

Battleship New Jersey Amateur Radio Station

Minutes of the Steering Committee Meeting of January 10, 2001

- ✓ The meeting was conducted at the Camden County Communications Center in Lindenwold, NJ.
- ✓ At 7:15 PM Peter Greene, N2LVI, and Joseph Cramer, N2XYZ, opened the meeting with remarks on the purpose of the meeting and introductions of the persons in attendance. They also provided a history and current status of the Battleship New Jersey Amateur Radio Station organization. Originally it was planned the ship amateur radio station would be staffed by a representative from each formally established amateur radio club in Southern New Jersey. However, it was felt that to expect each club to respond individually would be impractical and might place an undue burden on the clubs. Therefore a general call was made to any interested amateur radio operators, hereinafter referred to as hams, that a steering committee would be formed from those hams responding. This call in no way precludes any club from participating; it merely establishes a mechanism to begin formation of a station organization.
- ✓ The mission and the goals of the organization were discussed. The following statements were introduced:

The mission of the **Battleship New Jersey Amateur Radio Station (BNJARS)**, will be to provide an educational and recreational organization whose purpose is to support the **Home Port Alliance** in providing technical expertise, skills and volunteer manning to promote attendance by the public, communications education for the public and worldwide publicity for the **Battleship New Jersey BB 62**, through Amateur Radio.

The **BNJARS** will be a separate, non-profit organization affiliated with, but independent of local Delaware Valley radio clubs. It will be open to any interested individual, especially local veterans who served on the **Battleship New Jersey** or other battleships. Only licensed Amateur Radio operators will be permitted operate the station, and only licensed members will be permitted to repair and maintain the radios in accordance with federal law.

- ✓ A Constitution and Bylaws committee was established.
- ✓ Activities and services that may be provided by the **ARS** include:
 - **Manned amateur radio station** where the public can see and hear live demonstrations of a radio station. Public participation will be encouraged. Historical equipment will be used where practical.
 - Technical expertise and assistance in the **restoration and repair** of the ship's radio room, antennas, interior communications systems (IVCS), and other related equipment and facilities.

Battleship New Jersey Amateur Radio Station

Minutes of the Steering Committee Meeting of January 10, 2001

- **Training and education** for the public via “tour guides” on radio communications, including introductory courses, history of naval communications, Morse code and short presentations for children.
- Support of **school programs** through tours, demonstrations and educational programs.
- **Support Scouting** organizations by providing merit badge courses, demonstrations during sleepovers, operating a “**Jamboree On The Air**” (**JOTA**) station, and other such activities appropriate for Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts and other similar scouting organizations.
- **Assist** in the development, maintenance and operation of a **radio museum** or display showing the history of naval communications along with vintage equipment.
- Cooperate with local **veteran’s organizations**, whose members may have served on the **Battleship New Jersey** or other Navy ships, by providing an on-the-air forum for veteran amateur radio operators.
- **A public service** by operating a **Military Affiliate Radio System (MARS)** station to provide voice and data communications to military active duty personnel and their families. The public service would also include **emergency management communications via the Incident Command System (ICS)** in support of local law enforcement and relief organizations such as the American Red Cross, Salvation Army through the auspices of the Office of Emergency Management (OEM) via the Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (RACES) and the Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES).
- Promote communications related **careers in the U.S. Navy** and the other branches of the armed forces.
- Sponsor a **newsletter, e-mail list and web site** to promote the **Battleship New Jersey Radio Station and the ship in general**.
- Provide **worldwide** publicity for the **Battleship New Jersey BB62** by participating in on-the-air amateur radio **contests** and **special events**. Special acknowledgement cards, known as “**QSL**” cards, will be sent to those operators providing evidence of working the **ARS** or hearing its broadcasts.
- Conduct seminars and provide facilities, equipment and support capabilities for those interested in documenting, collecting and/or repairing **vintage naval radio equipment**.
- Support **Battleship New Jersey BB 62 fundraising and publicity activities** and solicit donations. Note that amateur radio operators are prohibited by

Battleship New Jersey Amateur Radio Station

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Federal Communications Commission (FCC) regulations to accept any financial reimbursement or compensation for their services in the operation of the amateur radio station. Also note that commercial broadcast communications are not authorized on the amateur radio frequency bands.

- Act as liaison between **Battleship New Jersey BB 62, Home Port Alliance** and **local amateur radio clubs** in the Delaware Valley and regional and national organizations, such as the **American Radio Relay League (ARRL)** and other Museum Ship radio stations.
- ✓ The following issues were discussed:
- Application for ARRL affiliation was affirmed.
 - Insurance – Need to determine who is responsible for member liability.
 - Financing – Develop need for dues, solicitations and fund raising activities.
 - Amateur television (ATV) – need assessment.
 - Membership – determine classes of membership:
 - Full Members – Active, licensed, ARRL.
 - Regular – Active, non-licensed (or non-ARRL).
 - Associate – Occasional contributor.
- ✓ Election of officers was conducted:
- President – Peter Greene, N2LVI
 - Vice President – Joseph Cramer, N2XYZ
 - Secretary/Treasurer – John Goheen, KB2ADL
 - Chief Engineer – Matthew Call, N2TXV
- It is to be noted that this election was conducted for the purpose establishing the initial organization for the development of a Constitution and Bylaws and to appoint committees to do the business of the organization. The Constitution and Bylaws will provide the formal framework for the rules of operation and policy of the organization.
- ✓ The following committees were formed and staffed:
- Constitution and Bylaws – Peter Greene, N2LVI/Joseph Cramer, N2XYZ/Peter-N Butler, WB2B/Matthew Call, N2TXV.
 - Ship Survey/Ship Spaces – Fred Munzemayer, K2DX/Dave Burgess, WA2TVS/Doug McCray, K2QWQ/John Saracen, WB2DFB.
 - Ship Survey/Equipment Inventory – Fred Munzemayer, K2DX/ John Saracen, WB2DFB
 - Station Configuration – John Goheen, KB2ADL
 - Equipment Donations – Joe Cramer, N2XYZ
 - Home Port Alliance/Naval architect liaison – Peter Greene, N2LVI and the survey teams.

Battleship New Jersey Amateur Radio Station

Minutes of the Steering Committee Meeting of January 10, 2001

- ✓ The following key positions were established and filled as shown:
 - Historian – vacant
 - Public Affairs Officer/Publicity – Joseph Cramer, N2XYZ
 - QSL Manager – Joe Duffin, W2ORA
 - Station Operations Scheduler – vacant
 - Station Trustee (license and call holder) – Joe Duffin, W2ORA, Station Call: **NJ2BB**
 - Newsletter Editor/Webmaster – Peter Greene, N2LVI
 - Email Server – Matthew Call, N2TXV

- ✓ The following permanent committees were established and filled as shown:
 - Ship Restoration – survey teams
 - Equipment Restoration – survey teams
 - Contest/Special Event – Joseph Cramer, N2XYZ
 - QSL Bureau – Joe Duffin, W2ORA
 - Station Operation – vacant
 - Finance/Audit – John Goheen, KB2ADL
 - Scouting and public liaison – Larry Pagani, WB2SOY*/Ed Martino, KB2RGQ*
 - Publicity – Joseph Cramer, N2XYZ
 - Data Management – John Goheen, KB2ADL
* not present at meeting.

- ✓ The following items were introduced for further action:
 - Web page development, including pictures.
 - Radio Station web page links to the various radio clubs and the HPA/BNJARS web pages.
 - Establishment of a Board of Directors.
 - Determination of process for access to the ship.
 - Formal letter of radio station designation and officers and progress to HPA.

- ✓ The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 PM.
- ✓ The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, February 19, 2001 at 7:00 PM at Camden County Communications Center in Lindenwold, NJ.

Respectfully submitted by the Secretary, John Goheen, KB2ADL