

Central Pennsylvania Repeater Association Inc.

W3ND May 2012

NOTICE: The next general meeting of the CPRA will be on Thursday, May 17, 6:30 PM at The Wharf, 6852 Derry Street, Harrisburg.

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

The next meeting of CPRA, Inc. will be held at The Wharf, 6852 Derry Street, Harrisburg 717-564-9920 at 6:30 PM on Thursday, May 17, 2012. Eat at 6:30 PM, but not required. The meeting will start as soon as the meal permits and will be over by 8:30 PM.

<http://www.thewharfbarandgrill.com/>

This meeting will include a panel discussion on:

1. Analog link transmitters: advantages and disadvantages
2. Asterisk digital linking
3. Cisco router linking
4. Voters: analog & digital
5. Equipment types easiest for linking
6. Existing linked receivers and repeaters:

Cornwall UHF, Mt Holly UHF repeaters, NY State Line repeaters

449.025 162.2, 444.300 127.3, <http://www.kb3hjc.net/>

Blue Mtn & Waggoner's Gap satellite receivers with above repeaters

Excellent portable UHF coverage Cornwall to Mt Holly

Repeater Functions

*83 Give Time of Day

*86 Local Weather Forecast

*88 Weather Alert if there is an active alert

7. Planned linking Phase I

Cornwall UHF, Reeser's Summit UHF, Newport UHF, Blue Mtn UHF

8. Planned Linking Phase II

Upper Dauphin VHF, Blue Mtn VHF

9. Planned Linking Phase III

Lambs Gap UHF, York County UHF with Blue Mtn UHF

10. Suggestions from the group for linking

Elections:

Mail your ballots. If the mail can't deliver them before the meeting, please bring them to the meeting.

Stink Bugs:

These creatures are tough to beat. A new screen was placed over the exhaust fan at Blue Mtn. The door had more weather stripping applied. The entrance boots for the coaxial cables was made more secure. The remaining stink bugs are hopefully the ones that were trapped in the building. If you look carefully you can see them on the only stink bug cam in central Pa.

[HTTP://75.75.186.50:7126](http://75.75.186.50:7126)

You may need to download Active-X for the display to work.

Picnic: A picnic is planned with food from a grill at Blue Mountain. This is an opportunity for you to see first-hand the new facilities that we are using on Blue Mountain in Building # 3. This is the largest equipment shelter on Blue Mountain and it is used exclusively by hams. Six of the eight racks that you see on the sting bug cam are used by CPRA. The first rack is the 220 repeater. The second rack is the 146.76 repeater. The date, details, and driving directions will be arranged at the next meeting.

Cameras on the Microwave Network:

[HTTP://75.75.186.50:7121](http://75.75.186.50:7121) LRTS Camera Cornwall

[HTTP://75.75.186.50:7120](http://75.75.186.50:7120) Ranger Station Camera Cornwall

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 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.

NEED FOR MORE TRAINED VOLUNTEERS:

After running a tabletop exercise involving a pair of tornados touching down in Susquehanna Twp. and southern Dauphin County, and reviewing ham radio's potential role in such an event, there is one glaring conclusion:

We need more trained volunteers. You could be available to step up and staff radios at emergency operation centers and hospitals in our county. There are technologies available to send out messages by voice, email, text (and we can monitor set frequencies) to get the word out for volunteers to respond. We need people to step up and sign up for potential activation in the event of an incident.

Your personal safety and the safety of your families, friends and neighbors is top priority but if you are in a situation of not being directly affected by the disaster and can lend a hand consider offering yourself to be placed on a list of potential call-ups in case a disaster strikes. Some incidents like the flooding we had last fall can last several days, are slow to develop, and can change in scope and size as it progresses.

Other incidents, like a tornado, will hit quickly, with little or no warning, and have immediate major impacts to infrastructure, etc. In upcoming articles I will highlight free training available for you to take, outside of a classroom, on your own time that will help you understand and work within an incident command structure.

There are also several non-emergency events happening in our area that need amateur radio support that offer opportunities to test your skills in supporting other organizations in providing communications. It's also a great way to meet and work with other hams in support of some great causes like children's health and diabetes research. Volunteers are still needed for the upcoming

Tour de Cure, Competitive Trail Ride and Hershey Half-Marathon. I will also be sharing some of the plans in place to provide communications in case of an emergency.

NTS Nets: I am a regular participant on two local NTS traffic nets. It has been a great way to improve my traffic handling experience, meet new people and use the radio to serve the community. I encourage you to join one or both of the local VHF NTS traffic nets:

Monday 2000hrs 146.460 +1 Mhz. offset, PL 67

Thursday 2000hrs 146.640 PL, 82,5

If you have any questions, comments, suggestions, or want to sign up please contact me at kb3baa@arrl.net or 717-439-8971.

Marty Gutekunst
717-652-3702
717-439-8971 cell
KB3BAA

“BOILER PLATE”: From your editor, W3HUP

Officers, Board, and Committee Members

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Public Relations:	W3KB Keith Beebe
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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)
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: _____