

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

Tony Starr, WA2FZB	Editor	John Fisher, K2JF	Circulation
Milt Goldman, K3WIL	Publisher	Jim Mollica, K2OWE	Circulation
Ed Sumek, W2GSN	Printer	Len Kravitz, KD2CR	Circulation

AREA NETS

GCARC 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 1987

I would like to thank all those who took time from their families and busy schedules to help with the trailer a few weeks ago. Al Trueblood has been working very hard to make the necessary preparations for moving our trailer to the 4-H grounds. By the time this issue of Crosstalk reaches all of you it may be moved.

Just a reminder: The Walk-a-thon and Bike-a-thon will soon be upon us. Please check your portable equipment to be sure they are ready for these events.

Due to unfortunate circumstances, Mike Black has been forced to step down as our Hamfest Chairman. We are in need of a new Chairman, as this event is a major source of income for the club.

The March meeting was enjoyed by many. Since there was no program, the meeting adjourned early which left time for friendly conversations. I am looking forward to seeing a full house again this month.

73, Virginia Martin, N2FJM.

P.S.-- Because everyone enjoyed the general rap session after last month's meeting, there will not be a formal program this month. Instead, we will hold an organized airing of issues and ideas after the business meeting this month.

HELP AND WELFARE COMMITTEE

Just a reminder that the Help and Welfare Committee needs your eyes and ears to help us do our job. This is not just another committee within the club, but a group that will try to assist all hams who need our aid. We take all complaints, such as not being pleased with the way the club is doing something. If a new ham needs help in getting started, call us and we will see that the matter is taken care of. If you would like to volunteer to be chairperson of the hamfest and don't know how to go about it, just see us, we can guarantee results. Maybe a Ham down the road is just lonesome and an eyeball QSO will help; then let us know about it. It is our way of extending a helping hand from the club. So if you can help us help others, contact the following :

Russ Glans, N2ASV  
Len Kravitz, KD2CR  
Charlie Sketchley, K2PQD

All communications will be confidential. If you never hear about the work of our committee then we are doing our appointed task.

Thanks, C. Sketchley, K2PQD.

FIELD DAY '87

As we go to press, we are awaiting the approval from Gloucester County College, for setting up on Friday, June 26. So as soon as the approval comes through, everyone will be notified via Crosstalk.

Last year, a goal of 2000 contacts was set and despite poor propagation, we surpassed it by 500 contacts. This year we have a goal of 2300 contacts and with a little bit better propagation, we will even surpass it!

Speaking of contact numbers, relief operators would be of invaluable help. This is the Club participation so often spoke of. We give it our all during Field Day but a 24 hour run is beyond most of us. A few "night owls" to run the more active bands could certainly push us past 2300 contacts.

Anyone who has some ideas on how to get the tower put up or taken down in an easier fashion than in the past, contact Jerry, WB2CAK.

**Band Chairmen:**

80 CW -- Jim, K2OWE  
 75 Ph -- Tony, WA2FZB  
 40 CW -- Ken, N2CQ  
 40 Ph -- Wayne, WA2LET  
 20 CW -- John, K2JF  
 20 Ph -- Art, KA2DOT  
 15 CW -- OPEN  
 15 Ph -- John, WB2VOH  
 10 CW -- OPEN  
 10 Ph -- Dan, N2FKT  
 6 CW -- OPEN  
 6 Ph -- Tom, WA2KOB  
 2 Ph -- Joe, WA2GFK

These are the people to contact, if you wish to work a band that has already been "Chaired". The 15, 10, and 6 CW slots are still open for those with a real sense of adventure. Any takers, contact either of us so we know the slot is filled. See you at the meeting.

73-- Art, KA2DOT, & Jerry, WB2CAK.

FISHING TRIP

At the last meeting, many people expressed an interest in a club fishing trip. It seems as though there are quite a few fishermen in the club. I guess when they are not involved with antenna towers their interest lies with tuna towers. Our club President, Ginny, N2FJM,

asked me to check on boats and prices in regard to fishing this season's sea trout run (weakies).

Bob, KB2COB, just happens to be a captain with a boat capable of carrying six passengers, which will be available weekends and weekdays. Price will be \$160.00 during the week and \$180.00 weekends. This should satisfy any small groups within the club.

As far as a large outing is concerned, I checked with a charter captain who works out of Cape May and he said it would cost about \$500.00 for the boat, so if we can get 20 or more people the cost will be quite reasonable. I also checked with a head boat captain and he said he will take groups but not charters. Groups would cost \$20.00 per head, which is again quite reasonable, but with this arrangement the rest of the room on the boat will be sold to the public, which could result in a crowded boat.

In any event, I have to know right away so I can reserve a boat. Dates are going quickly. I will need one half the full price in order to reserve the boat. If you are interested please get in touch with me or Ginny, N2FJM, by land line. Family and friends are welcome, but you must act quickly.

Just as I was getting ready to put this in the mail, the Miss Chriss Marina called and told me that May 24 is open at this time for two boats. The smaller boat is \$600.00 for up to 25 people with an extra charge per head for more than 25. The larger boat is \$750.00 for up to 35 people with an extra charge per head for more than 35. So please let me know as soon as possible so I can charter a boat.

73 de Chuck, KB2AZW.

#### LEGISLATION

John Thernes, WM4T, using PRB-1 has won a five year battle with the City of Lakeside Park, Kentucky. For five years the city refused to allow John to erect any tower whatsoever.

With settlement of the case, thanks to PRB-1, John, although not getting everything he asked for, has won and will be getting most of what he wanted. He will now be allowed to erect a tower and also will receive a cash settlement of \$13,800. This is a great victory for Amateur Radio.

John will have a booth at the Dayton Hamvention. If you intend to be there, stop by John's booth and he will give you further details. He would also like to thank all those who helped with their encouragement and support. (TNX W5YI)

For those of you who may want to give a novice examination, W5YI

has a "Novice Examination Kit" available which will provide you with everything you need to administer the test. Price for the kit is \$9.95 postpaid from W5YI-VEC, P.O. Box 10101, Dallas TX 75207. The kit is available to all General class and higher operators.

73 de Chuck, KB2AZW.

### "ELMERS" WANTED

A subcommittee of the Help and Welfare Committee is being instituted to be known as the Elmer Subcommittee, and will be headed up by Herb Schuler, K2HPV. As the name implies, the intent is to put together new or prospective Hams who request assistance with volunteers who will generally make themselves available on a one-on-one basis. Those members in the club who would like to register as a potential "Elmer" should contact Herb.

An "Elmer" is basically a knowledgeable ham who likes to interact with people, mostly on a one-on-one basis, to guide the new person through the initial steps of hamming. An "Elmer" answers basic questions, offers suggestions, and calms the jitters of that first QSO. He helps mostly when asked by the new ham and tries not to overwhelm and confuse.

Elmering is rewarding for the experienced ham and a good way to assist in building the Amateur Radio operator ranks. Those new persons who have the opportunity to work with an Elmer usually have a very low drop-out rate; they tend to stay with the hobby. If you love the hobby, love working with people, and have some ham experience, register with Herb to be an "Elmer". Call 848-2121 day or evening.

Tnx Herb Schuler, K2HPV.

### NOVICE ENHANCEMENT AND YOU

Well, like it or not, Novice Enhancement is here. So what is your club going to do about it? Just one member's opinion is that we should try to use it to our advantage.

Looking over the membership roster I see that we have six members who are not yet licensed. What action could the club take to help them get into the mainstream of Amateur Radio? It's up to you and I as club members to help them all we can.

The club may already receive from ARRL a list of new Novices in the area. Using this list we could contact each new Novice and introduce them to our club, if they are not already familiar with GCARC.

Along another line of thought, we are fortunate to have a great 220 MHz repeater. Could this be put to better use? In southern New Jersey there are not many 220 repeaters with autopatch. We have the repeater and the patch, why isn't it hooked up? Would this entice new Novices to join our club and get repeater privileges with autopatch?

That's a lot to think about. Maybe you have some ideas on these matters. Let your club officers and board of directors know your feelings. Let's not allow this opportunity to slip through our fingers.

73 de Harry, WA2SEA.

#### INTERVIEW WITH A HAM

This article is the thirty-fourth in a series to appear in Crosstalk, the last one appearing in the July, 1975 issue. There have been three different authors over the years.

The subject of our interview this month is Charlie Sketchley, Charlie was born in Philadelphia on July 14, 1919, and attended public schools in the city, graduating from Northeast High School in 1939.

During World War II, Charlie was a radio operator with the 1st Army Headquarters in Europe.

After his discharge from the Army in 1945, Charlie started working for the Exide Storage Battery Company. In 1948, he and Ruth Hartzell were married and, two years later, moved to their present home in Woodbury.

Charlie became a General class Amateur Radio operator in 1955, with the same call he now holds. In 1968 he upgraded to Amateur Extra.

Charlie has a small but well-equipped ham shack, and has capabilities for all bands from 160 meters through 440 MHz. His pride and joy is a Kenwood TS-940 AT with a TL-922 and Nye antenna tuner for the HF bands. For the VHF/UHF bands he has an Icom 3200A for 2M & 440, an Icom 37A for 220, a Yaesu FT-625RD, Yaesu 225RD, plus among other accessories a Kenwood SM-220 Scope and pan adaptor, a TRS-80 Model 4, a Macrotronics T3 terminal, and a Kantronics KPC-2.

Charlie's antenna system is ample also with a TA-36 beam on a 50 foot tower, plus a 19 element 2 meter Boomer, 80 and 40 M. trap dipole and verticals for 220 and 440 MHz.

Charlie is an experimenter, builder, and knowledgeable troubleshooter/repairman. He even finds time to get on the air once in a while since retiring a couple of years ago. He is a life member of both GCARC and ARRL. He holds WAS and WAC and has been active in ARES

and RACES for many years.

For several years, Charlie was a member of the Board of Directors, and is a past Vice President of the club. He has served on many committees, among them Membership, Projects, Data Processing, Help and Welfare, Club Historian, and at one time served as Emergency Coordinator.

73 de Harry, WA2SEA.

SWAP & SHOP

FOR SALE: ENTIRE DRAKE TWINS STATION. All you need is an antenna and a CW key. All equipment bought new except synthesizer. All clean, like new; no dents or scratches. Includes all manuals plus extras. Station is in use, will demo on the air. Details:

DRAKE R4C Rcvr-- w/ 3 CW filters: 1.5 KHz, 500 Hz, 250 Hz. Also, add'l xtals for 28.0 to 28.5 MHz, 15.0 to 15.5 MHz, and 1.5 to 2.0 MHz \$325.00

DRAKE T4XC Xmtr-- w/ add'l xtals for 28.0 to 28.5 MHz, 10.1 to 10.15 MHz, and 1.8 to 2.0 Mhz. Extra pr. of 6JB6 finals and a spare 12BY7 driver. \$250.00

DRAKE AC4 Pwr supply-- MS4 speaker in cabinet. \$75.00

DRAKE FS4 Synthesizer-- allows receiving all freq. 1 to 30 MHz with above R4C rcvr. \$160.00

AMECO PLF-2 Preamplifier. \$50.00

ELECTROVOICE 638 Mic-- HI-Z w/ PTT stand. \$40.00

AUTEK MK-1 Memory Keyer--w/ 4K mem. expansion. \$100.00

DENTRON "SUPER TUNER PLUS" Ant tuner. \$100.00

For above items call Herb Schuler

CONTEST CORNER

The W2SUA Award for the 1986/1987 contest will be based on both scores reported for the ARRL DX Contests, CW (Feb. 21-22 1987) and Phone (Mar. 7-8 1987). Please make returns as soon as possible. Note: As was done last year, the contest scores will not be published until the award has been presented.

The CQ WPX Contest is coming soon, partly at the end of March and

finishing the end of April. This will be the last contest counting for the Megapoint Award until next fall. Please make returns ASAP. I would ask that all forms given to me be marked "COPY" or "SUBMIT" to avoid possible confusion. If not marked, I will assume it is a copy.

The Spring VHF Sprints are coming soon. These are relatively short contests and offer a chance for good VUCC grid square contacts. Sheets will be available (same forms as last year if you have them).

To help me update the Megapoint files I ask that all holders of the award give me their serial number. I need to try to establish what the next number will be before I can issue any more. If you don't attend the meetings, let me know some other way. Thanks for the help.

The contest list is updated below:

MONTH:	DATES:	CONTEST:
April	13	ARRL Spring Sprint, 144 MHz
	22	ARRL Spring Sprint, 220 MHz
	29	ARRL Spring Sprint, 432 Mhz
May	8	ARRL Spring Sprint, 902 MHz
	14	ARRL Spring Sprint, 1296 MHz
	23-24	ARRL Spring Sprint, 50 MHz
	30-31	CQ WW WPX CW Contest
June	14-15	ARRL VHF QSO Party
	27-28	ARRL Field Day
July	18-19	CQ WW VHF WPX Contest

My apologies for missing the boat last month and for the shortness of this month's column. Better next month.

Tnx ARRL, CQ, QST, 73, and Worldradio, de KB2GW.

#### PUBLISHER RETIRES

As we wrap up this month's Crosstalk and prepare to go to press, we would like to take this opportunity to thank our own Milt Goldman, K3WIL, for his countless contributions to Crosstalk over the past several years. Milt has housed the club copier at his place of business while serving as our publisher; but is retiring now and will no longer be at said location. The machine has been moved as of this issue. Our printer Ed Sumek, W2GSN, will be assuming the duties of publisher while continuing to print Crosstalk. So from the staff of Crosstalk, a hearty thanks to you, Milt. While you enjoy a well deserved rest, the boss will no longer be looking over your shoulder.



## VHF Ham Radio is Being Threatened!

ON FEBRUARY 12, THE FCC RELEASED A NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULE MAKING, GENERAL DOCKET 87-14, THAT PROPOSES TO ALLOCATE 220 TO 222 MHZ ON AN EXCLUSIVE BASIS TO THE LAND MOBILE SERVICE AND 222 TO 225 MHZ EXCLUSIVELY TO THE AMATEUR SERVICE. ACCORDING TO THE FCC, THE 220 TO 225 MHZ BAND IS UNDERUTILIZED, AND THE LAND MOBILE SERVICE HAS NEEDS THAT CAN BE MET IN THIS REGION OF THE SPECTRUM. COMMENTS ON THIS PROPOSAL MAY BE FILED WITH THE FCC ON OR BEFORE APRIL 6, 1987.

The effect of this NPRM would be felt not only on 220, but also on 10, 6, 2, and 0.7 meters. The part of the band that we would lose contains control and link channels for a large number of existing repeaters on other bands, probably including repeaters that you use. It is worth noting that the outstanding work done by Hams at the Chase train wreck was made possible in part by repeaters with 220 MHz links. 440 is rapidly filling up, so there is no place for these links and control channels to go, unless some of the 220 repeater channels are eliminated. Packet use is doubling every 5 months, and high speed intercity links are now in use, with many more being built on 220.55, .65, .75, .85, and .95. No other band is satisfactory for this purpose. Thus at a time when thousands of Novices are expected on 220, the ARRL Band Plan will have to be revised, with the loss of many repeater pairs. I can't predict exactly what the Band Plan will be if we are cut back 40%, but you had better believe it will be different! Furthermore, if high power commercial 220 transmitters are installed at our repeater sites, their second harmonics will clobber more link and control channels in the 440 MHz band. What I am saying is that, even if you never plan to use 220 directly, loss of 220 to 222 will still hurt YOU! The Commission seems unaware of just how much 220 to 222 is now being used.

The Commission is also wrong about the ability of this spectrum to support the Land Mobile Service. A two MHz space would require repeaters with 1 MHz split, which is damn hard to do (that's why we use 1.6 MHz). When the commercials find that out, they may be back for another bite! In many cities, Baltimore included, TV Channel 13 will give commercial users fits on 220 to 222. So will the IF radiation from thousands of car radios. There are other technical problems, but the bottom line is that 220 to 222 is a lousy choice for Land Mobile.

To comment in opposition to the NPRM, you should file an ORIGINAL and FIVE COPIES by APRIL 6, 1987. If you can't make five copies, file anyway - your comments WILL be read. Even if late, your comments will probably still count. So, for the sake of Amateur Radio, DO IT!

If you can make extra copies, you should send one to your Senators and Congressman, and also to ARRL via Hugh Turnbull, W3ABC, and to the VHF/UHF Advisory Committee (That's me). But please, if you love Ham Radio, file SOMETHING! A sample format is on the reverse side.

Thanks and 73, Bob Bennett W3WCQ

Before the  
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 20554

Comments in Opposition to Notice of Proposed Rulemaking

In the matter of:

Allocation of 220 to )  
222 MHz on an exclusive )  
basis to the Land Mobile )  
Service and 222 to 225 MHz )  
exclusively to the Amateur )  
Radio Service. ) General Docket No. 87-14

Submitted by: Your Full Name  
Your Amateur Call  
Your Address  
City and State  
The Date

To the Commission:

1. INTRODUCTION

A simple statement that you oppose because the NPRM is not in the best interest of Amateur Radio, not in the best interest of the Land Mobile Service, not in the best interest of the public, better alternatives are available, or whatever.

2. QUALIFICATIONS OF THE UNDERSIGNED

Brief statement of your experience - are you a Ham?, do you use 220?, how?, do you have a financial interest in the NPRM? Essentially, show that you know what you are talking about.

3. SPECIFIC REASONS FOR OPPOSITION

Concise, factual, non-emotional reasons in your own words supporting your INTRODUCTION statement. Emotional arguments carry very little weight, and threats against the FCC will consign your comments to the "bit bucket."

Number all paragraphs and pages.

At the top of each page, put your name, the page number, and "General Docket 87-14"

Sign your comments, and send the ORIGINAL and FIVE COPIES to:

Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
Washington, D.C. 20554.

COMMENTS ARE DUE ON OR BEFORE APRIL 6, 1987.