

The Parasitic Emission

Volume 38 • Number 1
January 2012

Supporting Amateur Radio Club Activities

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Serving the Amateur Radio Community in a 15-county area of Western Pennsylvania

2012: A Year For Serving



Volunteer: a verb meaning "To perform or offer to perform a service of one's own free will." From the Latin root volj meaning "will" as in "It was his will to do that."

VOLUNTEERING IS at the foundation of all that is good in human society. For example, without many individuals volunteering their lives, their fortunes and their sacred honor, our nation and the freedoms we enjoy would not exist.

Recent research points to the existence of a "selfish gene." As you can imagine, if we allow our base natures to run amok, society will suffer. It's far too easy to find bad examples on the air... "I been on this frequency for 97 years! Get the &\$#! off."

When we choose to rise above our base instincts, and take control of our own lives, we are doing something only humans can do. I believe there is an as-yet undiscovered "Generosity Gene" and that it is at the heart of our better selves. It shows itself every time we volunteer our time, our resources and service for the greater good.

When times are tough, and today they certainly *are* tough, generosity can be hard to find. That troublesome Selfish Gene kicks in and we instinctively guard what little we have—sometimes to excess. Now more than ever, we need to dig deep to find our generous, better selves. When we all share and share alike, the results benefit everybody.

Amateur Radio is facing some tough times, too. Even though our numbers are up, how many of those licensees are active hams?

Why are clubs struggling to survive and treasuries shrinking while non-members in many communities outnumber club members by 10 to 1?

Think of what a club could accomplish with dues from two or three times as many members! Even at that, the majority of local hams would still be missing out on the benefits of belonging to a thriving, active, local amateur radio club. This is the sorry state of affairs across the country.

Nobody likes to hear this, but it's largely our own fault. We have not been serving the needs of our fellow amateurs. And, one of the best ways to serve our fellow amateurs is to serve our communities.

Success builds upon success.

Here's how it works: When a local Amateur Radio club decides to serve the public interest, it needs active members to carry out those plans. The good news is that an active club attracts active members,

For this upward spiral to happen, it takes leadership dedicated to serving—both the public and the members. The most effective leaders will instill a "culture" of service within their clubs. Developing this culture may not be easy at times, but perseverance pays off.

A club long accustomed to "eating meetings" will resist any changes that threaten to eliminate social activities, so wise leaders will reframe the club's existing social activities as "member services." By providing such opportunities for social activities, that club is now "offering a service to its members."

Inviting the public to these activities will benefit both the club and the public. More importantly, as the members buy into this new way of looking at an old activity, they begin to see more ways they can serve both amateur radio and the public.

How much is enough?

I don't think there is ever enough. No active club can have enough members—there's always room for more. There's always a *need* for more, too.

Remember how success builds upon success? As a club becomes a more active participant in service to its community, it needs more members to carry out its works.

If the same few are doing all the work, year after year, sooner or later they will burn out and stop doing things. In extreme cases, they will quit. But, if the load is shared, and active members can take a break now and then, they will remain active members. It takes a lot of members for that to happen, and so one of the first things a service-oriented club needs to do is get more members on board to get involved in activities and share the ~~work~~ fun.

Effective leaders plan for this and get things organized. They group planned activities into "projects" and motivate members to work with one another on the club's projects. When everybody clearly sees who's participating in a project, and who's served by each project, we find that almost all the members are willing to help and serve on one or more projects.

And that is the essence of that "culture of service" we've talked about. Once it gets going, it's hard to stop. Everybody's enthusiasm builds with each success, and before long, the members are volunteering to serve on a regular basis. This leads to a more rewarding club experience for our members and better service for our communities. It's just too good for anyone to pass up!

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



When times are tough, generosity can be hard to find...



The Quad-County Amateur Radio Club

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



Worth Restaurant in Du Bois, immediately preceding the Quad-County ARC Christmas Dinner. There were 19 members and guests in attendance.

Moved by Jerry AN3NK and seconded by Don KB3LES to accept the minutes of the November meeting as published in *The Parasitic Emission*.

Approved.

The Treasurer's Report was presented by Treasurer Doug W3DWR. Moved by Jeff KA3FHV and seconded by Kevin KA3YCB to accept the report as

read. **Approved.**

Staff Reports

Activities: No noteworthy activities to report. A sympathy card was passed around to be signed and sent to member Ed K3EDD, whose father passed away.

Public Information: PIO Joe W3BC passed out copies of a recruiting poster he created which will inform the public of upcoming licensing classes. Poster is intended to be distributed to schools and Radio Shack stores.

Technology: Power line RFI problem in Curwensville is much improved since Penelec repaired the faults located and reported by QCARC Technology Coordinator Lars KB3WBT

and member Ed KB3VWX.

Membership: Club membership currently stands at 41 members.

Old Business

President Joe W3BC reported that the search for a new, permanent meeting location continues. The January 2012 meeting will be at Du Bois Eat 'N Park Restaurant. Other locations are being checked into, including a conference meeting hall facility on the Penn State Du Bois Campus.

Quad-County ARC Information

President	Joe Shupienis W3BC <i>president@qcarc.org</i>	
Vice President	Bob Thunberg N3DIR <i>vp@qcarc.org</i>	
Secretary	H. Deforest Murray, III W3TM <i>secretary@qcarc.org</i>	
Treasurer	Doug Rowles W3DWR <i>treasurer@qcarc.org</i>	
Executive Board	Jerry Bosak AB3NK Don Jewell KB3LES Lars Kvant KB3WBT (SM7FYW) Ed Neeper KB3VWX Bryan Simanic WA3UFN	
Staff	Activities: Lars Kvant KB3WBT/SM7FYW Education: Joe Shupienis W3BC Membership: Jack Lovesky AA3AZ Net Manager: Doug Rowles W3DWR Program Coordinator: Herb Murray W3TM Public Information: Joe Shupienis W3BC Public Service: Kevin Snyder KA3YCB QSL Manager: Al Maddas KB3SVW Technology: Lars Kvant KB3WBT/SM7FYW Trustee: Bryan Simanic WA3UFN VE Liaison: Bryan Simanic WA3UFN	
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 (Quad-County)	
Web	www.qcarc.org , info@qcarc.org @qcarc	

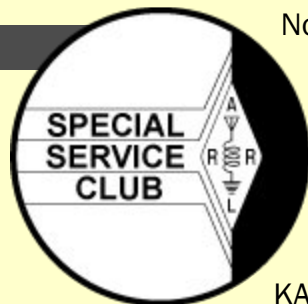
Meeting Notices

January 2012

ATTENTION! The Quad-County ARC monthly meeting location has been changed. There will be no more Quad-County ARC meetings at the Clearfield County EMA "911 Center."

January Meeting:

The January meeting of the Quad-County Amateur Radio Club will be held at the **Du Bois Eat 'N Park Restaurant** on Friday, January 20, 2011. Come early at 6:30 to eat, and the meeting will begin at 7:30 pm.



January Breakfast:

The January Breakfast will be at the usual location, **Sid's Super Subs** on Old Town Road in **Clearfield** (Near the Hyde intersection.) We meet at **9:30 am, Saturday January 14, 2012.**

This schedule and location are anticipated to remain the same for future monthly breakfast events.

Minutes: December 2011

by Herb Murray W3TM

The meeting was called to order at 7:34 pm by President Joe Shupienis W3BC, at the Fort

3 Club connections

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January 2012

New Business

Club Treasurer Doug W3DWR requested permission to obtain a Bank Debit/ATM card to facilitate online payments and for making after-hours and branch office deposits of dues and other funds. Discussion centered on concerns about fees for such use, and Doug reported that he asked and determined there are no additional fees for such use.

Moved by Don KB3LES and seconded by Lars KB3WBT to obtain a card from our bank.

Approved.

Moved to authorize up to \$50.00 for printing and distribution of the publicity materials presented earlier. **Approved.**

General Announcements

Doug W3DWR announced that a stock of red tee-shirts imprinted with the club logo was discovered while moving out of the EMA facility. Various sizes are for sale for \$5.00 each by contacting Doug W3DWR. (A few hats are still left.)

The members were reminded that 2012 dues are now due, and that the 2012 Sustaining Membership campaign is now open for dime-a-day and other donations to support the club's activities and projects.

Motion to adjourn was made by Jack AA3AZ and seconded by Bob N3DIR. **Approved.**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 pm, followed by the 2011 Christmas Dinner.

Attendance

Fifteen members and four guests attended:

Joe W3BC, Jerry AB3NK, Kevin KA3YCB & Carol, Ed KB3VWX, Jeannie KC2RHQ, Don KB3LES & JoAnn, Herb W3TM, Doug W3DWR, Jeff KA3FHV, Lars KB3WBT/SM7FYW & Kay, Bob N3DIR & Denise, Jack AA3AZ, Janet KB3ABK, Charlie KA3DEO & Son.



Punxsutawney Area Amateur Radio Club

Serving Punxsutawney and Jefferson County

Meeting Notice

Tuesday, January 10, 7:00 pm

PUNXSUTAWNEY Area Amateur Radio Club will hold its January 2012 meeting on Tuesday, January 10^h at 7:00 pm in the Punxsutawney Presbyterian Church, Findley Street.

Monthly "Radio Night" activities at the club station at the Punxsutawney Airport have concluded for 2011, and will resume in the spring of 2012.

Monthly Breakfast

BREAKFAST get-togethers are held the last Saturday of each month at the Amish Restaurant, Route 310 between Anita and Reynoldsville. **Saturday, December 31st at 9:30 am.**

Groundhog Day Special Event Station

SATURDAY, January 28th at the Punxsutawney Airport Club hamshack. **Operators needed!**

PAARC Information

President	John Buttner KB3OUG kb3oug@gmail.com	
Vice President	Steve Waltman KB3FPN kb3fpn@windstream.net	
Secretary	Jerry Bosak AB3NK	
Treasurer	Tom Sprague KB3TOY	
Nets	Monday @ 1930 147.390 (Club)	
Web	http://sites.google.com/site/punxyhamclub/	

4 Club Connections

The Parasitic Emission

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Philipsburg Amateur Radio Association

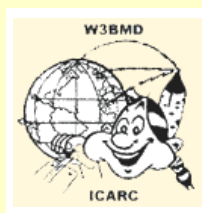
Serving Philipsburg and Clearfield County

Meeting Notice

PHILIPSBURG ARA meetings are held the second Saturday of each month at 3:00 pm in the Community Meeting Room at the Holt Memorial Library, 17 North Front Street. The library closes at 3 PM and you will not be able to get in through the front door. You will need to use the rear entrance on the lower level of the building. To access the rear entrance use Laurel Street and you will find a private parking lot in the back of the building.

For anyone who needs directions, here is a map quest link: <http://mapq.st/e60mJ3>.

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	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
Nets	Saturday @ 2100 147.430+ [173.8]
Web	www.philipsburg-ara.org



Indiana County Amateur Radio Club

Serving Indiana County

Meeting Notice

January Meeting: Tuesday, January 3rd, at 7:00 pm at the Indiana Eat 'n' Park Restaurant.

Hot Dog Night: Every Wednesday evening at the 146.91 W2BMD Repeater site, weather permitting.

Club Breakfast: Every Saturday morning at the Indiana Eat 'N Park restaurant, Indian Springs Road and PA 286.

To Contact the Club For More Information: KB3JOF at arrl.net

Indiana County ARC Information	
President	Robert Zugates KB3JOF KB3JOF@arrl.net
Vice President	Jerry Kiehl WB3DUD
Secretary	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
N3PC
Coudersport, PA 16915

Headwaters Amateur Radio Club

Serving Coudersport and Potter County

Meeting Notice

January Meeting: 7:00 pm, Thursday, January 5 at the Charles Cole Memorial Hospital.

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

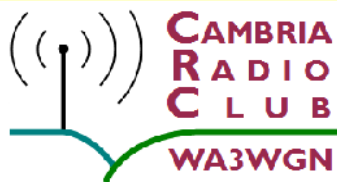
Local Net Schedules

Quad-County FM	1900	Sunday	147.315 + 173.8
ECARA	2000	Sunday	147.000 + 173.8
Cambria County	2100	Sunday	145.210 - 123.0
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
CLfd Co ARES	2100	Wednesday	147.315 + 173.8
PARA	2100	Saturday	146.430+1M173.8



Elk County Amateur Radio Association

Serving Elk and Cameron Counties



Serving Cambria County

Meeting Notes: Dec 2011

by Tom Brew K3WS

The meeting Started at 6pm (although most people showed up at 5:00 or erlier) and ended at 10:00 pm although folks were still going strong in Christmas Party and post VE Test celebration.

Tom Brew K3WS started the meeting and introduced the Cambria Radio Club Officers and guest speakers (KB3ORS, W9SH, AA3RR, KB3ATI) and welcomed the visitors to the meeting.

33 people (and additional young children) attended the meeting including: K3WS, JACK BREW, KB3REA, KB3WMT NOW AN EXTRA, LEANN NOW KB3WUD, N3XCC, N5NWC, N3JCV, JIMMA RACO, KA3VXR, W3SYY, WA3MTT, N3YFO, W3KKC, K3EMM, KB3ATI, AA3RR, KB3ORS, N3LAD, KB3VTX NOW GENERAL, KB3OHK, KB9WCX, ABI ENOS, LUKE ENOS, DENNIS BORING, DEBBIE BORING, WB3JSW, KASSZD, N3SSD, BEN SAKMAR, W3IW, N3ZQY, N8PSU NOW EXTRA VIA HARC, CHRISSY BLAKE Elected Official.

Meeting Notice

January Meeting: Sunday, January 15th at 1:30 pm, Courthouse Annex.



Meeting Notice

January Meeting: Friday, January 20th, 6:00 pm at the Mount Calvary Lutheran Church 1000 Scalp Ave. Johnstown.

"The Year of Service" is the theme for 2012. We will be announcing a new AEC and what our ARES and ACS plans are going into 2012. We will hear from N3YFO on ACS.

The Cambria Radio Club is offering our second FREE VE test session at our January 20th, 2011 Meeting. Visit cambriaradio.com to sign up. Full details posted on our VE page. All are welcome but seating is limited!! 7:00 pm Mount Calvary Lutheran Church 1000 Scalp Ave. Johnstown, PA 15904 We plan to offer testing at as many meetings as possible.

The technology theme for the January 20th meeting will be Digital operations with Dave WB3JSW and N3YFO.



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 N3RZL 442.350+ Boone Mtn WA8RZR 443.675+ St Marys N3FYD 146.805- Emporium WA3WPS 147.180+ Emporium	
Nets	Sunday @ 2000 147.000+ [173.8]	
Web	www.n3nia.com	

Cambria Radio Club Information

President	Tom Brew K3WS	
Vice President	Fred Raco, Jr. N3JCV	
Secretary	Chuck Englody 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	

9 Club connections

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and 7 needed a little more study. However one of the 7 (N8PSU Tested again in Altoona on 12/10/2011 and earned his Extra).

Leann Geiser KB3WUD Earned Technician 12/9/2011 NEW call issued 12/9
John Geiser KB3WMT Earned General/Extra 12/9/2011 UPGRADE
Tony Felan KB3VTX Earned General 12/9/2011 UPGRADE Tony was a walk in.



The "70 Percent Club" comment on their success... or the lack thereof. Better luck next time, fellows!

Thank you to Scott Zimmerman N3XCC CRC VE Team Lead, Bob Rose AA3RR and Brenda Diamond-Rose KB3ATI Laurel VEC, Tom Brew K3WS VE, Barb Bender KA3VXR VE, and John Rogers W3IW VE for their efforts in the first Cambria Radio Club VE Test session. TRULY GREAT WORK TEAM!!!

The open conversation & Christmas Party went from 7:00pm to 10:00 pm and the food that everyone brought was excellent. K3WS loaded up on the meat balls, coleslaw, and baked beans. The time spent with friends can not be cherished enough. Many people made this meeting possible by helping to set up the room, organize the food, and clean up after the party and put everything away. It is only with the help of everyone involved that we are able to have fun and enjoy this hobby. THANK YOU to everyone who helped including the

access thanks to Scott N3XCC, KB3REA, KE3UC, W3KKC, and K3EMM.

K3WS announced that we had signed up 1 new (W3IW) member since the last meeting and tonight we signed up 4 new members. KB3UIY, KB3VTX, and Dennis & Deborah Boring as donating members.

K3WS reminded everyone to renew ARES Membership by going to <http://www.wpaares.org> We are working to build the Cambria ARES program and information can be found on the Emergency Services Page at CambriaRadio.com

K3WS announced that we are hosting 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.

Brian Burton KB3ORS and W9SH (connected remotely) hosted a demonstration on Linked Repeater operations including using the iax Dispatch Client. The demonstration went well with some folks using the system to hold a live QSO.



VE Test Successful

Our VE Test Success Story from our first VE session on December 9. Ten people tested



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.

K3WS acknowledged Joe W3BC for his work and dedication to the amateur radio hobby with just one major undertaking being *The Parasitic Emission*. 2012 is the year of service.

Officers and Guest Speakers:

Tom Brew K3WS	President / Trustee
Holli Serenko KB3PJG	Treasurer
Fred Raco Jr N3JCV	VP Legal
	Emergency Communications
Chuck Englody N3LAD	Exec. Secretary
Vacant	Public Relations apply at wa3wgn@gmail.com
Vacant	Training Officer apply at wa3wgn@gmail.com
Bob Rose AA3RR	Laurel VEC to help CRC perform VE Testing.
Brenda Rose KB3ATI	Laurel VEC to help CRC perform VE Testing.
Brian Burton KB3ORS	Linked Repeater Demonstration
Steve Henke W9SH	Linked Repeater Demonstration (remote)

Thank you to Herb KB3REA for the use of the church facility that now has Wireless Internet

members and spouses of members who helped.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year everyone from Cambria Radio Club.

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.

More Holiday Photos!



Christmas came early for John and Leann Geiser. OM John AB3OV upgraded to Extra, and XYL Leann KB3WUD received her Technician. She then gave John his Christmas present: a brand new Kenwood TS-480SAT!



Abagayle, Lukas and Jack try to communicate with limited-range equipment, and wish they could use real ham gear!

∞ Club Connections

The Parasitic Emission

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A Quick and Easy Emergency HF Antenna

by Pete Carr WW30

OUR HAM CLUB recently obtained the use of a radio site once used by a telephone company. This location fulfilled the old ham dream of living in the middle of a swamp on top of a hill. It has very damp soil for excellent antenna grounding at an elevation of around 2000 feet above sea level. It also had no significant trees nearby so the radio horizon is very good.

The place had been unused for 30 years or more and was severely overgrown with brush. The club members cleaned out the area and refurbished the building. Our intention was to place the local VHF repeater and also a packet node at the site. Over the summer we were able to complete the work and plan some additions to our capabilities.

Many of the members are RACES check-ins to the Sunday morning net on 3.9905 MHz here in Western Pennsylvania. Twice a year our county gets to host the net so we wanted a location to set up a 75 meter station on these occasions. In addition, there were several members who live in apartments or on very small house lots where antennas that big were not an option. It was decided to install HF antennas and make the site available for casual operating all the rest of the year.

I had several Hustler HF mobile antennas from an old truck that were no longer used. As a test I combined them with a length of pipe and some coax and installed them at the radio site.

I discussed the project with Wayne Ginther NM3B and Lee Lewis N3NWL, who both had extensive mobile HF experience. Originally I wanted to raise the feed point to about ten feet above ground. Both Lee and Wayne suggested it be placed very near ground level to make the earth ground more effective. I did that and used a 3 foot length of pipe driven 18 inches into the ground.

I tried the antenna without any radials. It proved to be a good choice



A piece of aluminum channel was used as the mount. Two U-bolts attached it to the pipe while the antenna mount is between them. There are various sources for the 3/8 by 24 thread antenna mount but Radio Shack was the closest.

The mast of the Hustler antenna has a 3/8 by 24 thread male connector at the bottom. I located an adapter that would allow the antenna to be connected to a PL-259 type coax connector.

This was mounted on a 6-inch piece of

The Hustler antenna and pipe mount are complete. Adjustments to the whip section are easy at ground level so the resonant frequency can be changed.

Here's a "Quick and Easy" emergency HF antenna, that is useful for non-emergency communications, too. Whether you're backpacking, mobile hilltopping or just on vacation, this is an easy-to-set-up antenna that will get you on HF with a useable signal level.



A 36 inch piece of 1 5/8 inch galvanized pipe is driven 18 inches into the ground. RG-8X coax is then taped to the pipe to provide strain relief at the PL-259 connector. Black electricians tape is used to weatherproof the connections.

aluminum channel together with a 90 degree adapter. The result was that the coax comes out of the aluminum channel parallel with the ground making it very easy to weatherproof.

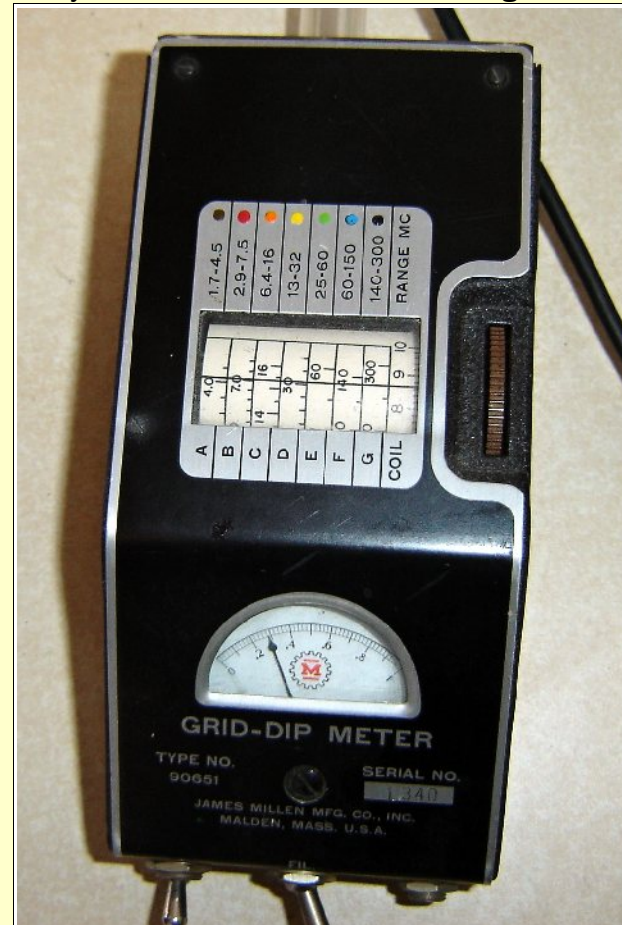
A 54 inch mast, MO-3, is used with a RM-40S top section to make the 40 meters antenna. The same mast can be used with any top section to change bands. By screwing on a top section for 75 meters the installation is usable for the RACES net as well.

There was a lot of discussion about using ground radials with the Hustler. Since the location was very wet I elected to try the antenna without any radials. It proved to be a good choice since the test readings were very good.

Rick Wehler, N3RJH and I drove the pipe, mounted the antenna and dug a shallow trench for the coax. Once the coax was brought into the building we soldered a PL-259 connector to the cable and hooked up a

James Millen grid dip meter to it. This is an older type of test equipment where a tube-type oscillator generates a signal. The grid circuit of the tube is coupled to an external load of unknown resonance. When the two circuits are resonant the grid meter dips and the frequency is read from the mechanical dial.

The meter dipped very well indicating a very good resonance reading. Rick is a Motorola service shop technician and had his MFJ Model 269 Antenna Analyzer with him. He believed the dip meter reading but wanted a bit more information. We hooked up his analyzer and checked the antenna again. It



A James Millen Grid Dip Meter is connected to the RG-8X coax in the building. It indicates a fairly sharp dip in the meter reading at just over 7.2 MHz. The meter is AC powered so isn't as handy to use as the MFJ.

indicated an SWR of 1.1 to 1 and an Rs of 56 ohms. The same readings were evident when the 40 meter top section was replaced with the one for 75 meters. Since these are the high power version of the Hustler antenna they are advertised to have about 50 to 80 kHz of bandwidth between the 2 to 1 SWR points.

Our tests showed that both antennas could only

give a maximum of 50 kHz between the 2 to 1 SWR points. That's not really a problem since these are the older versions of the antenna with the collett that secures the vertical whip section. The antenna is easy to remove from it's mount, then the whip section can be lengthened or shortened to adjust the center operating frequency. The CW people would want to lengthen the 40 meter whip section to run at the low end of the band while the phone guys can check into the East Coast Amateur Radio Service on 7.255 MHz with the whip in its present spot. Once the whip is set, the operator can reinstall the antenna on the mast and operate. Newer rigs with solid state finals will work very well with this matched antenna without the need for a tuner.

In an emergency it will be possible to operate from the site on the any HF band as



A MFJ-269 Antenna Analyzer is connected to the RG-8X coax in the building for test. It shows an excellent match at 7.28 MHz.

In an emergency it will be possible to operate on any HF band.

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requirements change. It also gives newer hams without a good QTH the chance to operate their equipment and enjoy contacts and a beautiful view.

Resources

www.new-tronics.com, web site for Hustler antennas.

www.KOBG.com, web site for HF mobile monoband antennas.

QST article, Dec. 1995, *HF Mobile Installation Tips* by John Seybold KE4PRC.

QST article Feb. 1993, *You Can Operate HF Mobile* by Roger Butch WF4N.

Fan Mail

by Our Readers

November 17, 2011

I have to tell you again Joe how much I enjoy the newsletter. You're doing a great job with it (and the website)!

Joe Bitner (N3IES)

November 30, 2011

Joe...one word for this edition: Spectacular!

I hope you can get recognized for your efforts to bring all of the clubs together as you have and keep things going for the good of the hobby.

It is remarkable and all kudos to you my friend.

Beautiful job!

73,
Thanks,
Jan Blair
WA8RZR

December 9, 2011

WOW WOW WOW.

Joe, it's fabulous. Thanks for keeping me on the list site. How in the world you do that, keep all that information clear and interesting, is amazing.

Super publication, and I get a lot of them from all over the world. Yours is interesting, beautifully done, and a joy to receive

In the future, I'd like to see if any of your folks there would like to consider going with us to one of our Caribbean trips. We split expenses, and we use Buddipoles and suitcase stations only. Right now, the next three trips are full. St Lucia this week, then Grenada in Feb, Montserrat in April, and St.Lucia next December. All full.

But we have so much fun with the suitcase DXpeditions that we like to share it with nice folks who want to be DX for a week. I could write that up for you if it's something that would be interesting to anyone.

Great job, Joe.

Budd W3FF

[Editor's note: Thanks, Budd! I'll take you up on your offer. Take lots of photos, and we'll be happy to publish your stories of high (frequency) adventure!]

Amateur Radio and Me!

by Jerry Bosak AB3NK

A LONG TIME ago, 3 years before I was born, a very famous man gave a very famous speech. The man's name was John F. Kennedy and the speech was his Inaugural Address. The address contains only 1364 words and it took him 13 minutes and 59 seconds to deliver, from the first word to the last, not including the applause at the end, making it the fourth-shortest Inaugural Address ever delivered. It is widely considered to be among the best Presidential Inauguration speeches in American history.



In that speech, Jack, as his family called him said, "Ask not what your country can do for you, ask what you can do for your country!"

Being a new ham, it occurs to me that perhaps all hams—old timers and newcomers alike—should be asking ourselves: Ask not what Amateur Radio does for me, ask what I can do for Amateur Radio!

The first question I would ask myself is, have I really done enough? Have I given as much back to Amateur Radio as I have taken? At some point, one of two things must happen. Either our clubs attract and serve new members, or our clubs fade away, much like the dodo bird and the passenger pigeon.

For example, reliable sources once told me that there had not been any VE test sessions in our area for over 12 years. My question was, why not? Was it because our clubs were too busy eating doughnuts and drinking coffee and worrying about declining

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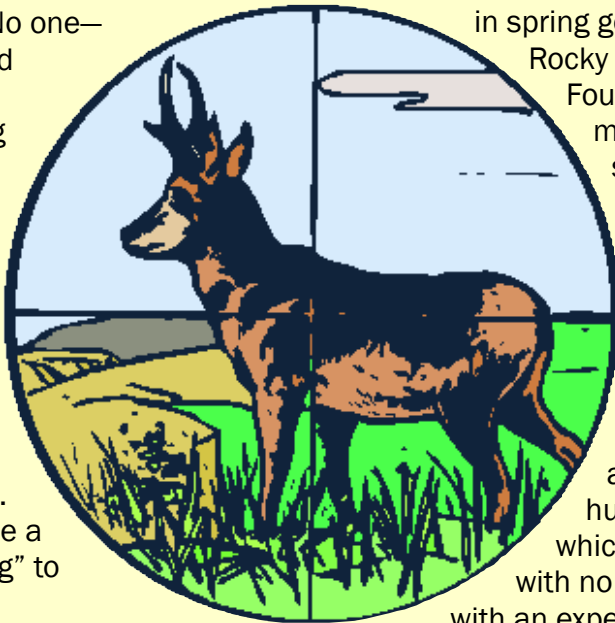
Super publication, and I get a lot of them from all over the world...

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membership and finances to put on such an event? Was it because we didn't see a need for new amateurs to enter the hobby?

Where would most of us be if it wasn't for a few good dedicated hams, who took the time out of their lives and busy schedules to promote amateur radio, and set aside a couple of hours a month to give VE test sessions so the rest of us could get our licenses?

I CAN COMPARE our situation to that of the Pennsylvania Game Commission. For years - the Game Commission told us that everything was great and the number of licensed hunters swelled to more than 1.25 million. No one—other than the few dedicated people who offered hunter safety courses—did anything to promote hunting, and yet it flourished because many of the people of that generation who did hunt were war veterans, and grew up in a hunting culture. Those values were instilled upon them by their parents, grandparents, friends, relatives, neighbors. It was not a “bad thing” to be a hunter and it was not “wrong” to hunt.



Pennsylvania.

All of a sudden, the revenue necessary to keep the Pennsylvania Game Commission going was reduced and soon cut backs took the place of stocking and promoting hunting. The Game Commission's response was to relax the rules, and let people in who previously were not permitted to hunt.

Financial pressures led the Game Commission to succumb to special interest groups which put pressure on them to change the rules to accommodate their select group, such as the Wild Turkey Federation asking for and getting the PGC to allow hunters to buy a second license and to shoot a second gobbler in spring gobbler season. The

Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation gave them millions of dollars to stock and establish an elk hunting season.

Sometimes even good ideas go bad. Sportsmen's groups worked to get permission for a mentored youth hunting season, in which a young person with no age limit can go out with an experienced sportsman

and harvest animals—with very few rules and not even a hunter safety course certificate. Sadly, some unscrupulous hunters drag their kids along as they slaughter an animal, put the child's tag on it and they use this as just another way to cheat the system. Such behavior doesn't really teach the child anything except that it is OK to do as you please, as long as you don't get caught.

Did the Game Commission go in the right

direction? My answer is, probably not! The reason I say this is because as you relax the rules, too many cheaters take advantage of the new rules and still violate even the watered-down rules.

I SEE THE same things happening in Amateur Radio across America. Hams once were a dedicated group of individuals who built their own equipment, operated in the public interest, and worked hard to develop their communication and electronic skills. They admitted very few individuals into their small group, they Elmered those who joined, and they self-policed anyone who didn't conform to the rules and regulations.

The day came when they looked around the country and realized that the original group of hams had shrunk to the point of where they could no longer do club events as groups. There were far fewer other operators to talk to on the radios anymore. There were few clubs promoting amateur radio, or trying to get new people involved into the hobby to perpetuate it. Amateur Radio in the US had all but died.

So the few remaining active hams decided that in order for them to keep the hobby going, they had to change. They had to reduce the qualifications for new hams, they had to “dummify” the tests so even a young child who could barely read could pass them without knowing anything about radio.

It is rumored that some groups even falsified exam documents in an effort to obtain licenses for their friends and relatives without ever giving the tests, or faking tests to make it appear as if they had passed, or just passing people because they had “really tried...”

Such clubs rebuilt their membership numbers, but at what cost? They ended up with a group of dummies, who were afraid to talk to one another on the radio. They were

The first question I would ask myself is, have I really done enough?

afraid that if "real" hams heard them, they would be found out to be a fraud and they could lose their licenses. So they hid out on simplex or just never got on the air.

Some of them still have licenses, but the only time they use their license is when they check in to the weekly net, where they can give their call signs and say "No traffic," or maybe talk about the weather or things that they can do or understand.

I've heard that there always seem to be people who only attend meetings to see if the club is going to fold and to see how much of a share they can get when the money is divided. We've all seen someone at every meeting who sells the coffee and doughnuts, hoping the club will sell enough to break even—or come out a little ahead for once.

What can I do to promote amateur radio?

WELL LET'S SEE. Do I have kids? A grandson or a granddaughter? Can I bring that person to club meetings with me? Can I try to get them interested in amateur radio? Will I open up my shack and turn on my radios and turn the knobs and dials and let them hear what is out there? Do I know enough about amateur radio that I can explain to them how it works and what it does and how it can open doors for them?

Do I know of a neighbor kid who might benefit from participating in structured club activities supervised by responsible adults? Can my club provide public activities and guidance to such kids?

With all the news coverage of child abuse, many people are afraid of getting involved in youth activities in fear that someone will accuse them of doing something inappropriate. If you do not do anything

wrong, what is there to be afraid of? Involving parents and carrying out all youth activities as a group (and never one-on-one) goes a long way to preventing false accusations.



We need to find good club members and we need to recruit new hams into the hobby and we need to bring back good old hams who have lost interest in Amateur Radio—if we can find them and get them active again. We all need to be willing to promote amateur radio and we all need to find a specialty which our clubs can use to promote our clubs to other amateurs and find a way to benefit from these endeavors.

Most towns have a little something to offer you if you just look around. For example, Reynoldsville has it's Homecoming, Brookville has it's Laurel Festival, Punxsutawney has it's Groundhog Day. Indiana is The Christmas Tree Capitol of The World, and Clearfield has it's County Fair. Every town has something to offer if we just look hard enough.

We need to change the persona that amateur radio had in the past: a bunch of strange, old men sitting in dark rooms and basements, listening in on other people's conversations, and desperately shouting into scary-looking, old radios that look like the set of a 1930s horror movie. We need to shatter that image once and for all, and enter the digital age—using more digital modes, including computers, and trying to persuade more youth to get involved by promoting amateur radio in the schools and youth organizations. We need to be able to show young men and women how amateur



radio can open doors for them and how we can be of service to them.

Lending out equipment if necessary, opening the doors of our shacks to kids and their parents, and letting them talk on our equipment—especially if we belong to a club that has a ham shack that members can use. If we belong to a club that does not have it's own club house, we need to ask ourselves WHY? Why don't we have a club house?

Our meetings need to get away from the eating aspect of Amateur Radio and back towards the talking on radios and listening part. Each meeting should offer training and education. When we have guest speakers, we need to listen to what they have to say, pay attention to them when they talk and act respectful towards them when they come to our club to give a lecture or just to see what we are all about.

ABOVE ALL, we need to be friendly. I've heard a lot of people complain that they can call all day on the local repeater and nobody comes back to them. But when a member of the Inner Circle calls, all his buddies come crawling out of the woodwork.

Why is this so common? Is it because of all of the cell phones out there today? Is it because once an Amateur gets their General Class License that they do not want to talk on two meter

repeaters anymore? Is it because most people only listen to the repeaters when it is time for the nets? Or is it because most clubs have shrunk to the point where there is no

We need to find a specialty to promote our clubs to other amateurs...

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one out there to talk to anymore?

Maybe it's because many hams don't associate with other hams anymore because of divisions in clubs, the lack of clubs in their area, the fact that they never belonged to any club in the first place or that they do not like to talk to certain people. Without some kind of friendship, they just won't talk to new hams or people they don't know.



It's not that hard to carry on a conversation—even with people that you don't like!

How can you do that?

Simple - ask general

questions such as, "How are you," "What have you been doing," "Where are you headed today," etc. Just be polite, and you won't believe how many people out there will respond positively to these simple questions.

There are many lonely people and hams are no exception. As we grow older, we lose many of our old friends, and ham radio can be a good place to reach out for someone to talk to. Some people, even when surrounded by other people actually feel alone. Why? Often, they feel no one truly cares about them.

The art of talking has been lost. Few know how to talk to people that they do not know or have never met and they refuse to talk to people that are not in their little buddy group. So who does that leave for them to talk to? Well, club members, friends, relatives and people from their own little group.

So how can we change this so we can welcome new people into our group without judging them? That's something I haven't been able to figure out yet! Maybe that will be a good topic for your rebuttal.

"Ask not what Amateur Radio Has Done For ME! Ask What I Can Do For Amateur Radio!"

[We welcome Jerry to this issue of The Parasitic Emission. He lives in Delancey north of Punxsutawney, and is active on HF and repeaters, and was an active participant in the Baker Trail communications support event. First licensed in June 2011, he holds an Amateur Extra Class license, and is an ARRL Accredited Volunteer Examiner. He is the Secretary of the Punxsutawney Area Amateur Radio Club, and a member of the Quad-County Amateur Radio Club Executive Board. Even though only recently licensed, he has been around radio and had an active interest in ham radio most of his life, but like many aspiring hams was not able to find anyone to help him get his license. His views in this article serve to educate and inform old-timers about how we appear to the newly licensed, and his honest criticisms, if taken to heart, will help club leaders gain insight to the needs of new hams, and suggestions for how we can better meet their needs. -Editor]

Shorts

ATTENTION ARRL Members!

When it's time to renew your League membership, please do so through your ARRL-Affiliated club. A portion of your ARRL dues will be retained by your local club. It's a great way to give a "little extra" to your club, without costing anything extra to you!



If you're not an ARRL member, or haven't been for over two years, your club will receive \$15.00 of your ARRL dues when you join. Even if you are "mad" at the League, what better way to "stick it to them" than to make them pay money back to your local club?

DEADLINE FOR THE February PE is Monday, January 23, 2012. As usual, we appreciate it greatly if lengthy or complex articles are submitted before that date.

If you need help writing an article, we can help. Send us what you can, and ask for help, and we will be in contact. If you need us to take photos, please let us know, well in advance of the date, and we will make every effort to be there if we can.

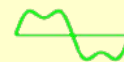
Please send all materials to:

submit@parasiticemission.com



CONGRATULATIONS TO recently licensed hams: **Ed Stewart KB3WRX** in Reynoldsville and **Leann Geiser KB3WUD**, Johnstown. Both earned their Technician licenses. Welcome to Amateur Radio!

John Geiser KB3WMT Earned General/Extra and **Tony Felan KB3VTX** Earned General, both in Johnstown. John also received the new callsign AB3OV. In Altoona, **Jeff Blake N8PSU** also upgraded to Extra. Congrats to all!



JERRY AB3NK IS the proud owner of a new Kenwood TS-590S. We're happy that Santa could fit it down the chimney. Jerry notes that while the jolly old elf was up on the rooftop, he might have put some antennas up there, too, but sadly, Good Saint Nick had to rush off to other hamshacks with goodies for the rest of us!



GET WELL WISHES to Potter County EC Skip Kaufman K3CC who is recovering from a serious illness. Keep him in your thoughts and prayers.

Renew your ARRL membership through your club!



Public Service—Some Ideas

by Joe Shupienis W3BC

HAMSHACK NET members showed the true Amateur Spirit the evening of January 28th, when their discussion turned to ideas our clubs could use to reach out to our communities in the upcoming new year.

It turns out that the suggestions discussed on the net prove that opportunities to serve the public interest are everywhere—if we just look for them!

Among the great ideas presented by the net participants were those that involved setting up informational displays at public events, such as county fairs and parades. Recent success stories were shared, from a recap of the successful event held at the Super 322 Drive-In car show, to communication support for foot races such as the Baker Trail Ultra Marathon.

Hosting a swap-meet or mini-hamfest was discussed, as well as participating in events such as Airport Awareness Day.

Education was mentioned by several participants, requesting upgrade classes, and introductory classes to start—and the sooner the better! The need for continuing VE sessions was mentioned, and those VE teams who have been offering exams were thanked for their contributions and efforts.

Outreach to educational institutions and civic groups was next. Such groups are always in need of guest speakers and this is an excellent way for us to present Amateur Radio to the leaders and future leaders of our communities.

"Helping others" was a constant thread that ran throughout the comments on the net.

Elmering was brought up as a desirable and worthwhile activity,

Technology and emergency preparedness were not left out of the net participants' discussions. Fox hunting was mentioned as a regular activity. It's a great way to sharpen our skills while having fun! The favorable public exposure it can bring was not lost on the participants either. It was suggested that we again sponsor SkyWarn training this spring as we have in the past.

Several net members suggested exploring the possibility of a clubhouse or club hamshack, and spoke to the desirability and usefulness of such a facility.

Returning to the subject of parades, it was suggested that we decorate a pickup truck with club and amateur radio paraphernalia as part of community events to show our presence and support for our communities.

Obtaining a donated, used trailer to be outfitted with radios for deployment to emergency scenes, field day and other operating events was discussed as well.

It was suggested that the February club meetings would have the theme, "Bring a friend to Ham Radio."

Other comments were made encouraging the distribution of recruiting and informational flyers, posters and brochures to schools, civic organizations and posted in public places.

After 45 minutes the Hamshack net was concluded.

The *Hamshack Net* is held every Wednesday evening at 1900 on the N3QC Quad-County repeater on 147.315 MHz. The repeater access tone is 173.8 Hz. All hams are welcome to participate, regardless of club affiliation or QTH. The only requirement is a valid license and something to say.

Legal Notices

The Parasitic Emission (ISSN: 2156-0080) is published monthly by Joe Shupienis, 96 Third Street, Falls Creek, PA 15840

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The Parasitic Emission is published monthly for all Radio Amateurs residing in central Pennsylvania. This electronic edition is provided free of charge by email, and may also be downloaded from:
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.

Opportunities to serve are everywhere—if we just look!

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January 2012 Calendar

Amateur Radio Club Activities, Events and Gatherings

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>01</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 12:00am» ARRL Straight Key Night (cont.) New Year's Day 7:00pm» QCARC 2-meter FM Net 7:30pm» Clearfield County A.R.E.S. Net 8:00pm» Elk Co ARA Net 9:00pm» WAN ARES Net 	<p>02</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7:00pm» HARC Nets 7:30pm» Punxsutawney ARC 2 Meter Net 8:00pm» Jefferson County EMA Radio Service Net 	<p>03</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7:30pm» Indiana Co ARC Meeting 	<p>04</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7:00pm» Hamshack Net 9:00pm» Cambria County ARES Net 	<p>05</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7:00pm» Headwaters ARC Meeting 	06	<p>07</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:00pm» Philipsburg ARA Net
<p>08</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7:00pm» QCARC 2-meter FM Net 7:30pm» Clearfield County A.R.E.S. Net 8:00pm» Elk Co ARA Net 9:00pm» WAN ARES Net 	<p>09</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7:00pm» HARC Nets 7:30pm» Punxsutawney ARC 2 Meter Net 8:00pm» Jefferson County EMA Radio Service Net 	<p>10</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7:00pm» Punxsutawney Area ARC Meeting 	<p>11</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7:00pm» Hamshack Net 9:00pm» Cambria County ARES Net 	12	13	<p>14</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:30am» Quad-County ARC Breakfast 10:00am» Potter Co. ARES VE Exam Session 3:00pm» PARA Meeting 9:00pm» Philipsburg ARA Net
<p>15</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1:30pm» Elk County ARA Meeting 7:00pm» QCARC 2-meter FM Net 7:30pm» Clearfield County A.R.E.S. Net 8:00pm» Elk Co ARA Net 9:00pm» WAN ARES Net 	<p>16</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Martin Luther King's Birthday 7:00pm» HARC Nets 7:30pm» Punxsutawney ARC 2 Meter Net 8:00pm» Jefferson County EMA Radio Service Net 	17	<p>18</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7:00pm» Hamshack Net 9:00pm» Cambria County ARES Net 	19	<p>20</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:00pm» Cambria Radio Club Meeting + 7:00 pm Cambria Radio Club VE Exam Session 7:30pm» Quad-County ARC Meeting 	<p>21</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:00pm» Philipsburg ARA Net
<p>22</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7:00pm» QCARC 2-meter FM Net 7:30pm» Clearfield County A.R.E.S. Net 8:00pm» Elk Co ARA Net 9:00pm» WAN ARES Net 	<p>23</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parasitic Emission Submission Deadline 7:00pm» HARC Nets 7:30pm» Punxsutawney ARC 2 Meter Net 8:00pm» Jefferson County EMA Radio Service Net 	24	<p>25</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7:00pm» Hamshack Net 9:00pm» Cambria County ARES Net 	26	27	<p>28</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:00pm» Philipsburg ARA Net
<p>29</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7:00pm» QCARC 2-meter FM Net 7:30pm» Clearfield County A.R.E.S. Net 8:00pm» Elk Co ARA Net 9:00pm» WAN ARES Net 	<p>30</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7:00pm» HARC Nets 7:30pm» Punxsutawney ARC 2 Meter Net 8:00pm» Jefferson County EMA Radio Service Net 	31	<p>01</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7:00pm» Hamshack Net 9:00pm» Cambria County ARES Net 	<p>02</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7:00pm» Headwaters ARC Meeting 	03	<p>04</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:00pm» Philipsburg ARA Net