

50 YEARS AGO IN THE RRC - JANUARY 11, 1971

=====

By: Rich Ahrens, W3WJC, RRC Historian (12.17.2020)

The officers serving the Reading Radio Club, Inc. in January 1971 were:

President - Rich Ahrens, W3WJC
Vice President - John Freeman, K3CBE
Secretary - Al Brailer, W3UQC, (SK)
Treasurer - Frank Esseluhn, K3MGO, (SK) (Not a BOD Member)

Other RRC Board Members serving the RRC in January 1971 were:

Bill Ader, WA3GTR (SK)	Art Gantert, W3OLG (SK)
Gerry Baldauf, W3WX (SK)	Leo Hood, WA3FBP (SK)
Russ Frederick, W3CDS (SK)	Bob Wagner, W3GII (SK)

The Editor of the February 1971 READING RADIO CLUB BULLETIN was William "Bill" Ader, WA3GTR, (SK).

The following is, in a large part, the republishing of the "Highlights" of the January 8, 1971, monthly meeting taken from the February 1971 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 Friday January 8, 1971, monthly meeting was held in the UGI "Flame Room" Auditorium at 225 Morgantown Road, Reading, Pennsylvania.

RRC President Rich Ahrens, W3WJC, opened the meeting at 8:00 p.m.

The January 8, 1971 monthly meeting was attended by 36 RRC members and four guests.

The winner of the door prize was RRC President Rich Ahrens, W3WJC.

President Rich Ahrens, W3WJC, introduced Rian Robison, W3EMW, from the small town of Gouglersville, Pennsylvania. Rian, W3EMW, is an Electronic Maintenance Technician working for the Sunoco Pipeline Company. Rian, W3EMW, has been involved with bringing the RRC 6 Meter Repeater Transmitter System up and running at the Deer Path site.

Rich, W3WJC, said that the RRC 6-Meter Repeater is in operation. The receiver, on 52.575 MHz, is located at the WEEU site on Mt. Penn (N 40° 21' 16" W 75° 53' 57") and the transmitter, on 52.640 MHz is presently located in his residence at 3404 Reading Crest Avenue, Muhlenberg Township. The repeater sports the W3CCH Call Sign.

Rich went on to say that at the Friday February 12, 1971 monthly meeting a demonstration of the 6-Meter Repeater will be conducted.

President Rich, W3WJC, congratulated Adrian Adkins, WA3NHI, on taking the trip to the Philadelphia Custom's House on December 29, 1970 and passing his General Class FCC exam. Adrian said that next year he is going to take the Advanced. Adrian had held the Technician license for many years but decided to upgrade with the Extra Class License his goal. Best of luck to Adrian.

Rich, W3WJC, read a cordial letter from our good friends at the Phil-Mont Mobile Radio Club, Inc., down Philadelphia way. They are extending an invite to other clubs to attend their March 1, 1971 meeting at The Franklin Institute Science Museum. The Institute has offered to have an evening sky show in the Planetarium for Phil-Mont members and their guests. Rich, W3WJC, asked the members to let him know at the February 12, 1971 meeting if you are interested in attending this Phil-Mont get-together. We will try and organize several carpools.

President Rich Ahrens, W3WJC, discussed the Federal Communications Commission's fee schedule. He said that there has been a lot of misunderstanding. Rich outlined the FCC fee schedule:

- Modification of a license without renewal is \$4.00
- Modification with renewal is \$9.00
- Renewal only is \$9.00
- A Special Call Sign is \$25.00
- Novice License is free & is non-renewable for a two-year term.

Rich, W3WJC, announced that Novice Code and Theory Classes are being held at the Wilson High School under the direction of Bob Plummer, W3ETJ / W3RP, and that presently there are twelve in the Code Class and three in the Theory Class. It is expected that the FCC Novice Exams will be given around the end of January 1971.

Rich, W3WJC, reported information from a recent ARRL survey of 575 Amateur Radio Clubs. The ARRL reported that the average club has 34 members and that 17 members attend the meetings. The average dues are \$7.45 per year. The survey revealed that the average club is down in both membership and attendance, and that annual dues are going up. The survey also showed that the use of FM is on the increase and that SSB is holding its own at 44 percent. Rich said he thought the RRC was doing much better than the "Average" Amateur Radio Club.

Rich, W3WJC, announced that the Friday February 12, 1971 meeting will be held at the UGI "Flame Room" Auditorium at 225 Morgantown Road, Reading, Pennsylvania, starting at 8:00 p.m.

RRC Treasury Frank Esseluhn, K3MGO, reported that as of tonight, 45 out of a total of 78 RRC members, have paid their 1971 annual dues.

President Rich, W3WJC, said that the Annual Membership List will be published in the April 1971 RRC BULLETIN.

The entertainment for the evening was the showing of two films "A Place To Live" and The House That Faith Built".

Reading Radio Club President Rich Ahrens, W3WJC, adjourned the meeting, for a time of fellowship and refreshments.