



The QUARAE



Volume 18 Issue 8

Editor John Lindvay

August 2017

Prez Says

I hope everyone is enjoying their summer so far. Other than the warm temperatures and high humidity I guess we will take it.

July has been a fairly active month for amateur radio. It started off with the 13 Colony Special Event on the first of the month until July 7th. I was able to contact all 13 colony stations plus the two bonus stations. I did get the British bonus station by using a Dstar Reflector. The pile-ups were really bad on most all of the stations. Some of the people calling were either deaf or not paying attention to the colony station. If he asked for 3 land only everybody would keep on calling, not a very good example of good operation. My hat is off to the colony stations for putting up with the lids. By the way Mike W3MJA was one of the K2M PA operators. THANKS Mike.

We also had the Wattsburg Hamfest in July. The weather was a little iffy in the morning but turned out to be a good day for a hamfest. They got one new ham at the test session, he was one of the Sea Cadets that came to the RAE clubhouse last fall. It was good to see and meet hams that I talk to on the radio but have never met, and hams that I haven't seen for some time. And thanks to the ARRL I won a fifty dollar gift certificate.

On the 16th of July we did the Erie Runners Club Half Marathon at Presque Isle State Park. There were about 3,500 runners/walkers that participated in the event and they all made it back to the finish line. THANKS to all the operators who got up bright and early (6AM meet at McD's) to help with the communications.

I also participated in the ARISS Amateur Radio on the ISS Special Event starting on the 20th. It celebrated the fact that Amateur Radio has been on the ISS for twenty years. The ISS was transmitting Slow Scan TV on their 145.800 voice frequency. I was able to copy the pictures using MMSSTV, a free program. I left my computer and radio on all night as most of the passes over Erie were early in the morning, got some neat pictures.

The next Public Service Event coming up is Saturday August 26th at the peninsula. It is the Presque Isle Triathlon. If you can help, please let me know. You can go to our website w3gv.org for a listing of the Public Service Events and also a list of the nets that are available, so join in when you can.
73, Doug AD4UL

If Barbie is so popular, why do you have to buy her friends?

July 17 General Meeting Minutes

Began at 7:24 PM

Board Members and Officers Present: Ed Barlow K1ZIK, Gene Brinig K3JZL, Frank Etzler N8WXQ,



**Radio Association of Erie
Club Meeting – Thursday
August 3 at the club
house at the end of
Wagner Rd.**

**6:00 Hot dogs
7:00 PM- General Meeting
Program: TBA**

John Lindvay WB3IFD, Richard Quinn KB3ZVH,
and Doug Sweet AD4UL.

Members Present: John Churchill N3DBC, Richard
Cutter WA3MKT, Larry Kemmler KC3JBR, Kevin
McKenna KE3V, Mike Morrison KC3GOC, Joe
Ponchak KA3CPV, Ronald Seyboldt WB3DOM,
Bob Sorento KCGBD, John Szmeccki,

Frank N3WXQ presented a video field day World
War II Style

New Hams: None

Silent Keys: None

Visitors: Bob Link KA3LSK, Stan Williams
N8STN, Tom Zilonka KA3 FZN, John Beck
KB5LE

Treasurer's Report: \$1,115.50

Membership Report: Not Available.

Facilities Report: Ramp is useable. Rope for 40
meter antenna broke. Need antenna rope from DX
engineering. Need an antenna for 160 meter.
Investigating different kinds.

Repeater Report: Need radios reprogrammed for
interchangeability. Need new board for controller.
Motion made, seconded and approved to purchase
necessary items not to exceed \$400.

Public Service: Sign-up sheet was passed around
for sign-up for Presque Isle ½ marathon on July 16.

Contesting Report: Field day results, 192 CW
contacts, 54 digital contacts and 271 phone
contacts. Kevin McKenna and John Lindvay are
planning field day for next year.

Old Business: Craig Hill still in rehab and slowly
recovering. Don Rhodes wants a Tech Class for
scouts at St. Lukes starting in September leading up
to Jamboree on the Air. Class will be held Sunday
nights.

New Business: Ramp needs water proofing.

Meeting end at 7:53 PM

**Eagles may soar, but weasels don't get sucked
into jet engines.**

Letter from Chuck Bliley

O.K. Guys,

I will admit I screwed up and sent out a personal e-
mail letter to Paul by just clicking on reply and not
looking for his personal e-mail address. I rarely
reply to any list server message and am not familiar
with doing so.

Having said that, there was nothing that I would not
have said publicly, but I only wanted Paul to see the
content in my links and reflect on their merit as
stories in the QUA-RAE newsletter.

Since the links were inactive in the list server e-mail
letter, I am providing them here. Now, you can be
the judge as to their merit. :-)

Bliley Technologies Blog
([http://blog.bliley.com/stories-from-the-bliley-
vault-the-christmas-letter](http://blog.bliley.com/stories-from-the-bliley-vault-the-christmas-letter))

On my Web Site
([http://bliley.net/family/FD_Bliley/FD_Bliley_19
29_Ltr_Home.html](http://bliley.net/family/FD_Bliley/FD_Bliley_1929_Ltr_Home.html))

The Army-Navy "E" Awards of WWII
Bliley Technologies Blog
([http://blog.bliley.com/bliley-receives-wwii-
army-navy-e-award](http://blog.bliley.com/bliley-receives-wwii-army-navy-e-award))

On my Web Site w/Expanded photo
([http://www.bliley.net/XTAL/ANE_Award/index
.html](http://www.bliley.net/XTAL/ANE_Award/index.html))

Your comments and thoughts are welcome. :-)

73,

Chuck
K3NAU

Charles A. Bliley
736 Bel Arbor Trail
Webster, NY 14580-9400
E-Mail: K3NAU@AOL.com
Tele: 585 872-9155
Web Site: www.Bliley.net

The problem with the gene pool is that there is no lifeguard.

The Wattsburg Hamfest

I attended the Wattsburg Hamfest today. I had lots of boat anchors to sell, but they were too heavy for me to haul out to the car. I arrived at the hamfest about 9 AM. I missed helping out at the VE exams. I guess 3 people were taking tests but only one passed. It seemed as though there were less sellers there than usual. One note of interest; the only vendor to attend is "RW AntennaStore" located in Lockport. The correct address is 6150 Crosby Road, Lockport, NY 14094. This is the closest store since AES closed in Cleveland. They carry HDTV, WiFi, Scanners, Antenna and Accessories and more. If you want to order something immediately, call 716-434-9216. Also, they have a web site, www.rwantennastore.com. I had to leave, to attend an opening at Edinboro Pottery with my wife. Just before I left my name was called and I won two stage soldering pen. That's two hamfests in a row, I won something. I also talked to Dave Wellman about installing the Dstar repeater on the 911 tower. Dave said about 5 years ago, a place on the tower was offered to the club and the club refused. He said I should contact Dale Robertson about putting the repeater there.

I don't need anger management. I need people to stop pissing me off!

Ham researcher to investigate effects of solar eclipse

By Dan Romanchik, KB6NU

August 21 is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for many in the U.S. to see a total eclipse. It's also an opportunity for a team of Virginia Tech researchers to study the effects of the eclipse on changes in the upper atmosphere that have an impact on HF propagation and the global positioning system (GPS). Backed by research funding from NASA and the National Science Foundation, the team is headed by Dr. Greg Earle, W4GDE.

The Virginia Tech team plans to gather data from a variety of sources, including radar systems, transceivers, satellites, ham radio, and GPS receivers, in order to analyze the effects of the solar eclipse on the conductive region of the atmosphere.

"Whether military radar, or consumer GPS signals, the eclipse is going to have effects on the medium that we would like to understand better, so that we can either mitigate them or use them to our advantage," said Earle.

Here are a couple of links to news stories on the research team and the experiments:

* Virginia Tech team prepares for special project during total solar eclipse
(<http://wset.com/news/local/virginia-tech-team-prepares-for-special-project-during-total-solar-eclipse>)

* Virginia Tech expert to study August solar eclipse effects on radar, ham radio, GPS
(<http://wtkr.com/2017/07/17/virginia-tech-expert-to-study-august-solar-eclipse-effects-on-radar-ham-radio-gps/>)

Let's party!

In conjunction with the eclipse, the HamSCI and the ARRL are sponsoring the Solar Eclipse QSO Party (<http://www.hamsci.org/seqp>). (SEQP). According to an article in the August 2017 issue of QST, the goal of the SEQP is to "flood the airwaves with contacts, all measured by the automated receiver networks of the Reverse Beacon Network, PSKReporter, and WSPRNet." Once all the logs are

in, researchers will analyze the data to see what effect the eclipse had on radio propagation.

A YouTube video of a presentation at Dayton on the SEQP can be found at <https://youtu.be/3EviY2Cuxpo?list=PLihPo8xWmo8-xDYAtpP9BWX9QnhUoT7k4>

The SEQP will run from 1400Z - 2200Z on Monday, August 21. This is well before the eclipse is due to begin on the West Coast. The reason it starts before the eclipse is to establish a baseline for radio propagation conditions.

SEQP organizers urge you to make as many contacts as you can on as many bands as you can operate. Like nearly every contest, contacts are not allowed on 60m, 30m, 17m, and 12m. CW, RTTY, and PSK31 are the preferred modes because automated receivers can record those contacts, but phone and other digital modes count, too.

An interesting twist to this contest is that, like Field Day, you can earn a number of bonus points, including:

- * Operating outdoors (100 points)
- * Operating in a public place (100 points)
- * Operating a wide-band automated receiver at your station (100 points)

Hams have had a long history of supporting scientific research. They provided communications for some of the early polar explorations and listened for Sputnik as it flew overhead. The Solar Eclipse QSO Party continues this tradition, and it's going to be a lot of fun as well. Visit the HamSCI website (<http://www.hamsci.org/seqp>) for more information.

Dan Romanchik, KB6NU, blogs about amateur radio at KB6NU.Com, and is the author of the "No Nonsense" amateur radio license study guides and the CW Geek's Guide to Having Fun With Morse Code." You can reach him by emailing cwgeek@kb6nu.com.

Amateur Calendar

August 1 – Corry Club Meeting

August 3 – RAE Club Meeting

August 4 - 60 Year Anniversary Star Ranch Nudist Resort. NU5DE, Mc Dade, TX. Naturist Amateur Radio Club. See www.nu5de.org

August 5 - 10-10 International Summer Contest See www.ten-ten.org

August 5 - North American CW QSO Party. See ncjweb.com/NAQP-Rules.pdf

August 8 – Wattsburg Wireless Club Meeting

August 10 – Union City Club Meeting

August 12 - Maryland-DC QSO Party. See mdcqsoparty.w3vpr.org

August 14 - Navajo Code Talkers Day. See www.qrz.com/db/n7c

August 19 – VE Session

August 19 - North American SSB QSO Party. See www.ncjweb.com/NAQP-Rules.pdf

August 20 - ARRL Rookie RTTY Roundup. See www.arrl.org/rookie-roundup

August 21 - Solar Eclipse QSO Party See hamsci.org/seqp

August 21 – Conneaut Club Meeting

August 26 - Hawaii QSO Party. See www.hiqsoparty.org

August 26 - W/VE Islands QSO Party. See usislands.org/qso-party-rules

August 26 - Kansas QSO Party. See ksqsoparty.org

August 26 - Ohio QSO Party. See www.ohqp.org

August 27 - Skyview Radio Society Swap 'n Shop
New Kensington, PA.

See <http://www.skyviewradio.net>

August 27 - 9th Annual Cuyahoga Falls ARC Tailgate
Hamfest. Stow Ohio.

See <http://www.cfarc.org/tailgate.php>

August 27 - Chautauqua AR Service Hamfest. See
<http://chautauqua-ars.org>

September 1 – Labor Day