



UP-LiNK

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF
**THE CHERRYVILLE REPEATER
ASSOCIATION II, INC.**



Board Meeting April 7, 2004

Membership Meeting April 9, 2004

It's Election Time!

By this time everyone in the club should have received their ballot for the election of officers. If you still haven't received a ballot notify Pete, K2YSY ASAP.

The slate of candidates looks like this:

For President - Elaine Kita, N3ODB

For Vice Pres. - Walter O'Brien, W2WJO

For Secretary - Pete Sneed, K2YSY

Bob Smolarek, N2MIF

For Treasurer - Bill Greenhalge W2NCN

Barry Campbell K2BC

For Member at Large - Two to be elected

Denis Albisser AB2PD

John Mc Auley, N2HUZ

Cheryl McLaughlin KB2RWY

Bruce Campbell N2SVK

You may remember that Sandra Campbell was on the ballot originally, but has withdrawn. Two new members at large are to be elected this year.

The best way to ensure your ballot gets in on time is to mail it to the P.O. Box as soon as possible. All ballots must be in by 7:35 p.m. on the meeting night, April 9 to be counted. Also, member's dues must be paid in order to be able to vote. You may have noticed a number on the ballot. That number will be checked against a paid member list to verify ballot eligibility. If you still haven't paid your dues yet, you can include a check in with the ballot. Remember that single members are \$30 and family membership is \$45.

You can also turn your ballot in the night of the election, as long as it is in the hands of the secretary by 7:35, and your dues are paid.

Hamfest a Success Again!

In spite of the unexpected interruption, the Cherryville Hamfest 2004 was again a success.

Everything came to a screeching--and freezing--halt at about 11:00 am when a defective heat sensor set off the fire alarm. Everyone had to leave the building and remain standing in the very cold wind for about 20 minutes while local fire companies checked out every room to be sure there was no fire. When the "all clear" signal came, our security people quickly got to their doors and admitted vendors back into the vending area first, then buyers. The problem was, many of the buyers opted not to stand in the cold, and went home. Many of the vendors were heard yelling, "Fire Sale!"

However, before the alarm sounded, a good-sized crowd was viewing the

first year as Table Chairman. He was well organized, and the vendors got in in very good time, thanks to several members and sons of members who helped move them in. Only one vendor was heard to complain, the others were quite complimentary.

In the food area, once again the chili ran out by 10:30, about a half hour later. This year there were 18 quarts of chili,



goodies on the 110 tables in both cafeterias. The club table (seen above) did a brisk business too. There were lots of prizes given out, thanks in very large part to Gene at KJI Electronics. Several other vendors also contributed prizes.

Walter, W2WJO did a great job his

about double last year. Next year we may have to bring in a truckload. The hot dogs and hamburgers sold well too, even though the grill that W2WJO donated to the club didn't do well in the fierce wind. Most of the hamburgers ended up being cooked inside. Several trips were made to replenish food supplies that had run out.

W2CG's crew did a great job testing lots of folks, and from it we have some new hams. Ira, N2RKV upgraded to Extra, Jay's (N3OW)son Jason got his technician as did Jimmy, son of N2VF and KC2BOH. There are probably others, but I don't have the information. They probably will be announced at the

(HAMFEST Continued on page 2)

Upcoming Public Service Events

July 4, 2004-- Fourth of July parade in Lebanon

September 19, 2004-- Skylands Triathlon, Spruce Run

(HAMFEST Continued from page 1)

April meeting.

Everyone always wants to know, "How'd we do?" Well, preliminary tally indicates we did about what we did last year, maybe even a little better. Many of the bills aren't in yet, but hopefully by the meeting we should have a pretty firm idea of how well we did.

It was a lot of hard work by a goodly number of club members who came out to help. I would like to offer a personal note of thanks to all who made this event a success with your enthusiastic participation. Thank you all!

The Cherryville Memorial Scholarship

By Pat Mauro, N2VF

It isn't easy surviving in today's technological, three commercial a minute, DVD, Pentium IV, 2.75 GIG, ITV, cellular phone, world wide web, satellite downlink world. Did I almost forget to mention our hobby's own particular techno speak? Things like: link packages, remote sites, packet radio, 2 meter repeaters, Skywarn, Races, Ares, net tonight, hamfest, Field Day, the GOTA tent, 440, 220, QRP, SSB, CW, HF, USB, Simplex, QRN, etc, etc.

And, it continues to change every day of every year.

The changes to Ham radio in general, and the CRA in particular, would no doubt amaze the early Hams, let alone those of you who can remember amateur communications in the pre-world war II era, the late 40's, through the nifty fifties, the sixties, seventies, eighties and nineties.

Note:

The Cherryville Scholarship deadline has been extended to April 9, 2004. Scholarship applications will not be accepted after that date.

The world keeps changing, and we need to keep up with the times. The Cherryville Memorial Scholarship honors those Hams that have passed on by providing a deserving recipient with a scholarship of up to \$500 to be used for tuition.

Unfortunately, the future for many high school graduates who do not attend a college or technical school is unclear. We can help give them a clear path!

If you are the parent, grandparent of a graduating high school senior, or you are graduating from high school in June of this year, take advantage of the Cherryville Repeater Association's memorial scholarship.

Applications with transcripts must be completed accurately and thoroughly on the official forms and be received by the scholarship application screening committee by no later than March 31 of each award year. Mail applications to: Cherryville Repeater Association II, Inc., P.O. Box 308, Quakertown, NJ 08868. Wow Award Notification

The scholarship committee will notify applicants eligible for a scholarship award by May 30 of each award year.

FROM THE PREZ...

Charlie Seymour, NJ3A



I will shortly be leaving the post of President of the Cherryville Repeater Association. After just one short year as President, I now find my business travel and new home needs taking more and more of my time. As I try to balance out lifestyle, work needs and hobbies, unfortunately I find I can not offer the club nearly as much time as I would have hoped for. The Cherryville Repeater Association has been and will continue to be a part of my daily routine. Whether it's on the repeater during drive time, Tuesday Night HF Nets or afternoon QSO's, CRA will be part of me for a long time to come.

During my year as President, we as a group have accomplished a great deal of wonderful things. Participation was my theme and we certainly managed to out do ourselves this past year. Our Hamfest was quite successful, even with the unexpected "fire drill". Our ARRL training classes offered opportunities for all club members to get involved, either as trainers or students, with everyone learning as part of the process. Congratulations to all who recently were licensed and to everyone who upgraded during the year. Our 2003 Field Day participation, offered once again to showcase our ability to get a group of amateur radio operators together and communicate in a simulated emergency situation, far surpassing other clubs and organizations. We not only finished top in our 3A class, we finished 3rd overall out of every club and organization in the country. You should all be proud.

Our community services participation goes beyond just being there. Our club has provided a great safety factor to many an organization, where it was needed most and some under the most uncomfortable of weather conditions possible. We prevented disasters by communicating impassable trail conditions at the USET Endurance Event last summer, allowing the event organizers to restructure the program and possibly saving both horses and riders from serious injury. This is what we as a club do best.

It's hard to express in words how I will miss being President of the Cherryville Repeater Association, but I will continue to participate as an active member, offering help and guidance where needed. I want to thank everyone, trainers, net controllers, horse park event organizers, field day participants, emergency drill operators, all the cooks and family members who have participated and even those that didn't but allowed others to participate. Without club members participating, you just become part of the crowd.

Thanks again for giving me the opportunity steer the ship, even if it was only for a short journey.

It's Almost Field Day Again!

The weather certainly doesn't feel like it, but Field Day is just around the corner!

Field Day this year will be quite different this year than in the past. There will still be three or four stations, there still will be a

(Continued on page 3)

(FIELD DAY—Continued from page 2)

satellite tent, there still will be a GOTA station, and there will be lots of good food, but this year there will be opportunities for anyone who wants to, to operate. We've taken the records, now it's time to have fun and concentrate on emergency preparedness.

Jay, N3OW and Nick, N2NV are co-chairs of the event this year, and both have promised it will be a lot of fun for everyone this year. Of course lots of help will be needed for setup and take down as well as the operating positions. They will be talking to the club members at the next couple meetings to get your ideas and commitment to the event. The chairmen also need to know if you have equipment you can bring for station use, when you might be there to operate and if you have any favorite operating stations.

We'll be bringing the trailer to the site, of course, but there are items we'll need in addition to the towers, coax, rotators and food preparation items stored inside. Come to the next couple of meetings to get the straight dope on all the preparations. If you have ideas or suggestions be sure to contact either Jay, at n3ow@rcn.com or Nick at vitovitch@earthlink.net. They're both anxious to hear your ideas. The club voted earlier this year to go this route with Field day in a straw poll. Now it's time to make it happen.

Field Day this year is the weekend of June 26 and 27th. Mark it on your calendar now so you'll be sure to be there!

FIRST ANNUAL MID-ATLANTIC QSO PARTY

The first annual Mid-Atlantic QSO Party (MAQP) is a good old fashioned QSO Party, focused on Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia and DC. It will run from May 8th 2004 at 1600 UTC until May 9th 2004 at 2400 UTC on all HF bands except WARC, and on VHF/UHF from 50 to 450 MHz.

The MAQP seeks to provide a competitive challenge with a low-pressure atmosphere. In short, the purpose is to have fun, enjoy the event, and find your own desired level of participation.

The committee will offer certificates and plaques, including categories such as Top Scorer in each Mid-Atlantic state, the entire Mid-Atlantic region, each DX country, state, or VE province from which an entry is received, and more. All stations are welcome - fixed, mobile, rover, single or multi-operator, clubs, QRP or standard power.

Contest logging software designers are already preparing MAQP modules. Information will be published on our website as available.

Please visit the MAQP website at <http://www.qsl.net/maqso> for full details, rules, maps, and all forms, available for downloading.

In New Jersey, contact:

Walter O'Brien/W2WJO at w2wjo@earthlink.net
Mike Clarson/WV2ZOW at mclarson@rcc.com

Restructuring—again

From the ARRL Letter

The FCC is seeking comment on three plans, one from the ARRL, that would reshape the Amateur Service licensing structure. Each Petition for Rule Making responds to World Radiocommunication Conference 2003 actions last summer that made changes to Article 25 of the international Radio Regulations.

While differing substantially in some other aspects, the three petitions call for modifications at Amateur Radio's entry level and for a three-tiered license system. One petition goes beyond licensing structure to recommend additional changes to amateur testing and HF digital privileges. A fourth petition focuses solely on the Morse requirement. Comments are due by April 24 on all four

(RESTRUCTURING—Continued on page 4)

THE CHERRYVILLE REPEATER ASSOCIATION II CLUB INFO:

Club Info Line	Website	Packet
(908) 788-4080	www.qsl.net/w2cra	W2CRA 145.51

EXECUTIVE BOARD:

Pres	NJ3A	Charlie Seymour	(610)-838-0841	kc2isw@arrl.net
VP	N3ODB	Elaine Kita	(610) 252-6193	n3odb@amsat.org
Sec	K2YSY	Pete Sneed	(908) 369-5095	k2ysy@arrl.net
Treas	W2NCN	Bill Greenhalgh	(908) 369-3191	greenhalgh@rcn.com

MEMBERS AT LARGE:

KA2TOV	Mike Grohol	()	mgrohol@blast.net
N2RDL	Brian Campbell	(610) 559-1509	lupinus@ptd.net
KC2CMC	Mike Varas	(908) 806-3998	kc2cmc@arrl.net
AB2LW	Tim McLaughlin	(908) 253-8783	tomdeegan@rcn.com
N3MSK	Ed Kita	(908) 252-6193	n3msk@amsat.org

COMMITTEE CHAIRPEOPLE:

Public service	WB2NQV		wb2nqv@arrl.net
Technical	N3MSK	(610) 252-6193	n3msk@amsat.org
EmergencyMgmt/	KC2CMC	(908) 806-3998	kc2cmc@arrl.net
RACES	K2PA	(908) 788-8253	k2pa@arrl.net
Education	KB2VCI		ramgl@netcarrier.com
VE Testing	W2CG	(908) 788-2644	w2cg@patmedia.net
Field Day			
Holiday Party	K2PA		k2pa@arrl.net
Merchandise	N2VWL	(908) 475-4716	n2vwl@epix.net
Traffic net	N2MIF	(908) 638-6172	
Programs	AB2PD	(908) 537-2501	albissed@ptd.net
Refreshment	KB2YJX	(908) 788-9153	
Roster	W2CG	(908) 788-2644	mjgrozi@postoffice.ptd.net
Scholarship	N2VF	(908) 479-6346	n2vf@att.net
SkyWarn	N2VWL	(908) 475-4716	n2vwl@epix.net

NET SCHEDULE:

Hunterdon County Traffic and Emergency Net	Thursday, 8:00 PM	147.375
Races Net	1st Thursday, 8:30 PM	147.375
SkyWarn Net	Thursday 9:00 PM	147.015
HF Net	Tuesday 8:15 Meet first on:	147.375 Then to HF

MAJOR EVENTS:

W2CRA Hamfest	March 13, 2004	Talk-in 147.375 PL 151.4
W2CRA Field Day	June 25/27, 2004	147.375

Community Service Through Communication

(RESTRUCTURING—Continued from page 3)

petitions.

Designated RM-10867, ARRL's petition asks the FCC to create a new entry-level license class--being called "Novice" for now. It would offer limited HF CW/data and phone/image privileges on 80, 40, 15 and 10 meters plus certain VHF and UHF privileges. The League plan also would consolidate Technician, Tech Plus (Technician with Element 1 credit) and General licensees into a new General license that no longer would require a Morse examination. Current Technician and Tech Plus licensees automatically would gain General privileges, and Advanced license holders automatically would be upgraded to Extra without further testing. Applicants for Amateur Extra would still have to pass a 5 WPM Morse code examination, but the General and Extra written exams would stay the same.

A news report "ARRL to Propose New Entry-Level License, Code-Free HF Access," <<http://www.arrl.org/news/stories/2004/01/19/1/>>, has further details. Frequently asked questions (FAQs) are addressed on the ARRL Web site, <<http://www.arrl.org/news/restructuring2/faq.html>>.

In a wide-ranging petition designated as RM-10868, an "unincorporated grassroots organization" calling itself the Radio Amateur Foundation (RAF) has asked the FCC to modify the Technician ticket to allow limited HF phone, image, data and CW privileges. HF phone/image privileges would be restricted to portions of the 160, 15 and 10-meter bands.

The group also proposes retaining the 5 WPM Morse requirement for General and Amateur Extra applicants, upgrading Advanced class holders to Extra and Novices to Technician. The Radio Amateur Foundation said it sees no need to change licensing requirements for General or Amateur Extra applicants.

The RAF also wants to scrap existing Amateur Radio question pools and start over from scratch, keeping the question pools out of the public domain and requiring a 10-day waiting period before retesting. In addition, it would permit only Generals and Amateur Extras--or Technicians licensed more than two years--to request vanity call signs.

The RAF has further asked the FCC to permit digital experimentation from 29.0 to 29.3 MHz at bandwidths of up to 15 kHz.

In his two-page petition designated RM-10869, Ronald D. Lowrance, K4SX, calls on the FCC to retain the 5 WPM Morse code requirement for General class applicants and to raise the Morse requirement to 13 WPM for Amateur Extra class applicants. He called Morse code "the most reliable mode of communication" in an emergency. Lowrance would make no change in Technician licensing requirements.

The National Conference of Volunteer Examiner Coordinators (NCVEC) wants the FCC to establish a new "Communicator" entry-level license. Its petition, designated RM-10870, reiterates the NCVEC's call--first made last fall in RM-10787--to altogether eliminate the Morse code testing requirement.

The NCVEC petition would upgrade all current Novices to Communicator class, all current Technician and Tech Plus (Technician with Element 1 credit) licensees to General and all Advanced class licensees to Amateur Extra without further testing. Once the Morse requirement goes away, the NCVEC said in its filing, "there will be no effective difference between the Technician and General class licenses."

The new Communicator ticket would permit a power limit of 100 W on bands below 24 MHz and 50 W on all frequencies above 24 MHz. Communicator licensees would have to use commercially manufactured equipment (or gear built from a commercial kit). Communicator licensees could operate both voice and digital modes on 80, 40, 15 and 10 meters plus VHF and UHF up to 70 cm.

All three license restructuring plans call for changes to the present HF subbands.

Interested parties may view and comment on these petitions via the FCC Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS) <<http://www.fcc.gov/cgb/ecfs/>>. When entering the RM number in the ECFS "Proceeding" field, RM must be in capital letters and the hyphen must be included.

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