

CROSSTALK

Issue #4

APRIL, 2002

Presidents Message

It seems that things are picking up with the club. Most importantly we finally have a Hamfest chairman. Chris, WK2W, came forward and volunteered his services. I'm asking everyone who can help to give him a hand and make the Hamfest a BIG success. Pitch in any way you can. I also thank Chris for taking on this job.

2002 DUES
GCARC dues for the year 2002 are due. The annual dues are \$15.00. Please send your checks directly to the treasurer, Bob Krchnavek, (K2DAD) at 50 Eastwick Dr., Gibbsboro, NJ 08026.

Seven members and two guests attended the March 11 open house at the trailer. That was quite a crowd for the shack. Chris WK2W lugged his computer, rig and peripherals to the trailer and gave us an on hands demonstration of PSK31. All that were present enjoyed the demonstration and some got to try it out. PSK31 is pretty neat and not too expensive if you already have a computer and a rig. Afterwards there was some regular hamming done and we finally closed up after 2200 hrs. It was a great night.

The club is going to have a table at the Williamstown Day affair. There are many things we could do. Mentioned at the board meeting were a QRP SSB station or 2 meter station with packet. We intend to pass out flyers telling about what we do. Harry is going to put together a flyer which will talk about field day, the Hamfest, etc. Any suggestions will be appreciated. We need new members and this might be the way to attract some.

At the last meeting Jean Priestly, KA2YKN, gave a short presentation of what the ARRL has to offer, but due to the time limit it was somewhat limited. I apologize to Jean for the short time that we gave her.

It has been suggested that we ask our members who feel so inclined to make a donation to help to make up the budget shortfall. It's easily worth a ten spot to not have to do 4-H parking. Hi. Hi.

My new e-mail address is wb2nbj@att.net or wb2nbj@arrl.net.

That's about all for this month.

Best 73 and 88 to all.

Ray, WB2NBJ

DX Dope

By Doug Gehring, WA2NPD

Because this past 2-3 years has seen a very active sunspot cycle period (even a double-hump this time), an exceptionally large number of DXpeditions have taken place and continue to grace the islands and rare locations of the world. Unfortunately, this time period has also been a bonanza for the psychopaths, ingrates, idiots, and bullies who unfortunately share our airways. Incredulously, most of these idiots are licensed, uh, operators. Well, as the saying goes, in every barrel, there are always a few rotten apples. Like vultures circling a dying animal, these perverts await the first CQ from the DXpedition and then pounce upon the hapless victim with all sorts of electronic invective, noise, and blather! Oh, what great joy, rapture, and deep, inward sadistic satisfaction to stick-it to the gullible, defenseless, naïve DXers! Boy, what a great way to garner one's jollies! And the subterfuge used is so clever, like, "Is this frequency occupied?" And then after being told that it is, to keep asking innocently the same question again, and again, and again. "Boy, what great fun to egg-on the policemen. Many of those dumb bastards think I really don't know if anyone is using the frequency." Well, recently those who write regular DX articles such as presented here have been encouraged by the League, to use the pen to remind folks about the use of good operating practices. Obey the rules, listen, be courteous, listen, keep our rigs in top shape, and listen. For one, this scribe submits that, by and large, the problem is not caused by the occasional ham who forgets he's on the wrong VFO. No, the major problem is the increasing (so it seems) number of parasitic reprobates who deliberately, and maliciously interfere. The only solution is to catch these idiots, cut their coaxes, take away their transceiver "toys," and licenses, and provide them with straitjackets! Yes, there is one other solution. One day the FCC will suddenly close all frequencies to the Amateur Service because this outrageous behavior has gotten out of hand. Then there will be true peace and quiet on the bands. Until that fateful day arrives, we will again attempt to work DX stations such as the following.

Station	Dates	Freq./Mode	Rarity*	Country
VK9M	4/12-4/26	160-6; All	5	Mellish Reef**
XW3ZNR	4/24-5/4	80-10; SSB	5	Laos
S79MX	3/25~1 month	80-10; CW, SSB	4	Seychelles
3W3M	4/3-4/5	NA; CW?	3	Vietnam (Cat Ba Is.)
G0JMU/7Q7HB	till 4/28	40-10; CW, SSB	3	Malawi
HK0GW	3/14-4/15	NA; SSB, CW	2	San Andres Is.
OX/OZ1EQC	4/23-5/8	80-10; CW, RTTY, PSK31 SSTV	2	Greenland
FG/F6FXS	4/17-5/16	40-10; SSB,CW	2	Guadeloupe
VQ9GB	till-5/15	160-10; CW, SSB	3	Diego Garcia
P5/4L4FN	now back	15-10; SSB	5+	No. Korea

* 5 is rarest

** major DXpedition

Thanks to [Weekly DX](#), [425 DX News](#), WA2LET, AA2WN, K2JF

"Logbook of the World"

"Logbook of the World" (LOTW), electronic contact-verification program, will spark "a culture change" when it's introduced later this year, predicts ARRL's Project Manager Wayne Mills, N7NG. Once LOTW is operational, participants will be able to qualify for awards such as DXCC or WAS without having to first secure verification in the form of hard-copy QSL cards. But Mills, who heads ARRL's Membership Services Department, is quick to add that LOTW will complement the conventional exchange of QSL cards, not replace it.

"We will not do away with accepting QSL cards in the traditional manner," Mills says. "We're not replacing the whole paper QSL scheme with Logbook of the World." Neither will Logbook of the World provide a means to get QSLs, electronic or otherwise. Mills said amateurs would still be able to solicit QSLs, even electronic cards, although e-QSLs still may not be used to apply for ARRL awards. Mills has issued a separate ARRL e-QSL policy statement to clarify what is and what is not acceptable.

Logbook of the World "is really a system to offer credits for awards, and not just our awards," Mills explained. He hopes to enlist the participation of other organizations that grant operating awards, such as CQ and RSGB. Central to the LOTW concept is a huge repository of constantly updated log data provided by individual DXers, contesters and DXpeditions and maintained by the ARRL. Once it's up and running, Logbook of the World will be able to provide quick contact credit. Mills adds that the system will be open to all--ARRL members and nonmembers.

Registering and uploading electronic log data to LOTW will be free. The only time users will incur charges is when they wish to apply contact credits toward a particular award, such as DXCC, WAS or VUCC.

In simple terms, when a participant logs on, the Logbook system would determine if its database contains any contact "matches" with log data submitted. If so, a user could apply any credits generated to particular awards at a per-credit fee. Mills said the cost would be in line with current ARRL award fees.

In situations where an operator disputes a failure to match, Mills said, the operators involved would have to resolve the situation off-line.

Mills said he hopes to announce an inauguration date for Logbook of the World within a few months.

Thanks to the American Radio Relay League and the [ARRL Letter](#)

Club Repeater

If you use the repeater regularly, you know it has not been working properly for some time now. Chuck, WA2TML, reports that the problems started at the same time new cell phone antennas were installed on the water tower. He doesn't know if the antenna installation was coincidental to the problem or directly related. He hopes to be able to diagnose the problem as soon as the days get longer and the weather improves. The repeater will remain on in a limited mode until the problems can be resolved.

Paid-up Members

The following members have renewed their membership in GCARC for 2002. Thank you. If your call sign is not shown below, this will be your last copy of Crosstalk unless you renew your membership. For renewals please send your checks directly to the treasurer, Bob Krchnavek, at 50 Eastwick Dr., Gibbsboro, NJ 08026.

AA2WN	AA2YO	AB2NQ
AI2B	K2CR	K2DAD
K2JF	K2OWE	K2PQD
K2ZA	K3WIN	KA2OSV
KB2AYU	KB2ETT	KB2FRN
KB2GW	KB2JCQ	KB2TKV
KB2VSE	KB2ZWK	KC2PC
KE2ES	KR2U	KZ2N
N2ASV	N2BK	N2CQ
N2DJN	N2FJQ	N2FKS
N2FNF	N2HYS	N2IMH
N2IMK	N2MR	N2PKF
N2SS	N2SVN	N2TXG
NJ2B	W2LYL	W2YC
WA2ADB	WA2DUV	WA2ED
WA2GFK	WA2IBZ	WA2KDV
WA2LET	WA2MVU	WA2NPD
WA2QOY	WA2TML	WA2TRS
WA2USI	WB2AOL	WB2DXB
WB2GSF	WB2NBJ	WB2ONY
WB2OYQ	WB2THM	WK2W
D. Damiano	S. Medaugh	M. Scanzello

YT1AD Says "Never Again" to Future P5 DXPedition Attempts

The Daily DX reported additional details about the recent aborted effort by noted DXer Hrane Milosevic, YT1AD, to operate from North Korea. Milosevic described his visit there as "a thrill", but said the DXPedition was thwarted when military personnel intervened. He indicated that he would not make any further attempts to operate from North Korea, now the second most-wanted DXCC entity after the soon-to-be-activated Ducie Island.

Milosevic said he arrived in the North Korean capital of Pyongyang March 5 and was welcomed by representatives of the Ministry of Telecommunications and Foreign Affairs. His team reportedly had the nod to operate from civilian authorities in North Korea as P5A. They were ready to start operation when a uniformed official appeared and said they required military permission to operate as well. That permission was supposed to arrive March 8. When a military official finally showed up Sunday, March 10, he simply said, "No transmission until further notice." At that point, Milosevic said, the team had no other choice but to leave North Korea. "After landing in Beijing, our only comment was, never again!" Milosevic said.

Thanks to the American Radio Relay League and the ARRL Letter

Happy Birthday

Congratulations to the following club members:

Irma Colabrese, N2FNF	4/18
Gurdon Cooper, AA4N	4/12
Bob Krukowski, KR2U	4/24
Ray Metzger, AI2B	4/2
Whitney Myers, KB2ZTL	4/18
William Wyatt, N2WIB	4/4



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: 4/19/2002

Crosstalk is available on the web at:
www.gcarc-w2mmd.org

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-John AA2BN
DX-Doug WA2NPD
Field Day-Lou W2LYL
Hamfest-Open

GCARC Officers

Recording Secretary-Harry Bryant AA2WN
Corresponding Secretary-Chris West WA2MVU

Board of Directors

Gene Schoeberlein AA2YO
Bob Krukowski KR2U
Bill Blakeley WA2ADB

Committees

Hospitality-Chris WK2W
Membership- John AA2BN
Nominations-Art Strong KA2DOT
Publicity-Open
Repeaters-Chuck WA2TML
Scholarships-Greg WN2T
Special Services-Gene N2IMK
Sunshine-Open
Technical-Bob KR2U
TVI-John AA2BN
VEC Testing-Chick WA2USI
4-H Parking-Bob KR2U

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)

April Meeting Program

Socializing

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

www.gcarc-w2mmd.org

