Central Pennsylvania Repeater Association Inc.

W3ND September 2012

NOTICE: **The next general meeting of the CPRA will be on Thursday, September 20, 2012 at 7:00 PM at The Wharf on Derry Street, in Harrisburg.**

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

Stink bugs have finally come under control. The indoor camera has not seen a single bug. We have not seen any more live bugs for months in Building # 3 located on Blue Mountain between The WITF tall tower and the WITF standby tower. Every crack and hole in the building was sealed. The last entrance portal for the bugs was the exhaust pipe for the generator. The generator was removed before we moved into the building but the exhaust pipe was never sealed. The rubber boots over the coax feed throughs have all been installed.

Two additional cameras have been mounted on the front of Building # 3. The mount for one camera was broken by a large bird. The last motion recording shows a bird approaching the camera followed by a recording of the ground. The mount was repaired and the bird is gone. Four cameras are now actively watching the building. Fewer visitors to the area have been noted since the cameras were installed.

A wireless router has been mounted on the rear wall. This facilitates connection to the internet and the Central PA IP Network. A DHCP connection is used on both the wired and wireless portals. No password is needed.

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 next week. The RF link has been tested and a dish on Building # 3 has been mounted and is operational. The signal levels at Clear Channel were 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. More details are available elsewhere in the newsletter.

The next CPRA meeting will be Thursday, September 20, 2012 at 7:00 PM at The Wharf on Derry Street, Harrisburg. We will have a discussion about the first three linked UHF repeaters: Cornwall, Harrisburg, and Reeser's Summit. This will include how the linking is accomplished and what the coverage will be. We will also have a demo and hands-on with a $50 dual band one watt portable. This radio should be ideal for use with this system. Who wants a door-prize?

BERRY MOUNTAIN RAC JOTA EVENT: From K3EMT, Shelby

Below is information about the Jamboree-On-The-Air, or JOTA, event that the Berry Mountain Radio Amateur Club will be having. The club's website is www.bmarc.net
Here is an event you won't want to miss at the historical Muckleratz Camp, sponsored by the Berry Mountain Amateur Radio Club (BMARC.net) and Millersburg Troop 151 on October 19, 20, 21 2012.

The JOTA is an annual Scouting event that uses amateur radio to link Scouts around the world, around the nation, and in your own community. Over 750,000 Scouts participated in 150 countries last year.

[DETAILED INFORMATION ON WHAT IS NEEDED FROM AREA SCOUTERS AND RADIO AMATEURS WHO CAN ASSIST WAS PUBLISHED IN THE LAST (SUMMER) CPRA NEWSLETTER…Roger Urban, W3HUP, Newsletter Editor.]

There will be a full schedule of activities combining Scouting skills and Amateur Radio for some exciting results.

• Orienteering with radio • Lashing together a radio tower
• Making an antenna • Prizes for the most and distant contacts
• Message passing contest with Morse code • Setting up Emergency antennas in trees
• Night activities • Gathering weather information around the world
• Emergency Vehicle visits • Radio battleship
• Simulated Search and rescue mission • Talking around the world on radio and the Internet
Requirements in the Astronomy, Camping, Cooking, Emergency Preparedness, First Aid, Orienteering, and Pioneering can be completed and you can complete the Radio MB.

Muckleratz is a beautiful camp outside Elizabethville that has been used for decades by Scouts. Bring your tents and propane cooking sets for Camporee style camping. Setup Friday evening and leave Sunday after services. Register early, space is limited for this exciting event! Please email Don Kunst, ASM T151, W3LNE, to register or for questions. Please include your contact information, number attending and arrival time. Email: W3LNE@ARRL.net Your $8.00 per person registration includes a JOTA patch for Scouts.

ARES/RACES INFO:

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 <u>emergency management organization</u> 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 <u>Amateur Radio emergency operating procedures</u>. 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.

OTHER ACTIVITIES OF INTEREST:
(Repeated From the Summer Newsletter)

MARINE CORPS MARATHON:

This is the event I talked about last year at the meeting. **It is a huge event for hams.** Great ICS experience. I would like to know if you plan to sign up. Date is October 28.
Marty Gutekunst, KB3BAA
717-652-3702, 717-439-8971 cell

Here is the full text of the announcement sent by the coordinator.

From: "Howard Cunningham" <howardc@macrollc.com>
To: wd5dbc@arrl.net
Sent: Saturday, July 28, 2012 9:17:45 PM
Subject: Marine Corps Marathon volunteer registration is open.
Hi.

The web site http://www.ncacdc.com/ describes who is needed and a link to the direct registration page within the MCM web site.

We are asking for 136 operators. We put hams at the aid stations, mile markers, half mile markers on the second half of the course, at food stops, at water points and the check in location. We have hams that shadow the division commanders, hams at the Arlington and DC fire/ems command vehicles, and net control (off the course and accessible during the race). New hams with HTs only can fit in to some of the positions or be assigned to a team with a fully equipped volunteer. Aid station hams MUST have far more complex portable higher power gear to handle 9600 baud packet and 128kbaud DD data (and know how to set up). Hams who have experience running traffic or emergency nets are sought for the NCS positions.

The goal is to have everyone registered by mid-August so we can assign volunteers to the different teams by 1 Sept. Main teams are the Race A and B, the shadows, the aid stations. Please consider this and sign up. Is a rewarding event and we hams are the eyes and ears on the course for the medics. A critical role. IN past years 3G cell phones have been jammed due to the crowds, so we hams provide the robust connections.

I apologize if you have received multiple copies of this email. I consolidated a couple of MCM lists from past years.

Howard Cunningham, WD5DBC, MCP

OPERATORS NEEDED FOR HERSHEY HALF MARATHON:

A minimum of six operators are needed for the upcoming Hershey Half Marathon on Sunday October 21st. In the past we staffed 4 rest areas and command for the event. The race had operators onsite starting at 6:45 AM through the end of the race which ended by 11 AM.
This event is operated under ICS at the direction of the sponsors, Hershey entertainment.
ICS training is preferred, especially for command but not required. If interested please contact me by September 7th at kb3baa@arrl.net or 439-8971.

WAN REPEATER SYSTEM COMES INTO SOUTHCENTRAL PENNSYLVANIA:

The WAN - repeater system has two new nodes in our area, 444.250 PL 123 and 146.925 PL 74.4 are two nodes in our area for accessing the net. Further information about the system can be found at www.wanrepeater.com. I have served as net control for the emergency services net for several sessions. The net is held Sunday evenings at 9 PM. The net uses Allstar technology to link repeaters across a wide area of Pennsylvania and Maryland. It also opens out to many other hams as far away as Hawaii using 2 meters. Word has it some hams in York County are also working on an Allstar net for several of their repeaters.

WIDE VIGILANCE IS COMING LATER THIS MONTH!:

Wide Vigilance IV, the South Central Task Force Exercise is coming. We need hams in Dauphin County to be available for possible activation for 12 hour shifts starting 1200 hours Thursday September 20 through 0800 Saturday 22. Volunteers are also need to help by being able to support three hospitals in Dauphin County on Saturday September 20 from 0800 1200 hrs. Hams with ICS training preferred but not required. Digital experience using FLDIGI also preferred. Please contact KB3BAA at 652-3702 or 439-8971 or at kb3baa@arrl.net with your availability.

"BOILER PLATE": From your editor, W3HUP

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, <u>renewal is due by April</u>.**

USE THE <u>REVISED MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION</u> SHOWN BELOW
Thanks! Please make your <u>check</u> payable to:

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

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: _____