

THE CIRCULATOR

A Newsletter for South Central Pennsylvania's Amateur Radio Groups.

Vol. 1 No. 1

AUGUST 2023

Sometimes to get something done, you must simply start (and hope that others come along to support the endeavor). This is the case here. The Amateur Radio Community in our section of the state is strong and diverse with numerous clubs and loosely knit groups quietly doing their thing. Someone has suggested that we put these groups in touch with each other. It is a great idea. In radio frequency communications, many signals are combined to multiple outputs in a device known as a circulator. Hence the name for this newsletter. It is the goal to share or exchange information between as many of these organizations as possible. As editor, I am tasked with acquiring and disseminating content. Content that comes from you. Information that you wish to share to promote your group, project, or event. My contact list will be short, just one name for each group; preferably a club officer that maintains the groups e-mail list. That contact will forward this newsletter to members of their group. By this method, I maintain a short list; and will not have any knowledge of individual members of any organization. Keeping it simple. So, lets get started.

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Recent attempts to put the 53.01 repeater back at Reeser's Summit have been paused. A two month test interval only proved what was long suspected. There are two many strong signals that mix. The culprit is largely two FM broadcast stations that are exactly 1 MHz apart, and that 1 MHz is the offset for the receiver. Anytime the transmitter goes on the air, that 1 MHz component combines with the transmit output overloading the receiver front-end. There is no easy way to filter it. The next step is to investigate a remote receive site.

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CPRA continues to make improvements to its microwave network. The backbone from Carlisle to Cornwall is now operating with Air Fiber 5 transmitters improving the network's throughput by a factor of 5. Layer 2 network topology is planned to provide access to the internet at multiple locations with automatic fail over keeping the network running for the DMR repeater connections.

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HELP NEEDED: Eastern States 100 Trail Race, taking place on August 12-13, 2023.

Currently, we still have a need for volunteers at:

AS14 Barrens – 9:00 pm EDT (Sat-8/12) – 6:00 am EDT (Sun-8/13)

AS14 Barrens – 6:00 am EDT (Sun-8/13) – 3:00 pm EDT (Sun-8/12)

AS15 Hackett – 10:00 pm EDT (Sat-8/12) – 8:00 am EDT (Sun-8/13)

If any of you are available or know someone who is willing to fill these positions, please let me know as soon as possible. These Aid Stations are a priority, and filling them will greatly contribute to the overall success of the event. Additionally, we could use more volunteers at:

AS 2 Ramsey – 6:30 am EDT (Sat-8/12) – 10:00 am EDT (Sat-8/12)

AS11 Cedar Run – 4:00 pm EDT (Sat-8/12) – 7:15 am EDT (Sun-8/13)

If you have any friends or acquaintances who might be interested in joining us, please encourage them to get in touch with Travis Best, W3TMB, of Jersey Shore, PA at es100@w3tmb.com

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HELP NEEDED: Red Lion Street Fair, taking place on Sat., August 12, 2023

Amateur Radio has been again invited to help provide communications for the Red Lion Street Fair. Date is Aug. 12, 2023. Times would be from about 7 AM until 5 PM. However, with enough help we will work two shifts, morning and afternoon. As we did last year, we will setup four (4) popup tents and basically operate from those locations. As we expect to operate simplex, You will only need a 2 meter HT with 5 to 6 hours battery life (more is good). We will receive a coupon for a free lunch at the event. More info will be sent to those participating. If you are new to Amateur Radio, you will be assigned with an experienced operator, you will NOT be by yourself.

If you are available to help please respond by giving me the following information:

Your name and callsign; morning shift, afternoon shift OR can work all day.

Whether you have a EmComm Vest or need to borrow one. Would you be willing to work as NCS for your shift. Would you be willing to work as a 'shadow' with event staff.

If willing to work, Please include your 1s & last name, callsign and contact telephone # in your response.

C Jack Dellinger KC3JD, cell # (717) 891-9199 e-mail jkdelli@aol.com

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The Keystone VHF Club is running a contest among their membership to keep up activity through the summer season. Members are urged to participate in Parks On The Air (POTA). Fourteen members are currently active in this contest.

So far:

Combined score leaders (# of activations * # of activator contacts) + # of Hunter contacts

#1	K3MET – Elaine Holland	39,953
#2	N3AIR – Courtney Harding	23,867
#3	W3TWB – Tim Barefoot	12,556

Number of Hunter Contacts leaders

#1	WA1HEW – Craig Dowling	1089
#2	WA3USG – Rick Goodman	415
#3	K3MET – Elaine Holland	353

As they can be out and about at anytime, keep your ears open for them on the HF bands.

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HAMFEST Calendar (within 100 miles of Camp Hill, PA)

08/05/2023 - Reading Radio Club Hamfest, Heritage Park, Sinking Spring, PA

Website: <http://www.qsl.net/w3bn/>

08/06/2023 - 72nd Annual Berryville Hamfest, Clark County Ruritan Fairgrounds, Berryville , VA

Shenandoah Valley Amateur Radio Club,Inc Website: <http://berryvillehamfest.com>

08/13/2023 - Valley Forge Hamfest, Kimberton Fire Company Fairgrounds, Phoenixville, PA

Mid-Atlantic Amateur Radio Club (MARC) Website: <http://marc-radio.org/hamfest2.htm>

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If you have material you wish to share, submit it to the editor KR3EE.Rich@gmail.com

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