



## Presidents Message

Election time is rapidly approaching and there is the need for a few more nominations for officers and other posts. We need a nomination for one director to replace Lou Joseph, W2LYL, who recently moved to Virginia. The term of office is 3 years for a board member. We will all miss Lou. He is an avid 160 meter fan and he erected many long wires for that band at the Club House. If I know Lou he will have a long wire all the way across the Shenandoah Valley. We need nominations for all posts to make this a real election. If you think that you know someone who would like to run for office have him speak up. So far the nominees are Darrell Neron, AB2E, for President, Wayne Wilson, WA2LET, for Vice President, Harry Bryant, AA2WN, for Recording Secretary and John Fisher, K2JF, for Corresponding Secretary. We need a nomination for Treasurer. Although Bob Krchnavek, K2DAD, said he would accept the job, he will not be able to make most of the meetings. If anyone would like to be treasurer please come forward, I'm sure Bob won't mind.

### 2004 DUES

GCARC dues for the year 2004 are due. The annual dues are \$20.00. Please send your checks directly to the treasurer, Bob Krchnavek, (K2DAD) at 50 Eastwick Dr., Gibbsboro, NJ 08026.

On October 11<sup>th</sup> a group met at the trailer and re-coated the roof, unfortunately it rained afterward and it is not known how the job was affected. John Fisher, K2JF, was chief paint stirrer, Alan Arison, KB2AYU, and Gene Schoeberlein, AA2YO, were the spreading crew and Darrell Neron, AB2E, gave everyone a hand. Thanks for a job well done and sorely needed.

On October 12<sup>th</sup> the annual Pitman crop walk was held and due to many other activities on that week-end only two people showed up from the club to monitor the walk. I know that it was hard to get out with the trailer job and the annual JOTA event at the same time. Hopefully next year we will be better represented.

Saturday, October 23<sup>rd</sup>, was the annual Lupus Run/Walk at Washington Lake Park. The club was well represented there with me, WB2NBJ, Stu, W2WUP, Gene, N2IMK, Wayne, WA2LET, Doug, WA2NPD, and Ray, N2WHL. There was no rain as we have had on several occasions in the past but there was considerable confusion as to the course that was to be run. The course wasn't laid out very well and the run turned out to be about a kilometer shorter than planned. As usual our guys did fine job despite all the confusion.

The GCARC was well represented on the Battleship New Jersey for the JOTA event. Well over 100 scouts had a chance to talk on the radio. Attending from GCARC were Harry, AA2WN, Wayne, WA2LET, Doug, WA2NPD, and me, WB2NBJ. Don't forget to turn out for elections on December 1<sup>st</sup>!

Best 73 & 88 to all;  
Ray, WB2NBJ

# DX Dope

By Doug Gehring, WA2NPD

This month's blurb reflects the sharp eyes and astute observations of Wayne, WA2LET, who noted the following: In one of the daily bulletins last week from NSSA, scientists are now predicting that the next sunspot eleven year high (cycle 24) will occur, not eleven years from the most recent high (2000 for cycle 23), but will occur in ten years! This means that the projected bottom of cycle 23 will occur in February, 2006 and the high for cycle 24 should occur early in 2010. Hence, upcoming cycle 24 is predicted to behave pretty much as did cycle 20 of some 40 years ago. So, what effect does this all have on our DXing success rate? Well, it means that the upcoming low will be roughly a year shorter (good), and the next high (maximum) could be a year longer than normal (very good). This assumes that the end of cycle 24 will still occur in year 2017. So, why should all of this take place? Your humble scribe does not know the explanations (probably wouldn't understand anyway), yet it almost certainly will receive more attention and publicity as time proceeds. We plan to keep you posted as more evidence unfolds. Regardless, it would seem this is very good news for DXers and DXpeditioners who will be developing their plans over the next 10 years, or so.

Obviously, we were disappointed his past month by the premature shut down of the TX9 Chesterfield operation. In the meantime, what do we have for this month? .

STATION	DATES	FREQ./MODE	RARITY*	COUNTRY
T30T	10/25-11/9	160-10; CW, SSB	3	W. Kiribati
9G5JH	Until 11/13	80-15; CW, SSB PSK31	3	Ghana
V26K	11/24-11/28	180-10; CW	2	Antiqua
PJ2/DL5CW	11/1-11/15	80-10; All	2	Curacao
XU7ADF	11/22 – 11/30	160-10; CW,SSB, RTTY	4	Cambodia
A52CDX	10/24-11/11	?? ; ??	4	Bhutan
YI9KT	Until 2/05	160-10; CW, SSB	4	Iraq
3B8MM	Until 11/16	80-10; SSB, CW	3	Mauritius
5B/HA/H/C	11/2 – 11/9	80-10; SSB, CW, QRP	3	Cyprus
5Z4YT1CS	11/4-11/11	80-10; SSB	3	Kenya
9N7BCC	11/16-12/5	160-15; SSB,CW,RTTY	4	Nepal

Note: no / in the Kenya call! \* 5 is rarest

Thanks to [The Weekly DX](#), [425 DX News](#), WA2LET, W2YC, AA2WN, and K2JF.

## Election of Officers for 2005

At the October meeting the following people were nominated for GCARC officers for 2005:

President – Darrell Neron, AB2E	Vice President – Wayne Wilson, WA2LET
Treasurer – Robert Krchnavek, K2DAD	Recording Secretary – Harry Bryant, AA2WN
Corresponding Secretary – John Fisher, K2JF	Director – William Blakely, WA2ADB

In addition to the above nominations the Club needs a second candidate for the position of three year director and our Treasurer would prefer that someone else take over his job as he will be unable to make most meetings due to work commitments. The nominations will be open again at the November General Membership Meeting so if you are interested in running for any office come out to the meeting and tell someone you are interested in running and ask them to nominate you. If you can't make the meeting let an officer know of your interest and they will get you nominated at the November Meeting. If you know someone who might be interested in running for office contact one of the officers before the November meeting so that they can contact the member and verify that they are interested in running.

## Club Member Profile

This month Crosstalk profiles Sonny Gutin, WB2DXB:

Sonny was born in Bronx, New York in 1925. He went to school in the Bronx and while at The College of The City of New York (CCNY) he enlisted in the Army. His service took him to Europe and then to the Philippines. He received a Bronze Star while serving and was discharged at the end of the War.

Shortly after he returned to New York he joined his father in establishing a restaurant business. He followed that with a number of restaurants and night clubs, the last of which was The Deptford Tavern in the Deptford Mall.

He married in 1947 and is still married to the same woman. They have 3 sons, 3 daughters-in-law and 7 grandchildren.

When CB was the craze his sons badgered him until he brought them a 23 channel CB radio. That was it. They abandoned CB very quickly, but Sonny loved it. But he couldn't stand the attitudes of the CBers and in asking about something better he learned about Ham Radio. He bought and read study books for a Tech License. He took and passed the exams and became a Tech. Some years later he upgraded to General. He is an avid DXer and has his DXCC, WAC and his Rag Chewers Award. He also has a certificate for making contact with 230+ members of the Rag Chewers Club.

In the GCARC he has been Treasurer, on the Constitution Committee, and was a recipient of the GCARC's Milton L. Goldman award. He has participated in many of the public service activities of the club.

His other hobbies include photography, music and computers. All in all he is a busy, active person and a great lover of Ham Radio.

## An Expose on Weight and its Effect of Radio Wave Propagation

By M. Patrick Mollet, PhD of BS (Piled High and Deep), N2SRO

For years now, people have thought that radio waves were pure energy and would not have any measurable weight. Though no one has equipment sensitive to measure the weight of a radio wave, I propose that there is indeed weight to RF, and it is this weight which determines exactly how far, and even how it will propagate.

It is important to note that not every frequency range i.e. VHF, UHF, HF, etc. has the same weight. If they did, they would all travel the same distance, and that would be quite boring, wouldn't it? No, the lower in frequency you go, the longer the wavelength becomes, and the higher in frequency one goes, the smaller the wavelength. In people, the bigger they get, the heavier they get, and the smaller they get, the lighter they become. This carries over to the electromagnetic spectrum as well.

Microwave frequencies, or SHF (Super High Frequency) is the band on which most commercial satellite dish television services work, and is the most readily visible example of weight of RF in action. As mentioned above, the smaller something becomes, the lighter it becomes. Microwaves are extremely short in regards to their wavelength, so they do not have much weight. This makes it easy for them to float up to satellites but on rainy and windy days, as most satellite TV viewers can attest, their signal is often full of static or maybe not even present! This of course is due to the lightweight signals being blown away by the breezes and even washed away by the rain! Since the signal is not too heavy, it is rather apt to be pushed around by any natural whim Mother Nature has.

Ultra High Frequencies are a bit heavier, and just a wee bit more buoyant in the air than VHF, so it is more apt to fly into the upper atmosphere and would be appropriate to use this band for satellite work. Many commercial and military entities already know this and it is proven time and time again by the many terrestrial to space satellite frequencies on UHF.

VHF on the other hand is just buoyant enough that it floats in the air, but even during fierce storms, with heavy

wind, and rain, it is mostly impervious to the elements Mother Nature dishes out. VHF travels further than UHF because the elements such as wind and rain and trees are not enough to re-direct the signal other than to its intended target. Another point which proves that electromagnetic waves have weight and mass is this: Building penetration. Most avid radio operators know that UHF or higher frequencies will penetrate buildings much easier than vhf or lower. Makes sense once you think of how thin a uhf wavelength is. It fits though the cracks in the building much easier, and still can travel a distance before it is mis-directed by nature. VHF since it is fatter can not do so as well.

HF and below are very big and weighty frequencies. So why does HF bounce off the troposphere, and ionosphere? The answer is because of the antenna and radio used. Unlike UHF and VHF operations, most are horizontally polarized and so RF will travel up and down. And because the radio which is being used to transmit on those particular bands is so much bigger, it throws out the signal with more force, so much so that it will literally jump off the antenna and straight to the sky. Once it is in the sky it continues heading up until it hits the troposphere, or ionosphere, which then like a mirror bounces it back down to earth.

LF and ELF are strictly ground wave propagation. By the time we get to this end of the electromagnetic spectrum, the wavelengths are extremely large, and bulky. (Think fat and heavy.) This means that no matter how big the radio, the signal will not travel far before it hits the ground. However, it still has momentum behind it, and continues to move, but on the ground. As a freight truck is mostly impervious to the rain and wind, so is LF and ELF, for so much momentum is built up that it will force its way through any obstacle until it gets to its intended target. This is why the navy uses this band to talk to subs, because not even the ocean can stop this wavelength because of the force behind it. Remember, the radios which are used on this band could fill up a school gym just for one single station!

I hope that this has helped to clear up some confusion on radio propagation. I predict that some time in the not too distant future, science will validate my point of view, and I will be lauded as the next Einstein.

## New Radio Museum in New Jersey

There is a new Radio Museum coming to New Jersey. It's the former overseas AT&T transmitter site at Oceangate in Ocean County. The building is massive and has a huge antenna field associated with it. You can find out more information on the web at <http://long-lines.net/places-routes/OceanGateNJ/>.

Thanks to Jean Priestly, KA2YKN, ARRL South Jersey Section Manager for this information.

## New RFI Committee Chairman

Norm Rebel, W2FHO, has volunteered to chair the RFI/TVI Committee. In addition to trying to resolve RFI complaints against hams, Norm feels that an important part of his job is defend the ham frequencies from RFI by non-licensed operators. He says that there are a number of local non-hams that can be heard regularly on 10 meters with big signals and he would like to enlist the Club's help in tracking them down and bringing them to the attention of the FCC. If you think you can help Norm in doing this or you hear unlicensed operation on 10 meters by local individuals contact Norm and he will coordinate tracking and reporting them. Norm also indicates that lack of use of these frequencies by licensed operators invites operation by no-hams there and encourages all of us to make use 10 meters.

## Happy Birthday

Congratulations to the following Club members:

John Fahey, WB2ONY	11/1
John Fisher, K2JF	11/1
Russel Glans, N2ASV	11/24
Andrea Logan, KB2ZWK	11/18
Howard Marder, WA2IBZ	11/9
Ray Martin, WB2LNR	11/14



## Crosstalk Submissions

All submissions, queries, comments, editorials, etc. should be directed to:

Gene Schoeberlein, AA2YO  
401 Westwood Drive  
Woodbury, New Jersey 08096-3131

aa2yo@arrl.net

Submission deadline: 11/22/2004

President-Ray Schnapp WB2NBJ  
Vice President-Wayne Wilson WA2LET  
Treasurer-Bob Krchnavek K2DAD

Chuck Colabrese WA2TML  
Lou Joseph W2LYL  
Al Arrison KB2AYU

Advertising-Open  
ARES/RACES-Chick WA2USI  
Awards-Jack K2ZA  
Banquet-Bob KR2U  
Budget-Bob K2DAD  
Clubhouse Site-Al KB2AYU  
Constitution-Open  
Crosstalk-Gene AA2YO  
Database-Ray WB2LNR  
DX-Doug WA2NPD  
Field Day-Bob KC2KGM  
Hamfest-Harry AA2WN

## GCARC Officers

Recording Secretary-Harry Bryant AA2WN  
Corresponding Secretary-John Fisher K2JF

## Board of Directors

Gene Schoeberlein AA2YO  
Bob Krukowski KR2U  
Bill Blakeley WA2ADB

## Committees

Hospitality-Ken N2CQ  
Membership-Ray WB2LNR  
Nominations-Art Strong KA2DOT  
Publicity-Open  
Repeaters-Chuck WA2TML  
Scholarships-Greg WN2T  
Special Services-Gene N2IMK  
Sunshine-Open  
Technical-Bob KR2U  
TVI-Norm W2FHO  
VEC Testing-Chick WA2USI

**The W2MMD Repeaters**

147.78/18 Mhz- Pitman  
(CTCSS 131.8Hz)

223.06/224.66 Mhz-Sewell

447.1/442.1 Mhz - Pitman  
(CTCSS 131.8Hz)

**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)

**November Meeting Program**

Nomination of Officers

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

