



UP-LiNK

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



Board Meeting January 8, 2003

Membership Meeting January 10, 2003

N2VWL Doing Well after Operation

You haven't heard the voice of N2VWL for a few days now, because he's been in the hospital recovering from hip replacement surgery. George's son Scott, N5EGX reported Monday afternoon that his dad was "doing great." Eleanor, KC2EBL has also been giving regular reports via email on George's progress.

Though we haven't heard him on the repeater since he went into the Pennsylvania hospital on January 2nd (Happy New Year!), we're hoping that he may soon have an HT to keep him—and us—company. Over this past weekend George was transferred from the main hospital to a rehabilitation unit, and the latest word is that he will be headed for home the morning of our meeting day—Friday. George has labeled his "PT," which he will have to continue at home, as "Pain and Torture."

We all look forward to getting George back on the air and back home soon. A card will be passed around at the club meeting on Friday for everyone who wants to sign. Get well quick, George, we miss you, but we'll look forward to hearing you soon!

Many thanks to Eleanor, KC2EBL and George's son Scott, N5EGX for all the updates on George. We won't see him at the January meeting, but maybe February???

Club Meeting Speaker Our Own W2GD

John Crovelli, W2GD, "Mr. Contest" will be the featured speaker on Friday, January 10 at the regular CRA meeting.

Meeting Speaker (Continued on page 2)

Fall License Class Spawns New Techs

The most recent license class held at the Red Cross building resulted in five new Technician class licenses.

Congratulations to Joe Petrella, who is now KC2KRD, Bryce Galloway, KC2KRA, Dave Peters, KC2KRE, Matt Skrebel, KC2KQZ and Linda Wolcott, who is now KC2KRB. Education chair Lou Gramling, KB2VCI also upgraded to Extra at the VE session held on December 19.

Roberto indicated that several of the new hams are already on the air, and are anticipating coming to the January meeting. A hearty congratulations to all! When you hear the new call on the repeater, be sure to say hello and welcome!

Hot on the heels of the Fall class success, Lou and Roberto have the spring session all ready to go! The next class is

scheduled to begin on February 27, 2003, again at the Red Cross building, 52 East Main Street in Flemington. Classes will be held each Thursday evening from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.

Morse Code will also be taught, so if you are thinking of upgrading to General or above and need some good teaching of the code, consider taking the class just for the code. Hopefully, we'll re-institute the code practice on the .375 repeater too. Because of the new night for classes, it's not clear at this point what night will be used for the practice sessions.

The only cost to new students is the \$19 for the Now You're Talking book, and the VE fee the night of the VE testing. All prospective students should register by calling the Red Cross building at 908-782-4121

NEW JERSEY TOWER BILL INTRODUCED

Hudson Division Director Frank Fallon, N2FF announced in a recent Hudson Division Beacon that New Jersey has finally gotten a sponsor and introduced a PRB-1 Tower Bill in the NJ legislature.

Specifically, Matt Ahearn, KB2PNN, New Jersey Assemblyman saw the recent request by Fallon for a sponsor for the proposed legislation, so Matt jumped on his email to notify Frank that he will sponsor the bill, now designated as Bill A-3065 in the NJ Assembly. A sponsor in the Senate is still being searched for. As to what we hams in NJ can do at this point? Frank says, "Stand by for directions as to how you can help. It's too early in the process to begin letter writing."

Now with bills in both the New York and New Jersey legislatures, the division could well see PRB-1 help hopefully within a year. That's good news indeed!

DUES ARE DUE.... DUES ARE DUE..... DUES ARE DUE..... DUES ARE DUE....

It's that time of year again! Bring your checkbook to the meeting. Single member dues are \$30, Family is \$45

New Saudi satellite gets OSCAR designation

From the Hudson Beacon

A third satellite in the SaudiSat series has earned an OSCAR designation from AMSAT, SO-50. The Amateur Radio payload was successfully placed into orbit December 20 from Russia atop a modified SS-18 intercontinental ballistic missile. The German-made SAFIRM Amateur Radio payload went into orbit during the same launch. SaudiSat-1C is a project of the Space Research Institute of the King Abdulaziz City for Science and Technology (KACST).

SaudiSat-1C follows the 2000 launch of SaudiSats 1A and 1B. Now in a 650-km orbit, SaudiSat-1C carries several experiments, including a new Mode J FM amateur repeater. The downlink frequency is 436.775 MHz. The uplink frequency is 145.850 MHz. A 67 Hz CTCSS tone is required for access. The repeater will be available to amateurs worldwide as power permits.

AMSAT-NA President Robin Haighton, VE3FRH, said SaudiSat-1C will require activation on each pass by a designated control operator. "A worldwide network of designated control operators is now being developed so that radio amateurs may begin using the satellite immediately," he said. The NORAD identifier for two-line Keplerian elements is 27607.

NJDXA LOSES FOUNDING MEMBER - Howard Wolf, W2AGW SK

From the Hudson Beacon, Frank Fallon, N2FF

The NJDXA recently lost one of its founding members and the DX world lost one of its finest operators when W2AGW recently became a silent key.

Howie was at the top of the DXCC list (391) having worked and confirmed VP6 and P5 just this past year.

Several years ago at Dayton, Howie was standing in line for over an hour to get his Chesterfield card from Martti Laine. When Martti saw Howie's call sign and found out how long Howie waited, Martti replied, "You waited for me? I should be waiting for you."

Several years ago Howie told me that he had once run for Hudson Division Director and tied in that race with Harry Dannals. It was the only time in ARRL history when there has been a tie in a director election. In the run off, Howie lost by twelve votes. Howie with a smile on his face said, "I always wanted to know who those twelve guys were." And after a pause he added, "..... so I could thank them."

Meeting Speaker (Continued from page 1)

John has won many awards for his contesting ability, including a special award from the Dayton Hamvention a couple years back. Many members of the club are getting into the contest spirit lately entering the 160 meter contest, CQ WW, Sweepstakes, etc. Expect John to impart some of his tips and techniques for successful contesting.



FROM THE PREZ...

Barry Campbell, W2CGX

Happy New Year to all! With the new year coming on, we're starting to crank up (that's a tower joke...) events and projects for the coming year.

First item on the agenda is, of course, it's DUES TIME. Dues are due in January, remember it's still \$30 for a single membership, and \$45 for family membership. Also remember that elections are coming in April, and if dues are not paid up, you can't vote!

Secondly, our annual Hamfest '03 is coming up on March 15 (the Ides of March!). Committees are being put together now, and we're already on the ARRL website and already a sanctioned event. If there is a specific job you want to do at the hamfest, I encourage you to contact the chairperson and get on the committee of your choice. Even better, if you want to chair a particular committee (there are still openings!) let me know ASAP. I plan to be a general chair of the event, but I will rely on committee chairpeople to select their committee members and keep their particular function operating. That should make for a smooth operation this year.

While on the subject of the Hamfest, I encourage everyone to talk to their favorite equipment suppliers, computer dealers, ham radio dealers, electronics dealers etc. etc. to encourage them to be a vendor at the hamfest. Talk up the fact that it's all indoors, electricity is available, and it's one of if not the first such event of the year. I'd particularly like to see more new or nearly new computer dealers, and I've been looking at getting some computer to ham radio interfaces available. In the latter category I'm thinking of sound card to transceiver interfaces such as West Mountain Radio and BUX interfaces. If everyone will pitch in, it will go a long way to making it easier for all of us to make this hamfest the best of all. Flyers will be available at the meeting for distribution to dealers and any other places where they'll be picked up.

Finally, Lou KB2VCI and Roberto, K2PA have already put together the next technician class. It's scheduled to start on Thursday, February 27, and each Thursday through May 22, when the VE session is scheduled. There are flyers available for the class, and widest distribution is requested. Special congratulations to those from the Fall class who became new Technician licensees! See the story elsewhere in the newsletter for details, and look for many of them at the meeting!

I also want to take this opportunity to thank everyone who attended the Awards dinner, and especially huge thanks go to Charlie, WB2NQV and Roberto, K2PA for setting it all up and executing the event spectacularly! (In spite of a couple attendees inadvertently getting onto the runway. One was last seen trying to get up enough airspeed to lift off before the end of the runway! --just kidding). Everyone I talked to said they had a great time, and having Frank Fallon and his lovely wife there was great too. We had the airport restaurant to ourselves, and the food was great! Let's do it again next year!

That's it for this month, we have a heavy schedule ahead, and we'll need the help of everyone in the club to pull it off! My special thanks in advance!

FCC SEEKS COMMENTS ON AMATEUR RADIO-RELATED PETITIONS

The FCC is inviting comments on two Amateur Radio-related petitions for rule making. Both have been put on public notice and are available for public review and comment. In his petition, designated RM-10620, Dale Reich, K8AD, has asked the Commission to automatically upgrade Novice and Advanced license holders to the "next" license class if the licensee has 20 or more years of operating experience. Reich has said such test-free upgrades would compensate for "the previous tougher exam that was past administered" and give credit for violation-free service records.

Among other proposed changes in his "merit and service upgrade" schedule, Reich asks that Novice phone privileges in the 2-meter band--rescinded in the 1970s--be reinstated for those still holding that license. In his petition, Reich asserts that Ama-

teur Radio the proposed changes could augment public service abilities on the part of the affected licensees.

In another amateur-related petition, designated RM-10621, AMSAT-NA has asked the FCC to drop its presently required 27-month pre-space notification to the FCC's international branch for Amateur Satellite launches and substitute a pre-space notification within 30 days of a launch commitment.

The comment deadline for both petitions is January 17, 2003. Interested parties may view the Reich and AMSAT petitions and file comments via the FCC's Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS) <<http://www.fcc.gov/e-file/ecfs.html>>. Commenters should include full name, US Postal Service mailing address and the applicable rulemaking number--RM-10620 or RM-10621.

THE CHERRYVILLE REPEATER ASSOCIATION II CLUB INFO:

Club Info Line (908) 788-4080	Website www.qsl.net/w2cra	Packet W2CRA 145.51
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Field Day	W2CG	(908) 788-2644	mjgrozi@postoffice.ptd.net
Holiday Party	N3QDC	(215) 766-8066	n3qdc@att.net
Merchandise	WB2NQV		wb2nqv@arrl.net
Traffic net	N2VWL	(908) 475-4716	n2vwl@epix.net
Programs	N2MIF	(908) 638-6172	
Refreshment	AB2PD	(908) 537-2501	albissed@ptd.net
Roster	KB2YJX	(908) 788-9153	
Scholarship	W2CG	(908) 788-2644	mjgrozi@postoffice.ptd.net
SkyWarn	N2VF	(908) 479-6346	n2vf@att.net
	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 15, 2003	Talk-in 147.375
W2CRA Field Day	June 28/29, 2003	147.375

Community Service Through Communication

SPECIAL EVENT, SPACE CONTACT TO MARK MARCONI TRANSMISSION CENTENNIAL

Special event station KM1CC will be on the air January 11-19, 2003, to mark the 100th anniversary of Guglielmo Marconi's inaugural wireless transmission between the US and Great Britain January 18, 1903 (January 19 UTC). On that date, from the sandy Cape Cod cliffs overlooking the Atlantic, Marconi--using a powerful (35 kW) rotary spark transmitter coupled to a massive antenna system--transmitted a 54-word greeting from President Theodore Roosevelt to England's King Edward VII. The monarch promptly acknowledged receipt of the message via land line and cable, literally igniting the spark of global communication.

The Marconi Radio Club, W1AA, and the Marconi Cape Cod Memorial Radio Club, KM1CC, are working in partnership with the National Park Service at Cape Cod National Seashore to organize the celebration. The special event will take place at the former Coast Guard station at Coast Guard Beach in Eastham, Massachusetts, which is near the original Marconi site. Operation will include several amateur modes, including SSB, CW, FM, digital and satellite.

Marconi Radio Club President Robert J. "Whitey" Doherty, K1VV, says operators will be on the air 24 hours a day from January 11 through January 19. "We have a half dozen operators who will live at the station for the full period," he said. The special event station will open to the public from 9 AM until 5 PM EST (1400-2200 UTC).

(Continued on page 4)

Marconi, (Continued from page 3)

An Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) school contact--the first of the new year with US students --is to be scheduled during the weeklong celebration. Doherty says that selected students from three Cape Cod high schools will speak via KM1CC with a member of the new Expedition 6 ISS crew. 1.

Marconi's daughter, Princess Elettra Marconi, is scheduled to attend the a reenactment of the groundbreaking wireless transmission on January 18, when KM1CC will transmit the text of Roosevelt's original message to King Edward VII.

KM1CC QSL card requests from US amateurs (include a self-addressed, stamped envelope) go via Barbara Dougan, KB1GSO, Cape Cod National Seashore, 99 Marconi Site Rd, Wellfleet, MA 02667. DX stations are invited to QSL via the W1 QSL Bureau.

Additional details are on the Marconi Radio Club Web site <<http://personal.tmlp.com/k1vv/w1aa/>>.

The Marconi site is a favorite haunt of Sandra and I when we head to Cape Cod every October.



For you guys with the IC-706 rigs in your car, thought you might enjoy seeing an installation of a '706' of one of the Pilgrim Radio Club members on Cape Cod. Note the automatic antenna tuner also.

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Public Service Through Communications