



# EPARA

# BEACON

## CLUB OFFICERS

### **PRESIDENT**

*Ed Hugely - kc3olb*

### **VICE PRESIDENT**

*Pete Scarfaro - kb3ykj*

### **SECRETARY**

*Kevin Forrest - w3kcf*

### **TREASURER**

*Mike Oprihory - wr8th*

### **MEMBER AT LARGE**

*Chris Sanders - aj3c*

\*\*\*\*\*

## SUPPORT TEAM

### **Quartermaster**

*John Victor - k3wh*

### **MEMBERSHIP COORD**

*Al Brizzi - kb3ovb*

### **SOCIAL MEDIA**

*Ray Loewenthal - w3ril*

### **PUBLIC INFO OFFICER**

*Ruth Ann - w9fbo*



*Welcome to the EPARA Beacon, the official newsletter of the Eastern Pennsylvania Amateur Radio Association.*

*EPARA has served the amateur radio community in the Pocono Mountains for over 31 years. We provide opportunities for learning and the advancement of skills in amateur radio for Ham's and Non-Hams alike. We take pride in supporting our communities and surrounding areas by providing radio communications when needs arise.*

*We have been affiliated with the 'American Radio Relay League' (ARRL) since 1995 and continue to participate and support them in all they do for the world of Amateur Radio. From study material, testing, club events, contesting and much more. There is always something to do and learn. Come, join us and be part of this exciting hobby.*

*Feel free to join us for our monthly club meeting, starting at 1930 (7:30 pm) at the Monroe County Emergency Center (911Ctr).*



## Monthly VE Testing

To schedule you test, contact  
Chris: [aj3c.ve@gmail.com](mailto:aj3c.ve@gmail.com)

Testing starts at 1800 prior to our  
monthly club meeting.

## WEEKLY NETS

EPARA Tech Net - Monday 2030  
146.865 Mhz, PL - 100 Hz

EPARA Info /Swap Net 2030  
146.865 Mhz, PL - 100Hz

EPARA DMR RAG CHEW 2030  
Talk Group - 3149822

**Webmaster**  
Kevin Forrest - w3kcf

**Website:**  
[www.epara-n3is.org](http://www.epara-n3is.org)

**Email**  
[eparahamradio@outlook.com](mailto:eparahamradio@outlook.com)

### \* Newsletter Submissions \*

Ray Loewenthal - w3ril  
[eparanewsletter@outlook.com](mailto:eparanewsletter@outlook.com)

**EPARA**  
P.O. Box 521  
Sciota, Pa 18354

## Presidents Comments



Greetings, I would like to thank as always the officers, volunteers and membership for all your support throughout the past 2 years as president and look forward to being elected to the next 2 years as we try to improve our club.

Great thanks to Pete, our past VP and for our future VP, Craig. I welcome 4 new members listed below, RuthAnn our PIO, Chris our VEC and John Ewell for keeping an eye out for an upgraded club trailer. Hoping to see everyone at our March meeting.

For those interested in purchasing a club hat,  
**Send us an email to:**  
[eparahamradio@outlook.com](mailto:eparahamradio@outlook.com).

The price is \$22 for our club logo on the front and your call sign on the back.

Club Events for 2026 In the coming months, we will begin preparing for the upcoming club events. Sign up sheets for Field Day, west End Fair,

**Hamfest** and community parades will be out. Please take a look and see what events you might like to participate in. Stroudsburg Library: The library Presentation Committee has asked if our club would be interested in giving a presentation this year regarding Amateur Radio. Ed said we are looking at March 2026. Chris – AJ3C said he could do a presentation and Thursday works best.

### Planned Activities

DMR Workshop  
Directional Antenna Build  
Fox Hunt (Transmitter will be hidden locally)

# EPARA MINUTES FEBRUARY 2026



## Eastern Pennsylvania Amateur Radio Association February 12, 2026 General Membership Meeting 7:30PM

### Open meeting:

Meeting called to order at 7:30 pm on February 12th, 2026 by Ed - KC3OLB

### **Quorum:**

Total attending: 16 Present at 911 Center: 13 Present on Zoom: 3 Visitors present: 0

### Pledge of Allegiance / Moment of silence:

### Membership Meeting – Minutes January 8th 2025 Secretary – Kevin - W3KCF:

Meeting minutes for January 8<sup>th</sup>, 2025 were posted in the EPARA Newsletter. Ed – KC3OLB asked members if they had seen and read the minutes from our previous meeting. He then asked if there were any questions or objections to the minutes as they were presented. With no objections, Ed asked for a motion to accept the minutes as presented:

***Motion to accept Minutes as Read: Craig – W3WWP and 2<sup>nd</sup> by AL – KB3OVB (Passed)***

### Treasurer's report:

#### ***For the February 12h, 2026 EPARA Club Meeting***

**By Mike – WR8TH**

#### **Treasurers Report - Month of January 2026**

Detailed report was read to the membership itemizing all transactions.

It appears, that with the merger of ESSA and CNB Bank, there is no longer a fee being charged for the ATM card.

All transactions during this period are accounted for with accompanying documentation

As per our By-Laws an Audit of our Checking Account for 2025 was conducted before this meeting by the Audit Committee ( Craig, Al and Chris), they will report on result.

Detailed report for the period January 2026 was read to the membership. Afterwards, a motion was made and membership voted to accept the report as presented.

***Motion to accept Treasures Report: Chris – AJ3C and 2<sup>nd</sup> Ray – W3RIL Motion Passed*****Audit Completed for 2025**

Our Audit for the 2025 year was completed before the meeting. Those participating in the audit were Chris - Aj3C, Craig – W3WWP and Al – KB3OVB. The audit team presented a motion to accept the audit as presented.

***Motion to accept Audit as Presented: Craig – W3WWP and 2<sup>nd</sup> Al – KB3OVB Motion Passed*****Comments from the President: Ed – KB3OLB****Nominations for 2026 Board Members**

Chris – AJ3C was nominated for “Board Member At Large  
Mike - WR8TH was nominated for Treasurer  
Kevin – W3KCF was nominated for Secretary  
Craig – W3WWP was nominated for Vice President  
Ed – KC3OLB was nominated for President

Pete – KB3YKJ declined nomination to remain as Vice President.

**Club Hats:**

For those interested in purchasing a club hat, send us an email to: [eparahamradio@outlook.com](mailto:eparahamradio@outlook.com). The price is \$22 for our club hat with logo on the front and call sign on the back.

**Club Events for 2026**

In the coming months, we will begin preparing for the upcoming club events. Sign up sheets for Field Day, west End Fair, Hamfest and community parades will be out. Please take a look and see what events you might like to participate in.

In the near future we are planning on building a directional antenna. If you are interested, see one of the officers and let us know. We will schedule a classroom on a Saturday to build this antenna. Once the antenna is completed, we will set a date for a fox hunt located somewhere in Stroudsburg.

**Stroudsburg Library:** The library Presentation Committee has asked if our club would be interested in giving a presentation this year regarding Amateur Radio. Ed said we are looking at March 2026. Chris – AJ3C said he could do a presentation and Thursday works best.

**Net Participation:** Ed mentioned we have 3 weekly nets. Come out and join us.



**New Business:**

Craig – W3WWP has been working on having HamCrazy create our new id cards. He said there will be a choice on style, card material and information on the id. Price will vary from \$8.00 depending on how many we order. He said he will have more details at our next meeting.

**Hamfest 2026**

There have been some changes in leadership at the Moose Lodge. Ed will be in contact with Walt, to verify if our current arrangement to use the facility will remain the same in 2026.

**Field Day 2026 – Location Change**

There have been changes in the way the state handles our paper work and fees to utilize the park for field day. They now require us to file new paper work each year and pay a \$100 fee to utilize the park. Kevin – W3KCF says there is a possibility we can utilize the church's property to hold our event. The church has 10 acres on the side of a hill with no obstructions or RF interference. We have used the site several times when doing EME. The property is located in Pen Argyl and very easy to get to. We will have more information available at our March meeting, to make an informed decision.

**New Members**

Tonight we had 4 new applicants for membership. The vote was unanimous. Welcome to the EPARA. Serge – KD3CFR, Mike McGuire – (Call Pending), Richard – KC3YPJ, Chris – K2KAZ

**Announcements:**

Ed stated that he has filed our required tax forms and all required paperwork to maintain our tax exempt status.

**50/50 Raffle:** Tonight's 50/50 Raffle was won by Serge - KD3CFR. He received a total of \$25.00 in cash.

**Adjournment...** Meeting was adjourned at 2010

***Motion to close Pete – KB3YKJ and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Craig – W3WWP Motion Passed***

Secretary

*Kevin Forrest*

W3KCF

# Upcoming Events and Activities



Our Next Club Meeting Is March 12, 2026

Meeting starts at 1930

After the meeting there will be a presentation given by Ed on techniques and tips for using the multi meter, please bring a DMM or a VOM meter if you have one for hands on.

VE Session at 1800 before our normal club meeting

Antenna Build - We plan on building a directional antenna. Those interested contact one of the officers. We will schedule a room at the 911center on a Saturday. Once the build is complete, we will set up a fox hunt with a hidden transmitter in Stroudsburg.

Rule #1 of Amateur Radio, it is a hobby, unless you figured out a way to fashion a living out of it.

Rule #2 of Amateur Radio, life is not a hobby and typically carries heavy responsibilities of everything that is not a hobby.

Rule #3 of Amateur Radio, never give up a LIFE event for a Ham event. You may make some great memories at the Ham event, but the guilt you may carry missing a LIFE event can be a terribly heavy millstone.

Rule #4 of Amateur Radio, as technology moves forward, so does Ham Radio - do what makes you happiest, experiment with other elements of Ham Radio as LIFE allows.

Rule #5 of Amateur Radio, it is only Ham Radio, when confused always refer to Rule #1 through #4.