



MARC Times

Newsletter of the Murgas Amateur Radio Club and K3YTL

Volume XXX Number 2

February 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

Ok, well first things first, DX! As I sit here and type, the 3Y0Z team is anchored and setting their camp up on Bouvet Island. It's 2 degrees Centigrade which is about 35 Fahrenheit. Right here, now, it's 26 degrees. So it's warmer on an island 1,400 miles from Antarctica! Go figure! They are setting up camp and should be on the air by the time you are reading this! Get in the log! That's all I can say!

Remember I mentioned February was RTTY month -- well don't miss the CQ WPX RTTY as well as the NA QSO Party RTTY! I would suggest the great N1MM logging program, free by the way, interfaced with FLdigi or, though I feel like a turncoat since Walt has taught us so much about FLdigi, but I prefer MMVARI along with N1MM. It's actually easier to get up and running and FLdigi, but either one will do, or MMTTY I also believe is compatible with N1MM. But I know Herb K2LNS and myself prefer MMVARI running inside N1MM. It's a load of fun, working a pileup with your feet up on a toolbox and leaning back on your chair. If you haven't tried it yet and have the abilities to do any of the digital modes on an HF rig, email me and I will try to help you out before the contest. If you don't have anything but are interested, email me and I'll give you a list of what's needed, but it will cost some money to start with the interfacing of the radio to the computer, at least the right way or if your rig has a built in soundcard like K3ZK's Kenwood TS-590SG which was really just plug and play for the digital modes on HF.

I know I should be mentioning something else, but I just can't remember what that is! So I'm just going to leave you with this! I'll mention whatever I forgot at the meeting after Elaine reminds me! Work lots of DX and have a great month!

-73 de K3DBG

Ham of the Year 2017

Congratulations to our very deserving 2017 Ham of the Year KA3GRS Larry Kwasnick. He was unable to make it to the club dinner so there are no pictures. Larry is very deserving as he is always there when we need him. If I were to list all Larry has done, it takes up 2 pages. Thank you Larry and congrats again. John D. K3DBG

MARC MINUTES Monthly Club Meeting For January 2018

The monthly meeting of the Murgas Amateur Radio Club was held on January 3, 2018. President John Denisco K3DBG called the meeting to order at 8:01 PM. Twenty-three members were in attendance. Also present were Leann Koons KC3JXL and Kim Murray KC3JHS. The financial records were given to the auditors and they reviewed them during the meeting. There were no upgrades or call sign changes noted. President Denisco asked if any club members are

using the FT8 mode. Several members indicated that they are. Walt Jones WN3LIF announced that Ian Kellman K3IK had a knee replacement earlier in the day, is now in recovery, and is doing well. Club members signed a card that will be sent to Ian. In the absence of the Treasurer, Herb Krumich K2LNS, Elaine Kollar K3VQR reported on the club's finances. The report was accepted. The December 2017 minutes as published in the MARC Times were accepted. The secretary, Elaine Kollar K3VQR, had no correspondence to report.

Committee Reports:

MARC Net - George Miklosi K3ZK reported that there was a seven-way tie for the Check-In Contest. All the names were entered into a drawing. The first place winner was Mark Mieczkowski KC3BRP, second place was Dave Stalker W3DKS, and third place was Mark Sklaney WB3FKP.

VE Team - Rick Rinehimer K3TOW stated that the next Ham Cram is scheduled for January 20th. The session is for Technician licensing. Testing will begin at approximately 1:30 PM.

Hamfest - Changes to the Hamfest flier needs to be completed. Walt Jones WN3LIF noted that he will make the changes needed.

Old Business:

Elaine Kollar K3VQR reported on information from Mad Tees. The approximate cost of a golf shirt (shirt with a collar) is \$14. This would include the club logo and call sign on the left-hand side of the shirt. To have your name embroidered on the right side would be an additional \$5. To get an exact cost Mad Tees needs a file of the club logo. Rick Rinehimer K3TOW stated that he has the file and will e-mail it to them. Mad Tees will make a sample shirt, if the club wants. Elaine showed a club shirt that was done in the past. After a brief discussion it was decided to have red shirts with white lettering. Also, Elaine will inquire about having both call sign and name on the right side of the shirt.

Kim Murray KC3JHS submitted an application for membership at the December meeting. Kyle Burke KC3JMO motioned to accept Kim into the Murgas Club. Bob Folmar KB3VS seconded the motion. After agreeing to abide by the club's constitution and by-laws, Kim was accepted into membership.

Walt Jones WN3LIF noted that the July club meeting falls on the 4th of July holiday. Walt motioned to move the meeting to the following Wednesday, July 11th. Bob Folmar KB3VS seconded the motion. Motion passed.

New Business:

President Denisco reminded members that the Board of Directors will be finalizing the 2018 budget at their next meeting. Requests for funding or purchases should be given to any member of the Board member before the January meeting.

The auditors, Ray Gusher KB3ACO and Larry Kwasnick KA3GRS completed their report. They stated "We the auditors find this a fair and accurate accounting for the year 2017." A motion was made by Chuck Thomas KC3IMK to accept the report. Motion was seconded by Joanne Kwasnick WB3HBM. Motion passed.

President Denisco then read the nomination letter for the 2017 Ham of the Year. The award was presented to Larry Kwasnick KA3GRS.

Announcements:

Chuck Thomas KC3IMK stated that he is collecting battery packs for recycling. He will take batteries from lap top computers, cell phones, and so forth.

Dave Shewczyk KA3WZY announced that he is retiring. On February 4th he will celebrate his last mass. Later that week he and his wife will be moving near Myrtle Beach, SC. The club congratulated Dave with a round of applause.

Walt Jones WN3LIF noted that to date there is only one person registered for the February Ham Cram. This session is for General Class licensing. At least five people need to register or the class will be canceled. Walt also announced that this will be the last year for the Ham Cram training, due to the amount of time involved to create the program when the question pool changes. If the club wants to continue training classes there are other programs available. Walt encouraged to club to continue classes of some kind. The Talon drill will be held later in the year. President Denisco stated that if anyone needs help setting up Fldigi, he is available.

Quarter Master, George Miklosi K3ZK, asked that club members let him know if there are any changes to where club property is stored. George will update the property listing as needed.

Dave Elmore KC3IMJ extended wishes for a Happy New Year from EMA Director, Lucy Morgan. The club returned the greeting.

The Murgas Board of Directors meeting will be held on January 17th 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 February 7th at 8:00 PM. The meeting is held in the Luzerne County Emergency Operations Building.

With no further business, Ray Gusher KB3ACO made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Frank Czock WB3BOT seconded the motion.

Respectfully submitted, Elaine Kollar K3VQR, Secretary

Board of Directors Meeting January 2018

The monthly Board of Directors meeting of the Murgas Amateur Radio Club was held in the WBRE-TV conference room on January 17, 2018. President John Denisco K3DBG called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM. Directors present were John Denisco K3DBG, Bill Waters KC3HLT, Herb Krumich K2LNS, Elaine Kollar K3VQR, Rick Rinehimer K3TOW, Bob Folmar KB3VS, Rich Tyira KC3FKW and Walt Jones WN3LIF. Also present was Larry Kwasnick KA3GRS.

The meeting began with Bill Waters KC3HLT discussing the program for the February meeting. Walt Jones WN3LIF will present Fldigi. Systems will be set up so that members can have hands on experience.

Walt Jones WN3LIF asked Larry Kwasnick KA3GRS to present some ideas that he had for emergency communications. Larry is proposing a 3 or 4 minute talk during the LCARES net that is held on Tuesday evening. Larry would discuss tips and hints about emergency communications and preparedness. Walt noted that Larry has information about assembling kits for Slim Jim dipoles. Walt thought that assembling the kits could be a club program perhaps combined with dinner before the meeting. Larry also stated that he could host a building night at his home. Building band pass filters was another project that was discussed. Larry also suggested that members donate the free items offered by Harbor Freight, if they can. These items can be used for prizes at the Hamfest.

The Directors then made the necessary changes and additions to the Hamfest flier. Walt Jones WN3LIF will make the changes and e-mail them for review.

Rick Rinehimer K3TOW stated that a public notice about the Murgas Club meetings has been added to Spin-Go. This will distribute the information to nine other locations. Information was also sent to the Citizens' Voice and PA Home Page. Rick sent the file of the club logo to Mad Tees. There is a \$25 fee to set up silk screening and a \$50 charge to set up embroidery. The directors decided to set up both. Elaine Kollar K3VQR will follow up with Mad Tees.

Bob Folmar KB3VS noted that he is working on getting a program about proper grounding. More information will follow.

The Directors then prepared a budget for 2018. The proposed budget will be published in the MARC Times. At the February meeting the budget will be discussed and put to a vote.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:29 PM.

Respectfully submitted, Elaine Kollar K3VQR, Secretary

From the History Book

20 Years Ago - February 2, 1998 - George Gannis WB3FKQ announced that the club's voice repeater is operational on 145.45 MHz with a new RF deck, which should improve its performance significantly.

Proposed Budget for 2018

The proposed budget has been prepared by the Board of Directors and will be presented to the membership for discussion and approval at the February 7, 2018 meeting.

Murgas Amateur Radio Club Proposed Budget for 2018			
Income		Expenses	
Dues	\$750	Refreshments	\$50
Interest	0	Field Day	\$250
Hamfest	\$2200	Hamfest	\$1000
Club Dinner	\$500	Insurance	\$350
Miscellaneous	\$0	QSL Expenses	\$125
Equipment Sales	\$0	PA QSO Party	\$50
Draw from Savings	\$1240	MARC Times	\$50
		Education	\$100
		PO Box Rental	\$140
		BOD Meeting Place Donation	\$100
		Club Dinner	\$875
		Scholarship	\$500
		Miscellaneous	\$500
		Capital Equipment	\$200
		Club Mailings	\$100
		Club Net	\$100
		Donations	\$200
Total Income	\$4690	Total Expenses	\$4690

FOR SALE:

Kenwood TS-870 HF transceiver, covers 160 thru 10 meters with 100 watts output. It has the built-in antenna tuner, DSP and 100 memory channels. Includes a Kenwood MC-60 desk microphone and a WGA TS-2000 headset with boom mike and foot switch, DC power cable and the Kenwood RCP Radio Control Program with 9 pin serial interface cable. Price is \$750.00 FIRM Non-Smoker Contact Bobkb3vs@aol.com or cell phone (570) 762-7003



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



Proposed Budget this meeting.

**First Class Postage
Meeting Notice Enclosed**

CLUB MEETING

February 7, 2018

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

PROGRAM

**Walt Jones WN3LIF will present Fldigi. Systems will be set up so
that members can have hands on experience.**

BOARD MEETING – February 21, 2018

WBRE Offices – 7:30 PM

68 S Franklin St, Wilkes-Barre

All welcome to attend

Deadline for the MARC Times

March – February 28, 2018