

## 50 YEARS AGO, IN THE RRC - APRIL 13, 1973

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By: Rich Ahrens, W3WJC, RRC Historian (04.22.2023)

The officers serving the Reading Radio Club, Inc. in Apr. 1973 were:

President - Leroy Flamm, K3MNI (SK) (Not a BOD member).  
Vice President - Jim Stamm, WA3KBH (A BOD member).  
Secretary - Al Brailer, W3UQC, (SK) (A BOD member).  
Treasurer - Charlie McCreary, K3DTD, (SK) (Not a BOD member).

RRC Board Members serving the RRC in April 1973 were:

Bill Ader, WA3GTR (SK)	John Freeman, K3CBE
Rich Ahrens, W3WJC	Art Gantert, W3OLG (SK)
Al Brailer, W3UQC (SK)	Jim Stamm, WA3KBH
Frank Esseluhn, K3MGO (SK)	Bob Wagner, W3GII (SK)
Russ Frederick, W3CDS (SK)	

Editor of the May 1973 READING RADIO CLUB BULLETIN was William "Bill" Ader, WA3GTR, (SK).

*The following is, in a large part, the republishing of the "Highlights" of the April 13, 1973, monthly meeting taken from the May 1973 issue of the RRC BULLETIN, and written by the RRC Secretary Al Brailer, W3UQC, (SK). Other information has been added that has been taken from the RRC BULLETIN, personal notes, and meeting agendas.*

The April 13, 1973, RRC meeting was held, for the first time, at the Northmont Fellowship Association, (600 Bruckman Ave.), with 30 Reading Radio Club members in attendance.

Lloyd Hartman, K3RQL, and Gerry Baldauf, W3WX, were the winners of the door prizes.

RRC President Leroy Flamm, K3MNI, opened the meeting at 8:00 p.m.

The RRC received notice of a Hamfest to be held by the Potomac Area VHF Society, located in Fairfax, Virginia, about 30 miles northwest of Baltimore, Maryland. Several RRC members were planning on attending.

Bob Plummer, W3ETJ, (Now W3RP), reported that he is working on the radiation pattern for the 6 Meter ground plane antenna that is used on the RRC 6 Meter Repeater transmitter, which is situated on Deer Path Hill. **NOTE:** The present location of the RRC 146.910 MHz Repeater.

President Leroy, K3MNI, suggested that it is still too cold for the start of 1973 transmitter Hunting season. He called attention to the simple to build, 2 Meter receiver circuit that was published in the April 1973, issue of the Reading Radio Club, RRC BULLETIN.

The 1973 RRC Field Day plans are not definite, at this time. The plan is to develop the final, final, plan at the May and June meetings.

After discussion, the members in attendance came together for the idea of having a Spring and Fall dinner meeting each year. The next dinner meeting will be on Friday October 12, 1973, and will be held at the Northmont Fellowship Association's headquarters.

Two members from the Enduro Off The Road Riders (A motorcycle group), attend the meeting and asked the RRC Members to provide safety communications for their event on Sunday May 6, 1973. Duane Redline, W3UQH, is Chairperson for this event and Rich Ahrens, W3WJC, is co-chairperson. A sign-up, to help, sheet was passed around.

A card was passed through the group for their signatures, and call letters. The card extended sympathy to RRC Member Russ Frederick, W3CDS, whose wife (XYL) passed away on April 2, 1973.

RRC President Leroy Flamm, K3MNI, announced that the RRC BOD had approved the membership applications of the following:

Walter M. Diener, Jr., W3EQF - Douglassville, PA  
Patrick W. DiGuardi, K3CXR - West Lawn, PA  
James G. Hodgkins, W3TEG - Reading, PA

President Flamm, K3MNI, announced that Paul Naftzinger, W3AHF, has been an active licensed Amateur Radio Operator for 50 years. Paul, W3AHF, received a recognition certificate from the Quarter Century Wireless Associate (QCWA). A round of applause was brought up for Paul.

President Leroy, K3MNI, informed the group that a new net has been formed, and is conducted on 146.520 MHz, on a Monday at 7:45 p.m.

Leroy, K3MNI, said that the annual membership list will be published in the June 1973 issue, of the RRC BULLETIN.

RRC President Flamm, K3MNI, said that he is looking for Chairpersons and participants for some of the following committees: Picnic, Banquet, Meeting Programs, Meeting equipment demos, Halloween Party, New Year's blast, etc.

Ed Artz, WA3APN, read three ARRL Bulletins that covered the following:

- 1) Repeater registration for the ARRL Repeater Directory
- 2) Amateur stations in space, such as Oscar 6.
- 3) FCC requesting comments concerning the effectiveness of the Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (RACES).

Bill Ader, WA3GTR, the RRC BULLETIN Editors, spoke about the upcoming RRC Field Day, and the involvement of more RRC members. He suggested that there are many opportunities to take part, operating,

setting-up, cooking, maintenance, etc. Bill, WA3GTR, said, "Come out to wherever Field Day is held, you might like it".

President Leroy, K3MNI, reviewed a Letter To The Editor, (LTTE), by Charles W. Hummel, which was published In the May issue of the RRC BULLETIN. The LTTE asked local Hams how much they would be willing to contribute to start up a 2-Meter Repeater. (The average was \$20 to \$25). Also, Charlie, K3BFA, asked how much, on an annual basis, would they pay for support and the upkeep of a 2-Meter Repeater. (The average was \$10). In the LTTE, Charlie, K3BFA, said that 15 interested local Hams gathered on Friday April 27, 1973, to discuss the possibility of a 2M FM Repeater. He also said that such an undertaking would initially cost about \$650, not including a private, unlisted telephone control link for the transmitter. Approximately half of those attending were not members of the Reading Radio Club.

President Leroy Flamm, K3MNI, closed the meeting, for a time of fellowship, refreshments, and some "Eyeball" QSO's.