



# The QUARAE



Volume 19 Issue 12

Editor John Lindvay WB3IFD

December 2018

## It Seems to Me

After 250 posters, trips to all the highschoools and intermediate schools, all library branches Joe and I ended up with six students in our Technician Class. Of those six students, two have passed the Tech Exam, and one went on to become an Extra. I have high hopes that more will become hams. I learned a lot about getting information to the public. I plan to offer another class in February weather permitting. I have been thinking of combining the Tech Class and the General Class together. Congratulations to our new Extra, Drew Mortensen and our new Tech, Marc Sanderson.

I am still working FT8. I am amazed at the level of activity that takes place on one particular frequency per band. The band is mostly empty of signals except for one frequency that is used by FT8 people. On 40 meters it is 7.074 MHZ. If you go to that frequency, you will hear the trumpeting sound of ham radio. On that particular frequency, the activity is occurring 24 hours a day. Up to 50 stations are making contacts with each other at the same time on the same frequency! The only band, that has not had any activity for me, is 10 meters due probably to my modest set up.

I had fun making contacts during Sweepstakes this weekend. I work quite a few new stations which I hope will help me with the grid search.

There has been some talk of forming a Maker group to build things. If you are interested, give me a phone call.

John Lis says "Mark your Calendars for the 2019 Youngsville Hamfest - Saturday March 9th @ Youngsville, PA Fire Hall"

---

After eating an entire bull, a mountain lion felt so good he started roaring. He kept it up until a hunter came along and shot him.  
The moral: *When you're full of bull, keep your mouth shut.*

---

## General Meeting Minutes: November 01 2018

Began At: 7:00 P.M.

Board Members and Officers Present: K1ZIK- ED, KB3ZVH-RICHARD K3PLV-CRAIG, KC3GBD-BOB, N3SRF-GEORGE, WB3DOM-RON, N8WXQ-FRANK

Members Present: K3PLV-CRAIG, KC3GBD-BOB, WB3DOM-RON, N3SRF-GEORGE, KA3CPV-JOE, K1ZIK-ED, N8WXQ-FRANK, KB3ZVH-RICHARD

Program: W0og Dave Casler FCC drops bombshell on Chinese Handhelds!

New Hams: None

Silent Keys: None

Visitors: Drew Mortensen

Treasurer's Report: \$1999.92 Debits Utilities \$30.00 Lawn care \$100.00

Membership Report: Membership cards mailed out. One returned as undelivered

Facilities Report: Door Painted, Need estimate on rainspout repair.

Repeater Report: Discussion on Repeater Repair. More discussion at Board Meeting

Public Service: Done Till Spring of 2019

Contesting Report: ARRL North America  
Sweepstakes November 17 and 18

Old Business: None

New Business: WWA Christmas Party December 15, 2018 \$16.00 per person, RSVP and Pay by December 6, 2018. Board Meeting at Red Cross Building November 15, 2018 at 7:00 P.M.

Meeting End At: 7:00 P.M. Followed by Program.

Submitted by Secretary Richard Quinn KB3ZVH

---

Dear Abby,

I've suspected that my husband has been fooling around, and when confronted with the evidence, he denied everything and said it would never happen again.

---

## OBSERVATIONS BY K3PLV

Recently, there was a group on from Ducie Island (part of the Pitcairn chain) using the call VP6D. Ducie had not been on for a number of



years (the last operation was in 2008). Some operators wondered why they had problems working them. As we have all been told, listen,

listen, and listen some more. For instance they would work a station and send TU VP6D UP. As soon as they sent TU, many stations would call them. Of course the Ducie operator did not hear these stations because they called at the wrong time. Also many of these stations would not call again so the Ducie guys would work someone who did send his call again.

Even though an Amateur Extra test question says "send your call once or twice", really that is not what you should do. Send your call once and if the DX station does not go back to someone, send it again, and if the DX does not go back to someone,

send it again and continue that until they either work you or someone else.

Another observation I had was when they were operating split. I heard them working stations two kHz up. They would not listen on anything but that frequency. Yet people would call the on other frequencies and of course never work them. What they should have done is tune when the Ducie guys were listening up and when they found someone working Ducie, leave their VFOs on that frequency. I also heard a Ducie operator running split and he would work a station or two and the listen up a half kHz higher. He would work another station or two and listen up another half kHz and continue listening a little higher every QSO or two. If someone observed this they could work him easily.

I only needed Ducie on six meters and 160 meters SSB. But after they were no longer busy I worked them on nine bands running CW and five bands on phone. I was told I took contacts away from others that needed them for a new one. That is NOT true. Many times they would not have anyone calling them (at least on the frequency where they were listening) and I would work them with one call. Many times I would work them with 100 watts or less with one call.

It was nice to see this operation. They logged more than 121,000 QSOs. Even though the sunspot cycle is pretty much at the bottom of the cycle, they were worked even on 10 meters by many stations. For instance WA3PRC worked them on both SSB and CW on 10 meters using 100 watts. I was amazed to hear all the stations working them on this "dead" band. Obviously 10 meters is not really dead.

So why not try DXing. Even stations using QRP can make many DX QSOs. I worked about 135 different countries using five watts or less in one month's time. I used to run HF mobile and worked well over 200 countries with 100 watts on my way home from work. Give it a try. You might like it.

---

News Flash! All the toilets in Erie's police station have been stolen. The police have nothing to go on.

---

## Christmas Party Reservations

Cost: \$16 per person includes gratuity.

TICKET DEADLINE 12/6/2018



Location: Senior Citizen, Center Summit Township, 1450 Townhall Rd. W., Erie, PA 16509

When: Saturday, December 15, 2018, Time 4 PM until 8 PM. Dinner 5 PM.

Menu: Cheese, Crackers & Vegetable trays, Baked Chicken & Ham, Meatballs & Pasta, Antipasto Salad, Steamed Vegetables, Rolls & Butter, Cake, Soda  
Coffee, and Gift Drawing.

Christmas Cookie and Dessert Donation Appreciated.

For more information call Trish 217-9582

Mail Payment To:

Allen Platz  
8091 New Road  
Cranesville, PA 16410

To participate in the White Elephant Gift Exchange Game please bring a Wrapped Gift with a value of \$10.00.

## Radio Calendar

December 1 - 100th Season of the Green Bay Packers. See [www.k9eam.org](http://www.k9eam.org)

December 4 – Corry Club Meeting

December 6 – RAE Club Meeting

December 6 – Christmas Party Reservation deadline.

December 8 - ARRL 10-Meter Contest. See [www.arrl.org/10-meter](http://www.arrl.org/10-meter)

December 10 - 4 States QRP Group Second Sunday Sprint. See [www.4sqr.com](http://www.4sqr.com)

December 15 - WX3MAS Special Event. See [www.dlarc.org](http://www.dlarc.org)

December 15 – Christmas Party

December 15 – VE Session

December 16 - ARRL CW Rookie Roundup. See [www.arrl.org/rookie-roundup](http://www.arrl.org/rookie-roundup)

December 24 – Christmas Eve

December 25 – Christmas

December 31 – New Years Eve