



# PCARA Update



Volume 1, Issue 5

A Non-Profit Community Service Organization

July, 2000



## What's New...

### Meeting Location

Yes, it's true, we have a new and permanent meeting location at Hudson Valley Hospital Center. Please see the accompanying article on page 5.

### Charters Members

On behalf of PCARA, I would like to thank the following members for their generosity and support of our **Member Assessment / Charter Membership Program**. Their donations have helped us to further our mission of service to the community:

- Bob Tarsio-N2CBH
- Diane Tarsio-KB2SFV
- Greg Appleyard-KB2CQE
- Jerry Mitkowski-WA2ZOA
- Ed Bub-WA2AXP
- Gary Honcharik-WB2HNA
- Joe Ellman-KC2DWP
- Bob "Radar" Casino-N2GDY
- Billy Venezia-WB2MKQ
- Jon Taylor-N2JLK
- Rich Almeida-WZ2P

## Meetings

Please join us at our next meeting on **Sunday, August 6th, 3:00 PM, Hudson Valley Hospital Center**

### Future Meetings

**Dates:** (subject to change)

**October 1st, December 3rd**

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

### Write for the PCARA Update

On page 3 you'll find our new column, "Member's Report" where members will have an opportunity to share with the association items of interest relative to amateur radio. To get us started, Joe-KC2DWP, has written a review of a logging program he recently began using. Ideas for future columns include home brew antenna systems, mobile set-ups, contesting, public service, etc.

That's it for now, I look forward to seeing everyone at the picnic and August meeting.

73,  
Greg, KB2CQE

## Membership Report

PCARA has received 24 membership applications to date. Applications are available on our website @ [www.pcara.org](http://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:

We didn't receive any new membership applications since June's newsletter. Please remember to tell your "ham friends" about PCARA.

## On-Air Meetings

On-Air meetings are held on the first Sunday of each month at 3:00 PM (subject to change) on the VHF machine.

**On-Air Meeting Schedule:**

**September 3**

**November 5**

## Donations

PCARA, as a 501 (c) (4) organization, is able to accept financial and equipment donations, which are tax deductible (as allowed by law) for the donor. We encourage our members to look into whether their employers offer grant / donation programs.

Many thanks to the **Town of Cortlandt** for their donation of **surplus radio and telephone equipment**.

## Upgrades



Please share your upgrade news with us. Send an e-mail to [kc2dwp@aol.com](mailto:kc2dwp@aol.com).

## Newsletter

The PCARA Update is now available on our website as an Adobe PDF file. At the last meeting the idea was discussed of having members decide on how they would like to receive the newsletter, either by regular mail, or by e-mail notification that the current newsletter has been uploaded to the site. Please drop me an e-mail ([kc2dwp@aol.com](mailto:kc2dwp@aol.com)) if you would like to discontinue receiving the paper mailed version.

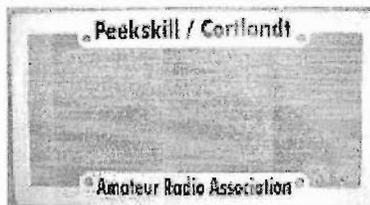
Thanks,  
Joe

## PCARA Family Picnic

PCARA's first annual picnic is scheduled for Saturday, August 5th, location to be announced (we were originally going to schedule George's Island Park, however, Westchester County fees have made this an impossible task). Please RSVP to Armen, N2PLZ, by e-mail: armenbl@ix.netcom.com or telephone: 739-0808 so we have an idea of the number of people we will have participating. Also, please let Armen know what you will be able to bring (Hot Dogs, Hamburgers, etc.) This will be our first social event and we look forward to everyone having a great time.

## PCARA License Plate Frames

PCARA License Plate Frames 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, or contact Joe, kc2dwp@aol.com.



## Member's Report

### Jr-EQF Logging Program

Being relatively new to HF while at the same time a veteran computer user, I was looking for a way to combine the two in an effort to ease the chore of logging contacts. When I became a Tech Plus, Radar, N2GDY, gave me a brand new log book along with a lecture on the importance of logging my HF contacts. The manual method worked for a while, but I knew there had to be a better and more efficient way to record and organize this information. I spoke to several seasoned hams who felt there was no better way than to manually record contacts. I respect and understand this position, yet I was determined to find another way to handle this task. I downloaded a couple of logging programs from the web, however none seemed to work well. I then tried to put together my own logging program with MS Excel, but still I wasn't satisfied.

When the July issue of QST arrived I started to flip through the pages and came across an ad I had seen many times before from EQF software. Suddenly the computer logging bug returned and I checked out their website where I found a shareware version of Jr-EQF, which is billed as a scaled down version of their main logging program, Log-EQF. I downloaded the program and found myself logging contacts within no time. This DOS based program is very easy to navigate and I found it to contain everything I was looking for in a logging program.

As previously mentioned, this is a shareware program so there is a polite reminder each time the program is started to send in a 25.00 registration fee, for which the user will then receive the latest version on disk, notifications regarding updates, and technical support. Being happy with this program, I went back to the website to register my copy, however I saw that while EQF Software did accept credit cards for on-line registration, they did not provide a secure page in order to do this. I sent an e-mail to Tom, N3EQF, the author of this fine software and he responded back within an hour, offering alternatives to the web registration. I decided to print out the order page and fax it to Tom, to which I received an immediate confirmation of receipt by e-mail. A few days later I received a well packaged disk in the mail that contained the latest release of Jr-EQF.

I highly recommend EQF Software for those Hams who would like an alternative to traditional logging. EQF Software can be found at [www.it.is.net/cqf](http://www.it.is.net/cqf) and Tom's e-mail address is: [n3eqf@usaor.net](mailto:n3eqf@usaor.net).

Joe  
KC2DWP

## It's a Small World

PCARA recently received the following e-mail from an old friend of mine who came upon the PCARA website. Joe-KC2DWP

Hello from Florida! My name is MARTIN E. LEE/K4TDB. I used to live in Peekskill almost 20+ years ago. My next door neighbor was W2DIE, ELLIOT SHWARTZ. He knows my family! I graduated from WALTER PANAS H.S. in 1978. I just found your web page to my delight! I became a n/c TECHNICIAN in SEPTEMBER 1992. My address used to be: 17 EDGEWOOD RD. / BEHIND J.H.HARVEY / ETHAN ALLEN FURNITURE STORE, IN EMERY HILL GARDENS off Rt. 202 . I would like to become an associate member of this former HOMETOWN radio club. I hope soon to upgrade to General class after I take the 5 wpm code test / theory then Extra class, hopefully I will be on 10m QRP to start. Right now, I'm big into 2m here in Florida - 147.255 mhz is the frequency that I'm on the most. We also are on 442.925 mhz. No pl tones on these repeaters for awhile to come.

THE PEACE RIVER REPEATER ASSOCIATION is a CLUB, one of three I belong to down here. PORT CHARLOTTE is on the gulf coast, 25 miles north of FORT MYERS. Anyhow, I also hope you people have enjoyed this cooler first half of the summer up in the hometown area.

I'm 40 and married to a "Jersey Girl" now 2 years and counting!!!!!!! Recently, about 2 months ago, we purchased our I-OPENER, It's a blast!!! e-mail & the WEB! I think it's better than webtv!!!!

ALSO: 6m here 52.525 simplex works great! (conditions permitting) all 4 know!

p.s.-when I was on cb there, I was "BIG M". AFTER 35 YEARS, (SINCE AGE 5), MY DAD SAID: "TALK TO SOMEONE", I HAVE NOT STOPPED SINCE. THANKS FOR TAKING THE TIME TO READ THIS LITTLE NOTE. ALL THE BEST FROM THE SUNSHINE STATE (NOW IN THE MID-90'S).

THIS IS MARTTN E.LEE / K4TDB SAYING "73" FOR NOW!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

K4TDB@ARRL.NET  
MARTINEL@IOPENER,NET

## Search Engines

The PCARA website, [www.pcara.org](http://www.pcara.org), has been registered with the major search engines and our website counter, as of July 16th, displayed 825 hits. Our website first went on-line in March 2000.

## WECA Fest

PCARA plans on reserving a table at the September 16th WECA Fest, which is also the Hudson Division Convention. Members are welcome to bring along any equipment they are looking to sell.

## SKYWARN Training

Unfortunately, the NWS does not have an up to date schedule of training on their SKYWARN webpage. Information will be posted on the PCARA webpage and listserver as it becomes available.

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

## New Meeting Location

Thanks to the kindness and generosity of **Suzanne Bohrer, Vice President of Administration at Hudson Valley Hospital Center**, PCARA has a new meeting location! Starting with our August 6th meeting, we will be gathering at **Hudson Valley Hospital Center Dining Room B** for our membership meetings. Please use the rear parking lot and follow the signs to the dining room, which is also located at the rear of the hospital. Refreshments will be served and there will be a talk-in on the VHF machine.

## Member Assessment / Charter Membership Program

At our April 2nd meeting we discussed the 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 PCARA the best it can be for our members and served communities. However, our current financial situation cannot support our goals.

There are several things we ask of our members:

- 1 - Please let others know about PCARA. Member packets are available for licensed amateurs, or persons interested in amateur radio (Associate Membership).
- 2 - Please consider donating your surplus radio, computer, etc., equipment to PCARA. Items we are unable to use will be brought to a hamfest to help raise funds for the association.
- 3 - Please consider a voluntary contribution to help offset our association expenses (repeater upgrades and maintenance, equipment insurance, incorporation costs, etc.) Any member who donates 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 the PCARA 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](mailto:pcara@email.com)  
[www.pcara.org](http://www.pcara.org)



Update Editor:  
Joe Ellman  
[kc2dwp@aol.com](mailto:kc2dwp@aol.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

WSYI  
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](mailto:wb2aul@aol.com)

16 Sep 2000 \* Hudson Division Convention  
Westchester Emergency Communications Association  
Contact: Thomas Raffaelli, WB2NHC  
Email: [wb2nhc@weca.org](mailto:wb2nhc@weca.org)

### Wanted

Information for the Update. Please send any suggestions, news, articles, etc. to [kc2dwp@aol.com](mailto:kc2dwp@aol.com).

PEEKSKILL / CORTLANDT AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION, INC.  
PO Box 32  
Crompond, NY 10517