

MINUTES OF THE MEMBERSHIP MEETING OF MARC HELD JUNE 7, 1977, AT METROPOLITAN SAVINGS

There were 70 people present. (List attached)

The Sears letter was read, approved, and signed by all present.

MOTION: To change the name of the club to the Mid-Atlantic Amateur Radio Club.

PASSED

This will comply with the FCC's requirement to enable us to get a club call.

TREASURER'S REPORT

We have 76 members - \$564.90 is the current balance. The members concurred with the Board's suggestion that we earmark a fixed amount for repeater maintenance.

FIELD DAY

Operators and food preparers are needed. One more piece of low band gear is needed for novice and CW. We will use W3NWA's call.

PICNIC'

There will be a picnic June 12 at Ridley Creek State Park at 12:00 Noon.

Barbara WB3EJX, will be the Official Bulletin Station and will be helping with the newsletter.

The Sunday conversation net has been postponed until the fall.

CW practice will begin shortly.

It was suggested that an operating tip be added to the end of each bulletin.

More publicity is needed for the Club.

Badges and T-shirts will be made up if there is an interest.

An auction followed the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Marlene Maslin", followed by a vertical line.

Marlene Maslin
Secretary

Radnor Repeater News

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Field Day

CQ, CQ, CQ this is W-3-No-Women Allowed, W3NWA. Yes, this call filled the airways thanks to the many YLs who participated

CQ, CQ, CQ this is W-3-No-Women-Allowed, W3NWA. Yes, this call filled the airways thanks to the many YLs who participated in the Mid-Atlantic Amateur Radio Club Field Day activities, located in Lionville, PA. Approximately 32 members of MARC kept W3NWA/3 on the air for 24 hours.

Operating on 2 through 80 meters, braving high winds, monsoon rains, and occasional lightning and thunder, the MARC crew managed to scrape up over 11,000 points.

While many people came and put many an hour in operating, Field Day would not have been possible without the following people making that extra special effort: Denny, WB3BZW, and Ed, K3YTR, for providing the site; John, W3IQS, Bob, W3NWA, and Ed, K3YTR, for organizing and planning the entire event; Bill, WB3CMM, and the Haverford Township Radio Club for providing the generators; Denny WB3BZW, Marge Young (wife of Bob, W3NWA; Betty de Courcelle (wife of Joe, K3OBU), Barbara, WB3EJX, Bob Josuweit (father of WA3PZO), and Marlene, WA3UOC for providing food and cooking services.

At least five other Field Day stations took special note of W3NWA by sending QSLs.

Next year, MARC hopes to have a bigger and better station on the air.

Watch out Murphy!

ARES

A new and exciting outlook are in store for the WR3ABZ ARES Sunday night net.

Bob, WA3PZO, Public Service Director of MARC, made the following announcement on a recent net:

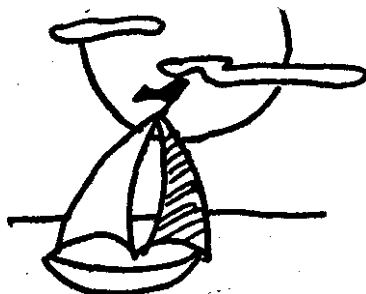
Since the purpose of the net is to provide emergency communication, the net should devote more time to the discussion of emergency preparedness. With this in mind, the following schedule was developed: On July 24, the National Traffic System will be discussed; July 31, Hurricane Zelda; August 2, MARC meeting where several Red Cross courses in disaster survey will be given; Aug. 7 a review of the meeting; August 14, a discussion of several handouts to be given out at the meeting.

Hurricane Zelda will involve an imaginary hurricane developing in the Gulf of Mexico and eventually hitting the Philadelphia area. The discussion will revolve about how local ARES members can participate in such an emergency. A panel of experts will be on the net to provide some food for thought.

A lot of help is needed to bring the net up to an efficient level of preparedness. There are many small tasks which need to be done. If you can spare a small amount of time to help, please contact WA3PZO.

REFLECTIONS

by
PETE, K3ZFG



Although it has been only 9 months since we had our first meeting in WA3NUB's basement, it seems as if the Club has been around for a long time. We have been witness to many successes: a fabulous field day, an astounding auction, a dynamic dinner dance, a perfect picnic, several marvelous meetings. However, the success we have enjoyed has been the work of only a handful of people. I find this disappointing. I hope that many of you who have held back from volunteering for whatever reason will come out and help us. Your completion of our member survey on page 3 will be greatly appreciated.

I participated in Field Day for the first time at the site sponsored by MARC. I really can't say enough about the work of all involved with special effort by WB3BZW, K3YTR, W3NWA, W3IQS, WB3GYV, K3KHU, and WA3PZO. It was a very professional job, extremely well done -- a personal thank you to all.

Our membership now exceeds 80 people but we are still looking to increase our rolls substantially. For the time being, the Club Treasury is in the black, but there are many things we would like to do as a Club which will require a large membership body, with a resulting larger treasury. I'm sure you know people who use the repeater, who attend Club meetings, who aren't Club members. Why don't you encourage them to join. Talk up the club -- keep it dynamic!! Let's give ourselves the satisfaction of belonging to the best and one of the largest Amateur Radio Clubs in the Delaware Valley.

Amateur Radio exists because of the public service it provides. This will be the topic of the next MARC meeting, Aug. 2 at the Metropolitan Federal Savings Bank, City Line and Haverford Aves., Phila., at 8:00 pm.

Several Red Cross courses in disaster survey will be shown. In addition, a large selection of handouts on emergency preparedness will be available.

Anyone interested in public service is urged to attend. You do not have to be a member of the club to attend the meeting,

On Aug. 7, a discussion will be held on the meeting activities during the net at 8:00.

SUMMARY OF THE BOARD MEETING

The Board of Directors met 7/6/77 at the home of Pete, K3ZFG.

The Current Treasury Balance is \$549.14 with \$70 in outstanding bills.

The major discussion of the evening centered on the Sunday evening net and ways to improve it.

Bob, WA3PZO, regretfully resigned as Editor of the newsletter and Barbara, WB3EJX, was asked to assume the responsibility. The Board thanked Bob for the tremendous effort he put forth in establishing the newsletter.

It was suggested we go to the membership requesting people to serve on the various committees.

The Bylaws were completed and will go to the membership for approval at the next meeting.

As of 8/1/77, membership fees will be \$5 for the balance of the membership year.

Bill, W3YSZ, will organize a transmitter bunt for August.

The next membership meeting will be Tues., Aug. 2, at 8:00 pm at the Metropolitan Savings Bank, City Line and Haverford Aves.

MARC T-shirts and pins will be made up but a logo is needed. All suggestions are welcome.

An official letter will be sent protesting the reclassification of amateur call letter license plates as status plates with a resulting raise in fees.

The Board expressed their deep appreciation to all those who helped on Field Day.

Summary compiled by Marlene,
WA3UOC, MARC Secretary

WANT ADS

For Sale:

SB-144 with 10 crystal channel, \$150,
HeathKit 40 watt amp for 2 meters. \$45.
Contact K3PSW, Bob Koestler.

For Sale

TR22C with 11 sets of crystals for West
Philadelphia suburbs Contact Len,
WA3TCE, 527 0322

Radnor Repeater News - Aug. 1977

JOHNSTOWN

by Bob Josuweit, WA3PZO

Wednesday, July 20, began as any other day, but by noon, Eastern PA Phone Activities Manager, Bob, WA3PZO, found himself leaving work to participate in flood relief efforts in Johnstown PA.

The night before, weather forecasters said a low front would be moving through western PA with the possibility of rain. This possibility became a terrifying reality with a rainstorm that dumped 11" of water in 7 hours on the town and surrounding Conemaugh River Valley. Seventy-three people would lose their lives and 20 would be unaccounted for and feared dead. Compare this with 3 people dying during Hurricane Agnes.

Communication was a major problem from the beginning. It took almost ten hours for the first word of the disaster to reach Phila. news media, only 250 miles away.

Almost immediately, PA civil defense officials put out a call for additional amateur radio operators who could operate on 34/94; 75/15; 52, and 75 meters.

PA RACES activated immediately on 3993. By noon, it was realized that a Health and Welfare net would have to be established. RACES established 3988 as the H & W frequency.

Upon tuning to 3988, WA3PZO found no net operation, just hundreds of stations calling in with traffic requesting health and welfare information. Bob broke in and established a net. At this point, more problems were developing than were being solved. Due to band conditions, it became apparent that a net control station with a strong signal (linear) would be needed to overcome 75 meter static crashes. The only station who could do this was N3KZ, University of Pennsylvania (Dave, WB2BTA, op).

Bob and Dave decided to hold the traffic until a Johnstown station or someone within VHF range could relay traffic since there were no Western PA stations willing to pick up the traffic.

By the end of the first day, the traffic kept piling up but there were still no H & W stations on the air. Bob handled over 400 messages the first day which doesn't include the National Traffic System load which would come in the next day.

Although it was over 24 hours since the disaster, no one was sure how extensive the damage was. Reports indicated that between 1 and 4 earthen dams had burst during the storm.

Early Thursday morning, information was received concerning telephone exchanges in the affected areas. This data, however, was useless because lack of phone communication does not indicate that homes or people were hit by the flood. A zip code list did not prove helpful.

Finally, by late Thursday morning, a few 75 meter Johnstown stations capable of handling H & W traffic began to appear. Bob and Dave began to relax a bit until they realized the enormity of the situation in Johnstown.

Stations receiving traffic had to overcome several problems:

- 1) Telephone lines were down.
- 2) Shelters were not clearly marked.
- 3) Establishing lists of casualties and survivors was almost impossible since people had scattered to relatives, friends or shelters and no one knew where anyone else was.
- 4) Some people were all right but blocked off by mudslides or were without phone service.
- 5) Most hams who came to help (from 9 states and Canada) were unfamiliar with the town and could not sort messages by streets.
- 6) There were a lack of runners. If by some chance someone knew where the street was, there were not enough operators to do the running.
- 7) There was a lack of communication on 2 and 75 between Johnstown stations. Unless there was emergency or priority traffic, stations did not get on the repeaters.

By the end of the weekend, reports of 10 to 12,000 H & W inquiries were sitting in Johnstown. More problems developed be-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

Every day many people key up 06 looking for a contact. What do you do when you hear these stations on? If you're like most of us, you ignore them. Usually it's someone you don't know, so what would you have to talk about?

But stop for a moment!! Remember your first contact on amateur radio? More than likely you do. You might be the first contact for this new ham -- one to be remembered for years to come!!

Remember those long drives and how fast the time went when you had someone to talk to? It's just possible that this person looking for a contact is on a long drive and is lonely for a little company.

Remember buying that new rig? You couldn't wait to yet it on the air and get a signal report. Perhaps this ham has a new radio and needs a critical signal evaluation.

We all like to show off ham radio to our non-ham friends. It's possible that this person looking for a contact wants to demonstrate 2 meters to his/her friends. Think of the impression you'll make!!

Hams with newly acquired rigs or crystals just coming on 06 for the first time would welcome information on the repeater (operation and procedure) and the club. The Club naturally would welcome new members.

Finally -- remember how you felt the last time you got on the air, announced you were listening, and got no reply? Anger? Frustration? Paranoia?

Well, when that person says s/he is listening 06, pick up that mike and get back to that ham who's waiting for your comeback. You'll be glad you did!!

Marlene Maslin
WA3UOC

MEMBERSHIP SURVEY

Membership surveys are now due. Please send the form from the last issue OR the following information to Marlene 2736 Taunton St., Phila. 19152.

Name, Call, Address, Phone, Class license, Member ARRL?, Interest in working on club committees (social, technical, policy, public service, public relations, newsletter); capabilities of listening on the repeater input, transmitting on repeater output, operating on emergency power; do you have rotatable 2 meter beams?

Thank you.

cause of the huge volume of traffic, a lack of a list of shelters (Red Cross had transferred a master list to a computer in its Washington DC office and many people had left the shelters. In addition, many stations had to leave Johnstown Sunday night for job and family commitments. It was not known what the status of the backed-up messages was.

H & W traffic began to trickle out of Johnstown very slowly, 100 per day at its peak. These were not answers to traffic sent in but simply messages being solicited from public access points (shopping centers, etc.).

As telephone service began to be restored, some Johnstown stations began accepting traffic for specific telephone exchanges. However, many phones went unanswered and no assumptions could be made on the status of the holders of these numbers.

The 3988 net was in operation until July 30, approximately 16 hours a day.

While emergency communication efforts ended on July 30, analysis and critiques are still taking place. Theoretically, the flood of '77 should never have occurred in Johnstown. But, in reality, the sign declaring Johnstown to be "The Flood Free City" was swept away by the onrushing water,

All this has its implications in this area. Think about it!! Are you ready to spring into emergency action at a moment's notice?

MEMBERSHIP MEETING

The next general membership meeting will be held Tuesday, September 6 at 8:00 PM at the Metropolitan Savings Bank, City Line and Haverford Avenues. The topic of the meeting will be the 06 repeater. Joe, K3OBU, and Joe, WA3CMQ, will discuss the development and construction of the Radnor machine. Hope to see you there!!
