

UP-LiNK



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



May 1999

BOARD MEETING May 12
CRA II CLUB MEETING May 14

CRA HAMFEST SUCCESS

The Cherryville Hamfest on April 24th was a big success. Final numbers will be available for the Club meeting: Both indoor vendors and tailgating were up from last year, as well as attendance of buyers. Due to large 'leftover' cement items in the main arena, the tailgating area was changed to the back road. This worked well and resulted in a number of positive comments from both vendors and buyers.

On behalf of Mike and myself, I want to personally thank you for all the work you and the fellow club members put in to this Hamfest. The experience was heartfelt.

Randy N2MQZ

VE Test results at the Cherryville Hamfest April 24th.

The VEs at this session were:

W2CG NU2W WA2TWS K2PA NR2H K2WJ
We had a very disappointing turnout of only 9 candidates, and we were through testing by 11:30 AM. (I can remember the days at the Flemington Hamfest where we would have 60 or 70 candidates and not finish until 4:30 PM.)

Of the 12 test elements administered only 3 elements received a passing grade (either the tests are getting harder or the candidates are unprepared). There was only 1 upgrade attained which was from Tech to Tech Plus. No new licenses were earned.

FIELD DAY
JUNE 25-27TH

PUBLIC SERVICE

The M/S walk on Sunday, April 18th was very low key, easy event. Tim N2UYV, and 5 other members covered the course. The walker turnout seemed lighter than ever, even though it was a nice sunny day.

For the Sunday, April 25th March of Dimes walk at Spruce Run Reservoir, we had just enough operators. They were: W2CG - NCS KE2HQ W2RIJ N2VWL KC2EBL KB2EBL K2YSY (Pete ex KC2EVT) KC2CMC KA2TOV It was a very pleasant Sunday at the Spruce Run Reservation. Using the 147.015 repeater we assisted with directing vehicles, kept track of all walk participants, kept the organizers organized and helped with logistics at the check points. Over 600 walkers participated and I'm glad to report no safety incidents occurred.

The March of Dimes organizers expressed their sincere appreciation for the Cherryville Repeater Association members on their outstanding effort and their communications expertise.

73 de W2CG

N3QDC Elected to Second Term

Rob France, N3QDC, was elected to a second term as president of the Cherryville Repeater Association II at the April meeting. There were some newcomers elected to some of the other posts, and a first-time-ever runoff election for one of the Member-at-Large positions. Susan MacRae, KB2DDM was elected vice president, Elaine Kita, N3ODB, formerly the treasurer, was elected secretary. Board newcomer Brian Campbell, N2RDL was elected treasurer.

Eight candidates vied for the three Member-at-large seats. Ed Kita, N3MSK and John Crovelli, W2GD were selected outright, but Mike Varas, KC2CMC and Roberto Matos, K2PA tied and a runoff was held to determine the third seat. Roberto was declared the winner in a close runoff vote. Several long-time members commented they had not seen this kind of excitement in an annual election in a long time. The nominating/tally committee, Mike Grohol, KA2TOV and Barry Campbell, W2CGX were busy that night. "I missed most of the meeting just counting," Barry said.

Congratulation to all the new and returning officers!

- Rob France, N3QDC President
- Susan MacRae, KB2DDM VicePresident
- Elaine Kita, N3ODB Secretary
- Brian Campbell, N2RDL Treasurer.

Board Members:

- Ed Kita, N3MSK
- John Crovelli, W2GD
- Roberto Matos, K2PA
- Mike Grohol, KA2TOV
- Barry Campbell, W2CGX

Ken Liddane WB2GWD SK

It is our regret to inform you that Ken Liddane (WB2GWD) passed away Tuesday, April 27th, after battling cancer for over a year. Ken was a Past President of the Cherryville Repeater Association II. A memorial service was held at the Readdington Reform Church, on Sunday, May 2, 1999.

CLUB MERCHANDISE AVAILABLE

"T" Shirts
Golf Shirts
Sweat Shirts
Hooded Sweat Shirts
Wind Breakers
Hats
Totes

All are emblazoned with the CRA logo, ordered to your size, and in some cases your choice of colors. Most are blue with gold imprint, some reversed to gold with blue, and also blue on white. For more information:

Contact George N2VWL at n2vwl@juno.com

From the Pres...

I have some news items regarding club related business below but first some bad news...

I was very sad to find out that Kenny Lidane, WB2GWD passed away on April 27th. Ken had been battling cancer and finally lost. I think I speak for all of us when I say that we sure will miss him.

I'm not sure how everyone else knew Ken but I can remember many an evening commute QSO when I was new to the club over on the 444.850 machine. One of our common interests was sailing. At the time I didn't know it but Ken was a former president of the club in the early 80s. What struck me most about Ken was that it was so easy to talk with him and exchange ideas.

On a final note, review your videotape of last years Field Day setup. That was the last time the club saw Ken. While he was here he was a diligent worker - even at last years Field Day.

Now on to other stuff...

Last months' meeting was a first in club history, as far as I know... There was a tie for one of the member-at-large positions that required an additional run-off election. All who were present had to vote for one of two people. See Barry's article regarding the election results for details.

Thank you for your returned surveys... If you haven't sent yours in yet, please do so. I will continue to accept them.

But the big news this month is the success of our hamfest. I am proud of the job we did this year. It bears mentioning that while other club hamfest's are on the decline we worked hard to make this our hamfest increase. There are probably many complicated reasons why this year was a growth year but I feel that the most important of these reasons is the work on the part of the chairman and his assistant. Randy (N2MQZ) and Mike (KC2CMC) went to many other area hamfests to advertise our event and to collect contacts for new vendors. Keep up the good work, guys!

I am going to end my article here so there will be room for other articles this month. See you at the meeting.

73 Rob

ARRL 160 RESULTS

The ARRL 160 contest last fall saw some CRA members doing well. In the NNJ section, Marty W2CG had 24,462 points and Don KB2EBL had 15170. Other local hams doing well included Tom K2TW and Doug W2EN both with 37000 and Paul W2HCA with 9000.

HAMS COMMEMORATE INT'L MARCONI DAY

The annual event--held on the Saturday nearest to Marconi's April 25 birthday-- included operation on HF from the Cape Cod, Massachusetts, Marconi transmitting station site in South Wellfleet, by the Marconi Radio Club, W1AA. Marconi also used several New Jersey sites to introduce wireless. 100 years ago, the first practical radio transmissions in America took place between Twin Lights in Highlands, New Jersey, ships in New York Harbor, and the New York Herald newspaper.

Stations operating in NJ on International Marconi Day included: the Ocean-Monmouth Amateur Radio Club, N2MO, on 20 meters from Marconi's former receiver site at Wall, New Jersey. The Marconi Chapter of the QCWA from the MARS station at Ft Monmouth in Eatontown, New Jersey using WA2GM. The Morristown Amateur Radio Club, W2YD, will operate from Historic Speedwell Village, Morristown, New Jersey, where the telegraph and Morse code Marconi used were developed. And the West Jersey DX Group station, WJ2DX, was on the air from Somerville, New Jersey.

In all, some 60 stations in the US and elsewhere are expected to mount special event operations to mark International Marconi Day. Guglielmo Marconi, the man credited with inventing practical wireless, was born in 1874. He died in 1937.

From "The ARRL Letter" and The Loop

MORSE SPECIAL EVENT MAY 15-16

The Poughkeepsie Amateur Radio Club will operate special event station W2CVT as part of "Telegraphers' weekend" at the Samuel F B Morse Historic Site in Poughkeepsie, New York, scheduled for the weekend of May 15-16. This will be the 20th consecutive year PARC has assisted the Morse site in its celebration. W2CVT will operate from 1200Z to 2100Z on 7.120, 14.270, 21.120, and 28.375. For a commemorative QSL and certificate, send your QSL with an SASE to: Don Stein, W2PTF, 3 Little Road, Wappingers Falls, NY 12590

The estate grounds and Morse home will be open to the public from 11:00 AM to 4:00 PM for those who wish to visit the site and say hello to the operators. The Morse home is on the west side of US Route 9 at the intersection with Beechwood Avenue. For additional information or directions, please contact David Ruth, KC2AFK, at 914.677.5079 (before 9:00 PM please) or by e-mail as noted below.

David Ruth, KC2AFK (druth@ibm.net)

YOUR Club

As we all approach the millennium, it seems a good time for both reflection and vision. Each person can approach this exercise individually and independently in whatever way makes sense to them within the architecture of their lives. I would like to generate some thoughts for this exercise within the architecture of this club, our club – YOUR club.

Cherryville finds itself at the same crossroad as Amateur Radio in general: membership is down, volunteerism is down, hamfests are not the income generators they once were, and the Internet seems to be distracting everyone from old fashioned activities of community. The Board is approaching these issues head on and developing solutions so that the club remains strong and even grows as the new century approaches. There are a lot of interesting things going on that will help keep the club vibrant with the help of all the members.

One of the keys to the success of the club is better communication. You as members of the club need to know what is going on, not only on the calendar of events, but also behind the scenes. You should expect quality, timely information about upcoming events and activities. You should feel that you have a place to go get questions answered. You should feel that there is a receptive audience to your ideas and needs. You should feel that the club meeting is a forum for these ideas and not just a time for the Board members to hear themselves talk.

You've already seen some improvements:

The UpLink Newsletter is once again published on a regular basis just before every club meeting.

This will serve as a reminder of the meeting approaching and as fuel for discussion of topics at the meeting. If you see something in the newsletter that interests you or disturbs you, come to the meeting and bring it up when Rob says "Is there any new business?" We want this club – YOUR club – to be focused on new business rather than old business.

The Web Site ([HYPERLINK http://www.qsl.net/w2cra](http://www.qsl.net/w2cra) www.qsl.net/w2c) has been redesigned and now has more information that is updated more frequently.

This is our way of reaching more than just our members. We want the rest of the world to see what a great club we have. We want people to see what we're doing and think "wow, maybe our club could be more like that!" We are proud of our club, its members, and its accomplishments.

The "commerce committee" is constantly coming up with new products with the Cherryville name to show the world who we are.

Be proud of your club – wear the shirts and jackets and carry those tote bags!

These are just a few of the highlights of what is going on. I am very excited about the things coming up in the club this year. I appreciate the confidence you've shown in me by electing me as your Vice President. You may not know this, but as VP I am also the Membership Chair. I will work to increase the active communication that you need to remain active and valued members of Cherryville.

All I ask in return is that you make this your club. I know a great many of you personally, but there are many members that I've never met. I hope you will come to some meetings or join us at a public service event during the year so that I can meet you. I'm looking forward again to the meetings where we had over 60 people in attendance! Feel free to Email me ([HYPERLINK mailto:kb2ddm@fast.net kb2ddm@fast.n](mailto:kb2ddm@fast.net)) with any questions or concerns you have about the club.

Cherryville has a long, strong history. From its creation by a small group of creative, innovative individuals in 1973, it has survived longer than most clubs of its kind. Not so many years ago, our membership was nearly 150. While membership has decreased somewhat in recent years, it is still a strong, diverse group of people reflective of Amateur Radio today. Our "old-timers" are still around, cherished for their experience, their wisdom, and their memories. Our newcomers are here, too, learning valuable lessons from those who have made up this club for many years. They bring with them new ideas, new creativity and innovation, and the energy with which Cherryville will meet the next century.

Susan, KB2DDM

Hamfest list

- May 22 Milton ARC Winfield, PA
- June 4-6 Atlantic Div./NY State Conv.
Rochester, NY
- June 5 Bergen ARA Fairliegh Dickinson Univ.
Teaneck, NJ
- June 6 Hall of Science ARC Great Meadow, NY
- June 12 Eastern PA Section Conv. Columbia- Montour
ARC Bloomsbury, PA
- June 13 Long Island Mobile ARC Bethpage, NY
- June 19 Raritan Valley RC Dunellen, NJ**
- July 3 Murgas ARC Wilkes Barre (Dallas) PA
- 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!

HUDSON DIVISION LOOP

We would like to thank the Loop for providing some of the information we use in the Uplink, and for being a such a good source of information for all Division amateurs with e-mail. The ARRL Hudson Division Loop, Director Frank Fallon, N2FF, Publisher: Dr. Richard A Sandell, WK6R (wk6r@hudson-loop.org), Editor: Stephan M Anderman, K2SMA (k2sma@hudson-loop.org).

"The Hudson Loop" is a free service of, and produced by, the Hudson Communications Foundation, Inc. Comments, inquiries, or timely items of interest to amateurs in the ARRL and/or ARRL Hudson Division may be sent to:

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The Hudson Loop - <http://www.hudson-loop.org>

ARRL Headquarters - <http://www.arrl.org>

Hudson Division - <http://www.arrlhudson.org>

Each of these offer links to home pages for the
ENY, NLI, and NNJ section home pages.

ADDITIONAL RADIO SPECTRUM DISCOVERED!

(QNEWS) April 1: Investigators recently uncovered some lost documents from a classified research project conducted during World War II. The project has now been declassified, making this report possible. This research discovered a hitherto unknown region of electromagnetic spectrum below zero cycles per second. Although referred to in the documents as "Negacycles," this region will no doubt now be known as a "Negahertz."

Several interesting phenomena were reported concerning the properties of this region and the equipment used in the tests. The conclusion of the limited research showed, antennas of negative length, termed "imaginary antennas", performed remarkably well at these frequencies, particularly when buried -- "the deeper the better."

Wartime security prevented extensive propagation evaluation in this new portion of the spectrum, but the documents indicate researchers were optimistic about its potential for meeting special communications needs. Preliminary findings did indicate the best propagation seemed to coincide with sunspot minimums.

Space limitations here do not permit inclusion of the many pages of complex mathematical calculations supporting the various conclusions in the research notes. Suffice it to say that the "j" numbers in the calculations take on a whole new meaning when applied to these frequencies.

One of the more critical problems the researchers encountered was the severe chilling of the components when running at high power on these frequencies. A number of defrosting methods were tried, but only with limited success. The entire project was finally discontinued in mid-summer 1943, when tests conducted in Australia's Gibson Desert ended in the loss of several members of the research team to hypothermia, exposure, and frostbite. Since all of the research was conducted entirely with vacuum tube equipment (and no doubt with tongue firmly planted in cheek! -- Ed.), it remains for modern-day researchers to explore the impact of newer solid state technology on this problem.

-- Jim Muller, WB2FFY (ex-VK1FF)/APCNEWS/QNEWS// Hudson Loop

CRA 911 System WB2NQV Repeater (147.375)

It is recommended that unless you have a specific emergency requiring New Jersey State Police response, you contact Hunterdon County Communications by dialing 9-1-1 for ALL emergencies within the repeater's range. Hunterdon can relay an emergency call to any agency in the United States and only Hunterdon County will know that you are a ham radio operator calling through a repeater.

As for accessing the system, just dial the three digits needed. Unlike the regular autopatch, there is no need for special prefix codes, just remember to hit the # key when you're finished. Also, Communications can call back the controller and bring up the repeater if they need additional info. The important point is that after using the 9-1-1 patch you need to stick around for a little while in case the dispatcher needs more information. Remember that when accessing the repeater's emergency system, your call is recorded and you are representing the club in front of county and state administrators. Keep your conduct professional at all times and don't abuse the privilege.

CRA 911 System	
WB2NQV Repeater (147.375)	
<u>Dial:</u>	<u>To Contact:</u>
9-1-1	Hunterdon County Communications (For All Emergencies Regardless of Location)
9-1-0	Hunterdon County Communications (If 9-1-1 doesn't work)
9-1-2	Somerset County Communications
9-1-3	Middlesex County Communications
9-1-4	New Jersey State Police - Parkway & Turnpike

cut and save this card in your car or wallet

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

REPEATERS

147.375 +	147.015 + (5Z)
224.120 -	444.850 + 446.475

W2CRA PACKET FREQUENCY: 145.51

CRA CALENDAR EVENTS

May 12 Board Meeting
 May 14 Club Meeting
 MAY 14-16 DAYTON HAMVENTION
June 25-27 Field Day
 July 4 Lebanon Parade
 Skyland Triathlon September 12th
 The Battle of the Bands will be around Oct. 23

UPLiNK A CRA II Publication

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Many thanks to all those who have contributed information and/or articles, including: The Hudson Division Loop, N2FF, WX2DEB, N3QDC, N2OCW, ARRL, ARRL Letter, & QST, and all others not mentioned for their help. This newsletter is an open forum for the Cherryville Repeater Association II Inc. members. 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. Articles are occasionally edited for space and punctuation, etc.

Deadline for all issues shall be the Wednesday 2 weeks before the Board meetings.

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

Watch for upcoming public service events, dates inside.

• CRA II HAMFEST SATURDAY APRIL 24 •