

The Parasitic Emission

Volume 37, Number 10
November 2011

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10,800 word Issue...**

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**Supporting Amateur
Radio Club Activities**

2011: The Year of the Club

ISSN: 2156-0080

**Repeaters!
Repeaters!**

A photograph of a person climbing a radio tower. The tower is covered in snow and has several antennas attached to it. The person is wearing a dark jacket and blue pants, and is positioned near the base of the tower, looking up. The background is a clear, light sky.

NICE GUYS don't always finish last. Being a "Nice Guy" often pays off in the long run. Because most of our clubs don't own their meeting halls, we are the guests of our hosts come meeting time each month. What kind of guests we are will make a lasting impression on our hosts, and define our public reputation. Is your club a good guest? Or do you suspect your host would be happier if you met elsewhere?

Being a good guest certainly means following the house rules. For example, if there are "No Smoking" signs in the meeting room, please don't even think about lighting up! When meeting in a church facility, it would be prudent to watch the language, and be careful about the off-color jokes and heated discussions. In fact, this is true not just for churches, but everywhere! Imagine what would happen if the owners were passing by and heard your meeting. Would they approve? Or would the club be invited to never come back?

Little things make a big difference, too. Our hosts often have to pay someone to straighten up after a meeting. If we do our part to clean up after ourselves, we make two friends – the person who has to police the room because our "many hands" have made light work for them, and our host, who doesn't have to pay as much to clean up our mess. Speaking of paying, don't welch on your promise to pay for the use of the meeting room. Be prompt and courteous when making the payments, and you may even consider throwing in a little something extra occasionally, just for the good will it can generate.

If you have been permitted to set up an activity at a place you usually don't use, be

sure to send a written thank-you note to the sponsors and hosts. Sign it with your club name. If appropriate, include a small donation "for wherever it's needed." Saying "Thank you" may get us invited back. Neglecting our manners will most likely make us unwelcome.

This concept of "Good Citizenship" applies in other areas of Amateur Radio, as well. Not every club has the financial capital to own a repeater, and they rely on the generosity and goodwill of the local repeater owners for a place to hold their nets and other operations. A local repeater is like a "meeting room on the air." Everything I said above about meeting rooms applies equally well to local repeaters. It is important for the local Amateurs to support their local repeater, both financially and by lending a helping hand when needed.

Recently, some ugly conflicts have started to arise between clubs and repeater owners, to the detriment of everyone involved. Nothing good ever comes of such conflicts. Those of us who were around for the "Repeater Wars" of the '70s remember well just how bad things can get, and our warnings today would best be heeded!

In those days, many good repeaters, clubs and operators were put off the air, and the animosity between some groups carries on to this day, 40 years later! Those conflicts came about because repeaters are a special class of Amateur Radio station, and the rules and requirements for repeaters are "different" from those of "normal" stations.

The local issues we have witnessed in the past three or four years seem to evolve from the question of "ownership." In these cases, the club persuaded other, non-amateur-radio agencies to purchase, install and maintain "free" repeaters, usually financed by grant money. The clubs, for their part, supplied

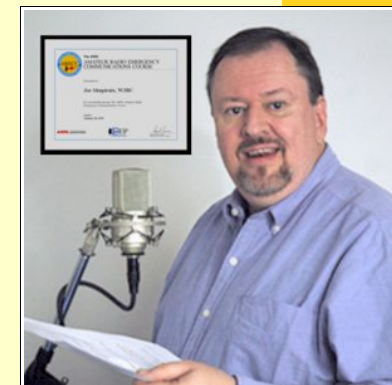
licenses, trustees and control operators, and the local hams used the "free" repeaters for day-to-day operations. The justification for these relationships was the rather fuzzy definition of "Emcomm."

It all sounds good... until somebody's feet get held to the fire. The elected officials may not get re-elected, and the new administration might not be as friendly to Amateur Radio as their ousted predecessors. Or, a *real* communications emergency could arise that the local amateurs only *thought* they were ready for, and their embarrassing failure serves to highlight their poor level of preparedness. And in yet some other cases, a "contest of wills" erupts and plays out like a schoolyard game of "My cheese."

Although Part 97 states no amateur or group of amateurs can lay claim to a frequency, the FCC recognizes the practical need for repeaters to occupy agreed-upon frequencies, to the exclusion of other amateur stations. Our Amateur bands are shared resources, and we have formed coordinating bodies to cooperatively share the limited number of repeater channels available in a given geographic area. Our system of coordination is not without its flaws, but in general, it is mostly a democratic process.

Democracy only works when everyone votes, but in many cases, repeater trustees don't bother participating in Repeater Council affairs. Sadly, they're often the first to complain when decisions are made that adversely affect them, and right behind them are the local hams they have thus let down.

I'll see you...*On The Air!*





The Quad-County Amateur Radio Club

An ARRL Special Service Club
Serving Clearfield, Jefferson Elk And
Cameron Counties Since 1975

Meeting Notice

November 18, 2011

November Meeting: The November meeting will be held on Friday, November 18 at 7:30 pm in the meeting room of the Clearfield County 911 Center, 911 Leonard Street in Clearfield.

Elections will be held for all club offices.

Following the business meeting, Jeff Rowles, KA3FHV will present a program on Special Event Stations and their various awards and certificates.

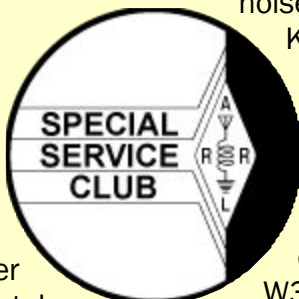
Please plan on attending this very important meeting.

December Breakfast: 9:30am, Saturday, December 10, Sid's Sub Shop, Old Town Road, Clearfield

Christmas Dinner: Friday, December 16 at 6:30 pm at the Fort Worth Hotel, West Long Avenue, Du Bois. The December business meeting will be held first, and the food service will commence at 7:00 pm.

The menu will be a choice of Ham or Turkey Dinner with a choice of side dishes. Guests may also order from the menu instead, if they so desire. The target price is no more than \$13.00 per person. As those who attended the Spring Banquet can attest, the food is well worth the price!

Reservations are not required, but check into the Sunday evening net and make your intentions known. More information is on the website at www.qcarc.org.



Minutes: October 21, 2011

By Jeff Rowles KA3FHV

THE MEETING WAS called to order at 7:30 PM by Doug, W3DWR. There was one guest in attendance, Bob Thunberg, KB3WKE, who, by the end of the meeting had become club member number 36.

The minutes of last month's meeting were read with a motion to approve as printed in the last newsletter by W3BC and seconded by KA3FHV. The treasurer's report was read with a motion to approve by K3QEQ and seconded by WA3UFN.

Old Business:

Lars, KB3WBT, reported that an electrical noise problem at the QTH of Ed, KB3VWX, had been solved by the electric company. W3BC commented on a newspaper article published as the result of an interview he had informing the public what amateur radio is and the different operations we are involved in.

W3DWR presented an overview of the recent picnic held at the Ed Golla Jr. property. Ed has offered the use of the property for future picnics and even perhaps a Field Day operation.

New Business:

There is a VE session scheduled for Monday, November 14th at the DuBois Diner, The time is 6:00 PM. WB3EQW mentioned that he had met the new County Emergency Coordinator, Joe Bigar. It was suggested that we invite him to attend a future club meeting. Four locations were mentioned relative to a Christmas Party.

They are Ethan's Café, Key Largo, Express Café and The Fort Worth Restaurant. A panel

consisting of W3BC, W3TM and WA3UFN will check out Fort Worth and schedule a date.

The following nominations were made. President - W3BC by W3TM, Vice President - KB3WKE by W3BC, Secretary - W3TM by WA3UFN, Treasurer - N3PUQ by W3TM. Board of directors: W3DWR by W3BC, WA3UFN by W3TM, KB3LES by KA3FHV, KB3WBT by W3TM and AB3NK by W3BC. Nominations will remain open until the November meeting at which time the elections will take place.

A Wednesday night rag chew net on the N3QC repeater was suggested by W3BC. It will start at 7:00 PM and will be open to all amateurs. Other ideas presented were a "secret ham" and a YL net. A motion to adjourn was made by KA3FHV and seconded by KB3SVW at 8:21.

Attendance:

KA3FHV, WA3UFN, KB3WKE, AB3NK, K3JE, NEPUQ, K3QEQ, KB3VWX, W3TM, KB3LES, WB3EQW, KB3WBT, W3DWR, KB3SVW.

Quad-County ARC Information

President	Doug Rowles W3DWR w3dwr@hotmail.com
Vice President	H. Deforest Murray, III W3TM kb3tap@hotmail.com
Secretary	Jeff Rowles KA3FHV jrowles@earthlink.net
Treasurer	Dorothy Morrison N3PUQ edmo1@atlanticbb.net
Executive Board	Don Jewell KB3LES Lars Kvant KB3WBT (SM7FYW) Ed Morrison K3JE Joe Shupienis W3BC Bryan Simanic WA3UFN
Officers	Technology: Lars Kvant KB3WBT(SM7FYW) Public Info: Joe Shupienis W3BC
Repeaters	N3QC 147.315+ [173.8]Rockton Mt K3EDD 444.625+ [173.8]Rockton Mt N3IZE 444.900+ [173.8]Clfd local N3QC-1 144.390 APRS Digipeater
Nets	Sunday @ 1900 147.315 (Club)
Web	www.qcarc.org , info@qcarc.org , @qcarc

Punxsutawney Area Amateur Radio Club

Serving Punxsutawney and Jefferson County



Meeting Notice

Tuesday, December 13, 7:00 pm

PUNXSUTAWNEY Area Amateur Radio Club will hold its annual Christmas Party on Tuesday, December 13th at 7:00 pm in the Punxsutawney Presbyterian Church, Findley Street. This is the regular December meeting night. Elections will be held for 2012 officers.

Monthly "Radio Night" activities at the club station at the Punxsutawney Airport have concluded for 2011, and will resume in the spring.

Monthly Breakfast

BREAKFAST get-togethers are held the last Saturday of each month at the Amish Restaurant, Route 310 between Anita and Reynoldsville. **Saturday, November 26 at 9:30 am.**

PAARC Information

President	John Buttner, KB3OUG kb3oug@gmail.com
Vice President	Tom Sprague, KB3TOY
Secretary	Steve Waltman, KB3FPN kb3fpn@windstream.net
Treasurer	Sham Hollopeter, W3QOS
Repeaters	N5NWC 146.715- [173.8] Punxs'y N5NWC 443.475+ Punxs'y KE3DR 147.390+ [173.8] Rockton N3HAO 53.07- (-1MHz) Rockton N3JGT 147.105+ [173.8] Sigel N3GPM 444.275+ Brookv1
Nets	Monday @ 1930 147.390 (Club) Monday @ 2000 147.105 (Jeff EMA)
Web	http://sites.google.com/site/punxyhamclub/

with eerie echoing courtesy tones.

Could this scenario actually happen? Could there ever be such an enormous system? A large footprint could be trampling small coverage repeaters. High profile repeaters are the answer. Too many linked repeaters could lead to a huge area covered by only one available signal source. What happens if there are emergency situations in two areas covered by the system? Where is the local repeater each group of responders would rely upon? Would local repeater trustees have the ability to disconnect from the system under such conditions or perhaps for a local emergency services or club net?

These are just a few of the questions that would have to be considered when approached to become a member of a wide area linking system.

The Secretary Sez

by Jeff Rowles KA3FHV

HELLO. HERE WE are at the beginning of Autumn, when one's thoughts turn towards Halloween, yard cleanup before winter and of course football—high school, college and professional.

As for amateur radio, the DX starts coming in on the "high" bands. Since I got active again on HF, I have worked several countries—England, Asiatic Russia, Belgium, Slovenia, Cuba, Norway, Mexico, Slovak Republic, Poland, Croatia, Spain, Dominican Republic, Greenland, Argentina and Switzerland. Many others have been heard. I really enjoy working the DX.

Another aspect of our hobby, contesting, is also one that I found that I like. I participated in the recent California QSO Party.

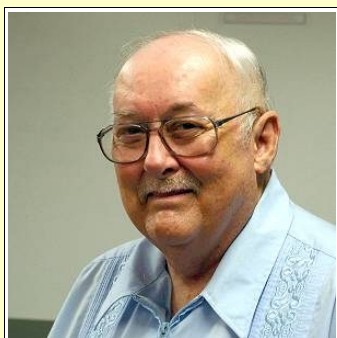
Short column this time. Another will follow as the ideas start to flow again.

Behind The Gavel

by Doug Rowles W3DWR

AES, R&L, HRO and many lesser vendors of amateur radio equipment are reporting a big jump in sales. It isn't so much radios that are jumping off the shelves, but the accessories that go with setting up a station. Amateurs are buying antennas, phasing harnesses, hardline, amplifiers and tower sections.

Some operators who were satisfied before with a tripod on the roof and a vertical antenna are now erecting their first tower, while others are adding a section or two to their existing towers.



Henry company is also experiencing an increase in their sales of 1000 – 1500 watt amplifiers for the two meter band. The surprising fact is that these are for FM not SSB.

Hardline and higher quality connectors are being used to make sure each and every watt possible is reaching the antennas. Single beams are inadequate for this new facet of VHF operation. The secret to success is stacking two or four yagis to concentrate the signal to a laser like pin point.

What is this new segment of amateur radio that is causing so many rational operators to turn into fanatics with one purpose in mind?

All they want to do is be able to reach out to those few two meter repeaters that stand alone and are not a part of a huge linking system that is contaminating the airwaves

Minutes: September 13, 2011

by Steve Waltman KB3FPN

Called to order by the President KB3OUG at 1900 hours.

Minutes were in newsletter and I forgot a copy of them. In too much of a hurry to get here for the meeting. Motion Chet and Second Kevin

Treasurers report given by Sham W3QOS - \$489.97 American Jeff Ka3fhv and Jim AB3CT

Old business:

Rotor at the shack is not working. We will need to look at it.

Discussion Baker Trail Ultra Marathon and general lack of training from Jefferson County officials.(in case of an actual emergency who knows.)

Check in's to the net and discussion of PL's and repeaters etc. Jerry Jim motion and second to have a system that checks off inactive members. Carried. Net Monday night try using the 39 repeater. Also try using 39 repeater to see if and how long it lasts.

Next **shack night** will be last for the year Steve rotor box and parker hot dogs and chips tom will check on pop John will bring hot dogs used from the picnic.

105 repeater going to WAN system soon. Check on 911 center / EMA for activities and training information. National SET and PA SET coming in October Kevin. Training is available for Incident Command System.

Jerry mentioned clock

Breakfast Oct 1 instead of Sept 24 because of auction for Jim WSX same time same day

Adjourn Sham Don - HT

Minutes of meeting 10-11-2011

by Steve Waltman KB3FPN

Called to order by KB3OUG at 1900 hours.

Treasurers report: Sham reported \$498.99 American Approved with motion W3DWR second WA3LVU

Secretary - minutes September meeting read an approved. Motion KA3FHV Second AB3CT

Old Business:

rotor - potentionmeter is still bad was replaced don't know what the problem is. Joe suggested could be a thrust bearing and Yaesu does have a thrust bearing for about \$100 (a common problem with many older rotors). Still need to try another rotor control box.

39 repeater is working well. Net is now back on 39 having moved from 315 back. Send n5nwc an email thanking him for the repeater getting back in good condition.

Jerry reported Clocks are in the shack and working.

We owe **Park** a round of applause for last shack night.

Motion to fill **tank of propane** jerry and tom carried.

New Business:

Christmas party - tentative 13th but could be 5th or 20th and will also be regular business meeting.

GroundHog Day Special Station is an upcoming event. Tentative date is February 4th

40m 7183 (80/75m 3845 backup frequency) 20m 14330 Motion to do. Don HT AB3CT ((jerry and jeff on the back up frequency 3845))

Visit our website and see what you think of it. Website will be updated in the future. Please provide your thoughts (via email).

Don reported **Jessie** has 6 element beam up on the 100 foot tower and he has some pictures of the job.

Discussion items to sell. Discussion QSL cards and the lack thereof for K3HWJ.

Next meeting Nov 15 **Club breakfast** Oct 29 then Nov 26

Quad County reunion picnic this coming Saturday, the Ed Golla property on 310 south of Reynoldsville (north of the Amish Restaurant about 1.8 miles)

Discussion **alcoholic beverages** at airport and should not be used or allowed. Motion as a policy that **no alcoholic beverages allowed** at the shack. Motion made by Doug WA3LVU and second by Don W3HT and motion carried.

Good of the order:

Adjourn Don W3HT Motion Second Don KB3LES

Here and There

by Steve Waltman KB3FPN

[Reprinted by permission from *The Forecaster*]

ON OCTOBER 8 and 9 I did spent some time with the annual PA QSO party working some 100 plus stations on 160-80-40 meters over the duration of the contest till some level of boredom set in Sunday afternoon. I did get 52 or so counties before giving up. I was mostly doing a seek and find, and played with the various microphones and headsets that I have proving their worth, as well as testing the antennas that I have, a 160-80-40 fan dipole and a 520 foot loop fed with mostly

open wire. The one lacking is something for 20 meters, even if only a dipole. Actually should make it 20-17-15-12-10 fan dipole if possible between the two towers. For simplicities sake, there is not much that will beat a dipole for simple and inexpensive everyday amateur radio use. Other than running the 147.105 net and occasionally the 147.390 net, and the checking into the weekly Sunday HF RACES net (when I am awake), this is the most activity I have given amateur radio in all of 2011.

On Sunday, September 18 the Sigel 147.105 repeater went live on the WAN (Wide Area Network) system, rf linked to the network via a 70cm repeater, near Sheffield PA, in Warren County. Whatever that repeater hears the 147.105 repeater will relay. The 147.105 repeater fills a huge coverage gap in the WAN system between the counties to the north (Warren, Forest, McKean for three) and the counties to the south, those south of southern Jefferson County. Jim's N5NWC 146.715 repeater covers southern Jefferson County.

Personally, I think the WAN system is a good thing for the area to have and has some interesting possibilities for emergency situations that require passing traffic over a rather large area in central Pennsylvania, from the New York border to the Maryland border and beyond. It will be useful for ARES and RACES (now being referred to as ACS or Amateur Communications Service) for passing traffic and information.

Soon the 147.390 repeater will join WAN system. This will fill a coverage gap in the system, giving DuBois, not that DuBois is not covered now, but coverage from 147.390 will be better, and most all of Clearfield County WAN access by mobile, which at the moment is not as good as it could be. 147.105 for mobile radios more or less just don't go much

beyond the top of Rockton Mountain.

Actually with the available repeaters we have 3 wide area repeaters available in our area, with the 147.390, 147.315, and 444.625 all located on Rockton Mountain, a rather prime location for our needs. The Hays Lot fire tower location in Jefferson County also is a wide area repeater site where 147.105 and 444.275 linked with 443.275 is located but being located in Northern Jefferson County its coverage are includes a lot of Elk, Forest, northern Clarion, and west into northern Venango County and less so to southern Jefferson, or Punxsutawney. Other locations within our couple of counties, is Clover Run, and Boone Mountain (which does have a 70cm repeater) with both being good for wide already coverage. One overlooked repeater is 444.700 (PL 173.8) located on Rattlesnake Mountain in western Centre County not too far from Phillipsburg, and unfortunately it is very little used. It is a shame.

The repeaters that have been built by the various individuals and clubs in the area are certainly an asset to the amateur radio community, as well as all the communities in our area. We have certainly been blessed in that we have had few emergencies where are participation was actually needed. The last time we had a serious emergency was in 1996.

A repeater allows one to be anywhere within 30-50 miles or so from the repeater to talk to someone else that is also within the same 30-50 mile range, assuming mobile. Station to station the coverage can be up to and possibly more than 100 miles.

Another useful piece of information is what the coverage might be on different bands from a given location. For example a 6m repeater in a prime location could have mobile to mobile coverage well over 50 miles

all the way around the repeater. A 10m split site repeater could be quite a bit more. On the other hand a 70 cm repeater has a smaller useable footprint only because with the higher frequency coverage becomes much more line of sight.

The WAN system allows one to be anywhere in most of I suppose one of 30 or more counties of Pennsylvania, plus Maryland, Philadelphia and Washington DC, and when connected to Toronto, Florida, Texas, and some other places and communicate with another anywhere else in that same area, like you are sitting next door to them. Furthermore the system is growing larger and larger. It is worth a listen to who is there and where they may be from.

On a side note, when listening to repeater channels (2M, 70cm, 6M (none local that are active) 10M (none local)) when on the road, working, the busiest ones, and for the most the only ones with any traffic at all, are on the WAN network. I think we, are our own worst enemies. There is a resource here that is so tremendously underused.

And that is my view of things from Brookville.

The Punxsutawney Area Amateur Radio Club's "Forecaster" newsletter is published monthly and distributed by USPS and email on or about the 1st week of each month, before each monthly meeting, which is held the 2nd Tuesday of each month.

If anyone would like to receive the newsletter by email, let me know and I will add you to the email list. I can be reached by email at the address(s) listed at the top of page 1 or by snail mail at 37 Clark Street, Brookville PA 15825

Philipsburg Amateur Radio Association

Serving Philipsburg and Clearfield County

Meeting Notice

by John Szwarc N3SPW

Please remember that there will not be a meeting in December. In its place will be the annual PARA Christmas Banquet. More information can be found here:

www.philipsburg-ara.org/christmas2011.html

In addition, at the PARA Christmas Banquet, the next Ham of the Year will be announced. If you have not yet nominated anyone for this prestigious award, please consider doing so. Details can be found here:

<http://www.philipsburg-ara.org/year12.html>

Minutes, November 12, 2011

by John Szwarc N3SPW

Members in Attendance: John N3SPW, Leo K3UMT, Jim N3ONE, Filip AB3HK, Dave AA3EJ, Joe KB3CBN, Sal WA3SAL, Dick K3BIE.

Meeting called to order by President Dave AA3EJ at 15:17 UTC.

Treasurer's Report – PARA Treasurer Jim N3ONE reported that the Treasury had a total of \$800 at the start of the meeting. At the meeting an additional \$386 was received from the membership. After these donations are deposited, the total will be \$1,186.

Repeater Reports – Discussion led by Filip AB3HK.

“The Big .43 Repeater” 146.430 (+1 MHz, PL

173.8 Hz) repeater – The new Telewave ANT150D6-9 was ordered on November 1, 2011 from RF Specialties, Inc. in Ebensburg Pennsylvania. They gave an estimated shipping arrival date of November 10, although it has not yet arrived. The cost of this antenna was \$996 and was funded with a loan from a PARA member. The antenna is not shipped with a support mast. A discussion ensued about the best material and suppliers for the support mast.

444.750+(PL 173.8Hz) repeater – operating normally with no reported issues. PARA had previously decided to place this repeater up for sale to provide funds for the .43 repeater antenna project. Based on the treasurer's report, it appears this is not necessary. It was decided to remove this repeater from the www.eHam.com listings and not to sell it. Further, a discussion took place about the possibility of re-purposing this repeater at a different location where it might get more use. Discussion tabled without action.

146.640-(PL173.8Hz) repeater – A new Diamond 6 db gain antenna was installed. Reports are that coverage was significantly

PARA Information

President	Dave Runk, AA3EJ aa3ej@yahoo.com																
Vice President	Filip Cerny AB3HK																
Secretary	John Szwarc, N3SPW jsszwarc@yahoo.com																
Treasurer	Jim Warg, N3ONE																
Liaison	Dick Thompson, K3BIE Interclub Liaison																
Repeaters	<table border="0"> <tr> <td>W3PHB</td> <td>146.430+1M</td> <td>[173.8]</td> <td>Rt1snk Mt</td> </tr> <tr> <td>W3PHB</td> <td>146.640-</td> <td>[173.8]</td> <td>Philipsbg</td> </tr> <tr> <td>W3PHB-1</td> <td>144.390</td> <td>[APRS]</td> <td>Philipsbg</td> </tr> <tr> <td>W3PHB</td> <td>444.750+</td> <td>[173.8]</td> <td>Philipsbg</td> </tr> </table>	W3PHB	146.430+1M	[173.8]	Rt1snk Mt	W3PHB	146.640-	[173.8]	Philipsbg	W3PHB-1	144.390	[APRS]	Philipsbg	W3PHB	444.750+	[173.8]	Philipsbg
W3PHB	146.430+1M	[173.8]	Rt1snk Mt														
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W3PHB-1	144.390	[APRS]	Philipsbg														
W3PHB	444.750+	[173.8]	Philipsbg														
Nets	Saturday @ 2100 147.430+ [173.8]																
Web	www.philipsburg-ara.org																

improved with the added gain.

144.390 PARS Digi-peater – operating normally with no reported issues.

VE Testing – Joe KB3CBN reports that there are no candidates for the scheduled testings session following the meeting. Leo K3UMT suggested approaching the Boy Scouts to recruit new hams radio operators. John N3SPW was directed to get in touch with Rich KB3QKR about setting up a demo for the scouts in the spring. Report at next meeting.

PARA Christmas Banquet – Report given by John N3SPW. The Christmas Banquet will be on Saturday December 10 at the Philips Hotel in Philipsburg. Reservations are appreciated so we can give the restaurant an estimate of the number expected.

HT Raffle – for PARA Members only – In an effort to raise funds, PARA will raffle off a new-in-the-box Alinco 2-meter band HT. This will be done at the January 2012 meeting. Chances will be \$5 each.

You need not be present to win, but you must be a PARA members and the money must be received prior to the drawing. This drawing is not available to the general public.

Next PARA meeting on Saturday January 14th at 3 PM.

Meeting adjourned by President Dave AA3RJ at 16:23 UTC.

Repeater Update

by John Szwarc N3SPW

THE “BIG .43 Repeater”™ is currently off the air. The problem is a faulty antenna. When tested with an SWR meter, it read a 9:1 SWR. Something is drastically wrong up there! One of our members has loaned PARA the funds necessary to purchase a new commercial

grade repeater antenna. The antenna has already been ordered, but the loan will need to be repaid. The letter that was mailed is asking for your continued support of the .43 re-build project.

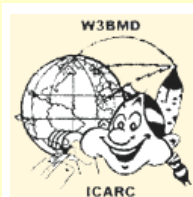
In Spring 2011 PARA officials outlined a plan to totally rebuild the "Big .43 Repeater"™. The plan was to rebuild it with top-notch equipment that will give us years of trouble free service. The repeater hardware has already been replaced. The antenna was to be the next stage of the project. We just didn't anticipate that it would fail before we were prepared to replace it.

A new Telewave ANT150D6-9 antenna has been ordered. It should be here sometime around November 10th. This 4-dipole array design will allow us to create a custom directional signal and fill in some of the nulls in our coverage area. But all this comes at a cost of \$996.06 plus the mast and other associated installation costs. The loan I mentioned has allowed us to order the antenna. But we will need your continued financial support to repay the loan and finish the repeater re-build project.

Please consider how you use the "Big .43 Repeater"™ and what it means to PARA. If you are able, please send your contribution to PARA Treasurer, Jim Warg N3ONE, 215 North Front Street, Philipsburg PA 16866. With your support and participation, "The Big .43 Repeater"™ will once again be a reliable resource for area hams.

Breaking News (November 14):

Our new repeater antenna has arrived at the warehouse in Ebensburg. I'll be picking it up in the next day or so. A support mast for the antenna array must be supplied by us. The next step is to get the support mast figured out and schedule the tower crew for the installation.



Indiana County Amateur Radio Club

Serving Indiana County

Meeting Notice

December Meeting: December 10 - 6pm at Hoss' (this will also serve as our Christmas party).

In order to get an estimate on how many people will be attending, please let Carl N3PIE know if you are coming and how many will be accompanying you. You may email Carl at < n3pie@amsat.org >.

Hoss's would like to know by the middle of November.

Hot Dog Night: at the W3BMD repeater site. Wednesday nights weekly, weather permitting. From 6:30 P.M. To ????. Listen on 146.910 !

Saturday Breakfast: at Indiana Eat 'n' Park Restaurant, Oakland Avenue at Indian Springs Road, Indiana. 8:30 AM to ???

Indiana County ARC Information

President	Robert Zugates KB3JOF KB3JOF@arri.net
Vice President	Jerry Kiehl WB3DUD
Secretary Treasurer	Terry Carnahan KB3JOD
Repeaters	W3BMD 146.910- No tone W3BMD 444.975+ 110.9 Simplex 147.570 Countywide Emerg Echolink Node No: 113249
Nets	Monday @ 2000 146.910-
Web	http://www.qsl.net/w3bmd/



Headwaters Amateur Radio Club

Serving Coudersport and Potter County

Meeting Notice

December Meeting: 7:00 pm, Thursday, December 1 at the Charles Cole Memorial Hospital.

Repeater Update

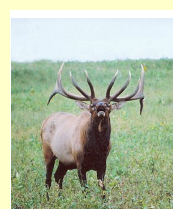
by Tom WA3HLC

The Dutchman Hill remote receiver is back up and working. Finally! For now I have the PL turned off on that receiver! I hope the Macro for the net is also working for the net. We want to keep a look out for used commercial equipment as the narrow band law's takes effect we can utilize equipment to further enhance the system.

I got the repeater ID shortened. Also shortened the Dutch Hill hang time it still has a delay of about a second before second beep We'll kept at it. When you hear the double beep that's Dutch Hill. Please wait about another second for the other beep so you don't time out. I set the time out timers to 3.5 minutes also. I haven't figured out the frog burp yet, Not sure what's triggering that. The remote receiver is hearing very good I hope to be able to leave that out of PL.

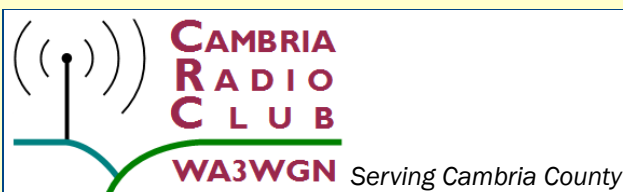
Headwaters ARC Information

President	Jason Layton, K2BYL
Vice President	James Centanni, W2IMK
Secretary	Charles Scott Sharpe, KB3JVD
Treasurer	Wayne Stahler, II, WS3PC
Repeaters	N3PC 146.685- [173.8] Coudersport K3CC 146.880- [173.8] Coudersport KB3EAR 444.300+ Coudersport
Nets	Monday @ 1900 146.685- [173.8] Monday @ 1930 28.360 [USB] Monday @ 1945 1.980 [USB]
Web	www.n3pc.com



Elk County Amateur Radio Association

Serving Elk and Cameron Counties



Meeting Notice

November meeting Next Club Meeting November 18, 2011 at 6:00PM at Mount Calvary Lutheran Church 1000 Scalp Ave Johnstown Pa 15904. Thank you Herb KB3REA for this facility. Wonder who will bring some snacks. PARKING and CLUB Entrance IN the REAR.

The technology theme will be Digital Communications lead by Dave WB3JSW. N3LAD announced that we hope to have a lead member of the Laurel VEC team as special VE Guest attending the November meeting to help us start our VE program. The Laurel VEC has agreed to Sponsor Cambria Radio Club. This great news will allow us to offer FREE VE testing sessions for our entire area!!!!

December meeting will be held on the 9th at 6pm and the Technology theme will be Linked Repeater operations with hands on operational demonstrations. Planned presenter will be KB3ORS. We will work dtmf and VoIP modes of operation. WE ARE PLANNING SOME VERY SPECIAL GUESTS.

Parking is in the Church Lot in the rear of the building. Talk in will be on 146.940 WA3WGN and 146.560 Simplex. Hope to see you there.

Meeting Notes – October 2011

by Tom Brew K3WS Club President

The meeting Started at 6pm and ended at 8:40pm although folks were still going strong

in social and technical conversation at 8:40pm.

Tom Brew K3WS started the meeting and introduced the Cambria Radio Club Officers and guest speakers while welcoming the visitors from Blair County.

18 people attended the meeting including: K3WS, JACK BREW, KA2BRH, N3LAD, W3SF, N3ZQY, KB3REA, WA3MTT, KB3AGT, N3JCV, WB3JSW, KB3WMT, LEANN GEISER, N3SSD, KA3SZD, W3SYY, N3XCC, AND W3KKC.

Pictures of the meeting and meeting related documents can be found in the Club Members folder on Drop Box. As a member you have access to this folder. You may request access at wa3wgn@gmail.com.

Officers and Guest Speakers:

Tom Brew	K3WS	President / Trustee
Holli Serenko	KB3PJG	Treasurer
Fred Raco Jr.	N3JCV	VP Legal
Ray Hazlett	KB3WDN	VP Emergency Communications
Chuck Englody	N3LAD	Exec. Secretary
NEW Appointment Announced		
Vacant		Public Relations
apply at wa3wgn@gmail.com		
Vacant		Training Officer
apply at wa3wgn@gmail.com		
Herb Enos	KB3REA	Boy Scouts of America Radio Merit Badge project
Fred Raco Jr.	N3JCV	Mobile UHF/VHF & HF Operations ref k0bg.com
Chuck Englody	N3LAD	

VE Testing and Plan for Club Sessions

Thank you to Herb KB3REA for the use of the church facility. CRC is still looking for a

Meeting Notice

November Meeting: Sunday, November 20 at 1:30 pm at the Elk County Courthouse Annex, 300 Center Street, Ridgway.

Elk County ARA Information

President	Scott Logue, N3LVG
Vice President	Tommy Hammerbeck, N3FXD
Secretary	Mary Kowaluk, KB3MLB
Treasurer	Mary Lewis, N3UDN
Officers	Public info: Shari Lewis KB3EWT Newsletter: Jerry Robinson N3RYG Public Service: John Frantz K3TMD
Repeaters	N3NIA 147.000+ [173.8] Bootjack N3NWL 147.285+ Ridgway N3RZL 442.200+ Ridgway WA8RZR 443.675+ St Marys N3FYD 146.805- Emporium WA3WPS 147.180+ Emporium
Nets	Sunday @ 2000 147.000+ [173.8]
Web	www.n3nia.com

Local Net Schedules

Quad-County FM	1900	Sunday	147.315 + 173.8
Cifd Co ARES	1930	Sunday	147.315 + 173.8
ECARA	2000	Sunday	147.000 + 173.8
WAN Emcomm	2100	Sunday	WAN Repeaters
Headwaters ARC	1900	Monday	146.685 - 173.8
PAARC	1930	Monday	147.315 + 173.8
Jeff Co ARES	2000	Monday	147.105 + 173.8
Indiana Co ARES	2000	Monday	146.910 - OPEN
Hamshack Net	1900	Wednesday	147.315 + 173.8
Cambria RC ARES	2100	Wednesday	146.940 - 123.0
PARA	2100	Saturday	146.430+1M173.8

permanent club house or to be able to use and secure equipment in a club location. We want to be able to operate equipment at every meeting.

K3WS announced that we had signed up 1 new member since the last meeting and tonight we signed up 4 new members. W3SF, WA3MTT, KB3WMT, AND LEANN GEISER as an associate member.

Novembers meeting will be held on the 18th at 6pm and the Technology theme will be Digital Communications lead by KK3U and a team to be announced.

N3LAD announced that we hope to have a



10 of the 18 attendees of the October 21st meeting listening to the opening remarks of Tom K3WS. back to front John KB3WMT new member, Dave WB3JSW visitor long time ham, Mike N3SSD visitor, Brian N3ZQY visitor, Dick KA3SZD, Tom W3SF new member, Gary WA3MTT new member, Cliff KB3AGT, Joe KA2BRH, Fred N3JCV.

lead member of the Laurel VEC team as special VE Guest attending the November meeting to help us start our VE program. The Laurel VEC has agreed to Sponsor Cambria Radio Club. This great news will allow us to offer FREE VE testing sessions for our entire area!!!!

Decembers meeting will be held on the 9th at 6pm and the Technology theme will be Linked Repeater operations with hands on operational demonstrations. Planned presenter will be KB3ORS. We will work dtmf and VoIP modes of operation.

Herb, KB3REA gave an update on our Merit Badge In A Day & a Ham to Stay Project announcing we have a page on CambriaRadio.com dedicated to this event intended to promote Boy Scouts receiving their communications merit badge and being able to test for a Technician Amateur Radio

License all in the same day. Visit CambriaRadio.com for much more information and to volunteer to help Herb in this great event. Operators, Technician Manuals, food and drink sponsors, and VE's needed to make this happen.

Chuck N3LAD, announced that Under the direction of Chuck N3LAD, Tom K3WS, and Kevin N3XCC, Cambria Radio Club is forming a VE Team. Our intention is to hold at least 4 "FREE" VE sessions per year. Please see the VE

page at CambriaRadio.com for further detail and to sign up to test or become a VE.

Tom K3WS congratulated Chuck N3LAD for becoming Executive Secretary of Cambria Radio Club and also announced that with Chuck comes the inclusion of 146.775 Ebensburg repeater into CRC as CRC North repeater. This will be a stand alone Link-Able machine like the 146.940 wa3wgn is now.

Our HT Raffle and Fund Raiser: A TYT Electronics TH-UVF1 dual band HT is our first fund raiser. At \$2 a ticket the drawing will be held at the end of the November CRC Meeting. At the start of the meeting we had 22 tickets sold from the last meeting and tonight Jack Brew CRC Associate member, sold 28 more tickets now totaling 50 tickets sold to date. A listing of tickets sold can be found in the CRC member area folder on drop

Cambria Radio Club Information	
President	Tom Brew K3WS
Vice President	Fred Raco, Jr. N3JCV
Secretary	Chuck Englydy N3LAD
Treasurer	Holli Serenko KB3PJG
Repeaters	WA3WGN 146.940- [123.0] Johnstown KC3DES 145.210- [123.0] N.Germany KC3DES 443.525+ [123.0] Carrolltwn KE3DR 146.655- [123.0] N.Cambria K3WS 147.060+ [167.9] Carrolltwn N3YFO 145.390- [123.0] Johnstown KA3ZYC 146.775- [123.0] Ebensburg
Nets	Sunday @ 2100 145.210- [123.0]
Web	cambriaradio.com

box. All members are given access to this folder.

K3WS reminded everyone to renew ARES Membership by going to www.wpaares.org KB3WDN ARES AEC, is assisting K3WS our ARES EC in building the Cambria ARES program and information can be found on the Emergency Services Page at CambriaRadio.com

K3WS announced that Cambria County is the planned sponsor County for an early 2012 Emergency Communications Conference. This will be a very big event inviting related guest speakers and served agencies from around the region. Much more information to follow and will be found at wpaares.org

K3WS announced that our SET results will be published soon.

K3WS announced that we are starting a Wednesday Night Cambria Radio Club & ARES Net. The net will be conducted by Chuck N3LAD at 9pm on the WA3WGN club repeater at 146.940 or echo link node K3WS-L or AllStar node 27656. Everyone is welcome. This is a new local net and we look forward to hearing you.

Scott N3XCC and Kevin W3KKC (Core Members and co Founders of The Wide Area Network Repeater System

<http://www.wanrepeater.com>) met with our special guests from Blair County & members of the Horseshoe Amateur Radio Club to discuss the technology to used in linking repeaters in hopes of finding a suitable solution to make the w3qzf 146.610 machine Link-Able for stand alone Club member use especially the Florida Snow Birds that like to check into the 8am morning net. With plans for an eventual onsite direct link, the immediate solution will be built by K3WS and most likely hosted by N8PSU. The temporary solution will be a simple link radio node like the one hosted by K3WS and used on the stand alone wa3wgn 146.940 Cambria Radio Club Repeater in Johnstown, PA.

Fred N3JCV hosted this month's technology demonstration which was Mobile Install and Operations of VHF/UHF & HF. Several members went out in the cold misty rain and tested SWR, work the rigs and shared installation tips. Fred also suggested we take a look at valuable information found at: <http://www.k0bg.com>

K3WS reminded all members they are entitled to VoIP iax Client access to the .940 machine and information can be found at CambriaRadio.com

Open conversation / Social time went from 7pm to 8:40 pm and as a special treat included some service monitor operational testing conducted by Mike N3SSD.

We would like to offer a special thank you to everyone who attended and supports the Cambria Radio Club including our local community. A copy of this

report will be filed in the members area folder.

WAN Repeater System Earthquake Response

by Tom Brew K3WS

With no time to plan or think, I feel ARES stood tall today. I offer just one hams report on today's event. I understand many counties performed much in the same manner. Standing ready to serve and even before news coverage started in most cases.

Thanks Ray KB3WDN for a job well done. As phones failed my ham radio dispatch client connection to the MD DC Hub of the Wide Area Network Repeater System wanrs.com held strong. Many thanks also to Steve W9SH for his VoIP technology.

WAN-RS Emergency Services Net Report: Virginia Earthquake of August 23, 2011

At 13:45 P.M Eastern time, Mr. Tom Brew K3WS EC of Cambria County Pennsylvania contacted me from Washington, DC, via 2 meter FM (using the W9SH iax dispatch client) to inform me that an earthquake had shaken the Washington D.C. metro area and there was an evacuation in progress. K3WS asked me to initiate the Wide Area Network Repeater System Emergency Services NET to handle emergency traffic as cellular and landline communications were overwhelmed. As net control, the following stations logged in with some reports and offers of assistance.

14:10 KB3PJG (Mineral Point PA) logged in for handling email and text messages.

14:22 KI4WFF (Ft. Lauderdale FLA) logged in to offer any assistance needed for messages and emergency traffic.

14:35 WA3GDC (Frederic MD) informed net control that cellular and landline communications were down in Frederick MD.

14:43 KB3TZY informed net control that a bad accident was in progress on RT 168 exits 42 Lavale MD (unknown if this was caused by the



A surprise demonstration using a service monitor provided by Mike Sakmar N3SSD. Mikes first meeting and he brings toys for live testing! From left to right: Joe KA2BRH, Herb KB3REA BSA Merit Badge Project Leader, Dave WB3JSW, Fred N3JCV, Cliff KB3AGT, Dick KA3SZD, and Mike N3SSD.

earthquake).

15:03 K3WS (Washington D.C.) informed net control that evacuation was canceled and that we should discontinue the emergency net and monitor for humanitarian and situational information traffic.

15:05 Net Control shut down the emergency net and began monitoring for traffic.

15:30 KA3EJV (Blair County EOC) made contact with net control and after sharing what information we had with each other. Drew informed us that they were canceling their emergency net and going to a ninety six hour monitoring status. I informed him we would also be monitoring. They requested that if we needed to contact them to use the Blue Knob repeater for communications with them.

No other important traffic was handled after the 15:30 contact.

Raymond J. Hazlett KB3WDN EAC Cambria County ARES WAN-RS Emergency Services NCS

VE Testing Status Update

FREE VE TESTING At Cambria Radio Club SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT and Invitation to attend PLUS HT GIVE AWAY DRAWING.

As many of you know Chuck N3LAD and Scott N3XCC have worked VERY hard to introduce us to the concept of FREE or almost FREE VE Testing at Cambria Radio Club.

We are happy to announce that Mr. Bob Rose form PASADENA, MARYLAND AA3RR of the Laurel VEC will be attending the November 18th meeting of the Cambria Radio Club (details at <http://www.cambriaradio.com>)

You and the participants of your group or organization are welcome to attend the meeting and learn how to become a VE tester for the newest team of the Laurel VEC at Cambria Radio Club. It is the goal of the club to hold at least 4 test sessions a year in various parts of the county to accommodate where people live and reduce transportation cost. In fact we will hold as many sessions as the actual demand requires. Please visit the VE page at <http://www.cambriaradio.com>

Our first VE session will be held to conduct testing for the Boy Scouts attending our "Merit Badge in a Day and a Ham to Stay" project being lead by Herb KB3REA. Details on the Merit Badge page at

<http://www.cambriaradio.com> Other scouts are invited please contact Herb for details.

This is very exciting news for this area and please pass this announcement on to your various groups, face book postings, yahoo groups, ARES nets, RACES Nets, DIGITAL NETS, and any way you can think to spread the word. Thank you, Tom Brew K3WS Cambria Radio Club President, Cambria County ARES EC, and Core Member of Wide Area Network Repeater System.

DON'T FORGET WE ARE DRAWING THE NAME OF THE DUAL BAND HT WINNER AT THE NOVEMBER MEETING. YOU STILL HAVE TIME TO GET A CHANCE.

Valuable information on AA3RR and the Laurel VEC.

Bob Rose/AA3RR Bio

Grew up in a small tourist town with the world's largest crucifix in northern Michigan

Joined the Army in 1967, learned CW and after 20 years, retired from the Army in 1988

Re-joined the Army staff in 1988 as a civilian and retired at the end of 2010.

Licensed as WN4FUI in 1973

Re-licensed as KA2JUQ in 1978

Upgraded to General in 1981

Upgraded to Advanced and Amateur Extra in 1994 - AA3HN and then AA3RR

Became a VE with the Laurel VEC in 1994

Became the VE Team Leader for the Anne Arundel Radio Club in Davidsonville, MD in 2000

Became the Laurel VEC Regional Coordinator for the 2nd VEC Region in 2009, the Regional Coordinator for the 9th VEC Region in 2011, and will become the Regional Coordinator for the 3rd VEC Region in 2012.



A group session led by Scott Zimmerman N3XCC and Kevin Custer W3KKC discussing the methods of making the HARC .610 repeater link-able for club members to use when on travel. From Left to Right: Tom W3SF, Scott N3XCC, Gary WA3MTT, Kevin W3KKC, Leann (new associate CRC member), Brian N3ZQY.

Ham Radio Interests: DX, laid-back contesting, November Sweepstakes, Field Day, coordinated a 10A operation for 3 years, CW.

Current station consists of Kenwood TS-870 into a multi band dipole.

Other interests - Landscape/Nature Photography.

Laurel VEC

The Laurel Amateur Radio Club Volunteer Examiner Coordinator ("LARC-VEC" or "Laurel VEC") was established in 1984. It has coordinated examinations in several states and overseas.

It is unique among the 14 VECs in that it is the only Volunteer-Examiner Coordinator ("VEC") coordinating examinations in multiple VEC Regions that has never collected a fee for its services. It is funded by the sponsoring Laurel Amateur Radio Club of Laurel, Maryland. VE team ("Team") expenses are covered by their sponsor. Free exams are a tradition of the LARC-VEC.

About 5 years ago, the Dayton Amateur Radio Association VE Team became affiliated with the Laurel VEC and administered free license exams during the 2007 Dayton Hamvention. What was really cool is that all the folks who tested on Friday had their upgrades and new call signs posted outside the exam location on Saturday morning.

The Laurel VEC currently has 43 VE Teams located in 14 states and is in the process of adding 2 more teams.

New Radio Site for Elk County

By Pete Carr WW30

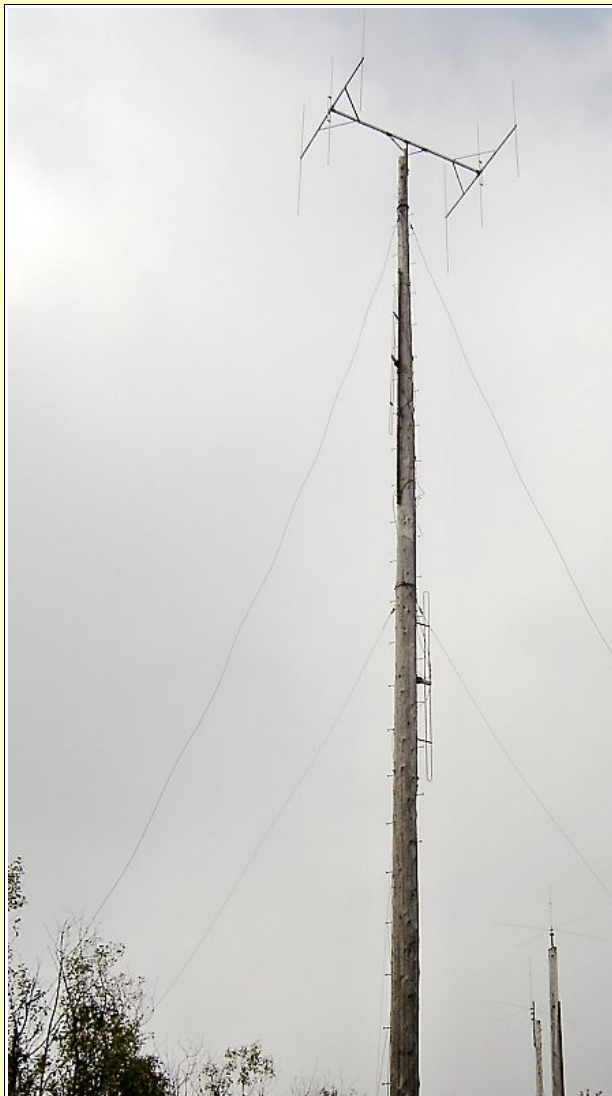
A BOUT 40 YEARS ago, before the age of cell phones, the local telephone company used a mountain top radio site to communicate with their line crews and installers. The area extended from Lake City, west of Ridgway to Emporium in Cameron County. There were two small buildings and three wood poles used to house the radios and antennas.

After several months of discussions with both the Telephone company and the local school district the Elk County Amateur Radio Club was able to obtain the use of the radio site. It is located on the southern edge of the Boot Jack School property which is located about 2 miles south of Ridgway on Route 219. Elevation at the site is either 1960 feet or 2010 feet depending on the make and model of your GPS. There are two wood poles, 45 feet tall and a 70 foot pole.



The original Home Telephone Company radio building from the '60s. Amazingly, the roof and metal skin are in good shape. The skirt of the building did show some rust but was sealed with expanded foam. The 70 foot cedar pole is next to the building inside the fence.

The buildings are metal construction and in good condition after many years of neglect. The site is located at the end of Clearview



The three poles are shown. Each has low band antennas mounted with 1/2 inch 50 Ohm hardline connecting them. Tests with an MFJ analyzer showed that all the feedlines were good and will be reused. Each pole is stepped so climbing is relatively easy.

Drive which is plowed in winter so access will be easy in the worst of condition if needed.

The 70 foot pole had two folded dipoles and a pair of low-band yagis which, together, produced a "keyhole" radiation pattern favoring east. These will be removed and a 4-pole Antenna Specialist 2-meter antenna will be installed at the top. New 1/2 inch 50-ohm hardline is also ready to install.

The smaller building will house a commercial UHF repeater. An 8-pole UHF antenna will be installed on the 45 foot pole next to the building. Tests were performed by Lee N3NWL and Rick N3RJH on the various feedlines and all were found to be in good condition. They can be reused for other radios and antennas.

The present plan is to relocate the N3NIA 147.00 MHz repeater from Bingham road northwest of Ridgway to the new site. The N3NWL repeater will remain at the Bingham road site. Also, the digital repeater on 145.01 MHz will be installed at the site. This should increase its range well into New York State to the Packet facilities near Jamestown and Stockton, NY.

Many ECARA club members have contributed both time and equipment to the project to get it ready before the onset of bad weather. These include John K3TMD, Lee N3NWL, Joe N3UGB, Mary N3UDN, Wayne NM3B, Rick N3RJH, Rich KB3UOC and Sheri KB3EWT. Once the repeater is active at the new site it



This building is about 50 feet from the telephone building. It was originally used by the power company for their two-way radios on low band. Two 45 foot cedar poles are next to the building and are also in good shape. An underground power line was installed between the buildings by the Ham club so one electric meter serves both.

The Elk County Amateur Radio Club was able to obtain the use of the radio site.

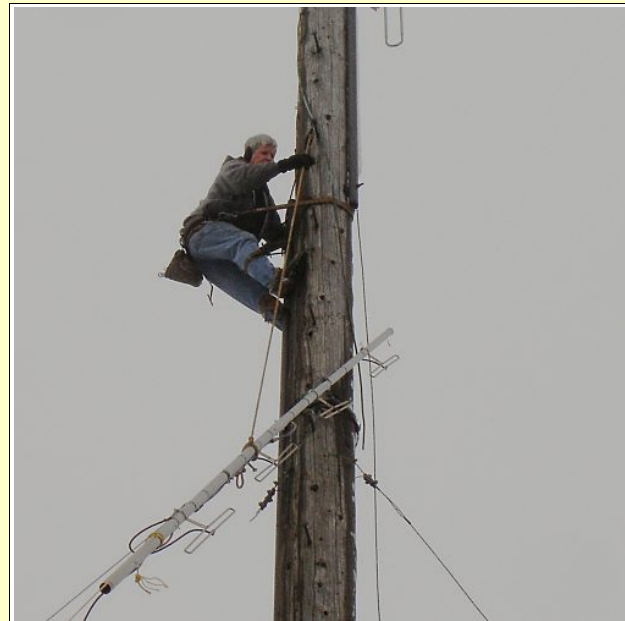
will be announced on the Sunday 8 PM net. We would appreciate signal reports from stations to determine the coverage and any problems that are noted.

needed to be installed.

October 29th, the day following that freak snowstorm, was chosen for the antenna party. There was snow on the ground and quite a bit coating the 70-foot cedar pole next to the building. Rick Wehler N3RJH volunteered to do the high work. While there were metal pole steps going up the pole it was still a very difficult climb. The pole is so large at the bottom that it's hard to get a line belt around it while climbing. Then, Rick had to brush snow off the opposite side of the pole to get any grip at all! The conditions added quite a bit of time to the work.

The antenna is an Antenna Specialist VHF array that is a commercial product but with a bandwidth that covered 147.00/60 MHz with excellent SWR. It weights about 20 pounds and is 22 feet long. It is also grounded through its mount for lightning protection.

Rick went up the pole and dismantled a folded dipole for low-band from the old radio system. Once that was down Rick used the old pipe to support the new



The ground crew from left to right included Ray Fannin W2FAN, Lee Lewis N3NWL, Joe Lewis N3UGB, Wayne Ginther NM3B and Mark Wagner KB3VTY. The photographer was Pete Carr WW30.

antenna brackets. Once those were tightened up we raised the antenna up to him. He had to remove the ropes and then raise the antenna to vertical position and slide it down into the mounting clamps. It was truly amazing to watch.

Once the antenna was in the clamps we raised a length of #6 copper ground wire which was then inserted into the lower clamp with the antenna. This grounded the antenna. Next a length of 1/2 inch hard line 50 ohm coaxial cable was raised to the antenna. Rick connected the cable to the antenna and weatherproofed the connection.

On the climb back down, Rick used solid #10 wire to tie the coax and ground wire to the pole steps. This prevents the cables from flapping around in the wind. We then connected the ground wire to the system of 4 8-foot ground rods and #6 copper wire that makes up the ground field.

Our thanks go to the crazy but dedicated Hams who turned out for this event!

The guy doing all the work is Rick Wehler N3RJH. The 22 foot long 4-pole VHF antenna was an armful when standing on just a set of climbing gaffs. There was no wind which helped but Rick had to wrestle the antenna into the support clamps single handed.

An Ice Fog Antenna Party by Pete Carr WW30

After nearly a year of work the Elk County Amateur Radio Association finally obtained the use of the old AllTel Company radio site on Boot Jack hill. This is located at the top of the hill on Route 219 going south from Ridgway. The site had sat vacant for nearly 30 years and was very heavily over grown with brush. The club members including Lee N3NWL and family contributed many hours of work to bring the site to usable condition. However, the season for outdoor work was rapidly ending so the repeater and antenna



Joe N3UGB makes the first contact on the 147.00 MHz repeater from the new radio site. A Poly-phaser lightning arrestor is installed on the left upper rack support and grounded with #6 copper ground wire to a very extensive grounding field outside the building.

Once on the ground Rick went into the building and installed a UHF connector on the end of the ½ inch hard line. This was connected to the Poly-phaser lightning arrestor. Then a short 50 ohm jumper cable was run from there to the input of the repeater duplexer. The duplexer is a 30+ year old WaCom unit that was part of the original Ridgway repeater. Once the antenna system was tested using a MFJ Antenna Analyzer, it was time to go and get the repeater.



The 147.00 N3NIA repeater had been housed at the 147.285 repeater site on Bingham road northwest of Ridgway. We loaded the rack into a truck and drove it to it's new home south of town. Once placed in the building we hooked up the antenna and ground and gave Joe N3UGB the honor of making the initial contact on it. That evening was the regular Sunday evening VHF net and an announcement of the location change was made. People checking into the net were asked for a report of reception at their locations. The results were generally favorable although some Hams to the south reported lower signals.

Our thanks go to the crazy but dedicated Hams who turned out for this event, especially Rick N3RJH for climbing in such bad conditions.

[Cover photo by Pete Carr WW30. Rick had to sweep snow off the side of the pole as he climbed. This picture shows the repeater antenna in position and ready for feed line. The ice fog didn't help the working conditions either.]

Old Fashioned Antenna Party

by Don Jewell KB3LES

Ever since he was a kid, Jesse KG4ZXC had the idea of building a good size tower with a great antenna on top. In his words, he always said, "I want me a tower!"

Getting the green light from his XYL, he and Jim KA3WSX (SK) drove to Maryland and brought home the 100-foot plus tower. He found the best point for the tower and started putting it up.

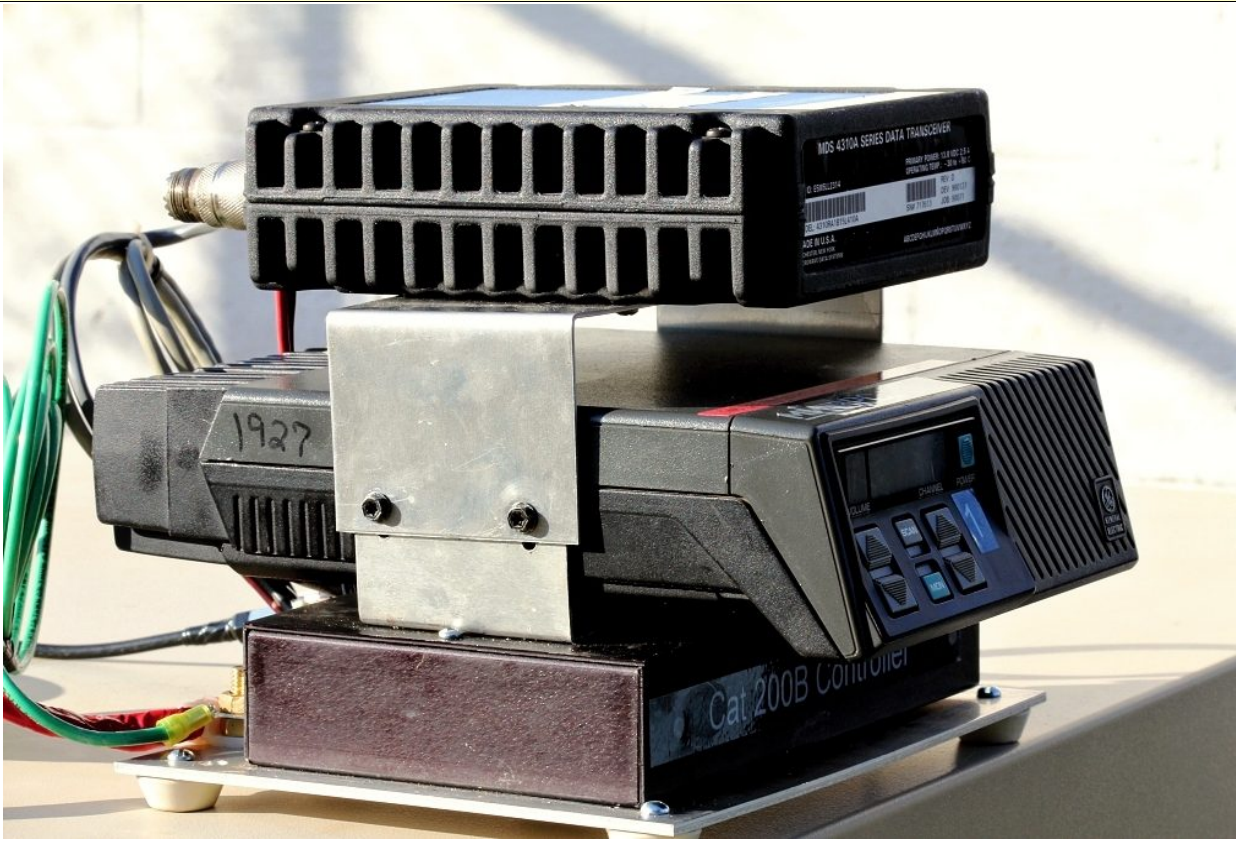
His experience as an engineer in the Army helped him come up with the plan and methods to raise such a large antenna. In early October, with the assistance of Don KB3LES and Kevin W3PIG, along with moral support from XYL Sandra, the crew raised the 75-pound monster beam up the guy wires to the top of the tower, where Jesse installed it along with the rotor and VHF antennas.

Jesse reports that the 6-element Mosley CL-36 tribander is working very well from its lofty perch at 2028 feet above sea level, and is fed with 450 feet of coax running back to the shack. We wish him "Good DX!"



...He always said, "I want me a tower!"





The new Dutch Hill Receiver Site in Potter County



They Call Him "Sparky"...
WB3IGM tends the fire at the
Kane-Warren Amateur Radio Picnic



Worth Repeating – WANE Repeater System
Core members at Wildcat Park in Ludlow

Photos from
all over!



Dutch Hill Receiver installation
(Potter County)



How the Eensburg 146.775
repeater sees hams on the ground!



Good Food, Good Place and Good Friends
add up to good times at Kane-Warren Picnic

In support of the Cambria Radio Club's "Merit Badge In A Day, and a Ham to Stay" program, **Sheetz sponsorships committee** has approved the donation of sandwiches, chips and water for the Boy Scout Radio Merit Badge Day program being conducted in March 2012.

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Special **Veterans Day Net** Planned by Cambria Radio Club ON WAN-RS November 11, 2011 at 9AM. John KB3WMT Will be the starting NET Control Station at 9:00 AM Eastern U.S.A.

This is a casual NET to honor veterans everywhere. Veterans encouraged to check in and state your branch of service. You just may meet a long lost friend on this Wide area network of friends. Everyone is welcomed to participate.

See <http://www.wanrepeater.com> repeater listings for a connected repeater.

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John N3SPW reports, "I had the occasion to speak with **Dave Posmoga K3MGC** by telephone yesterday evening. The PARA 'old timers' will recall Dave as one of the founders of PARA back in 1992 and know how involved he was with the club and our 146.640 repeater for many years. It would be fair to say that Dave carried the torch for PARA, sometimes single handedly, making sure that the repeater stayed on the air.

"Dave is not in very good health these days. I won't go into the details, but suffice it to say that he spends the majority of his time sleeping. This is apparently a side effect of the medications he has been prescribed. Please keep him in your thoughts and prayers."

Congratulations to **Ed Stewart, ex-K3SFA** of Reynoldsville who recently passed his VE exam and is awaiting his license. Welcome back, Ed!

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Calling the **Hamshack Net!** Join the fun in a two-meter roundtable on the 147.315 repeater every Wednesday evening at 7:00 pm for a friendly ragchew net. It's a great way to socialize without having to drive all the way to a meeting! You don't have to be a member of any club, all you need is a radio and something to say!

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Members of the Quad-County ARC had a trip down memory lane during the **Reunion Picnic** at the QTH of **Ed Golla WA3GMT (SK)**. His son, Ed Jr. was the gracious host, and everyone shared h memories of good times the club had at that QTH.



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Joe Shupienis, W3BC

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www.parasiticemission.com

which also makes available selected back issues, current issues and more.

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The current, online, interactive version of the calendar, which contains regional club activities and events in upcoming months may be accessed at

calendar.parasiticemission.com.

You may use that calendar to enter amateur radio events of interest to local amateurs which are intended for publication, subject to review and approval.

November 2011 Amateur Radio Club Activities

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>30</p> <p>7:00pm» QCARC 2-meter FM Net</p> <p>7:30pm» Clearfield County A.R.E.S. Net</p> <p>8:00pm» Elk Co ARA Net</p> <p>9:00pm» WAN ARES Net</p>	<p>31</p> <p>7:00pm» HARC Nets</p> <p>7:30pm» Punxsutawney ARC 2 Meter Net</p> <p>8:00pm» Jefferson County EMA Radio Service Net</p>	<p>01</p> <p>7:30pm» Indiana Co ARC Meeting</p>	<p>02</p> <p>7:00pm» Hamshack Net</p> <p>9:00pm» Cambria County ARES Net</p>	<p>03</p> <p>7:00pm» Headwaters ARC Meeting</p>	<p>04</p>	<p>05</p> <p>9:00pm» Philipsburg ARA Net</p>
<p>06</p> <p>2:00am» Set clocks back 1 hour</p> <p>7:00pm» QCARC 2-meter FM Net</p> <p>7:30pm» Clearfield County A.R.E.S. Net</p> <p>8:00pm» Elk Co ARA Net</p> <p>9:00pm» WAN ARES Net</p>	<p>07</p> <p>7:00pm» HARC Nets</p> <p>7:30pm» Punxsutawney ARC 2 Meter Net</p> <p>8:00pm» Jefferson County EMA Radio Service Net</p>	<p>08</p> <p>Election Day</p> <p>7:00pm» Punxsutawney Area ARC Meeting</p>	<p>09</p> <p>7:00pm» Hamshack Net</p> <p>9:00pm» Cambria County ARES Net</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11</p> <p>Veterans' Day</p>	<p>12</p> <p>9:30am» Quad-County ARC Breakfast</p> <p>10:00am» Potter Co. ARES VE Exam Session</p> <p>3:00pm» PARA Meeting</p> <p>9:00pm» Philipsburg ARA Net</p>
<p>13</p> <p>7:00pm» QCARC 2-meter FM Net</p> <p>7:30pm» Clearfield County A.R.E.S. Net</p> <p>8:00pm» Elk Co ARA Net</p> <p>9:00pm» WAN ARES Net</p>	<p>14</p> <p>7:00pm» HARC Nets</p> <p>7:30pm» Punxsutawney ARC 2 Meter Net</p> <p>8:00pm» Jefferson County EMA Radio Service Net</p>	<p>15</p>	<p>16</p> <p>7:00pm» Hamshack Net</p> <p>9:00pm» Cambria County ARES Net</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18</p> <p>6:00pm» Cambria Radio Club Meeting</p> <p>7:30pm» Quad-County ARC Meeting</p>	<p>19</p> <p>9:00pm» Philipsburg ARA Net</p>
<p>20</p> <p>1:30pm» Elk County ARA Meeting</p> <p>7:00pm» QCARC 2-meter FM Net</p> <p>7:30pm» Clearfield County A.R.E.S. Net</p> <p>8:00pm» Elk Co ARA Net</p> <p>9:00pm» WAN ARES Net</p>	<p>21</p> <p>Parasitic Emission Submission Deadline</p> <p>7:00pm» HARC Nets</p> <p>7:30pm» Punxsutawney ARC 2 Meter Net</p> <p>8:00pm» Jefferson County EMA Radio Service Net</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23</p> <p>7:00pm» Hamshack Net</p> <p>9:00pm» Cambria County ARES Net</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26</p> <p>9:00pm» Philipsburg ARA Net</p>
<p>27</p> <p>7:00pm» QCARC 2-meter FM Net</p> <p>7:30pm» Clearfield County A.R.E.S. Net</p> <p>8:00pm» Elk Co ARA Net</p> <p>9:00pm» WAN ARES Net</p>	<p>28</p> <p>7:00pm» HARC Nets</p> <p>7:30pm» Punxsutawney ARC 2 Meter Net</p> <p>8:00pm» Jefferson County EMA Radio Service Net</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p> <p>7:00pm» Hamshack Net</p> <p>9:00pm» Cambria County ARES Net</p>	<p>01</p> <p>7:00pm» Headwaters ARC Meeting</p>	<p>02</p>	<p>03</p> <p>9:00pm» Philipsburg ARA Net</p>