

Gloucester County Amateur Radio Club
Meeting of the General Membership
October 1, 2014

The meeting was called to order by President, Jim Wright, N2GXJ, at 7:30 pm. 47 members were in attendance.

The following visitors were recognized:

Frank Bratton	No Call
Frank Mendenhall	No Call
Wade Bennett	No Call
Bob Nicotera	KB2ERO
Joe DiBartolo	KC2SOP
Marie Scarpella	KC2SFA

The minutes of the September 5, 2014 meeting were read by Chuck Colabrese, WA2TML, the acting Recording Secretary, and approved by the members present.

Treasurer's Report - Al Arrison, KB2AYU, reported that we had a very successful Hamfest. We sold about 50 more admission tickets than last year. 500 tickets this year, up from 450 the previous year. The Hamfest Net Income for 2014 was \$3,628 compared to \$3,122 for 2013, an increase of \$506. The YTD inflow is \$7,960 against \$4,896 in regular budgeted expenditures resulting in a positive inflow of \$3063. We finally received and paid the invoice for the vinyl trailer skirting, and with that, all bills for the trailer are paid. The total expenditures for the trailer were \$10,000 even. Total balance for all accounts is \$15,533. The report was approved by the members present.

COMMITTEES

Hamfest _Tom Gorman, KE2ES, the Hamfest Chairman, was unable to attend the meeting. Bill Price, NJ2S commented that a lot of attendees praised the event and said the Boy Scouts did a great job with the food. There was good Club participation. _Jim Wright, N2GXJ_noted that many attendees thanked us for having the annual Hamfest, as there not that many regular hamfests in the area any more. Bill also recognized Mike Weldon, KB2UMJ, for all that he did to get the PA System in good working order. Mike Weldon commented that the PA equipment at the 4H Fair Grounds is in very poor condition. Almost none of the PA equipment used at the Hamfest belonged to 4H. Mike lent the Club a lot of his own equipment and also borrowed the rest of it for our use.

ARES/RACES John Zaruba, K2ZA, spoke about the Simulated Emergency Test for the weekend of Oct 4 & 5. The scenario is a simulated hurricane striking southern New Jersey. Scenarios were sent to each county. They included preparation and recovery operations.

CONTESTING Ken Denson, WB2P, reported that the PA, NY, NJ and CA QSO Parties were coming up during October. He also noted the W1AW/Portable list had been updated.

CLUBHOUSE – Al Arrison, KB2AYU, reported that help was still needed to prepare the trailer for winter. We need to get heat tape on the pipes, and to get the skirting installed. Also work is needed to set up the operating station positions.

Jim Wright, N2GXJ, noted that the "Potato Patch" was still not leveled enough for any mowing to be done over it. He contacted Steve Smith of the 4H, and Steve agreed to make available whatever we needed - more dirt, equipment, etc - to get it leveled off. The Club needs a member to step up and coordinate this effort. Bill Price, NJ2S agreed to coordinate with Jeff Garth, KC2WCS, to get it done.

CROSSTALK Jeff Garth, KC2WCS, requested that if any Club members came across interesting articles on the internet, they should send, just the links, to Jeff and he'll include them in Crosstalk.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH Cory Sickles, WA3UVV , MS150, He thanked all for participating. He asked for special recognition for Dave MacDonald, WB3JOY, for paying to have the GCARC Club logo put on the participant shirts. He also recognized Joe , KC2SOP and Marie Scarpella, KC2SFA, his contacts with the MS organization. Joe thanked the Club members for their support. GCARC was responsible for providing 25% of the Hams that worked the event. He also presented the Club with a Thank You Certificate for our participation.

PROGRAMS Cory Sickles, WA3UVV. The November 2014 program will be about WWV. December will be a SkyWarn Overview.

MEMBERSHIP Cory, WA3UVV GCARC now has 125 members. Remember to "Like" us on Facebook. Club news will be posted on that page also.

OLD BUSINESS None

NEW BUSINESS

NOMINATIONS – Jim Wright, N2GXJ, reminded members that we are seeking nominations for the 5 Officer positions, for 2 Directors and for 1 Trustee. The Nominating Committee met and presented the following Slate.

President, Jim, N2GXJ, Vice President, Cory, WA3UVV, Treasurer, Al, KB2AYU, Recording Secretary, Sheldon, K2MEN, Corresponding Secretary, Ron, NR2B. For the Directors, Chuck, WA2TML and Ken WB2P were nominated. And for Trustee, Bob, KD2GFL was nominated. Nominations from the floor: For Director, Bill, NJ2S, was nominated by W2RM.

REPEATERS Cory, WA3UVV We have been Beta Testing a Yaesu DR-1 Repeater for about 6 months. The Beta Testing program is ending. In appreciation for our participation, Yaesu is offering to swap out the pre-production DR-1 machine with a production unit, the DR-1A. The street price of the DR-1A is \$1700. They will sell it to us for \$300. We can keep the DR-1 for an additional \$200. Meaning we could upgrade both of our repeaters to a Digital/Analog capability for \$500. Cory asked for a show of hands in favor of upgrading both machines. A vast majority of those present were in favor. This was not a motion. But, thanks to an "anonymous corporate benefactor" who has contributed the \$500, this is not going to cost the club anything. The DR-1A should be delivered "in about one week". The difference between the DR-1 and the DR-1X is that

the DR-1X has firmware upgrades that cannot be put in the DR-1. The DR-1X also supports an external controller. We will also be getting a Beta HRI-200 Wires-X network interface for the DR-1X in the next few months for testing.

HENRY 2K AMPLIFIER Bill, NJ1S has the Club's amplifier. There is a problem in the Power Supply and it will be repaired.

FALL FOX HUNT There will be a Fox Hunt later in October. Jeff, KC2WCS who won the last Fox Hunt will hide the Fox this time.

RAFFLE IN LIEU OF 50-50. At the Hamfest, KJI Electronics donated an Alinco DJ-V57 Dual Band handheld to the club. It was raffled off in lieu of the 50-50. There was no 50-50 cash prize at the meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:25 pm. The program for the evening was Individual Breakout Discussion Groups.

Respectfully Submitted,
Chuck Colabrese, WA2TML, Acting Recording Secretary