

50 YEARS AGO IN THE RRC - AUGUST 13, 1971

=====

By: Rich Ahrens, W3WJC, RRC Historian (09.12.2021)

The officers serving the Reading Radio Club, Inc. in August 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 August 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 September 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 August 13, 1971, monthly meeting taken from the September 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 August 13, 1971, monthly meeting was held in the air-conditioned comfort of the "Flame Room" of the UGI Building. The UGI Building is located on Route 10.

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

There were about 35 members in attendance. Visitors at the meeting were Albert Lellig and his son John.

The winner of the door prize was Reading Radio Club Vice President, John Freeman, K3CBE.

Several Hamfests worth noting were discussed: August 22, 1971, at Warren, Ohio; September 5, 1971, at York, Pennsylvania; September 12, 1971, The South Jersey Radio Association; October 24, 1971, at Gaithersburg, Maryland. (All were Sunday Hamfests).

It was decided to have the next Transmitter Hunt on Tuesday August 17, 1971. This is an evening transmitter hunt starting at 7:00 p.m. at the Fire Tower on Mt. Penn. For this hunt, Leroy Flamm, K3MNI, will be hiding the transmitter.

President Rich Ahrens, W3WJC, announced that the following Board Members terms will be ending on December 31, 1971: Rich Ahrens, W3WJC; Bob Wagner, W3GII; and Leo Hood, WA3FBP. Nomination for

candidates for the RRC BOD will be taken at the November 12, 1971, monthly meeting. The election of Board members will take place at the Annual Membership Meeting on December 10, 1971.

Rich, W3WJC, told the group that the RRC 6 Meter FM Repeater was recently hit by lightning. The antenna at the 52.690 MHz transmitter site, at the Atlantic Pipeline facility, on Deer Path Hill, took a lightning strike. (The ground plane antennas used on the 6 Meter Repeater are DC grounded, using a U-shaped hair pin loop vertical element).

The repeater was off the air for about two weeks while repairs were being made by the members of the Reading Radio Club Repeater Technical Committee.

The strike got into the 110 Volt a.c. line and took out some solid-state diodes as well as a transformer in a cathode follower circuit. Many thanks to Rian Robison, W3EMW, for leading the repair effort.

The RRC 6 Meter FM repeater has an input frequency of 52.575 MHz, located on Mt. Penn, and an output frequency of 52.690 MHz, on the Deer Path Hill.

The RRC Repeater output frequency was recently changed by the Frequency Coordinators from 52.640 MHz to 52.690 MHz. A group in Philadelphia is using 52.640 MHz as the output frequency for their repeater. This requires the purchase of new crystals by the users of the Reading Radio Club 6 Meter Repeater.

The 1971 RRC Repeater Technical Committee consists of Chairperson Rich Ahrens, W3WJC, and the following members, Rian Robison, W3EMW; Duane Redline, W3UQH; and Bob Plummer, W3ETJ / W3RP.

The Friday October 8, 1971, monthly meeting of the RRC will be a dinner meeting to be held at the Lincoln Restaurant, north of Reading, on the Bernville Road. Cocktails at 7:00 p.m. and dinner at 7:30 p.m. This is a select your own, pay your own affair and your XYL or YL are cordially invited. The Lincoln Restaurant is permitting the multi choice of meals to familiarize the RRC members with the restaurant and their menu. However, if we continue to have dinner meetings at the Lincoln Restaurant, they will require that we choose a banquet family style menu. This means one choice of meat with all the vegetables served family style.

RRC President Rich, W3WJC, mentioned that Pennsylvania Governor Milton J. Sharp has designated September 13 through Saturday 18, 1971, as Amateur Radio Week in Pennsylvania, and urges fellow citizens to give proper recognition to, and help stimulate interest in, this important field of communications.

It was announced that the Reading Chapter 31 of the Quarter Century Wireless Association (QCWA) will hold a dinner affair on Tuesday

September 14, 1971, at Reeser's Restaurant, on Route 61, in Muhlenberg Township, north of Reading. All are welcome to attend. Make reservations with Bob Wagner, W3GII.

Bob, W3GII, also reported that the Sunday June 20, 1971, QCWA Picnic held at the home of Harold Stoudt, W3CJP, was a great success, with good weather. Twenty-three members and guests attended.

Ed Artz, WA3APN, read ARRL 330 Bulletin. This Bulletin announced that the ARRL was going to publish a separate Repeater Directory and would be split off from the ARRL Net Directory. Thanks Ed.

Rich, W3WJC, called attention to the upcoming ARRL VHF QSO PARTY contest scheduled for the weekend of September 11 and 12, 1971. Many RRC members are active on the VHF bands during this contest.

Bob Wagner, W3GII, who is the Editor of the RRC BULLETIN mentioned that the deadline for the September RRC BULLETIN is Aug. 26, 1971.

There were quite a few items for sale from the estate of Webster "Web" Painter, W3RAV. Web died in April 1971.

Rich Ahrens, W3WJC, said that the Friday September 10, 1971, RRC monthly meeting will be held at the UGI Building. The Bell Telephone Laboratories film "Similarities In Wave Behavior" will be shown. This film shows, in a mechanical fashion, the idea of Standing Wave Ratio, (SWR). This is a great film. Plan on being at the Sept. 10th meeting.

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