

# Gloucester County Amateur Radio Club

## General Membership Meeting Minutes

### Wednesday, November 3, 2021



President Tony Starr K3TS opened the meeting @ 1931 Hours with the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### Attendance :

- Members : 24 members in-person, 12 members on ZOOM
- Visitors : 1 (Jerry Mildren, K2000 of Swedesboro, NJ)

The minutes from the October General Meeting, as published in the CrossTalk, were approved.

**TREASURER : Alan Arrison KB2AYU** reported the following YTD Budgeted Items :

- Income : \$11,281
- Expenses : \$7,132
- Net Gain : \$4,149

The replacement tower cost \$3,000 and \$3,650 was spent to order the new beam.

Total donations to the Club were \$13,764 and \$6,653 has been spent, leaving \$7,111.

Total in all accounts includes \$7,111 from donations.

\$2,000 was set aside for a new rotator and coax, however Club member **Eric Morris N2BRJ** has offered to donate a new rotator so the full \$2,000 will not be needed. The Treasurer's Report was accepted.

**CLUBHOUSE : Alan Arrison KB2AYU** noted that the old, damaged HF tower has been removed and the replacement tower has been attached to the old base. More work and some welding will be needed. The lifting cable will need to be replaced, which would cost \$650 if purchased from the manufacturer but there are other options. Fazzio's has a suitable cable for \$80, crimping material for cable ends would cost about \$100 and **Frank Romeo N3PUU** found a crimper for about \$140. Sections of the old tower may be used to make one or more small towers.

Alan and Frank got the 4H bucket truck running! Alan was able to use it to realign and tighten clamps on the SATNOGS antenna. Repair of the bucket truck will help to keep us in the good graces of the 4H and we should be able to borrow it again as needed. Alan noted that the HF station is up and running with a tower and triband beam that he has loaned to the Club.

**DX / CONTEST COMMITTEE : Tony Starr K3TS** is still looking for someone to chair the DX Committee. Solar Flux has been over 100 lately, making for good conditions. Travel restrictions are being lifted so several DXpeditions are back on. Conditions were great for the CQ WW SSB DX Contest last weekend and impact of the solar flare was minimal. Tony worked 85 countries on 10 meters, which allowed him to complete 5-Band DXCC. The ARRL November CW Sweepstakes will take place this weekend with phone two weeks after that and the CQ WW CW Contest will take place over Thanksgiving Weekend.

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**Mark Federici WM2Y** said that HD8R from the Galapagos Islands had been on the air and that Clublog was up and running for W2MMD.

**CLUB NETS : Tony Starr K3TS** checked into the Tuesday Noon Net last week and said it went well. **Alan Arrison KB2AYU** said there was good turnout for the SSTV discussion on the Monday Evening DIGI Net.

**TECHNICAL COMMITTEE : Jonathan Pearce WB2MNF** showed photos of the damaged HF and VHF towers, removal of the HF tower and the repaired 4H bucket truck being used to re-aim the SATNOGS antenna. The HF station is back up and running with a tower and beam on loan from **Alan Arrison KB2AYU**. The antenna for the W2MMD-3 VARA FM WinLink RMS on 441.050 MHz has been relocated to the top of the damaged VHF tower and the feedline has been upgraded. A new audio processor has replaced the Signalink, allowing for higher speed.

Work is underway to add HF forwarding to the WinLink RMS such that radio email can still go thru even in the event that W2MMD loses its internet connection. Testing was done last weekend from the Clubhouse on 40 meters.

**OLD BUSINESS : President Tony Starr K3TS** reviewed the slate of members that are running for office and opened the floor to nominations. None were received, nominations were closed and voting will take place at the General Membership Meeting on December 1<sup>st</sup>. The slate of unchallenged candidates is :

- **President : Tony Starr K3TS**
- **Vice President : Jonathan Pearce WB2MNF**
- **Treasurer : Alan Arrison KB2AYU**
- **Recording Secretary : Karl Frank W2KBF**
- **Corresponding Secretary : Ron Block NR2B**
- **Trustee : Charles Lanard KD2EIB**
- **Director : Jeff Garth WB2ZBN**
- **Director : Jim Clark KA2OSV**

**NEW BUSINESS : Jim Clark KA2OSV** asked the membership if there was any interest in having a Club Christmas Party that would take place probably during the 2<sup>nd</sup> week of December. Nobody raised their hands. **Bill Price NJ2S** said that **Phyllis Martin W2PDB** would collect names by email of anyone interested in a holiday party.

**Chuck Colabrese WA2TML** has Club badges from 2018, 2019, and 2020 and will send email to members who have not picked these up. Also, contact Chuck if you need to request a Club badge.

**Charlie Wahl KC2STO** (via ZOOM) asked about ARRL insurance for the Club and about inviting Boy Scouts to the Clubhouse station next year during Jamboree On The Air (JOTA). **Tony Starr K3TS** said he is looking into both issues and asked Charlie to provide him with information for the 2022 JOTA.

The next VE session will take place at the Clubhouse on November 11<sup>th</sup>. It will be necessary to pre-register with **Gary Reed N2QEE**.

There will be a talk on "**The Care and Feeding of Portable Emergency Generators**" by **Karl Frank W2KBF** in the program portion of the meeting.

**President Tony Starr K3TS closed the meeting @ 2020 Hours.**

**Respectfully Submitted,  
Karl Frank W2KBF,  
Recording Secretary**