



SHORTS

The Bulletin of the Bedford County Amateur Radio Society

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BCARS ARES-RACES assists BIKE Event in Bedford and Somerset Counties

“BIKE - BEDFORD COUNTY,” the Allegheny Ascent, included riders from: *The Covered Bridge Cycling Tour, Allegheny Ascent Ride and the Lakeshore Family Quest.* The ride started on Saturday 15 August 2015 and was organized by the Bedford County Chamber of Commerce, The ARES-RACES division of BCARS provide full communications assistance for the entire 60+ mile route that ranged from a start line at Shawnee State Park and ran South to the hills surrounding Hyndman, up and over to New Baltimore in Somerset County and wound around over several mountain roads back to Route 30 and finally returning to Schellsburg. The ARES-RACES effort was lead by our illustrious President, Kenny – WB3JEK and assisted by an impressive representation from the club membership, including – Joe – AB3LP, Steve -KA3UDR, John – KB3DFZ,

Glen – KB3VZC, Cindy – KC3BSZ, Mark – KC3CMF, Jeff _KA3PNL, Lloyd – K3QNT, Robert- KC3CMI, Patti- KC3DNA, Steve – KC3DNB, Bill – KC3EXQ, Robin – KC3EXR, George – KC3EXT, Josiah – KC3EXU, Steve – KE3ZT & Bernie – W3DRW.



Mapping out the Route

Despite some terrain challenges and some disappointing coverage of our APRS equipped units, the event went off without a hitch. According to our prepared ICS-205, the group used two repeaters: 145.490 BCARS repeater in Bedford County and 145.270 for coverage in and around Hyndman.



“Eyeeeeee don't know!”

Our crack communications team ended the days' activities by enjoying some pizza at the Shawnee Park and going over how next year could be improved. Some of the discussion points included:

1. Better circuit discipline on the repeaters to avoid doubling and unnecessary comments.
2. Adding some Digipeaters to increase APRS coverage
3. A much better map for identifying roads used in the route and specific rest stops.
4. More operators needed because of the length of the route,
5. Earlier coordination with race officials to better understand their expectations.
6. Possibly an operator stationed inside the SAG wagon for end of race information.



Road Guard Unit on Route 30 West @ New Baltimore Road

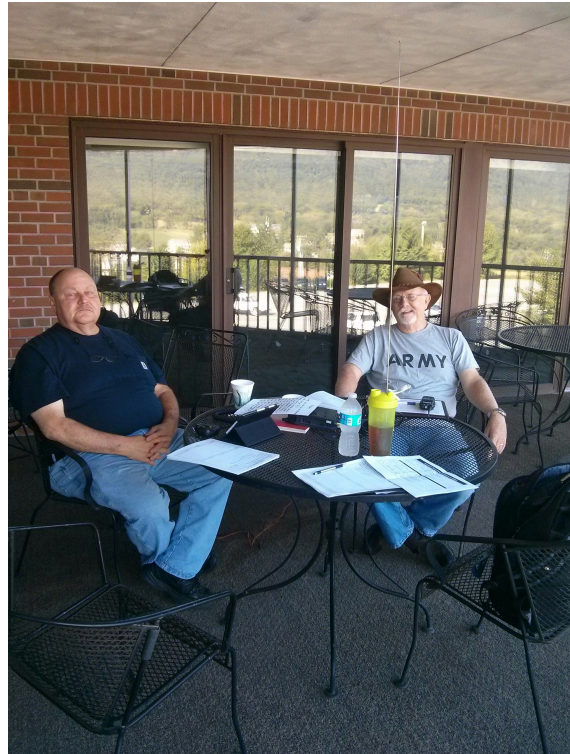


Hyndman Tower of Power

UPMC – Bedford Communications Drill- Huge Success!

With planning beginning back in April of 2015, the ARES-RACES branch of BCARS executed a flawless communications drill on Saturday 22 August 2015. Under a MSEL based scenario, UPMC Bedford was to assist other UPMC Hospitals put on full “Divert” due to a fictitious terrorist attack on an AMTRAK train in the Huntingdon area. Beth Hulihan, RN and Operations Director of the hospital specifically requested the assistance of the ARES-RACES operators. Nine members participated: Patti- KC3DNA, Steve- KE3ZT, Lloyd- K3QNT, Jay – K3SCM, Mac- KC3BTA, Mark- KC3CMF, Robin- KC3EXR, Kenny – WB3JEK and Keith- KC3AFO.

Thanks to the professional connections of Robin Hogenmiller, RN - KC3EXR, our crew was warmly greeted at the hospital. Mark Leibfreid and Mac McNamara acted as site operators.



KC3CMF & KC3BTA at UPMC

Steve – KC3ZT was in charge of receiving and logging incoming traffic at K3NQT in the Bedford County EOC.



KE3ZT at work in the EOC



Robin -KC3EXR at UPMC Bedford

Even more New Hams!

At the recent VE Testing Session held at the Bedford County Christian Church, two successes emerged. Bill Stanfield - **KC3EXQ** nailed his General Class license and Ronald Wolfe achieved his Technician Class license, **KC3FJN** on the first attempt. Congratulations to KC3CMF our VE coordinator for a perfect score!

*Any news you have for an
upcoming issue of S*H*O*RTS,
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