

GCARC CROSSTALK

DECEMBER 1998

President's Message

As the year and my term as president of the GCARC comes to an end, I look back on some of the accomplishments and disappointments of 1998.

Accomplishments:

A superb new meeting location at the Gloucester County Library.

A very successful 4-H parking event.

An excellent Hamfest despite the last minute change of location.

A new, improved, time and money saving "paperless" Crosstalk.

Disappointments:

Lack of interest in the Clubhouse.

Lack of programs at the meetings.

Lack of input from the membership.

I wish to sincerely thank the officers and directors of the GCARC for their efforts this year. And thank you to all those who helped in any way with the Club. I plan to stay involved with the Club as possibly a director and/or Clubhouse chairman. I hope to work on rectifying the disappointments mentioned above.

Remember, we are all a part of the great hobby of Amateur Radio. The GCARC exists as a place for us to come together to socialize and to pool our talents for the good of the Club and the hobby. We must all do our part to ensure the future success of the GCARC. This coming year, make a resolution to become more involved in your Club, the GCARC.

I would like to wish everyone happy holidays and here's hoping that Santa brings you that shiny new rig you've been dreaming of. The December meeting is on Tuesday the 1st at 7 PM. Elections will be held. See you there, Al KB2AYU

ELECTION SLATE FOR 1999

PRESIDENT: Art - KA2DOT

VICE PRESIDENT: Gene - N2IMK

TREASURER: Lou - W2LYL

RECORDING SECRETARY: OPEN

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY: K2JF

DIRECTORS: (2) 3 year and (2) 1 year

Jim - K2OWE

Mark - W8CHL

Gene - AA2YO

Al - KB2AYU

John - KB2VSE

John - N2AWD

DX REPORT

Now that all the thunder and pile-ups are over for the BQ9P operation I guess the next will be back hunting for the XZ1N boys. Those of you who chased the BQ9P I wish you luck in getting your QSL Cards.

3A - Tom, HA/N9NC will be active as 3A/N9NC from Monaco between 25/26 November and 1 December. He will participate in the CQ WW CW DX Contest (SOAB). QSL via OM2SA (Juraj Sipos, 930 13 Trhova Hradiska 550, okr. Dunajska Streda, Slovakia).

8Q - UA9CI, UA9CFF, UA9CDC, UA9CDV, UA9CLB and UA9CKP will be active (CW, SSB and RTTY) as 8Q7DV from the Maldives (AS-013) between 20 November and 4 December. They will participate in the CQ WW CW DX Contest. QSL via UA9CI.

C6 - The call C6AKP has been issued to Dick, C6A/N4RP. He will be active from Bimini (NA-048) between 20 November and 2 December, CQ WW CW DX Contest included. QSL via N4RP either direct Dick Phelps, 2805 Casita Way, Apartment 115, Delray Beach, FL 33415, USA) or through the bureau.

CU - Dieter, DL3KDV and Maike, DL4XS will be CU2/ from Sao Miguel, Azores between 25 November and 2 December. Dieter will participate in the CQ WW CW DX Contest as CU2V (SOAB). QSL via DL3KDV either direct (Dieter Voss, Friedrichsthal 21, D-51688 Wipperfuert, Germany) or through the bureau.

EZ - EZ0AB will be active (on 10-160 metres CW and SSB) from Turkmenistan starting on 21 November, CQ WW DX CW and ARRL 160 Meter contests included. QSL to UA4FAO (Alexander G. Maklakov, P.O. Box 558, 440061 Penza, Russia).

J6 - Seventeen operators from the Southwest Ohio DX Association will be active from St. Lucia (NA-108) between 23 November and 6 December. They will participate in the CQ WW CW DX Contest (Multi-Multi) as J6DX (QSL via N9AG) and in the ARRL 160 Meter Contest as either J6DX or J6A (QSL via N9AG). Before and after the contests they will be

active on all bands CW, SSB, RTTY and on 6 metres.

KP2 - Slavek, OK1TN will be active from the US Virgin Islands between 19 November and 20 December. He will participate in the CQ WW CW DX Contest as KP2AD. QSL via the Czech DX Foundation (OKDXF, P.O. Box 73, Bradlec 293 06 Mlada Boleslav, Czech Republic).

P4 - Jose, CT1BOH will be active as P40E from Aruba between 23 November and 1 December. He will participate in the CQ WW CW DX Contest (SOAB). See THE TEAM in "Good To Know" below. QSL via W3HMK.

TI - Several TE45 special event stations are active until 6 December on all bands and modes to celebrate the 45th anniversary of the Radio Club de Costa Rica. QSL via TI0RC. [TNX ARRL DX Bulletin]

V2 - Darrell, AB2E will be active as V26E from Antigua between 26 November and 1 December. He will participate in the CQ WW CW DX Contest and will concentrate the WARC and low bands before and after the contest. QSL via AB2E.

V6 - WA1S/V63HO (YL), KQ1F/V63HC (YL) and K1XM/V63YP be active (CW, SSB and RTTY) from Kosrae starting on 22 November. They will be there for ten nights and will participate in the CQ WW CW DX Contest as V63X (Multi-Single). Then they will go and operate from Pohnpei for four nights and Truk for seven nights.

VP5 - Dave, K5GN will be active as VP5/K5GN from Providenciales, Caicos Islands (NA-002) between 24 November and 1 December. He plans to participate in the CQ WW CW DX Contest as VP5GN. QSL to K5GN. [TNX OPDX Bulletin]

VU - Radio amateurs from India are allowed to replace the VU prefix with AT (for instance VU2DPI is now AT2DPI) until 31 December to celebrate the 75 years of amateur radio in their country.

XZ - XZ1N has been granted permission to extend operations until 14 December. Look for XZ1N to start being active on 21 November. During the last week a special emphasis will be put on 160 metres, with a limited operation on other bands. op Band contacts will be posted to the expedition's web site in order to cut down on the number of dupes. XZ1N will participate in the CQ WW CW DX, ARRL 160 Meter and possibly 10 Meter contests. QSL via W1XT. For further information please visit <http://ng7m.qrq.com/~xz1n> [TNX NA7DB]

Tnx to 425 DX, ARRL, QRZ DX & TNX K2JF

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO THE FOLLOWING
FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER
FROM ALL THE MEMBERS OF G.C.A.R.C.

CALL	FIRST	LAST	DAY
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KE2ES	TOM	GORMAN	5
KB2JCG	WALTER	SEITZ JR	9
K3WIN	ARTHUR	GOLDMAN	19
KB2RGR	JOHN	MARSHALL	21
N2AWD	JOHN	SCHUMACHER	22
WB2AOL	JAMES	McDONALD JR	29

HAM RADIO CLASSES

Chick is starting up his classes again. The next class will be for General and Advanced class license and will begin on Tuesday, January 6, 1999. For more information, please contact Chick or WA2USI@bellatlantic.com

From ARRL Headquarters

To all radio amateurs

ARRL Petitions FCC for LF Allocations

The ARRL has petitioned the FCC to create two low-frequency Amateur Radio allocations at 136 kHz and at 160 kHz. "These allocations will permit experimentation with equipment, antennas, and propagation phenomena in a small segment of the radio spectrum that has not been available to the Amateur Service for many years," the League's petition declared. The petition was filed with the FCC October 22.

Specifically, the League has proposed permitting CW, SSB, RTTY/data, and image emissions for amateurs in a 2.1-kHz "sliver band" from 135.7 to 137.8 kHz and in a 30-kHz segment from 160 to 190 kHz. The 135.7 to 137.8 kHz band adheres to the European Conference of Postal and Telecommunications Administrations (CEPT) band plan.

The ARRL has proposed allowing a transmitter output in both LF segments of 200 W PEP, but in no case greater than 2 W EIRP (effective isotropic radiated power). The League's petition points out that poor antenna efficiencies and ground-loss characteristics likely would keep EIRPs at less than 1 W. The two bands would be available to General and higher licensees.

Unlicensed experimenters--some of them hams--currently operate on LF in the US under the FCC's Part 15 rules. These limit transmitter input power to 1 W and impose substantial restrictions on the size of the antenna. The proposed allocations "will provide the only low-frequency allocation for amateur use and will accommodate more flexible experimentation than is permitted under current Part

15 regulations," the League's filing said.

Hams would be secondary to the Fixed and Maritime Mobile services in the 136-kHz allocation, and secondary to the Fixed Service in the 160-190 kHz band. The League said its engineering surveys suggest that hams could operate in the two segments without causing problems to power line carrier (PLC) systems already active in that vicinity or to government assignments. Unallocated, Part 15 PLC systems are used by electric utilities to send control signals, data and voice.

Calculations included with the League's filing demonstrate how inefficient even relatively large radiators can be on LF. For example, at 200 W TPO (transmitter power output) and a 200 foot vertical radiator, efficiency is only in the range of 1%, yielding up to 2 W EIRP. A more practical setup--200 W TPO into a 100-foot vertical radiator (efficiency of 0.2%) would yield an EIRP of between 10 and 40 mW.

Several countries throughout the world already enjoy LF allocations. These include New Zealand, Great Britain, the Republic of Ireland, and several European nations.

A copy of the petition is available on ARRLWeb, <http://www.arrl.org>.

Amateur Radio provides lifeline in Central America

Ham radio is playing a major role in rescue and relief efforts in storm-ravaged Central America. Media reports from the US indicate that hams in the Southern US are active in handling health-and-welfare traffic to and from Honduras and Nicaragua, both of which suffered death and destruction at the hands of Hurricane Mitch. Hams in Nicaragua who are still on the air also have been using Amateur Radio to coordinate rescue and relief efforts there.

ARRL radio gear that saw service several years ago in Puerto Rico after Hurricane Hugo and in Hawaii after Hurricane Iniki now is on its way to Honduras. ARRL Field Services Manager Rick Palm, K1CE, reports that five 2-meter hand-held transceivers and two 2-meter mobile units have been shipped to Omar Paredes,

HR1OP, via his sister, Lidice Paredes, HR1LPS/W4, in Miami. Omar Paredes is affiliated with the Club de Radio Aficionados Central de Honduras in Tegucigalpa.

Responding to a request that came through the Hurricane Watch Net, Palm says a 2-meter repeater also will be sent to missionary Kenton Brown, KC8CXW/HR3, for a club in La Ceiba. The repeater will facilitate mainland communication with the islands of Roatan and Guanaja.

The equipment, part of the League's disaster communications inventory, will be on its way Friday on a Honduran World Foundation relief flight. The League also has made arrangements with WACOM in Texas to purchase a duplexer at a reduced cost. The duplexer and an antenna for the repeater will be shipped next week.

Lidice Paredes, HR1LPS, has been in touch with her brother on a regular 20-meter schedule. "Every day is worse," she said November 5 of the news she's been getting from home via ham radio. "The city is in complete devastation." Lidice Paredes said her brother, a pharmacist, has told her that there is only enough drinking water available for another two or three days. Flooding and mudslides have isolated some residents. Others are still awaiting rescue from trees and rooftops.

"A lot of ham radio operators lost their homes, their equipment," she said, but hams like her brother who are still on the air have been attempting to coordinate their disaster response activities. "It has not been very easy. It's taking a long time," she said.

As her brother indicates a need, she's been helping from the US to obtain and ship necessary medicine and supplies. Lidice Paredes also has been working with Miami-area TV stations to relay news from the disaster area.

Media reports also indicate that the Texas Baptist Men relief group is coordinating its efforts via ham radio in Nicaragua and Honduras. The organization has sent a planeload of supplies to Central America.

While the Hurricane Watch Net stood down after

Mitch was downgraded to a tropical storm last week, other Amateur Radio nets have continued to be active. The Mexican Hurricane Net was active on 7055 kHz. A Central America Emergency Net also has been active on 7090 kHz. Octavio Miranda, TI2OHL, in Costa Rica reports the only contact is via ham radio, with limited help from some military helicopters.

The Salvation Army SATERN Net on HF has been assisting with emergency, logistical, and health-and-welfare traffic.

The unofficial death toll is approaching 10,000, and another 13,000 people are still missing. The remnants of Mitch hit the southwest Florida coast November 5 but was reported to be less of a danger this afternoon.

(A large number of South Jersey hams have been assisting in relief communications to the Honduras, various relief agencies here and there, and running numerous phone patches between families here and in the Honduras. It is my understanding that one of the key organizers in this effort has been Chick, WA2USI. I have asked him to put together an article on the efforts of the hams involved when this is over. It would make for good reading here in Crosstalk and maybe QST. - ED.)

FOR SALE

- Kenwood TS-130S, outboard vfo, outboard pwr supply, spkr, filters, hand mic - excellent condition - Dentron MT-300A 3kw tuner
- MFJ Versa Tuner V, 3 kw roller inductor tuner
- MFJ Grandmaster memory keyer, model MFJ-484
- MFJ Deluxe electronic keyer, model MFJ-407B
- Heathkit electronic keyer with attached iambic paddle, model HD-1410
- Bencher iambic paddle
- Midland 22 rig, xtal controlled 12 channel, model 13-509
- Converted RCA 11 mtr rig to 10 mtrs, model CO-PILOT
- Vibroplex Deluxe chrome paddle
- IBM clone 486-66 computer
- IBM clone 386 computer
- Various printers & monitors
- ICOM 220, synthesized rig, model IC-37A
- ROBOT 800H, rtty-cw-sstv & monitor

- Astron RS-12A power supply
 - Kantronics packet communicator
 - Motorola speakers
 - Amplified computer speakers, Labtec CS-800
 - Kenwood station monitor, Model SM-220
 - Clegg FM-DX 6 mtr transceiver 1 & 50 watts
 - Kenwood TS-440S transceiver, & matching pwr supply, voice synthesizer, cw filters, wide open trans. & rcve, & mic
 - Codaphone telephone answer machine
 - Motorola cellular mobile phone.
- If interested, call Ray, WB2LNR, for more details.

AOR-8000 handheld scanner - 500 khz to 1900mhz freq coverage (not blocked). 1000 memories in 10 banks. Nicad batteries and charger. Multi-mode scanning. New cost \$625 - sell for \$325
Contact Chick - WA2USI @

From the Editor

As you can see we need a Recording Secretary to completely fill the slate. Nominations are closed as of Dec. 1, so I guess we'll have to use a tape recorder for the 1999 year. That would certainly be more accurate than anything I could try to scribble down in a hurry and a lot easier to understand. Any-how, we at the Strong QTH are looking forward to a happy and healthy New Year and we wish you and yours an equally happy, healthy, and prosperous New Year.

73's and Best Wishes from Art & Donna Strong

Deadline for Crosstalk

Deadline for Crosstalk entries is December 26 and if you received any new toys for the holidays, tell us about them. If you e-mail your entry please put it ascii text as it's easier to handle that way. But send it to ka2dot@ix.netcom.com or call me I know there are members out there doing things and we would like you to tell us about what you are doing.

See you at the meeting ART - KA2DOT
