



# COMMILINK

The Official Monthly Newsletter of the  
California Public-Safety Radio Association

## January 2011 - Ontario

This month's meeting will be held on Thursday, January 20, 2011 at the Ontario Police Department Community Room, 2500 S. Archibald Ave., Ontario CA 91761 (909) 395-2000  
San Bernardino County Thomas Bros 642-J5

**C**PRA serves the people who manage, operate, maintain and supply the communications systems used to safeguard the lives and property of citizens everywhere. Among the CPRA ranks there are over 500 professionals representing the Police, Fire, EMS, Forestry, Highway and Conservation services. CPRA provides many opportunities to grow professionally, share your ideas, upgrade your skills and network with your colleagues.

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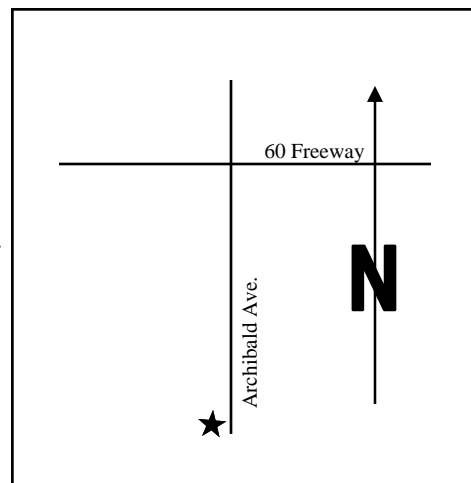
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**DIRECTIONS:** From CA-60 Freeway

- ◆ Exit 60 Freeway on Archibald Ave.
- ◆ Go South on Archibald Ave.
- ◆ Go to first light at Police St and turn right.
- ◆ Police Station on West side of street.



**Meeting Host:** Mike Rowles County of San Bernardino

**Early Bird Sponsor:** Jack Daniel The Jack Daniel Company

**Agenda:**

0800 - 0950	Executive Committee Meeting
6	1000 - 1055 General Meeting
	1100 - 1200 Program: "Riverside County PSEC Project"
	Presenter: Dan Nila, PSEC Program Manager, Riverside County
7	1200 Lunch

Frequency Coordination Immediately Following Lunch

**PRESIDENT'S PODIUM**  
**KEN SHEAREN**

**H**appy New Year to all of CPRA members! On behalf of the CPRA Executive Committee we wish you, your families and your respective organizations the best for 2011, which promises to be an exciting year for us. I wish to thank outgoing President and new CPRA Director Gary Poon and the County of Los Angeles for hosting of the December meeting at Luminaries Restaurant in Monterey Park. It was a great time and enjoyed by many.

At our December meeting Gary presented a Presidential Service awards to Ernest Gallo, Chick Taylor, Adriana Spirescu, Jack Daniel and Mike Rowles. These people have put forth extraordinary efforts on behalf of our chapter. In addition Gary presented the Chapter Service awards to Robert Stoffel for his outstanding hosting duties at the Telecom banquet and 75<sup>th</sup> celebration, Ray Grimes for his ongoing efforts with the 800 rebanding processes and assistance with historical display at the 75<sup>th</sup> celebration and to Jim Donovan, Tim Noldan, Todd Paulick, Eldwin Lajom, Malvin Longbrake and Sam Maynard and Mark Rettberg from OC Comm. Div for their efforts on preparing and setting up the 75<sup>th</sup> luncheon at Irvine Park. Join me in congratulating and recognizing these people for their outstanding efforts and contributions to our chapter.

I am honored to be working with and welcome the following people on our 2011 Executive Committee; Adriana Spirescu – President-Elect, Tim Trager – Vice-President, Mike Rowles – Secretary, Treasure – John Wright, Don Miller Sgt-at-Arms, Jim Acosta - Executive Council Delegate and Jack Daniel - CPRA Commercial Advisor. I also wish to acknowledge those who continue to serve on several of our long standing committees; Dave Buchanan, Gary Gray, Richard Granado, John Sarkissian, Joe Parrino, Anna Holmes, Courtney Allison, Ron Wong and Larry Weber, along with our Directors Ken Mann, Robert Uribe, and Gary Poon. Their input and guidance is truly a contributing factor to our chapter's success.

I am very grateful for Gary Poon's assistance and leadership during the past year. The 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration was very successful and the attendance was excellent. Again showing the strong support CPRA fosters among its members and commercial associates. CPRA is largely successful because of this aspect alone. Gary Poon was also successful in getting the Western States Regional Conference (WRC) to Ontario in 2011, Even though this task was taken on with short notice, Ken Mann along with Jack Daniel and the WRC conference committee continues to make significant progress. Check the CPRA web site for more information and be sure to take advantage of the significant discounts for signing up early. Help us make this one of the most successful regional conferences by participating in this 3 day event with us. CPRA has been selected as the host Chapter for the 2013 National APCO Conference to be held in Anaheim as well.

**CommLink Reminder**

The CommLink is published on a quarterly basis.  
The CommLink will be printed and mailed out in January, April, July and October.  
The rest of the months you will receive a half page postcard giving you meeting information. You can download the monthly CommLink from the website.

**MINUTES  
CHAPTER MEETING  
DECEMBER 09, 2010  
LUMINARIAS RESTAURANT  
MONTEREY PARK, CA**

**SUMMARY**

**Meeting Host:** Gary Poon, County of Los Angeles  
**Early Bird Sponsor:** Not applicable for this meeting  
**Secretary's Report:** Minutes for the November meeting are posted on the CPRA web site  
**Treasurer's Report:** See comments  
**Program:** CPRA Chapter Officer Installation and "Year in Review"  
**Presenters:** CPRA Executive Committee  
**Attendance:** 36

**AGENDA**

**Greeting – Gary Poon.** President Gary opened the chapter meeting at 10:30 a.m. He welcomed everyone to the December CPRA meeting. Mike Rowles led the Pledge of Allegiance. Gary thanked everyone for attending the CPRA Chapter Officer Installation Luncheon.

**Introductions - All.** New members were welcomed. Everyone in attendance was asked to introduce themselves.

**Membership Report – Ken Shearen.** Ken reported that we have 471 members with five new members joining the chapter. They include: Jeffrey Logan (Comm Supervisor), Melinda Valentini (Shift Supervisor), Woody James (IT Specialist), and Freddy Bear (IT Specialist) all from North County Dispatch, Rancho Santa Fe, CA. Also Battalion Chief Jose Valbuena from OC Fire Authority is a new member. Ken noted that he had sent welcome letters to each of the new members.

**Meeting Program Review – Adriana Spirescue.** Adriana reviewed the upcoming schedule for meetings in 2011. Preliminary details were discussed. It was noted that details for the 2011 schedules will be on the website. President Gary commented that the next meeting will be held January 20, 2011 at the Ontario PD in Ontario.

**Treasurer's Report – John Wright.**

*Monthly Financial Report.* John provided a report of income and expenses for the previous month. He stated that total income for the month was \$22,030.05 and the total expenditures were \$16,872.65. Income included meeting registrations, plus WRC booth purchases. Expenses included luncheon payments, insurance renewals, WRC publicity and registration costs, and printing costs for the CommLink.

**Regional Director/Executive Council Report – Richard Granado/Jim Acosta.** It was noted that there will be an Executive Council Teleconference coming up in January. Inputs from the chapter should be submitted to Jim.

**Frequency Coordinator Updates – Gary Gray.** The following reports were provided: *CalSIEC SPA.* It was noted that the next Southern Planning Area (SPA) meeting will be held January 12, 2011 at the LA-RICS offices. There will be a call in conference call number available.

*FCC Announcements.* Gary provided information about upcoming steps pertinent to a Narrowband environment. There were further comments by Dave Buchanan regarding contacting the FCC for seeking a narrowband waiver.

[See Minutes on Page 4]

**2011 Board of Officers**

President  
KEN SHEAREN  
South Bay Regional Communications  
Phone 310-973-1802 Ext 203

President-Elect  
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County of Orange  
Phone 714-704-7902  
Vice - President

Vice-President  
TIM TRAGER  
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Secretary  
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San Bernardino County-Network Services  
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Frequency Advisory Committee Alternate  
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Riverside Police-Fire Communications-Retired  
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Sergeant-at-Arms  
DON MILLER  
CITY OF Long Beach-Retired  
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CommLink Editor  
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Commercial Chair  
JACK DANIEL  
The Jack Daniel Co.  
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Operations Chair  
COURTNEY ALLISON  
Garden Grove Police Dept  
Phone 714-741-5819

Frequency Advisory Committee Chair  
GARY DAVID GRAY  
Orange County Communications - Retired  
Phone Please Contact:

Frequency Advisory Committee Co-Chair  
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San Bernardino County - Retired  
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Director  
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Director  
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City of Long Beach - 562-570-4801

Webmaster  
ERNEST GALLO  
City of Torrance - 310-618-2885  
CPRA Phone - Fax 213-291-9411

[Minutes from page 3]

*700 MHz Update.* Dave Buchanan commented about responses to a recent public notice. He indicated that the 700 MHz Planning Committee for Region 5 submitted inputs.

*800 MHz Update.* Jim Donovan noted there were not specific comments to report.

*800 Rebanding and Supplementary Comments – Ray Grimes.* Please see attached notes.

**C & B Updates – Gary Gray.** Gary brought to the floor proposed updates to the CPRA Constitution & Bylaws, Article II, Sections 9 and 11. The changes provide wording corrections. A motion was made and seconded to adopt the changes. Motion carried.

**Chapter Commercial Advisory Member – Jack Daniel.** Jack invited each of the Commercial Members in attendance to do a self introduction and give a brief comment about their respective products and services.

*Western Region Conference Booth Reservations.* Jack encouraged all commercials to reserve booths promptly.

**2011 WRC – Ken Mann.** It was noted that the APCO Western Regional Conference (WRC) as hosted by CPRA will be Feb 7 – 9, 2011. The Ontario Convention Center will be the location for the conference. Ken commented about the variety of programs. Many details are on the WRC website at [www.cpra.org/2011apcowrc.htm](http://www.cpra.org/2011apcowrc.htm).

#### **CPRA Officer Installation.**

*Officer Installation.* Gary Gray administered the Oath of Office to the 2011 CPRA Executive Committee Officers on behalf of CPRA, the southern California chapter of the Association of Public-Safety Communications Officials-International (APCO). Each officer, as identified below, acknowledged acceptance of his/her respective duties and responsibilities by stating “I do.”

#### *2011 CPRA Officers*

President – Ken Shearen

President-Elect – Adriana Spirescu

Vice-President – Tim Trager

Executive Council Delegate – Jim Acosta

Sergeant-at-Arms – Don Miller

Treasurer – John Wright

Secretary – Mike Rowles

**Presidential Service & Chapter Support Service Awards – Gary Poon.** Gary presented a series of Presidential Service Awards. Gary recognized Chuck Taylor for his advice, support, and behind the scenes work for the chapter; Ernest Gallo for his excellent and ongoing service as web master; Jack Daniel for his development of a strong commercial committee and his creative work with logos for the chapter; Adriana Spirescu for her superb support for the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration plus her contributions of photographic excellence; and Mike Rowles for his secretarial support.

**Chapter Support Service Awards – Gary Poon.** Gary also presented Chapter Support Service Awards as follows:

*Robert Stoffel* – For his service to the chapter as the Master of Ceremonies at the 2010 Telecommunicator Awards Banquet. Robert also served as the MC at the CPRA 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration.

*Ray Grimes* – For serving as the lead information source regarding the 800 MHz Rebanding process for Region 5. Ray was also recognized for presenting a remarkable collection of vintage radio equipment at the CPRA 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration.

*Members of the Radio & Microwave Unit, Orange County Sheriff's Communications & Technology Division.* This team was recognized for planning, preparing, and presenting a superb BBQ luncheon at the CPRA 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration. Members of the team included: Jim Donovan, Tim Noldan, Todd Paulick, and Eldwin Lajom (Cooks); Malvin Longbrake and Sam Maynard (Set Up); and Mark Rettberg (Parking).

**Outgoing President Comments – Gary Poon.** Gary thanked everyone for their support and participation in the 2010 chapter events. He shared that serving as CPRA President was a very important event in his life, and that he looked forward to continuing an active role as a Director.

**Presentation of the Gavel – Gary Poon.** Gary introduced Ken S. who will serve as the CPRA President for 2011. Gary presented him with the official gavel for use in the upcoming year. Thus the transfer of responsibilities was duly accomplished.

**Incoming President Comments – Ken Shearen.** Ken commented that he was honored to serve as the CPRA President. He noted that he looked forward to working with the rest of the Executive Committee and all the chapter members to move forward with a very successful 2011.

[See Minutes on Page 5]

[Minutes from page 4]

**CPRA in Review – Adriana Spirescu.** Adriana presented an entertaining video show of CPRA historic and current photographs put to music. There was emphasis on the CPRA 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration held in September. President Ken expressed sincere thanks to Adriana for the program.

**Meeting Adjourned.** Ken extended a special thanks to everyone for participating in the Officer Installation Luncheon. The meeting was adjourned at 11:55 a.m.

**New Officer Training.** Members from the 2011 Executive Committee convened after lunch for a special training session designed to assist the new officers with their respective responsibilities. There were excellent discussions and an exchange of information for everyone.

**Notes for the Record.**

*Frequency Advisory Committee (FAC).* Gary Gray convened the Frequency Advisory Committee (FAC) meeting prior to the CPRA meeting. Ongoing and new frequency requests were then presented and acted upon.

Respectfully submitted,  
Mike Rowles  
Secretary

### *800 Rebanding and Supplementary Comments – Ray Grimes.*

1. Sprint-Nextel announced that it will begin shutting down its legacy 800 MHz/900 MHz iDEN domestic network in 2013 and will promote push-to-talk (PTT) on its Sprint (2G/3G CDMA) network. This change in business direction was in part, brought on by a steady decline in iDEN subscribers since Sprint purchased the Nextel system in 2005. Sprint-Nextel presently has around 10.6 million iDEN network subscribers. Sprint has lost money in every quarter since 2007 which is partially blamed on running two incompatible networks. Some impacts are obvious, such as public safety and local government have in many cases, eliminated their traditional two-way radio systems to take advantage of push-to-talk walkie-talkies combined with telephone interconnect and text messaging in one subscriber unit. Unless Sprint offers a very compelling replacement upgrade package, these organizations may not be able to afford new equipment to move to a new network. The less obvious impact is that if the Nextel side of the business is terminated, then Sprint may argue that Nextel's 800 MHz Rebanding obligation is also terminated. Though the FCC has mandated that Nextel guarantee the funds to complete 800 MHz, Rebanding, Nextel's absence may leave a void in the administration and negotiation of remaining 800 MHz Rebanding, where the FCC would have to appoint a new administrator/negotiator entity to complete the program.

2. 2010 closes with virtually nothing of substance occurring with respect to Wave 4 800 MHz Rebanding. Though diplomatic negotiations continue between the U.S. and Mexico governments, no real expectation of an executable Wave 4 border plan is likely during 2011. Even if a diplomatic agreement was reached, both countries would have to ratify the agreement, to include a public comment period and public hearings. 2012 would be the best guess as to when Wave 4 Rebanding might proceed (notwithstanding, Mexico has enough governmental problems of a higher priority to also deal with). The concern though, is that many public safety legacy systems would then be 7 years older than when Rebanding began, leaving many agencies in limbo as to necessary and urgent replacement by Sprint-Nextel (or maybe just Sprint?). As time marches on, equipment suppliers, contractors, and service providers are moving away from 800 MHz Rebanding, so the question then is who is going to support the completion of this program and will 800 MHz Rebanding equipment be readily available?

3. By popular demand, Ray Grimes has agreed to reestablish the quarterly 800 MHz Rebanding Discussion Group meetings formerly held at OCFA's Regional Fire Training Center in Irvine. The first meeting of 2011 will likely occur in mid-February to late February. Watch for more information when the meeting venue is confirmed.

4. FLO TV (formerly MEDIA-FLO, a Qualcomm company) has recently announced the termination of its TV Channel 55 based (700 MHz) direct-to-consumer mobile TV subscription service which will continue operation to at least Spring 2011. By the end of 2009, FLO TV had developed service in 107 domestic markets, serving more than 200 million consumers. Though Qualcomm states that they are in discussions with interested telecommunications service providers to takeover this spectrum and its markets, there are indications that FLO TV may have already shut down transmitters in some locations. TV Channel 55 occupies the spectrum from 716 MHz to 722 MHz and was licensed by the FCC to operate at 50 KW ERP. FLO TV's high power operations posed serious concerns to present and future 700 MHz public safety operations regarding potential for substantial localized RF interference. The shut-down of FLO TV's transmitters may also serve to reduce the RF noise floor in the 700 MHz band.

## 2010 Meeting Dates

February 7-9 2011  
 Western States Regional Conference - Ontario  
 CommLink Cutoff Date  
 Monday January 24, 2011

March 17th  
 San Marcos  
 CommLink Cutoff Date  
 Monday February 28, 2011

April 14th  
 Annual Dispatchers' Banquet  
 Quiet Cannon - Montebello  
 CommLink Cutoff Date  
 Monday March 28, 2011

May 19th  
 Victorville  
 CommLink Cutoff Date  
 Monday May 2, 2011

June 16th  
 Santa Fe Springs  
 CommLink Cutoff Date  
 Monday May 30, 2011

July 21th  
 Santa Barbara  
 CommLink Cutoff Date  
 Monday June 27, 2011

August 25th  
 Oak Glenn  
 CommLink Cutoff Date  
 Monday August 1, 2011

September 15th  
 Annual "No Ties Meeting"  
 Thousand Oaks  
 CommLink Cutoff Date  
 Tuesday August 29, 2011

October 20st  
 Annual "Tabletop Meeting"  
 Quiet Cannon - Montebello  
 CommLink Cutoff Date  
 Monday October 3, 2011

November 17th  
 Downey  
 CommLink Cutoff Date  
 Monday October 31, 2011

December 9th  
 Annual Holiday Banquet &  
 Officer Installation  
 New Port Dinner Cruise  
 CommLink Cutoff Date  
 Monday November 21, 2011

## 2011 Executive Committee Quarterly Meetings

April 6, 2011 - Riverside PD

July 6, 2011 - Los Angeles

November 2, 2011 Long Beach

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Show your support for Public Safety Telecommunications professionals  
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## National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week, April 10-16, 2011.

Brought to You by CPRA, the Southern California Chapter of APCO International

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## Save the Date!

**APCO 2011 Western States Regional Conference**  
**ONTARIO CONVENTION CENTER**  
**ONTARIO, CALIFORNIA**  
**FEBRUARY 7 - 9, 2011**

