



## Tri County Radio Association

W2LI Since 1934



Tri County Radio operates repeaters on 147.255 (PL 141.3) and 449.975 (PL 141.3) using the W2LI memorial call sign / PO BOX 1291 Union NJ 07083-1291 / Web Site: <http://www.w2li.org>

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## Swap and Shop

For sale-IBM computer model 300G1, in perfect condition with keyboard, mouse, half box tractor paper, 6 boxes of new floppys and Panasonic printer, model KXP1124, with book and all cables. \$25.00. Also, like new Colt CB transceiver and mike. \$10.00.

Contact Dick, W2EUF at (908) 276-1076.

April 2009

### TCRA NEWS APRIL 2009

TCRA News is published ten times a year, with no issues in August and December.

#### PROGRAMS/EVENTS FOR

APRIL\*

\*Subject to change.

**April 6<sup>th</sup>:** Plans were not finalized at press time. It may be a social meeting or a topic you would not want to miss. **(8PM AT THE UNION ELKS)**

**April 13<sup>th</sup>:** **“ON THE AIR MEETING”** (8:15PM W2LI 2M 147.255 PL 141.3).

**April 20<sup>th</sup>:** Plans were not finalized at press time. It may be a social meeting or a topic you would not want to miss. **(8PM AT THE UNION ELKS)**

**April 28<sup>th</sup>:** **“VE TEST SESSION”** 9AM at the Roselle Fire Department, 725 Chestnut St., Roselle, NJ 07203 in the third floor conference room (handicap accessible).

### 2009 DUES

#### ATTENTION DUES PAYING MEMBERS

Just a reminder: ***This is one more chance to pay your 2009 dues.*** Dues are \$20.00. If you can't make it out to a meeting, you may send your dues to TCRA, ***PO BOX 1291 Union NJ 07083-1291.*** ***Please note new mailing address.*** Note if any of the following has changed please include when renewing your membership. Your zip code, your phone number, your E-mail address, your license class and are you an ARRL member.

**ISRAELI DAY PARADE VOLUNTEERS**  
**NEEDED**

On May 31, 2009 there will be a parade in NYC – this is the annual “Salute to Israel” parade. The parade will run from 9 AM to about 4 PM on 5<sup>th</sup> Ave (about 51<sup>st</sup> to 80<sup>th</sup>).

Last year I did not have sufficient coverage – this year, we the HAM community, needs to show that we are there and able to handle the assignment.

Here is what I am asking:

1. If you can help out at the parade as an operator please let me know
2. If you cannot help at the parade please pass this request to other HAMS who may be able to help
3. Even if you can help at the parade pass this to other who may also be able to help

All operation will take place on 440 (75 cm) – we have the use of a great repeater, but we will use a simplex frequency for backup.

Assignments will be shadow operation (of parade officials), announcer stands, key parade points, etc. Since this is a parade, there is a lot of noise, so the operators will need to be prepared for this as well.

For additional information, please contact me via email [k2so@arrl.net](mailto:k2so@arrl.net).

Thanks for your help. I hope to see you at the parade.

73, Steve, K2SO

Communications Coordinator

Salute to Israel Parade

April 2009

**\*12VDC Polarity/Test Light\***

*By: 2manytoyz*

12 June 2006

Necessity is the mother of invention, or so they say. Back in the 80s, I purchased a used conversion van that the previous owner wired using speaker wire. What a mess! Consequently, I spent a lot of time under the dash chasing wire. Trying to hold a meter and leads at the same time while upside down is a challenge. There had to be an easier way.

I had seen a bicolor (2 color) LED at Radio Shack. With a limiting resistor, a couple of leads, I could make a simple test light that also shows polarity. Nice thing to have when wires aren't identified. This is a quick and easy project. Costs only a couple of bucks, is waterproof, and will last virtually forever. My original one is over 20 years old and still gets used. I'm making a couple of spares so I can keep one in each vehicle, and 1 in my workshop.

The LED is Radio Shack P/N 276-012 and is \$1.49. I used a couple of pre-made jumper wires and just cut the wire at the mid point. You could use your own wire and buy the clips separately at the Shack too. The resistor is a 330 Ω (orange/orange/brown) and is a 1/8 Watt. You could use a 1/4 Watt if that's all you have. The clear tube I'm using was from a pencil eraser package. Use your imagination on this one. Any small clear tube will work.

To calculate the resistance, I used this formula:

LIMITING RESISTANCE = (SUPPLY VOLTAGE - VOLTAGE DROP ACROSS LED) / DESIRED CURRENT

In this case, this works out to be (12V - 2.1 V) / 30 mA = 330 Ω. The current rating (30 mA) and voltage drop (2.1V - forward voltage) info is printed on the back of the LED packaging.

Let's get to building...

**For assembly instructions with images go to : <http://www.alpharubicon.com/elect/12vpollight.htm>  
Thanks go to Harry, KB2MDO for sending in this web site.**



April 2009



# TRI-COUNTY RADIO ASSOCIATION EVENTS

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
5	6 8:00 PM TCRA MEETING AT THE UNION ELKS "TBA"	7 8:30 PM SATERN NET 449.975 MHz	8	9	10	11
12	13	14 8:30 PM SATERN NET 449.975 MHz	15	16	17	18
19	20 8:00 PM TCRA MEETING AT THE UNION ELKS "TBA"	21 8:30 PM SATERN NET 449.975 MHz	22	23	24	25 9:00 AM VE TEST ROSELLE FIRE DEPARTMENT
26	27	28 8:30 PM SATERN NET 449.975 MHz	29	30		