

Gloucester County Amateur Radio Club
Meeting of the General Membership
April 6, 2016

The meeting was called to order by Treasurer, Al Arrison, at 7:30 pm. 41 members were in attendance.

Al welcomed the following visitors:

Rick Lawn	W2JAZ
Matt Grohgans	N2IDW
Skip Arey, ARRL Section Manager	N2EI

The minutes of the March 2, 2016 meeting were not available.

Treasurer's Report - Al Arrison, KB2AYU, reported the YTD inflow of \$1,731 against \$865 in regular budgeted expenditures resulting in a positive inflow of \$866. Total cash in all accounts is \$16,245. Al noted that most members had submitted their dues and reminded those who had not. The report was approved by a vote of the members present.

COMMITTEES

Clubhouse – Al Arrison, KB2AYU, reported that no damage had been sustained during the recent wind/rain storms. He also reminded members that the monthly Tech Saturday meeting scheduled at the clubhouse this Saturday would be an open forum. Bring your equipment and questions.

ARES/RACES – Tony Otlowski, W2WCC, announced they would be supporting the McGuire/Lakehurst Air Show planned for May 14-15. He asked that anyone with questions or wishing to volunteer could email him at W2WCC@ARRL.net.

Field Day – Al Arrison, KB2AYU, noted that most critical positions had been filled, but that 20 and 80 mtr phone band chairmen were still needed. Please contact him for details.

Hamfest – Sheldon Parker, K2MEN, reported that planning for the Sept 11, 2016 event was on schedule. The 4-H contract had been signed and deposit submitted, ARRL sanctioning had been confirmed, and the event had been posted to the N2IVL Victor Amateur Radio Association web site listing regional hamfests. Skip Arey, N2EI, ARRL Section Manager, suggested that we consider requesting the hamfest be listed by the ARRL as an official state hamfest. He pointed out that GCARC had the largest hamfest in NJ and could easily qualify for the designation with a few small changes. Sheldon agreed to review and report back to the club.

Programs – Al Arrison, KB2AYU, said that Vinny Sallustio, N2NYY, would present a forum on restoration of old radios this evening and that John Dilks, K2TQN, would provide a program on “old radio” at the May 4th general membership meeting.

Repeater – Al Arrison, KB2AYU, reported that Bill Price, NJ2S and Kevin Hall, KD2FFZ, had climbed the Pitman water tower to photograph the 2 Mtr antenna, mount and connections in order to appraise their condition

and plan for mounting a new antenna approximately 3 feet higher. The new installation would be planned asap and coordinated with the weather.

Crosstalk – Jeff Garth, KC2WCS, reminded members the article submission deadline for May would be April 20th.

Sunshine – Ray Martin, W2RM, reported he had sent a get well card to Rick Bleda, KC2SGR who is in the hospital.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

Sheldon Parker, K2MEN, reviewed both the financial and social importance of the hamfest and requested \$1,000 to purchase a premium sound delivery system to support a premier event. There was discussion among the club members considering cost alternatives of new or used equipment as well as renting. Michael Weldon, KB2UMJ, who has been searching for used equipment solutions during the past few months, provided support for technical inquiries and purchase vs renting costs. After a thorough discussion, a motion was made and approved by the members to permit up to \$1,000 for purchase of equipment new or used (outside the regular operating budget) to create a complete PA system. Jerry Marinacci, KE2CK, generously offered to donate an additional \$100 toward the PA system.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:07pm. The program for the evening was "Restoration of Old Radios" by Vinny Sallustio, N2NYY.

Respectfully Submitted,
Sheldon Parker, K2MEN