



UP-LiNK

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



Board Meeting July 11, 2002

Membership Meeting July 12, 2002

Cherryville members score well in 160 meter contest

The results are finally in for the 2001 160 Meter Contest held last December. This is a CW contest, and Don (EBL) Tardiff, KB2EBL was tenth place overall in the QRP category. His effort garnered 225 contacts for a total score of 18,228 points. He was also the top scorer in the Hudson Division.

Don's comment about the contest was, "When you're only five watts and the big guns are shoulder to shoulder on the band, you have to sneak in when they aren't looking!" He also said Murphy was lurking, but he was successful in kicking him out. Don used his FT-847 feeding a full-wave inverted V dipole, the center of which was at 50 feet. Congratulations, Don on a great



effort!

Another group of club members in the multi-operator class used John Crovelli's call, W2GD, and included Marty, W2CG, Tom, K2TW, Peter,

160 Contest (Continued on page 2)

Another Successful Field Day!

Once again Field Day has come and gone. And once again Cherryville was in the 4A category, and once again we scored high--so high, in fact, we broke the previous record! Preliminary calculations indicate we scored 20,012 total points for the weekend.



The most notable difference in the Field Day operation this year was the introduction of the GOTA station. GOTA--Get On The Air--gave an opportunity for operators with more restrictive frequency privileges and even unlicensed visitors to operate on frequencies anywhere in the amateur spectrum, under the direct supervision of control operators AB2DW, Tim, and Roberto, K2PA. These two Extra Class operators were the control ops for the entire event. The Gota tent made nearly 500 Q's (only the first 400 count), and worked stations throughout the U.S. as well as many DX stations. The best part about the

event was the 100 foot crane holding up the multiband dipole! Actually the crane was also used to hoist and lower the 40-foot tower and tri-band beam too. Gary, N2AUO brought and setup the crane from his company. The GOTA team operated mostly on 10, 15 and 40 meters.

There were a number of high scorers this year, including just over 1,000 Q's for the 40 meter CW station, and 986 for 40 phone. Forty meters was hot! Twenty CW was close behind, with 971 Q's, and 20 phone had 750.

The satellite tent also scored big--36 Q's this year! Attempts were made to contact the newest bird, AO-40, but to no avail. The standby birds provided a number of contacts, and on Sunday just before close, several visitors were in the satellite tent as the International

Space Station passed over, and seven of them got the chance to talk with the Russian commander of the ISS!

We made a number of 100 point bonuses too, including Satellite, public information booth, transmitter power and generator power.

And, of course, the food was excellent as usual!

We had the usual dogs and burgers Friday evening and Saturday lunch, but the fajitas were great Saturday night!

Field Day (Continued on page 2)



Field Day (Continued from page 1)

Charlie and Elaine outdid themselves putting it all together. I enjoyed a great omelet Sunday morning, and the "road kill" chili was great as usual. And weren't those new tents great? They were the perfect replacement for the old circus tent--which is now gone for good!

John has spent the last week or so trying to find out how a group who was 4A in Puerto Rico did. We think we beat 'em, but they're holding it close to the vest, so I guess we'll have to just wait until the final scores are in.

Thanks to all the participating members for a great Field Day!

160 Contest (Continued from page 1)

KU2C, Bob, N200 and Danny, W2NO. This team scored seventh overall with 1,111 Q's and 256,838 points. The team's location was SNJ, and they were beaten by a team from the Frankford club for top spot of the Atlantic division.

The high scorer for the contest overall was an unbelievable station, VY2ZMM, located on Prince Edward Island. He was a single operator (K1ZM), using high power, and his score was 556,514.

The full story of the 160 meter contest results will appear in the August issue of QST, and is available now on the ARRL website, members only section.

Congratulations to all for a great showing on the top band!

FROM THE PREZ...

Barry Campbell, W2CGX

The past month was sure a busy one. The Young Eagles event, giving more than 100 young people a chance to experience flying, The Bucks County Horse Park USEA event, Field Day, and the July 4th parade in Lebanon.

Field Day. Wow! That was an experience for me, dealing more with the overall operation of FD than just parking my kiester in the Satellite Tent! Needless to say, I learned a lot. The best part is that we appear to have broken the old 4A record. The satellite tent was great with 36 contacts, plus the fantastic conversations several people in the tent had with the ISS commander just before the 2:00 p.m. stopping time on Sunday.

Personally, I think the GOTA station is a fantastic idea. Lots of people who are timid about jumping into one of the fast-paced stations were delighted to make contacts with U.S. and DX stations on frequencies they previously weren't able to operate. Even non-licensed visitors got a chance to do a little operating under the tutelage of Tim or Roberto, the Extra Class control operators.

Thanks Charlie and Elaine, for the great food fare throughout the weekend. Charlie was far from feeling tip-top, but the cuisine was still delicious. And those new tents--they're great! Maybe one or two more???

If there were any regrets, several commented we could have used a couple more fresh bodies for the teardown. Heck, I'd have taken a couple more bodies fresh or not! I know I was, as were many others, exhausted Sunday night!

It was a great effort by a lot of very talented people. Thanks to you all for a great Field Day!

All these events, plus working with such a group of talented people makes one realize what a resource we have here in the Cherryville Association. I know the county EOC people know our value, and more and more the people we serve do too. We have a lot of interests among our members. I'm proud to be a part!

**Technician License course coming in September...
Details at the meeting and on the web. Tell your
friends... Sign 'em up now through the Red Cross.**

COFFEE

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A continued thank you to all the members who contribute to the Field Day Port-a-potty fund. Now that Field Day 2002 is over, the contributions accumulate towards Field Day 2003!

Special thanks to Donna Somers (wife of WA2JBK) for the absolutely de-

licious pineapple upside down cake and the banana bread she baked and brought to the June meeting. Donna, you know it was well received—even the

crumbs were gone!

Despite the summer weather, HOT coffee seems to be enjoyed by the members!

There is one rule that the refreshment committee has: The breads and coffee are for the break—then there will be plenty for all.

73, and enjoy!
KB2YJX

Public Service

After a rash of spring and early summer public service events, a dry spell sets in for the summer vacation period.

The next event will be a return trek to the Bucks County Horse Park on August 17, and 14 operators are needed. There are three events in October, the first is again at Bucks County on October 13. Though not confirmed yet, there is also the possibility that the Battle of the Bands will also be on October 13, and the JOTA event on Oct. 19 & 20.

November 9 is a return trip to Bucks County, and Blackwells Mills event will be on Nov. 3rd.

Public Service events prior to this month have included April's March of Dimes Walkathon in the rain, two Bucks County Horse Park events, one the USEA national event, and the Lebanon parade on July 4.

Here's the schedule for the rest of the year again:

- ? August 17 Bucks County Horse Park 14 ops, N2VWL contact
- ? October 13 Bucks County Horse Park 14 ops, N2VWL contact
- ? Oct. 13 (tent.) Battle of the Bands, AA2MJ contact
- ? Oct. 19 & 20 Jamboree on the Air, Ops needed both days N2NV contact
- ? November 3, Blackwells Mills horse event, 7 ops needed
- ? November 9 Bucks County Horse Park, 14 ops needed N2VWL contact

IT'S ALIIIVE! AMSAT-OSCAR 7 SATELLITE RETURNS FROM THE DEAD

From ARRL

After being declared dead more than 20 years ago, the AMSAT-OSCAR 7 satellite suddenly came back to life this month. First heard June 21 by Pat Gowan, G3IOR, AO-7 subsequently has been monitored--and used again--by several other amateurs. AO-7 was launched November 15, 1974. It remained operational for more than six years before succumbing to battery failure in 1981.

"I'm blown away," was the reaction of AO-7 Project Manager Jan King, W3GEY. "So, this old war horse of a spacecraft seems to have come back from the dead if only for a few moments."

Exclaimed satellite enthusiast and AMSAT Vice President for User Services Bruce Paige, KK5DO, "This is really awesome!" Paige said the latest turn of events makes AO-7 the oldest amateur satellite that's still working. AMSAT-NA has now listed AO-7 as "semi-operational."

AMSAT says it seems certain the satellite is running only off its solar panels, not from the onboard batteries, so it will be operational only while it's in sunlight. King speculates that the batteries, which shorted as they failed two decades ago, now are "un-shorting" and causing the satellite to come back to life.

For those attempting to use AO-7, Mode A (2 meters up/10 meters down) is not a problem, but Mode B (70 cm up/2 meters down) is. Because of changes in the international Radio Regulations that went into effect in the 1970s as AO-7 was under construction, the 432.1 MHz uplink frequency is no longer authorized for space communications.

AMSAT advises potential users that when uplinking to a satellite, they are operating in the Amateur-Satellite Service. AMSAT says uplinking to AO-7 "is possibly illegal since the Amateur Satellite Service is not permitted at 432.1 MHz." The current band plan earmarks the 432.1 MHz range for weak signal work. Sec-

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	W2CGX	Barry Campbell	(908) 788-9153	w2cgx@qsl.net
VP	N2ZVY	Pat Mauro	(908) 470-6346	n2zvy@att.net
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	(908) 782-9698	mgrohol@blast.net
N2ZVY	Patrick Mauro	(908) 470-6346	n2zvy@att.net
K2PA	Roberto Matos	(908) 369-7245	k2pa@arrl.net
AB2DW	Tom Deegan	(908) 236-0698	tomdeegan@rcn.com
N2QOR	Justin Marchetta	(908) 439-3094	n2qor@aol.com

COMMITTEE CHAIRPEOPLE:

Public service	WB2NQV	(940) 691-0001	wb2nqv@arrl.net
Technical	N3MSK	(610) 252-6193	n3msk@amsat.org
EmergencyMgmt/	KC2CMC	(908) 806-3998	varas@earthlink.net
RACES	K2PA	(908) 788-8253	k2pa@arrl.net
Education	KB2VCI		ramgl@netcarrier.com
VE Testing	W2CG	(908) 788-2644	mjgrozi@postoffice.ptd.net
Field Day	N3QDC	(215) 766-8066	n3qdc@att.net
Holiday Party	WB2NQV		wb2nqv@arrl.net
Merchandise	N2VWL	(908) 475-4716	n2vwl@epix.net
Traffic net	N2MIF	(908) 638-6172	
Programs	AB2PD	(908) 537-2501	ka2yyb@arrl.net
Refreshment	KB2YJX	(908) 788-9153	
Roster	W2CG	(908) 788-2644	mjgrozi@postoffice.ptd.net
Scholarship	N2ZVY	(908) 479-6346	n2zvy@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

*A*O-7 Lives again (Continued from page 3)*

tions 97.207(c)(2) and 97.207(b)(2) of the FCC's rules authorize space station and earth station operation only in the 435-438 MHz segment.

Built by a multinational team under the direction of AMSAT-NA, AO-7 carries Mode A (145.850-950 MHz uplink; 29.400-500 MHz downlink) and Mode B (432.180-120 MHz uplink; 145.920-980 MHz downlink) linear transponders plus beacons on 29.502 and 145.972 MHz. A 2304.1 MHz beacon was never turned on because of international treaty constraints.

AMSAT has additional information on AO-7 on its Web site <<http://www.amsat.org>>.

Here's an idea to think about

Frank Brickle, AB2KT passed along an idea he had heard from Mike Yetsko, N1DVJ. Mike says that instead of refarming the novice bands as is now being proposed, keep the bands the way they are now, and permit all techs, coded or non-coded to use the novice portion of the 15, 40 and 80 meter bands to practice using cw to make contacts, thereby developing their code ability.

Mike also says the FCC could impose QRP type restrictions for power, which is similar to Japanese rules. The thought is that it might encourage more practice and more conversions to general and extra.

Apparently the idea was proposed to the ARRL previously, and was not accepted then, but may be worth pursuing again. What do you think?

All-ham crew settles in aboard the ISS

The International Space Station Expedition 5 crew of US astronaut Peggy Whitson, KC5ZTD, Russian cosmonaut and crew commander Valery Korzun, RZ3FK, and cosmonaut Sergei Treshev, RZ3FU, is settling in aboard the space outpost. The increment 5 crew is the second all-ham crew to serve a duty tour aboard the ISS. The Expedition 5 team will be in space for 4-1/2 months.

Scheduled Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) school

contacts are set to resume in early July, when QSOs have been penciled in with the Progymnasium Rosenfeld in Rosenfeld, Germany, and the Adler Planetarium and Astronomy Museum in Chicago. Other contacts with schools and educational institutions in the US and abroad are pending.

Although school contacts have been on hold during the crew transition, all has not been silent on the ARISS front. Korzun occasionally has been active on 2 meters as RS0ISS and even made a few contacts during Field Day, including our own Field Day operation.



Left—Aerial view of the FD site.

Right—W2CGX prepares ATV demonstration.



Cherryville Repeater Association II
P.O. Box 308
Quakertown NJ 08868
Public Service Through Communications"