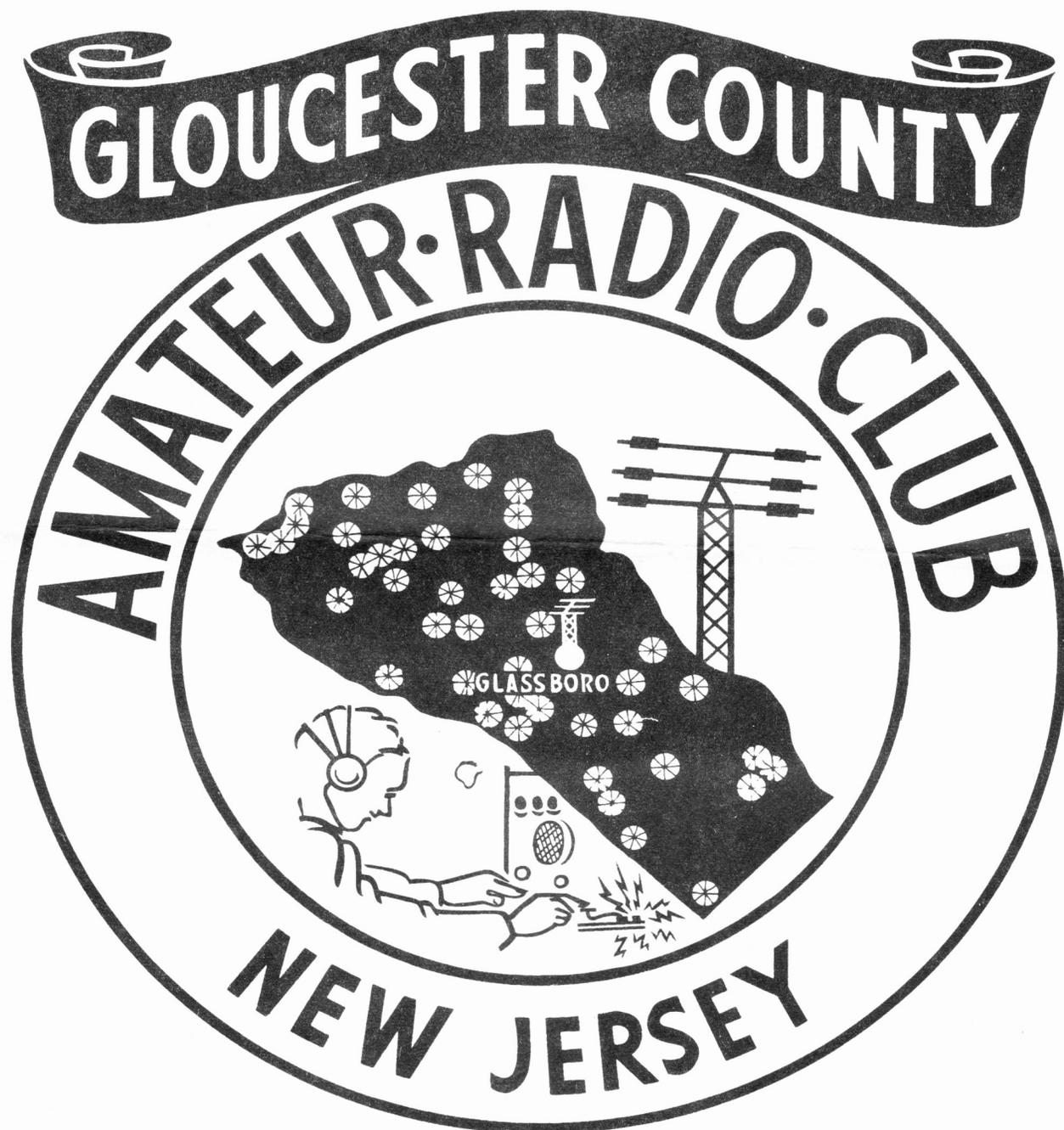


CROSSTALK



THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE GLOUCESTER COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Volume 1 : Number 5

August 1959

Where: Owens-Illinois Onized Club House, Glassboro, NJ

When: August 5, 1959 @ 2000 Hours Sharp

Who: All members and interested parties

What: Regular meeting of the Gloucester County Amateur Radio Club

- **Pictures and films of the Field Day operation**

de K2JKA

Well, I've just about recuperated from the Field Day, although a few minor wounds are still apparent. I found out that the combination of sweat and sand don't come out of white sox so easily. By the way I have one pair of sandy headphones that I didn't have before Field Day, if they are your, grab me at the next meeting.

Starting in this month's issue we have part one of a series of articles on the subject of satellite tracking, written by **Dave Gross of Paulsboro, ex W2HMP**. Let me know if you like these types of articles.

I am still looking for articles! How about you writing one! Anything that you would like to write about is accepted.

CROSSTALK STAFF

Editor: Jack Layton, K2JKA

Assistant Editor: Al Roche, K2HHJ

Swap and Shop: Ray Gianchetti, WA2CUB

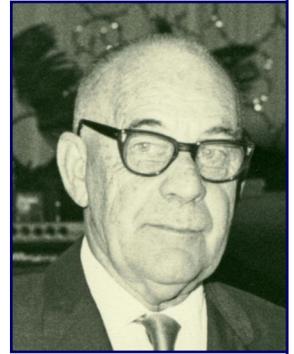
Lou Seeberger, W2TNB, has moved to sunny California from Woodbury and he hopes that he can work the boys back here soon, so keep an ear out for him.

Due to circumstances before the publication deadline, Swap and Shop will not be in this issue. Look for it in next month's.

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THRU THE CO-AX



Way back in 1914, a young teenager visiting neighbors a block away from his home became interested in amateur radio by virtue of the fact that they were ham radio operators, Preston Polk and Ed Patterson, 3BP. It wasn't long after that he had built up his own receiver and transmitter and was copying code from the commercials such as NAA, 4C3, and POZ in Germany. In 1918 at the age of sixteen he enlisted in the army and saw service in Plattsburg, NY. When he returned home, he got back on the air using the "self assigned" call 3JM. Shortly thereafter he took the regular examination and was assigned the call 3JM by the Department of Commerce on January 27, 1920.

His first rig was a 1/4 KW spark, then a 1/2 KW, and finally a full gallon. His best DX from Merchantville was 5ZA in Roswell, New Mexico, and 7CC in Moscow, Idaho. This you may recall was down around 200 Meters (1.498 MHz or what is now the upper end of the AM broadcast band) where radio as we know it had its beginnings.

Our young friend used to sit for hours and copy 1HAAA up on Cape Cod, old Ed Vermilya, 9ZN Harry Mathews in Chicago and 5ZA Lou Falconi in Roswell. They didn't have TV sets way back there and radio was still in its infancy, but even then the ugly head of interference was rearing its ugly head. Every time the old spark transmitter was keyed the lights in the area would start blinking at 20 or so words per minute. And this situation was brought to the attention of our young friend on many occasions.

As ham radio grew so did our young friend push pull 45's etc. In the year 1936 our ham moved to Chicago and became W9EVG, from there to the west coast where during the war he was stationed at the Santa Anna Air Force Base, where he was commissioned a major. He returned to New Jersey in the year 1945 and was given the call W2RFS, but this call was never used because within a month the FCC issued him his present call because of his long activity on the air.

He left the good old spark days in 1924 by the way. He recalls putting a 1/4 KW transformer in the basket of his bicycle and pedaling all the way from Merchantville to Laurel Springs to sell the thing so he could buy a 1/2 KW transformer.

One evening as he sat glued to the receiver, he heard 3BQ, Gordon of Camden, NJ, who was on board ship in the Caribbean Sea in the middle of a great storm, sending QST QST (contact mother and notify her that he was alright). This he was only too glad to do, and perhaps that is why even today and especially over the holidays he can be heard on 10 Meters phone patching the boys overseas to their loved ones in the states and never asks that the toll be paid on a patch, bearing the expense himself. He is at this writing 57 years old has a wonderful wife who is always after him to spend a little loot for radio gear and a daughter who is his private chauffeur in the summer months. Barbara, his daughter, will enter college in the fall. His home and shack is located in Jacksonville. Most activity is on 10 Meters, but he does work all bands with a DX-100 and SX-96 receiver. Loves to Ragchew.

He is now the president of the Gloucester County Amateur Radio Club and radio officer of Gloucester County. This then is a brief story in the life of **Frank Van Turner, W2KE**, who was instrumental in organizing our radio club...AR

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Field Day

Well now that it is past, we can look back and laugh. I don't think I can remember any time that I was so hot, gad!, so much sunburn or so sandy. However, on the brighter side, I had a swell time and I am sure that all those who took part did likewise. With all the setting up to do, tents to go up, equipment to hook up, it seemed for awhile that it was just going to be too much, but with George Stuart, K2SOL's guidance and direction, things finally got shaped up to the point where things looked like they were about set to go, at least all this work looked like it was going to pay off. George was sure hoping so anyway. To add to the problem it seemed as though there was an itinerant mocking bird that wanted to get into the act.

Transmitters were put on the air on 10, 20, 15, 40 and 80 Meters with beams on 10 and 2. A trap on 40 and 80 and a vertical, it looked like a real antenna farm up there on Woody's hill HIHI! Fortunately there were no major difficulties that Jack and his crew of maintenance men couldn't handle and things were ready to roll on Saturday with a minimum of crosstalk between rigs. Novices were operating on 2 and on taking turns on 80 CW and I believe that we have quite a few good contest operators in the making.

I would like to mention the names of all those that took part in the operation, but I am afraid that some would be missed, so I think that it would better if we waited until the next issue to be sure that no one is slighted.

A lot was learned during that historic weekend. For instance...Jim Livezy, K2S JL, learned that you need gasoline to run the generator and also how to put the radiator cap back on. Charles Sketchley, K2PQD, found out that a tent can become a Turkish bath in the hot sun. And last but not least, George found out that you need a frying pan to fry eggs. Yours truly K2JKA, learned that too much sun can lead to misery. Publicity wise, we had a good picture on the cover of the Woodbury Daily Times. Thanks to the efforts of Jack Layton, K2JKA and Johnny Struckel of WKDN, a ten minute tape of the field day site operation was broadcast over their facilities the following Friday nite. The club owes a great debt of gratitude to all who took part in the effort.

Especially to George Stuart, K2SOL, for the wonderful job he did in coordinating things and running things so smoothly with a minimum of confusion. Well done, George.

To all the operators for their time, effort, and patience, you are to be congratulated on a good job.

To Dempsey's Truck Service of Mantua for their kindness and co-operation.

To Bill Hopely's Mobil Service of Barnsboro for his generosity in hauling the generator to and from the site free of charge.

To Dink Wilkinson for the use of his truck over the weekend and any others that I may have missed, we want to express our sincere appreciation.

As I have it, we made 534 contacts and a score of about 3400. Not bad for a first try. George will have a report at our regular meeting. See you there!

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The First In A Series Of Articles

The Radio Observation of Artificial Satellites By S. D. Gross, ex-W2HMP Paulsboro, NJ

The age of artificial satellites was introduced to the world on October 4, 1957 when Russia successfully launched its first satellite. This satellite was immediately dubbed "Sputnik" in the daily press releases. Fortunately this satellite (Sputnik 1) radiated radio signals on the frequencies of 20.005 and 40.002 megacycles so that many radio amateurs could tune their all band receivers in on one of these frequencies and hear the historic beep - beep - beep. Anyone who listened with reasonable care soon noticed that the signal appeared about once every 96 minutes and the steady beeping could be followed for 25 to 35 minutes.

The world had hardly recovered from its shock due to Sputnik 1 when Russia successfully launched Sputnik 2 on November 3, 1957. This time the satellite had a living passenger (Laika the dog) and again the radio signals were on the frequencies of 20.005 and 40.002 megacycles so that again radio amateurs could easily listen in.

The United States seemed to be having bad luck with its rockets especially with its Vanguard vehicle.

Success was finally achieved when the US Army launched Explorer 1. This time the radio amateurs could not listen in on the radio signals unless previous preparation had been made. Explorer 1 radiated at an initial power of 0.06 watt on 105.03 megacycles and at an initial power of 0.01 watt on 105.00 megacycles, these frequencies not being in the tuning range of the usual amateur radio receiver. Many no doubt thought of using their broadcast FM tuners, but on second thought, they realized that the sensitivity of the average FM tuner was inadequate.

In March, there was rapid progress in the satellite age. On the 17th, the US made a successful Vanguard shoot and as a result Vanguard 1 went into orbit. This time the radio signal on 105.03 was obtained by a solar powered transmitter with an initial power of about 5 milliwatts, (this radio signal being radiated only while the satellite was in sunlight). On March 26 the Army's Explorer 3 was placed in orbit. The orbit of Explorer 3 turned out to be more eccentric than intended and as a result the satellite did not have a long life. Explorer 3 radiated signals at the same frequencies as Explorer 1 as will apparently all future vehicles launched by the United States.

This year has seen many satellites launched and some are still in the heavens and there will no doubt be many more. On March 27, President Eisenhower announced the approval of the Defense Department's plans to send up several lunar probe vehicles. A failure of the first lunar probe was experienced on August 17, but the odds are that a successful launch will be made. If a radio amateur wants to experience the thrill of listening to these signals from outer space, he will need 105 megacycle receiving equipment.

To be continued in the next issue

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Newsy Notes

Al Roche, K2HHJ, and **Jack Layton, K2JKA**, recently paid a visit to **Mal Mason, W2MMD's QTH**. That's a real nice crank up tower you have there, Mal!

George Stuart, K2SOL, camped up in the Pocono Mountains on his recent vacation. He really got warmed up to the idea on the field day trip.

Al Roche, K2HHJ, lost all his antennas in the recent storm along with the chimney that held them up. Temporarily QRT.

If any of the younger fellows getting started find it a little hard financially to get those needed parts, get in touch with **Frank Van Turner, W2KE**, on the whereabouts of a stockpile of used but good parts.

Starting in the next issue of your paper, **Bob Hoy, WA2PFJ**, will begin his question and answer problem column. If you need an answer to a question contact Bob of Glassboro. He tells us that if he hasn't got the answer he knows where to get it. So here's your chance.

Many thanks to the XYL of **Frank Van Turner, W2KE**, for the wonderful reception we received on our recent visit. Mrs. Van Turner, we certainly want to thank you for a wonderful evening.

Don't forget the board of directors meeting that is scheduled prior to the regular membership meeting. Please be prompt as there are several things of importance to be discussed. August 5, 1959 @ 1930 Hours Sharp.

There is still a lot of space in this column to get your activities mentioned so what say...Wots Cookin???

We are hoping that in the next issue we will have a complete list of all officers and committees listed and possibly their phone numbers.

The refreshment committee, **Della Parker, W2AFZ**, and **Woody Frantz, K2AQL**, are doing a swell job back of the counter. Don't forget the kitty when you go by.

Just a reminder to all to be careful when you use the facilities at the clubhouse. We should all be mindful that we do not damage anything or jeopardize our welcome to our wonderful meeting place.

Wonder who the oldest and youngest club member is? Or won't they say? HIHI.

Code classes are showing quite a bit of interest and there has been talk of holding sessions on a weekly basis. If you are interested you might let the instructors know and it just might be arranged.