

Gloucester County Amateur Radio Club General Membership Meeting Minutes Wednesday, March 6, 2024



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

Attendance :

- 33 In-person
- 20 Zoom

Visitors :

- Paul Cosenza KD2RDD Glassboro, NJ
- Alex Duboski KB2YEF Williamstown, NJ
- Don Martel Jr N2SPW
- Ron Fish KX1W (Zoom)

New Members :

- Michael Angelastro Cherry Hill, NJ
- George Badger W3AB Soquel, CA
- Jason Watkins KD2VVJ Sewell, NJ
- Art Strong KA0WS. Falkville, AL

Announcements :

- **Jim Clark KA2OSV** is moving to South Carolina. The Club thanks Jim for his many years of service and wishes him the best in his new home.
- VHF Tower Fund appeal now closed, thanks to everyone that contributed.
- Discussion of possible STEM program participation with a local school district. More information needs to be gathered.
- Starting in April, General Membership Meetings will start at 19:00 (7:00PM).

Upcoming Events :

- Tech Saturday 3/9, Fox Hunt training starts at 10:00AM
- VEC Testing Thursday 3/14.
- TechNet Zoom Forum Monday 3/11, Subject : Meshtastic
- 30th Anniversary Fox Hunt Saturday 3/16 at the Clubhouse.
- Board of Directors meeting 3/20 at the Clubhouse

Member current activities or interesting items :

- **Chris Prioli AD2CS** reminded members using the Club radio stations under the W2MMD call to please send electronic logs of the activities to **Jim Wright N2GXJ** for upload.
- **John Zaruba Jr K2ZA** reported that Parks On The Air (POTA) is changing park designators to better align with ISO standards. It's a rolling update, US parks will go from K-*** to US-*** and some park code numbers will change. Please verify your park number before activation. See <https://pota.app> for more information.
- Thermal mugs with GCARC logo are now available, contact John K2ZA for details.

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General Membership Meeting Minutes :

- Minutes of February 2024 General Membership Meeting as published in CrossTalk were approved by voice vote of members present.

Treasurer's report :

- **2024 YTD Operating Revenue and Expenses**
 - ◆ Operating Revenue : \$9,217.30
 - ◆ Operating Expenses : \$1,007.12
 - ◆ Net Operating Income : \$8,210.18

GCARC Foundation Operating Revenue and Expenses :

- Revenue : \$4,001.35
- Expenses : \$965.89

Remarks :

- Motion to add a \$2 convenience charge to cover the PayPal fees seconded and approved by voice vote of members present. Cash and check renewals still pay \$30.

CLUBHOUSE REPORT :

Report : Al Arrison KB2AYU reported the VHF equipment is operational in a temporary condition, permanent installation will occur when the furniture has been installed.

DX AND CONTESTS :

Report : Tony Starr K3TS noted the recent ARRL DX contests were fantastic, lots of DX opportunities. Notable upcoming Contests, 10m South American contest, Russian DX contest, and the North American Sprint. See March 2024 CrossTalk for details.

PUBLIC SERVICE :

Report : Bob Keogh KD2NEC received training from the American Red Cross to drive one of their Emergency Response Vehicles. He also reported there may be an opportunity to receive a utility trailer for communications fit out. Needs to be discussed with the Board of Directors.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE :

Report : Chris Prioli AD2CS : Licensing classes will begin the week of April 22nd. Plenty of open seats for General and Extra, no one has signed up for the Extra class as yet. Advanced Surface Mount Soldering class being planned for the summer, details to follow.

NETS :

- Averaging 12 check ins for the Tuesday AfterNoon Net
- ARES net averaging 15 check ins.

TECHNICAL COMMITTEE :

- **Report : Meshtastic mesh networking equipment and ham radio applications.**

NEW BUSINESS :

- Club's 70cm repeater having issues, **Chris Prioli AD2CS** and **Earl Moore KC2NCH** to troubleshoot and report back.
- Field Day is 3 months away. We will share property again with Wine Fest. **Tony Starr K3TS** would like assurances from the 4-H that the same layout can be used again.

CLOSING REMARKS :

- **Noted : The Battleship New Jersey is being moved to dry dock on March 21st at 12:10PM (high tide).**

PRESENTATION :

ARRL SNJ Section Affiliated Club Coordinator Ron Fish KX1W with a short presentation and Q&A.

Meeting adjourned @ 2030 Hours

Respectfully submitted,

John Zaruba K2ZA, Recording Secretary