

CROSSTALK

Volume 55

Issue #08

Celebrating Our 55th Year

August 2014



President's Message



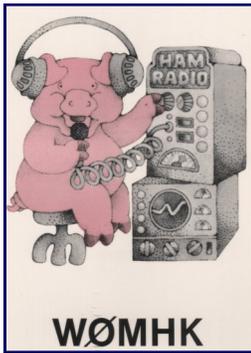
The clubhouse is open for business! In conjunction with our Field Day, we held a grand opening ceremony to officially mark the transition from our 'clubhouse replacement project' to 'clubhouse operations'. Already, the extra space has been put to good use. During field day, the air conditioning was on giving a great place for our members to congregate. The "Wayne's World" cooking crew were busy in the clubhouse kitchen, keeping the operators stoked and the refrigerator stocked for the 24 hours of operation. Prior to the grand opening ceremony, we held a hidden transmitter training activity there with the Boy Scouts of Troop 9 and interested club members, followed by a "Bunny hunt" RDF activity out on the 4-H grounds.



Our Board of Directors has been having their monthly meetings there, and on August 8/9, we'll be operating out of our new clubhouse as one of the W1AW/2 stations as part of ARRL's Centennial Celebration. It's hard to believe it was just one year ago in July that the old trailer got hauled off from the clubhouse site. Of course, there's still some work left to do, but that can resume after we finish an audit of the club books so that we know exactly where we stand before allocating additional funds. Once again, thank you to everyone over these past years that has gotten us to where we are now. Applause, handshakes, and pats on the back to all involved! Well done GCARC!

And speaking of funds, our annual Hamfest is our one big fund raising event of the year. Our 36th Annual Hamfest is Sunday, September 14, 2014 at the 4-H fairgrounds featuring tailgaters and sellers of new, used, and antique radio, computer, and electronic equipment. Mark the date! There will be ARRL VEC License testing at 9am. "Win a Ham at the Hamfest" and door prize drawings starting at 10am. DXCC-VUCC-WAS card checking at 11:30am. Spread the word. Invite a friend. What more can we say. It's "Hamtastic!" This is a great place to meet other hams from the tri-state region. Come on out and have a good time!

Respectfully, Jim Wright, N2GXJ



Down Jersey DXing **By Bill Grim, WØMHK**

How many times have you been unable or reluctant to call a DX station because they were weak and close to the noise floor of your rig??? Noise (QRM) is always a potential or actual problem for your station. While updating my transceivers over the years it is apparent that noise blankers on our rigs have become more and more effective. Don't be hesitant to experiment and use these wonderful adjuncts that are incorporated into our rigs' receive sections. Just remember, if your NB is adjustable, don't overdrive it or you can sometimes cause some bad distortion on the signal you wish to hear.

Just this morning after finishing a quick shave at the bathroom sink, I shut off the triple light bank over each of our double bathroom sinks. Instead of turning off KYW-AM (1060 kHz Philly) first (I am a news "junkie") I shut off the lights first.... And WOW! An unpleasant noise source on top of KYW disappeared. Then I remembered I had just changed the 3 old incandescent bulbs over my sink (the old GE 40 watt globe soft whites were nowhere to be found when one blew out the other day). My wife's sink still had the three old GE's as I had initially. The new bulbs were energy efficient Cree 6 watters that were the closest looking to the old ones I could find with an equivalent light rating (40w).

I put the light back on, picked up my trusty Grundig multi-band AM-FM portable and placed it near one of the Cree's. BAM!!! Enough noise to completely take out KYW!

In short, with the upcoming cessation on the manufacture of incandescents in the USA, we might have some ham "problems". From what I have read, there are no definitive FCC interference rules concerning these new bulb designs. They vary in construction and obviously in the problems they can produce in the RF spectrum. The Cree bulbs are fine in all other respects except for the fact that the old GE's were \$2.95 each and the Cree's were \$9.95 - not to mention the QRM they cause.

So Caveat Emptor of the potential problems as you make the transition to new lights in your home and the rig area. It could COST you extra dollars and fewer DX QSOS!

At this writing the 6 Meter season is about wrapped up. I'm sure some of you 6M enthusiasts would characterize this 6M season as nothing short of a train wreck!!! With the exception of some DECENT random openings (even to some nice DX in the southern latitudes) the band has been void of typical openings including domestic. It has been a bit of a rerun of the 2013's poor 6M band conditions. We just did not get Sporadic-E clouds to cooperate with SNJ propagation. Europe was particularly rare and one was hard pressed to hear much more than Spain and Portugal at that.

In continually looking for explanations of Six Meters poor showing again, little of what we read seems to explain the situation. Guesses are being made about high altitude temperatures, meteorite dust, and general global warming. We just have to hope that our best scientific minds using our newest satellite and atmospheric measuring devices can come up with a plausible theory. In the meantime, let's try to be optimistic about a good finish to this season and 2015.

DXpeditions are both few and redundant in August. The Pacific again seems to be one our best prospects for some new entities. Try on the list on page 3 for size, and possibly give the August Russian CW/SSB District Contest a whirl to come up with some of your Eastern European needs:

(Continued on page 3)

(Continued from page 2)

CALL	DATES	HIGHLIGHTS	DIFFICULTY (5=MOST RARE)	ENTITY
SV9	08/01 - 08/10	HF/SSB	1	Crete
XR0YNTT	08/02 - 08/04	40-6M/SSB	2	Easter Island
VK9EX	08/02 - 08/08	160-6M/MNI Modes/5 JA OPS	4	Christmas Island
NH0J	08/10 - 08/15	80-10M/CW, SSB, RTTY	3	Marianas
VP2MPX	08/10 - 08/28	160-6M/SSB	1	Montserrat
J3	08/12 - 08/22	40-10M/CW, SSB	1	Grenada
A35	08/16 - 08/24	160-10M/CW, SSB	3	Tonga
3D2	08/26 - 09/02	160-10M/CW, SSB, RTTY	2	Fiji
KH0	08/26 - 09/02	80-6M/CW + Digital	3	Marianas
Russian District Contest	08/16 - 08/17	PH & CW	Exchange=RS (T)	Plus Progressive Number

Credits : NG3K ADXO



Roll Your Own VHF/UHF Antennas - August 6, 2014

By Cory Sickles, WA3UVV

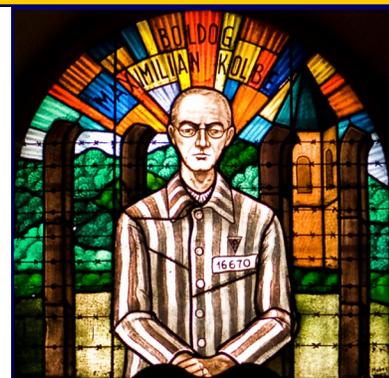
This month's meeting we will feature a program by Ray Golley, N3RG. Ray is well-known for his DIY antenna construction presentations. While he's describing the considerations that go into a design, he'll be assembling one at the same time!

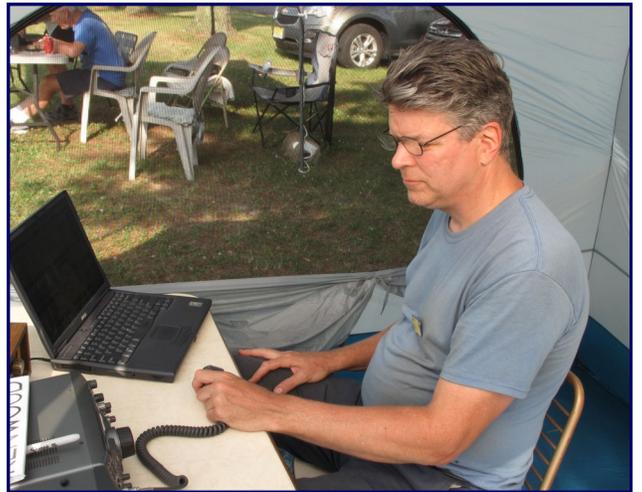
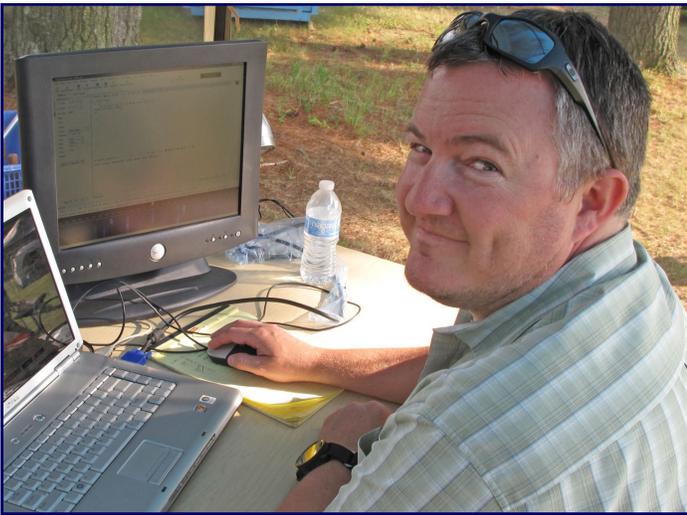
Building your own antennas is a great way to understand the principles and theory behind the designs, while saving considerable sums of money, as a result of your new-found knowledge. Please join us for what will be an interesting evening.

ARRL 2013 Field Day Results for the Gloucester County Amateur Radio Club

	2013	Rank		Total #
Score	11,368	#27	out of	2,547
Category	11A	#1	out of	2
QSOs	2,937			
Power Mult	2	#21	out of	2,149
Section	SNJ	#2	out of	21
Division	AT	#4	out of	252
Participants	35			

Maximilian Kolbe, SP3RN Patron Saint of Amateur Radio Operators





Here are some Field Day 2014 pictures. There are more on page 5.

Can You Name The 13 Original Colonies?

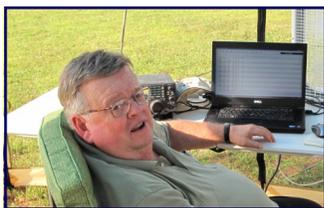
By Jim Wright, N2GXJ

What better way to celebrate the USA during the July 4 weekend than with the 13 Original Colonies special on-air radio event? When the fireworks in my town got rained out on the 3rd, it was the perfect excuse for me to get on 40 meters to see if I could find any of these stations, operating using a special callsign in the range from K2A to K2M, one for each state from the original 13 colonies here on the East Coast.



It only took a few seconds before I found out where the fireworks were this evening – on the HF bands! One of those big pile-ups was trying to get to radio station K2I here in New Jersey. And whose voice was that that I was hearing running the frequency? Why, it was none other than our own club member, Ed Champion, N2RO! Way to go Ed!

I couldn't get through to him, but did get through to a few other stations that evening. It sure seemed like a popular event. By the end of the week, the event's webpage said they'd logged over 108,300 contacts! Anyone else chase any of these stations July 4 weekend?



Welcome New Club Member:

Charles Wahl, Jr, KC2STO, who holds a General class license and lives in Westville, NJ.

We are glad to have you as a member of the Club and hope to see you regularly at Club events, activities, and meetings.

Badges of Progress

By Cory Sickles, WA3UVV

I was reminded recently of the famous scene in **“The Treasure of the Sierra Madre”** - **“Badges? We ain't got no badges. We don't need no badges! I don't have to show you any stinkin' badges!”**. I gave thought to this again during our general meeting in July when we discussed the need for an additional batch of badge blanks – owning mostly to increased membership.



In our case, we do need badges. It helps to remind others of our names and calls, help someone connect a face with ham they spoke to on the air and it builds a team mentality. I assure you, we operate as a team.

All of the things we have and will accomplish in this club is the result of team efforts. We might think of them as committees, officers and directors, special interest groups or the membership in general.

Wearing your badge at the August and future meetings helps us make friends and welcome recent members and visitors. Please remember to wear yours – proudly – **as a member of the team.**



Museum Ship USS Midway

By Jim Wright, N2GXJ

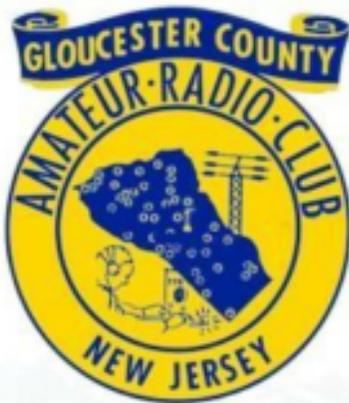
I was recently in San Diego, and while there, had the opportunity to go on board the most visited floating ship museum in the world – the Aircraft carrier USS Midway (CV-41). First commissioned a week after the end of World War II, the Midway served the United States for 47 years, including service during the 1970's in Vietnam War, and Operation Desert Storm in 1991. This year celebrates her 10th year as a museum ship in San Diego, CA.

There is an amateur radio club that operates special events from the Midway. Recalling our club visit to the Battleship New Jersey museum ship, of course I was interested in stopping by the radio room as part of the tour. Let's just say there's a little more space here to operate than on board the New Jersey. During the Museum Ships Weekend this year, they were on the air under the callsign NI6IW. Anyone lucky enough to get them in their log? If not, the next chance might be August 9 from 1600-2300Z, when they're scheduled to be on the air for a VJ Day/US Coast Guard Birthday special event (7.250, 14.320 SSB, 14.070 PSK, REF001C D-Star).

Are there any museum ships near where you might be vacationing this summer? With over 100 ships having participated in the "Museum Ships on the Air" radio weekend each year, there's bound to be one not far from where you might be traveling. Why not look one up and stop in for a visit? If you just happen to be in the San Diego area, be sure to set aside some time for the USS Midway. It's definitely worth the visit.



W2MMD



Celebrating Our 55th Year

22 miles from Philadelphia, PA
28 miles from Wilmington, DE
67 miles from Dover, DE
77 miles from Reading, PA
81 miles from Allentown, PA
91 miles from Baltimore, MD
107 miles from New York City, NY
125 miles from Harrisburg, PA

South Jersey's Biggest Hamfest
Sunday, September 14, 2014

Hamfest 2014

Open to the public 8 am to 2 pm, rain or shine
Gates open at 6 am for tailgaters and sellers

GCARC 36th Annual Hamfest

*Tailgaters and sellers of new, used, antique radio,
computer, and electronic equipment*



ADMISSION: \$8.00

Non-Ham spouses and kids FREE

DXCC-VUCC-WAS Card checking 11:30 am



ARRL VEC License Testing

Testing begins at 9:00 am

Please bring a copy of your license and any CSEs

- ◆ Entry ticket is valid for door prize drawings, including a cooked ham and other prizes.
- ◆ Ticket holder must be present to win.
- ◆ Tailgaters \$7.00 per space *
- ◆ \$10.00 Pavilion tables or table space **
- ◆ Some pavilion spaces have electric
- ◆ Space price does not include admission
- ◆ **Talk-In Repeater : 147.180+ PL 131.8**



Win a "Ham" at a Hamfest



Gloucester County 4-H Fairgrounds

235 Bridgeton Pike (Route 77) • Mullica Hill, NJ 08062

GPS : 39.715572°, -75.211944°

* Tailgating rules (open grassy areas only) : \$7.00 per vehicle space, up to 10 feet. No reserving or holding spaces for tailgaters not yet present. *First come, first serve.*

** Table rules (covered pavilions only) : \$10.00 per table (yours or ours), or table space up to 8 feet. Tailgating under pavilions will fall under "Table Rules" rates.

Contact : Cory Sickles, WA3UVV at wa3uvv@arrl.net or (856)582-9146 • Club Website : w2mmd.org
GCARC, PO Box 370, Pitman, NJ 08071

6 Meter Opening

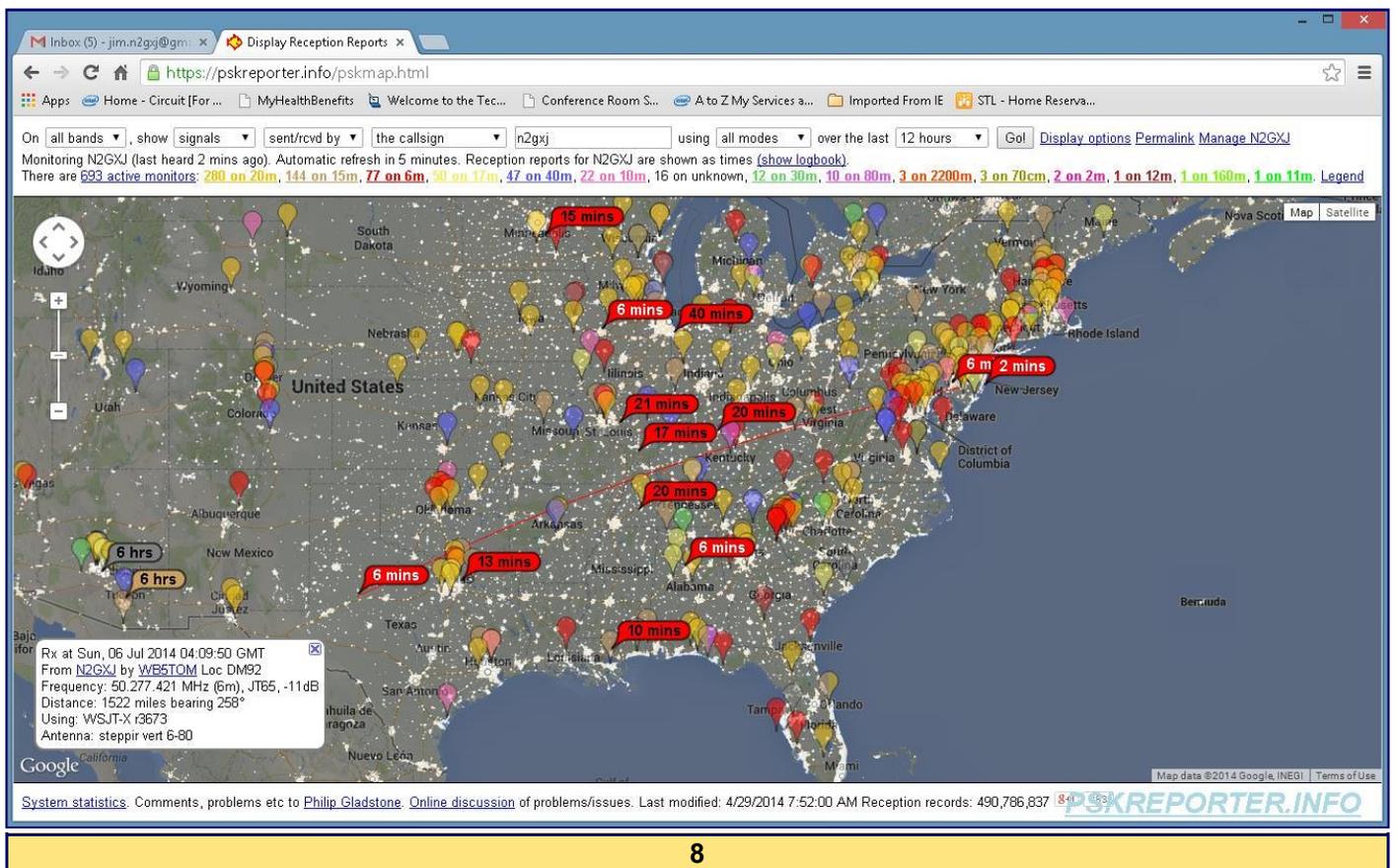
By Jim Wright, N2GXJ

Did you catch the 6 meter opening on Saturday and Sunday of the July 4 weekend? As mentioned in an email sent to club members that Sunday morning, it had seemed to me that “nobody” is ever on this band, and if it was not for the stories from those who have been in radio a while that I trust, I would have said this band is not Magic at all. However, I now stand corrected.

Defying my understanding, and continuing well after local midnight on July 5, I was hearing and making contacts on 6 meters with stations all over the central part of the USA. I listened on 50.142 MHz in amazement to the W1AW/9 operator in Wisconsin having a ball answering stations one after another from all over. I got in their log on my second try at 03:23UTC using 50 watts sideband through an antenna tuner to a dipole in my attic that is not even cut for that band. That’s long after sunset and long after the 10 meter HF band had closed for the evening. I’d never experienced anything like this before.

I tuned in to 50.290 and made a few psk31 contacts. One was in Canada (my first DX contact on 6 meters!). Then I tuned back down to 50.276 and was blown away by seeing at least a dozen JT65 signals all packed into a 3 kHz spectrum at the same time. What a zoo! I pounced on a CQ originating from grid square EM12, and then another from EM55. I was using just 15 watts of TX power, but each logged me at a whopping -01 db (QRO!). I checked the PSKReporter reverse beacon web site to see what other stations might have heard my signal. There were quite a few. How can 6 meters act this way? Maybe it is magic.

Alas, the magic was fleeting. By July 8, the highest frequency I made contacts on was 15 meters again. And that was with JT65 with a faint, but normal received signal report of -12 db. What made 6 meters do what it did on July 5 and 6, and is there any way to predict when it might happen again? I’d like not to miss it!





AMSAT-NA Names Ham Radio's Newest OSCARs

by John Zaruba K2ZA

AMSAT-NA OSCAR number coordinator Bill Tynan W3XO has announced that two Dutch cubesats QB50p1 and QB50p2 have been granted the designations European OSCAR 79 and European OSCAR 80, respectively.

EO-79 and EO-80 are “precursor” satellites to test the technologies that will be used in the upcoming QB50 mission that will perform measurements and examine the properties of the lower thermosphere utilizing 40-50 spacecraft. While the mission spacecraft will be in a very low earth orbit and will decay and re-enter in months, the two precursor spacecraft are in much higher orbits and will potentially have lifetimes measured in years.

The two satellites are currently transmitting performance telemetry, but both spacecraft possesses amateur radio communications transponders that will be switched on at the conclusion of the science portion of the mission, in approximately six months. The telemetry beacons are in CW and AX.25 packet radio. Telemetry decoding information is available at <http://isispace.nl/HAM/qb50p.html>

EO-79 (QB50p1)

Telemetry beacon frequency: 145.815 MHz

AX.25 callsign: QB50P1

EO-79 contains a 400 mW inverting linear (SSB + CW) transponder

Uplink: 435.035 - 435.065 MHz LSB

Downlink: 145.935 - 145.965 MHz USB

EO-80 (QB50p2)

Telemetry beacon frequency: 145.880 MHz

AX.25 callsign: QB50P2

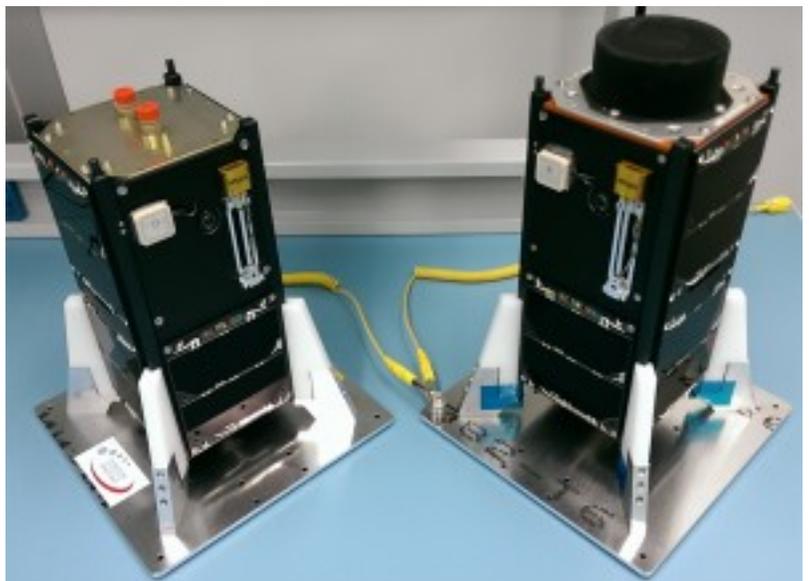
EO-80 contains an FM “easysat” type transponder.

Uplink: To Be Announced

Downlink: 145.840 MHz 9600 baud AX.25 packet and FM voice

QB50p1 and QB50p2

Image credit ISIS



W1AW Portable Centennial QSO Party Operations

CALL	DATES	LOCATION
W1AW/4	07/30 - 08/05	Kentucky
W1AW/0	07/30 - 08/05	South Dakota
W1AW/1	08/06 - 08/12	Vermont
W1AW/2	08/06 - 08/12	New Jersey
W1AW/5	08/13 - 08/19	Oklahoma
W1AW/8	08/20 - 08/26	Ohio
W1AW/0	08/20 - 08/26	North Dakota
W1AW/1	08/27 - 09/02	Maine
W1AW/7	08/27 - 09/02	Arizona

ARRL Ham Radio License Exam Practice Website

<http://arrlexamreview.appspot.com/>

August Birthdays

Congratulations to these members celebrating birthdays this month

John Dilks K2TQN
 Charles Emmel KD2FYF
 James Mollica N2NRD
 Curtis Myers WA2JSG
 James Quinn KD2JEQ (Go west, young man!)
 Joseph Sere day KD2DSU
 Leonid Surnin W2/UT5ZF
 Brett Waller KC2UXQ

Past Presidents:

Harry Jackson WB2GSF



New Tech Question Pool - July 1, 2014

The Technician class (Element 2) Pool is effective on July 1, 2014. It is valid until June 30, 2018. The exam is still 35 questions, but the pool was increased from 394 to 426 possible questions.

Crosstalk Submissions

This is your Club newsletter. Make use of it.

Feel free to contribute general interest articles and ideas for articles.

All submissions, queries, comments and editorials should be addressed to Jeffrey Garth, KC2WCS at [jeff.garth <at> comcast.net](mailto:jeff.garth@comcast.net).

Submission deadline for the September issue: Friday, August 22, 2014

Club Website <http://www.w2mmd.org>

Club E-Mail Reflector: gcarc@mailman.qth.net

Web SDR

By Jim Wright, N2GXJ

By this point it is clear that the technology called Software Defined Radio is transforming the expectations that we, as ham radio operators, dream about for the next best radio for our shack. It was just two years ago, in March of 2012, that Greg Jurrens from FlexRadio Systems flew in from Texas as our special guest speaker to give us, and other hams from our local communities, a presentation on software defined radios at our club meeting. Pushed by technology advancements in the more lucrative government radio systems business, ham radio enthusiasts are finding creative ways to join in on this party, but at much lower price points.

A number of hobbyists have built relatively inexpensive software defined radio receivers using commercially available analogue to digital converters coupled with commercially available programmable hardware components to present a stream of digitized spectrum samples to a computer for further processing. And then they have put those computers on the internet to allow remote users to “listen in” on whatever signals the radio receiver was able to pick up at its location.

There’s an entire web site dedicated to WebSDR – Software Defined Radio receivers connected to the internet, allowing many listeners to listen and tune in simultaneously to the sampled spectrum data. As described on the web site, SDR technology makes it possible that all listeners tune independently, and thus listen to different signals; this is in contrast to the many classical (single channel) receivers that are already available via the internet.

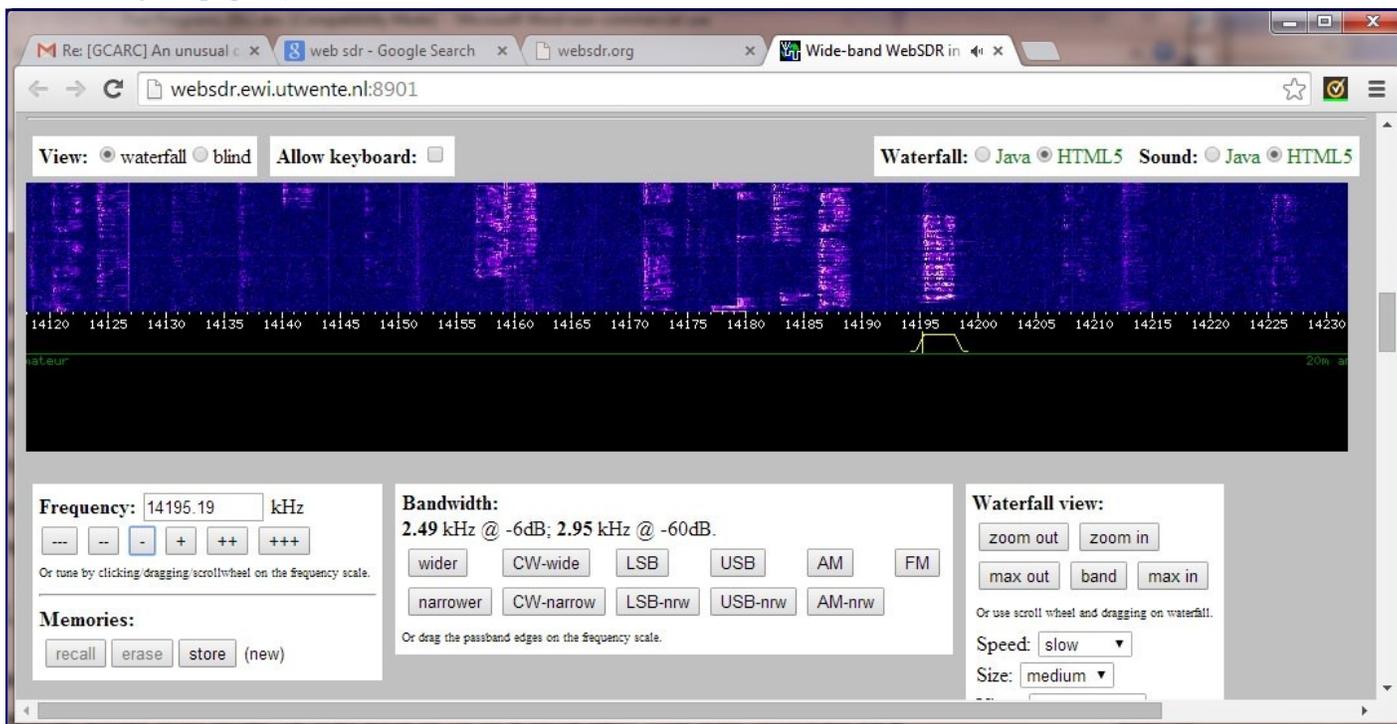
Curious and want to give it a try? Check out www.websdr.org. There is no software to install – you just use your regular web browser. This site provides a list with links to wideband multi-user receivers all over the world, including the Netherlands, Russia, England, Romania, Austria, Sweden, Brazil, plus a few in the United States, and more. There’s over 70 listed, with a map at the bottom of the web page showing where each is located by number.

One of my favorites is at <http://websdr.ewi.utwente.nl:8901/> at the University of Twente in Europe. It tunes ‘everything’ from below the 160M ham band all the way up into the 10M ham band. If you pick a ham band, like 20m, by clicking under it in the main waterfall display, and then click the “band” button in the “Waterfall view” control, you can zoom in and listen in on signals arriving at the receiver from hams all over the world. This is a very popular SDR receiver. When I was using it while writing this article, there were 116 simultaneous users.

I found one strong sideband signal and clicked to move the little yellow listening bandwidth symbol to below it on the waterfall. It was “Andy” callsign RG4F in Russia on 14.260 MHz calling CQ, answering stations from the USA, and asking to be put on the DX cluster. I ran upstairs to my radio, tuned to that frequency, and there he was, faint, calling CQ, so I called him, and he answered! Later, I listened in on VK3MO in Australia talking with 4X4DK in Israel on 14.164. No problem at all hearing this conversation from the receiver in the Netherlands, whereas I could not hear either of them in New Jersey. Just curious - might it be possible to hear your own transmission from the perspective of the DX, and if so, what signal report would you give yourself? I didn’t try that. Tools like this open all kinds of crazy possibilities. Is this cheating? Or is this just a creative way of shortwave listening to find DX stations? Give it a try; judge for yourself. Send your comments to Jeff, our club publications chairman. We’d like to read about your experiences with SDR in the next edition of Crosstalk.

(Continued on page 12)

(Continued from page 11)



Traveling on Highway “Five-Two”

By Cory Sickles, WA3UVV

If you are driving to your vacation destination, remember to pack your VHF/UHF mobile in the car. On long trips, I like to put out a call on 146.52 every once in a while. Many times, I’ll find more activity there than I do on repeaters that might be in range.

If you and the other station are headed in opposite directions, the QSO may be short. If in the same direction, you can probably keep going for some time. I once had a four-station roundtable going on a long section of the PA turnpike.

If you have a D-STAR or other digital rig, then repeaters might be your best bet, as there isn’t a single agreed-upon simplex frequency for UHF, where most activity seems to be.

In any case, remember that your primary focus should be on driving – not playing radio – and also be aware of the mobile radio laws of the individual states you’ll be traveling through.

W1AW/2

By Jim Wright, N2GXJ

Having “Field Day” withdrawal symptoms? Do you miss running a frequency and being on the receiving end of a pile up? There’s still an opportunity to get in on the action when W1AW Centennial Celebration operations return to New Jersey the first full week in August! Club member Darrell Neron is helping to coordinate the event for the state, and Jim Wright is coordinating our club’s participation when we will be operating out of our new clubhouse as one of the W1AW/2 stations on Friday night August 8, and again on Saturday afternoon August 9. Additional timeslots may be available. Contact Jim Wright direct if you want to participate.

Magic Keys

By Cory Sickles, WA3UVV

How many keys do you have? I don't mean the ones that open locks on doors, but rather the ones that unlock the world. Straight keys, bugs and even paddles allow CW enthusiasts to touch the ether and reach out to other hams throughout the world.

In our age of digital voice radios and data modes, we may forget the elegant simplicity of CW and the value this mode represents. Low power transmitters, at QRP or near-QRP levels are common. CW is 20 times more effective at getting a signal through, so it's little wonder.



"Blast From The Past"

From August 1989 Crosstalk



Marla's Munchies

Well here we go again, after a little break, Marla's Munchies are back. I've had a couple of requests for the recipes that I made for Field Day, So here is one of them. This one is my favorite one (next to fresh peach pie).

Pistachio-Pineapple Delight

- 1 Can (20oz) Crushed Pineapple with juice
- 1 Package (4 serving size) Sugar-free Pistachio Instant Pudding
- 1 3/4 Cup Thawed Whipped Topping
- 1 Graham Cracker Pie Crust

Pour pineapple and juice into a bowl. Add the mix, and blend thoroughly. Fold in the whipped topping and spoon into the pie crust. Chill for at least 1 hour. Enjoy!

Next time, I'll print my favorite peach pie recipe. If you have any suggestions for me, please call me or write me. I'd like to print some of your favorite recipes.

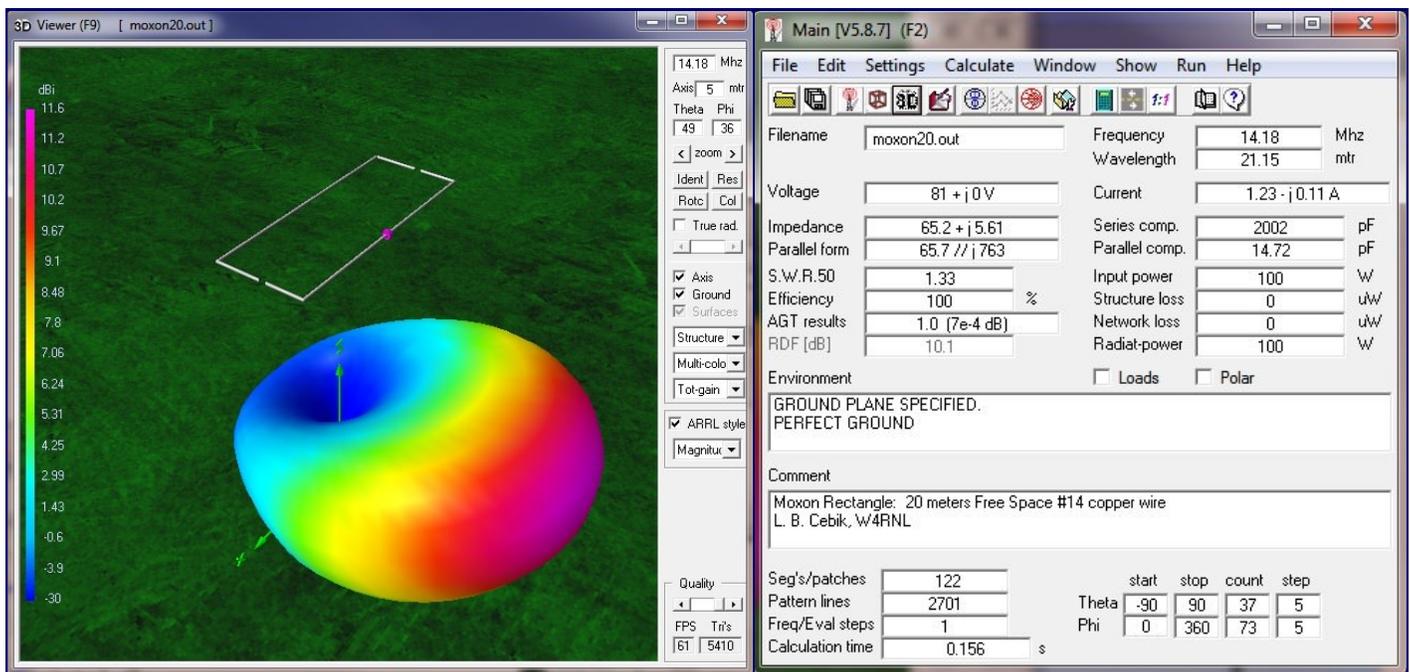
73's and THX
Marla Bozarth
N2DWR SK

Thank you Arie Voors!

By Jim Wright, N2GXJ

In keeping with the theme of this month's guest speaker presentation, how antennas work still seems like a bit of black magic to me. Are you an Antenna Guru? If so, you have my respect. Ever hear of **Arie Voors**? I hadn't before either. But he sure has my respect now, after I installed and have been using his software package called "4nec2" for a while now. For any of you reading this who don't yet know what I'm talking about, stop reading this right now, and go to the web site <http://www.gsl.net/4nec2/> to download this software. It is mind bending unbelievable how good it is, and it's free!

As described on this web site, **4nec2** is a completely free Windows based tool for creating, viewing, optimizing, and checking 2D and 3D style antenna geometry structures and generate, display and/or compare near/far-field radiation patterns for both the starting and experienced antenna modeler. Starting from the supplied library of over 400 example files, with this amazing piece of software, you can customize, experiment, build, and test as many antennas as you like on your computer before wasting any time or effort, or spending any money on material, to build the one that is just right for you. SWR, Gain, Front/Back ratio and impedance line charts – they're all in there. You can sweep the frequency and run the optimizer to measure and display the effects of changing one or more variables on your antenna design all on your computer, while enjoying the comfort and convenience of your favorite chair in your air conditioned home.



Shown here are a few screen snapshots from a Moxon beam design. Notice the good forward gain in a compact design. What if the gap between the wire ends was a little bigger? Can you guess what effect that might have on the design? Would that help (or hurt) the overall gain? What about front/back ratio and SWR? With this software, you only have to change a parameter in the model and give it another try to find out. You get the answer back in seconds. No wire cutting, no re-stringing, no having to hoist a contraption of your own making back up into the air and having to do field measuring on it over and over again. Nice! It's amazing the tools we have available to us today to help us in our learning, understanding, and growth in this hobby. Thank you **Arie Voors**! Happy antenna modeling to all!

System Fusion Presence Continues to Increase

By Cory Sickles, WA3UVV

Another SF repeater has come on the air in our area. **KB2AYS** in Blue Anchor – near Hammonton – is operating a DR-1 on **445.125MHz (minus offset, PL: 91.5Hz)**. Instead of being configured for “Auto = Auto”, it’s “Auto – Fix”, meaning that either digital or analog input results in analog out. I do understand it’s linked to another machine down the shore, so that extended coverage may make up for it.

This brings us to four System Fusion repeaters that can be worked within the confines of Gloucester County. As an aside, it has been noted that there seems to be more “non-net” digital traffic on .18 than analog these days. If there’s enough interest, perhaps we should have a weekly System Fusion net – in the spirit of, or separate from – the analog and D-STAR ARES/RACES gathering on Sunday Nights.

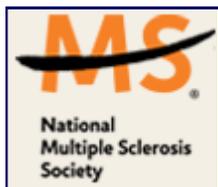
Also, WIRES-X interfaces and software will soon be sent to beta testers. This means we’ll have the opportunity to network our repeater with others, in the not too distant future. Stay tuned for details.

Field Day 2014 QSL Cards

By Bart Conrad, KC2WVP

The following QSL’s have been received and responded to :

40M - Joseph Molon, KA1PPV, Stamford, CT
40M - Rick Wolfe, KD8KWV, Bellevue, OH
20M - Geary McDowell, KE5IRK, Lawton, OK



MS-150 Participation - September 27-28, 2014

By Cory Sickles, WA3UVV

This year (the warm part, at least) is going faster than you may realize. The end of September is not that far away, so if you haven’t already signed up to help with communications, please do. An application to print out, fill in, and mail, and additional information is available on our web site on the “MS-150 City To Shore Bike Ride” page.

The MS-150 weekend cycling event is scheduled for September 27 and 28, 2014. That date is closer than you may think. Also, it helps the MS Society’s “sanity factor” if they have people volunteer early. There are many positions available on the route for Saturday, Sunday or both – and – your skills are greatly appreciated by all concerned.

So whether you’ve participated in using ham radio to help ensure rider safety and support in the past, or you’re looking to assist for the first time, please contact them and ask for additional information by sending an email to [N3MSS <at> mail <dot> com](mailto:N3MSS@mail.com).

The MS-150 is another high-profile opportunity for us to demonstrate the kind of professional-grade services we offer, plus it’s unique in that the communications support involves a mix of ham radio, GMRS and CB. So, if you know someone who might want to help out in non-ham ways, then please share this info with them.

New Jersey Motor Vehicle Law Update: July 28, 2013

Cell Phone Use 39:4-97.3

Overview: Use of a wireless phone or communication device is unlawful except when it is being utilized "hands free".

Specifics:

1. Can only be cited on public roads/highways.
2. **Does NOT include Amateur Radio or Citizen Band (CB) Radios.**
3. **Does NOT include Two-way Radios by commercial vehicle driver's or emergency vehicle.**
4. One handed use of a cell phone while steering can be utilized if:
 - a. The driver fears for his life/safety or believes a criminal act may be perpetrated against him or another.
 - b. The driver is reporting a fire, crash, serious road hazard, HazMat, or Medical emergency.
 - c. The driver is reporting another who is operating recklessly, carelessly, in an unsafe manner or DWI.

Changes Made:

1. Fine for 1st offense is changed to \$200 - \$400.
2. Fine for the 2nd offense is changed to \$400 - \$600.
3. Fine for the 3rd and subsequent offenses is changed to \$600 - \$800.
4. 3rd and subsequent offenses may be subject to a license suspension for 90-days and assessed 3 points on their MV history.

Although signed into law, the changes will take effect on July 1, 2014.

Regional Hamfest and Events

August 1 - 3, 2014 : Sunbury Ham Camp, PO Box 253, Sunbury, PA; Phil-Mont Radio Club;
www.sunburyhamcamp.com

August 2 - 3, 2014 : The WW1USA special event station to commemorate the centennial of the declaration of war that started WW1. This station will be operating from the grounds of The National World War 1 Museum at Liberty Memorial in Kansas City, MO. From 1500 UTC, August 2 through 2000 UTC August 3. Modes will be phone and CW. Stations worked during that period can submit their QSO info and receive a special commemorative certificate. www.ww1usa.org

August 9 - 10, 2014 : Raritan Bay Radio Amateurs, 60th Anniversary special event, Sayreville, NJ;
www.qrz.com/db/k2ge

August 16, 2014 : Reading Radio Club Mini-Fest, Heritage Park, Sinking Spring, PA; The Reading Radio Club - www.readingradioclub.org

August 17, 2014 : Carroll County Amateur Radio Club "Tailgate-Fest", Carroll County Agricultural Center, 700 Agricultural Center Drive, Westminster, MD; Carroll County Amateur Radio Club - www.qis.net/~k3pzn

August 23, 2014 : Ramapo Mountain ARC Ham Radio and Computer Flea Market, Camp Veritans, 225 Pompton Road, Haledon, NJ; Ramapo Mountain Amateur Radio Club - www.qsl.net/rmarc

Contest Calendar

For more information on the contests, please go to the WA7BNM Contest Calendar website:
<http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/>

August 2014

+ NCCC Sprint Ladder	0230Z-0300Z, Aug 1
+ TARA Grid Dip Shindig	0000Z-2400Z, Aug 2
+ 10-10 Int. Summer Contest, SSB	0001Z, Aug 2 to 2359Z, Aug 3
+ European HF Championship	1200Z-2359Z, Aug 2
+ ARRL August UHF Contest	1800Z, Aug 2 to 1800Z, Aug 3
+ North American QSO Party, CW	1800Z, Aug 2 to 0559Z, Aug 3
+ RSGB RoPoCo CW	0700Z-0830Z, Aug 3
+ SARL HF Phone Contest	1300Z-1630Z, Aug 3
+ ARS Spartan Sprint	0100Z-0300Z, Aug 5
+ CWops Mini-CWT Test	1300Z-1400Z, Aug 6 and 1900Z-2000Z, Aug 6 and 0300Z-0400Z, Aug 7
+ QRP Fox Hunt	0100Z-0230Z, Aug 7
+ NCCC Sprint Ladder	0230Z-0300Z, Aug 8
+ WAE DX Contest, CW	0000Z, Aug 9 to 2359Z, Aug 10
+ Maryland-DC QSO Party	1600Z, Aug 9 to 2400Z, Aug 10
+ NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint	0030Z-0230Z, Aug 13
+ CWops Mini-CWT Test	1300Z-1400Z, Aug 13 and 1900Z-2000Z, Aug 13 and 0300Z-0400Z, Aug 14
+ QRP Fox Hunt	0100Z-0230Z, Aug 14
+ NCCC Sprint Ladder	0230Z-0300Z, Aug 15
+ SARTG WW RTTY Contest	0000Z, Aug 16 to 1600Z, Aug 17
+ ARRL 10 GHz and Up Contest	0600 local, Aug 16 to 2400 local, Aug 17
+ North American QSO Party, SSB	1800Z, Aug 16 to 0559Z, Aug 17
+ SARL HF Digital Contest	1300Z-1630Z, Aug 17
+ ARRL Rookie Roundup, RTTY	1800Z-2359Z, Aug 17
+ CWops Mini-CWT Test	1300Z-1400Z, Aug 20 and 1900Z-2000Z, Aug 20 and 0300Z-0400Z, Aug 21
+ QRP Fox Hunt	0100Z-0230Z, Aug 21
+ NCCC Sprint Ladder	0230Z-0300Z, Aug 22
+ Hawaii QSO Party	0400Z, Aug 23 to 0400Z, Aug 25
+ Ohio QSO Party	1600Z, Aug 23 to 0400Z, Aug 24
+ CWops Mini-CWT Test	1300Z-1400Z, Aug 27 and 1900Z-2000Z, Aug 27 and 0300Z-0400Z, Aug 28
+ QRP Fox Hunt	0100Z-0230Z, Aug 28
+ NCCC Sprint Ladder	0230Z-0300Z, Aug 29
+ YO DX HF Contest	1200Z, Aug 30 to 1200Z, Aug 31
+ SCC RTTY Championship	1200Z, Aug 30 to 1159Z, Aug 31
+ SARL HF CW Contest	1300Z-1630Z, Aug 31

2014 Club Officers - 1 year term

President :	Jim Wright, N2GXJ
Vice President :	Cory Sickles, WA3UVV
Treasurer :	Al Arrison, KB2AYU
Recording Secretary :	Sheldon Parker, K2MEN
Corresponding Secretary :	Bart Conrad, KC2WVP

Board of Directors - 3 year term

Chuck Colabrese, WA2TML	<i>(2012-2014)</i>
Dave MacDonald, WB3JOY	<i>(2012-2014)</i>
Jeffrey Garth, KC2WCS	<i>(2013-2015)</i>
Mark Townsend, W2OCY	<i>(2013-2015)</i>
Dan Tremolini, N2TXG	<i>(2014-2016)</i>
John Zaruba Jr, K2ZA	<i>(2014-2016)</i>

Trustees - 4 year term

Ray Schnapp, WB2NBJ	<i>(2011-2014)</i>
Martin Wilt, W2ILT	<i>(2012-2015)</i>
Ray Martin, W2RM	<i>(2014-2016)</i>
Brian Jones, KD2BXD	<i>(2014-2017)</i>

Committee Chairs

Awards and Contests	Kenny Denson, WB2P
Budget	Al Arrison, KB2AYU
Clubhouse Replacement Project	Ray Martin, W2RM
Clubhouse Site	Al Arrison, KB2AYU
Club License Trustee	Darrell Neron, AB2E
Club Publications	Jeffrey Garth, KC2WCS
Community Outreach	Cory Sickles, WA3UVV
- Scout Liaison	Frank Simila, KC2SJ
Constitution and By-Laws	Ron Block, NR2B
Database	Ken Newman, N2CQ
DX	Bill Grim, W0MHK
Emergency and Public Service	Joe Shevlin, KC2PHM
- ARES/RACES	Joe Shevlin, KC2PHM
- CERT	Martin Wilt, W2ILT
Field Day Co-Chairs	Mark Townsend, W2OCY and Kyle Townsend, W2KBT
Hamfest	Tom Gorman, KE2ES
- Hamfest Contact	Cory Sickles, WA3UVV
Health and Welfare	Ray Martin, W2RM
Historian	Jeffrey Garth, KC2WCS
Hospitality	Dave MacDonald, WB3JOY
Membership	Cory Sickles, WA3UVV and Ray Schnapp, WB2NBJ
Nominations	Jim Wright, N2GXJ
Programs	Cory Sickles, WA3UVV
Publicity	Cory Sickles, WA3UVV
Repeaters	Al Arrison, KB2AYU
Special Services	Darrell Neron, AB2E
Technical and TVI	Cory Sickles, WA3UVV
VEC Liaison and License Testing	Gary Reed, N2QEE



Facebook Page



w2mmd.org

The W2MMD Repeaters

Output: 147.180 MHz
Input: 147.780 MHz
Offset: +600 kHz - PL: 131.8 Hz
(Conventional FM plus C4FM Capability)

Output: 442.100 MHz
Input: 447.100 MHz
Offset: +5 MHz - PL: 131.8 Hz

Output: 1284.400 MHz
Input: 1272.400 MHz
Offset: -12.0 MHz
PL Tone: None

The above 3 repeaters are all
located in Pitman, NJ
GPS: 39.728481°, -75.131088°

Output: 224.660 MHz
Input: 223.060 MHz
Offset: -1.6 MHz
PL Tone: 131.8 Hz
Location: Sewell, NJ
GPS: 39.781382°, -75.099963°

GCARC 2M Ragchew Net

Thursday, August 21, 2014
20:00 Hrs
147.180+ MHz (PL131.8Hz)

ARES/RACES Net

Sunday 20:00 Hrs
147.180 and 224.660 repeaters

VE License Session

Thursday, August 14, 2014 @ 1900 Hrs
Franklin Township Public Library
Franklinville, NJ
Gary Reed, N2QEE
[glreed49 <at> verizon <dot> net](mailto:glreed49@verizon.net)

Meeting Calendar

General Membership Meeting

19:30 Hrs, Wednesday, August 6, 2014
Pfeiffer Community Center
301 Blue Bell Road
(Main Street and Blue Bell Road)
Williamstown, NJ

Board of Directors Meeting

19:00 Hrs, Wednesday, August 20, 2014
GCARC Clubhouse
Gloucester County 4-H Fairgrounds
235 Bridgeton Pike (Rt 77), Mullica Hill, NJ

Club Meeting Program

Wednesday, August 6, 2014

Roll Your Own VHF/UHF Antennas
Ray Golley, N3RG

August 8, 9, 2014

W2MMD to operate as W1AW/2
from our New Clubhouse

GCARC 11:00 am Brunch
Every Friday @

The Seven Star Diner
1890 Hurffville Road, Sewell, NJ

Gloucester County Amateur Radio Club - P. O. Box 370 - Pitman, NJ 08071