

Gloucester County Amateur Radio Club

General Membership Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, July 5, 2023



President Jonathan Pearce WB2MNF opened the General Membership Meeting at 1930 Hours with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

ANNOUNCEMENTS : The next Tech Saturday will begin at 9 AM with the topics of Node-Red and Hamlib. These utilities facilitate "Hamshack Dashboarding". Soldering courses will take place July 15 and 22. The Board of Directors Meeting will take place July 19 and Dinner at the Clubhouse will take place July 26 at 6 PM. Free parking at the Clubhouse will not be available on Saturday, July 29 due to a car show during the Gloucester County 4-H Fair, but you can get in if you pay admission to the car show.

ATTENDANCE :

- 24 In-person
- 12 ZOOM

VISITORS :

- **Chuck White, KE2BPD**
- **Greg Sleet**
- **Dave Mitchell, WB2PJH**

NEW MEMBERS :

- **John Peterson, KD2ODE**

The minutes of the June General Membership Meeting were approved.

TREASURER : Alan Arrison KB2AYU reported YTD Budgeted items :

- Income : \$7,584
- Expenses : \$4,465
- Net Gain : \$3,119

Alan has not yet received all Field Day receipts for reimbursement. The Treasurer's Report was approved.

CLUBHOUSE : Alan Arrison KB2AYU said that a mini-split air conditioner will be installed in the VHF room soon. **Jonathan Pearce WB2MNF** noted that the combination to the front door lock has been changed, the VHF tower zoning permit has been approved, and that the building permit application has been submitted. The Club is looking for someone to act as project manager for construction of an access ramp for the Clubhouse.

FUTURE PROGRAMS : Ron Block NR2B provided a slide summarizing topics for the upcoming General Membership Meetings :

- **August 2 : Tony Starr K3TS on Mobile Radio Installation**
- **September 6 : Bob Heil K9EID on New Hams**
- **October 4 : Jim Wright N2GXJ on design of the Club's 160-meter loop antenna**
- **November 1 : Mike Thompson KG4JYA on Radio Astronomy**
- **December 6 : Len Rust W2LJR on logging**
- **January 3 : Robert Welsh N3RW on Astronomy and Amateur Radio**

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DX and CONTESTS : **Tony Starr K3TS** noted the following contests :

- **July 8 - 9 : IARU Contest**
- **July 8 - 9 : WRTC Contest**
- **July 15 - 16 : NA QSO Party, RTTY**
- **July 15 - 16 : CQ WW VHF Contest**
- **July 29 - 30 : RSGB IOTA Contest**

Alan Arrison KB2AYU noted that W2MMD took first place in the Atlantic Division for the January VHF Contest.

FIELD DAY : **Tony Starr K3TS** thanked the 60 Field Day participants and noted the good times, good food, and the nice site layout provided by **Jim Wright N2GXJ**. Our unofficial score is 11,616 points with 2,542 contacts. Jim handed a Certificate of Appreciation between the American Red Cross and GCARC to **Jonathan Pearce WB2MNF**. This certificate was received when a Red Cross official visited our Field Day site and is worth 100 bonus points.

PUBLIC SERVICE : **Gloucester County ARES Coordinator Bob Keogh KD2NEC** noted :

- FEMA has recognized the role of Amateur Radio in its latest NIMS document
- Three EMCOMM training sessions have been completed by the 14 local hams who have signed up for American Red Cross Training
- The Annual Bike MS City to Shore event will take place September 30 and October 1
- The Annual Bike MS Bike To The Bay event will take place October 7
- Volunteer communicators are needed for both events
- The Annual ARES Simulated Emergency Test (SET) will take place October 7

TECHNICAL COMMITTEE : **Jonathan Pearce WB2MNF** set up a Discord discussion server for GCARC at <https://discord.gg/75Xg48WD>. Also, **John Zaruba Jr K2ZA** has recommended the website <https://www.zeroretires.org> to Jon.

EDUCATION : **Chris Prioli AD2CS** will partner with **John Zaruba Jr K2ZA** to conduct a 2-part Saturday "Learn to Solder" course. The first part, covering basic soldering, will take place July 15. The second part, to be held July 22, will involve building something useful such as a code oscillator, RF attenuator, dummy load, etc. Contact Chris at cpprioli@gmail.com for more information or to register.

The latest round of licensing classes produced 5 new Technicians and 4 General Class licensees. The next round will take place sometime after Labor Day.

CLUB NETS : **Chris Prioli AD2CS** reports 6 to 7 check-ins to the 2 Meter nets. Numbers may be down due to summer vacations and problems with Echolink. **Bob Keogh KD2NEC** reports approximately 15 check-ins to the Sunday Night ARES Net.

CONSTITUTION COMMITTEE : **Ron Block NR2B** said the committee has completed the first round of modifications and will continue to refine the document during the next meeting on July 12. Once the Committee is satisfied with a draft it will be sent to the Board of Directors for review and eventually to the General Membership for adoption.

OLD BUSINESS : None

NEW BUSINESS : None.

MISCELLANEOUS :

Jonathan Pearce WB2MNF purchased a QSL card on EBAY that **Alan Arrison KB2AYU** had sent in 1986. Jon presented this card to Alan.

The Business Meeting concluded @ 2016 Hours and was followed by our Annual Pizza Party.

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