



## *Presidents Message*

2006 DUES  
GCARC dues for  
the year 2006  
are due. The  
annual dues are  
\$20.00. Please  
send your checks  
directly to the  
treasurer, Steven  
Blasko, W2TDS,  
448 Melvin Ave.  
Glendora, NJ  
08029.

It looks like spring is here, so it's time to check out the damage done over the winter by Mother Nature. Also a good time to just look around and see what can be improved at your station. If you think you don't have room or resources, try putting up a nice multi-band dipole like one of the ones detailed by Doug WA2NPD in his interesting program at our March meeting. There are also shortened dipoles using traps if you don't have a lot of room. Dipoles can work extremely well. The W2YC contest team just operated the ARRL CW & SSB contests using all dipole antennas (you will recall tragedy struck W2YC when strong winds came up and took down the tower in a recent storm). Good luck Dave, hope you're back in the pileups and you get it repaired soon.

Kudos are due to Jim, N2NRD, and Al, KB2AYU, who just placed ninth nationally in the ARRL September VHF QSO Party, in the limited multi-operator category. Finishing in the Top Ten of this contest is no easy feat! I was discussing this with Al, and one of the reasons is that since W2MMD is relatively close to the ocean, there are a lot of wasted grid squares, which actually puts the stations in proximity to the ocean at a disadvantage. KB2AYU and N2NRD have worked hard to overcome the limitations of a modest station and antenna farm, and should be congratulated.

Darrell

## New Assignments

Our President, Darrell, AB2E, has appointed a new officer and new heads of two Club Committees. Ray Schnapp, WB2NBJ, has been appointed Vice President of the Club replacing Bob Krukowski, KR2U, who has been unable to attend meetings. Additionally Wayne Wilson, WA2LET, will be the Club's official contact for VEC testing and Gene Bond, WB2UVB, will be the coordinator for meeting programs. All of these jobs are important to the Club and our thanks go out to all three of these individuals for stepping up and volunteering to fill these jobs. If you have any ideas that can help these individuals fill these positions please contact them and let them know your suggestions.

# DX Dope

By Doug Gehring, WA2NPD

Well, according to some recent studies, we may have already reached rock-bottom of Cycle 23. Certainly you would think so by the condition of the bands especially during the past few weeks. The good news is that, via these same studies, they are now projecting a really red-hot cycle 24 with the peak (5-6 years from now) reaching heights not seen since cycle 19, back in the late 1950s. Well, I sure hope they are right. Meanwhile, we can enjoy the lower bands, and especially Top Band (160 meters) which has been very active for the past 2 or 3 months. Your scribe has, for the first time ever, been getting his feet wet ala the Top Band at the QTH of a close-by very dear friend. Most of us are not fortunate enough to own property which can accommodate a 160 m antenna (half wave dipole is about 265 ft. long). Recently, the 160 m band has been especially quiet and active mainly because the solar magnetic disturbance parameters have been especially low (many A and k values of zero and one typical during low sun spot years). And, of course, the winter months are best because of lower QRN. The super low solar flux numbers (low seventies) hardly effect the propagation parameters at all. This band is, of course, active only at nighttime, therefore, the best DXing usually occurs a few hours either side of midnight local time. Hence, chasing DX requires one to pay attention to the gray line position and to where in the world it is light and dark. Also, compared to the higher bands, signals tend to be weaker with heavy QSB. Separate awards are given for Top Band accomplishments with generally less stringent requirements due to the nature of the band. So, if you are discouraged by the lack of action on most of the short wave bands, give Top Band a try. You may have to entice your neighbor to give you part of his yard for your antenna, unless you are lucky and have a large lot.

So, what's out there for this month?

STATION	DATES	BAND/MODE	RARITY*	COUNTRY
P29VMS	3/13 – 4/4	NA ; NA	4	New Guinea
T88AP	4.9 – 4/13	160-10; SSB, CW	3	Palau
J5UAP	till 4/30	20 – 15; SSB, RTTY	3	Guinea-Bissau
S01R (1)	4/11 – 4/16	160 – 10; All	3	West. Sahara
5Z4ZK	4/10 – 4/28	40 – 20; SSB, CW	3	Kenya
ZD8Q	3/24 – 4/8	40 – 10; CW	3	Ascension Is.
VU4 Hamfest (2)	4/18 – 4/25	All; All	5	Andaman Is.
PJ4/W8RXX	4/9 – 4/23	20; CW	2	Bonaire Is.
YX0A (1)	4/19 – 4/29	160 – 6; All	4	Aves Is.
ZV0F	3/20 – 4/4	NA; NA	3	Fern. De. Norn.
3B5/ON4LAC	4/18 – 4/29	NA; NA	3	Rodrigues Is.

\* Nr. 5 is rarest (1) Major DXpedition (2) Major Hamfest/DXPedition with many stations operating.

TNX to Weekly DX, 425 DX Bulletin, W2YC, WA2LET, K2JF, AA2WN

## Congratulations

Congratulations to David Boswell, KC2PHJ, of Glassboro for getting his ham license David is not new to the Club as he has been an associate member for some time. Good work David.

## Treasurer's Request

Our Treasurer, Steve Blasko, W2TDS, has prepared a list of those individuals who have paid their 2006 Dues and will bring that list to the April General Membership Meeting. He asks that everybody who attends the meeting take a moment to look at the list and see if your name is on it. If you think you have paid your dues and are not on the list let him know. If you have not paid your dues, the meeting would be a good opportunity for you to pay them. For those not attending the meeting, if you have not paid your dues, please send them to Steve at the address on the first page of these newsletter.

## "Hello" Campaign Provides Rallying Point to Promote Amateur Radio

The first components of the ARRL's "Hello" Amateur Radio public relations campaign now are available. "This campaign will give hams the tools they need to reach out in their communities to non-hams and influence their perception of Amateur Radio," says ARRL Media and Public Relations Manager Allen Pitts, W1AGP, who conceived the campaign and is its principal Headquarters contact. The "Hello" campaign is aimed at recasting Amateur Radio in the light of the 21st century and focusing on its universal appeal. At the same time, it will mark the 100th anniversary of what many historians consider the first voice radio broadcast in 1906 by Reginald Fessenden.

Based on the word "Hello," which Pitts calls "possibly the most pleasant word in any language," the coordinated campaign will set "a positive, upbeat tone that highlights the international capabilities of Amateur Radio," he explained. The "Hello" Web site, [www.hello-radio.org](http://www.hello-radio.org), is designed for non-hams to learn a little bit about Amateur Radio and to arouse more interest. The site points prospective Amateur Radio licensees to groups that have indicated they will provide a warm welcome to newcomers. The national "Hello" campaign can bring curious people into contact with ham radio groups, but it will be up to local radio amateurs to make them truly welcome, Pitts maintains. "The key to creating a new ham operator is to develop a relationship with a current ham operator," he says.

Full details on the "Hello" campaign plus a pull-out copy of the brochure are available in the April issue of QST. The brochures are suitable for talks to schools, clubs, displays and other venues promoting Amateur Radio to the public.

To support the campaign, series of 30-second radio public service announcements have been developed and can be downloaded from [www.arrl.org/pio/pr.html](http://www.arrl.org/pio/pr.html). Additionally a broadcast-quality video for the campaign will be available in April. Copies of the special four-page "Hello" brochure are available from ARRL Headquarters for use during presentations to non-ham groups.

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

## Local Hamfest

The Delaware Valley Hamfest is April 2, 2006 at the Skating Center at Mercer County Park in West Windsor, NJ. For more information visit their web site at [www.w2zq.com](http://www.w2zq.com) or e-mail [abbott0903@hotmail.com](mailto:abbott0903@hotmail.com).



**APRIL** **CONDUCTED BY N2SS** **2006**

**WARC BANDS**

<u>30 Meters</u>	<u>17 Meters</u>	<u>12 Meters</u>
<b>W2YC. 301</b>	<b>N2SS ...320</b>	<b>WØMHK309</b>
N2SS.....290	WØMHK.. 313	N2SS..... 302
WØMHK ..268	W2YC ..... 304	W2YC..... 274
WA2NPD ..197	WA2NPD . 190	K2JF ..... 135
AA2WN....171	K2JF..... 168	N2CQ..... 99
AB2E .....128	AA2WN ... 116	AB2E ..... 92
K2JF.....112	N2CQ ..... 115	WA2NPD... 85
N2CQ.....111	AB2E..... 108	AA2WN..... 20

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

**Digital**

<b>W2YC .....253</b>	K2JF..... 113
AA2WN.....187	N2SS ..... 53
N2CQ..... 151	

**6 METER DXCC**

<b>WØMHK..... 100</b>	W2YC.....21
K2JF ..... 94	AA2WN.....15
N2SS ..... 55	

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

**MOBILE DX**

<b>W2YC .....276</b>	WØMHK .... 141
N2SS.....234	AA2WN..... 131
K2JF ..... 150	

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

**GRID SQUARES**

<b>WØMHK.....480</b>	K2JF .....285
.....	.....

**160 Meters**

<b>W2YC..... 185</b>	N2SS ..... 79
WØMHK .... 125	AA2WN ..... 36
AB2E ..... 94	K2JF ..... 34
WA2NPD..... 88	N2CQ ..... 9

W2YC continues as our undisputed Top of Top Band.

**1.5K Club**

<b>W2YC .....1561</b>	AA2WN..... 1369
<b>N2SS.....1521</b>	K2JF..... 1350
WA2NPD ...1429	N2CQ..... 1135
WØMHK ....1415	AB2E ..... 1164

**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.

Have some totals to add or updates? You can reach me as follows:

email: [n2ss@n2ss.com](mailto:n2ss@n2ss.com)

**Islands On The Air**

<b>N2SS.....830</b>	AB2E ..... 205
W2YC.....627	N2CQ..... 159
WØMHK.....302	

## April Birthdays

Congratulations to these members celebrating birthdays in April:

Irma Colabrese, N2FNF  
Gurdon Cooper, AA4N  
Daniel Damiano, KC2ELO  
William Godfrey, WB2VFX  
Bob Krukowski, KR2U  
Raymond Metzger, AI2B  
Michael Mollet, N2SRO  
Whitney, Myers, KB2ZTL  
John Pardini, N2JWF  
Greg Potter, WN2T



## 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: 4/25/2006

President-Darrell Neron AB2E  
Vice President-Ray Schnapp, WB2NBJ  
Treasurer-Sтивен Blasko, W2TDS

Doug Gehring, WA2NPD  
Bill Blakeley WA2ADB  
Chuck Colabrese WA2TML

## GCARC Officers

Recording Secretary-Harry Bryant AA2WN  
Corresponding Secretary-Al Arrison KB2AYU

## Board of Directors

Gene Schoeberlein AA2YO  
Wayne Wilson, WA2LET  
James Mollica Jr. N2NRD

## Committees

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 W2RM  
DX-Doug WA2NPD  
Field Day-Bob KC2NLM  
Hamfest-Harry AA2WN

Hospitality-Ken N2CQ  
Membership-Ray W2RM  
Nominations-Art Strong KA2DOT  
Publicity-Open  
Repeaters-Mike N2SRO  
Scholarships-Greg WN2T  
Special Services-Gene N2IMK  
Sunshine-Open  
Technical-Bob KR2U  
TVI-Open  
VEC Testing-Wayne WA2LET  
Programs-Gene WB2UVB

**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**

Club Business  
Socializing

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

