 145.31 (PL 131.8)	Sellersville Fire House Sellersville, PA 18960
10/22/2017	Mason-Dixon Hamfest Carroll County Amateur Radio Club http://qis.net/~k3pzn Talk-In: 145.410 (PL 114.8)	Sportman's Hall Roller Skating Center Upperco, MD 21155
10/28/2017	NJARC Fall Hamfest/Swapmeet New Jersey Antique Radio Club http://www.njarc.org Talk-In: None	Parsippany PAL Building Parsippany, NJ 07054
	Information extracted from the ARRL Hamfest and Convention Calendar. I have limited search to approximately 200 miles of Wilkes-Barre. If you are willing to travel a greater distance additional hamfests can be located by searching the ARRL hamfest listings.	

Editors Note:

I would like to thank all the authors who have contributed to this issue and invite all members to submit an article for publication. I will help with grammar and spelling.

Articles may be published in other amateur publications provided credit is given for the author and the source.

Ads for amateur related items will be published for members without charge. They may be submitted to me at a meeting, by mail to the club box, or by e-mail to news@murgasarc.org.

The *MARC Times* is available for delivery by email in the popular Adobe Acrobat .pdf format – you don't miss a thing from the snail-mail version and you even gain color for the pictures. To request the email version just send an email to news@murgasarc.org. A reader can be downloaded from the Adobe web site free of charge.

Thanks to Rob Nygren

The following item was submitted by Rob Nygren N3RN with the following note - I don't know if you get the RARA Rag, (newsletter of the Rochester radio club), or not, but they print the "Amateurs code" in every issue. Maybe you would consider it as a "filler" when you have space in the *MARC Times*.

The Amateur's Code

by Paul M. Segal, W9EEA (1928)

The Radio Amateur is:

CONSIDERATE	never knowingly operating in such a way as to lessen the pleasure of others.
LOYAL	offering loyalty, encouragement and support to other amateurs, local clubs and the American Radio Relay League, through which Amateur Radio in the United States is represented nationally and internationally.
PROGRESSIVE	with knowledge abreast of science, a well built and efficient station, and operation beyond reproach.
FRIENDLY	with slow and patient operation when requested, friendly advice and counsel to the beginner, kindly assistance, co-operation and consideration for the interests of others. These are the hallmarks of the amateur spirit.
BALANCED	Radio is an avocation, never interfering with duties owed to family, job, school or community.
PATRIOTIC	with station and skill always ready for service to country and community

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



**PA QSO PARTY
OCTOBER 14 & 15**

**First Class Postage
Meeting Notice Enclosed**

**October 4, 2017
Luzerne County Emergency Management 185 Water Street,
Wilkes-Barre, PA 18702**

**PROGRAM
Larry Kwasnick (KA3GRS) *R U Red Dee* on Emergency
Preparedness**

**BOARD MEETING – October 18, 2017
WBRE Offices – 7:30 PM
68 S Franklin St, Wilkes-Barre
All welcome to attend**

**Deadline for the MARC Times
November – October 25, 2017**

PA QSO PARTY RULES AND FORMS <http://www.nittany-arc.net/PAQSO.html>