

Volume

1

MCKEAN COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Club Member's Manual

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McKean County Amateur Radio Club
PO Box 107
Bradford, PA 16701

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Club Information

Address

McKean County Amateur Radio Club
PO Box 107
Bradford, PA 16701-0107

Club Email Address

mcarc@mcarc.net

Club Web Site

www.mcarc.net

Meetings

When:

Third Thursday of each month at 7:00 pm

Where:

Bradford Area Public Library
West Washington Street, Bradford, PA

Officers for 2002

President: Bill Edgar N3LLR

Vice President: Bob Trask KD3JD

Secretary/Treasurer: Chris Mincemoyer KB3GGP

Benefits to Club Membership

There are many benefits for being a member of the McKean County Amateur Radio Club. You have an opportunity to meet those that you talk with on the radio, or you get to meet some people you want to talk with on the radio. Members join in for special events such as Field Day, club picnics, Christmas Parties, workshops and seminars. Our club holds licensing classes and VE testing sessions. If space in either becomes limited, club members get first dibs. Club members share ownership in a club repeater and other club owned equipment.

Field Day

On the last full weekend in June of each year, the American Radio Relay League (ARRL) sponsors a contest in the US and Canada for amateurs to simulate operating their equipment under emergency conditions. Points are earned by participants for various types of operations. Each contact using CW (Morse Code) earns double the points that a voice contact would earn. Using solar or generator power also earns higher points than using regular commercial power.

This doesn't have to be a serious event. Many clubs participate using this primarily as a social event. Contests for the best tasting food becomes more important than making contacts. One of our club members, Bruce Manning NJ3K, brings a popular dish called "Mama Manning's 5 Alarm Chili" when he participates in our Field Day event.

Field Day also is the time for newcomers to learn more about operating on new bands that may be unavailable to them due to their current license class or even having no amateur license. With the proper control operator available, they are able to operate in those bands.

Special Events

Our club members have participated in handling communications in a number of scenarios. Each spring and summer, our club is asked to handle communications for a number of bike races and walk-a-thons for various non-profit agencies. In each of the events, we are there primarily for the safety of the participants. Through amateur radio, we have been able to obtain needed assistance much faster than through conventional means.

Club participants have also provided communications to various public service agencies and disaster relief agencies during times of local disasters.

Social Events

Our club holds a summer picnic for club members, their families and prospective members.

Each December, we have a Christmas Party at a local restaurant. This event is also open to club members, their families and prospective members.

Licensing Classes

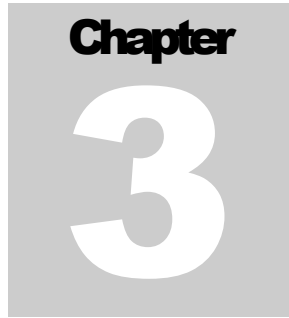
Recognizing the need for an easy way for new-comers to the hobby to earn their own amateur radio license, our club organizes and operates a licensing class at least one time a year. This an excellent time for non-licensed family members or friends who want their own license to learn the necessary information in an easy to learn format. We start training for the Technician license. This license has not code requirement and provides access to the VHF and UHF bands. The popular 2 meter and 440 Mhz bands are available under this license.

If people are interested in learning code at the same time, we will teach code 30 minutes earlier before the main class session.

With the restructured amateur licensing in effect, we are looking at conducting one or more upgrade classes which will include 5 word per minute Morse Code. Now 5 words per minute is the only Morse Code requirement for the General and Extra license classes.

VE Testing Sessions

A number of club members are registered as VE's. At certain times during the year, VE test sessions are scheduled to help members and prospective members in being able to attend local test sessions during the year.



Local Frequencies Used

Simplex Frequencies

There are a number of local frequencies used around the McKean & Cattaraugus County areas.

<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Use</i>
146.520	National calling frequency
147.510	Popular for localized public service events and general chit-chat
147.550	Popular simplex for Erie area.
432.100	National calling frequency
446.000	National simplex frequency
445.200	Local simplex frequency
52.525	National simplex frequency

Repeater Frequencies

A number of repeaters are available around the McKean and Cattaraugus Counties areas.

<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Offset</i>	<i>PL Tone</i>	<i>Sponsor</i>	<i>Area Located</i>
53.310	+	88.5	N2ISQ	Limestone
146.730	-		WB3IGM	James City / Kane
146.850	-		W3VV	Knapp Creek
147.240	+	173.8	KD3OH	Bradford
147.300	+	173.8	N3LLR	Smethport
444.500	+		N2ISQ	Bradford/Mantle Top
444.775	+	88.5	N2ISQ	Limestone
444.850	+		K2XZ	Olean

The 146.850 repeater listed above is the club's repeater.

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