



Monthly Newsletter
January 15, 2025

❖ What's New ?

We have a new slate of Elected Club Officers for 2025. They are:

Frank Mellott, KB3PQT	President
John Luthy, WA3KCP	Vice-President
Garry Fasick, K3EYK	Treasurer
Paula Anstine, KC3UVH	Secretary
Richard Johnson, N3EPY	Membership Secretary

And, an Appointed Position
Dave Smith, W3SOX Club License Trustee

❖ What's New ? – Part 2

The CARC Meeting Dates 2025 calendar has been created and printed in FULL COLOR on PREMIUM GLOSSY PAPER. If you would like to have one of these calendars please see where Andrew Forsyth AF3I is sitting in the Hoss's Meeting Room. The calendars will be near him. Please take one.

❖ On-The-Air Events

January 2025 post publication date	<u>Local Dates</u>
• SKCC Weekend Sprint-a-thon	11 th -12 th
• North Amer. QSO Party CW	11 th -12 th
• North Amer. QSO Party SSB	18 th -19 th
• ARRL VHF Contest	18 th -19 th
• CQ WW 160 Meter Contest CW	24 th -26 th
• Winter Field Day	25 th -26 th
• Vermont QSO Party	31 st -Feb.2 nd

February 2025	<u>Local Dates</u>
• Minnesota QSO Party	1 st
• British Columbia QSO Party	1 st -2 nd
• CQ WPX RTTY Contest	7 th -9 th
• SKCC Weekend Sprint-a-thon	8 th -9 th
• ARRL School Club Roundup	10 th -14 th
• ARRL International DX CW	14 th -16 th
• CQ WW 160 Meter Contest SSB	21 st -23 rd
• South Carolina QSO Party	22 nd
• North Carolina QSO Party	23 rd
• North American QSO Party RTTY	22 nd -23 rd
• ARRL International DX SSB	28 th -Mar.2 nd

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Activity or Training Lesson	Published Elsewhere

Check the dates. Some contests begin at 0000Z which is Saturday morning UTC, but late Friday night local time.

❖ **General Interest and Calendar Items January 2025, and later**

Ham Radio License Exam Testing Part 1	Harrisburg Radio Amateur Club (HRAC) test dates are 3rd Saturdays, EVEN Numbered Months, starting at 9 a.m. <i>Location: Vietnam Veterans of America, 8000 Derry Street, Harrisburg, PA</i> <i>Laurel VEC = No Testing Fee ! Pre-Registration, including your FCC FRN, is required.</i> Additional info at their web page: www.w3uu.org Follow the menu: Getting Started in...
Ham Radio License Exam Testing Part 2	South Mountain Radio Amateurs (SMRA) conducts license testing at the Public Safety Center off Claremont Road, Carlisle, PA. Exam sessions are scheduled monthly at 6 p.m. on the third Tuesday of the month. Preregistration is required. Our readers are encouraged to perform their own due diligence to validate any exam session in which they have an interest. Contact: n3tw@arrl.net or smraham@gmail.com There is a modest fee for this testing service. Additional details at their web page. http://n3tw.org/links/getting-licensed/smra-testing-policies/
Ham Radio License Exam Testing Part 3	Keystone VHF Club (KVHF) conducts license testing at the York County Department of Emergency Services. Exam sessions are scheduled the 2nd Saturday, ODD Numbered Months, starting at 10 a.m. Visit https://www.w3hz.com/laurel-vec-testing/ for additional information. <i>Location: York County Department of Emergency Services, 120 Davies Road, York, PA</i> <i>Laurel VEC = No Testing Fee ! Pre-Registration, including your FCC FRN, is required.</i>
Ham Radio License Exam Testing Part 4	Cross Keys Village Amateur Radio Club in conjunction with Adams County Amateur Radio Society conducts license testing in the Cross Keys Village Harmony Ridge Community Center, Encore Room. Exam sessions are offered on the Third Saturday of Odd Numbered months between 9:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. Pre-Registration, including FCC FRN, is required. Online Form at: https://www.w3kgn.org . Look for “VE Examinations” in the left-side menu bar. Laurel VEC does not charge a testing fee for administering license exams. FCC \$35 fee online payment required before license issuance.
Ham Radio License Exam Testing Part 5	Capital Area Testing Group Schedule: First Tuesday at 6 p.m. Contact: Paul E. Rokoff 717.657.7652 eMail: CapitalATG@yahoo.com Testing Location Manada Hill Diner, 257 N. Hershey Road, West Hanover Twp, PA (Next to La Quinta Hotel)
Ham Radio License Exam Testing Part 6	Nighthawk VE Team Schedule: Last Saturday of certain months at 9 a.m. Contact: Joshua Burleigh 570.220.5443 eMail: kc3olo@arrl.net Testing Location: usually Greenvillage Church of God, 5164 Philadelphia Ave. Chambersburg, PA
License Exam Training Class	Ralph Brandt, K3HQI offers license exam training classes from time to time as part of the Keystone VHF Club and perhaps in conjunction with other organizations and events. Contact Info: Ralph Brandt, K3HQI eMail: K3HQI@arrl.net 717.885.3063 or Google him.
License Exam Training Class	The Nashua Area Radio Society (Nashua, NH) offers license exam training classes on a frequent basis. Some are online. Others are conducted in-person. Check their website for current information. https://www.n1fd.org/amateur-radio-license-class/
License Exam Training Class	If you know of any upcoming License Exam Training classes please let AF3I know so that they can be listed here. The ARRL website has a search tool. The classes I found were listed behind the keyword “online”. http://www.arrl.org/find-an-amateur-radio-license-class
CARC Weekly Coffee Time	Every Thursday at 10:00 a.m. Location: Sometimes at Caffe 101 in Boiling Springs, PA. On the corner, across from the clock-tower and diagonally across from the Boiling Springs Tavern. Sometimes conducted as a Zoom Meeting. Check with Richard Johnson N3EPY for info.

If you have Calendar items that you would like to share with your fellow CARC Members please send them to the Newsletter Editor – Andrew Forsyth AF3I. He can be reached by eMail sent to:
AF3I@RadioClub-CARC.com

❖ Nets, YouTube Channels, and Web Sites of Interest

CARC Two Meter VHF Digital Net	<p>Every Sunday evening at 6:00 p.m. local time. 146.490 MHz FM Simplex. Most likely we will be using OpMode THOR 22.</p> <p>If you have experience using Sound Card Digital Modes you will feel at home with this digital net. Mostly informal in terms of conversation topics.</p> <p>If you have not yet experienced the pleasure of using Sound Card Digital Modes you are invited to seek assistance. CARC Members have all kinds of skills tucked away in remote corners of their universe. Some of these members maintain a low profile. However, if you ask they will spring forth and share their experiences with you. You could send an eMail message to ELMER@RadioClub-CARC.com and one of us will crawl out of our den to help you.</p>										
CARC Two Meter Phone Net	<p>Every Sunday evening at 7:00 p.m. local time. 2 meter band. 146.490 MHz FM Simplex. Also available through EchoLink Node 259045 or search for station AF3I-L. EchoLink is great for licensed Amateur Radio operators who have no transceiver and/or no antenna. EchoLink is equally great for anyone who resides or travels outside our local area and wishes to stay in touch. Visit www.echolink.org as a starting point.</p>										
CARC Ten Meter Phone Net	<p>Every Wednesday* at 8 p.m. local time. 10 meter band. 28.400 MHz USB In case of other activity on that frequency tune up or down the band a few kilo-Hertz looking for us. *Except Monthly Meeting Night on the third Wednesday of the month.</p>										
Morning Grind Net	<p>K3IR.org/morning-grind/ 9:00 a.m. Daily. Sunday is Informal – No Net Control. 145.23 MHz analog FM Repeater minus offset. PL 118.8 Hz Manheim, PA</p>										
21 Repeater Group	<p>145.210 MHz https://groups.io/g/21repeatergroup On occasion I tune to 145.210 MHz and find something of interest. They draw a large crowd.</p>										
Website	<p>http://www.kb9at.com/ AF3I writing: I use this site because it contains a link to the FCC License Search site. You might find other interesting content on this site.</p>										
Website	<p>https://www.k8zt.com/ Anthony Luscre has more information packed into this website than Carter has pills. Even if you don't need his information today, you probably will need it sometime soon.</p>										
RigPix	<p>https://www.rigpix.com/ Steve Hancock N3FWE recommended this site. Your Editor visited the site as part of his due diligence process. It is there. Steve was correct.</p>										
YouTube.com	<table border="0"> <tr> <td>Ham Radio 2.0</td> <td>This is Jason, KC5HWB</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Ham Radio Crash Course</td> <td>This site is maintained by Josh</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Ham Radio Tube</td> <td>This site is maintained by Mike, K8MRD.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Search the site for DAVE CASLER.</td> <td>He usually has something good to say.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Search the site for ARRL HQ.</td> <td>You be the judge of what they have to say.</td> </tr> </table>	Ham Radio 2.0	This is Jason, KC5HWB	Ham Radio Crash Course	This site is maintained by Josh	Ham Radio Tube	This site is maintained by Mike, K8MRD.	Search the site for DAVE CASLER.	He usually has something good to say.	Search the site for ARRL HQ.	You be the judge of what they have to say.
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License Exam Practice Q&A	<p>https://hamradioprep.com/free-ham-radio-practice-tests/ If you navigate to their HOME page you may have difficulty finding the Free Ham Radio Practice Tests. Use the link we provided. Or, go to the end of the HOME page and the Site Map. Look for: RESOURCES Free Practice Tests.</p>										
License Exam Practice Q&A	<p>www.arrl.org/exam-practice Then follow the link ARRL Exam Review for Ham Radio.</p>										

Why the YouTube content listings? I thought there might be some ham radio hobbyists among us who otherwise would be unaware of what exists out in cyber space. I invite you to enjoy what you find. I encourage sharing. Tell me about your discoveries and I will post them for the benefit of our readers.

Or, post your discoveries on the club's groups.io/g/RadioClub-CARC site

❖ Coming Soon – North American QSO Party

At the time your Editor is writing this article there are 171 days standing between us and the start of Field Day 2025. The clock is ticking.

Way in the back of the room I see a couple of people who want to get on the air in order to stay in practice. The AF3I motto is: If you rest, you rust.

For those folks and other like-minded individuals I present the NORTH AMERICAN QSO PARTY SSB. This popular event takes place Saturday January 18, 2025 beginning at 1800 UTC (1 p.m. for you LOCAL TIME men and women).

This contest ending time is 12 hours later. An operator is permitted to be on the air 10 hours out of that 12 hour time window. So, if you can sit in the chair for 10 straight hours you will be done at 11:00 p.m. If you eat dinner at the table with your friends or family and then help with the dishes you might be able to claim two hours off time. In that case you can continue operating right to the very end at 1:00 a.m. Sunday January 19, 2025.

North American stations work everyone. For purposes of this contest Hawaii is considered to be North America. However, the N3FJP Contest Logging app doesn't consider HI to be a multiplier. If you work a Hawaiian station your claimed score as shown by N3FJP will be less than you deserve. The contest robot almost certainly performs its own calculations and you will come out okay when the results are published.

And, compared to many other contests, Alaska and Hawaii are considered to be states, not DX countries. Alaska is North America anyway so no worries about AK multipliers.

Contest Exchange is: NAME and STATE.

Scoring provides a powerful incentive to get on as many bands as possible. North American States plus DC, Canadian Provinces, plus any other North American entities on the ARRL DXCC list are the multipliers. And, these multipliers count once per band. (If you work Delaware on 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, and 10 meters you get six multipliers.)

Non-North American stations may be worked for QSO credit but do not count as multipliers.

NAQP Contest Rules can be found here:

<https://ncjweb.com/NAQP-Rules.pdf>

Low Power 100 watts or less. QRP stations (5 watts or less) will be listed separately. High power stations will be classified as Check Logs. Cheaters disqualified.

Logs must be submitted online within 7 days after the end of the on-the-air activity.

N3FJP NAQP software Version 5.3.7 is current.

❖ Here is a Great Story by John Luthy, WA3KCP

What a great side story to my personal best CQ WW CW 2024 contest performance. Right back to my first days in the hobby.

During the multiple QSO per minute contest pace, I worked SM6CNN, a call which jogged a 1968 Novice memory. SM-something-CNN was my first ever DX QSO! I tapped out a quick comment but had no time for rag chewing.

After this weekend's contest, SM6CNN Anders sent me an email, congratulating me and happy to be my first DX. With a chuckle, I replied to his email:

Ah, greetings Anders! It was a pleasure to contact you, and I appreciate your follow-up email. I need to explain....

I didn't have time then to dig out my QSL collection to verify, but in 1968, SM?CNN was my first dx as WN3KCP in MD! CW of course, 60 watts crystal-controlled home-built Heathkit DX60B and a dipole.

In our weekend contest QSO, that's what I was going to say ... but contesting is not for rag chewing!

I'm a curious person, so I just dug out that original logbook. My first DX was actually SM3CNN, 29-VIII-1968 at 1526z on 21.150, Andy in Gevle. I vividly remember the thrill!

You can imagine my reaction when he replied:

Sorry I misunderstood you. That was me in 1968! I was SM3CNN 1960-1969

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I love stuff like that!
73, John WA3KCP