

Central Pennsylvania Repeater Association Inc.

W3ND March 2012

NOTICE: The next general meeting of the CPRA will be on Thursday, March 15, 6:30 PM at the Old Country Buffet, Harrisburg near Costco.

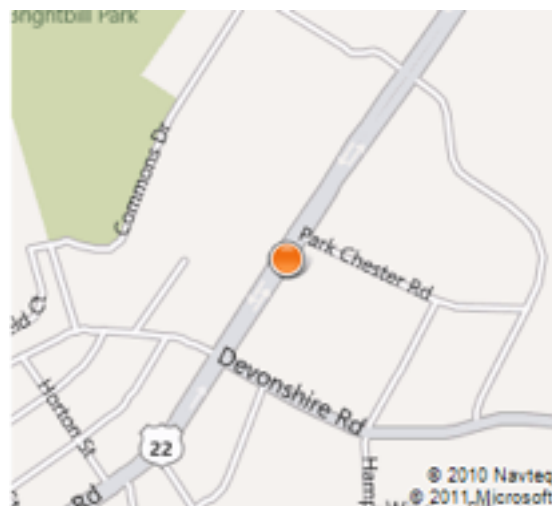
A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT: From WA3CPO, Gary Blacksmith, MD

The next CPRA, Inc. meeting will be held on Thursday, March 15 at 6:30 PM at the Old Country Buffet, Harrisburg.

Old Country Buffet
5083 Jonestown Rd, Harrisburg, PA 17112
(717) 657-6290

Eat at 6:30 PM, the meeting starts by 7:00 PM and is over by 8:30 PM. The restaurant locks the doors at 8:30 PM.

If you have a cell phone that can act as a WIFI hot spot, please bring it along. That would be a great help to our presenters:



1. Bob Raker, W0BR: Bob's talk will tell you how you can operate his HF station over the internet or the Central PA IP Network (CPIN). His TS2000 is remotely controlled and allows you to select the desired receive and transmit frequency. This opportunity is ideal for hams that live in locations that do not permit outdoor antennas.

2. Rodney Gallagher, KB3TOY: Rodney is the PEMA amateur radio representative for Central Pa. He will inform us exactly what PEMA has been doing lately. PEMA has broadened the scope of the RACES room at PEMA HQ. It is now called the Auxiliary Communication Services (ACS) room. However, almost all of the equipment is amateur radio equipment.

A fax machine is now operational over the CPIN telephone network with access to the public telephone network. A private telephone system is now functional over CPIN that extends to the Cumberland County EOC (more to be added), mountain tops, Amateur's homes, Red Cross HBG, and other locations.

Access to the public telephone network is available in and out of the network. High speed internet is operational and is checked on a daily basis through multiple gateways. Cameras have been added and are viewable at PEMA.

Manpower requirements have been low at PEMA. In fact I can't remember when a need for operators was issued by PEMA. Rodney will bring us up to date and look at the future needs at PEMA.

TECHNICAL ACTIVITY:

The technical activity lately has centered on setting up Cisco routers to interconnect our new UHF repeaters. This is a very specialized area and if you have any skills in this field please step forward and contact Kevin, KA0JQO at 437-3088.

Initially we will have three UHF repeaters connected full time at Blue Mountain, Reeser's Summit, and Cornwall Mountain. That will provide coverage into most of the Central Pa area except Franklin and Adams counties. Portable operation close to these repeaters will be greatly enhanced.



Remote cameras are being set up at several locations. If you have experience with cameras or want to learn more, contact Gary, WA3CPO at 574-0425. We have two cameras at Blue Mountain, one inside and one outside. They record remotely based on motion detection. Free management software is being utilized to display multiple cameras and record video. We can set up a camera almost anywhere we can get a 5 GHz path to one of the many access points. Here is the outside view at Blue Mountain.

Asterisk is now active over the Central Pennsylvania IP Network (CPIN). The UHF repeater at Mt Holly Springs can be remotely controlled over the private telephone system. This repeater has three active voting receivers at Blue Mountain, Waggoner's Gap, and Mt Holly. If you want to learn more contact Randy, KB3HJC at 716-204-6480 evenings.

A computer network engineer is urgently needed. Advanced design capability of a large network is needed. Please call any one of the above persons to discuss it further. Additional repeaters will be made available as the equipment is delivered to our area.

ELECTIONS AND FUTURE ACTIVITIES:

Nominations for Officers and Board members will be accepted at the meeting in March. Elections will be held in April. This is your club. Come out and support it. If you have ideas for the future bring them up at the meeting. Every idea has merit. For instance, do you want to have a club picnic this year?

We also need to discuss the location of the next meeting. Suggestions include: Dauphin Co EOC, Private Italian club, The Wharf, Country Club, or another restaurant with a private room.

Please call your ham friends and see if they might want to come to this meeting. Most of us need reminders to stay on schedule.

GENERAL ARES/RACES INFO: From Your Editor, Roger, W3HUP

PEMA AND OTHER LOCAL NETS AND FREQUENCIES:

Central Area Net meets on **3993.5 KHz** every Sunday at **8:30 AM** Local. **Central Area PEMA frequencies are: 3993.5 KHz - Primary**, Alternates: 3984.5 KHz, 3999.5 KHz, 7248.5 KHz, and 7250.5 KHz The Eastern Area meets on **3987.5 KHz** every Sunday morning at **9:00 AM** Local The Western Area meets on **3990.5 KHz** every Sunday morning at **9:00 AM** Local. Our **PA State Net** meets the **FIRST SUNDAY** of every month on **3993.5 kHz** at **8:00 AM Local**. This net is usually called by John Kruk, K3KR, Lock Haven; at which time he calls Eastern, Central and Western Area Stations in that order. The **New York State** net usually meets on **3993.5 kHz** at **9:00 AM** right after our Central Area net.

The weekly Harrisburg Amateur Radio Club Information Net is held every Wednesday at 8:00 PM local on the 146.76 HRAC repeater, except for the second Wednesday of the month which is club meeting night, **and the Capital Area Skywarn Net** meets Wednesday evenings at 9:00 PM local on the 145.11 RACES repeater. All are welcome to check in.

ON-LINE OPERATOR TRAINING COURSE AVAILABILITY:

NIMS (**National Incident Management System**) courses, including ICS 100, 200 and 700 certification are available on-line. They discuss emergency management is organization and how volunteers such as us fit in to the process. The Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Course Levels 1 and 2, available from the ARRL, cover Amateur Radio emergency operating procedures. The June 2011 issue of QST Magazine (pages 80 and 81) provides an excellent introductory article on the NIMS. Page 79 of the March 2012 issue of QST contains further information on training and certification of ARES operators.

A REMINDER ABOUT 5 MHZ BAND OPERATIONS:

In the USA, the 5MHz channels were requested, justified, and approved primarily for Amateur **Emergency and Disaster Communications** with tighter technical restrictions than on any other ham bands. We are secondary users; the Primary users of these channels must not be interfered with in any way. Non-interference with a Primary user isn't just a matter of stopping transmitting if you are asked to. It can also mean refraining from transmitting, if there is ***any chance*** that you might be preventing a Primary user from utilizing or starting communications on the channel, even if you are not asked specifically. The only way we can hope to fulfill our requirement for non-interference, is to use very short transmissions and listen/watch carefully between transmissions.

TASK FORCE FORMS TEAMS:

The Amateur Working Group for the South Central Task Force is forming teams to be on standby to be deployed to incidents out of our area. Members with ICS training and specified equipment are being assigned to teams to provide emergency communications for a minimum of 12 hours in a disaster. HEARS teams are also being formed to be able to be assigned to hospitals within our region to provide emergency communications support. ICS training is required to be assigned to

these teams. Email Marty Gutekunst for details at kb3baa@arri.net

“BOILER PLATE”: From your editor, W3HUP

Officers, Board, and Committee Members

President: WA3CPO Gary Blacksmith, MD
V. President: KA3AAA Terry Phillips
Secretary: KA3ECQ Terry Ash
Treasurer: KA3ECQ Terry Ash
Past President: K3SZX Alan Abt
Trustee for W3ND: KA3AAA Terry Phillips
Member at large: WA3MMD Bob Kurtinecz
Member at large: N3JQM Neil Shatto
Member at large: AA3T Nick Rylatt
Alternates: KA0JQO Kevin Magloughlin
KB3RRV Mike Brulo
K3DRE Douglas Evans
Web Master: N3PRO Dave Hoffman
IRLP Committee: KA0JQO Kevin Magloughlin
RACES team: WB3BKN Terry Snyder, **RACES R/O**
K3JJK Lee Ash, and N3JQM Neil Shatto
Public Relations: W3KB Keith Beebe
Recruitment: KZ3J Curtis Zell
News Letter Editor: W3HUP Roger Urban

Facilities with the CPRA club call sign W3ND:

144.39 APRS node from Reeser's Summit.
145.11- Dauphin County RACES repeater, CTCSS 123.0 Hz
29- IRLP node 7060 Blue Mtn. IRLP CTCSS 123.0 Hz
47- Med coverage, Blue Mtn, CTCSS 123.0 Hz (Primary HEARS Repeater)
224.18- 222.58 In, Blue Mtn, CTCSS 123.0
444.45+ Medium coverage from Blue Mountain CTCSS 123.0 Hz
444.55+ Extended coverage to North, CTCSS 123.0 Hz
446.425- Reeser's Summit, CTCSS 123.0 Hz
448.075- Dauphin County RACES repeater CTCSS 123.0 Hz
53.01- RCVR at Blue Mtn (Nally's site), being moved, CTCSS 123.0 Hz
3480 ATV Repeater Output (ATV only when requested)
5GHz Access Point at Blue Mountain with links to Reeser's Summit, Cornwall and North. Links from Reeser's Summit to Blue Mountain and White Rock.

Monthly Ham Radio Lunch: at the **Old Country Buffet** in east Harrisburg the **last** Thursday of **each month at noon** unless it is a major holiday. This restaurant is located on route 22 in Colonial Park in the vicinity of Value City Furniture, K-Mart and Home Depot. Good way to meet some new people...this is open to ALL area hams!

Club Web Site: WWW.W3ND.ORG

Pay it a visit...we have links to various services, general information and the current and back issues of the Newsletter.

Dues: are \$20/yr for a single membership and \$35/yr for a family membership, which includes all licensed amateurs living in one household. **If you have not renewed please do so...we need your support! If you have, consider an additional donation! For most members, renewal is due by April.**

USE THE REVISED MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION SHOWN BELOW

Thanks! Please make your check payable to:

Central Pennsylvania Repeater Association, Inc.
C/O Terry Ash
4335 Rodkey Road, Harrisburg, PA 17110
DO NOT SEND CASH!

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP IN CPRA

- New member Renewal Family Updating Information
 Donation _____ Other _____

Dues are \$ 20.00 Individual and \$ 35.00 Family.

Total amount enclosed \$ _____

Name: _____ Call(s) _____

Address: _____ City: _____

State: _____ Zip code _____ License class: _____

Email address for newsletters: _____

Phone: _____ Listed Unlisted

Are you an ARRL member? Yes No

Are you a member of WITF Yes No

EMERGENCY RACES VOLUNTEER INFORMATION

This information will only be used in the event of an emergency. This information will only be given to the emergency RACES coordinator and will not be distributed for general information in any form!

Work number including extension: _____

Cell Phone: _____

Email address: _____