



UP-LiNK

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



Board Meeting November 6, 2002

Membership Meeting November 8, 2002

Last Call for Club Awards Dinner

Just a month left before the Cherryville Awards Dinner. If you haven't heard by now, it's scheduled for December 14 at the Sky Manor Restaurant--at Sky Manor Airport, of course.

Charlie, WB2NQV and Roberto, K2PA have teamed up to put on an affair to remember. And the price is right, too, only \$16 per person. The food promises to be great, and in addition to the planes coming and going, there will be dancing for those who wish after the formal ceremonies. There will even be a major prize awarded.

You can still get your check to the club P.O. Box or notify Roberto or Charlie that you will be there and bring the money with you. If you can't remember the P.O. address, just look in the UpLink--it's here!

This is the year you won't want to miss coming to the Awards Dinner! Remember, though, that it's BYOB, so bring what you like to have with dinner. See you there!

Final Public Service Event

The final public service event for this year will be this Saturday, November 9, at the Bucks County (PA) Horsepark. Operators are still needed for the event, and the signup sheet will be passed around at the membership meeting, the day before the event.

This has really been a busy year for

(See Final Public Service Event on page 2)

Field Day 2002—We did it again!

The results are published, and we did it again! Cherryville took first place in the 4A category, and placed fourth overall.

The results were published last week on the ARRL website, and will appear in the December issue of QST. In the top ten, the three stations above us were 28A, 8A and 38A stations, meaning they had many more stations on the air than 4. The 8A participant was also 8A Battery, which garners them extra bonus points.

But the best part is that Cherryville set a new 4A record of 20,112 points! The 4A station we thought was going to give us severe competition in our category ended up more than 2,000 points behind us. It was a great effort by a lot of people.

Some other interesting statistics emerged from this year's Field Day,

too. The 4A category wasn't the largest, with 156 entries, 2A was, with 518 entries. Other high entries were in the 1A, 3A, and 1D. Though it seemed like all you heard on the air were NNJ stations, our section was by far not a leader in numbers of entries. Ohio led the way with 99 entries, followed by Ontario, Michigan, Illinois and Eastern PA.

Our GOTA (Get On The Air) station not only got us the full complement of points for the 400 allowed contacts, plus the bonus, but many techs and non hams got the opportunity to operate on HF frequencies under the eye of a control operator.

All in all, it was an extremely successful Field Day for our club, and a hearty thanks goes to all who participated. The food was great, operating was spectacular, the weather couldn't be better, let's do it again in 2003!

ARRL RESURRECTS FREQUENCY MEASURING TEST

From ARRL Letter

The Frequency Measuring Test (FMT)--an ARRL staple for nearly 50 years--will return in early November. A FMT transmission will replace the W1AW SSB bulletin on November 7, 0245 UTC (Wednesday, November 6, in US time zones). The resurrected FMT will kick off a series

of measuring tests.

"These tests will exercise the capabilities of hams to measure important operating parameters, improve their understanding of complex radios and give them a better

(See FMT Returns on page 2)

Upcoming Public Service Events

November 9, 2002-- Bucks County Horse Park, PA, Operators needed. Bob Cherry, WB2F coordinator

(FMT Returns—Continued from page 1)

mental picture of their transmitted signals," Contributing Editor Ward Silver, NOAX, said in an October 2002 QST article describing the art and science of frequency measurement. "The goal is a more technically aware amateur confident of compliance with FCC regulations." Silver's article, "The ARRL Frequency Measuring Tests," appears on page 51 of the October issue.

Today's amateurs tend to take for granted the accuracy of their transceiver's frequency readout. But, as Silver notes in his article, relying simply on a transceiver's digital readouts could mean part of your signal is outside the band edge--in violation of FCC Part 97 rules. Transceiver or receiver readout accuracy "depends entirely on the quality of the receiver's master oscillator," he points out in QST.

Increasing technical quality of amateur gear was one of the primary reasons for the decline and fall of FMTs in 1980. In prior decades, however, thousands of amateurs took part in the FMTs, and participation was required of ARRL Official Observer and Official Relay System stations. The first FMT, held in October 1931, employed three transmitting stations--W1XP at Massachusetts Institute of Technology, W9XAN at Elgin Observatory in Illinois and W6XK at Don Lee Broadcasting System in Los Angeles--and drew more than 200 measurement reports.

"Winners demonstrated better than 99.99% accuracy, and more than half received certificates for better than 99.90% accuracy," Silver reported--not too shabby for the state of the art back then.

The FMT comes up soon, why not try your hand at it. Check out the rules in QST for October.

NEW CC&R BILL COSPONSORS CONTINUE TO STEP FORWARD

Despite the fact that action on the CC&R bill, HR 4720, is highly unlikely as the current session of Congress winds down, additional cosponsors continue to register their support for the measure. The latest--representatives Todd Platts (R-PA), Larry Combest (R-TX), Duke Cunningham (R-CA), and Mary Bono (R-CA)--raise the total cosponsor count to 34.

The recent spurt in cosponsors may have resulted from an eleventh-hour initiative in late September, when the bill's sponsor, Rep Steve Israel (D-NY), and the only two amateurs in the US House of Representatives--Mike Ross, WD5DVR (D-AR) and Greg Walden, WB7OCE (R-OR)--appealed by letter to their colleagues who had not already done so to

(See CC&R Bill on page 3)

FROM THE PREZ...

Barry Campbell, W2CGX

Well another month has come and gone. Hard to believe it went so fast.

Time is drawing short to get your reservation for the annual awards dinner in. There is a flyer on the website with all the information. Sure would like to "pack the house" for this event. This is the first time we've had it on Saturday night rather than the Meeting Friday. We'll make the final decision at the November Board meeting, but we will in all likelihood not have a December meeting. Whether we have a December board meeting will be determined at the November board meeting.

What great news came a few days ago when ARRL announced the results of Field Day. We did it again! Top in 4A category, and 4th overall! That's great. The three above us in the overall were all running a lot more transmitters than we were too, and at that we also set a new 4A record. This whole club can be very proud of this year's effort again!

Many of you were fortunate enough to have been alerted when a large truck plowed into a loaded school bus at exit 15 of Route 78 recently. I have to commend George, N2VWL for quickly assuming informal net control and vectoring mobiles around the impending huge backup. Normally route 22 can be a good alternate, but it would not get you back onto 78 beyond the accident, George had to find and direct mobiles to really back roads.

Cherryville is developing a reputation for being the place to go for traffic information on the Route 78 corridor. Apparently there are even people who put our .375 frequency into their scanner so they can "hear" if there are problems on 78.

Lots of contests are occurring this time of year. We just passed the CQ WW phone contest, the two ARRL sweepstakes contests are coming, along with the CW portion of CQ WW. Lots of our members are jumping in and having some fun. Sandra and I even worked some of the CQ WW mobile enroute to Long Island to see some friends.

Well that's in for this month, see you all at the meeting and sure hope to see you all at the December Awards Banquet!

(Final Public Service Event—Continued from page 1)

public service events for the club. There have been a number of events at the Bucks County Horsepark, JOTA, Young Eagles, Blackwells Mills, Skylands Triathlon, Lebanon 4th of July parade, March of Dimes plus others.

With that many events during the year, a large number of members came out to help. There were some new events this year, including the Young Eagles, and members' participation will be recognized at the awards banquet in December. Congratulations to all who made it a successful year of "Public Service Through Communications."

Swap & Shop

For Sale: G7 2-meter Vertical \$40. Contact W2GD at w2gd@hotmail.com

Traffic, Traffic, Traffic

It's no secret that many Cherryville members live in Pennsylvania and commute to New Jersey, mostly on Interstate 78. Ever since the final 5-mile stretch of the highway was completed through Berkeley Heights in the 70's, more and more traffic use 78 to get across New Jersey.

With more and more traffic, and increased speed to 65 mph, accidents also have increased. And when an accident occurs during morning or evening rush hours, traffic is often tied up for most of the rush. It seems more and more people realize that "if you want to know what's going on with 78, check in to Cherryville."

Such was the case last week when a tractor-trailer plowed into the back of a North Hunterdon Regional school bus at 50 mph! Only five of the students on the bus were injured, none seriously, and the truck driver was apparently the most seriously injured. The accident happened just before the start of the rush hour, approximately 3:45 pm, at exit 15 of 78 in Clinton. It didn't take long for the traffic to start backing up as members began to head for home. George, N2VWL came on frequency early, and became an informal net control guiding repeater participants around the

backup. Map in hand, he had some going the back roads north of 78, and others down 202 through Flemington to get around the tieup. Those who were able to bypass the affected area had high praise for George's effort.

Discussion the next day revealed that several non-hams who work with Cherryville members carry a scanner in their car with the .375 frequency dialed in, just so they can hear if there is a problem on 78.

CQ Contest, CQ Contest...

It's really been contest fever around here of late! The ARRL International DX contest, followed by the CQ World Wide Phone just recently (CW later in November), ARRL November Sweepstakes (CW) this past weekend, and the phone portion of that one coming up also in November. And those are just the "biggies!"

John, W2GD was in his usual haunt as P40W in Aruba for the CQ WW event, and several of our club members worked him during the contest. He was putting in great signals to our area in spite of antenna complications discovered when he arrived a few days before the contest. John reported that he worked feverishly on nearly all the antennas, replacing coax, adding two new 40 meter dipoles, and other work. He then commented that "I'm sending 1,000 feet of coax to be there in time for the CW portion of CQ WW!" Hopefully John did well from his location, and those in the club who participated also did well!

During the CQ WW contest, KB2YJX and W2CGX went to Long Island on Saturday of the event, and Sandra was able to work a few DX stations from the mobile under Barry's watchful eye as control operator. It's been an interesting couple of months.

(CC&R Bill—Continued from page 2)
agree to cosponsor the measure.

HR 4720 is aimed at providing relief to amateurs faced with private deed covenants, conditions and restrictions--CC&Rs--in erecting antennas. No more votes will occur until a post-election "lame duck" session that begins November 12 to complete several appropriations, homeland security and other high-profile bills. Another lame duck session in December also is possible.

Have you written or emailed your congressman and asked him or her to cosponsor HR 4720?

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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EXECUTIVE BOARD:

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KC2CMC	Mike Varas	(908) 806-3998	kc2cmc@arrl.net
AB2DW	Tom Deegan	(908) 236-0698	tomdeegan@rcn.com
N2QOR	Justin Marchetta	(908) 439-3094	justinm8593@yahoo.com

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VE Testing	KB2VCI		ramgl@netcarrier.com
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	KA2YYB	(908) 537-2501	albissed@ptd.net
Roster	KB2YJX	(908) 788-9153	
Scholarship	W2CG	(908) 788-2644	mjgrozi@postoffice.ptd.net
SkyWarn	N2ZVY	(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

NTIA STUDY IS BAD NEWS FOR SAVI 425-435 MHz PROPOSALS

From ARRL Letter

A National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) study supports the ARRL's position that the FCC would be making a mistake to permit SAVI Technology to deploy RF identification (RFID) tag devices at 433 MHz at much greater duty cycles than current Part 15 rules permit for such devices. RFID tags are used for tracking shipments and packages, among other applications.

"NTIA has grave concerns about the Commission's proposal to amend its Part 15 rules to permit the operation

of RFID tags in the band 425-435 MHz at increased power levels and increased duty factor (or activity factor) and data transmission by remote control devices," wrote Fredrick R. Wentland, the NTIA's acting associate administrator in the Office of Spectrum Management. "Given the likelihood of interference to critical government radars, NTIA is unable to support the Commission's proposal."

Hopefully the clout of NTIA will hold weight with the Commission and kill this idea for good!

ARES SET A Success

The ARRL sponsored a Simulated Emergency Test on October 26, and Cherryville's ARES members took part. They worked with the Red Cross Flemington chapter to provide simulated emergency services for a supposed hurricane disaster. Only designated portions of the county were used, in order to test communications in the hilly areas of Hunterdon County.

The center of activity was the ARC chapter house where Pat, KC2AWY and Dave, WB2AZE were net control. Simulated shelters were set up in Lambertville Elemen-

tary, and Stockton School, both located on Route 29. During the exercise, both shelters had to close due to flooding, and were moved to different locations.

Simulated weather, traffic and road closing reports added to the realism. Three of the Red Cross vehicles each with an ARES member and both ARC and ham radios were deployed over various sections of the county.

The operation lasted two-and-a-half hours, and during that time a total of 88 messages were passed, with 72 of them tactical in nature. Dave relayed a hearty "Thank You" to all the ARES and Red Cross members.

Looking for a Christmas Gift Idea?
Check out the great shirts, jackets and caps
with the Cherryville Logo! Tote bags too!
See George, N2VWL for details and to order!

Cherryville Repeater Association II
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Public Service Through Communications