



PCARA Update



Volume 1, Issue 3

A Non-Profit Community Service Organization

May 8th, 2000



Meetings

Please join us at our next meeting on **Sunday, June 4th, 3:00 PM, location TBA.**

Future Meetings

Dates: (subject to change)

August 6th, October 1st, December 3rd

Please see the article about **On-Air Meetings** on page 2.

PCARA, Inc.!!

We've made significant progress over the last couple of months, and it is truly amazing what's been accomplished in a relatively short period of time! The following are some of PCARA's accomplishments.

We have...

- A website (www.pcara.org) and e-mail account (pcara@email.com).
- Sponsors that pay commissions/fees on purchases or services accessed through our website.
- A Newsletter.
- Incorporated (PCARA, Inc.) and have obtained a Federal Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN).
- Applied for a NYS Tax ID Number.
- Obtained a checking account.
- Applied for ARRL club affiliation.
- Applied for an FCC Club Station Call Sign.
- Installed a new, full featured controller on the VHF repeater.
- Obtained a phone line for the autopatch.
- Sent a letter to all licensed amateurs from Croton to Mohegan Lake, and Putnam Valley, informing them of our club and inviting them to join us on the air. So far, we have received 9 applications from new members as a result of this mailing.
- Sent letters to local government agencies, organizations, and schools in our coverage area offering our services.
- Sent letters to WECA and PEARL, to inform them of our club and our ability to help out when needed

We all should be proud of what we've achieved. We have a great group of talented members! It is an example of when people work together toward a common goal many things can be accomplished. My deep thanks and appreciation to all the membership for their selfless contributions and efforts. I'm very excited at what the future holds for PCARA and its' membership.

Fraternally Yours in Amateur Radio,

Greg, KB2CQE

Membership Report

PCARA has received 17 membership applications to date. The dues received have helped us get better settled as a club, however, we have a way to go. Thank you to those members who have sent in their applications. If you haven't already, please take a moment to fill one out and help us to keep things running smoothly. Applications are available on our website @ www.pcara.org Completed applications should be mailed to: PCARA, PO Box 32, Crompond, New York 10517

Welcome New Members

PCARA would like to welcome the following new members:

ARMEN BALEMIAN	N2PLZ
DAVID SANTO	K2JAQ
BILLY VENEZIA	WB2MKQ
JOHN BRISTOL	N2SAC
FREDERICK TRAVIS	KB2SFY
JOHN DE BLASIO	KB2NXP
JON TAYLOR	CT1EFC / N2JLK
FORREST WILCOX	W2CT
MIKE AIELLO	N2HTT

On-Air Meetings

The on-air meetings will be held on the first Sunday of each month at 3:00 PM (subject to change) on the VHF machine.

On-Air Meeting Schedule:

July 2

September 3

November 5

Upgrades

Congratulations to the following members on their recent license upgrades:

MIKE ARDOVINO - N2EAB—Extra



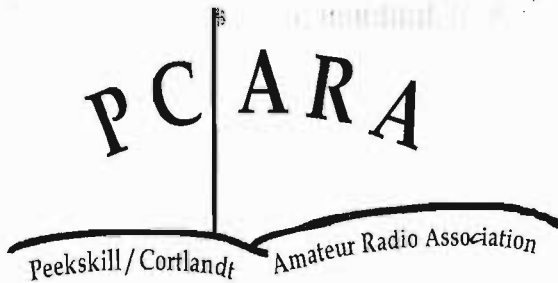
Please share your upgrade news with us. Send an e-mail to kc2dwp@yahoo.com.

Bank Account

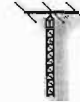
Some of you may be wondering why your membership and assessment check has not yet been cashed. We weren't able to open a bank account until our Federal Taxpayer Identification Number was secured. The TIN arrived last week and we now have an account established at First Federal Savings Bank in Peekskill.

PCARA's Logo

Below are two logo design ideas for PCARA. The one on the left was submitted by Malcolm, NM9J, and the one on the right was submitted by Greg, KB2CQE.



PEEKSKILL / CORTLANDT



PCARA

AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION

Please submit any logo ideas you may have. Once we settle on a logo design, we'll be placing an order for hats and t-shirts.

NY DMV News Release

<http://www.nydmv.state.ny.us/emerg.htm#FORM>



New plates will be phased-in over a two-year period beginning October 1, 2000, when motorists register a new vehicle or renew their registration. The DMV will reissue nearly 10 million sets of license plates during this period.

Drivers will pay a one-time \$5.50 fee for the new plates when they renew their vehicle registration along with the standard two-year registration fee. Motorists wishing to keep their current plate number can do so for a one-time \$20 fee. In the past, motorists have paid a \$25 recurring annual fee for this privilege. Only Liberty Plates will be replaced at this time, others will not be affected by the change.

Lt. Governor Donohue also urged New Yorkers to recycle their old plates. While some drivers may wish to keep the old plates as memorabilia, those who do not are asked to properly dispose of the plates through their local recycling program.

Affiliate Links

PCARA's website now has an affiliates link page. The links on this page are tied to accounts we have established with the various merchants. With each purchase that is made through the use of a link on our site, PCARA will receive up to 8% of the sale. This is a great way for us to earn some very needed funds for our organization. Please check out the links page often, as updates are made on a regular basis, and let us know what you think.

Ten-Tec Club Program

PCARA has received the following e-mail from Ten-Tec and we welcome your thoughts and suggestions on this program:

For club kit building projects, we offer a 10% discount on an order of \$500 or more. If your club runs a hamfest, we have a program where your club can purchase our kits at a 25% discount off of the retail price, sell the kits at your club table at our normal list price, and then you can return any unsold inventory to us for a refund after your hamfest is over.

Scott Robbins, W4PA

Kid's Day

PCARA will be sponsoring a Kid's Day event at St. Patrick's School in Yorktown Heights on Saturday, June 17th, from 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM. This is an ARRL event and is a great opportunity to introduce children to the ham radio hobby. The plans include inviting the school Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, and Girl Scouts, as well as other interested students. We hope to make this a regular PCARA event and welcome your ideas and suggestions. To help make this a success, we'll need as many members as possible to help with the afternoon's activities. Further information will be made available on the air and through our website and listserver. Please contact Joe, kc2dwp@yahoo.com, if you will be able to help out.

American Radio Relay League - Kid's Day Rules

Educational Activities: Recruitment & Education

Purpose: Kid's Day is intended to encourage young people (licensed or not) to enjoy Amateur Radio. It can give young people hands-on on-the-air experience so they might develop an interest in pursuing a license in the future. It is intended to give hams a chance to share their station with their children.

Dates: June 17, 2000.

Time: 1800 to 2400Z. No limit on operating time.

Suggested exchange: Name, age, location and favorite color. You are encouraged to work the same station again if an operator has changed. Call "CQ Kid's Day."

Suggested Frequencies: 28350 to 28400 kHz, 21380 to 21400, 14270 to 14300 kHz and 2-meter repeater frequencies with permission from your area repeater sponsor. Observe third party traffic restrictions when making DX QSOs.

Reporting: Logs and comments may be posted on the Internet to kids@contesting.com. You may review these postings at <http://www.contesting.com/kids/>. Those without Internet access may forward comments to the Boring Amateur Radio Club.

PCARA License Plate Frames

PCARA License Plate Frames have been ordered and are available for 5.00 a pair. This is a great way to get the PCARA name out there and to support our club. To order, please send your check to PCARA, PO Box 32, Crompond, NY 10517.

SKYWARN Training

Tuesday, May 16th 7PM-10PM
 NYC American Red Cross
 Amsterdam Avenue Main Auditorium
 New York, NY 10048
 Scott Swanson N9SAT
 scott@imsa.edu
 212-217-9759

Wednesday, May 17th 7PM-10PM
 Nassau County, NY
 George Gluck WA2WKV
 georgegluck@juno.com

Tuesday, June 6th 7PM-10PM
 Suffolk County
 Brookhaven National Laboratory
 Berkner Hall
 Upton, NY
 Walter Wenzel KA2RGI
 wwenzel@li.net

From the Brookhaven National Weather Service
 Web Page: <http://www.nws.bnl.gov/spottertraining.html>

Auto Patch & 911

The autopatch system will provide all repeater users access to 911 for emergencies. Because of the physical location of the PCARA telephone line, 911 calls placed through PCARA's repeater autopatch will be answered by the Putnam County Sheriff's Office.

****An emergency call has been defined by the Putnam County Sheriff's Office as all crimes in progress, all fire and ambulance calls, and all motor vehicle accidents that have just occurred.**

Contact has been made with Sgt. Peter Intrieri, Supervisor of Dispatchers at the Putnam County Sheriff's Office, and he provided the following information with regard to emergency 911 autopatch calls:

- Putnam County uses an enhanced 911 system, which will indicate the address of the repeater on the 911 screen.
- As soon as the call is connected, please inform the 911 dispatcher that you are placing an emergency call through an amateur radio repeater system. This is important in case the call is terminated for any reason, so that the Sheriff's Office doesn't dispatch a car to the location on their 911 screen, which would simply bring them to the repeater site.
- Provide the 911 dispatcher with as much information as possible to help expedite the handling of the emergency call.
- If the emergency is in Putnam County, the dispatcher will either take the information, or forward you to the appropriate Putnam County police agency (Carmel Police, NYSP, etc.).
- If forwarded, please re-identify yourself as an amateur radio operator placing an emergency call through an amateur radio repeater system.
- If the emergency is in Westchester County, the dispatcher will take the information and then notify the appropriate Westchester police agency.

In an effort to enhance our public service capabilities, we would like to keep a record of all emergency calls (911 or direct dialed) placed through the PCARA autopatch system. Please record and forward to pcara@email.com the following information:

- Date and time of the call
- Nature of the emergency
- Agency handling your call
- Suggestions to improve the efficient handling of emergency calls

Member Assessment

At our April 2nd meeting we discussed the club's need of a voluntary member assessment. This is necessary in order to help PCARA get up and running at full strength. The level of enthusiasm among our members is phenomenal and we have some great plans in the works to make our club the best it can be for our members. However, our current financial situation cannot support our goals.

There are two things that we ask of our members:

- 1 - Please let others know about our club. Member packets are available for licensed amateurs, or persons interested in amateur radio (Associate Membership).
- 2 - Please consider a voluntary contribution to help offset our club expenses (repeater upgrades and maintenance, equipment insurance, incorporation costs, etc.) Any member who contributes 50.00 or more during our first year will be considered a charter member of PCARA. The below form can be used for contributions and returned to our club address:

Name _____ Call Sign _____

Donation Amount _____

Please mail this form along with your check to:

PCARA
PO Box 32
Crompond, NY 10517

Fax: 914-737-0348
Email: pcara@email.com
www.pcara.org



Update Editor:
Joe Ellman
kc2dwp@yahoo.com



A Non-Profit Community Service Organization

VE Sessions:

WECA
Emergency Operations Center
Contact: Sandy Fried N2SF - (914) 273-2741

YARC First Sunday of Every Month
Yonkers 1st precinct
Contact: Emily AC2V (914) 237-5589 or Dan AA2HX (914) 667-0587
Call in 146.865

W5YI
Pelham Doronco Town House
Contact: Mike W2MAC (914) 738-5775 or Dan AA2HX (914) 667-0587
Call in 145.495

Ham Fests:

27 Aug 2000 + Yonkers ARC
Contact: John Costa, WB2AUL
Email: wb2aul@aol.com

16 Sep 2000 * Hudson Division Convention
Westchester Emergency Communications Association
Contact: Thomas Raffaelli, WB2NHC
Email: wb2nhc@weca.org

Wanted

Information for the Update. Please send any suggestions, news, articles, etc. to kc2dwp@yahoo.com.

PEEKSKILL / CORTLANDT AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION, INC.

PO Box 32

Crompond, NY 10517