



Presidents Message

Well it is time for our second big event of the year, our Hamfest. If you don't know by now the Hamfest will be held Sunday, August 22 at the Gloucester County 4-H Fair Grounds on Route 77 south of Mullica Hill. This event is our big money raiser each year and we depend on it to keep the Club solvent. We need your help putting on this event. We need help on the day before the event to set things up and we need help on the day of the event running things and cleaning up afterward. Please come out and give us a hand. You can contact Harry, AA2WN, the Hamfest Chairman, to volunteer your services at aa2wn@arrl.net. Our Field Day was a big success now let's make the Hamfest just as big a success.

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.

At the last Club Board of Directors meeting we discussed adding a new article to the Club By-Laws. This article would be a statement warning members that the Club can not be responsible for personal items left at the Club house. We had some personal items damaged when lightning hit the Club House the last time. We want all members to be aware that the Club is not responsible for their equipment left at the Club House and that our insurance does not cover damage to these items. Please come out to the meeting so we can make the proposed addition to the By-Laws.

The Club House is in need of some repairs including recoating the leaking roof. We hope to get a work party together this fall to do this work. If you can help out please contact Al, KB2AYU, our Club House Chairman, so he can schedule the work party.

See you all at the general meeting.

Best 73 & 88 to all;
Ray WB2NBJ

DX Dope

By Doug Gehring, WA2NPD

When thinking of rare DX locations in the world, one immediately thinks of remote and far away places half way around the earth. Hence, it is somewhat surprising to learn that three of the rarest DX entities today are located just off-shore of the good old USA, in the Caribbean Ocean no less. These are Aves, Navassa, and Desecheo Islands, which have all moved up within the top 20 most needed countries on all of the most needed lists. As we write these words, Aves Island is about to come on the air for the first time since 1997 (a minor Dxpediton—confirmed via W2YC's approved QSL) whereas the last major Dxpediton there was in 1994. Since its designation as a wildlife sanctuary by the Venezuelan government (the Island's owner), ham excursions there have been few and far between. Venezuela also has been reluctant to allow anyone except their own nationals to operate from there. The current group is the Venezuelan national radio club which is about the only group that receives permission to operate from there these days. Also, maybe 15 years ago now, the USA owned islands of Navassa and Desecheo were turned over to the US Fish and Wildlife Service also for management as wildlife sanctuaries. Since no hams have operated from there is all this time, apparently the Wildlife Service feels that radio waves may give cancer to the wildlife there, or some other such idiocy. Like the Boy Scouts, hams have a reputation for leaving the campsite cleaner and more presentable than when they found it. Nevertheless, Desecheo and Navassa remain in isolation. Now most of you DXers would like to someday reach the DXCC Honor Roll, or similar awards, which means working the rare countries as they appear. And, in particular, like your scribe, once you reach senior citizen status, it is especially important to work DX such as these locations. Otherwise, the next Dxpediton from Aves may find you looking down from above while strumming your harp. So, turn on your rig and work Aves on any one of the bands (they will be on all bands and modes). They will be there until August 8th. Then QSL via KB6NAN. So what else is new this month?

STATION	DATES	FREQ/MODE	RARITY*	COUNTRY
YV0--	7/28-8/8	160 – 75cm; ALL(1)	5	Aves Is.
YF0II	8/6-8/15	40 – 10; CW, SSB	3	Vanuatu Is.
OY/H/C	8/30-9/10	??; ??	3	Faroe Is.
3D2EA/R	7/26-8/5	??; ??	4	Rotuma Is.
C56BT	7/29-8/4	40 – 6 ; SSB	3	The Gambia
HI3/KB2MS	7/29-8/15	20 & 6 ; SSB, CW	2	Dom. Republic
NB6A/KH2	8/6-8/8	160 – 6; SSB, RTTY, CW	3	Guam Is.
HI9/DL9MWG	/28-8/16	80 – 10; CW	2	Dom. Republic
SV9/DL6ZFG	7/27-8/8	20; SSB,RTTY	3	Crete Is.
CN2DX	7/12-8/8	6; SSB	3	Morocco
5X2A	8/3-8/21	160 – 40; CW, PSK31	3	Uganda
V47UY	8/21-8/28	160 – 6; SSB, CW	2	Nevis Is.
T6RF	Now-?	80 – 10; PSK31	4	Afghanistan
7P8DA	7/29-8/6	160 – 2 ; ALL (2)	3	Lesotho
3DA0SV	8/7-8/11	160 – 2; All (2)	3	Swaziland
C9IDA	8/12-8/17	160 – 2; All (2)	4	Mozambique

(1) is a major Dxpediton (2) is the “Triple Hop” Dxpediton

* Nr. 5 is the rarest

Thanks to The Daily DX; 425 DX News, W2YC, AA2WN, WA2LET, K2JF

Field Day 2004

By Doug Gehring, WA2NPD

Field Day, 2004, is now history, however, a recap is certainly in order. Overall, as briefly mentioned last month, this year's event was a great success. Chairman Rob, KC2KGM, is to be commended for doing a first class job, and this was just his first try. He must have a pipeline to the Man above, as the weather could not have been better, cool, and only a brief shower on Saturday morning. Our QSO results were as follows:

Band	QSOs	Band Chairmen
80 ssb	233	K2JF/N2WUP
80 cw	572	AB2E
40 ssb	153	WA2LET/N2IMK
40 cw	690	AA2WN/WA2NPD
20 ssb	109	WB2NBJ/K2DAD
20 cw	337	W2YC/WK2W
6 ssb	16	K2JF
2 ssb	20	KC2IGW
432	1	KC2IGW

Total club score (unofficial) was 8860 points, which was considerably better than last years 7588 points. This includes bonus points as well. And this was all done with just 18 operators. Looks like we have a shot at first place for the 9A category!

Perennial club champions, the 40 M CW team, came through again with the big beam performing well as usual. Even so, it was discovered part way through the contest that the beam had a reflector piece and driven element piece swapped which accounted for the abnormally high SWR and non resonant frequency. Considering that the beam assembler had just returned from the red-neck south, he could hardly be blamed for such an oversight. The team of AA2WN, WA2NPD, N2CQ, K2SE, K2HPV, and newcomer W0MHK, performed flawlessly. Bill, W0MHK, did so well that he has already been tapped for next year. The team especially wishes to thank Al, KB2AYU, who, in the absence of Gene, AA2YO, who was cruising on the Blue Danube, climbed the 40 M tower and secured the beam.

80 M CW was jazzed up considerably by the appearance of Darrell, AB2E, after an absence of many years while off to such places as Paraguay. Darrell turned in a Herculean one man effort and finished with the best 80 M CW score in recent club memory. The 20 M CW team initially seemed the team to beat especially considering the home made fish pole beam constructed and assembled by Chris, WK2W. This antenna by far drew the most attention from the assembled multitude and we are wondering when Chris will go into production? Unfortunately, Murphy struck as what was advertised as a 20 M band pass coax filter (to minimize intermod interference) turned out to be a total band filter, attenuating the entire 20 M band! Fortunately, in a stroke of genius, Dave, W2YC, discovered this problem some 6-7 hours into the contest, but too late to otherwise recover and give this A-1 team a winning score. The 40 M SSB crew of Wayne, WA2LET and Gene, N2IMK, et al, improved their score over last year by about 30%, a very FB showing considering the BCI that strikes 40 M SSB at night time. Another fine performance was executed at the 80 M SSB station where John, K2JF and Stu, N2WUP, turned in 233 QSOs, compared to only 96 QSOs last year. Even the 20 M SSB crew, Ray, WB2NBJ, and Bob, K2DAD, surpassed the 101 2003 QSO performance by increasing to 109. Only the VHF/UHF totals were down. This was no reflection on KC2IGW and K2JF, but was due to abnormally poor conditions and a singular lack of participants in the eastern USA.

As we are growing accustomed to a very reliable, steady generator, we are prone to forget that the power source does not just happen. We are fortunate to have our Club President double as a generator technician par excellence. Ray, WB2NBJ, kept the unit running flawlessly throughout the entire 24 hour exercise.

Last, but hardly least, what would FD be without adequate nourishment to sustain the ambitious stalwarts? Fortunately, this year Bill, WA2ADB, Bob, K2DAD, and Wayne, WA2LET, combined to provide really gourmet suste-

nance to the hungry masses. A most welcome "ringer" was brought in on Sunday morning (Wayne's XYL, Pinky) who presided over a really first class breakfast. In addition, Pinky made the potato and macaroni salads served Saturday evening. These folks really provided some of the finest meals ever seen at a GCARC FD. We thank them all and hope they return in 2005.

Again, our thanks to Rob, KC2KGM, who must be given the lion's share of credit for a very FB FD and the good time had by all.

Field Day 2004

By Rob Slippey, KC2KGM

Well Field Day has come and gone and according to my calculations we managed to beat last year's score handily. This year we earned bonus points from the visit by the Harrison Township Mayor, an APRS message sent to Harry at the EOC during the Field Day period, having a public location, and many more. While two meters was very quiet this year, the HF bands seemed to be great for Field Day.

We also had very good weather conditions for Field Day. Sunday was a little warm but the rest of the weekend was great. I would really like to thank the food crew for a job very well done. I ate better at Field Day then I do at home (hi hi). I would love to have them back next year.

I hope everyone enjoyed Field day and I hope to see you all back next year.

Help Needed

The MS-150 bicycle ride from Philadelphia to the shore September 18 and 19 needs help coordinating the event. They need hams to operate from their own vehicles and from ambulances, trucks and busses. They have lots of riders and need lots of help. If you are interested in helping out you can find more information on the event by e-mailing w3publicservice@aol.com.

AMSAT-OSCAR Echo Satellite Launched

A Russian Dnepr LV rocket carrying the AMSAT-OSCAR Echo Amateur Radio satellite, AO-51, launched on schedule June 29 from Baikonur Cosmodrome in Kazakhstan. Ground controllers made their first contact with AO-51 at 1452 UTC.

Jim White, WD0E, of the AO-51 project team reports that an initial analysis of AO-51's telemetry indicates everything is looking good. "The battery, solar panels and temperatures were all as expected," he said. Housekeeping software is uploaded and running.

Earth stations should not attempt to transmit on the satellite's uplink until checkout and commissioning are complete and AO-51 has been made available for general use. White says that won't happen for at least a month. AMSAT will release bulletins when the satellite becomes available.

AO-51's sun-synchronous orbit is some 800 km (nearly 500 miles) above Earth. Among other capabilities, the 10-inch-square microsat--equipped with a transmitter capable of up to 7 W output--will allow voice communication using handheld FM transceivers. AO-51 will feature V/U, L/S and HF/U operational configurations, with V/S, L/U and HF/S also possible. FM voice and various digital modes--including PSK31 on a 10-meter SSB uplink--also will be available.

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

Happy Birthday

Congratulations to the following Club members:

Harry Jackson, WB2GSF 8/26
John Koch, K2CR 8/13
Jim Mollica, K2OWE 8/23
Willie Ustaszski, WA2DUV 8/2



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: 8/23/2004

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-John AA2BN
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)

August Meeting Program

By-Laws Addition
Socializing

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

