

CROSSTALK -- Official Publication of the
 GLOUCESTER COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, W2MMD
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 AREA NETS

GCARD RTTY NET:	Tuesday,	8:00 PM 147.78/18 Rptr
ARES NET:	Sunday,	8:00 PM 147.78/18 Rptr

Club Repeaters: 147.78/18, 223.06/224.66, 447.10/442.10

General Meeting: First Wednesday of each month at the V.F.W. Hall in Woodbury, NJ. Meetings begin at 8:00 pm sharp.

Contributions: CROSSTALK, Tony Starr,
 Deadline: Ten (10) days before each general meeting.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE-- APRIL 1986

Due to circumstances beyond our control, the President's Message was not received in time to be included in this publication.

APRIL PROGRAM -- de N2FJM

I apologize for last month's program being canceled due to a malfunction of equipment. The April program will be Doug Gehring on the ARRL. I strongly urge anyone using equipment with their program to please check it before the meeting night.

If anyone has something that they would like to see or hear about, please let me know; I will try to make the arrangements. I would like to offer a big thank you to John Fisher and Vince Caruso for sharing their knowledge with us at the January and February meetings.

73--Vice President
 Virginia Martin, N2FJM

HAMFEST UPDATE

The committee met on Wednesday, March, 12, and with a good showing of members, we were able to accomplish a lot. Here are the way things stand right now. Prizes: A Packet Radio Controller, a \$250.00 Computer Gift Certificate, a Modem (1,200 Baud), and a Bird Watt Meter with 1 slug. Also, a Kenwood TH21AT will be chanced off for a \$1.00 donation. Changes were made regarding the VEC Testing: Anyone coming to the Hamfest just for the test will be directed over to the St. Stephens Social Hall 2 miles north on Rte. 77.

There will be no ALCOHOLIC beverages permitted on the Fairgrounds, by request of the 4-H. We will be asking our guests not to bring in beer to drink on the premises.

Thanks to all club members for their cooperation with this year's Hamfest. With this kind of support, the Hamfest should be a real success.

73--Chairperson
 Virginia Martin, N2FJM

FIELD DAY PROGRESS REPORT

We now have every band/mode covered between 80 meters and UHF, thanks to Jim, K2OWE, and John, K2JF. John approached me at the March meeting and volunteered Jim and himself to take the last open band/mode which was 20 CW. We could operate in as high a class as 11A, but I doubt that we will have enough operators to staff all 11 stations

simultaneously. Our best bet will be to see what kind of turnout we have on Saturday morning of the FD weekend and decide on our class shortly before we go on the air. We will probably wind up operating either 8A, 9A, or 10A.

We will be having two meetings of the Field Day committee; one in May and one in June. Those people who are required to attend will be notified by mail a week or two before the meeting. If you receive a notification card but cannot attend, please have someone else from your group come on your behalf. Each band chairman should have at least 2 to 4 operators committed to his/her station. I will need to know the names of each person who has volunteered to operate a particular station. Each band chairman should be prepared to furnish me with the identities of these "designated operators".

All of us involved are really excited about the increased level of interest so far this year. We think that the GCARC will be able to make a great score for the first time in several years. It sure would be great to win our class, and with 11 stations on the air, it certainly isn't impossible. Let's make this the best one yet. Let's put Gloucester County back on the map!

73 until next month,
Tony Starr, WA2FZB.

IN SEARCH OF THE ELUSIVE DX COMMITTEE

A few years back, GCARC had quite an active DX committee, and the chairman of said committee had a monthly column in this humble publication. Recently, though, for one reason or another, this committee has lost its' molecular cohesion and its' elements have scattered into oblivion. The editor of this rag ordered a cub reporter to make an inquiry to the chairman of the DX committee as to whether the monthly column could be resumed, but the cub could find no evidence of the existence of such a person. The editor looked over recent contributions and found that DX articles had sent been by John, K2JF, who probably has written more Crosstalk articles than any other member. A quick check of the archives revealed that John was not the chairman of the DX committee. The editor ordered an announcement published. It reads as follows:

ATTENTION: To all members of the DX Committee.

It is requested that you contact the editor of this publication as soon as possible and report the identity of your chairman. If you do not succeed in determining who your chairman is, contact the President immediately and report the vacancy. We would like to resume monthly publication of our previous column, "DX DOPE".

Thank You--Ed.

FAR SCHOLARSHIPS

THE FOUNDATION FOR AMATEUR RADIO, INC., a non-profit organization with Headquarters in Washington, D.C. plans to award twenty one (21) scholarships for the academic year 1986-87. The foundation composed of fifty local area Amateur Radio Clubs, fully funds two of these scholarships from the proceeds of its annual Hamfest. It administers without cost to the donors, seven (7) scholarships for the Quarter Century Wireless Associations, two (2) each for the Dade (FL) Radio Club, the Baltimore (MD) Amateur Radio Club and the Department of State Amateur Radio Club and one (1) each for the Radio Club of America, the Richard G. Chichester Memorial, The Young Ladies' Radio League, the Edmund Redington Memorial, the Amateur Radio News Service and the Columbia (MD) Amateur Radio Association.

Licensed Radio Amateurs may compete for these awards if they plan to pursue a full-time course of studies beyond high school and are enrolled or have been accepted for enrollment in an accredited university, college or technical school. Most of the scholarships require the applicant to hold at least an FCC General Class license or equivalent. The scholarship awards range from \$350 to \$900 with preference given in some cases to residents of specified geographical areas or the pursuit of certain study programs.

Additional information and an application form can be requested by a letter or QSL/postcard, postmarked prior to May 31, 1986 from:

F A R Scholarships
6903 Rhode Island Avenue
College Park, MD 20740

The Foundation is a 501 (c)(3) organization devoted exclusively to promoting the interests of Amateur Radio and those scientific, literary and educational pursuits that advance the purpose of the Amateur Radio Service.

4X4 LAND TRIP AND TOUR FOR AMATEURS AND FRIENDS

The CHAVERIM, an international movement to foster a closer relationship among Jewish Amateur Radio Operators and their friends throughout the world, is planning a two week trip to Israel and a tour of the Holy Land this fall. Departure date from JFK Airport in New York is scheduled for Monday, October 27, 1986. Return date will be November 10, 1986. Participants from the Philadelphia/Southern New Jersey areas will have transportation to JFK provided. Flights will be by EL-AL, the Israeli National Airline.

Besides visiting shrines holy to Jews, Christians, and Moslems, hams will have the opportunity of operating their equipment throughout the country. It is expected that the Israeli Amateur Radio Club and members of the QCWA will provide occasions for eyeballing.

This endeavor is not only designed to attract hams, but anyone interested in visiting this ancient land will have the opportunity of seeing the old and the new, and be quickly cognizant of the miracle that arose from the desert and swamp lands to form a modern country. A full 8 days of touring is planned in modern coaches with English speaking tour guides.

All Amateurs, their wives, friends, and families, are most welcome to participate and are urged to contact Bill Soble - W3QXT, coordinator, Philadelphia, PA 19115, for information or to insure being included in the group, as space is limited.

A NOTE OF THANKS
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The following Thank You note was sent to Crosstalk:

The beautiful bouquet of flowers sent me by the Club during my recent stay in Underwood Memorial Hospital was a delightful surprise and truly appreciated. Many Thanks.

Sincerely,
Ed Stetser, K2JJC

LES BELLES
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All YLs and your DMs are invited to the Second Area YL ARC (SAYLARC) Spring Luncheon to be held down at the Hammonton Inn, Hammonton, NJ on April 19, 1986. If you plan on attending, please tell N2RE at the meeting, by telephone, or on the air so that your reservation will be made. We have a private room and I must have a count no later than April 10 as to the number in your party. All are welcome.

Special speaker is Mary Lou Brown, NM7N, Vice President of YLRL, coming from Anacortes, Washington to tell of a very recent "Birding" trip to Kenya. In the group will also be Karla Holmes, WA1UVJ of Nashua, NH, Current Disbursing Treasurer of YLRL. Karla has been a guest of His Majesty in Jordan.

Several YLs will be present from not only New Jersey and New York but Pennsylvania as well.

The individual menu orders will bring your check according to your appetite.

Won't you join Myrt, N2AKC and N2RE on this big day for the YL's? Let me hear from you.

73 Rose Ellen, N2RE

CONTEST CORNER

As I reported last month, this year the W2SUA Trophy will be awarded based only on the phone portion of the ARRL INTERNATIONAL DX CONTEST, March 1 & 2. Next year's selection will be made well ahead of the first possible contest, early in the fall. If there are still any entry copies, please get them to me by the coming meeting. The contest results will be announced following presentation of the award.

At last month's meeting two questions were asked. I will answer both here to make sure everyone is informed. First, I do not intend to change anything from the way it was set up before. If I accidentally do, let me know so I can get back in line, as we will with the W2SUA trophy.

Secondly, I still don't have at this writing any of the records, including the previous Megapoint Award standings. When I get the records I will make that update my first order of business. To answer the second question, the Megapoint Awards are made based on the following contests and weighting factors:

CQ Worldwide DX Contest-phone	factor = X2
ARRL Sweepstakes-CW	factor = X5
ARRL Sweepstakes-Phone	factor = X5
CQ Worldwide DX Contest-CW	factor = X2
ARRL VHF Sweepstakes	factor = X50
ARRL International DX Contest-phone	factor = X3
ARRL International DX Contest-CW	factor = X3
CQ Worldwide WPX Contest-phone	factor = X1
CQ Worldwide WPX Contest-CW	factor = X1
Two-Land QSO Party	factor = X3

The above list thanks to Herb, K2HPV.

Next month I hope to print a short discussion of the awards in this column for those who are newer members. Again I want to check details with those who know better than I.

I welcome all the help I can get in doing the best job for the club. If possible, please call me or see me in person rather than bring it up at the meeting, unless it belongs on the floor.

I have forms for CQ WPX contest and the Spring VHF Sprints in hand, and also remember to let me know if I miss any important contests in my list.

DATE	CONTEST
April 14	144 MHz Sprint
22	220 MHz Sprint
30	432 MHz Sprint
May 8	1296 MHz Sprint
17	50 MHz Sprint
24-25	CQ WW WPX CONTEST CW
June 7-8	ARRL VHF QSO Party
28-29	* * * Field Day * * *

(TNX to K2HPV, ARRL, QST, CQ & 73) de KB2GW

FCC SAYS YES TO 7075-7100 kHz PHONE IN CARIBBEAN INSULAR AREAS

FCC has adopted a Report and Order in PR Docket 85-104, allowing telephony operation at 7075-7100 kHz by General, Advanced and Amateur Extra Licensees south of 20 degrees north latitude. The new privileges are expected to have minimal impact on non-voice operation in this segments by stations on the US mainland, while granting much-needed relief from 7100-7300 kHz foreign broadcasting to telephone operation in Caribbean insular areas. This amendment to Part 97 is effective 0001 UTC February 28, 1986. Tnx The ARRL Letter and K2JF

UNITED KINGDOM ALLOCATES 50 MHz TO AMATEURS

In the August 1, 1985 Letter, we reported that a UK 6-meter allocation was imminent. Six months, we figure, was "imminent" enough: the Radio Society of Great Britain has Announced the availability of 50.0-50.5 MHz to UK amateurs from February 1!

This allocation is made by the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), Britain's "FCC." Among the conditions under which amateurs in the UK may use their new 6-metre privileges are effective radiated power maxima of 14 dBW carrier (25W) and 20 dBW (100W) PEP. Transmitting antenna height is limited to 20 metres above ground level. No mobile, portable or temporary-premise operation will be allowed. The new privileges are available only to Class A licensees in the UK. Tnx The ARRL Letter and K2JF

RECORD AURORA BLANKS OUT HF BANDS BUT IS A BONANZA FOR VHFERS

February 8 brought one of the most intensive auroras in many years. Massive solar flares beginning 5 days earlier sent geomagnetic indexes to near record levels resulting in almost total shutdown of the HF bands. But for those amateurs who work their DX in the bands above 50 MHz, it was a day that will be talked about for a long time to come. On 6 meters, in addition to literally thousands of QSO's spanning up

half of the continent and affecting all 50 states, a number of transcontinental contacts were due to a rare form of propagation known as auroral E. KH6s were worked as far east as Minnesota and Texas and HC2FG in Ecuador has a field day working stateside stations. One New England station, K1TOL, was reportedly heard in Sweden.

The low end of the 2 meter band was literally jammed with CW and SSB signals, some well over S-9. Normally aurora is for northwesterners, but not this one. Stations as far south as Sarasota, FL and even southern California were able to participate. What is thought to be a 2 meter North American DX record for this type of propagation was apparently set. The greatest distance covered on that band appears to be between Connecticut station KA1ZE and WB0DRL in Kansas, a path of 1348 miles. The next two higher bands were also well represented. Many who had never made aurora contacts on 220 MHz before succeeded in doing so, resulting in new state and grid square totals and lots of thrills. WQ4V in South Carolina was especially active on this band, providing a normally hard to work state. The aurora even made its presence felt on 432 MHz, but the 3 to 4 kHz of Doppler separation between actual and apparent frequencies, on that band, made it somewhat difficult to establish contact. Some, listening only on their own frequency may become discouraged at not getting any response, but those who figured out the trick were well rewarded with some notable contacts. Examples include W3IP near Baltimore hooking up with Dallas area station WB5LUA, a distance of almost 1200 miles and KOUS in Nebraska working stations in 11 states from Colorado to South Carolina. Despite the Doppler, there were probably more contacts completed on 432 MHz during this aurora than any previous one.

It is not known at this time if any contacts were made on the newly allocated 902 MHz band or on 1296 MHz. Several 1296 attempts were known to have been tried without success.

For more details on this history making day, see The World Above 50 MHz in May QST. Tnx The ARRL Letter and K2JF

ARRL TO FCC: RECONSIDER PACKET RADIO
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The ARRL has petitioned the FCC to reconsider the part of its Report and Order in Docket 85-105 which stipulates that "no amateur station may be operated under automatic control while transmitting third-party traffic."

The League stated that "technology has overtaken some aspects of...the Commission's Rules, particularly in regard to automatic control" and pointed out that most digital communications use speeds of at least 1200 bits per second, which translates to about 1400 wpm. Thus, it would be impossible for a control operator using a video display terminal (VDT) or a printer to carefully monitor the communications, assuming an average reading speed of 300 wpm.

Furthermore, the Commission allows much higher speeds above 50-MHz, which could be as high as the equivalent of 67,200 WPM! The ARRL points out that, to be in full compliance with the Commission's rules, a control operator would have to not only give full time and attention to monitoring, but would have to slow the network down to his or her reading speed. The League believes that there must be some safeguards against unsupervised third party traffic, but that such traffic should be controlled at the point of its introduction into a packet network, not at its subsequent repeated automatic relays throughout the network. The benefit of having a high-speed packet-radio network with the capacity of handling major emergencies far outweighs the risks of unsupervised use of the network by unlicensed persons.

The petition was prompted by the ARRL Board of Directors who unanimously directed ARRL President, Larry Price, W4RA, to "take such action as may be necessary and appropriate" to cause the FCC to correct its restrictive and crippling effect on the development of packet radio and packet-radio communications. Tnx The ARRL Letter and K2JF

HTs ON THE AIRLINES

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Besides the risk to communications and navigation equipment, another dangerous result of using your hand held transceiver aboard a commercial jetliner is that it can cause cabin depressurization!

The RF can trigger open the electronically - controlled outflow valves which control the cabin pressure in a modern airliner. Should the outflow valves be inadvertently opened at altitude by such stray RF, the cabin pressure would drastically drop and would force passengers and crew to use the emergency on-board oxygen system.

If you caused such an in flight emergency through your refusal to comply with federal regulations that ban the use of ham radio transceivers and other electronic gear, you could probably be held legally liable for damage to the aircraft and injuries to passengers and crew members.

(Adapted from a story by WA6GDC appearing in COUNTERPOISE, the El Cajon ARC Newsletter.) Tnx The Westlink Report and K3WIL