

Green Mountain News

The newsletter of the Green Mountain Repeater Association

Winter 2010/2011

Mike Martin to Speak at Annual Luncheon

We are delighted to have Mike Martin as our guest speaker for this year's annual luncheon and meeting.

Mike Martin owns and operates RFI Services, a firm dedicated exclusively to RFI Locating & Training. Mike has been locating interference sources and training all types of utility companies full time for over 25 years and solves an average of 500 complaints a year. He takes advantage of the opportunity to test all RFI locating equipment and makes recommendations to the manufacturers for improvements. He has received acknowledgments in many publications including: AC Power Interference Handbook * AC Power Interference Manual * Power Line Interference, A Practical Handbook * Popular Mechanics * T&D Magazine * The American Radio Relay League Journal and The ARRL RFI Book. Mike is multi-licensed by the FCC and considered to be the most experienced Interference Investigator in the country.



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Open Election for Board of Directors

The term of office of Everett Bollin, WA3DVO expires this year (December 31, 2010). Ev has served the board for 3 years now, and is happy to serve again if re-elected.

You must be present at the Annual Meeting in order to vote! So please plan on attending.

Of course, nominations are open per our by-laws. So if you know of a GMRA member you think

would make a good board member, and send us a nomination. Send nomination requests, as specified by Article VII of our by-laws prior to the Annual Meeting.

Mail nominations to:

GMRA Secretary
P.O. Box 572
Bladensburg, MD 20710.

Annual Business Meeting and Luncheon

We'll meet again this year at the Knights of Columbus hall in College Park, MD (handicap accessible), at 11:30 on December 4.

The KoC hall is just east of I-95; 10142 Cherry Hill Rd, College Park, MD - (301) 220-1029. If you need a talk in, we will be listening on the nearest repeater to the KoC, 146.88(-). Just give us a CQ on that frequency if you get lost.

The agenda:

- Lunch!
- President's Opening Remarks and Introductions (Paul Freirich, W3HFA)
- Introduction of Guest Speaker (Paul Freirich, W3HFA)
- Guest Speaker (Mike Martin)
- Secretary's Reading of the Minutes (C.T. David, K3GXF)
- Treasurer's Report (Roy Ashlin Jr., N3NGA)
- Membership Report (Roy Ashlin Jr., N3NGA)
- Technical Committee Report (Roy Ashlin Jr., N3NGA)
- Elections (Paul Freirich, W3HFA)
- Presentation of Prizes (entire Board)

For only \$20 (which includes sales tax) You can have a decent meal, meet your fellow GMRA members, and possibly win a prize. The cost is half price (\$10) for children 12 and under. All funds will be collected at the door. Cash is preferred. We will also have a membership sign-up table. You can join at the meeting and be eligible for the prizes. Keep in mind that gratuity is not included in the price.

The menu will include:

- Boneless Chicken Breast
- Roast Beef
- Rice
- Steamed Mixed Vegetables
- Salad and Dressings
- Garlic and Assorted Breads
- Small Pastries
- Soft Drinks, Iced and Hot Tea, Coffee

Please RSVP if you plan to attend, so we can get an accurate head count for the caterers. RSVP by sending an email to gmra@live.com or by calling Paul W3HFA at 301-593-7205. Please respond by November 28.

We look forward to seeing you there!

It really is a small world

About ten years ago we were out at a business meeting in Denver. As part of the conference they had the obligatory banquet on Saturday night at which I was sitting next to one of our members from New York City. As we chatted through dinner I happened to mention that Phyllis and I were both Hams. He responded that he was also a ham and I asked him what is call was. His response was, "WA2INW".

"For crying out loud, Tony", I said, "I worked you on six meters forty years ago".

Genuinely surprised he asked how I could possibly remember that. I asked if he worked 6 meters AM that long ago. He answered "yes."

I asked if he got on the TGIF net on 50.4mhz at 11:30 pm on Fridays. He answered "yes" again.

I asked if he had at that time recently been married. Again he answered "yes."

"Then I'm right", I said, "I did work you on the TGIF net and I can remember because of your phonetics. Recently married, you were using the phonetics 'We Are TWO Innocent Newlyweds' for your WA2INW call."

"Ohmigod", he replied, "not only did you work me but in a one month window because my wife caught me using those phonetics and made me stop."

I had to go 1800 miles to Denver to sit next to a guy I worked forty years ago. It certainly is a small world.

Paul, W3HFA

GMRA President's Letter



As I get older the years seem to fly by faster and faster. It seems only a few weeks ago I was writing the President's Letter and here it is time for another one. This one will be mercifully short because not much newsworthy has happened this year.

One sad note, just minutes before starting this (originally drafted in September) I received an email from Jim Cross advising me that Hugh Turnbull, W3ABC, has become a silent key. Hugh was a long-time member of GMRA and our thoughts and condolences go out to his family.

Our repeater availability has been extremely close to 100% this year, one again thanks to the efforts of our Technical Wizard Roy Ashlin, N3NGA. Over the past two summers we had had some lightning problems apparently getting into our controllers over the phone lines despite some transient suppressors. Roy researched the problem and found some more effective transient suppressors. He ordered and installed them and so far this year we have been spared lightning caused failures.

Grady Ball was kind enough to donate a Motorola Micor repeater to GMRA. Roy has not yet found time to go over the unit and tune it up. We had examined the possibility of buying a new repeater for GMRA but the cost of a good, commercial quality, repeater has become astronomical and with Grady's donation we now have essentially

two repeaters and some other spare parts. It is our eventual goal to assemble and tune up two complete repeaters, one on the 146.61 and one on 146.88 and have them available for immediate installation in case we have a major failure on either of our two operating repeaters.

We have rotated through several new "homes" for our monthly luncheon and have finally settled on Cheeburger Cheeburger, a nice restaurant in Burtonsville. It meets all of our requirements, namely a private room that we can reserve AT NO COST, quiet and with good food. For those of you who have not come to one of our luncheons they are great fun. There are no agendas, treasurer's report or minutes to drowse through, just a bunch of hams sitting around lying about what great amateur operators they are. In truth, at the last several luncheons there have been some interesting conversations and some problem-solving sessions going on around the table. At the August Luncheon, Ken Greenhouse, KB3IIE, gave a presentation on the new Icom D-Star digital system and at the September Luncheon Jim Wallace, N3ADF gave us a brief rundown on the happenings in the PG County ARES/RACES.

We have booked our Annual Business Meeting/Luncheon at the Knights of Columbus in College Park once again. As usual it will be the First Saturday in December and Mike Martin, K3RFI, has agreed to be our guest speaker. Mike has been the RF problem solver for Pepco for many years and one of the reasons that neither of your repeaters has to have CTCSS (sub-audible tone squelch) is all the help Mike has given to GMRA in tracking down and eliminating sources of interference. He should have some interesting yarns to spin about tracking down interference. From past experience we know that he is VERY good at it.

See you at the Knights of Columbus on Saturday, December 4 and thanks to our stalwart Newsletter Editor Chuck Glenn, KV3G for once again "putting the paper to bed".

73,

Paul Freirich

Prince Georges County ARES/RACES

From the ARRL website: The Amateur Radio Emergency Service® (ARES) consists of licensed amateurs who have voluntarily registered their qualifications and equipment for communications duty in the public service when disaster strikes. Every licensed amateur, regardless of membership in ARRL or any other local or national organization, is eligible to apply for membership in ARES.

The main focus of the Prince Georges County ARES/RACES group is to provide back-up communications to a coalition of seven hospitals throughout the county. In practice, members provide voice and text message capability to hospital officials in case of disaster or need. We participate in drills with hospital staff periodically. These drills normally involve running a voice net that connects the hospitals together during simulated disasters as well as providing Winlink

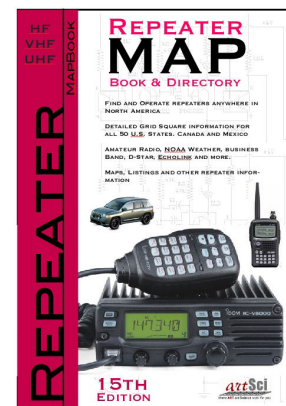
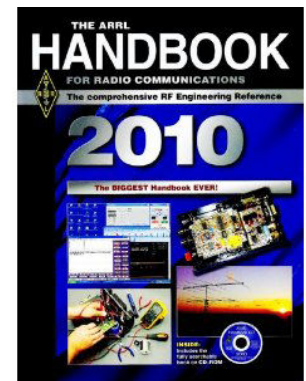
e-mail backup support.

PG ARES/RACES participates in organized exercises with the Prince Georges County Health Care Coalition which involve practicing response to simulated disaster scenarios. In recent exercises, the role of ARES/RACES has been recognized with the addition of amateur radio into the response plans.

Information about membership and participation is available at <http://www.pgares.org> as well as the PG-ARES/RACES Google group. Please join our regularly scheduled net each Tuesday evening on the 146.610 repeater at 7:30 PM. Meetings are regularly scheduled on the 3rd Monday of each month at the EOC building in Landover Hills. Please refer to the website for details and directions.

Annual Meeting Prizes

Once again, we're offering GMRA members unprecedented chances to win! This year's prizes include four Yaesu FT1900M 55-watt mobile transceivers, twelve Puxing 2M 5-watt HTs, ten 9-LED flashlights, an ARRL Handbook, ten Repeater Mapbooks and more. As always, you must be present to win, so please plan to stay for the entire luncheon if you want a prize.



Your GMRA Membership

NI3A	Charles	N5EV	Richard	WA3JR	Jean	N3PGI	Rex	KB3TEV	Charlie
KZ3AB	E. Allen	KI4EY	Victor	KB3KHL	James	KB3PJG	Holli	KV3TEW	Brian
W3ABC	Hugh SK	KB3EZQ	Jenny	KA3KID	Lawrence	N3PKX	Betty	N3TFS	Edgar
K3ACT	Arthur	WR3F	Richard	KB3KIF	Sarah	KB3POU	Bruce	KB3THJ	Zachary
N3ADF	Jim	N3FCA	Holly	W5KIM	John	KB3PQY	Adrian	KB3TIN	Jakob
N3ADY	Gerald	KB3FFU	David	W3KVC	Clarence	KB3PQZ	Eneida	WA2TIU	Terence
K3AIN	Anthony	KB3FNV	Joseph	KB3KWA	Anthony	W3PRB	John	WB2TNC	William
KC2AJX	James	KB8FOX	Darian	WB3KXL	David	KB3PRP	Dorson	K3TND	Richard
KF4AJZ	Philip	N3FPO	Duane	AB3LD	Joseph	KB3PXL	Stephen	KB3TNM	Russell
WB3AOA	Alice	W3FUO	Hugh	KB3LDU	William	N3QDR	Leonard	W3TOM	Tom
WB9AUJ	John	KJ4FUU	Thomas	N3LES	Les	N3QEP	Greg	K3UAL	Joe
W3BCW	Brooks	N3FV	David	N3LFM	Debbie	N3QEQ	Brenda	K3UBI	Roy
W3BE	John	K3FZ	Albert	N3LHD	Thomas	W3QF	John	N3UEZ	Mike
N3BEN	Benjamin	KV3G	Chuck	KB3LLA	Kenneth	KB3QGI	Daniel	N3USZ	Galen
K3BEQ	Murray	KJ4GDL	Michele	WB5LPN	Randy	KB3QJR	Sarah	WA3UTY	Bill
KB3BTB	Patricia	N3GE	Anthony	KB3LVE	Alan	KB3QMP	Adan	N3UUP	Jesse
N3BTN	Vincent	W3GFY	John	KB3LXP	Kenneth	KB3QOT	Maria	N3UXY	Rita
KD3BU	Manuel	WA3GJD	William	KB3LXQ	Amber	K3QX	Ed	WA8UYD	James
W4BU	Roger	KB3GJP	Henry	WG4M	Paul	AK3R	John	KF4VCA	David
W3CAF	Neil	KA3GSV	Myer	NB5M	James	W1RAI	Ray	W1VCU	Nelson
W3CAT	Ken	AA3GV	Ernest	N3MBW	Judith	W3RBR	Richard	N3VKW	Richard
KC2CAX	Kenneth	WA3GWS	George	W3MBZ	Tom	K3RD	Donald	KA3VNF	Debbie
W3CB	Clifford	K3GXF	C.T.	W3MEH	Vernon	K3REM	Bob	KC3VO	Robert
K3CCS	Paul	WB3GXW	John	W2MPD	Michael	K3RFI	Mike	KD3VR	Joseph
N3CK	Nick	N3GYE	Lois	KE6MVA	Tom	W3RFQ	Ken	W3VY	Mary Ellen
K3CKT	Jim	N3HBO	Kathy	K3MVM	Marvin	KB4RGC	Robert	KR4WE	Michael
N3CKX	Reginald	KA3HDO	Frank	WX0N	Henry	N4RPI	Patrick	W3WFM	Bill
W3CL	Carl	AB3HE	Mat	WI3N	Jim	KB3RSY	Albert	W4WHE	William
K3CON	Gerald	W3HFA	Paul	K3NCO	Marc	W3RTA	Bob	N3WKK	Clarence
KA3COT	Charles	N3HFT	Ed	N3NGA	Roy	WA3RTH	Richard	K3WS	Thomas
N3CPK	Ronald	N3HG	Gene	KA3NJF	Warren	N3RWG	Dorothy	N3WSG	Jerry
WB3CQI	Douglas	KB3HGT	Chris	KB3NJK	Pete	N3RWI	Sue	KR3X	Robert
N3CUO	Robert	N3HHA	Dolores	KB3NJP	Thomas	WA3RWP	Walter	N3XFL	Pamela
KT3D	Dennis	N3HI	Peter	N3NKW	Pamela	W3RYQ	Don	N3XKJ	Jim
WV3D	Kevin	WA3HSC	David	AA3NN	Kenneth	KB3SEL	Gloria	NG4Y	Carrol
N3DC	William	KB3IIE	Kenneth	WA3NSI	Jim	AA3SG	Walter	WN3Y	LaReintz
N7DH	Dennis	KB3IJF	Clifford	KA3NXW	Barry	K3SGA	Lois	W4YEH	Howard
KM3DR	Lee	K3IMJ	Melvin	KB3Nzc	Donald	K3SGB	John	N3YSA	George
WA3DVO	Everett	AD6IU	Richard	KI3O	Robert	KA3SKN	Kurt	WA3YTK	Richard
KB3DX	Jeffrey	K3IWE	Kenneth	KB3OBQ	Eugene	KB3SMS	Jon	AJ4YZ	Mitch
W0DXS	Robert	KO3J	Warren	KJ4OCC	Bruce	N3SNU	William	KX3Z	Fred
W4EE	Jim	N3JAA	Phyllis	KB3OCM	Doris	KB3SOR	Jon	K4ZDH	Riley
WA3EEM	Mike	WA3JAL	John	KA3OHF	James	NX3SS	Spence	AA3ZK	Paul
KG6EFT	James	N3JBX	William	W3OJ	John	KJ4SSX	Joe	N3ZQU	Gina
KB3EGL	Keith	KB3JHD	Karen	WA3OLQ	George	N3STA	Alan	W3ZRW	Joel
K9EIS	Dennis	KB3JKO	David	KB3ONR	Curtis	KB3STG	Angela	N3ZVJ	Harvey
N3EMP	Gene	WB3JOT	Ted	KB3OQZ	James	KB3SZJ	Cusic		
W3EQ	Ken	WB3JPB	Bruce	KC7OVS	David	N3TBZ	Dolores		
K3ETT	Fl	K3JQ	Frank	KB3PBZ	Kevin	K3TC	Thomas		

Your GMRA Officers and Representatives

Board of Directors (all are also Control Operators)

President	Paul Freirich	W3HFA	w3hfa@hotmail.com
1st Vice President	Everett Bollin	WA3DVO	wa3dvo@msn.com
2nd Vice President	Rich Hartnett	WA3RTH	wa3rth@arrl.net
Secretary	C.T. David	K3GXF	k3gxf@aol.com
Treasurer	Roy Ashlin Jr	N3NGA	n3ngaraajr@verizon.net

Repeater Trustees

146.610 Cheverly	Everett Bollin	WA3DVO	wa3dvo@msn.com
146.880 Greenbelt	Paul Freirich	W3HFA	w3hfa@hotmail.com

Technical Committee

Director	Roy Ashlin Jr	N3NGA	n3ngaraajr@verizon.net
Member	Chuck Glenn	KV3G	

Information System Representatives

Membership	Roy Ashlin Jr	N3NGA	n3ngaraajr@verizon.net
E-Mail Bulletins	Paul Freirich	W3HFA	w3hfa@hotmail.com
Newsletter	Chuck Glenn	KV3G	kv3g@arrl.net
Web Site Content	Rich Hartnett	WA3RTH	wa3rth@arrl.net

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P. O. Box 572
Bladensburg, MD 20710-0572

Please send inquiries to: gmra@live.com

GMRA operates two repeaters in the National Capitol area:

146.610(-) K3GMR in Bladensburg, MD
146.880(-) W3GMR in Greenbelt, MD

Web site: www.gmra-md.org