



# The QUARAE



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## It Seems to Me



Such a small organism has changed this very country forever. Because of Covid-19

we lost some of our bands (3.3 GHZ). A lot of nets are being promoted for delivery of health and welfare news.

This is from the Western PA ARRL director.

“Greetings to all Radio Amateurs in the Western Pennsylvania Section!

We hope this finds everyone safe and healthy. There are a good number of interesting and useful amateur radio activities coming, and you can participate from home in all of them. Here are some nets to get you started..

First we have the WPA Health & Wellness Net every weekday morning at 9:00 am on 3983 kHz.

At 5:00 pm every evening, check in to the Western Pennsylvania Phone Traffic Net on 3983 kHz every day.

The Pennsylvania Fone Net is back on 75 meters on Monday, Wednesday and Friday evenings at 8:00 pm on 3910 kHz.

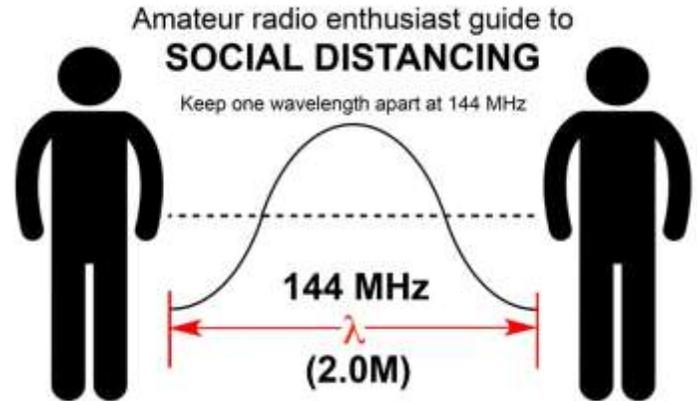
The Pennsylvania Statewide DMR net is held every Tuesday evening at 8:00 pm on DMR talkgroup 3142.

Our WPA Digital Voice Net takes place every Wednesday evening at 7:30 pm on DMR talkgroup 31422.

(The Union City Repeater 146.70 MHz now has DMR capabilities.)

The Western Pennsylvania ARES Voice Net meets every Saturday morning on 3983 kHz at 9:00 am. Everyone is welcome.

The PA HF NBEMS Net meets Sundays at 0730 for Early, Out-of-State Check-ins, and then starts at 0800 for Pennsylvania Check-ins. frequency is 3583.0 kHz USB / 1500 Hz Waterfall, the mode for initial call-up and check in is THOR 22 for check-ins and then using MFSK32 or THOR 50x1 for traffic.



Also on Sunday mornings, the PEMA ACS Central Area Net takes place at 8:30 am on 3993.5 kHz for stations in Bedford, Blair, Centre, Clinton, Franklin, Fulton, Huntingdon, Mifflin and Potter counties. Everyone is welcome.

Every Sunday morning at 9:00 am, the PEMA ACS Western Area Net meets on 3990.5 kHz for stations in the westernmost 24 counties of our WPA section. Everyone is welcome.”

There are some new stations on the air that have strange call signs (VA2STAYHOME, 5B4STAYHOME), etc. The virus has caused more activity on local nets. All the monthly club meetings have been canceled. Some clubs are trying to hold virtual meetings over the internet. Some are using a program called ZOOM. There are no minutes except to say that the RAE meeting was canceled.

## HAM RADIO RIEDRICHSHAFEN IS CANCELLED

Pronounced “ Freed Ricks Har Fen”. This major global amateur radio event was scheduled for the 26th through the 28th of June in southern Germany. New regulations announced by Chancellor Angela Merkl and Bavaria's President Markus Söder have ended prospects for any large events at least through to the end of August.

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“The world is full of fools eagerly waiting to hear what they long to be told.”

— **Jeff Wheeler**

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## NY HAMS PREPARE A RADIO THANK-YOU TO PANDEMIC HEROES

In New York, hams are preparing a statewide thank-you to those on the front lines of this unprecedented pandemic. Jim Damron N8TMW has that story.

Hams in New York State, which has more COVID-19 patients than any other U.S. state - and more cases than any other nation - are giving the world's biggest amateur radio "thank you" to the men and women on the front lines. The Great South Bay Amateur Radio Club in Lindenhurst, New York, is coordinating the activation of special event station K2H - that's "H" for heroes - starting May 1st and running through May 31st. This is a statewide activation, with hams in every county throughout the state operating in the spirit of gratitude for the police, firefighters, mortuary workers, medical professionals and food-service workers - the people who keep things moving while the world itself seems to have stopped. If you're in New York State and wish to join them, please email the organizers at (k2hheroes@gmail.com) for If you're hearing this report anywhere in the world, be listening for K2H on all bands and in all modes. Downloadable certificates will be available -- as will big thank-you for everyone.

For Amateur Radio Newline, Jim Damron N8TMW.

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One advantage of talking to yourself is that you know at least somebody's listening. ~Franklin P. Jones

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## How-to start using DMR in Amateur Radio

There's an exciting technology that's sweeping across the Ham Radio landscape. It's called DMR. DMR stands for Digital Mobile Radio and it's really cool. By using an internet linked local repeater or a HotSpot, you can communicate with fellow hams all across the globe with clear digital communications..

DMR has exploded in usage for both commercial and amateur radio because DMR is an open standard. This has allowed for many manufacturers to supply the market with low cost DMR handhelds. This has been great for amateur radio because it allows for many hams to enjoy this exciting new technology.

**STEP 1:** You need to get your own unique DMR ID. Visit RadioID.net, register with your amateur radio call sign and obtain a DMR ID. RadioID.net has an automated registration process to where you can instantly get a unique DMR ID. Why do you need an ID? This will allow for you to take and use your DMR radio anywhere in the world and be uniquely identified and access DMR networks to communicate. It is a must!

**STEP 2:** Get a good quality DMR capable handheld radio – You need a good reliable radio that's heavily supported by the company you bought it from. Support is absolutely critical when considering the purchase of a radio, especially when it comes to DMR.. Oftentimes folks new to DMR will buy a low priced DMR HT on Amazon or EBay and soon after find themselves in a bad way if problems arise. They'll make effort to contact the vendor they purchased the radio from and then be told to contact the manufacturer. This creates a great amount of grief and causes a lot of people to simply give up on DMR due to no support. This can't be stressed enough in that you want to make

absolute sure you partner with a good company that has the resources to help you be successful. At BridgeCom Systems, we are committed to your success and enjoyment with DMR. Ham Radio is supposed to be fun! That's why we've partnered with AnyTone, makers of the popular AT-D878UV dual band UHF/VHF DMR radio. The AT-D878UV makes getting on DMR very easy and we support the AT-D878UV 100%. We've sold hundreds of AnyTone's AT-D878UV DMR radio and it has proven to be an extremely reliable and versatile radio. Our extensive knowledge of the AT-D878UV and DMR makes us a good partner for you. Also on our website support page we have an exhaustive video library of 'how-to' videos ranging from how to install the CPS (Customer Programmer Software) to creating your first code plug and making your first contact.

STEP 3: Now that you have a DMR ID and a DMR Radio, what are the options for making your first contact?

1. Local Repeater You'll need to find a local repeater. This is not too hard. I suggest you visit [www.RepeaterBook.com](http://www.RepeaterBook.com) and search for a DMR repeater in your area. From there you can obtain the repeater credentials to create a code-plug for your radio. Another option would to inquire of your local amateur radio club and see if they support DMR. They should be able to steer you in the right direction. You'll want to inquire and see what talk groups are available and what color codes are used and what network the repeater is connected. Is your local repeater connected to BrandMeister, DMRMARC.net, or something else?

2. DMR HotSpot If you don't have access to a local repeater or you want to be as autonomous as possible, the BEST way to communicate worldwide is through a DMR Hotspot. A DMR hotspot is an internet based access point that allows you to use your DMR HT to communicate with other connected repeaters or HotSpots. Simply put, if you have an internet connection, you can connect to the Brandmeister network and talk all over the world.

## Amateur Radio Calendar

May 1 – Mayday

May 2 7th Call Area QSO Party, See [7qp.org](http://7qp.org)

May 2 - 10-10 International CW Spring Contest, See [www.ten-ten.org](http://www.ten-ten.org)

May 2 - Indiana QSO Party, See [www.hdxcc.org/inqp](http://www.hdxcc.org/inqp)

May 2 - VHF Delaware QSO Party, See [www.fsarc.org/qsoparty](http://www.fsarc.org/qsoparty)

May 2 - New England QSO Party, See [www.neqp.org](http://www.neqp.org)

May 5 - Corry Amateur Club Meeting (Red Cross Building on Main Street)

May 5 – Cinco de Mayo

May 7- RAE Club Meeting (Red Cross Building) **(cancelled)**

May 9 - Arkansas QSO Party, See [www.arkqp.com](http://www.arkqp.com)

May 10 – Mother's Day

May 12 - Wattsburg Wireless Club Meeting (9333 Tate Road Room 107)

May 14 - Union City Wireless Association Meeting **(Zoom)**

May 16 - VE Amateur Exams

May 18 - The Conneaut Amateur Radio Club Meeting

May 25 - Memorial Day