



PCARA Update



Volume 1, Issue 9

A Non-Profit Community Service Organization

November, 2000



W2NYW

CQ de W2NYW...

It's official, PCARA now has a new club call! Thanks to the efforts of Bob - N2CBH, and Joe - KR2V, we now have the new call of W2NYW!

Jamboree-On-The-Air 2000

Thanks go to the members who helped to make this event a success under difficult conditions. Please see the related article on page 4.

Trekoree

Thanks to the many members who helped provide communications for the Boy Scout Trekoree on November 4, 2000, at Bear Mountain State Park. We helped to make the day a success for the scouts who participated, and made such a good impression that we've been asked to assist the scouts with their Klondike Derby at Camp Smith. Stay tuned, details to follow.

2000 NYC Marathon

PCARA was represented at the 2000 NYC Marathon by Joe - KR2V and Armen - N2PLZ. Joe and Armen rose early on the morning of November 5, 2000, and braved the darkness and cold to head into the city. On behalf of the membership, I would like to thank them for taking the time from their busy schedules to represent PCARA at a function that wouldn't happen if it were not for the efforts of over 400 dedicated amateur radio operators.

PCARA - W2NYW First Anniversary Charter Member Special Event Station

Plans are in the works for a Special Event Station commemorating the first anniversary of PCARA in Spring 2001. Plans include a listing in QST and CQ magazines, a color Special Event Certificate to be signed by all PCARA's Charter Members, and a light reception for members, family, and friends. Further details will follow and we would like to establish a committee for this event. Please e-mail me @ kb2cq@arrl.net if you would like to help coordinate this event. Please refer to page 5 if you're not a charter member and would like to become one before our first year of operation winds down.

Logo Committee

Special thanks go to Armen - N2PLZ, and Rich - WZ2P, for taking on the decision making process for PCARA's first logo. Members have submitted several great designs and we look forward to the results of our Logo Committee.

73,
Greg, KB2CQE

Meetings

Please join us at our next meeting on **Thursday, December 7th, 7:30 PM, Hudson Valley Hospital Center**

Future Meetings
Dates: (subject to change)

01-04 / 02-01 / 03-01 / 04-05 / 05-03 / 06-07

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

Membership Report

PCARA has received 33 membership applications to date. Applications are available on our website @ www.pcara.org. Completed applications should be mailed to: PCARA, PO Box 32, Crompond, New York 10517

Welcome Marylyn Metzger, PCARA's newest member.

New Charter Members

Thank you to the members who have so generously donated to PCARA's Charter Membership Program. If you haven't already, please consider a small gift to PCARA to help us meet our operating expenses.

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.**

On-Air Meetings

At our last meeting it was decided that we would table further discussion regarding on-air meetings until the December meeting.

Upgrades

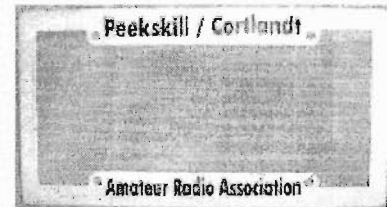
Armen - N2PLZ - Extra

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



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 payment to PCARA, PO Box 32, Crompond, NY 10517, or contact PCARA at pcara@email.com. License plate frames are also available at PCARA meetings.



PCARA QSL Card Printing Service

PCARA is pleased to announce our new QSL Card Printing Service. Arrangements have been made with a local printer, which allows us to offer 500 cards, black ink on white or color index / postcard quality stock suitable for mailing per USPS standards, for 45.00. This is a great way to support PCARA and have a fresh supply of cards on hand. Please contact Joe - KR2V, for further information and samples.

Calendar of Events

December

7th - 7:30 PM - Meeting @ Hudson Valley Hospital Center - Dining Room B - Main Topic-Debriefing and Discussion - Boy Scout Trekoree + Planning for Kid's Day 2001 & Boy Scout Klondike Derby.

January

6th - Kid's Day - Details to Follow
Boy Scout Klondike Derby @ Camp Smith - Further Information to Follow

Ham radio operators tune in on weekend jamboree

By Brian J. Howard

Every year natural disasters and man-made emergencies, from Tropical Storm Floyd to the downing of TWA Flight 800 and the Oklahoma City bombing, grab headlines across the U.S., and each time one group of individuals steps up to keep the lines of communication open.

And that's only one reason why Greg Appleyard is so passionate about his hobby.

"We're there, God forbid we have a need for communication," said Appleyard, president of the Peekskill/Cortlandt Amateur Radio Association. "We have Indian Point in our backyard. The weather can be unpredictable."

Appleyard and club vice president Bob Tarsio head up the 32-member group of amateur radio operators, or hams, they helped form in March. Persistent effort in reaching out to new members, marketing the club and seeking official incorporation has seen the small band of hams take off in the area.

A non-profit organization, P/CARA operates three repeaters, or signal-boosting antennae, locally. Licensed by the FCC, members volunteer their time and their equipment to provide local officials and agencies like the

Red Cross, FEMA and the National Weather Service with a reliable emergency communications network. They rely on members' dues and the sale of equipment at amateur radio conventions.

As it has grown, P/CARA has "taken a kind of educational turn," explained Appleyard, a life member of the Peekskill Community Volunteer Ambulance Corps.

One example is the 43rd annual Jamboree on the Air 2000 on Oct. 21 at Blue Mountain Middle School in Cortlandt. The event, which runs from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., will bring together P/CARA members, the Blue Mountain Middle School Amateur Radio Club and other enthusiasts.

It is open to any youths with an interest in amateur radio. But more than that, events like JOTA 2000 bring together thousands of hams from around the world. And that, in Appleyard's view, is the real attraction.

"I think they'll see the excitement when you have someone from halfway around the world," he said.

Like most of his fellow members, Appleyard has made contacts with amateur radio operators in dozens of countries and on nearly every continent. Contacts might be little more than that, a brief contact. But a typical



P/CARA members Armen Balemian (L) and Greg Appleyard (R) instruct cub scouts from Pack 173, Den 4 in Yorktown, how to make a wire antenna. The antenna will be used at the Jamboree-on-the-Air event at Blue Mountain Middle School Saturday.

day could take an operator from Afghanistan to Brazil to Texas and the Far East.

"And you can do that with a very modest setup," said Tarsio. "You don't need a lot of store-bought equipment."

He developed his interest in the hobby as an adult. Many hams are exposed as children to the hobby by a family member. That's why Tarsio is glad to help host events like JOTA

2000. He views it as a way of giving back to children.

"I would have loved to have been involved in this kind of stuff as a kid, but I just didn't have the opportunity," said Tarsio.

The 650,000 amateur radio operators in the U.S. and 2.5 million worldwide constantly reach out across the airwaves for diverse contacts, and they document them when they oc-

cur. This ongoing effort is a pleasure for true hams, who live for their next contact. But it is also necessary to ensure they can reach out and communicate when they need to should an emergency arise.

Appleyard explained that when the power goes out and telephones, cell phones and the Internet are rendered useless, amateur radio still communicates.

Besides tomorrow's event at Blue Mountain, P/CARA has sponsored a Kid's Day at St. Patrick's School in Yorktown and was on-hand for a similar event at Croton Point Park last weekend. Coming up on Nov. 4 the group will participate in a Boy Scouts "Trekoree" at Bear Mountain State Park.

P/CARA members are available to do community presentations and they work with scouts on amateur radio merit badges. For information, call 528-0760 or e-mail at pcara@email.com. The club is on the web at www.pcara.org.

Appleyard is delighted to see his passion take on such life in the community.

"I'm very happy with it," he said. "It fills a need in the Northern Westchester/Cortlandt area that maybe other clubs in the area aren't meeting," he said.

ARRL Affiliation

PCARA, through the ARRL Club Affiliation Program, is able to assist PCARA members in establishing and renewing ARRL memberships. This is a great way to support PCARA, as we are provided with a commission from the ARRL for offering this service. You can obtain the appropriate forms from a link off of the PCARA website or contact me direct @ kr2v@arrl.net or 582-0760. Below are the steps for this program:

- 1 - Please return your completed ARRL Membership/Renewal form, along with your ARRL dues check **made out to PCARA** to: PCARA, PO Box 32, Crompond, NY 10517.
- 2 - PCARA will forward a check along with your application and the Affiliated Club form to the ARRL.
- 3 - The ARRL allows Affiliated Clubs to earn 5.00 per new ARRL membership and 2.00 per ARRL membership renewal. While this is a relatively small amount of money, it will help to offset some of our association expenses.

Membership Roster

The long awaited PCARA Membership Roster will be coming soon to a mailbox near you. The roster will be assembled from the membership applications and if there has been a change in your address, phone number, e-mail, etc., please drop an e-mail to kr2v@arrl.net. Also, please send an e-mail indicating any information that you would like added or excluded from the roster. The PCARA Membership Roster will be made available to PCARA members only.

Member's Report

JOTA 2000

Jamboree on the Air 2000 (JOTA) was held on October 21st. Originally scheduled for Blue Mountain Middle School in cooperation with the BMMS Amateur Radio Club, under the direction of Bill-AA2NU, a water main break the morning of the event at the school sent us in search of another facility. Thanks to Monsignor Brennan, the Pastor of Saint Patrick's Church in Yorktown Heights, we quickly found a new home for the day. I believe it was Malcolm - NM9J, who had the quote of the day: "Our drive-up JOTA turned into a mini Field Day." Well, PCARA prevailed and our JOTA / Field Day was a success thanks to the efforts of Greg-KB2CQE, Malcolm-NM9J, Bill-AA2NU, Mike-N2HTT, Clint-KB2ZRJ, and Will-KC2FYF who is a 13 year old Boy Scout who joined us from WECA.

Joe - KR2V

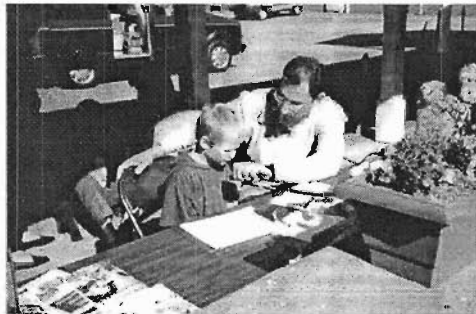


Photo by NM9J

Boy Scout Trekoree

Thanks to the efforts of many PCARA members, this event was a huge success! On November 4th, approximately 200 Boy Scouts safely traveled from Beaver Pond at Harrimon State Park to Bear Mountain State Park where they spent the day hiking along the trails. At the end of the day all scouts were accounted for and safely returned to Beaver Pond. Special thanks to the Rockland Repeater Association for the use of their 147.105 machine as a secondary Net Control frequency. PCARA participants included: Malcolm-NM9J, Gary-WB2HNA, Rich-WZ2P, Clint-KB2ZRJ, Armen-N2PLZ, Ray-W2CH and Marylyn, Joe-KR2V, Bob-N2CBH (our Bus Technician), Mike-N2HTT, and Greg-KB2CQE.



Photos by NM9J

The following e-mail was received on the PCARA e-mail server:

Dear Peekskill/Cortlandt ARA Coordinator:

We are dedicated to the furtherance of Amateur Radio, and we wish to reward both your association, and your individual members with the following valuable promotion!

Here is a review:

When you order any product from Glen Martin Engineering, Inc., use the special Club Code number assigned to your organization. You can find this number in the package that you will be receiving in the mail shortly.

Here is what each member gets:

The purchaser will receive a 5% discount* off all merchandise.

Here is what your Amateur Radio Club gets:

The Amateur Radio Association receives a donation of \$25* for every \$1000 dollars worth of products purchased from Glen Martin Engineering between every member of your association.

For example, if you purchased one of our quality aluminum tower packages, here's how it would break out:

M-1850: List Price \$ 2410.00

Purchaser's (5% Discount) - \$ 120.50

Your Total = \$ 2289.50 Your Club gets a donation of \$50!

Benefit both your own wallet, and your Amateur Radio Club at the same time!

*Please Note that this promotion ends: February 4th, 2001

We hope you take advantage of this valuable offer as soon as possible. If you have any questions regarding this offer, please contact us anytime.

Enjoy the fall weather!

Best Regards,

Tammy Hill

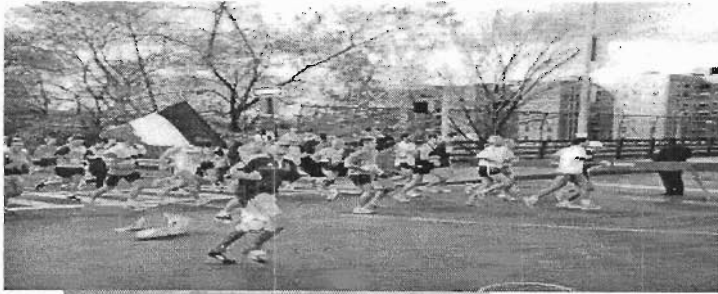
Amateur Radio Club Coordinator

Glen Martin Engineering, Inc.

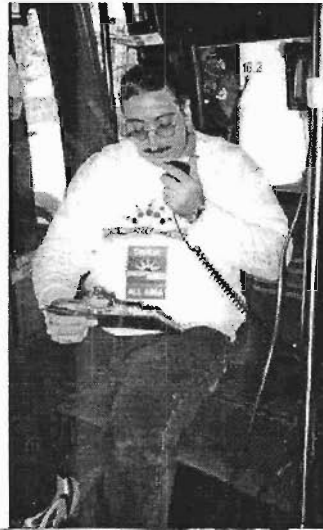
Phone (660) 882-2734 / info@glenmartin.com / Visit us online at <http://www.glenmartin.com>



New York City Marathon



Photos by N2PLZ & KR2V



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

PEEKSKILL / CORTLANDT AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION

Fax: 914-737-0348

Email: pcara@email.com

www.pcara.org



Update Editor:

Joe Ellman

kr2v@arrl.net



PCARA

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:

26 Nov 2000 x Mid-Island ARC Patchogue, NY

www.qsl.net/mid-islandarc Email: n2ox@arrl.net

Contact: Michael Grant, N2OX Phone: 631-924-3535

21 Jan 2001 * NLI Section Convention North Babylon, NY

Great South Bay ARC

www.arrlHUDSON.org/nli/hru2001.htm Email: n2mun@optonline.net

Contact: Phil Lewis, N2MUN Phone: 631-226-0698

25 Feb 2001 + Long Island Mobile ARC Hicksville, NY

www.limarc.org Email: hamfest@limarc.org

Contact: Ed Muro, KC2AYC Phone: 516-520-9311

Wanted

Information for the Update. Please send any suggestions, news, articles, etc. to kr2v@arrl.net.

PEEKSKILL / CORTLANDT AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION, INC.

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Crompond, NY 10517