

UP-LiNK



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



July 1999

BOARD MEETING July 7
CRA II CLUB MEETING July 9
7:30 P.M.
Program: CRA Repeater operation

NOTE:

NEW MEETING TIME
7:30 P.M.

FIELD DAY !!!

WOW! Another Field Day has come and gone. Man, was it hot! Everything, that is, except maybe 10 and 15 meters. Both Friday setup and Sunday teardown were done in unbearable heat. And the operating positions were sweatboxes with fans; luckily all the radios and computers held up in the heat. But rumour has it that the main generators battery was boiling on Sunday afternoon.

Special thanks go out to all the teardown crew, working in the hot sun. All seven towers were down and in the trailer by five o'clock in spite of the heat. And also to the setup crew on Friday (when it was just as hot), all the operators, and the support personnel. And the great food crew!

As most of you know, we operated in a new class this year: 5A. This allowed us to keep another station on the hottest band at all times, working CW on one and phone on the other (20 meters in the daytime and 40 meters at night.) So, we hope to shoot for the top of that class and maybe all the way to number 1 overall.

Band conditions were pretty good. Novice station set new all time record: *Way to go!!!* 75 meter phone and 80 meter CW were up this year, but not as good as a few years back. The VHF station had fantastic runs on 6 meters, probably an all time record there also! The 20 and 40 CW and the 20/40 phone stations all did great, hammering out about 1000 Qs each. Satellite had some good passes with lots of Qs. And they even worked the MIR space station!

Many thanks to all the operators, especially our FRC guests. And to our two traveling members: WB2NQV from Texas and N2OCW from W. Virginia.

	CW	SSB	Totals
80	402	500	902
40	1,022	885	1,907
20	1,151	957	2,108
15	420	248	668
10	44	193	237
Nov	0	258	258
6	43	301	344
2	7	77	84
Sat	5	41	46
Solar		12	12
Totals	3,094	3,472	6,566

<u>Score</u>	
SSB QSOs	3,472
CW QSOs *2	6,188
Raw QSO Score	9,660
QSO x Pwr Factor	19,320
<u>Bonuses</u>	
Emergency Power	500
Media Publicity	100
Public Location	100
Public Info Booth	100
Message Origination	100
Satellite	100
Natural Power	100
W1AW Message	100
Bonus Total	1200

Total Score 20520
New RECORD High Score

From the Pres...

And First Lady

Pedal the Petals

The club is selling Brecks BULBS for our fund-raiser. We earn 1/2 of everything we sell. Last years bulb drive earned us \$390.00 with just six participants. Just think of the possibilities if all club members participated! Orders are due with \$\$\$ on or before the August meeting. Bulbs should be received in time for the October Meeting. All check should be made payable to you so that cash can be submitted. For more information contact Lisa France @ N3QDC @ ATT.NET or see me at the club meeting.

MISSING-

Two Brown Coffee Dispensers - We used them at Field Day last year and they didn't come back this year. If you have these in your possession, bring them to the July Meeting. Check your garage and attic!

AN INTERVIEW WITH TIM McLAUGHLIN, N2UYV

1. How did you learn about ham radio?

My dad was a radio operator in World War II, and when I was a youngster one of our neighbors was a ham, and my dad had developed some interest because of him. But, because of the license requirements at that time, you had to travel to the state capitol (Indianapolis, Indiana) to take the exam, and that was outside the realm of possibility for us. If it hadn't been for that my dad would have been a ham. (There is a possibility that he just might have been involved in some "bootleg" operation, using my mother's metal-core clothesline as an antenna.)

Much later, in 1993, I came across a flyer announcing a ham radio course at Hunterdon Central high school. I had been looking for activities that my son and I could participate in together, and this looked like a good opportunity for us to spend some time together. It was a good class, and Tim and I did spend a lot of time learning together.

As it turned out, I became a ham and he didn't. But he was stimulated into getting involved in other areas of electronics, and I still have hopes that he will become a ham.

2. How did you learn about the CRA?

Well, it turns out that the radio course I mentioned was conducted by Carl (KF2QS), Buck (W4TIV), and George (W2RIJ) of the CRA. During the course, several CRA members came out to assist in the training and tell us about the club's various activities. At the end of the course the students were all invited to join the club. Which I did!!

I believe that the folks that conduct those classes don't get nearly enough credit for the personal sacrifices they make, and the quality of the training they provide.

3. Are there any other hams in your family?

Not at this time, but I keep hoping that one of my SIX kids will get involved. Wait! That's not true! I have to take that back. My wife Cheryl has a ham license (KB2RWY). She and I are very interested in the public service aspect of ham radio. She served for a couple of years as club Secretary, and is a prime mover in making our annual Awards Dinner a success.

4. What aspects of ham radio interest you most?

First and foremost - Cherryville's Field Day is without a doubt the ham event of the year! Field day in the Novice tent was one of my greatest experiences. Now I continue to participate by helping to set up the Novice tent to make sure it's available for others, and lining up and encouraging people to work in the Novice tent.

Public service is another aspect that I really enjoy, largely because of the camaraderie and teamwork that typifies our public service nets. I feel that we are actively giving something back to the community. After all, it is the community that gives us the frequencies that we enjoy.

I also enjoy doing a little contesting, primarily with the Franklin Radio Club of Philadelphia, to which I also belong. I usually get involved in two of the 'phone contests, in which I prefer to operate the graveyard shift when nobody else is awake. I enjoy that because I can operate at my own pace, and don't have to worry about trying to keep up with "pileups". I have a heck of a good time talking to people all over the world.

I also enjoy listening to our commuter net. I don't talk a lot on that net. I haven't mounted a rig in my car yet, so I'm using a hand-held with a rubber ducky. But I listen a lot, so be careful of what you say.

5. What are your favorite bands and which do you work most?

I like 40 and 80 meters CW. I'm not very good at it, but I do enjoy it. I like 10 meters 'phone, especially in the Novice tent. I really enjoy watching the novices on the air, especially now that the bands are opening up.

I'm due to start my Master's program soon (an on-line Business Admin program offered by the University of Phoenix), and I hope to have enough time to start pursuing a license upgrade by Christmas.

6. What kind of equipment do you operate?

My HF rig is an ICOM 737 with no amplifier. Right now I have no functional antenna. But I do have an R7 that needs some work, a 65-foot crank-up tower laying on the ground that I haven't gotten around to putting up yet, and a tri-band yagi in the garage. I have a dilemma because of a height restriction here in Hillsboro. I have some 2 meter equipment that I use for packet radio, along with a controller (TNC) that I got from Derry (W2XT). I have a couple of HTs (FT 530) for 2 meters and 440 MHz. I must tell you - while visiting Derry recently, my wife and I worked a station in central Africa. It was a solid contact with S9+ signals - with the amplifier turned off and the antenna pointed the wrong way!

7. What kind of work do you do?

I work for AT&T. I'm what they call a "bean counter", which means I am an accountant. I manage the budget for a group of about 1000 people, which keeps me pretty busy.

8. What other interests do you have besides ham radio?

My wife and I have three daughter that are 4H members, and they raise sheep. So, by default I am involved with 4H. I help to set up the electrical distribution system at the Somerset County 4H Fair out at North Branch Park. Believe it or not, Somerset county has the largest fair under canvas in the eastern half of the United States. It takes about two weeks to set up the lighting, and it all has to come down in one night.

9. What do you feel the CRA offers you?

First of all you get a quality repeater. I've heard it from the Tappan Zee bridge all the way to Hershey Pennsylvania. The ham radio courses sponsored by the club are a boon to all of us. My membership in the club has broadened the scope of my activities as a person, and that can only result in growth.

10. What can you do, or have you done, to help the CRA?

Early on I decided that if I was going to bin in the club I was going to be active, so I've tried to participate in public service events as often as possible. I try to go out of my way to do that. I think it's important to make sure that the community we are part of sees us, with our radios in hand, helping them in their fund raisers, marches, walkathons, etc. We want them to be aware that amateur radio is actively serving them.

I ran for and was elected Secretary. I felt that this was a good way for me to serve that club without having to have a lot of technical knowledge. As Secretary I learned a lot about the activities of the club, made a lot of good friends, and participated actively on the Board.

I feel that three years as Secretary isn't bad for someone who has only been a ham for six years.

I have supported all of the club's hamfests. The first year I didn't know what a hamfest was, but I learned quickly. I have

tried to help with all of the setups and tear-downs. I find that being active in the club leads to making a lot of good friends.

11. Are there any special thoughts you'd like to pass along to the other CRA members?

Make a special effort to bring new people into the club. That's the only way any group can grow, in every sense of the word. I see a lot of people sitting on the sidelines in our club. Perhaps they don't realize that becoming involved is the responsibility of every member (of any club). Don't worry about how much you know or don't know, just jump in. There is always some activity or committee that can use whatever talents or ideas you have.

Get off the bench and into the game!

Hamfest list

- July 11 Mid-Island ARC Patchogue, NY
- July 11 Mid-Atlantic ARC Kimberton, PA
- July 18 Jonestown Mountain Repeater Assn.
Beach Haven, PA
- Oct. 4 Packrats: location to be announced!
Yes, the old drive-in is really gone this time!

CRA II CLUB INFORMATION

The Cherryville Repeater Association II is a non profit New Jersey Corporation dedicated to Community Service Through Communication. **Meetings** are held on the second Friday of each month at 8:00 PM at the **Flemington Baptist Church** unless otherwise announced. Visitors are always welcome! Also, everyone is welcome on the Thursday Night Traffic Net, at 8 PM every Thursday, followed at 9:30 by the Swap-Net, and the ARES-RACES net at 7:30 PM on the first Thursday each month, all on the 147.375 repeater.

OFFICERS:

Pres: N3QDC, Rob France (215) 766-8066
N3QDC@att.net
VP: KB2DDM, Susan MacRea (908) 475-5299
KB2DDM@fast.net
Sec: N3ODB, Elaine Kita (610) 252-6193
Treas: Brian Campbell, N2RDL (610) 559-1509
lupinus@fast.net
Technical Chairman: N3MSK, Ed Kita (610) 252-6193
n3msk@amsat.org

CLUB INFO LINE (908) 788-4080

WEBSITE: www.qsl.net/w2cra

UPLiNK A CRA II Publication

Editors Marty Grozinski, W2CG

Roster & Mailing: mjgrozi@postoffice.ptd.net
Keith Burt, KB5U

Articles & Info: kb5u@blast.net
Roberto Matos, K2PA: Interviews

UPLiNK

CHERRYVILLE REPEATER ASSOCIATION II, Inc.
P.O. BOX 308
QUAKERTOWN, NJ 08868

THE CHERRYVILLE REPEATER ASSOCIATION II

A non profit New Jersey Corporation dedicated to Community Service Through Communication.

Members actively participate in local emergencies requiring communications from tornadoes to blizzards to floods, as well as providing health and safety communications for events such as walk-a-thons, bike-a-thons, tri-athlons and parades.

Traffic Net, at 8 PM every Thursday, followed at 9:30 by the Swap-Net - 147.375 repeater
ARES-RACES net at 7:30 PM on the first Thursday each month- 147.375 repeater

	REPEATERS	
2 meters	147.375 +	147.015 + (5Z)
220	224.120 -	
440	444.850 +	446.475-
CLUB INFO LINE (908) 788-4080	WEBSITE www.qsl.net/w2cra	PACKET W2CRA 145.51

CRA CALENDAR EVENTS

July 7 Board meeting Skyland Triathlon September 19th
July 9 Club meeting 7:30 PM The Battle of the Bands will be around Oct. 23