



# S\*H\*O\*R\*T\*S

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## **“Successful Tower Erection at CAP Headquarters!”**

Nine years ago our excellent 65 foot, free-standing aluminum repeater tower suffered an ignominious decommissioning at Kinton Knob and was later placed in an uncertain storage status alongside the CAP building at the Bedford County Airport. On Saturday 27 September 2014, under the leadership of Director of Projects & Operations, Mark – KC3CMF the tower, like the mythological Phoenix rose from the ashes to a new and glorious life at the CAP building. Reduced slightly in height to 57 ft to comply with local FAA regulations, the new tower was skillfully repaired by WB3JEK & KA3UDR and erected by a team of crack professionals as seen in the documented photos below.



**WB3JEK makes highly critical base adjustments.**

Patti, KC3DNA assisted the project and Sharon Burtnett provided the excellent photography. It must be mentioned that these ladies furnished excellent morning donuts, which the work crew swiftly devoured. If these provisions weren't provided, grumblings and a work slow down of major proportions would have occurred.

The better part of the afternoon was spent assembling the tower sections, installing a dipole outrigger and making several round trips to hardware stores for additional parts.



**KC3CMI -KA3UDR-KC3CMF-KC3BTA-KC3BTB & WB3JEK**

Kevin, KC3BTC, of the CAP, using skills honed during his years on the farm gently lifted the tower to an upright position with an enormous industrial-strength front end loader. Kevin observed with some trepidation as K3QNT countered the weight on the other side of the structure with his Jeep fastened to a guy lanyard staged on the other side of the fence. This precise operation used split-second timing and was coordinated by using the club's simplex frequency on 146.580. As the tower reached its 000 degree position, WB3JEK slammed the securing bolt home, which created a rousing cheer among the observing crowd.





**KC3BTC – WB3JEK - K3QNT**



**Success at CAP Building!**





### **Winning Tower Team**

**Lloyd – K3QNT, Mark- KC3CMF, Steve - KA3UDR,  
Kenny- WB3JEK, Bill-KC3BTA, Robert-KC3CMI, Kevin-KC3BTC  
Dylan, KC3BTB**

**Not Shown: Patti-KC3DNA & Sharon Burtnett**

After the tower was secured, Robert, KC3CMI went aloft and made all the necessary adjustments to the antennas. Installed was the CAP VHF vertical and the K3QNT HF Inverted “V” dipole cut to their classified 65 meter net frequency. To participate in their weekly net, the CAP uses an exceptional commercial Motorola Micom-2E, ALE\*\* capable 150 watt HF transceiver.

CMI also mounted a special WiFi array to enable the CAP office use of the network at the airport. The antenna were assembled and tested by KA3UDR and K3QNT. New coax was installed throughout. Later that week, WB3JEK, KA3UDR, KC3BTC and K3QNT returned to the site to install connectors and test each of the radios. From all reports, everything is working up to spec. BCARS plans to share the HF dipole through the use of an antenna tuner and make this station our back-up tactical HF station in the event of a declared call up.

**\*\* "ALE" is Automatic Link Establishment**

## **Hams, Hams and More Hams!**

Thanks to KA3UDR and his exceptional team of VECs, the region has seven new and upgraded hams.

Congratulations to:

**Robert Young, KC3CMI** upgraded to General Class

**Ray Hunt, KC3CME** Cumberland, MD upgraded to General Class

**Dylan Lcomb, KC3BTB** upgraded to Amateur Extra Class

**Patti Leibfried, KC3DNA** of Bedford Springs Licensed to Technician Class

**Corey Ritchey, KC3DMY** Claysburg Licensed to Technician Class

**Steve Stiffler, KC3DNB** Everett Licensed to Technician Class

**Rich Reimer, KC3DMZ** Holidaysburg Licensed to Technician Class

## **“A What Net?”**

With the welcome addition of recently licensed, Patti, KC3DNA, the female membership of BCARS is rising exponentially. Rumors are now circulating there may be a new “Chick Net” appearing on our repeater system. The traditional and customary male membership of the club has been observing this change with some apprehension. Stay tuned.....

Di Dah Di Dah Dit

K3QNT -

If you have news for the next issue of **S\*H\*O\*R\*T\*S**, contact [k3qnt@arrl.net](mailto:k3qnt@arrl.net).