

# Gloucester County Amateur Radio Club

## General Membership Meeting Minutes

### Wednesday, February 2, 2022



President Tony Starr K3TS opened the meeting @ 1930 Hours with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

#### Attendance :

- Members : 12 members in-person, 32 members on ZOOM
- Visitors :
  - ◆ Louis Bonaventura III, N2JXG, of Savannah, TN and Sewell, NJ.
  - ◆ Allan Gartner, AE2V, of Maryville, TN.

Attendance was both in person and via ZOOM. Tony noted that we had a number of new members, and welcomed them.

The minutes from the January 5, 2022 General Membership Meeting, as published in The CrossTalk, were approved.

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

- Income : \$1,544, mostly from dues
- Expenses : \$536
- Net Gain : \$1,007

Total in all accounts does not include the rebuilding fund. There is \$7,010 in the rebuilding fund. The Treasurer's Report was accepted. The 2022 Budget will be presented under New Business.

**CLUBHOUSE : Alan Arrison KB2AYU** has not visited the Clubhouse recently because of bad weather and it has been necessary for the licensing classes to be conducted as ZOOM meetings. He thanked **Chris Prioli AD2CS** for donating and installing a new storm door. Grounding Project Work is planned for the VHF room over the Winter.

**DX and CONTEST COMMITTEE : Tony Starr K3TS** noted that the 160 Meter CQ WW Contest took place last weekend and not much else is happening until the ARRL CW DX Contest on February 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>.

**CLUB NETS :** The 10M net was reported to have low participation. **Gary Mirkin WA3SVW** reported good participation in the VHF Nets, and that the Monday Night DigiNet on February 7<sup>th</sup> will continue work with MMSSTV.

**FIELD DAY :** Tony Starr K3TS confirmed that **Vinnie Sallustio N4NYY** will be the Field Day Chairman again for 2022.

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**TECHNICAL COMMITTEE : Jonathan Pearce WB2MNF** reported the following :

- **Frank Romeo N3PUU** has written a good document on the topic of repeaters. If anyone would like to receive it, send a request to [WB2MNF@ARRL.NET](mailto:WB2MNF@ARRL.NET).
- As a first step in evaluating the performance of the W2MMD 2 Meter repeater, Jonathan and **Chris Prioli AD2CS** drove around the county, mapping out repeater coverage. They need to repeat this preliminary investigation with a more thorough effort.
- **John O'Connell K2QA** and **Frank** are working on a replacement for the ageing computer that hosts the W2MMD EchoLink node. They plan to use a Raspberry Pi.
- RF exposure calculations have been completed for the HF station. All looks OK, with the possible exception of 10 meters.
- Work is underway to reorganize the HF station for both remote and local use. The plan is to set up a Kenwood TS-480 for remote use only, and set up the Icom IC-7300 for local use only. This will eliminate the occasional problems that occur when local operators leave the station such that it cannot be operated by remote. Use of the Club antennas will be reserved using a web-based signup.
- The February Tech Saturday will concern use of WinLink. In view of the forecast for icy weather this weekend, the February Tech Saturday may be postponed by one week.
- For the program following the March General Membership Meeting, members are asked to bring and show interesting items from their stations.
- The March Tech Saturday will concern use of test equipment and will be led by **Chris Prioli AD2CS**.

**OLD BUSINESS : Mark Federici WM2Y** asked if there had been any further consideration of the suggestion made previously by **Vinnie Sallustio N4NYY** about looking into the purchase of land for a permanent club site. **Tony Starr K3TS** said this had been discussed during a Board of Directors Meeting, but the discussion had been tabled because our lease has approximately 17 years to go. However, Tony said that we would take it up again.

**NEW BUSINESS : Alan Arrison KB2AYU** reviewed the 2022 Budget that was proposed by the Budget Committee. In brief, this is a balanced budget, in which expenses will be matched by expected income. The 2022 budget of \$10,625 is higher than the 2021 budget by approximately \$400, mostly due to the increased cost of running the Clubhouse. The Budget was approved by vote of the membership.

Following the meeting tonight, **Jonathan Pearce WB2MNF** will present "Why Every Ham Should Use WinLink".

**President Tony Starr K3TS closed the meeting @ 2004 Hours.**

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