

THE CIRCULATOR

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

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The Mexican Federation of Radio Experimenters requests through its Emergency Coordinator, Zian Julio Aguirre Taboada, XE1ATZ, additional protection of the 14120 kHz frequency, 20 meter band, which they are using in emergency communications in response to damage caused by Hurricane Otis in the state of Guerrero. It should be noted that as of 00:00 UTC on October 27, the SSB/CQ World Wide contest began, all ham operators are asked to avoid these frequencies so as not to affect these communications.

Summary of frequencies for which protection has been requested:

80m band: 3690 kHz

40m band: 7060 kHz and 7095 kHz

20m band: 14120 kHz

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Changes are coming to the York County emergency Management team, both at the county level as well as the ARES/RACES group (YARS – KY3ARS). Anne Zarlenga is completing her 5 year term as EC/RO and will step down from that position by the end of 2023. A new EC/RO is being vetted for the position with the announcement forthcoming. Cody Santiago, director of the York County EOC, has announced his resignation effective 11/24, to take a similar position with Johns Hopkins in Baltimore. Cody recently received his Comm-L certification with an exercise on August 31. This was very much a surprise and we wish him well as he advances in his career path and knowledge.

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Work continues on the 53.01 repeater at Reeser's Summit. The unit is being tested for coverage and now has a 50 watt PA. It is being fed by a receiver tuned to 145.21. Because the inter-mod product at Reeser's Summit is so bad, a 6 meter receiver could not be installed at that site. The site has been prepped to use remote receivers and installation of the first remote is expected with the next 60 days.

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As part of a thorough FCC effort to enhance emergency alerting, the FCC has launched an initiative aimed at helping the public receive Wireless Emergency Alerts (WEAs) when cell towers are disabled during disasters. The FCC's Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau wants to test the viability of delivering WEA using complementary technologies that can help fill in wireless coverage gaps.

The bureau is looking to work with partners that have solutions for delivering to mobile devices that are not connected to functioning cell towers, asking those interested to submit detailed information about their solution to the FCC's Electronic Comment Filing System within 60 days, including:

Whether it would work with mobile devices currently used by consumers?

How to address issues with delivering geographically targeted alerts?

How testing should be conducted?

“During disasters, it’s critical for the public to receive Wireless Emergency Alerts but delivery is limited when cell towers are disabled or destroyed,” said Chairwoman Rosenworcel. “This initiative is the latest in our ongoing effort to strengthen the nation’s alerting systems, working closely with our government partners.”

The FCC recently adopted rules in October to enhance WEAs by making them available in 13 additional languages, supporting maps that show the location of an emergency, and providing the public with access to information about the availability of WEAs. - TESSCO NEWS

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Training and Education:

Pennsylvania State Police AuxComm classes are available in Train PA, for registration. [Home - TRAIN PA - an affiliate of the TRAIN Learning Network powered by the Public Health Foundation](#) Entering ID# 1112064 in the search box is the easiest way to search for the class. There are two offerings but only one within the eastern PA area:

November 3rd-5th, 2023 at the York County Emergency Management Agency (120 Davies Drive, York, PA 17402) 13 openings available, although registration officially closed Oct. 21.

January 20 - 21, 2024 at PSP Southwest Training Center, Greensburg, PA (28 openings)

The Auxiliary Communications (AUXCOMM) course trains amateur radio operators to serve as auxiliary communicators during all-hazards emergency operations or planned events. Since 2011, the Cybersecurity Infrastructure Security Agency Emergency Communications Division (CISA ECD) has conducted AUXCOMM courses across the nation and trained more than 3,900 students in this course.

This class is designed for those auxiliary emergency communicators and groups who volunteer to provide backup emergency radio communications support to public safety agencies. Typically, this includes amateur radio and Radio Emergency Associated Communications Team (REACT) communicators but may include other volunteer emergency communicators.

Copies of prerequisite documentation which verify applicants have met the prerequisites and are eligible to participate in the course must be submitted and reviewed at least ten (10) days prior to the course start date. Registration is not complete until all documentation has been received and verified by Holly Caudill. Admittance is limited to 30 qualified applicants. It is expected that this course will be offered in Dauphin county in early 2024.

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The South Mountain Radio Amateurs offers an Amateur Radio Course based on the ARRL’s "Ham Radio License Manual" for the Technician License class. An examination session at the conclusion of the course will also be offered at no additional charge. The FCC requires a \$35 license fee. The class sessions are held at the Public Safety Training Room, One Public Safety Drive, Carlisle, PA. Direct all questions or to sign-up, contact Don, K3ZR at K3ZR@ARRL.NET The current course started on Oct. 14th. Stay tuned for the announcement of the next session.

More information can be found on the Club website www.N3TWT.org.

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

Hamfest season is over. We hope that you got to enjoy Oktoberfest on Oct. 28th. The next scheduled event will also be sponsored by the Harrisburg Radio Amateurs Club at the Vietnam Veterans Association Building, 8000 Derry Street, Harrisburg, PA 17101. That would be Winterfest on January 13th, 2024. Public Contact: Terry E Snyder , WB3BKN, via Email: wb3bkn1@gmail.com

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Continuing Reminders

WA2BBS, Doug Stevens, Jr., is looking for stations in South Central PA counties interested in participating in the Amateur Radio Traffic system. The EPA Emergency Phone and Traffic Net meets on 3.917 MHz Daily at 6 PM local time. Local stations are needed from all of our counties to improve both delivery and origination.

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The MidAtlantic NBEMS net officially began on Sunday October 1st
Time: 10:00 AM EDT Freq: 7068 kHz (vfo) +/- qrm
MODE: THOR 22 or THOR11 if conditions are poor
TRAFFIC mode: MFSK32 or one of the new THOR modes (32,44,56)

Net Control is Ron NY3J (Bensalem PA). Come verify that fickle forty is very functional at 10 AM for EMCOMM TRAFFIC. Please prepare some drill traffic: Severe Weather Report, AMERICAN RED CROSS message, ARRL RadioGram, spreadsheets. So far 40m propagation has been superb for regional NVIS paths.

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The 145.21 group meets monthly at the Hibatchi Grill 5080 Jonestown Road, Harrisburg at Noon. This is the retail center with Dick's Sporting Goods and Hobby Lobby. Their next meeting is Nov. 30.

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Statement of Purpose for THE CIRCULATOR:

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. When someone suggested that we put these groups in touch with each other, this newsletter was started 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 should be sent to your club's contact and then they should forward it to the editor KR3EE.Rich@gmail.com for inclusion in the next CIRCULATOR. If you know of any other groups that I may include please send me their contact information. ***For this to work properly, it is imperative that each organization receiving this distribute it to their membership.***

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