

Gloucester County Amateur Radio Club General Membership Meeting Minutes Wednesday, December 1, 2021



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

Attendance :

- Members : 25 members in-person, 18 members on ZOOM
- Visitors : Earl Moore KC2NCH (Pitman) and former GCARC members Jerry Barnish WB2CAK (Sicklerville) and Beth Barnish KB2EAL (Sicklerville, Past GCARC President 1990)

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

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

- **Income : \$12,121**
- **Expenses : \$7,482**
- **Net Gain : \$4,638**

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

GCARC has gained more than 30 new members this year and we now have 168 in the roster. The Treasurer's Report was accepted.

CLUBHOUSE : Alan Arrison KB2AYU noted that the Clubhouse is in good shape for winter and that the portable tower and beam are working well. **John Hill W2HUV** used the station for the contest last weekend. The new HF tower will require some work including the replacement of all bearings in the pulleys and fabrication of a new lifting cable. We are still looking for a suitable mast.

We will continue to work on the grounding project in the VHF room over the Winter. Some EME contacts were attempted, but the station is not hearing well. There may be signal loss, so the amplifiers and T/R relays will be checked.

DX and CONTEST COMMITTEE : Tony Starr K3TS is still looking for someone to chair the DX Committee. The ARRL 160 Meter Contest will take place on December 3 and the ARRL 10 Meter Contest will take place December 11. Several DXpeditions have been announced including : 5Z4 (Dec. 7 - 16), X2TAW (Dec. 3 - 10), S21DX (Dec. 16 - 22) and 3Y0I (Bouvet, starting Dec. 25).

Mark Federici WM2Y reminded everyone that ClubLog was up and running for W2MMD and it can be accessed from a link on the w2mmd.org website.

CLUB NETS : Jim Clark KA2OSV had 6 check-ins for the 10 Meter Net last night. **Greg Ciraula W5DO** said 8 to 10 were checking into the 2 Meter Nets.

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TECHNICAL COMMITTEE : **Frank Romeo N3PUU** provided a report in the absence of **Jonathan Pearce WB2MNF**. Work on the W2MMD-3 VARA FM WinLink RMS is continuing. The station will be operating on 145.030 MHz for the next 2 weeks in order to investigate whether 2 Meters performs better than 70 cm. An end-fed wire was set up to test VARA and PACTOR on HF. Tech Saturday Forum will take place this coming Saturday, December 4, 2021 @ 0900 Hours.

OLD BUSINESS :

Tony Starr K3TS reviewed the slate of members that are running for office :

- **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 : Jim Clark KA2OSV**
- **Director : Jeff Garth WB2ZBN**

Since each candidate ran unopposed, a single vote was cast (jointly) for the slate by the Recording Secretary **Karl Frank W2KBF** and Corresponding Secretary **Ron Block NR2B**.

NEW BUSINESS : **Tony Starr K3TS** was informed that at least 17 people have signed up for the GCARC Holiday Party on December 15, 2021, so the next BoD meeting will be rescheduled to December 8, 2021 @ 1900 Hours.

Chris Prioli AD2CS is organizing licensing classes for Technician (Mondays), General (Tuesdays), and Amateur Extra Class (Fridays) at the W2MMD Clubhouse, beginning January 3, 2022, for a period of 8 weeks. The Extra classes already are full (10 students) and the Technician and General classes each have 6 signed up. Chris submitted a proposal to purchase 15 instructional books for each class (10/class for students, plus a few for the instructors) at a cost of \$10 each. Each student will pay \$15 for the course and be given a book. There will be no financial risk to the Club because the vendor has agreed to buy back any unused books. The membership approved the advance of \$450 to Chris to purchase 45 books.

Bob Keogh KD2NEC is the new Gloucester County ARES Coordinator, effective December 1, 2021, succeeding **Karl Frank W2KBF**. Bob will be focusing on building the relationship between the County OEM and Amateur Radio. **Tony Starr K3TS** will invite Bob to give a presentation on ARES sometime next year.

Gary Reed N2QEE said the next VE session will take place at the W2MMD Clubhouse on December 9, 2021 @ 1900 Hours, and will continue throughout 2022 on the second Thursday of each month. The ARRL has been notified of this schedule.

John Hill W2HUV would like to have the Club take a tour of members' shacks, not just see photos.

Karl Frank W2KBF suggested that the Club hold a “Show and Tell” event, in which Club members bring in their favorite morse code keys, bugs and microphones. **Mike Pecorini K2MRP** commented that his club in Illinois held a quarterly Show and Tell of ham-related paraphernalia and it was quite popular. **Tony Starr K3TS** said he would consider this.

Alan Arrison KB2AYU noted that the 2021 Field Day results have been published in CrossTalk and that W2MMD had the top score from the ARRL SNJ Section. Also, we will have a “Fox Hunt” on Sunday, December 5 beginning at 1 PM, with Alan as the Fox. An email with boundaries will be sent out later this week. This hunt will NOT involve multi-story parking garages, but will require hunters to get out of their cars.

Chuck Colabrese WA2TML has sent notices by email to Club members who have not yet picked up their Club badges from 2018, 2019 and 2020.

President Tony Starr K3TS closed the meeting at 2017 Hours.

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