



Presidents Message

As we enter December, I cannot believe it's been 3 years since being elected President of GCARC. During that time, we have seen much growth and interest with many new members, and a rekindling of interest as evidenced by some returning members who had either moved away, and returned to the area, or been otherwise too busy to remain in the club. It's been a great experience, and I have enjoyed serving as President, and getting to know many of you better. I'm hoping our candidate for incoming President, long-time member WA2NPD, Doug Gehring, if elected, will enjoy your support in continuing to make GCARC a great radio club and gathering point for hams not only in Gloucester County but throughout the region.

Hopefully, the Hamfest will continue to grow. Although the date wound up being later than anticipated originally, the later date turned out to be a strong factor in the big turnout and success of the event. Also, with the ongoing improvements out at the clubhouse, hopefully some more members will get involved in activating the site in the future.

I'll close by wishing all of you a wonderful holiday season and a prosperous and safe 2008.

Election of Officers for 2008

The election of 2008 officers will take place at the December General Membership Meeting. Further nominations will be accepted at that time. The following individuals have agreed to stand for office:

President: Doug, WA2NPD
Recording Secretary: Open
Corresponding Secretary: Al, KB2AYU
Director 3-yr.: Bill, WA2ADB
Director 2-yr: Darrell, AB2E
Trustee 3-yr: Ray, WB2NBJ

Vice President: Wayne, WA2LET
Treasurer: Ken, N2CQ
Director 3-yr: Bill, W0MHK
Trustee 4-yr: Cory, WA3UVV

New Members

Three new Club members were enrolled in the month of November. They are Rudy Ciancaglioni, K2JLY, of Franklinville, Tom Litle, KB2UOL, of Woodbury and Geoffrey Ochs (Unlicensed) of Williamstown. Congratulations to all of you; we are happy to have you! I hope to see at meetings and functions in the near future. I also hope that the old members make an effort to meet each of the above at meetings and to make them feel at home with our Club.

DOWN JERSEY DXing

By Bill Grim, W0MHK

Well, I guess the DX Column in this beloved Club bulletin will be changing a bit. I have agreed to try to fill the XXL DX shoes of the Number1 Honor Roll member and all-around Number 1 DXer, Doug, WA2NPD. The column may contain doses of QRM and QRN from time to time, but hopefully it will be of some help to you occasional and you always looking for something new to work operators.

Did you get a chance to get into the CQ World Wide DX Contests this season? At this writing, I am just getting over the effort of the CW WW get-together that happened just a few days ago. I find that over the years, just checking out conditions on different bands during contests at different stages of the sunspot cycle can be very interesting! Most of us feel that if we have a shot at DX on 10 or 15 Meters, we can probably work it with even a modest station calling in there with the "Big Guns". At W2YC this weekend 29 DXCC entities were worked on 10 and 105 on 15 Meters! CQ WW Phone Contest results last month at that station were even better on 10 Meters! The point being, you can work some DX no matter who you are or where we are in the solar cycle. CQ and ARRL world-wide contests bring a great deal of the DX out of the woodwork.

DX NOTES:

Remember that Bosnia-Herzegovina (T9) stations may be using their new E7 prefix.

The weather here has been exceptionally warm in our area making it more difficult to have excuses for not doing some antenna maintenance before winter forces us inside. Low band dipoles, long wires and verticals need a little TLC once in a while. Check out your antennas and feed lines now before days become even shorter. Low bands and lows in the Sunspot Cycle go hand-in-hand.

Rumblings of a full-blown DXpedition relatively soon to Palestine (E4) are scheduled for a reality check from Dec. 12-22, running all popular modes and bands. That could be a new DXCC country or band country for the great majority of us. The ARRL 10 Meter Contest is coming up on December 8th. Work some DX and stateside stations on one of best bands for "little pistols".

Have you always wanted to have a solar telescope to see what Old Sol has in store for us on the bands? Don't bother. Check out www.spaceweather.com for views of the sun and other solar/propagation related information including the Solar Wind and cool terms like coronal mass ejections!

I will include more specific DX possibilities in next month's ramblings! I realize it is difficult for many of us to get much on-the-air-time in December with all the family activities and deadlines. In the meantime, enjoy the Holiday Season and best DX to you all.

Editors Note: Doug, WA2NPD, was planning to do this final column but due to a death in his family was unable to get it done in time. Bill, W0MHK, was scheduled to start this column in January but graciously agreed with out much notice to start a month early. Thank you, Bill, very much.

Silent Key

Former Club member Lew Parker, N2LZS, passed away on November 16 from complications with lung cancer. He is survived by his wife Dorothy and his family. We all pass along our condolences to Dorothy and the family.

Field Day Results

The Club finished third in the 2007 Field Day exercise in the 9A category with a respectable score of 1758 points which was almost double the score of the next place entry. Unfortunately there were two stations, one in California and one in Ontario, that finished well ahead of us with fantastic scores of over 6000 and 5000 respectively. Congratulations to all the Club members who participated.

Contest Results

The Club station, W2MMD, manned by Al, KB2AYU, Jim, N2NRD, and Stu, N2WUP, placed third in the US and Canada in the limited multiop category in the 2007 ARRL January VHF Sweepstakes! Limited multiop means 2 or more operators and using only 4 of the VHF, UHF, and Microwave bands. Great job gentlemen!

Low Power CW Transceivers

Reading the weekly ARRL Letter I noticed this month that the ARRL has teamed up with MFJ and is now selling a low power (QRP) CW transceiver kit called the Cub. The kits come in 80, 40, 30, 20, 17, and 15 meter versions and cost \$90 to \$100 depending who you purchase them from. More information about these kits is available at the MFJ web site. I am not trying to sell these kits but I think that a kit like this is a great project for a new ham who wants to try his hand at CW operation particularly those new hams that are not very technically oriented. These rigs are usually simple to operate and a new operator can get a lot of satisfaction out of making contacts with a rig he built himself and he usually understands how it works a lot better than with a purchased rig.

There are many other kit companies and clubs producing CW transceiver kits. Many of them like to Cub have the surface mount parts already soldered to the board and only need the through hole components added or consist of only through hole components so they are relatively easy to assemble. Some of these kits I would not recommend to my worst enemy and some produce a very sophisticated piece of equipment that performs very well. In the later category are the kits from Elecraft. The Elecraft K2 has a receiver that is one of the best offered in a QRP kit. I have had very good luck with rigs sold by Dave Benson's Small Wonder Labs. None of these kits are going to have all the bells and whistles that you will find on a purchased \$4,000 transceiver but some can be very effective particularly when conditions are good.

Lots of the high power (QRO) guys laugh at QRP operators but I can speak from personal experience and say that if you are persistent and do a lot of listening, you can do a lot with QRP. I personally have worked and confirmed all 50 states with less than five watts and have worked countries like Namibia, Zambia and New Zealand with one watt and a dipole at about 25 feet. You will not do very well in a pile up when a 1000 other stations are all calling at the same time but every once and a while if you are on the right frequency you will get an answer in a pile up that surprises you. One additional advantage of QRP operation is that you hardly ever get complaints from the neighbors with just one or two watts.

We have a number of good QRP operators in the Club like Ken Newman, N2CQ and John Zaruba, Jr., AA2BN. If you are interested in picking a kit to get started, I recommend you talk to one of the experienced QRP kit builders and operators first. Hopefully they can help you make a good choice of kit for you to get started on.



DECEMBER **CONDUCTED BY N2SS** **2007**

🌐 **WARC BANDS** 🌐

<u>30 Meters</u>	<u>17 Meters</u>	<u>12 Meters</u>
W2YC. 308	N2SS ...324	WØMHK310
N2SS.....295	WØMHK.. 321	N2SS.....303
WØMHK ..278	W2YC 312	W2YC.....278
WA2NPD ..216	WA2NPD . 221	K2JF 135
AA2WN....171	K2JF 168	N2CQ.....99
AB2E146	AA2WN ... 122	WA2NPD...96
K2JF.....112	AB2E..... 121	AB2E92
N2CQ.....111	N2CQ 115	AA2WN.....20

When the same call heads all 3 WARC bands we will have that elusive, undisputed **KING OF WARC**

 **MOBILE DX**

W2YC276	WØMHK 141
N2SS.....234	AA2WN 131
K2JF 150	

Looks like Dave and I have spent entirely too much time behind the wheel!

 **6 METER DXCC**

WØMHK..... 105	W2YC.....29
K2JF94	AA2WN.....15
N2SS 55	

Congrats to Bill for hitting the Century mark on 6 Meters!!

 **1.5K Club**

W2YC1584	AA2WN 1369
N2SS.....1537	K2JF..... 1350
WØMHK 1479	AB2E 1185
WA2NPD ... 1453	N2CQ..... 1135

 **GRID SQUARES**

WØMHK.....522	K2JF285
.....

📡 160 Meters 📡

W2YC..... 201	N2SS 79
WØMHK 148	AA2WN 36
AB2E 100	K2JF 34
WA2NPD..... 96	N2CQ 9

W2YC continues as our undisputed Top of Top Band.

 **Islands On The Air**

N2SS.....843	AB2E 205
W2YC.....656	N2CQ..... 159
WØMHK349	

Rules for GCARC Honor Roll Listings
Provide me with your total IOTAs worked, or countries (including deleted) worked for: WARC Bands, 160 Meters, Digital modes, Mobile, 6 Meters or your total for 80,40,20, 15 and 10 for 1.5K Club. Final category is Grid Squares – just send me your total worked. Lastly, you do not have to participate in every category to be listed; just send me your totals for any of the categories listed.

 **R T T Y**  **DIGITAL**

W2YC..... 276	K2JF 113
AA2WN 187	N2SS 53
N2CQ 151	WA2JSG 10



Season's Greetings

CURRENT OFFICIAL ARRL DXCC STATISTICS

Active Count	337
Deleted Count.....	58
Last Addition.....	KH8/S
Last Deletion.....	STØ

December Birthdays

Congratulations to these members celebrating birthdays in December:

Kelly Glans, N2SBQ
Arthur Goldman, K3WIN
Tom Gorman, KE2ES
William Grim, W0MHK
Harry Jackson, WB2GSF
Jim McDonald, WB2AOL
Gary Mirkin, WA3SVW



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 Gene Schoeberlein at aa2yo@arrl.net.

Submission deadline for January issue:
12/26/2007

Club Web-Site

<http://users.tellurian.com/freddie/w2mmd/>

GCARC Officers

President-Darrell Neron, AB2E
Vice President-Wayne Wilson, WA2LET
Treasurer-Ken Newman, N2CQ

Recording Secretary-Dave MacDonald, WB3JOY
Corresponding Secretary-Al Arrison, KB2AYU

Board of Directors

Bill Blakeley, WA2ADB
Chuck Colabrese, WA2TML
Doug Gehring, WA2NPD

William Grimm, W0MHK
Harry Bryant, AA2WN
Gene Schoeberlein, AA2YO

Committees

Advertising-Open
ARES/RACES-Dave, WA3JOY
Awards-Jack, K2ZA
Banquet-Open
Budget-Steve, W2TDS
Clubhouse Site-Al, KB2AYU
Constitution-Open
Crosstalk-Gene, AA2YO
Database-Ray, W2RM
DX-Doug, WA2NPD
Field Day-Mike, N2SRO
Hamfest-Harry, AA2WN
Club License Trustee-Darrell, AB2E

Hospitality-Ken, N2CQ
Membership-Ray, W2RM
Nominations-Doug, WA2NPD
Publicity-John, K2JF
Repeaters-Mike, N2SRO
Scholarships-Greg, WN2T
Special Services-Gene, N2IMK
Sunshine-Open
Technical-Open
TVI-Cory, WA3UVV
VEC Testing-Ray, W2RM
Programs-Dave, WB3JOY

The W2MMD Repeaters

147.78/18 Mhz-Pitman
(CTCSS 131.8Hz)

223.06/224.66 Mhz-Sewell

447.1/442.1 Mhz-Pitman
(CTCSS 167.9Hz)

1272.4/1284.4 MHz-Pitman

GCARC Meetings

General Membership

8 pm 1st Wednesday every month
Pfeiffer Community Center
Williamstown, NJ

Board of Directors

8 pm 3rd Wednesday every month
GCARC Club site
Harrison Twp. 4H Grounds
1 mile south of Mullica Hill on RT77

Nets

ARES/RACES
Sunday 20:00 Hrs
(147.78/18 and
223.06/224.66
repeaters)

10 Meter- Sunday
following the
ARES/RACES Net
(28.350 Mhz)

December Meeting

Election of 2008 Officers

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



Happy holidays!