443.300 – Plus offset (5 MHz), tone 67 Hz
145.430 – Minus offset (600 kHz), tone 67 hz
146.460 – Plus offset (1 MHz), tone 67 Hz
146.685 – Minus offset (600KHz) DMR

VE Testing Policies; test sessions begin at 6PM – just prior to the 7PM monthly meeting on the 3rd Tuesday of each month.

SMRA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

WWW.N3TWT.ORG

ED OTTO, W3ETO - PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

TUESDAY 18 NOV 25 AT 7:00 PM

GENERAL SMRA MONTHLY MEMBERSHIP MEETING

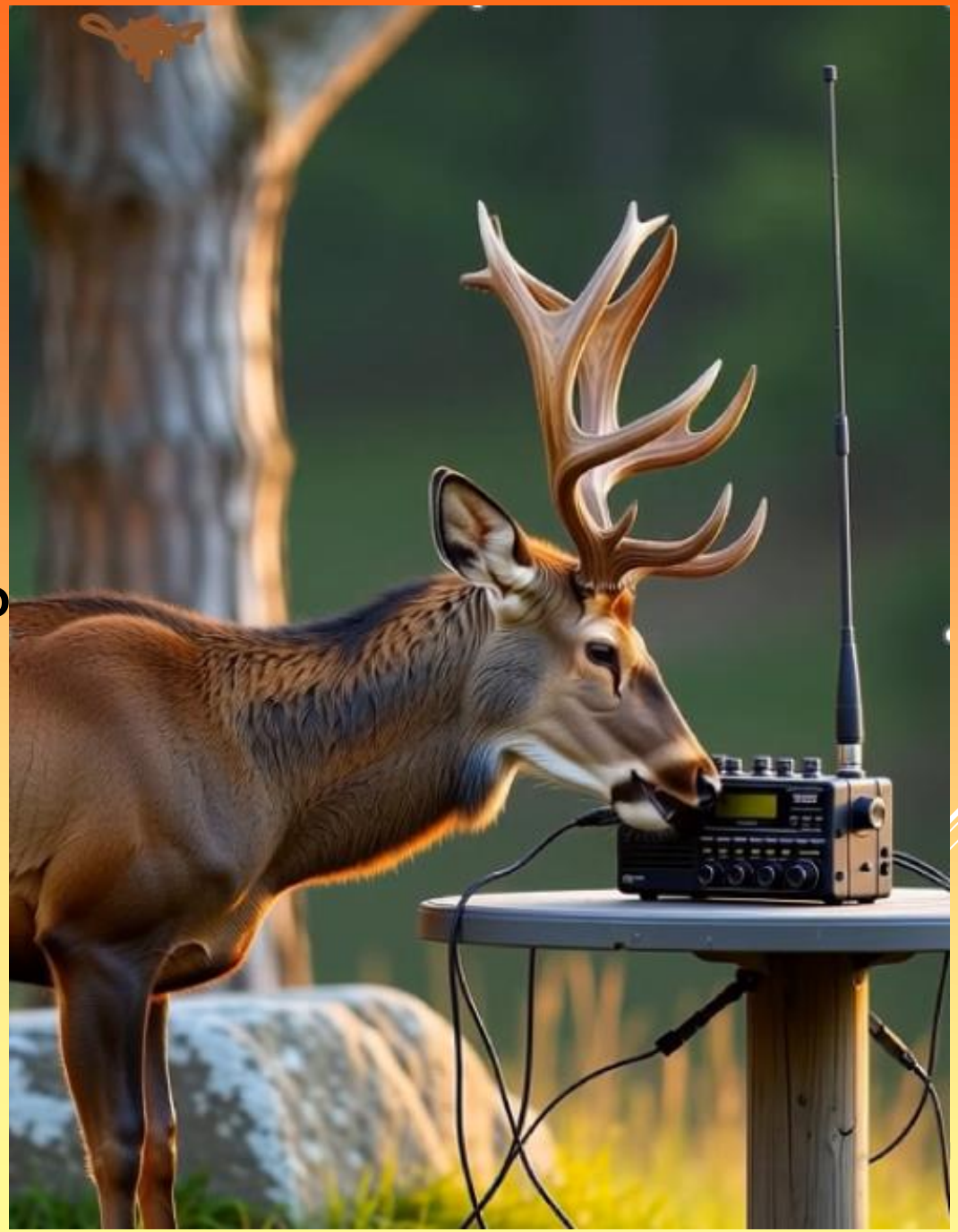
ALSO STREAMED ON ZOOM

Fun with AI

COMBINE YOUR HOBBIES

- There are many things competing for your radio time.
  - Why not combine hobbies?

- **You never know who may join into your hobby!**



CALL TO ORDER

- Recognition of guests
- New member applications
- Acceptance of new members

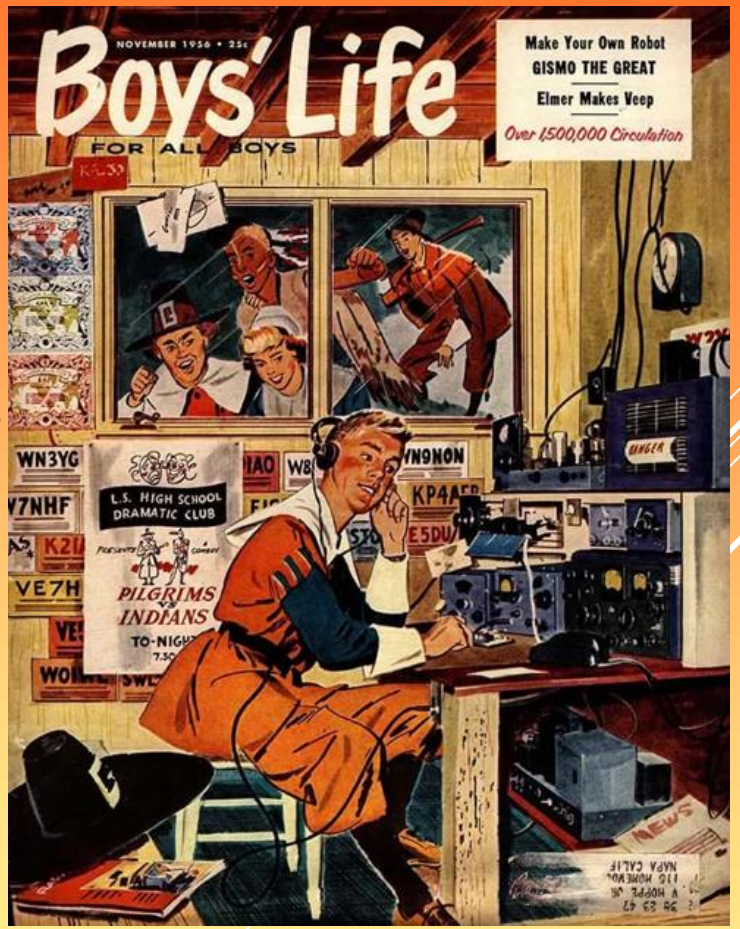
- New Members: We use the message system Groups.io for communicating to members. You will see a request to join SMRA.Groups.io

TONIGHT:

- Presentation: APRS an Overview–Rick, KC3DRU
- Shack-of-the-Month or Gadget of the Month
- Winter Field Day
- Officers report
- Nets
- Announcements, Contests and Events
- Around the Room – as time permits

GROUPS.IO FOR SMRA CLUB INFO:

- We have a great number of unique SMRA sub-groups on Groups.io
- Members may not know about them
  - NOTE: Groups.io emails can easily be blocked by SPAM Blockers.
- Don’t need to email all groups, the same content.
- **SMRA@Groups.io – Goes to everyone.**
  - Announcements, Events, Interesting HAM radio news
  - Discussion and Questions welcome
  - Are you on this group and receiving emails?



PRESENTATION:

APRS Overview

Balloon Series #2

Rick - KC3DRU

APRS Overview

What is it?
Why would I use it?
How do I get started?

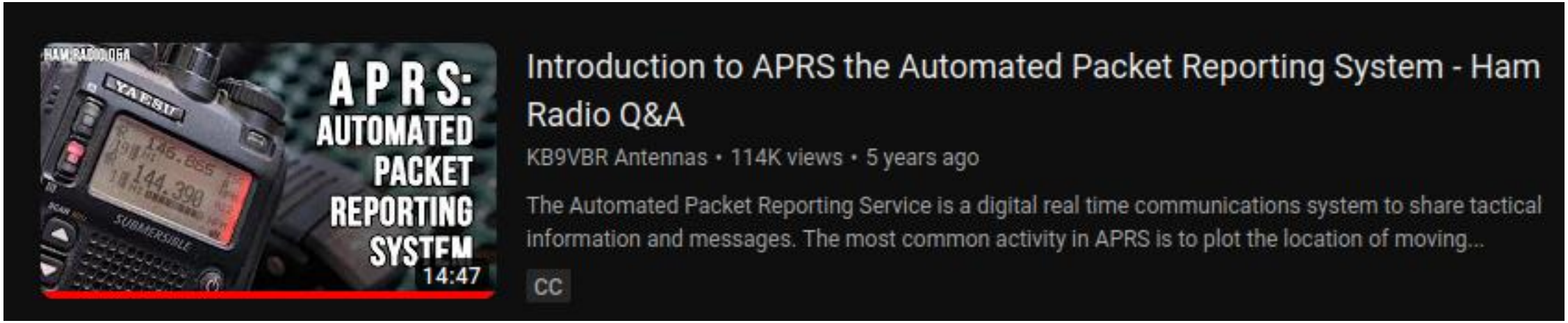
https://bit.ly/DRU2511

Rick Stoner
KC3DRU

April 2024
November 2025

What is APRS?

- KB9VBR Intro to APRS video - pre-meeting “homework”. https://youtu.be/xQFSmINZqCY?si=Lrna0SCHKKseX2DK



What is APRS?

- **A**utomatic **P**acket **R**eporting **S**ystem
- Created by **Bob Bruninga (WB4APR)** in the 1980's
- Short data packet bursts that broadcast and repeat data via RF
- Data can be general information e.g. station status, telemetry, or current weather
- Packets can also be directed to a specific station, a group of operators, or to a data service.
- Messages always include sender's location, callsign, and packet duration (**Path**)

What is APRS?

- Individual radios for a station are identified by a Secondary Station ID (**SSID**)
  e.g.: KC3DRU**-7** KC3DRU**-9**
- **Digipeaters** are stations that listen for packets and then re-broadcast them to help propagate packets
- **IGate** stations listen for RF packets and then routes them through the APRS-Internet-System (**APRS-IS**).
- If an IGATE receives an APRS-IS packet for a station it has heard **beacon**, it will transmit that packet over RF

- All VHF-FM APRS traffic in US is on **144.390 MHz**

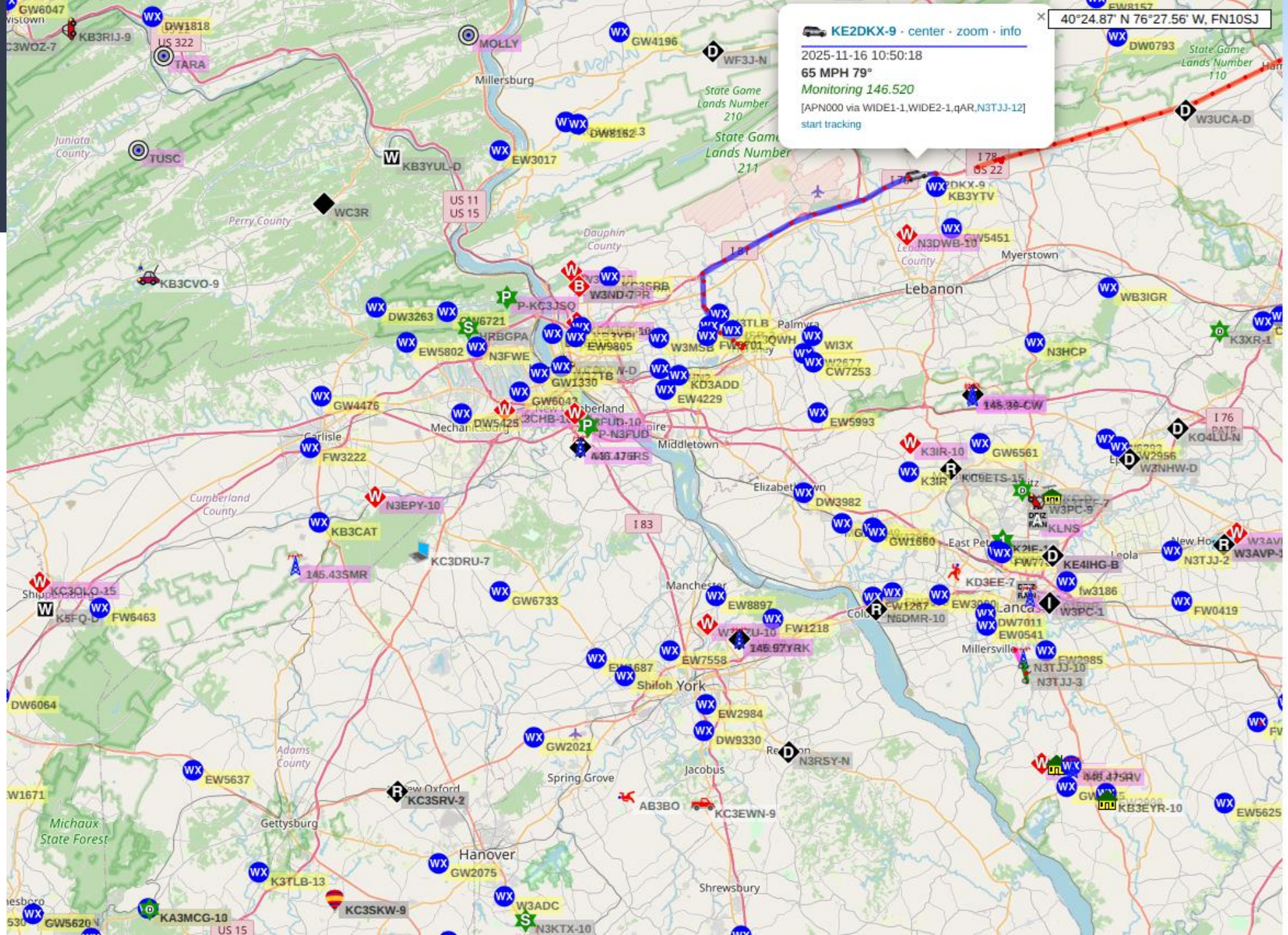
Uses for APRS

- Current position reports. Usually integrated with GPS data to get real-time location.
- Fixed stations can just broadcast a static location with status info e.g. club meeting info
- Short text messages to another operator.
- Beacon messages to indicate the station’s current status and listening frequency
- Balloon tracking (WA3USG presentation from 2023)

Uses for APRS

- Weather measurement (ham's post weather station values on APRS)
- Get weather forecast for your current location
- Spot yourself at a POTA / SOTA
- Send brief email (APRS to WinLink)
- Send / receive SMS (cell phone text) messages. (Note: ***SMSGTE*** is currently off-line due to government intervention "**SMS**" is available must opt-in to receive texts)

Our Area



KE2DKX-9 · center · zoom · info
2025-11-16 10:50:18
65 MPH 79°
Monitoring 146.520
[APN000 via WIDE1-1,WIDE2-1,qAR,N3TJJ-12]
start tracking
40°24.87' N 76°27.56' W, FN10SJ
Millersburg
Lebanon
Myerstown
Middletown
Carlisle
Mechanicsburg
Elizabethtown
Manchester
Lancaster
Millersville
Leola
York
Shiloh
Spring Grove
Jacobus
Hanover
Gettysburg
Shrewsbury
Michaux State Forest
Perry County
Dauphin County
Cumberland County
Adams County
Juniata County
State Game Lands Number 210
State Game Lands Number 211
State Game Lands Number 110

Getting Started with APRS ($)

- Cell phone, APRS Cable, & a Baofeng UV5R
- App pulls location from phone's GPS
- Set radio to VOX mode
- Use the phone's on-screen keyboard
- FLAKEY RESULTS

› Portable Audio & Video › CB & Two-Way Radios › Two-Way Radios

Roll over image to zoom in

BTECH APRS-K1 Multi-Function Universal Audio Interface Cable - Supports APRSpro, APRSDroid - Android & iOS Compatible - Supports BTECH, BaoFeng, TYT, Wouxun, AnyTone, Kenwood, and More

Visit the BTECH Store

4.7 ★★★★½ 1,198 ratings | 117 answered questions

Amazon's Choice in Portable FRS Two-Way Radios by BTECH

200+ bought in past month

$22.49

Get **Fast, Free Shipping** with Amazon Prime
FREE Returns

Get $50 off instantly: Pay $0.00 ~~$22.49~~ upon approval for Amazon Visa. No annual fee.

Brand	BTECH
Connector Type	Auxiliary
Cable Type	K1
Compatible Devices	Personal Computer, Tablet, Speaker

Google Play

Games Apps Movies & TV Books

APRSdroid - APRS Client

Georg Lukas

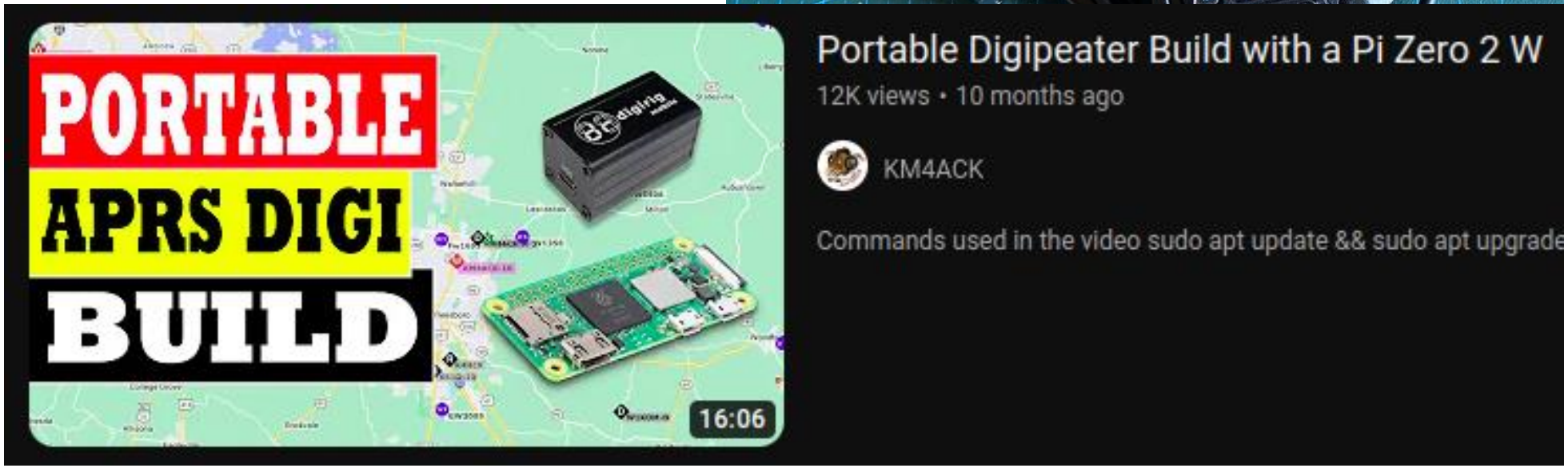
4.1★ 1.61K reviews | 50K+ Downloads | E Everyone ⓘ

- I've had hit or miss success with this
- Sometimes it sends
- Sometimes it decodes
- Make sure to turn off phone notifications so they don't trigger VOX.

Getting Started with APRS ($$)

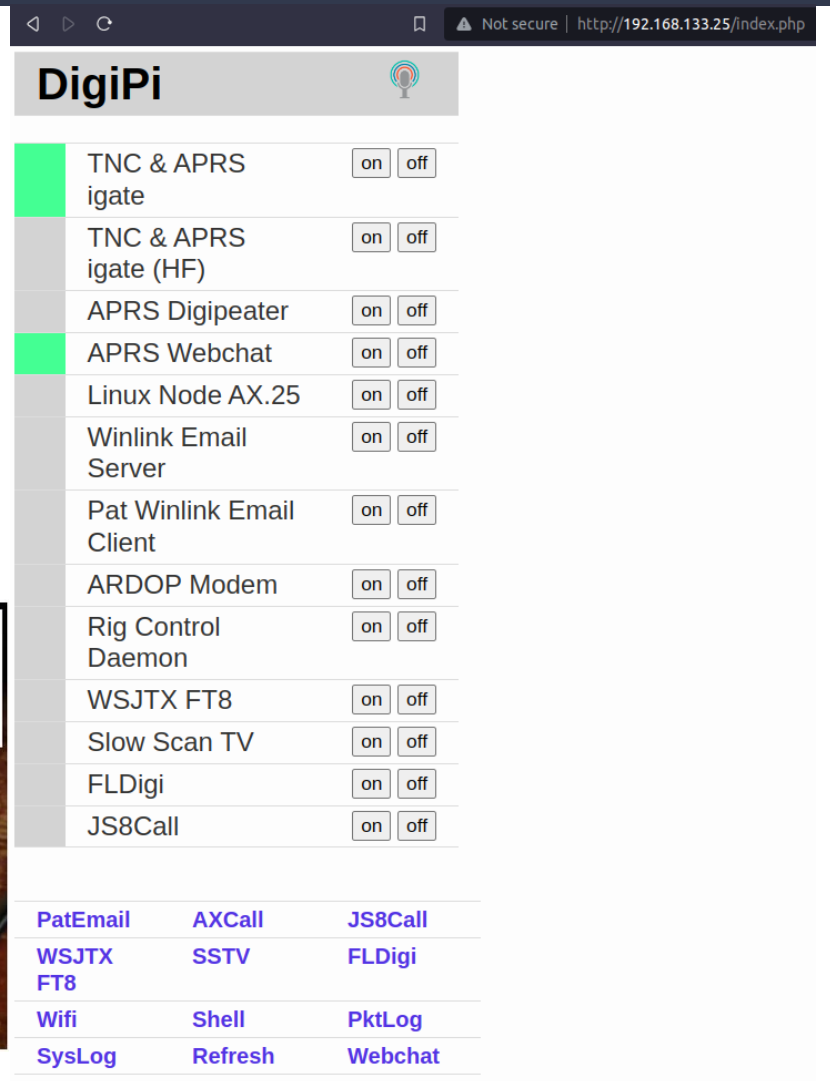
- Build a **DigiPeater**
- Computer (Laptop or Pi)
- **DigiRig** sound card interface
- Cable for DigiRig-to-Radio
- Follow Jason's video
- Add **YAAC** for a user-interface to send messages, see stations on a map, receive messages.
- Uses "**DireWolf**" to control radio and handle APRS decoding.

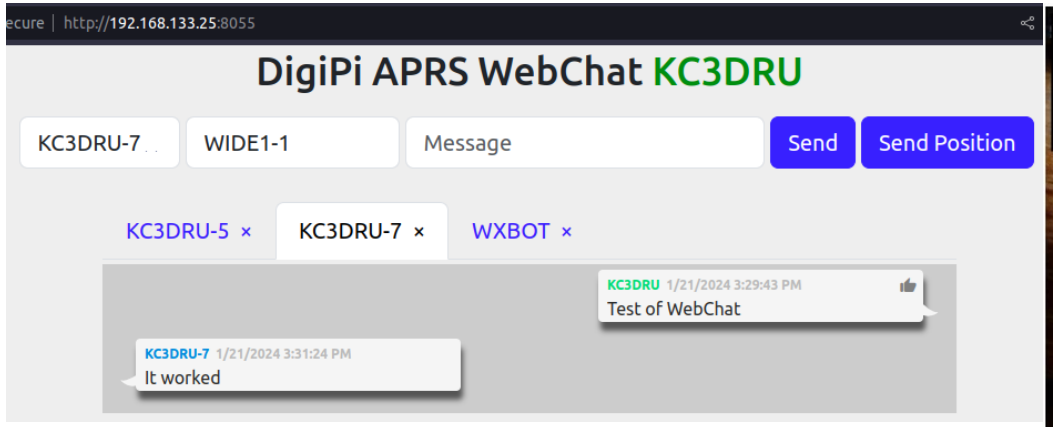
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TCpt6NY1kew

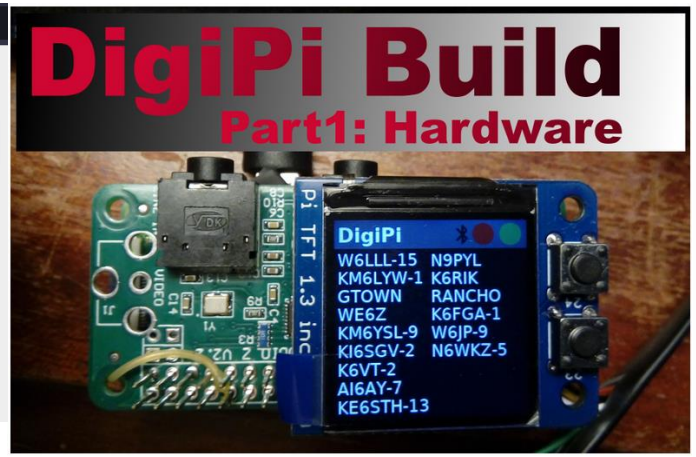


Getting Started with APRS ($$)

- Build a **DigiPi** Project (**KM6LYW**) https://digipi.org/
- Based on a Raspberry Pi - Any model?
- Can build a custom PTT header board (Plans on site) better yet, All-In-One-Cable https://na6d.com/products/aioc-ham-radio-all-in-one-cable
- "Webify" the Pi experience.
- Use a browser (phone / laptop / etc) to control the Pi using a web page.
- Click a button to enable programs / capabilities
- Tried using Pi Zero 2W with DigiRig but ran into stability problems - too much current draw for Pi Zero? Works well with Pi 4.
- Has a handy APRS "**WebChat**" feature (**APRSd**)
- His DireWolf instance limits traffic to just your callsign.







Getting Started with APRS ($$$)

- Still use **APRSDroid** on the phone
- TNC (Terminal Node Controller) has Bluetooth connection to phone / tablet (No cell service required)
- Buy cable to match your radio
- Fewer cables to mess with
- Radio can be placed in better location
- Allows other functionality (via TNC) e.g. WoAD (Winlink)

Mobilinkd

HOME CATALOG BLOG ABOUT US

Mobilinkd TNC4 $149.95 USD

Add to Cart

The Mobilinkd TNC4 builds upon the success of the TNC3, offering improved battery life, high baud rate performance, and a USB-C connector.

The TNC4 boasts

- Bluetooth 4.2 support (dual-mode EDR/LE) **iOS Compatible**

PRODUCTS

$9.95

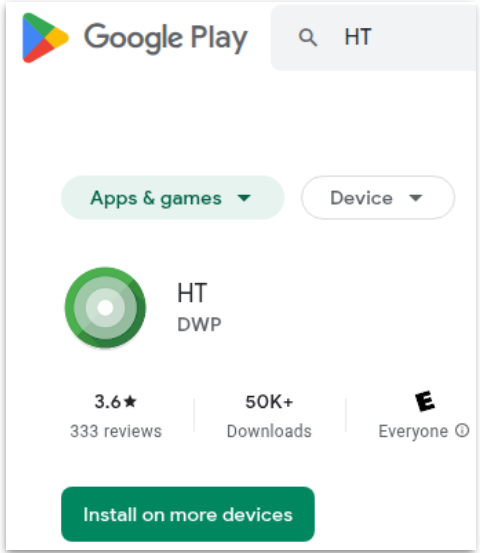
TNC Cable for Kenwood, Wouxun, Baofeng

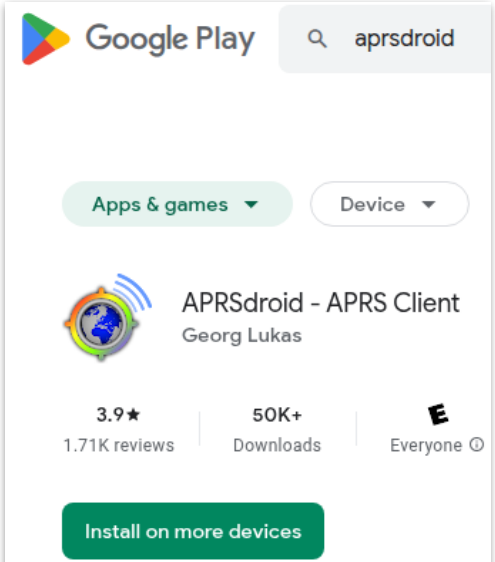
$9.95

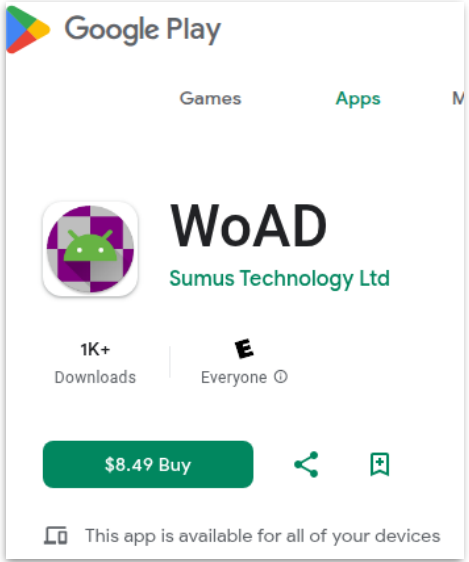
TNC Cable for Yaesu (most models)

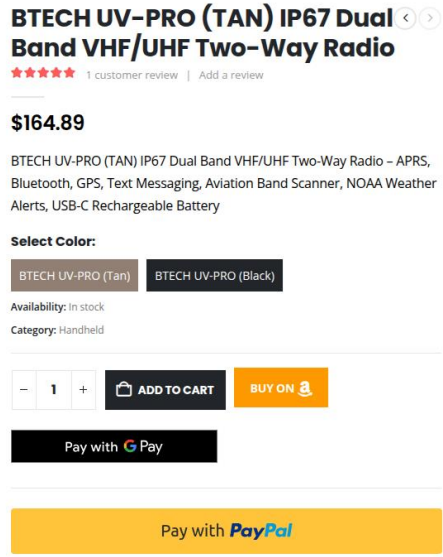
Getting Started with APRS ($$$) (Sweet spot)

- BTech UV-PRO (also Vero VGC-N76) radios have BlueTooth connectivity to your cell phone
- Android app “HT” controls the radio for programming. (Kind of buggy though)
- Android app can Tx/Rx APRS packets and beacons
- You can also use the BT connection to run APRSDroid (APRS) or WoAD (Winlink on Android Device radio-email)









Getting Started with APRS ($$$$)

- Buy a radio with APRS built-in functionality
- More expensive but more reliable
- Dual receivers allow you to talk on A band and beacon APRS on B band.
- HTs: FT-5DR, FT3-DR, some Kenwood HTs
- Mobile units: FTM-400DR, FTM-300DR, FTM-500DR, Kenwood TDM-7x0
- **Avoid ICOM - they use DPRS** (D-Star Packet Reporting System) which requires a D-Star repeater system
- Some radios will send APRS position packets but will not allow you to send / receive custom text messages.
- Cumbersome text entry though - set up / store canned messages

Radios Have a Cumbersome User Interface

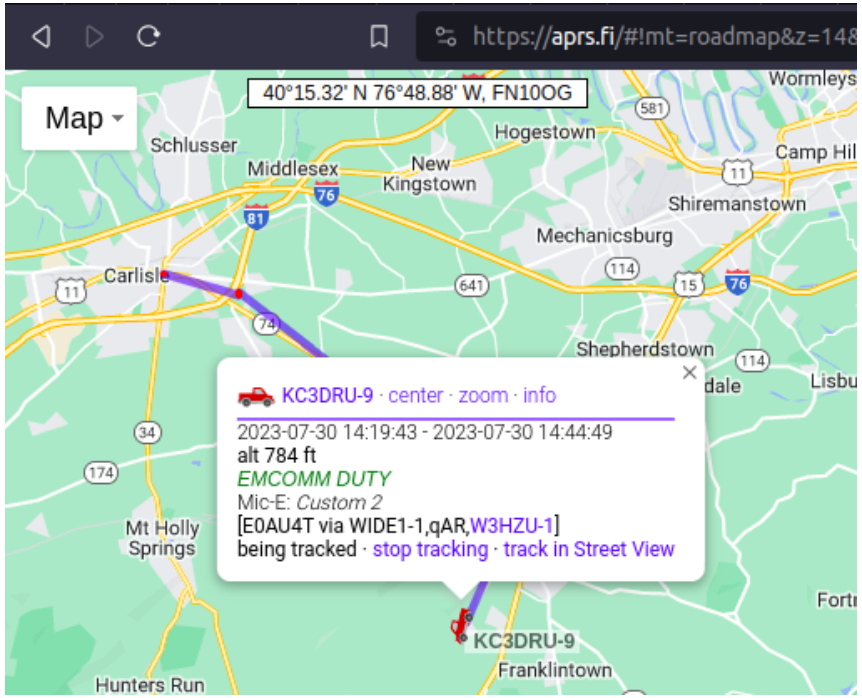
- FTM-300DR shown here
- FTM-400DR has on-screen touch keyboard
- FT-5DR has touch screen but multi-letters per “button”
- If you can, set up & store canned messages to reduce “typing”

Why Use It?

- Show **your location** when out of cell service. For example when at a bike race. Your “followers” can see you on https://aprs.fi

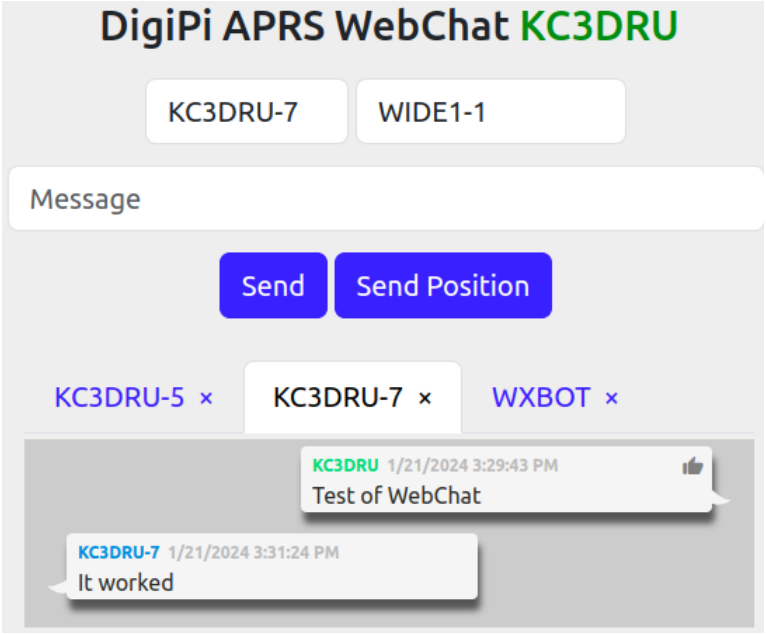
- Your **Beacon Status Text** can tell others your purpose (here I was beaconing while returning home from a bike race. “EMCOMM DUTY”)

- Can also be used to track other objects or things:
  - Use it to track the “sweep rider” in a bike race.
  - Track a ham radio balloon (WA3USG)



Why Use It?

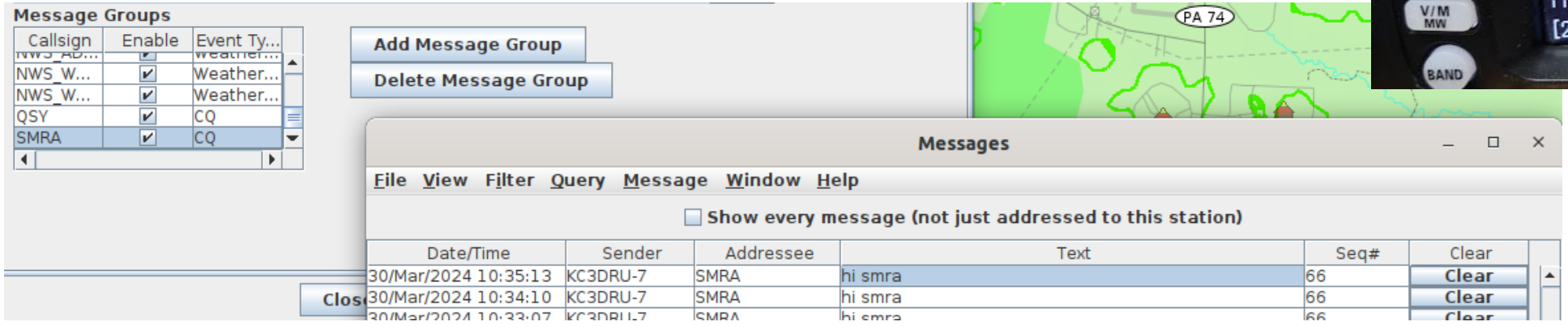
- Send **APRS text messages** to other Operators directly.
- Even though I am sending a one station-id (**-7**) all radios currently on will receive the message because it is sent to my callsign.
- Messages are passed over APRS using DigiPeaters if local or sent via the internet if there is an I-Gate within range.
- An IGate will broadcast over RF if the target station has been heard.
- Thursday is “APRS Day” where operators from around the world hop on APRS to send messages. https://aprsph.net/aprsthursday/



Why Use It?

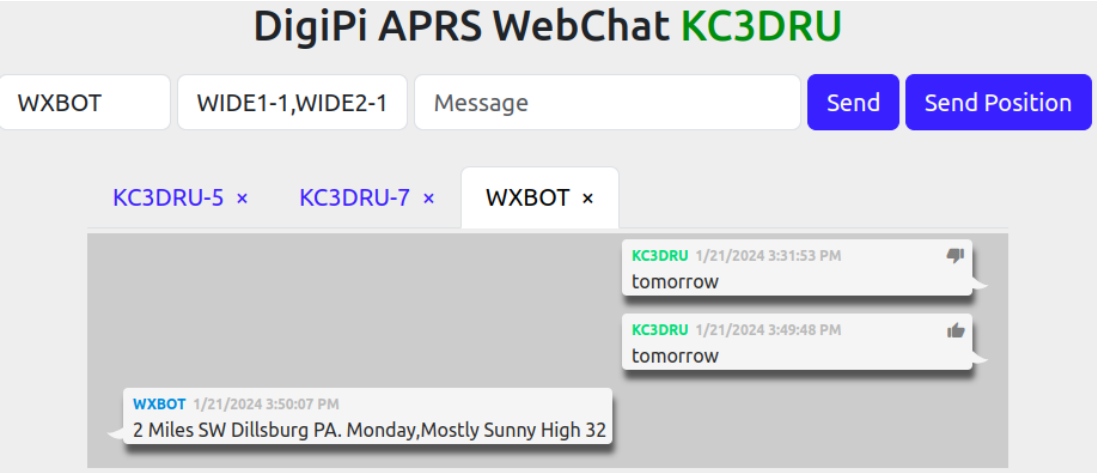
- You can also send messages to a **Group of operators**.
- I added the group "**SMRA**" to both the FTM-300DR and FT-5DR so any messages to the group show up on the radio.
- It can also be added to YAAC on the "Message Groups" list.
- A message sent to "**SMRA**" now shows up on all radios/devices that are monitoring that group.

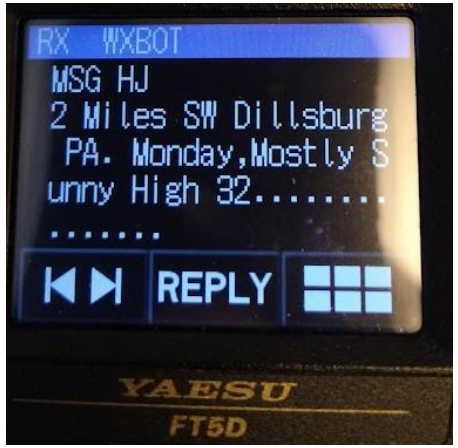
Group Messaging: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9Yw0YvzuGAk



Why Use It?

- Get custom **Weather Reports**: Send a message to 'WXBOT' it will give you a report based on your current location.
- "WXBOT" is one of several data service providers ("bots") that are available on the APRS system. They respond to requests or perform specific functions for you.





- Some operators put their WX station data on APRS to send out current conditions as general APRS packets. They also show up on APRS.fi

Why Use It?

- Send / Receive **phone SMS text messages** when local phone infrastructure is down by using the **SMS** data service.

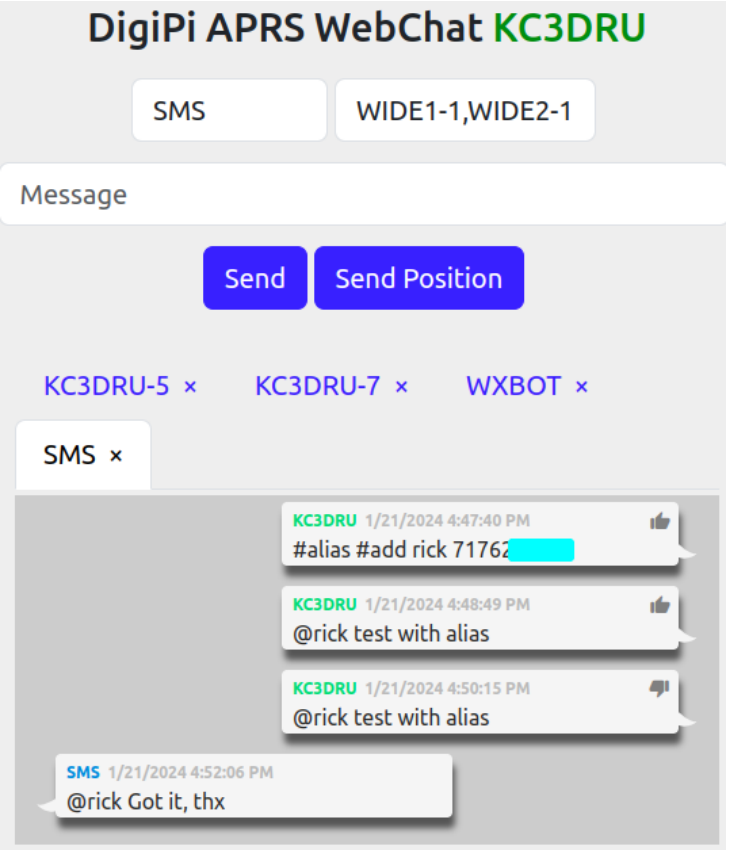
- Cell phone number must “Opt In” to service to prevent SPAM. Opt-in by registering the cell # at this site: http://aprs.wiki/SMS/

- Create an ALIAS so that your phone number is not in all of the APRS logs. Send a message to `SMS #alias #add rick 7173335555`
- Send a text to the alias like this: `SMS @rick test with alias`

- Address your APRS message to the “**SMS**” service provider and it converts it to a cellular SMS text message.
- The first “word” in the message should either be @youralias or @cellPhoneNo to indicate who should receive the rest of the message text.

- Phone owner can reply back to the message and the SMS data service will forwarded the text to your radio as an APRS message.

- More info on this service: http://aprs.wiki/SMS/howto.html



Why Use It?

- Spot yourself on POTA.app if you don't have cell service.
- The message must be sent to the data service: "**APSPOT**"
- The message must use this format to be forwarded to pota.app. Note the special characters (!), spaces, and decimal in the frequency.
  `! pota US-1356 14.233 ssb`
- Check out this brief video showing how it's done.
  https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SI_JS0kTcZM

Why Use It?

- The data service **MPAD** (Multi-Purpose APRS Daemon) can answer various information requests.
- Enhanced weather queries:
  - More details for your current location
  - Get local WX reports from APRS wx stations using the CWOP command (Civilian Weather Observation Program)
  - Aviation specific current weather conditions (METAR and TAF reports) (Understanding METAR reports https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=upOgMYGsgog
- Look up repeaters (including access details)near your current location.
- Current location information using Open Street Maps. Find nearest grocery store, gas, emergency services.
- Get satellite (OSCAR) information next pass, freq, etc.
- Video from KM4ACK on MPAD: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=75W0UTL5eOY
- More commands for using MPAD https://github.com/joergschultzelutter/mpad/blob/master/docs/EXAMPLES.md

Why Use It?

- The setting “**VOICE ALERTS**” tells you when another APRS operator, who is also using voice alerts is within Simplex Range.
  https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ekIKkSOrdfY&feature=youtu.be

- “**Repeat**” service will reply with nearest N repeaters:
  `REPEAT N 2 2M +ALLSTAR`
  Replies with two nearest 2M repeaters that use AllStar
  https://aprs-repeat.hemna.com/#help

- Get / Send Winlink Email via **APRSLink**. https://winlink.org/APRSLink KM4ACK tutorial
  https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=47OGdmm-jEY

Beyond VHF Range

- What if the local infrastructure is out of service?

- APRS can be done over HF frequencies too!
- Not as many machines on the air though.
- Usually done with FSK packet mode

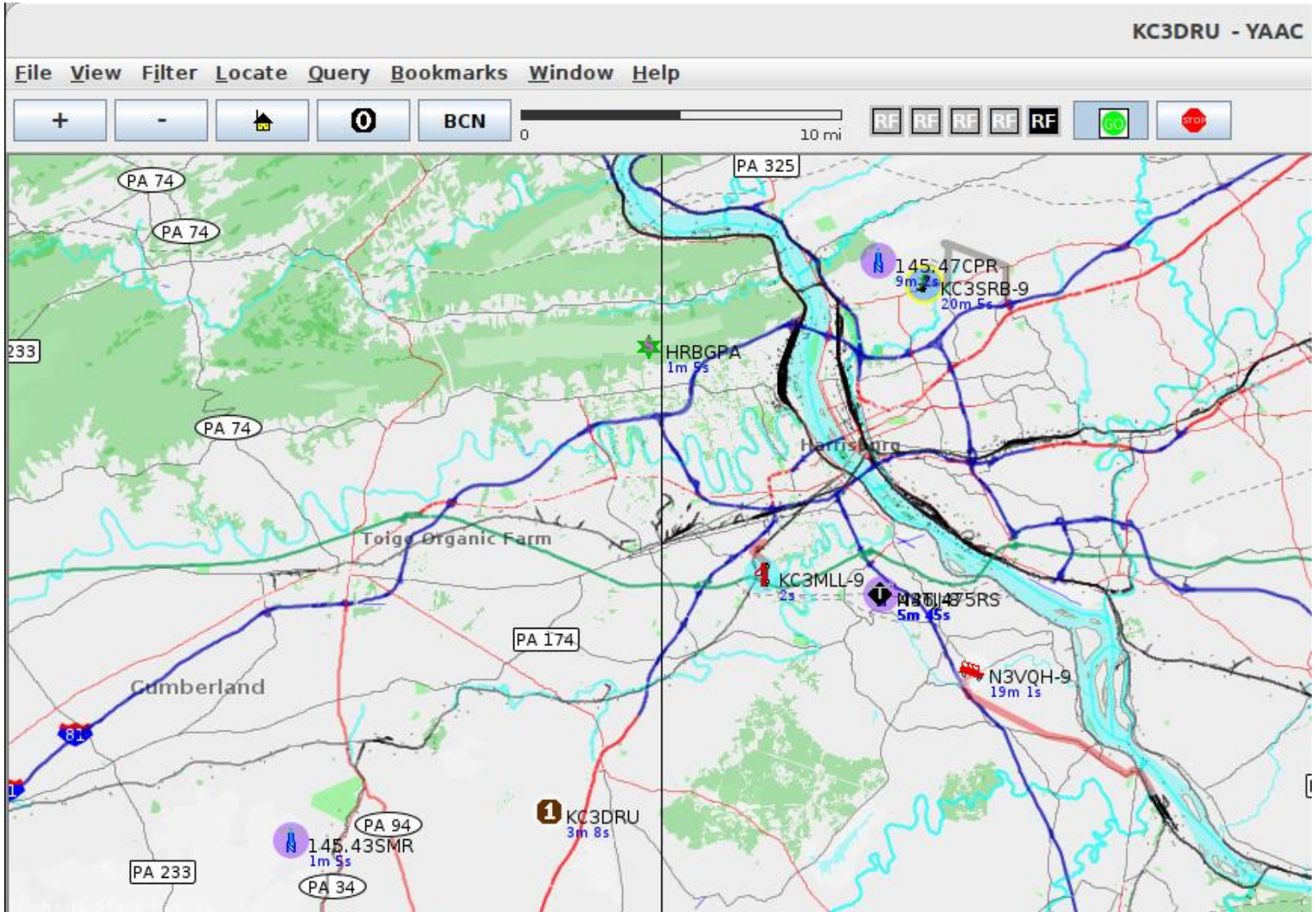
- 40m 7048.600kHz LSB
  30m 10147.600kHz USB
  20m 14103.00kHz LSB

- Some people are experimenting with using VARA to send packets. http://wa8lmf.net/APRS_VARA/

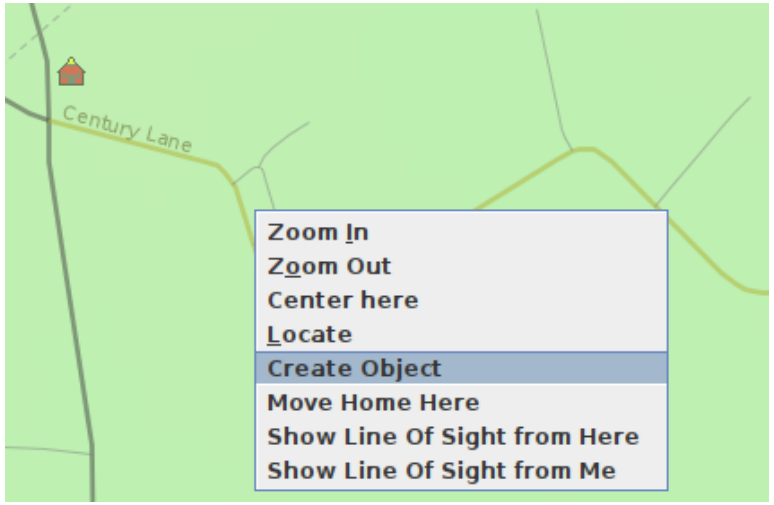
- JS8Call can be used to send HF packets to APRS-IS. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dAiXsSMIkKY
- JS8 / APRS Utility: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5pbF5h_aCgI

YAAC – Yet Another APRS Client

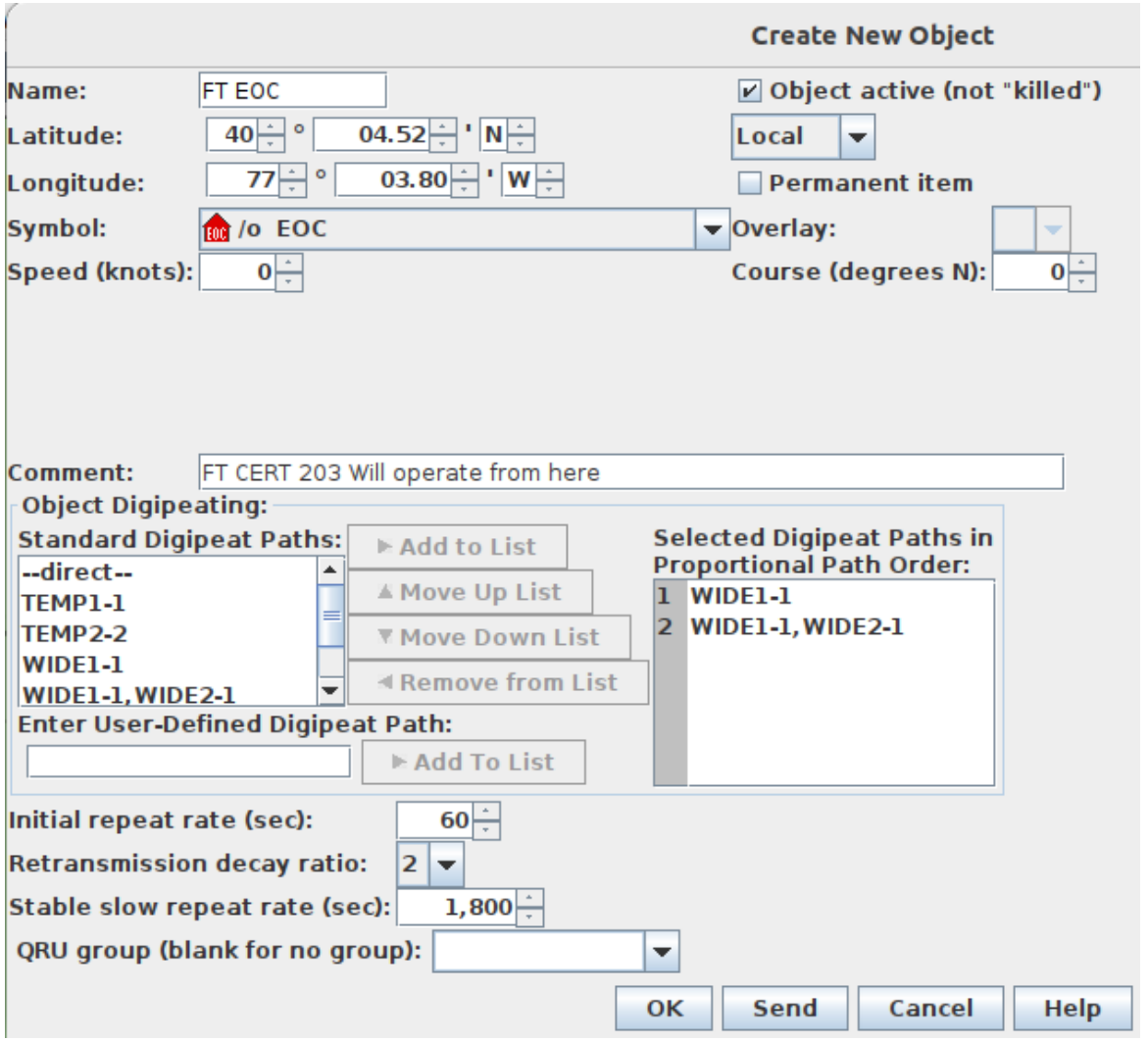
- Shows APRS activity on a map
- Connect to another computer (over WIFI) that is running DireWolf
- Allows you to send / receive messages by using the DireWolf port
- Good for bike rides or public service Events where you need to see where Things are in the area.
- Allows you to add your own markers To the map - can be local or broadcasted

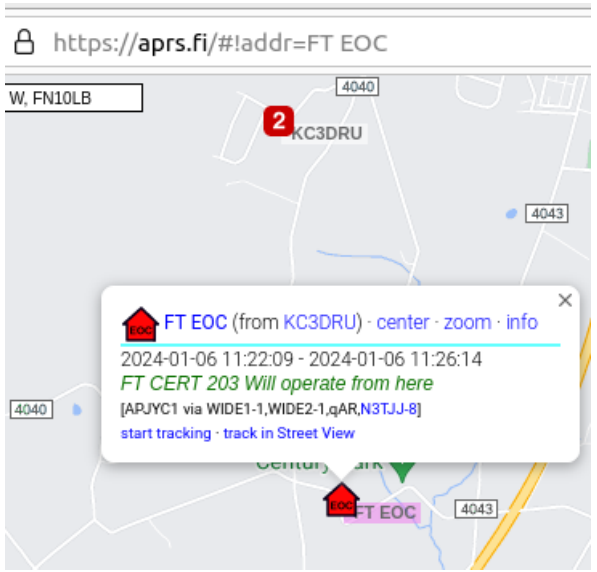


YAAC – Yet Another APRS Client

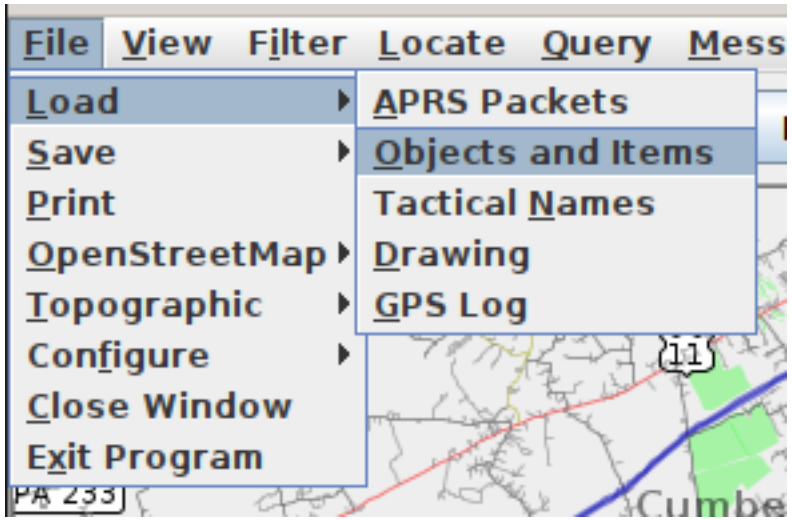


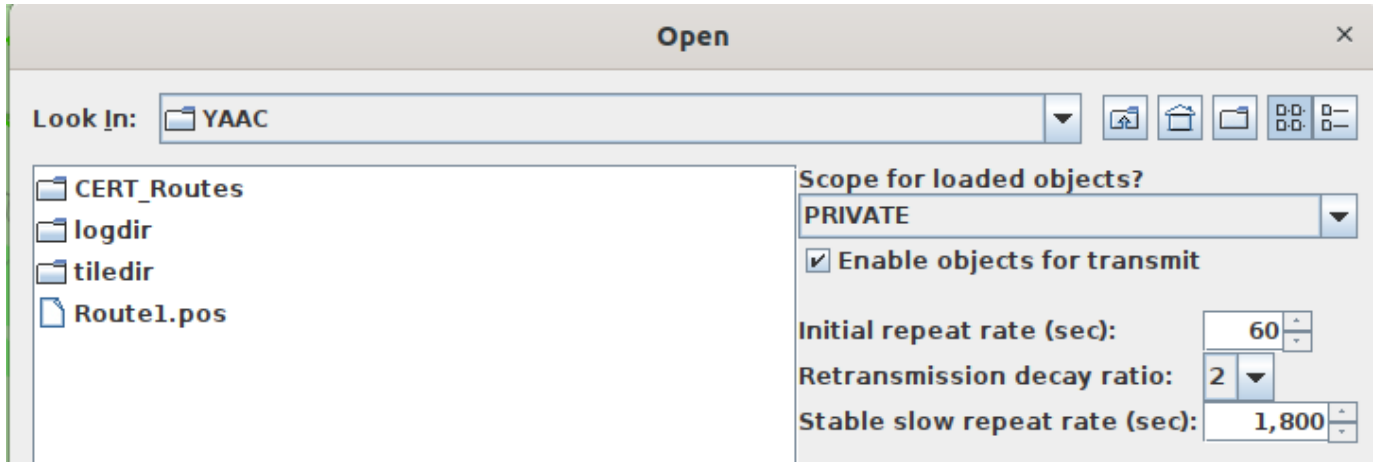
- Adding the Franklin Township CERT EOC
- Allows other operators to know where the “Base” is located



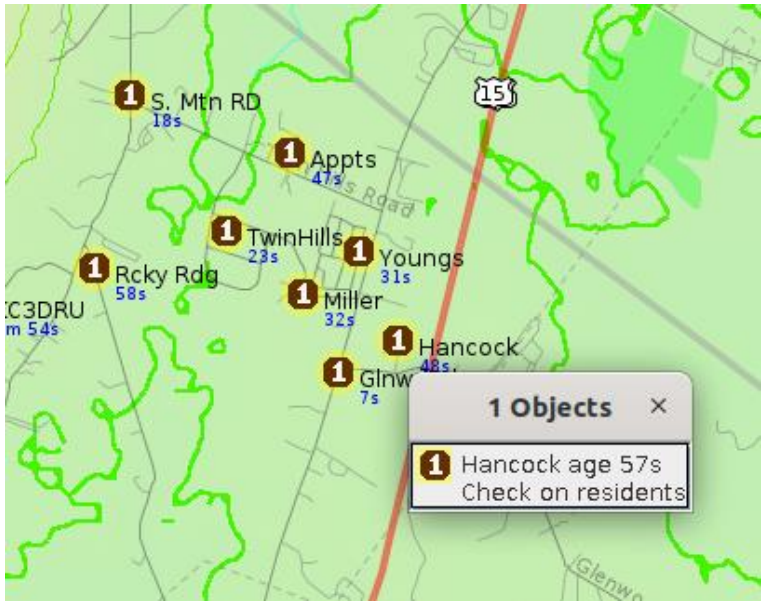


YAAC – Yet Another APRS Client



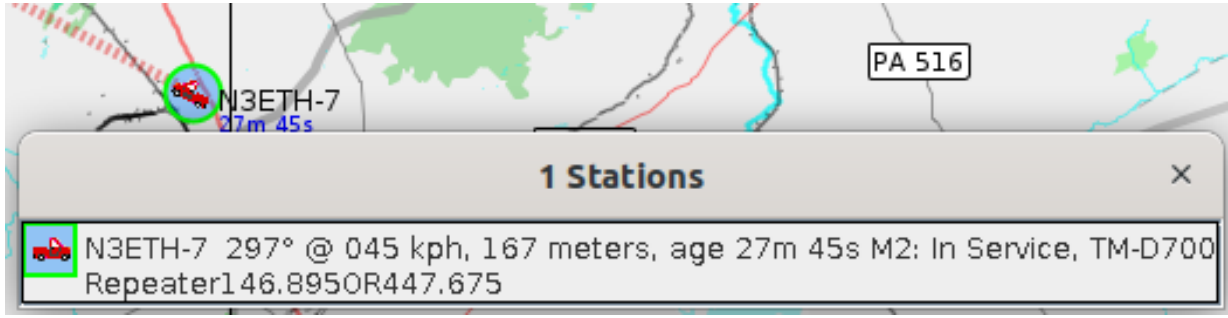


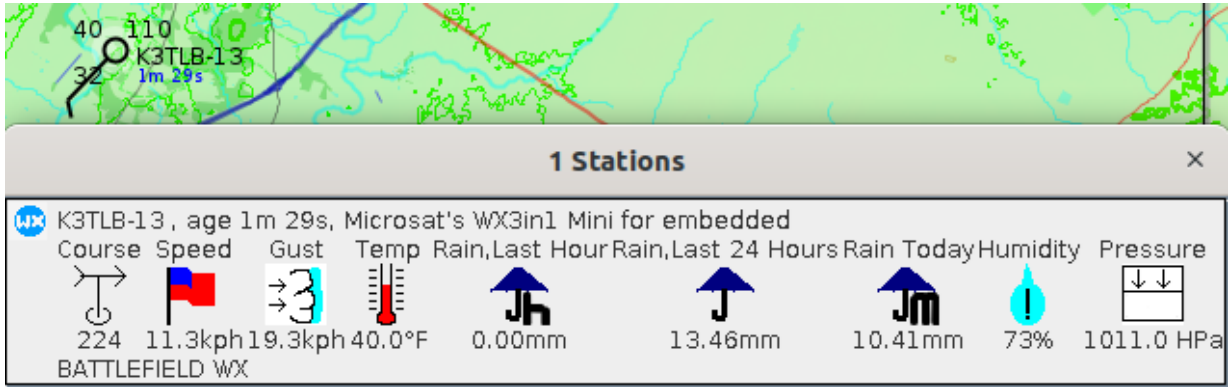
- You can define, save, and then reload map objects.
- Objects can have descriptions.
- This example shows “Driving Route 1” that the FT-CERT team does after a storm. Each “1” marker represents a group of houses to be checked or a key milestone on the driving route.



YAAC – Yet Another APRS Client

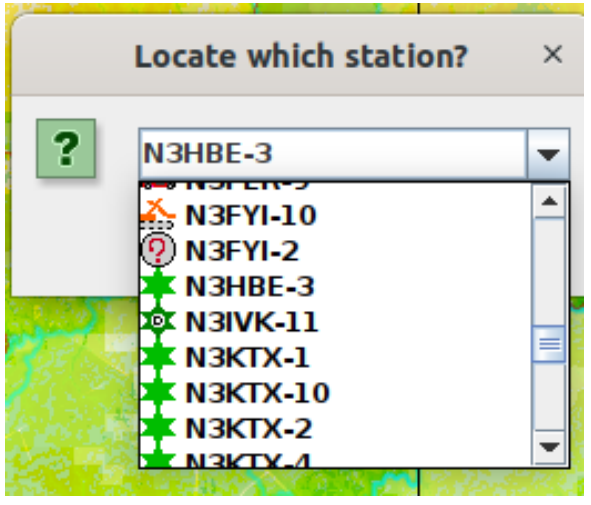
- You can monitor stations that are broadcasting status packets. Ie. are they moving, where have they been, current speed etc.
- Stations can use a special “EMERGENCY” station status that alerts any station hearing the signal.
- Some hams add their weather stations to APRS allowing you to get current conditions near you

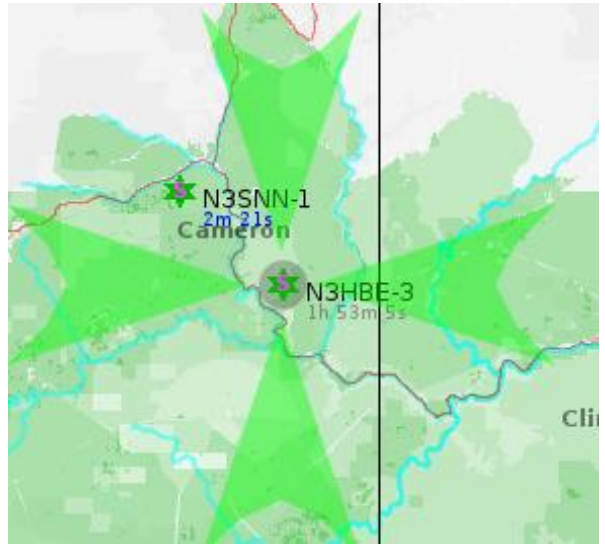




YAAC – Yet Another APRS Client

- The “Locate” feature will show you the current location of a given station. Quicker than trying to pick out the station on the map
- Using APRS for community service (KM4ACK) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o1prtGPm52A





Post Presentation Additions (Apr. 17 2024)

- Store and Forward APRS (email like) messages:
  - Use the service "`MAIL`" to store a message for a specific callsign-SSID. `MAIL @KC3DRU-7 THIS IS A TEST`
  - Add the text "`APMAIL`" to your status text to be notified of messages when you post a position report
  - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UdaCcWFrYMY

- "**Fixing**" the lame data entry for Yaesu radios using a MobilinkD and APRS on your phone. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Vt_RxQYt5DU

- Jason - KM4ACK mentions that he uses **PocketPacket on iPhones for APRS**. https://koomasi.com/pocketpacket/

- New **IRC** (Internet Relay Chat) like feature for APRS with the service IRC.
  - You can send `IRC /join #SMRA` to join the SMRA chat room. Send IRC /leave #SMRA to leave the "room".
  - Craig KM6LYW's video on IRC: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9ptGzQcy_bE

Post Presentation Additions (August 3 2024)

- Using the APRS “EMERGENCY” signal:
  - In the event if a dire emergency, you can set your location comment to “EMERGENCY”
  - All stations (Yaesu, Kenwood, YAAC) supporting this message will sound an alert
  - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EYX-snUu-II

References / Other Resources

- KB9VBR - APRS YouTube Play List https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLtTjGEOMh1fQ-elXGkxC5CZ2JLhJ4B1II&si=x_thgy-TIbdCA5fk
- Using APRSDroid: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JM7GYlHmSgc
- Portable DigiPeater (KM4ACK) Go Pack: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FTdbJbdAUGE
- Building a Pi Zero 2W DigiPeater (KM4ACK): https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TCpt6NY1kew
- KM6LYK's DigiPi builds: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TCpt6NY1kew
- Mobilinkd website http://www.mobilinkd.com/
- APRS Crash Course: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=24hnEjIoZQA
- Digipi Website: https://digipi.org/
- WxBOT commands: https://sites.google.com/site/ki6wjp/wxbot
- More details on APRS / YAAC: https://www.ka2ddo.org/ka2ddo/APRS-for-PhilMont.ppt
- Adding your weather station to APRS: https://wx4wcs.com/connecting-an-old-weather-station-to-aprs/

Glossary of APRS Terms (1/4)

APRS
Automatic Packet Reporting System – a digital real-time tactical communications system for exchanging information via radio.

APRS-IS
APRS Internet System – the global server network that routes APRS packets over the Internet.

Beacon
A periodic position/status packet sent by a station (e.g., every 10 min).

CWOP
Citizen Weather Observer Program – hams who contribute weather data to NOAA via APRS.

DigiPeater
A station that re-broadcasts heard APRS packets to extend range (like a repeater for data).

Glossary of APRS Terms (2/4)

DireWolf
Open-source software modem/TNC that decodes and generates APRS packets on a computer or Pi.

DPRS
D-STAR Packet Reporting System – not compatible with standard APRS (ICOM only).

GPS
Global Positioning System – provides lat/long for mobile position reports.

IGate
Internet Gateway – bidirectional link between RF APRS and APRS-IS.

MPAD
Multi-Purpose APRS Data service – answers weather, repeater, map, satellite, etc. queries.

Glossary of APRS Terms (3/4)

Path
The route a packet takes (e.g., WIDE1-1,WIDE2-1).

POTA
Parks On The Air – use APSPOT to self-spot.

SMS / SMSGTE
APRS-to-cellular text service. SMSGTE currently offline; “SMS” requires opt-in at aprs.wiki/SMS.

SSID
Secondary Station ID – suffix after callsign (-0 home, -7 mobile, -9 car, etc.).

TNC
Terminal Node Controller – hardware that converts audio ↔ AX.25 packets (e.g., Mobilinkd, DigiRig).

Glossary of APRS Terms （4/4）

VOX
Voice-Operated Transmit – used in cheap phone+radio APRS setups (flaky).

WXBOT
Weather bot – reply with location-based forecast when messaged.

YAAC
Yet Another APRS Client – Java GUI for maps, messaging, and DireWolf control.

144.390 MHz
US national APRS frequency (VHF-FM).

2025 FUTURE PRESENTATIONS:

Topics

Meeting Date	Presentation Topic / Title	Name	Call Sign
1/21/2025	QSO Cards and the Process	Glenn Kurzenknabe	K3SWZ
2/18/2025	Mounting Mobile radios in your Electric Vehicle.	Dick Goodman	WA3USG
3/18/2025	Planning your first home station	Brendan McGowen	KC3VEB
4/15/2025	How to buy gear at a Hamfest	Glenn Kurzenknabe	K3SWZ
5/20/2025	Getting started in POTA	Rick King	K3RTK
6/17/2025	What can you DO with DMR Locally	Paul Harig	W3PTH
7/15/2025	JS8Call for Preparedness	Rick Stoner	KC3DRU
8/19/2025	PA QSO Party	Glenn Kurzenknabe	K3SWZ
9/16/2025	Insurance on Ham Radios and Equipment	Jeff Kisner	W3JWK
10/21/2025	Using RigExpert Stick 230 Analyzer and Software	Jack Himes	NC3O
11/18/2025	APRS - Tips & Tricks	Rick Stoner	KC3DRU
12/16/2025	Grid Tracker & FT8	Ed Otto	W3ETO

2026 PRESENTATIONS:

Table2

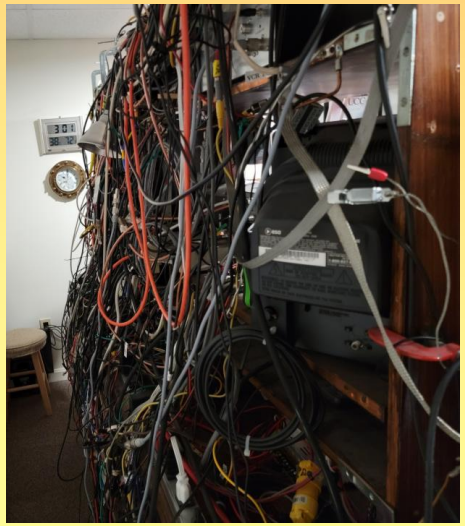
Meeting Date	Presentation Topic / Title	Name	Call Sign
1/20/2026	Surface Mount Components	Jeff Orner	W3JKO
2/17/2026	Pillars of Radio	Hugh Irwin	K3ECT
3/17/2026	Hexbeam Antennas	Jerry Sodus	KM3K
4/21/2026	Balloon Launching	Dick Goodman	WA3USG
5/19/2026	Winlink Part 1	Andrew Mummert	W3AND
6/16/2026	Winlink Part 2	Andrew Mummert	W3AND
7/21/2026	Testing a Yagi/directional Antenna	Hugh Irwin	K3ECT
8/18/2026	Intro to Fox Hunting	Rick Stoner	KC3DRU
9/15/2026	Making a Go-Box / Go-Bag	Sean Schulze	KC3YWX
10/20/2026	Getting Started with CW	Emily Saldaña	WC3R
11/17/2026	EME Moon Bouce	John Jaminet	W3HMS
12/15/2026	Restoring a used radio from Ebay	Chaz Smith	KB3ZPB
1/19/2027	Setting up Ham Dashboard (VA3HDL)	Jeff Kisner	W3JWK

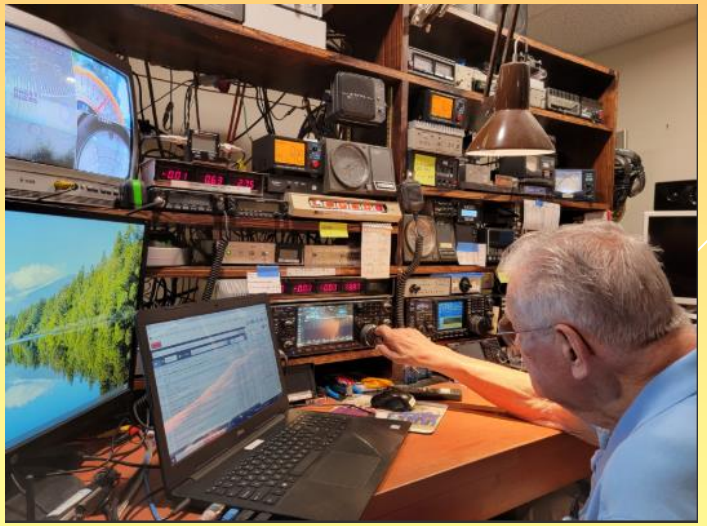
BOARD ELECTIONS – JAN 26

Name	Call	Title	Term Ends
Ed Otto	W3ETO	President	2026
Jeff Kisner	W3JWK	V.P.	2025
Bob Single	N3ACP	Trustee/Net Coordinator	2025
Paul Harig	W3PTH	Recording Sec.	2025
Mike Giordano	K3ESQ	Treasurer	2026
Gary Cribbs	K3MGB	Director	2026
Brendan McGowen	KC3VEB	PIO, Web, Facebook	2026
Tracey Richard	WE3H	Membership	2025

The Shack of the Month

- Can be **simple** or **complex**
- Gives members ideas on building or modifying their shack
- Volunteer!!
- Just send me a few photos to put into the monthly presentation.
- Discuss it at the meeting.

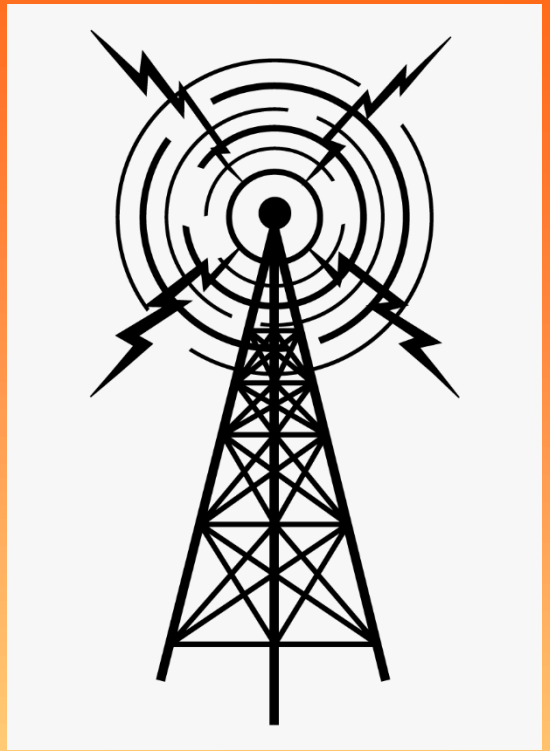




NEW SMRA NETS:

- 1) **Monday Night Net** – Test your Radio, Get Club info
- 2) **The Elmer TechNet** on Monday Nights following our Net
  - Ask Questions and discuss radio
- 3) **Digital Net** on Sunday Nights 1900-2000
  - SMRA .43 Repeater on alternating weeks with York Club Repeater
  - York Repeater – 146.970, -6KHz (tone 127.3 (better coverage) or 123

MONDAY NIGHT NETS:



- Seeing an Increased usage of the Monday Night Nets:
  - It's Working!! Let's keep it up – Have some Traffic to make it interesting for all!
  - Try contacting repeaters with Different modes and tell us what you're are trying
    - Using **Echolink** as a backup from a Cell phone Craig improved Echolink on .43 - Give it a try!
    - Use and HT or Mobile rig from a different location
    - Different antenna
    - Remote power
    - Cross Band Repeat from an HT
- ARRL Audio News will air at 2010 before the 2030 Monday Net

OFFICER REPORTS

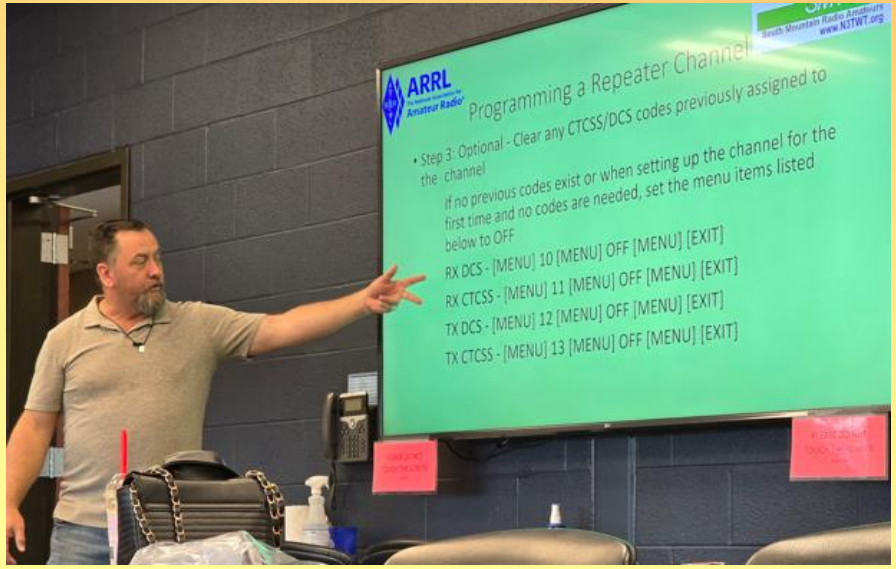
- **Secretary/ARES** – Paul W3PTH
- **Treasurer** – Mike K3ESQ
- **VP –** Jeff W3JWK
- **Membership** – Tracey WE3H
- **PAIO** – Brendan KC3VEB

GRANT UPDATE– SEAN KC3YWX

- ARDC Grant Approved - $19,186
- Funding for FCC Technician Classes
- Funding for Improved Radios and Digital Technology in the EOC (HF,VHF/UHF/DMR/Digital)
  - Cable, Laptops, Pieces-Parts
- New Radios in Lower Allen and New Cumberland

SMRA TECHNICIAN CLASS:

- 4 OCT 25 – 15 NOV 25
- 91% Pass Rate – 10 of 11 Passed
- Bossler Library -12 –January 26
- Fredericksen Library – 29 Jan 26



Free Amateur Radio Technician License Classes offered by the South Mountain Radio Amateur (SMRA) Club in Carlisle, PA.

Each complete course consists of five two-hour class sessions on Saturdays from 9:00 to 11:00 AM, one VE Test Session and an additional two-hour session for those that pass the test to receive training on their new radio. It takes seven weeks to complete.

The next SMRA Technician Class will be held at the:

Public Safety Training Room, 1 Public Safety Drive, Carlisle, PA 17013.

[Note: A textbook ($32.00) and a VE/FCC test ($14.00) will be provided free by SMRA]

- **Saturday October 4, 2025 – Welcome to Amateur Radio, Radio Signals Fundamentals, and Electricity Components and Circuits**
  Instructor: Ed W3ETO
  - Read Chapter 1 (no questions on exam), Chapter 2 (35 questions), and Chapter 3 (91 questions, but many of these questions are different versions of the same calculation)
- **Saturday October 11, 2025 – Propagation, Antennas, and Feedlines**
  Instructor: Sean KC3YWX
  - Read Chapter 4 (66 questions)
- **Saturday October 18, 2025 – Amateur Radio Equipment**
  Instructor: Chaz KC3ZPB
  - Read Chapter 5 (56 questions)
- **Saturday October 25, 2025 – Communicating with Other Hams and Licensing Regulations Instructor: Rick KC3DRU**
  - Read Chapter 6 (63 questions) and Chapter 7 (30 questions)
- **Saturday November 1, 2025 – Operating Regulations and Safety**
  Instructor: Sean KC3YWX
  - Read Chapter 8 (32 questions) and Chapter 9 (43 questions)
- **Saturday November 8, 2025 – VE Test for Technician License**
  VE Team Leader: Don K3ZR
- **Saturday November 15, 2025 – Students that pass and pay the FCC $35.00 fee will get their License and will receive a UV-5R Radio and be taught how to program and use it.**
  Instructor: Norm AB3ZZ

To register for this class contact:

Don Evans, K3ZR

717-418-1700

K3zr55@outlook.com

AMSAT NEWS:

It's Broken

- ISS SSTV Event
- ~~Series 30 12 Nov - 20 Nov~~
- 12 Images
- 145.800 MHz
- Use and HT or better
- Decode with MMSSTV (PC) or Robot36 (android)
- iPhone (SSTV app)

https://www.amsat.org/status/

https://www.ariss.org/upcoming-sstv-events.html

Restart in 2026?

WINTER FIELD DAY :

- **January 24th & 25th, 2026 – ESTA**
- **Winter Field Day and its core principles:**
  - **Natural disasters are unpredictable and can strike when you least expect them.**
  - **Your training and operating skills should not be limited to fair-weather scenarios.**
  - **Preparedness is the key to a professional and timely response during any event.**
    - Rules Found Here
    - https://winterfieldday.org/

USED EQUIPMENT:

- Motorola MSF-5000
- 2 x Vertex VXR-7000

CONTEST CALENDAR FOR THE MONTH:

- **North American SSB Sprint Contest 0000Z-0400Z, Nov 23**
- **CQ Worldwide DX Contest, CW 0000Z, Nov 29 to 2400Z, Nov 30**

- **CQ Worldwide DX Contest,**
  - **SSB 0000Z, Oct 25 to 2359Z, Oct 26**
    - **(10,552 logs submitted)**

www.contestcalendar.com – Check out these Sites for lots of other contests!
https://www.arrl.org/contest-calendar
CQ World Wide DX Contest - Home (cqww.com)

SPECIAL EVENT STATIONS:

•12/07/2025 | Pearl Harbor Remembrance USS Wisconsin on the air

•Dec 7, 1700Z-2200Z, N4WIS, Norfolk, VA. USS Wisconsin ARC. 14.264 7.264 7.064. QSL. Nauticus c/o Battleship Wisconsin Radio Club (N4WIS), One Waterside Drive, Norfolk, VA 23510. n4wis.org

•12/13/2025 | Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day

•Dec 13, 1700Z-2359Z, NI6IW, San Diego, CA. USS Midway Museum Ship. 14.320 7.250 14.070 PSK31 DSTAR on Papa System Repeaters. QSL. USS Midway Museum Ship COMEDTRA, 910 N Harbor Drive, San Diego, CA 92101. www.qrz.com/db/ni6iw

11/02/2025 | 50th Anniversary, Sinking of the SS Edmund Fitzgerald W8F W9F

Nov 2-Nov 15, 0000Z-2359Z, W8F, Livonia, MI.. Certificate. e-certificate, e-QSL only, W8F electronic ONLY via club website. **livoniaarc.com**

https://www.arrl.org/special-event-stations

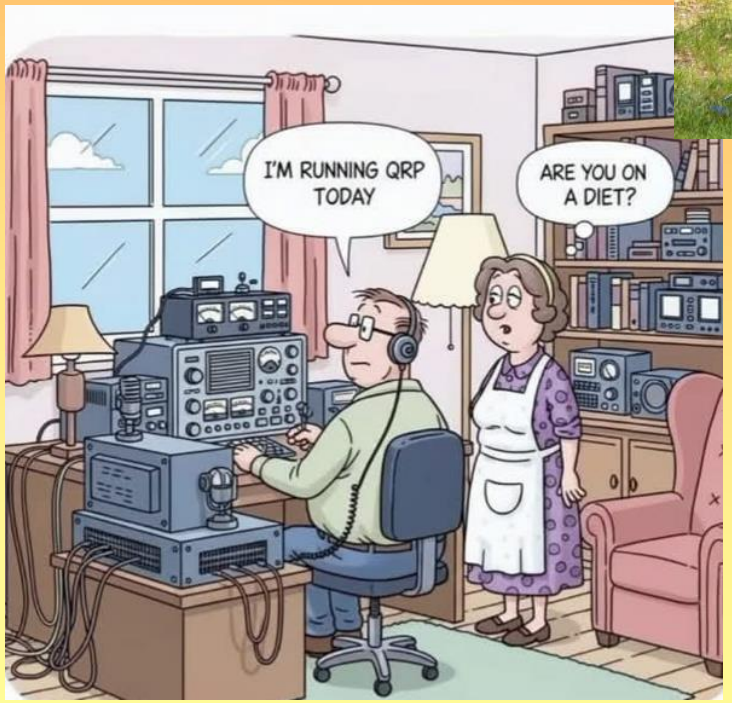
HAMFESTS

HTTPS://WWW.ARRL.ORG/HAMFESTS/SEARCH

- **Nothing Found for the next 2 months**

QRP SCHEDULE FOR THE WINTER:

- **38th QRP Dinner – Tuesday 25 Nov @1730**
  - Hoss' Restaurant in Mechanicsburg
    - 61 Gettysburg Pike
  - Come Learn about QRP
  - Show and Tell of QRP Radios and Antennas
  - Have a good Meal (ice-cream too)
  - Socialize with your Fellow Hams.



ANNOUNCEMENTS & DATES:

- **Monthly Meet the Mentors**
  - 1st Tuesday - 2 DEC @ 1900 –EOC
- **Monthly SMRA ARES/ACS Training**
  - 2nd Thursday (Physical or Virtual) @ 1900 –EOC
- **Monthly HAM Breakfast**
  - 2nd Saturday – 13 DEC @ 0830 - Location: Brothers Restaurant
- **Monthly General Meeting**
  - 3rd Tuesday – 16 DEC @ 1900 - Location: EOC
- **Monthly QRP Dinners and Outings**
  - 4th Tuesday (Generally in Winter) –25 NOV @ 1730

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

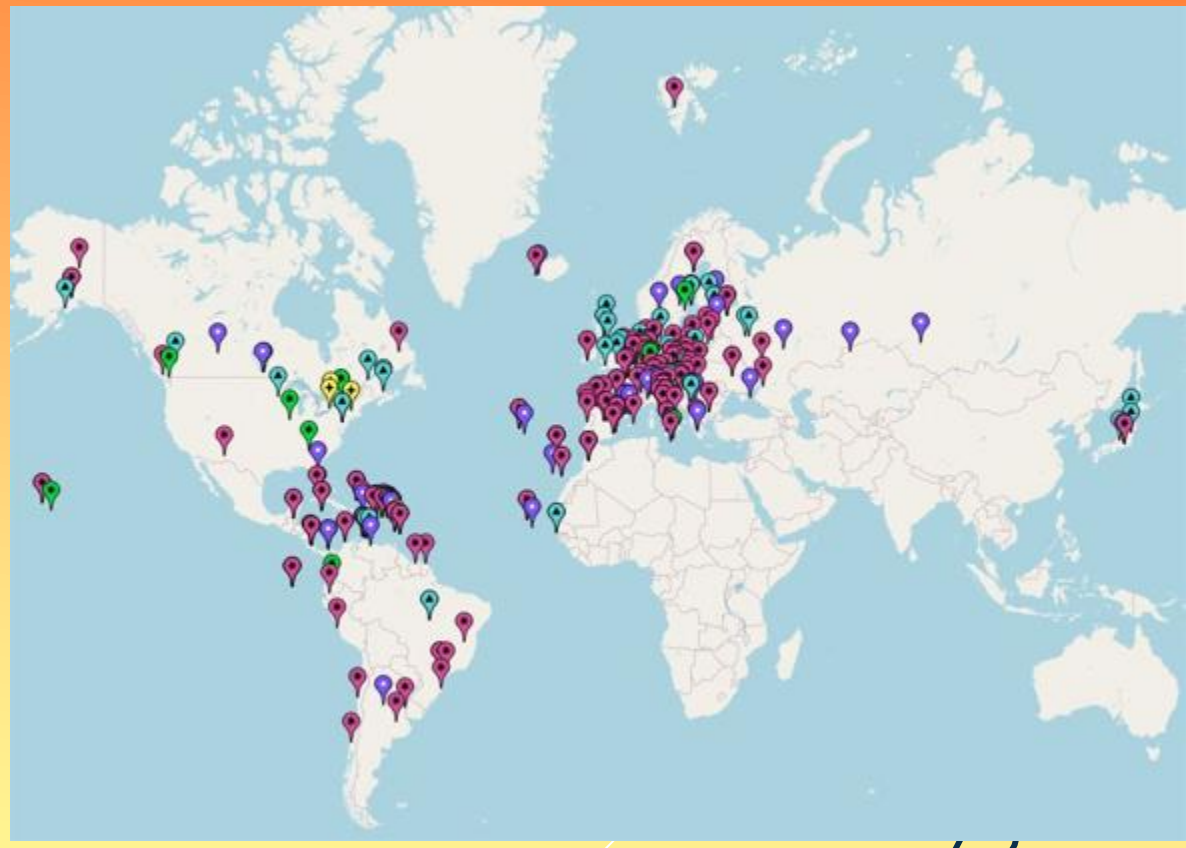
- Next Executive Board (EB) Meetings: **Open to all members** - second Tuesday of even months – or as specified. 5:30 PM dinner, 6:30 PM meeting, Hoss's, 61 Gettysburg Pike, Mechanicsburg.
  - Bring in New ideas and Events

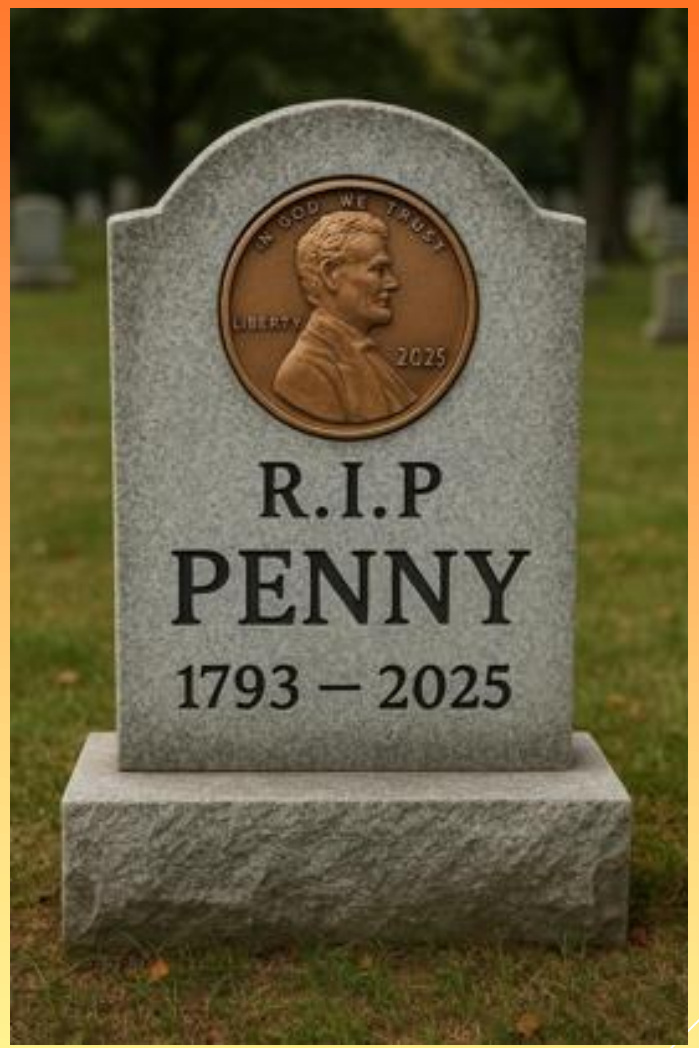
- **9 DEC 25**
- **20 JAN 26 – After the Meeting**

AROUND THE ROOM (TIME PERMITTING):

What did you do interesting in Ham Radio this month?

- Hamfest
- Contests
- Technical Accomplishments
- Awards
- Activities – Rare DX
- New Antenna/Radio



FINAL THOUGHTS:

Motion to Adjourn?