

UP-LiNK



W2CRA

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

"Community Service Through Communication"



June 2001

BOARD MEETING June 6 8:00 PM

CLUB MEETING June 8 7:30 PM

PUBLIC SERVICE

de WB2NQV

The March of Dimes Walk in April went very smoothly, thanks in part to the number of operators we had. This made W2CG, Marty's job of safety of the walkers an easy task. Also the Equestrian Event at Bucks County Horse Park had seven ops helping Bob, WB2F make it a smooth, enjoyable and safe day for all the participants. The next events are the Special Equestrian June 16, N2VWL Coordinator N2VWL@epix.net, and the Lebanon Parade July 4 WB2NQV Coordinator WB2NQV@arrl.net. The other confirmed dates for the year 2001 are; Bucks County Horse Park August 12, October 7 and November 10 and 11, N2VWL Coordinator N2VWL@epix.net. If you can help with any of these events contact the event coordinator or myself at WB2NQV@arrl.net.

For the latest Public Service dates log on the CRA web site <http://www.qsl.net/w2cra>

SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED

de N2ZVY

The Cherryville Repeater Association awarded two graduating high school seniors academic scholarships at their June, 8, 2001 club meeting held at the Flemington Baptist Church in Flemington, NJ.

The following high school seniors were the recipients of the Cherryville Repeater Associations Annual Memorial Scholarship:

Michael Lanieri of Branchburg, NJ-in the amount of \$250.00; and,

Mary McLaughlin of Hillsborough, NJ- in the amount of \$250.00.

Michael, a licensed ham radio operator, whose call sign is N2UJW, lives in Branchburg with his parents, and will graduate from Somerville High School later this month.

Michael is an honor roll student who is a volunteer member of Branchburg's Office of Emergency Management, also participates in sports. He plans to attend the University of Massachusetts at Amherst in the fall majoring in Sports Management. Micheal's father, Thomas Lanieri, is a long-time member of the CRA.

Mary McLaughlin of Hillsborough, is slated to graduate this month from Hillsborough High School. She will be attending Cook College in the fall. Both her mother and father, Tim and Cheryl McLaughlin, are active members of the CRA.

Both students displayed academic excellence and community service. These attributes along with other criteria were used by the scholarship committee during the decision making process.

Each recipient was presented their awards by the scholarship committee whose members are: Patrick Mauro, of Alexandria Township, Scholarship Chairperson, John Crovelli, of Frenchtown, and Elaine Langdon, of Middlesex. Club President, Rob France, of Plumsteadville, PA, presented each winner with a scholarship certificate.

The CRA memorial scholarship honors the memory of deceased club members.

CRA PROGRAM SCHEDULE

de Denis KA2YYB

June Meeting: **FIELD DAY 2001**

Upcoming meeting programs include APRS, weather, safety, "The Future of Amateur Radio"

HAMFEST CALENDAR

de George N2VWL

Here is a list of ARRL sanctioned Hamfests in New Jersey, for the current year:

16 June Raritan Valley ARA Dunellen
12 Aug. Jersey Shore ARS Bayville
6 Oct. Bergen ARA Hackensack

The following are those in nearby PA:

9 June Colombia-Montour ARC Bloomsburg
1 July Murgas ARC Wilkes Barre (Dallas)
15 July Mid-Atlantic ARC Kimberton
15 Sept. Del. Lehigh Schnecksville

EXTREME HOME BREW

This is the first of a multi-month serial outlining the radio exploits of H.G. Wells, a British soldier held captive by the Japanese during the Second World War. I found it an extraordinary tale, one of remarkable ingenuity. The text is in Mr. Wells' English. I made no attempt to Anglicize his words. It is worth reading two or three times to fully appreciate what was accomplished.—*ed.*

The need for a radio.

It was about the beginning of 1942 when I was a prisoner of war of the Japanese, when I was ordered to go on a working party which eventually finished up in Sandakan in British North Borneo. 2,000 odd of us were on this work party and it wasn't long before we noticed the absence of information as to the international situation, what was happening in the outside world, and the whole camp had a real craving to get news by whatever means. Escape parties were being organised, but none of these was very successful. The next thing people turned to was a means of getting some radio news, and this is where the building of a radio set became an urgent requirement. The main thing, of course, was that we didn't have any components and although we had some contacts outside which later on were helpful in the building of this receiver, it limited our requirement to a **regenerative receiver** as distinct from a **superheterodyne receiver** and the decision to do that was borne out by the results. The high frequency spectrum during that time of the war was fairly quiet in that part of the world and the BBC, we hoped, would be able to be received. This was aided by the fact that the Japanese in their wisdom called a friend of mine out one evening to repair their radio set and he took the opportunity, of course, to switch over to the short wave bands, with headphones while doing that, and picked up the BBC successfully. That day was memorable because it was the day that the BBC broadcast the death of the

Duke of Kent in an aircraft crash. That was the only news we had of the outside world for something like six months.

Next month: Creating the capacitor

BBC To End Shortwave Broadcasts to North America

On June 30th, 2001, the BBC will discontinue its renowned shortwave radio World Service broadcasts to North America and large areas of the Pacific region. The BBC will now rely on Internet broadcasting to transmit its programming. Swiss Radio International has dropped 80% of its shortwave programming too. The reason: its cheaper and delivers higher audio quality, and reaches more people over the Internet. Today, more consumers have personal computers and Internet connections than have shortwave receivers. Other alternatives have also emerged including the satellite digital radio broadcast services of Worldspace. An end of an era is coming - the end of shortwave broadcasting.

Alinco Restructures, Kachina Drops Out

Alinco Electronics has closed its California office and shifted its US business operations to an independent distributor in Ohio. Effective May 3, 2001, Alinco says in a news release, customer service and distribution to dealers will be handled by Atoc Amateur Distributing of Covington, Ohio. All warranties will remain in force and will be honored for their full terms, according to the announcement. Alinco's US manager, Katsumi Nakata, said the company would be concentrating on designing and manufacturing new products while Atoc serviced its dealers and customers.

Meanwhile, Kachina Communications announced in mid-May that it is dropping out of the amateur radio market and discontinuing all of its HF radios (commercial and amateur), including the 505DSP. The 505DSP was the first computer-based amateur radio transceiver. In a letter posted on the internet, Kachina Vice President Cameron Earnshaw said the company would continue to honor all factory warranties, and would continue providing service and spare parts for Kachina HF radios "for the foreseeable future."

FIELD DAY JUNE 23 & 24

Don't miss it!

Comments Sought on Revised Extra Class Syllabus

The Question Pool Committee of the National Conference of Volunteer Examiner Coordinators has released the draft syllabus for the new Element 4 (Extra Class) Question Pool, and is seeking comments from amateurs. This question pool will become effective July 1, 2002. The draft syllabus can be found and downloaded from <http://www.arrl.org/arrlvec/pool.html>. Comments must be received prior to August 15, 2001, and should be e-mailed to all three members of the committee: Chairman Scotty Neustadter, W4WW, W4WW@arrl.net; Bart Jahnke, W9JJ, vec@arrl.org; and Fred Maia, W5YI, fmaia@prodigy.net.

AO-40 On the Air

The transponder on OSCAR-40 was opened for limited amateur use in May, and satellite-active hams around the world immediately began making contacts and reporting excellent results. The satellite is currently operating with uplinks on 435 and 1269 MHz, and a downlink on 2401 MHz. A recent attempt to activate AO-40's 10-GHz (X-Band) transmitter was unsuccessful, and AMSAT officials said it appears that no power is getting to the transmitter. According to the AMSAT News Service (ANS), the system had worked flawlessly before launch, and ground controllers are continuing to try to resolve the problem. A test of the 24-GHz transmitter appeared to be successful, but controllers said more tests are needed before it is fully activated. One big success was the activation of LEILA, an innovative system designed to prevent overly strong signals from using up a disproportionate share of the satellite's power. With the system turned on, any signal stronger than the satellite's own beacon sets off a siren on the downlink frequency, warning the operator to reduce power. If the warning is ignored, the system will attempt to notch out the offending signal. It was turned on after complaints were received of some stations using too much power to access the satellite. According to ANS, "this is the first time that such a system has been used in space for a transponder with uncoordinated multiple accesses." Users are reminded to avoid operating within 5 kHz of the satellite's Middle Beacon frequency of 2401.323 MHz.

HAMS AND CB'ERS TOGETHER AT LAST

The ARRL has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with REACT, an emergency response service that began in CB but has since expanded to include GMRS (General Mobile Radio Service) users and amateurs. According to the ARRL Letter, the agreement says the two organizations will "cooperate and utilize their resources to optimum mutual benefit." President Jim Haynie, W5JBP, himself a longtime member of Dallas

REACT, says the agreement can benefit members of both groups, not only in terms of emergency communications but also on such matters as antenna ordinances.

CRA II CLUB INFORMATION

The Cherryville Repeater Association II, Inc. is a non-profit New Jersey Corporation dedicated to Community Service Through Communication. **Meetings** are held on the second Friday of each month at **7:30 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 8:30 PM on the first Thursday each month (immediately following the traffic net), all on the 147.375 repeater.

UPLiNK A CRA II Publication

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Many thanks to all those who have contributed articles or information for this publication, including: WB2NQV, N2VWL, N2ZVY, KA2YYB, the ARRL, The Center for the History of Defense Electronics Museum, Ham Radio Online and all not mentioned for their help. This newsletter is an open forum for the Cherryville Repeater Association, II Inc. and its members, of general interest Club and ham radio related interest items. The opinions contained herein are those of the authors who have contributed their work. The officers and members of the CRA II Inc. are not liable for its contents.

Articles and information are always welcome, and may sometimes be edited for content, punctuation, grammar, and newsletter space.

Deadline for submission for all issues is two weeks prior to the Board meetings.

"Don't compromise yourself. You're all you've got."
- Janis Joplin

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	N3QDC	Rob France	(215) 766-8066	n3qdc@att.net
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Public service	WB2NQV		Wb2nqv@arrl.net
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Emergency	KC2CMC	(908) 806-3998	varas@earthlink.net
-Mgmt/ RACES	K2PA	(908) 788-8253	k2pa@arrl.net
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VE Testing	W2CG	(908) 788-2644	mjgrozi@postoffice.ptd.net
Field Day	N3QDC	(215) 766-8066	n2qdc@worldnet.att.net
Holiday Party	KB2RWY	(908) 253-8783	
Merchandise	N2VWL	(908) 475-4716	n2vwl@juno.com
Traffic net	N2MIF	(908) 638-6172	
Programs	KA2YYB	(908) 537-2501	ka2yyb@arrl.net
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Scholarship	N2ZVY	(908) 479-6346	kc2boh@worldnet.att.net
SkyWarn	N2VWL	(908) 475-4716	n2vwl@juno.com

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
Swap Net	Thursday, 9:30 PM	147.375
Complex Repeater Net	Sunday, 7:30 PM	147.015

MAJOR EVENTS:

W2CRA Hamfest	March 17, 2001	Talk-in 147.375
W2CRA Field Day	June 23, 2001	147.375

UP-LINK
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