

K3IR NEWS

A publication of the Southern PA Amateur Radio Club

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Venue Change for Winter Meetings

Membership meetings for January, February and March have been moved to the Lancaster County Public Safety Training Center at 101 Champ Blvd, Manheim, use the Salunga exit off PA 283. All other meetings - Builders Group, Board of Directors, and Elmer Night, still meet at the club site

Membership Renewal

Dues payments for 2020 can now be paid online through PayPal. If you do pay using PayPal please take the time to also fill out the on line application. Even if you don't have any changes, filling out the application reduces the chance of your renewal being missed.

Operating Building

Most of you are aware that a few years back we replaced the old "tin can" building with a new shack. This new building measures 34 feet by 14 feet, is insulated, drywalled and has a drop ceiling. There are two operating positions, one with a Kenwood TS-570 and an Ameritron sold state amplifier. Also installed at that position is a Yaesu 7900 on 2 meters and 70 cm plus an ICOM IC-38A on 220 MHz. The other position sports a TenTec Orion and an ICOM IC 910 for multi mode operation on 144, 432, and 1296 MHz. There is additional desk space available to those who wish to bring their own rig to the site for temporary use.

There is a wide selection of antennas available for most of the bands between 160 meters and 70 cm but there is still a lot to do. Plans are to have VHF and UHF beams installed by spring with AZ/EL rotor system for satellite and terrestrial use.

Repeater Building

A few dedicated and hard working members have been busy rehabilitating the repeater building. The old generator room has been emptied and the walls cleaned in preparation for a coat of Dry Lock paint. Another item is to upgrade the environmental control system.

Taj Mapotty

The old porta potty is gone and replaced with a new accessible, flushing unit. It has been decorated with wall art and furnishings. Sorry, still not heated.



Safety & Security Systems

A multi camera video system, along with a high capacity video recorder, has been installed. We have cameras in the operating building and repeater building plus two outside cameras. There is still one exterior camera to be installed. There is a possibility of doing online broadcasts of meetings. In addition, more exterior lighting has been installed to provide better lighting of the parking lot.

The CPIN camera still functions as before. The IP address is <http://173.163.115.137:7080/>. The user name is CPIN and the password is CPIN. This system gives access to not only our site but also other cameras in the network. This system is maintained by the Central PA Repeater Association. We provide a link between Cornwall Mountain and Red Lion.

Food Court

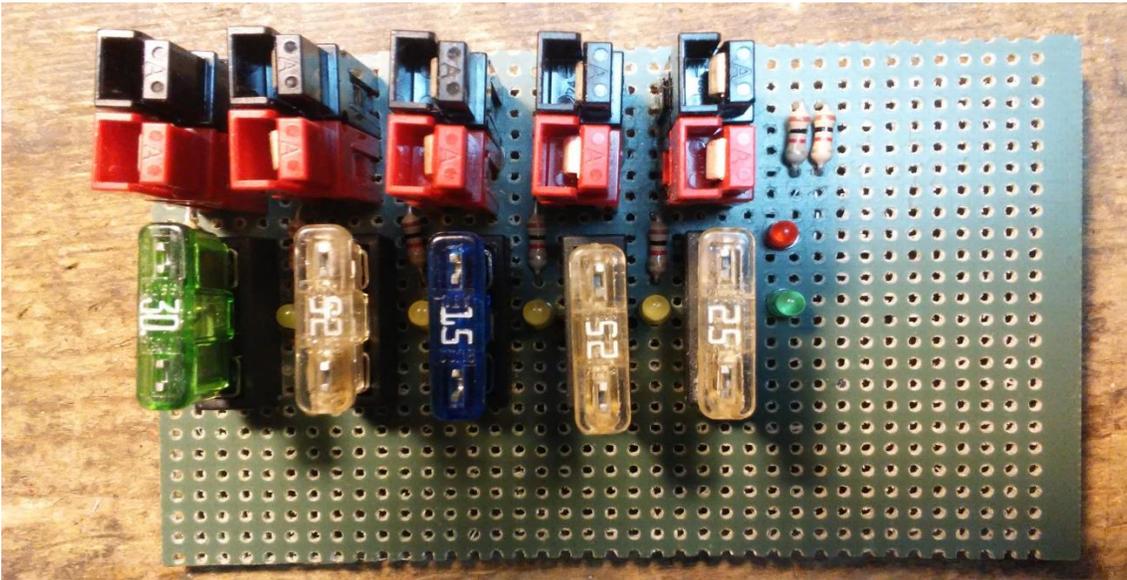
The old credenza that served us well for many years as a storage place for snacks and coffee has left the building. Thanks to the hard work of Tom and Larry we now have a very nice set of cabinets and countertop for snacks, coffee, and the microwave. They also moved the refrigerator from the floor to the counter, making it much easier for us old guys to get to the soda and water supply.

Ham Club Online

The Board of Directors is experimenting with an online service called Ham Club Online. You should have received an email concerning this. Peg and Mark are in the process of entering the club roster into the system. Once that happens you should receive a welcome email with a request that you go to the website to complete your registration. The service is free for now. It is still in the development stages so we are acting as a kind of test bed. More info coming.

Builder's Group

The Builder's Group meets on the first Tuesday of the month. In February we will start working on a power distribution panel. You may have seen these advertised in QST or online from various suppliers. The prices run about 50 to 70 dollars. Ham Radio Workbench was marketing a circuit board for an improved version but stopped offering the board. In the spirit of Ham Radio I designed a replacement board made out of perf board. A proffof concept version is shown below. This is not the final configuration. The board size and borders will be modified.



The green LED indicates that power is applied to the board. The red LED lights if reverse polarity is being supplied to the board. The amber LEDs next to the fuses lights if that fuse is open. Costs is expected to be around \$20 including extra Power Pole connectors.