



NEWSLETTER



AUGUST 2026

Clearfield County SKYWARN Net - Saturday August 22 2026

On Saturday August 22nd Clearfield County was once again visited by severe thunderstorms. At about 8:05PM the Clearfield County SKYWARN Team began tracking a severe thunderstorm as it passed through Clearfield County.

The National Weather Service had at that point had multiple active warnings. A Severe Thunderstorm Warnings, Flash Flood Warnings and a Tornado Warning. The Tornado Warning was issued for the Houtzdale and Osceola Mills area and was based on radar observation of rotational formations.

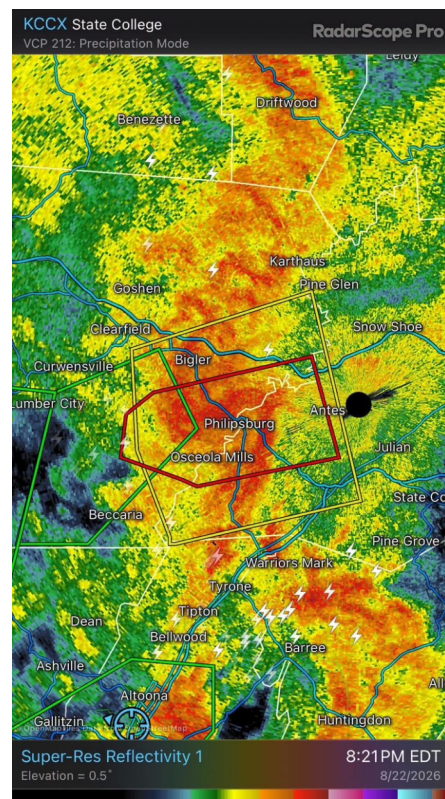
The Clearfield County SKYWARN net was established on the 147.255 W3CPA repeater at Rockton PA. This repeater is funded by the Clearfield County Department of Emergency Services and from the Rockton Mountain location and has substantial coverage within Clearfield County as well as

neighboring counties.

While none of our participating net stations were in a position to observe or report it, after the storm moved through the county we we made aware that a tornado had indeed briefly occurred in Madera. Clearfield County Department of Emergency Services reported damage to at least two homes and multiple trees we downed.

The following stations participated in our SKYWARN Net: Brian KD3AYB, Rich N3RBJ, Bob KC3KVS,

 NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION Preliminary Damage Survey Results	
Madera - Clearfield County, PA	
Date	August 22, 2026
Time (Local)	7:55 to 7:57 PM EDT
EF Rating	EF-1
Est. Peak Winds	90 mph
Path Length	1 mile
Max Width	150 yards
Injuries/Deaths	0 injuries, 0 deaths



Carmine K3CWP, Scott W3EOD (via relay from GMRS), WRYL73 (via relay from GMRS), Steve KC3ZAM and myself John N3SPW. Also contributing to the reports were Allen K3HOC and Mike WB3EQW who both were in contact with text

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CLEARFILED COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB www.clearfieldcountyarcc.net

CCARC Officers

President: Tim Lumadue N3PUL
Vice President: Scott Rummings W3EOD
Secretary: John Szwarc N3SPW
Treasurer: Ed Kumm KC3ZAL

CCARC Board of Directors

Director: Harvey Haag N3RTK (Exp. 12/31/2026)
Director: Rich Brnik N3RBJ (Exp. 12/31/2027)
Director: Mike Errigo WB3EQW (Exp. 12/31/2028)

SKYWARN

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Multiple trees were damaged from the August 22nd tornado. Shown is one of those trees in Madera. Photo provided by Clearfield County Department of Emergency Services.

messages.

By 8:47 PM the storm had moved off the Eastern edge of Clearfield County, and our SKYWARN net stood down. Thankfully there was only minimal property damage from this storm. The Clearfield County Department of Emergency Services has once again expressed their gratitude for the time and commitment our team has committed to SKYWARN program. Everyone involved should be proud to have been a part of this service to the local community.



Clearfield County Department of Emergency Services reported that two homes in Madera suffered roof damage. Pictured is one of those homes shortly after the storm. Photo provided by Clearfield County Department of Emergency Services

Sam W3SLM/SK

We were informed that Clearfield area amateur radio operator Sam McGhee W3SLM passed away on August 8th. Many of us will recall his former call sign KA3USM.

Sam was not just a regular on the Rockton Mountain repeater. He was almost always monitoring the frequency. And very frequently in conversation with somebody on the repeater. If you keyed up the repeater looking for someone to talk to, Sam was happy to have a conversation. Sam was disabled and wasn't able to get out of the house very often. For many years amateur radio was Sam's window into the



world. I recall him telling me about how his 2 meter radio was mounted to the bottom of the coffee table in his living room. Only an arms reach to answer someone on the repeater.

Sam's family held a celebration of

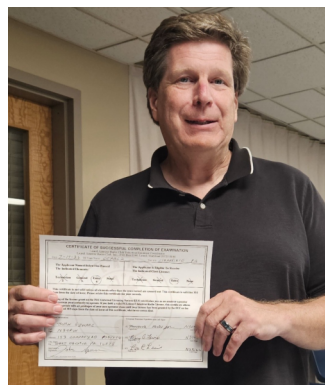
life event at the River's Landing Event Center in Clearfield. August 22 from 12noon to 3pm. His obituary can be found here: <https://www.legacy.com/us/obituaries/gantdaily/name/samuel-mcghee-obituary?pid=212018829>

July 19th VE Exam Session

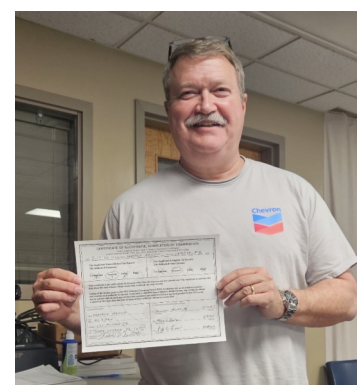
On Friday July 19th the Clearfield County Amateur Radio Club VE Testing Team held an exam session at the Clearfield County Department of Emergency Services building in Clearfield. This testing session is part of the club's ongoing effort to provide a local option for individuals to either become licensed

with their Technician Class exam, or upgrade their licenses with either a General Class or Extra Class exam.

The exam team for the evening was Rich N3RBJ, Mary N3UDN and Lee N3NWL. Upgrading to General Class was Fran KC3JRV and upgrading to Extra Class was John N3SPW.



John N3SPW

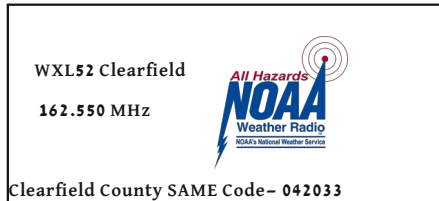


Fran KC3JRV

Rockton GMRS Net

Notice: The Rockton 650 GMRS nets that are normally held on the fourth Wednesday of each month have been suspended until further notice due to low participation within the repeater's main coverage area (e.g. Clearfield/ DuBois). Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Bob Snyder WRDT431



CALENDAR ITEMS

•CCARC Weekly Net.

Tuesdays at 8 PM on the 147.255+ repeater. PL Tone 173.8 Hz. All licensed amateur radio operators are welcome to check-in.

•CCARC Radio Nights.

2nd Thursday of each month, 7 PM at Clearfield County EMA Building, 911 Leonard St., Clearfield.

•CCARC Business Meeting.

4th Thursday of each month, 7 PM at Clearfield County EMA Building, 911 Leonard St., Clearfield.

CCARC Repeaters

W3CPA 147.255+, PL 173.8 Hz

Rockton Mountain

This is CCARC's primary repeater and is sponsored by the Clearfield County Emergency Management Agency.

W3CPA 444.625+ DMR

Rockton Mountain

Repeater DMR ID: 314287. This repeater provide wide-area DMR coverage for Clearfield County and the surrounding regions.

WRDV964 462.650+, PL 141.3 Hz

Rockton Mountain

GMRS service repeater is co-located at the top of Rockton Mountain with the W3CPA 147.255 repeater.

W3CPA 145.370+ D-STAR, P25, DMR, FM

Wallaceton

Off-air/Under Construction.

Announcements will be made when it becomes active.



ARES® Resources

• ARES® Manual [PDF]

<http://www.arrl.org/files/file/Public%20Service/ARES/ARESmanual2015.pdf>

• ARES® Field Resources Manual [PDF]

http://www.arrl.org/files/file/ARES_FR_Manual.pdf

• ARES® Task Book [Fillable PDF]

http://www.arrl.org/files/file/Public%20Service/ARES/ARRL-ARES-FILLABLE-TRAINING-TASK-BOOK-V2_1_1.pdf

• ARES® Plan [PDF]

<http://www.arrl.org/ares-plan>

• Emergency Communications Training

<https://www.arrl.org/emergency-communications-training>

Clearfield County WinLink Nodes

WinLink Gateway W3CPA-10

Clearfield

Grid Square: FN01SB

Frequency: 440.950 MHz. Modes

supported: Packet, Packet 1200, VARAFM and VARAFM WIDE

WinLink Gateway W3CPA-11

West Decatur

Grid Square: FN00UW

Frequency: 440.975 Mhz. Modes

supported: Packet, Packet 1200, VARAFM and VARAFM WIDE

WinLink Gateway W3CPA-12

Houtzdale

Grid Square: FN00TT

Off air/Under Construction.

Frequency: 441.000 Mhz. Modes

supported: Packet, Packet 1200, VARAFM and VARAFM WIDE

WinLink Gateway W3CPA-13

DuBois

Grid Square: FN01PD

Off air/Under Construction Grid Square:

FN00UW

Frequency: 441.025 Mhz. Modes

supported: Packet, Packet 1200, VARAFM and VARAFM WIDE

2026 VE Testing

The 2026 schedule for VE Testing here in Clearfield County has been set. All examinations, unless otherwise noted, will be administered at the Clearfield County EOC Building, 911 Leonard Street, Clearfield, in the Training Room at 7 PM. Reservations are appreciated but not required. Your reservations allows the VE Team to ensure they have the appropriate test materials on hand for the class of license you wish to sit for. To make a reservation please contact Rich Brnik N3RBJ at rich.brnik@gmail.com or 814-571-5866.

The remaining 2026 Testing Schedule is as follows:

- October 16, 2026

In addition to the above dates, there will also be a testing session at the Central PA Hamfest:

- September 13, 2026

CCARC Hamfest Plans

The second annual Central PA Hamfest, presented by the Clearfield County Amateur Radio Club, is set to take place on Sunday September 13th 2026. Last year's hamfest attracted a little over 100 attendees from across Central and Western Pennsylvania. We're looking to our 2026 event to put into place fixes for the lessons learned from last year.

One change for the 2026 hamfest is the building used at the fairgrounds. This year we will be using the smaller Community Building at the Eastern side of the fairgrounds race track. We had an abundance of inside space last year. This smaller building will condense our inside table spaces into a more

compact footprint while still having enough room for everything.

Table reservations are slowly trickling in for the 2026 Central PA Hamfest. If you happen to know of anyone who would like to sell a few items from their hamshack, please suggest to them that they participate in the 2026 Central PA Hamfest.

Link to hamfest Flyer: https://clearfieldcountyarcc.net/wp-content/uploads/2026/02/hamfest_flyer_2026_full_page.pdf

Link to Vendor Flyer: <https://clearfieldcountyarcc.net/wp-content/uploads/2026/02/2026-Central-Pennsylvania-Hamfest-Table-Reservation-form.pdf>

CCARC Summer Picnic

The Clearfield County Amateur Radio Club's picnic was held on Saturday August 15th at Harvey and Janet's camp near Penfield. If you missed it, you missed a good time. There was good food. Lots of it. And good conversations to go along with the food. Some hiked in the woods. Some did a little target practice. Some just sat on the porch and enjoyed the afternoon.

The camp is named "Hutten im Wald", which is German for "Cabin

in the Woods", is located just outside Penfield in Clearfield County.

Everyone was asked to bring a covered dish to share as well as the beverages or drinks of your choice. The club provided the hot dogs, hamburgers and rolls for the event.

There were a total of ten in attendance. So a nice crowd. It really was a good time. A special thank you to Harvey and Janet for hosting this event.



Estate Sale

Following the passing of John NA2BA in September 2025, Tim N3PUL has been enlisted by John's widow to help liquidate John's amateur radio equipment. Below is an inventory of the available gear. Photos provided by Tim are to the right and below. Tim reports that all reasonable offers will be considered. For further information please contact Tim N3PUL at tllumadue176@gmail.com or (814) 761-5002.

- MFJ-989D Tuner
- Samlex SEC1235 power supply
- Yaesu FP-1023 power supply
- Comet CHA-250HD HF vertical
- VHF/UHF beam
- What is believed to be a UHF handheld beam possibly for satellite use.
- MFJ-259D HF/VHF antenna analyzer
- Icom 7300 HF radio 160-6M
- Also coax cables, antenna connectors and a homemade J pole.

**Plenty of Free
Parking**

**Come and Learn
about Amateur
Radio**



**RV Camping
Available \$38
Charged By
Chemung County**

2026 Elmira HAMFEST

Saturday September 26th

**Flea market gate opens 6.00am Vendor building open 8.00am
Admission ticket includes 1 free Flea Market spot.**

**Chemung County Fairgrounds
Grand Central Ave Horseheads
NY 14845**

Major Door Prizes throughout the Day

**Get your tickets early and save
\$8 in advance / \$10 at gate**

**Food on site, Huge Flea Market, Demonstrations,
50/50 Raffle, Bunny Hunt (Hidden transmitter)
FCC Exams VE Testing 10.00am (Walk ins welcome)**



More information visit www.arasth3.org

Antenna Noise Blanker NR-1

Submitted by Kostas SV3ORA

Hello, I am Kostas, SV3ORA, a radio amateur from Greece and the designer of the NR-1 Antenna Noise Blanker.

The NR-1 is a noise blanker that operates directly on the antenna signal. It can significantly reduce strong impulse noise, such as power-line interference, without requiring the separate noise antenna typically



used by QRM eliminators.

You can find the project here: <http://grp.gr/nr1/>

Since many radio amateurs suffer from impulse-type interference, I wonder if the NR-1 might be of interest to your members. Would you be willing to mention it to them, include a short announcement in your club newsletter, or suggest another appropriate way of letting your

members know about it?

There are several demonstrations and reports from radio amateurs around the world who are already using the NR-1:

YouTube demonstrations:

https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL0KwxiKZqJ1TzQpsc3voh5CR1c30WLD_

NR-1 manual:

http://grp.gr/nr1/sv3ora_NR-1_Antenna_Noise_Blanter_manual_EN.pdf

The main NR-1 page also contains user reviews, magazine publications and additional technical information.

For those interested in purchasing a unit, the NR-1 is available from Elisys in Greece, with worldwide shipping: <https://shop.elisys.gr/products/nr1/>



Nets of Interest

Western PA Phone Traffic Net

Daily at 5PM on 3.983 MHz

Treasure Lake Sportmans

Mondays 8PM on 442.525+ PL 173.8 Hz

Mondays 8:05PM on 445.525 Mhz Simplex

Mondays 8:10PM on 146.457 MHz Simplex

Mondays 8:15PM on 147.225+ PL 173.8 Hz

WPA D-STAR Net

Mondays at 9PM on D-STAR reflector REF 63C.

Clearfield County ARC Net

Tuesdays 8 PM on 147.255+ PL 173.8 Hz

WPA Section DMR Net

Wednesdays 7:30PM on DMR talk group 31422 WPA

WPA ARES Voice Net

Saturdays 9AM on 3.983 MHz LSB.

PARA Weekly Net

Saturdays 9PM on 146.430+1 MHz, PL 173.8 Hz

PA NBEMS Net

Sundays at 7:30AM on 3583MHz USB / 1500 Hz Waterfall, using THOR 22.

PEMA ACS Statewide Net

Sundays at 8AM on 3.9935 MHz

PEMA ACS Western PA Area Net

Sundays at 9AM on 39905 MHz.

Quad County FM Net

Sundays 7PM on 147.315+ PL 173.8Hz

Local EmComm Groups and Where to Find Them

Clearfield County EmComm Simplex Frequency: 146.55 MHz

Clearfield County ACS/RACES

W3CPA - Clearfield

147.255+, PL 173.8 Hz

PARA EmComm Team

W3PHB - Philipsburg

146.430+1MHz, PL 173.8Hz

Treasure Lake EmComm Team

K3JRW - Treasure Lake

442.525+, PL 173.8 Hz

Jefferson Co ARES/ACS/RACES

KB3FPN - Reynoldsville

146.865-, PL 173.8 Hz

Centre Co ARES/ACS/RACES

W3GA - Rattlesnake Mtn

146.760-, PL 146.2 Hz

Blair Co ARES/ACS/RACES

W3QW - Altoona

146.820-, PL 123.0 Hz