

Central Pennsylvania Repeater Association Inc.

W3ND October 2012

NOTICE: The next CPRA meeting will be Thursday, October 18, 2012 at 7:00 PM at The Wharf on Derry Street, Harrisburg. Come early to enjoy the food and drink.

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

Fewer visitors to Blue Mountain have been noted since the four cameras were installed. Cars are not even coming up to look at the view.

The Black bear has not returned. But do remember when at Building # 3 to be aware of your surroundings at all times.

A 10 Ghz microwave connection to the Clear Channel Studios is ready for installation. A few more final approvals are coming soon. The RF link has been tested and a dish on Building # 3 has been mounted and is operational. The signal level at Clear Channel was verified using a portable dish. This path will provide over 50 Mbps to W3HP at the studio. This link is for disaster communications and not for the day to day operation of the station.

Weekly Saturday learning sessions are available to all. This starts Saturdays at 8:30 AM. We meet at McDonalds on Front Street at Linglestown Road (RTE 39), Harrisburg. After breakfast we caravan to one of many mountain top locations: Blue Mountain, Reeser's Summit, Newport, Cornwall, SPARC, Red Lion, Truce, White Rock, Waggoner's Gap, or Big Flat. There you will be able to have a hands-on experience. Many sessions are planned to be half day in length but feel free to leave at any time. An email will be sent out in advance of Saturday to let you know what is planned or if there is a postponement. If you would like your name added to the email list, send an email to: wa3cpo@arrl.net or call Gary Blacksmith, 574-0425.

Recent sessions have been held at Blue Mountain, SPARC (Manheim), Waggoner's Gap, White Rock, and Reeser's Summit. Future sessions will include all of the sites. Learning experiences will include: Mounting additional cameras, adding cameras to the firmware, adding and replacing cabling, adding remote base interfaces to UHF repeaters, repeater PM, adding network phones, installing microwave transmitters and receivers, etc.

OCTOBER MEETING:

The next CPRA meeting will be Thursday, October 18, 2012 at 7:00 PM at The Wharf on Derry Street, Harrisburg. Come early to enjoy the food and drink.

The first part of the meeting will be a panel discussion about remote control of our many repeaters at multiple locations. The choices are:

1. Phone lines to all sites to devices that answer when called and are password protected.
\$25 per month per line minimum

2. RF control over a separate frequency requiring an antenna, receiver and control circuits.
Moderate initial expense
3. Computer control requiring port forwarding through existing gateways or direct from a computer on the CPIN to a power strip that has a built in web browser. Minimal cost

Computer control would save us the recurring monthly cost of multiple phone lines.

Initial sites include: Blue Mtn, Reeser's Summit, Cornwall

Additional sites: Ellendale, Newport (WQLV), Lams Gap, and White Rock.

Your input is valuable and any suggestions are welcome.

The second part of the meeting will be a panel discussion about the 147.375 repeater as an Asterisk/ Echolink machine. Most of us don't want a repeater that has constant chatter or frequent kerchunks. That is a risk we take. But we can take steps to minimize the undesirable aspects. If it becomes an annoyance no one will listen to it. Your input is needed. How should this repeater be set up ?

FUTURE MEETINGS:

November 15, 2012: Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH
Retired FCC Attorney for Amateur Radio Enforcement
Always an interesting speaker, bring your questions

December 6, 2012: CPRA Board Meeting at The Wharf, 6:30 PM
December: No general meeting. Enjoy the holidays

January 17, 2013: Tour of Air National Guard Middletown
Field trip: Exact date and time to be announced

Or Dan Rapak, WA3ATV
Amateurs monitoring the Railroad signals, audio, and possible video.

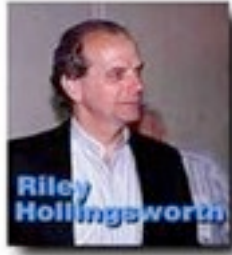
February 15, 2013: Dan Rapak or Air National Guard field trip

DOOR PRIZES:

Three door prizes will be available for the meeting on Thursday, October 18, 2012.

1. Cisco 2950 24 port rack mount switch w/internal ps & power cable 10/100
2. 3Com 16981 24 port switch rack mount w/internal ps & power cable 10/100
3. USB Network Interface 10/100/1000

You must be present to win. Only those persons interested in the above will place their name in a lottery. A disinterested party will draw the winners at the end of the meeting.



Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH,
Special Counsel for the
Spectrum Enforcement
Division

FCC ENFORCER RILEY HOLLINGSWORTH RETIRES:

The man who took ham radio out of the hands of trouble makers and made it family friendly once again, has retired from public service. **Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH**, who held the title of Special Counsel for the Spectrum Enforcement Division of the FCC's Enforcement Bureau officially retired from the agency on July 3rd.

In his final major public appearance at last May's Dayton Hamvention, he took a moment to thank the amateur radio community for its support:

Hollingsworth: "You have a great service overall, and it's a major underpinning of the communications system in this country. And you demonstrate this on a daily basis. And we thank you all for the way you help us with enforcement in your radio service and every thank-you that you give us, believe me, is deeply appreciated. Thank you. (applause)"

Hollingsworth came to the position of rules enforcer more than a decade ago. It was a time when years of neglect by the FCC had permitted many of the popular ham bands to become over run by a small but vocal number of licensed amateurs who had no respect for the rights of others. These were hams who seemed to believe that the Part 97 Amateur Service rules did not pertain to them. Hams who claimed that their jamming and harassment of others was constitutionally protected freedom of expression and freedom of speech. It was Hollingsworth who would change all of that.

It was not very long before some of the most high profile offenders began receiving warning notices from Hollingsworth. Those that ignored the letters soon found that they were the subject of further FCC action. In some cases fines were issued. In others the FCC and the offender entered into agreements where the latter accepted operating restrictions or voluntarily surrendered their licenses for a given period of time.

There were also a number of license renewal set-asides. That's where a radio ham is not permitted to renew a license until a charged offense was adjudicated. It didn't take that person off the air, but was a clear message that the FCC had that operators on the air operating habits under a proverbial microscope.

That said, more than a few of the situations did not require FCC enforcement action. As Hollingsworth said in his Dayton address, many times complaints that he received got solved without any intervention at all:

Hollingsworth: "You would be amazed at the number of complaints I get that seem to be good complaints. And they are good complaints on the face of it. But if I check on them a few days later or a week or so later, the problem has gone away. A lot of it is unintentional or having second thoughts."

Whenever possible, Hollingsworth approach was that negotiation was a far better way to approach a given situation than going the route of license suspension or revocation. And in most cases it worked. In the small number where it didn't, he and others in the FCC's Enforcement Bureau were more than ready to act. And act the agency would.

In one rather egregious case in California, FCC enforcement action begun by Hollingsworth's office and that of the Los Angeles FCC Field Office lead to FBI involvement in the case of former radio ham **Jack Gerritsen**, the ex-KG6IRO.

Eventually Gerritsen was arrested, tried and convicted on six counts that included willful and malicious interference with radio communications and transmitting without a license. In 2006 Gerritsen was sentenced to seven years in prison and fined \$15,225.

But Gerritsen was the most extreme of the extreme. In most cases, the first letter and maybe a phone call was all that was needed to make a problem go away. And in his remarks at Hamvention 2008, Hollingsworth reminded the audience that the number of hams who cause problems is relatively small:

Hollingsworth: "You have some poor operators and rude operators and operators who don't care and who are hateful and bitter about life in general, but every group has that. Whether its doctors, electricians, lawyers, whatever, every group has a certain percentage of people like that in these time. But what you have to do, and remind yourself every day is to stay on the high road. And report to us if you can't resolve a problem after you have given it a chance to go away."

And taking the high road was always what Riley Hollingsworth's tenure as Special Counsel for the FCC's Spectrum Enforcement Division was always all about. And by taking the high road, he helped to breath new life into our world of Amateur Radio.

For his efforts in helping to eliminate the problem of malicious interference that had been increasing on the ham bands Hollingsworth was named to receive the 2006 Dayton Hamvention Special Achievement Award.

Now he's out of the ham radio limelight, and hopes to enjoy many years of hamming. He also hopes to talk to many of you on the air from his home station, K4ZDH.

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

ACS:

OK, folks, you have a new term to get used to: "ACS", or **Auxiliary Communications Service**. What is that, you ask?

The Pennsylvania ACS is based on RACES, but includes the use of non-amateur radio volunteers and beyond, only utilizing them during emergencies. Others who may not be

licensed amateur radio operators also provide emergency communications support through organizations such as: Radio Emergency Associated Communications Team (REACT), the Civil Air Patrol (CAP), the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary (USCGAUX), and others. So, when you discuss emergency communications in broad terms you should think in terms of “ACS” and should get used to hearing that acronym.

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.

FREE RTTY GEAR: From Dan Rapak, WA3ATV

I'm heavily involved in the Harris Railroad Tower Museum project. Part of this involved refurbishing a Teletype Corporation Model 15 KSR. In conjunction with that, we had a couple of Kleinschmidt teletype machines donated to us. However, since the machine in Harris Tower was a Teletype Corp. machine, the Kleinschmidts are of no use. As far as I know they work. We are cleaning up and will be getting rid of them, as soon as this weekend. If anyone in the ham radio community who is into old style RTTY would be interested in them, speak now or forever hold your piece. If someone is interested, all they have to do is come and get them. They don't necessarily have to be picked up this weekend. I can put a hold on them, but they would have to be picked up soon or they'll be scrapped. The Harris Railroad Switch Tower Museum is located at 7th & Walnut Streets in downtown Harrisburg, PA. Anyone interested can send an email to: HarrisTower@verizon.net or can call [717-232-6221](tel:717-232-6221) and leave a message after the meeting announcement.

“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:	K3DRE Douglas Evans
Member at large:	AA3T Nick Rylatt
Alternates:	KA0JQO Kevin Magloughlin KB3RRV Mike Brulo N3JQM Neil Shatto
Web Master:	N3PRO Dave Hoffman
IRLP Committee:	KA0JQO Kevin Magloughlin
ACS/RACES team:	K3DRE Doug Evans KB3OTY Rodney Gallagher
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)
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: _____