

Gloucester County Amateur Radio Club

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, March 16, 2022



President Tony Starr K3TS opened the meeting @ 1903 Hours.

ATTENDANCE :

- ◆ President Tony Starr K3TS
- ◆ Vice President Jon Pearce WB2MNF
- ◆ Treasurer Alan Arrison KB2AYU
- ◆ Recording Secretary Karl Frank W2KBF
- ◆ Corresponding Secretary Ron Block NR2B
- ◆ Director Jim Clark KA2OSV
- ◆ Director Chuck Colabrese WA2TML
- ◆ Director Herb Dyer KT2Y
- ◆ Director Bill Price NJ2S
- ◆ Director Bob Durham W2RAD
- ◆ Member Frank Romeo N3PUU
- ◆ Member John O'Connell K2QA
- ◆ Member Chris Prioli AD2CS

MINUTES : The minutes of the February BoD Meeting were summarized by **Karl Frank W2KBF** and approved without modification.

NEW MEMBER APPLICATIONS :

The following applications were received :

- ◆ James Kinkade KC2JAX Amateur Extra Class from Bridgeton
- ◆ Steve Burkhead (no call sign) Associate from Glassboro

Both new member applications were approved.

TREASURER : Alan Arrison KB2AYU reported YTD Budgeted Items :

- ◆ Income : \$2,641
- ◆ Expenses : \$1,206
- ◆ Net Gain : \$1,435
- ◆ Total in all accounts includes the rebuilding fund.

The Treasurer's Report was accepted.

CLUBHOUSE : Alan Arrison KB2AYU reminded us that lots of work remains to be done and that the VHF room has been stripped out for electrical work, insulation, and grounding. A first draft of instructions for operation of local and remote HF stations was written by **Jonathan Pearce WB2MNF** and circulated to the BoD. Alan will provide some edits.

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CLUB NETS : **Jim Clark KA2OSV** reports 4 to 6 check-ins to the weekly 10 meter net. **Chris Prioli AD2CS** said the Tuesday Noon and Thursday Evening 2 Meter Nets have been receiving 8 to 10 check-ins.

DX and CONTESTS : **Tony Starr K3TS** said that the recent ARRL DX Phone contest was better than last year, mostly because more DX entities were on the air. The Russian DX Contest will take place this weekend and the WPX Phone Contest will take place during the last weekend in March.

REPEATERS : **Herb Dyer KT2Y** announced the formation of a Repeater Task Force consisting of himself, **Tony Starr K3TS**, **Frank Romeo N3PUU**, **John Zaruba K2ZA**, **Alan Arrison KB2AYU**, **Chris Prioli AD2CS** and **Ron Block NR2B**. This group will meet via ZOOM to address the following two separate problems :

- ◆ Performance issues with the 2 Meter Repeater
- ◆ The failure of the 70 cm repeater

EDUCATION COMMITTEE : **Chris Prioli AD2CS** reported great success from the first round of licensing classes, resulting in 1 new Technician, 3 General and 9 Extra Class licensees. The next round of classes will begin the week of April 4. So far, he has enrolled 6 for Technician, 6 for General and 11 for Extra. There may be enough books to cover the Technician and General classes, but more Extra books will be needed. These classes will be conducted by ZOOM, since space in the Clubhouse will not be available due to the Grounding Project.

HAMFEST : **Bill Price NJ2S** reviewed the question as to where to locate the ticket gate. It was decided to place it near the gate used by the 4H. We will not be permitted to use paint or tape to mark areas so we are considering use of small flags, similar to those used by utility companies to mark gas and water lines. Bill will check with the Scouts to see if they are able to handle the food service.

FIELD DAY : **Tony Starr K3TS** will ask **Field Day Chairman Vinnie Sallustio N4NYY** to provide an update at the next General Meeting in April. The program for the June 1, 2022 General Meeting will be a discussion of Field Day led by **Jim Wright N2GXJ** and the June 4, 2022 Tech Saturday will involve preparation for Field Day.

TECHNICAL COMMITTEE : **Jonathan Pearce WB2MNF** previously circulated overheads concerning the formation of the GCARC 501c3 charitable Research and Educational Foundation. These slides will form part of a presentation that he will make at the next General Membership Meeting. A preliminary draft of a proposal for funding from ARRL (due April 1) has been written and a proposal to ARDC will follow. Tech Saturdays have been well attended and the VHF room has been stripped out for grounding. **Ron Block NR2B** will discuss the Grounding Project at Tech Saturday in April. The May 7, 2022 Tech Saturday will be a "Work Saturday", e.g. painting the shed, and also **Chris Prioli AD2CS** will discuss Troubleshooting. The Tech Saturday in June will concern Field Day Preparations. The remote-controlled HF station is set up in a cabinet and running well. The VARA FM RMS is up and running on 2 Meters and the 40 Meter HF RMS has been getting some activity.

OLD BUSINESS : There was some discussion of the Club's insurance policy. **Chuck Colabrese WA2TML** reviewed the policy and reported that it DOES appear to provide liability coverage for Club officers. There also was a question as to whether or not GCARC would consider the formation of an ARES group within GCARC. The BoD decided that ARES and GCARC should remain separate and distinct entities.

Previously, the BoD discussed the desirability of having a telephone line at the Clubhouse. **John O'Connell K2QA** looked into this and recommended using Magic Jack at a cost of \$70/year. This was approved by the BoD and John will place the order.

Ron Block NR2B and **Alan Arrison KB2AYU** reported that our annual lease payment, Field Day letter and Hamfest notice have now been received by Jennifer Coles (4H). Previously, there had been some confusion as to the correct mailing address.

NEW BUSINESS : **Bill Price NJ2S** has a large, 100A manual transfer switch that may be suitable for use with the Club generator. However, this large switch will require modification of an electrical panel. **Frank Romeo N3PUU** thinks that a smaller transfer switch may be available at a low cost, so Bill and Frank will discuss this further. Also, there was some discussion about moving a wall to enlarge the VHF room (no decision taken).

The meeting was adjourned @ 2058 Hours.

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