

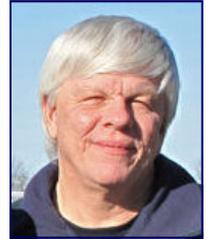
# CROSSTALK

Volume 54 Issue #12

December 2013



## *President's Message*



December is upon us and with it comes the club's holiday dinner party on December 3rd, our general membership meeting on the 4th, the start of winter and the Hanukkah, Christmas and Kwanzaa holidays. 2013 has been a busy year for the club with several noteworthy accomplishments and I'd like to thank the entire membership for making this year such an outstanding success.

Membership increased 20%; we achieved a great Field Day score, our hamfest was another financial success, we changed out the 2 meter repeater, the new trailer was moved into place, construction permits were secured and interior work is now underway. At the current pace, the clubhouse should be completed by next spring.

As most of you know, Bill, W4WCS will be retiring to South Carolina in January. Bill has been a major contributor to the club serving as Trustee and project manager for the new clubhouse. Bill was there when we moved the trailer from the Williamstown FD to the 4-H grounds back in November 2012 all the way through anchoring it in place November 2013 and everything in between and I appreciate his service to the club and wish both he and Betty all the best in their new retirement QTH.

Ray, W2RM has stepped up to the bar and with help of Bill, NJ2S has already hit the ground running relative to continuing the work where Bill has left off. I'm convinced that with this type of leadership, knowledge and support, the clubhouse will be a real showcase for the entire membership to enjoy.

All the nominations are in for the various open club leadership positions for 2014 and beyond and will be voted upon at December's club meeting on December 4<sup>th</sup>. I'm also looking forward to the program on high power radio/TV transmitters and antennas atop tall skyscrapers.

This will be my final President's message and I'd like to take this opportunity to thank the entire membership for allowing me to serve over the past two years which I've thoroughly enjoyed. We have a fantastic club and I'm excited about welcoming the new leadership as they prepare to lead us into 2014 and beyond.

In closing, amateur radio operators celebrate the world in all its glory but it's the warm glow of Christmas' past, old and new friends alike, that hold the fondest memories. From this old shack to yours, Season's Greetings and Happy New Year to you and your families!

73, Tom, KE2ES

## Down Jersey DXing

By Bill Grim, W0MHK

How long will this "second peak" in our present solar cycle last???? No one really knows. But if you did some DXing in November (which is only a little more than half over at this early writing) you have experienced what the power of sunspots can do, especially for above 20 Meters! Two or three years ago I would listen to background noise on especially 10 Meters in the mornings this time of year. Today, I was calling XZ1J in Myanmar, Southeast Asia, on 10CW Long Path for over an hour! I didn't succeed in getting into their logbook, but many W2-landers DID catch this rare one today!

The higher HF bands are open to many difficult to work areas of the world right now for us in Down Jersey. If you have a rotatable, gain antenna remember to check the Long Path to your DX desire to see if reception is improved. In these high solar flux times, the Long Path is the way to an exotic qso. It's basically the opposite heading of the usual stated direction of the DXCC entity. XZ is 10 degrees Short Path and 190 degrees Long Path. Rock your antenna to East and West of these fixed heading as propagation may "skew" the path a number of degrees to either side of your heading. Strange things happen when the sun gets highly active!

With all the DX activity on the bands, be careful not to tune-up or transmit on the DX station's frequency. It is very easy to do in the quest to hurry your calling to the rare one you want. Most major operations will almost always listen UP (sometimes DOWN) to their transmit frequency. If you have to tune up, make sure you are SPLIT and transmitting on a different frequency than the DX station. There is often QRM from intentional "jammers" and everyday qsos near the DX's frequency. Don't add to those problems! And remember, DX clusters don't always mention if the DX station is operating SPLIT.

Speaking of DX clusters, be aware that clusters sometimes give you the WRONG identification of what is on a frequency. You may be thinking you are calling one DX station and in reality it is a different station! LISTEN for the DX station to identify himself as he is working other stations. Be sure you are in the pile-up for the DXCC entity you actually want and need! Unfortunately, sometimes two DX stations pick the same frequency to transmit on since they can't hear one another because of conditions, and the ensuing pile-up is for BOTH DX stations. It's chaotic with stations often not working who they thought they worked!!!!

One other quick tip in these good DX times is to try to work the station you want on the highest possible frequency given equivalency in the antenna you are using. If you need a new DXCC country all-time and he's on 20, 12, and 10 Meters, go to 10 Meters FIRST and see if you can hear and call him. If not, work your way down from 10M to the next lowest band. Your chances of getting through should be enhanced using this strategy. N2GXJ, Jim, found that 10 Meters can mean up to full-quieting FM qsos to Europe above 29.1MHz with an attic dipole. Never underestimate the power of the higher bands when they are open!

Keep plugging away at the DX with whatever time you can spare while we have this exceptional propagation. Solar Flux in the 170-150 range lately has really made the high bands come alive with potential especially for the low power/basic antenna station. Sunset with shortened days is a great time to shake up your routine with some DXing when you get home from most work schedules.

Our DX choices for December have taken a nose-dive compared to November. December is always a less active DXpedition month with all the holidays. But that also leaves many Europeans off to DX with their

*(Continued on page 3)*

*(Continued from "Down Jersey DXing" on page 2)*

more generous vacations days than we have in the USA! See if you can qso some of the following if these "Go-Go" days of DXing continue:

CALL	DATES	HIGHLIGHTS	DIFFICULTY (5=MOST RARE)	ENTITY
T30	11/28 - 12/04	40-10M/CW,SB,TY,DIG	2	West Kiribati Island
3D2	11/29 - 12/04	All Bands/CW,SB,TY	2	Fiji
XV2LRR	11/29 - 12/14	40-10M/CW,SSB	4	Vietnam
J6	12/01 - 12/09	160-10M/CW,SB,DIG	1	Saint Lucia
T32RC	12/04 - 12/11	160-10M/CW,TY,SB	2	East Kiribati Island
V63XG	12/04 - 12/12	160-10M/CW,TY,SB	3	Micronesia
E6RQ	12/07 - 12/17	(Formerly ZK2)	2	Niue
6W	12/08 - 12/14	(AA1AC = OP)	1	Senegal
8P8T	12/09 - 12/16	(Also in ARRL 10M Test)	1	Barbados
H40FN	12/21 - 01/10	Most Bands/Modes	2	Temotu

**Credits : NG3K ADXO**



## Special Guest Speaker for the Club Meeting, Wednesday, December 4, 2013

By Jim Wright, N2GXJ

Following the officer elections at our December club meeting, it is our great honor to welcome Dean Sargent (W2CGZ) as our special guest speaker for the evening. An IEEE life member, Mr. Sargent serves as president of D. W. Sargent Broadcast Service; a company specialized in transmitter and antenna services and measurements primarily for the television industry. Examples of high interference areas where the company has operated from include the top of the Sears Tower in Chicago, Mount Sutro, the Empire State Building, and the top of the World Trade Center before 9/11. We hope you can make it out to this December's meeting for this most interesting presentation.





## Look, Up in the sky....

By Cory Sickles, WA3UVV

Following along with last month's piece about Wallops Flight Facility (WFF) and the Mid Atlantic Regional Spaceport (MARS) – the latter of which sounds like something from a futuristic sci-fi movie – there's even more to see. <http://marsspaceport.com>

In November, clear skies gave many of us a beautiful view of a Minotaur I launch that delivered a mini-constellation of birds, including about a dozen related to amateur radio. Although the primary payload was military, there's apparently lots of room in a Minotaur for 9" cubes. On or about the 15<sup>th</sup> of December, an ISS resupply mission will be flown. Here's yet another chance to see another rocket ascend into space.



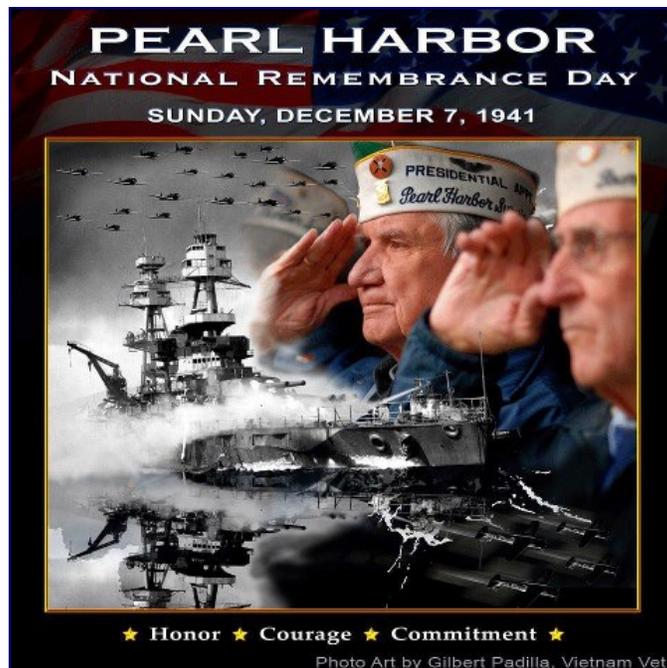
After noticing that I could hear the rocket motors running while watching the LADEE launch at Cape May, I thought about seeing if I could hear anything from home. With a "shotgun" microphone pointed at the sky, I think I did hear that distinctive sound, until a jet came into range and overwhelmed it. I'm going to try making a parabolic mike mount and see if I can do better in the future.

MARS has a fairly regular schedule of launches ahead for 2014, so keep looking and listening.



In other space news, AMSAT UK successfully deployed FUNcube-1, (covered in the November 2013 issue of CQ magazine) giving hams yet another way to experiment with satellite communications. In 2014, they plan to launch the first D-STAR satellite. Although the first D-STAR QSO was already accomplished in July of 2007 on AO-27, this will be the first bird designed specifically for D-STAR cult members.

During the next year, we'll have a program on satellite operation and the fun things you can do – starting with a dual-band radio and simple antenna. Stay tuned!



## Club leadership office terms that will expire on December 31, 2013:

President : Tom Gorman, KE2ES Vice President : Jim Wright, N2GXJ Treasurer : Al Arrison, KB2AYU Recording Secretary: Sheldon Parker, K2MEN Corresponding Secretary : Cory Sickles, WA3UVV	Director : Art Strong, K2AWS Director : Gary Mirkin, WA3SVW Trustee : Steve Blasko, W2TDS
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## Candidates nominated for election at the December 4, 2013 Meeting:

President : Jim Wright, N2GXJ Vice President : Cory Sickles, WA3UVV Treasurer : Al Arrison, KB2AYU Recording Secretary: Sheldon Parker, K2MEN Corresponding Secretary : Bart Conrad, KC2WVP	Director : John Zaruba Jr, K2ZA Director : Dan Tremolini, N2TXG Trustee : Brian Jones, KD2BXD
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Frostfest 2014 is approaching! It will be held on Saturday, February 1, 2014 at the Richmond Raceway Complex, from 8:30AM until 3:30PM.

We are looking forward to a great hamfest with manufacturers' representatives, new radio dealers, accessory dealers, and many, many tables filled with amateur radio equipment of all descriptions. There will be VE Testing, forums and meetings, and much, much more.

Our Grand Prize is \$1,000 in Frostfest Buck\$. Also, Early Bird ticket holders will be able to enter at 8AM, 30 minutes before General Admission starts!

For more details, ticket and table online purchases, please go to : <http://www.frostfest.com>.

Plan on joining us for Frostfest 2014. Frostfest is sponsored by the Richmond Amateur Telecommunications Society

## Welcome New Club Members:

Mark Gottlieb KD2EUZ, who holds a Technician class license and lives in Williamstown, NJ.  
Jeffrey Griffin KB2M, who holds an Amateur Extra class license and lives in Ocean View, NJ.  
Neil Nickerson KD2DOO, who holds an General class license and lives in Williamstown, NJ.  
Jerry Marinacci KE2CK, who holds a Advanced class license and lives in Minotola, NJ.

We are glad to have you as members of the Club and hope to see you regularly at Club functions and meetings.



## Some Random Stuff

By Cory Sickles, WA3UVV

Do you have problems identifying cables related to your computer system(s) or ham station? Well, if you're tired of all those black power cords, you can find them in bright colors from [www.TotalCableSolutions.com](http://www.TotalCableSolutions.com) as well as some Ethernet and other alternatives.

Of course, you could use colored electrical tape (Scotch produces a line) at each end of a cable to define its source and destination. For example, one labeled with red, gray and brown tape could tell you that it was for your Kenwood TM-281, using the EIA color code. You can get a complete set of colors at most electrical supply distributors.



Are you looking for the least expensive way to join the Cult of D-STAR? Ham Radio Outlet has the ICOM IC-80AD at closeout pricing for \$359 and they're SOWG. The IC-80AD doesn't have all the features of the most recent models, but it is a good way to join in on the digital fun. If you crave the latest tech instead, the ICOM ID-51A is on sale for \$499. With it, you get some spiffy new features, including built-in GPS, which is nice for finding nearby repeaters when you travel (like I do).

Also, the next time you're at HRO, check out the LiteFlare emergency flashers. A safer and more modern alternative to igniting disposable flares (ESPECIALLY AT ACCIDENTS WHERE FUEL MAY BE LEAKING), they're relatively inexpensive, durable and come in handy for side-of-the-road repairs, accident assistance or public service events.



Also, while Dave Benson has gone into "official retirement", his popular RockMite QRPp transceivers have been given a slight upgrade and are now available from Rex Harper, WIREX, at [www.QRPme.com](http://www.QRPme.com). For \$40 and an evening with a soldering iron, it's possibly the most fun you can have with a straight key.

I hope everyone had an enjoyable Thanksgiving and Hanukkah (where applicable) and has a great Christmas (or other holiday of your choosing), plus a wonderful New Year.



## Pictorial Club Directory

By Jim Wright, N2GXJ

As first introduced in the October Crosstalk, as the club continues to grow, we're looking to create a pictorial club directory listing to make it easier for members to get to know each other better. Basically, we're looking to supplement the existing spreadsheet database of names and call-signs with a small "thumbnail" face picture to go along with the existing contact information.

To make this directory happen, we need your help. If you did not have your picture taken at our October club meeting, you may forward your own head-shot picture direct to Cory Sickles, [wa3uvv@arrl.net](mailto:wa3uvv@arrl.net), our volunteer photographer. Just mark "for GCARC pictorial directory" in the subject line of the email, with your name and "jpg" format picture attached. If you've got a picture, but it is not a head-shot, send it in anyway.

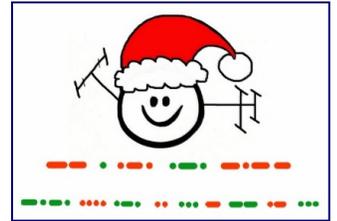
We're just looking to end up with a thumbnail size picture, so we can "crop" it for you.

So please get your pictures in to Cory as soon as you can. With your help, we hope to have the first issue of our pictorial directory delivered via email to all club members in January of 2014.



## Morse Code Night

By Jim Wright, N2GXJ



What do “Pi”, “Donkeys, Monkeys, Turkeys”, “Hubble, Hubble, Hubble”, and “Pilgrims” all have in common? Well, if you were at the November club meeting, you would recognize those as the multiple choice answers to the Thanksgiving-themed questions that were asked, at increasing speed, at the entry level of our competition. For those who missed it, the questions were “Radius of a pumpkin?”, “What 3 animals have keys?”, “What sound does a space turkey make?”, and “If April showers bring May flowers, what do May flowers bring?” (yea, I know. You had to be there)

In a remarkable demonstration of skill, several club members were able to distinguish themselves by making it through the club member call sign challenge, and break into the stratosphere realm of 38+ words per minute. As correctly copied during the final competition, if you can stay calm while all around you is chaos, then you probably have not completely understood the situation.

As Cory described during the introduction, more and more Hams who entered the ranks of Amateur Radio without learning code are now starting to pick it up. After the November meeting, I’m getting a feeling as to why. You could sense the pride and fun that my fellow club members with some CW skills were having at the meeting. And so many were willing to share lessons they learned the hard way, with others who share in their passion for the code. Perhaps you picked up a few tips from the experts that will be useful going forward? Perhaps you’ve been zapped by the “spark” to get you to the next level? After all, straight key night is almost here, and after that, our next field day isn’t that far away either (hint hint).



## GCARC Holiday Dinner Party

By Jim Wright, N2GXJ

Don’t forget the GCARC holiday dinner party is Tuesday night, December 3 (the night before our regularly scheduled club meeting), starting at 6:30pm. Location is the Venice Italian Eatery, 68 South Broadway, Pitman (at the corner of 2nd street). There is parking behind the stores between 2nd and 1st avenues, and more just a short one block walk away from the train station at Ballard Park, just on the other side of Pitman Ave, as well as street parking along Broadway. If questions, please contact Phyllis Martin (W2PDB), as listed in your copy of our club member roster spreadsheet.



This site is dedicated to the memory of Bill Hunsinger, KB2YJB-SK

# Gloucester City Amateur Radio Club

## NJ2GC



Dwell on the Beauty of the Journey through Amateur Radio rather than the Destination.....

Winner of the Gloucester City Silver Eagle Mike Award for Communications Excellence - 2012

### Gloucester City Hamfest, Saturday, February 15, 2014



## A Ham's Christmas

Twas the night before Christmas and all thru the ham shack,  
Was the warm glow of the tubes in the transmitter rack.  
The log-book was brought up to date with great care,  
In case the FCC would soon be there.  
The XYL and harmonics were snug in their beds,  
(no Tennessee Valley Indians to addle their heads).  
I plugged in my mike and the new VFO,  
Getting all set for a nice QSO.  
When from the relays, there rose such a clatter,  
I yanked the big switch to see what was the matter.  
Then up on the roof from my 10 meter beam,  
There came QRM with plenty of steam:  
"On W2, On W6, On KH6 and DL4,  
Bias to the grid and volts to the plate,  
Just watch the meter while we modulate."  
As I turned to the rig and reached for the dial,  
From the antenna, slid Santa with a great big smile.  
An RF choke he held tight in his teeth,  
A bundle of ham gear he had flung on his back,  
Was that my name on that new power pack?  
He had a stub nose like an egg insulator,  
His cheeks glowed bright like a hot oscillator.  
He spoke not a word, but went straight to his work.  
Laying out all the gear, then turned with a jerk,  
And laying a wavemeter alongside his nose,  
Said " Please QSL" and up the feeders he rose.  
He climbed up the dipole, to his team he gave a whistle,  
And away they all flew like a jet propelled missile,  
But I heard his signal bounce off the ionosphere,  
"Seventy Three, Eighty Eight and a Merry Christmas to all.

With Apologies,  
Ray Gianchetti, WA2CUB

*First Published - December 1959 Crosstalk*



## **Club House Update - Thursday, November 21, 2013**

**By Ray Martin, W2RM**

Well we had a couple of good days completed. Tuesday and Wednesday 99% of the electrical circuits have been identified and repaired. Bill Price NJ2S brought two of his workers out and between all 4 of us a lot of work got done. Besides the electrical work the burglar and smoke alarms have been wired, the cables for the cameras have been installed, the exit signs are now working, a relay rack has been brought in and I brought in another temporary electrical heater which took the bite out of the open rooms, so we have temporary small heaters, and we had a Board of Directors meeting there Wednesday night in the HF operating room.

Today the trailer got blocked and leveled and the hold-downs have been drilled into the ground. We hired three guys that have done a lot of work for me and Bill Price. They did an outstanding job installing all of the blocks that were necessary for the leveling of the trailer. Bill borrowed an auger that worked flawlessly and N2RO Ed Champion stopped by and helped Bill Price auger them into the ground. A few of the tie downs have been assembled and there still is about 14 more that have to be attached. The interior windows on the West (front side - where the tow hitch is) of the trailer were removed and insulation has been put in their place. A sheet of new paneling will be put on that wall and new siding will be put on the front to cover up where the windows were. Pictures to follow..

The telephone pole in the middle of the property fell down today due to termites and age-rot. Thank goodness nobody was around when it came down. One less to worry about - and the others are in the same shape so watch where you park!!!

NOTE: This is all being done at the lowest prices possible so if any of the powers to be have any questions you know who to call. Donated materials are being put to good use. After Bill and myself finish installing the tie downs we will get down to some interior work, this is where the rest of the volunteers will come into play. Work party follows shortly.

SO: Get those hammers, circular saws and hand tools ready as we have to put up one wall for the VHF room soon.

Insulation has to be installed which won't take too long to do after that wall and electrical circuits are installed.

Tomorrow I will be waiting for the construction officer to contact me so I can meet him out there to see if there are any items that need to be addressed in what we are doing. The goal right now is to get the Certificate of Occupancy in hand.

### **Sunday, November 24, 2013 Update:**

Replaced main electric box with new one which has 22 circuit breakers, ran a 220 volt ac line and ran new 120 volts to VHF room receptacles. installed sub panel in HF room. Materials supplied by Bill Price NJ2S

Installed insulation in floor and walls and ceiling where needed in old kitchen area. Covered floor temporarily with plywood so no one falls through floor.. Also to keep the heat in...

*(Continued on page 10)*

*(Continued from page 9)*

Installed 8 foot electric baseboard heater unit in front of big window in the main room which is now working. I tore out the old main electric box and Bill put in the new one.

Thanks to the following:

Bill Price NJ2S for coming out today and bringing two of his electricians to work today at the site and supplying the new main electric box. He paid his 2 electricians overtime for their services today.

Thanks to Joe DiNovi for supplying some plywood, 2 by 4's and some insulation which I went and picked up today and used.

Thanks to Jim Quinn KD2JEQ for coming out to help with the work today.

I supplied a ceiling fan with lights that will be installed as time permits and I supplied a 1000 foot roll of twelve two electric Romex to use where needed until job is finished.

More updates as the situation addresses itself. 73's Ray W2RM

## **Holiday Dinner Update**

**By Phyllis Martin, W2PDB**

Date: Tuesday, December 3, 2013

Location: **Venice of Pitman**

**68 South Broadway  
Pitman, NJ**

Time: 6:30 PM

Price:\$20.00 Per person

BYOB, but Ray Martin(W2RM) is supplying a case of wine, mostly sweet and dry.

Club Members and a guest are welcome.

Dinner and short program from 7-9 PM

Menu choices are:

- **Baked Stuffed Shells**
- **Chicken Parmigiana**
- **Sausage and Peppers**
- **Linguine Alfredo**
- **Vegetarian Dish (will confirm exactly tba)**
- **Checking on a dessert.**

Stay until the end for a surprise.

Contact Phyllis, W2PDB) (faith90@comcast.net), or Ray, W2RM 856-694-0005.

Looking forward to a nice evening of breaking bread, socializing with friends, and relaxing, before the holidays nip at our toes.



**The Pitman Room at Venice**  
CATERING • BANQUETS • EVENTS

**Book Your Next Party In Our Brand New Pitman Room!**



**CALL NOW TO RESERVE YOUR DATE!**

*The Original Venice*  
68 S Broadway  
Pitman, NJ 08071  
**(856) 582-0770**

## ARRL 2013 Field Day Results for the Gloucester County Amateur Radio Club

	<b>2013</b>	<b>Rank</b>		<b>Total #</b>
<b>Score</b>	<b>11,368</b>	<b>#27</b>	<b>out of</b>	<b>2,547</b>
<b>Category</b>	<b>11A</b>	<b>#1</b>	<b>out of</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>QSOs</b>	<b>2,937</b>			
<b>Power Mult</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>#21</b>	<b>out of</b>	<b>2,149</b>
<b>Section</b>	<b>SNJ</b>	<b>#2</b>	<b>out of</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>Division</b>	<b>AT</b>	<b>#4</b>	<b>out of</b>	<b>252</b>
<b>Participants</b>	<b>35</b>			

<b>CQ Worldwide DX Contest, SSB : October 26 - 27, 2013</b>	<b>ARRL Sweepstakes Contest, SSB : November 16 - 18, 2013</b>																																				
<p>Call: W2KRD Operator(s): W2KRD Station: W2KRD</p> <p>Class: SOAB Classic LP QTH: NJ Operating Time (hrs): Location: USA</p> <p>Summary: Compare Scores Band QSOs Zones Countries</p> <hr/> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><td>160:</td><td style="text-align: center;">0</td><td style="text-align: center;">0</td><td style="text-align: center;">0</td></tr> <tr><td>80:</td><td style="text-align: center;">8</td><td style="text-align: center;">5</td><td style="text-align: center;">3</td></tr> <tr><td>40:</td><td style="text-align: center;">13</td><td style="text-align: center;">5</td><td style="text-align: center;">10</td></tr> <tr><td>20:</td><td style="text-align: center;">44</td><td style="text-align: center;">12</td><td style="text-align: center;">31</td></tr> <tr><td>15:</td><td style="text-align: center;">4</td><td style="text-align: center;">4</td><td style="text-align: center;">4</td></tr> <tr><td>10:</td><td style="text-align: center;">6</td><td style="text-align: center;">5</td><td style="text-align: center;">6</td></tr> </table> <hr/> <p>Total: 75 31 54 Total Score = 16,320</p> <p>Club: Gloucester County Amateur Radio Club</p>	160:	0	0	0	80:	8	5	3	40:	13	5	10	20:	44	12	31	15:	4	4	4	10:	6	5	6	<p>Call: WA2LET Operator(s): KE2ES, N2CQ, WA2LET, WB2P Station: WA2LET</p> <p>Class: Multi-Op LP QTH: SNJ Operating Time (hrs): 17</p> <p>Summary: Compare Scores Band QSOs</p> <hr/> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><td>160:</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>80:</td><td style="text-align: center;">83</td></tr> <tr><td>40:</td><td style="text-align: center;">50</td></tr> <tr><td>20:</td><td style="text-align: center;">77</td></tr> <tr><td>15:</td><td style="text-align: center;">8</td></tr> <tr><td>10:</td><td style="text-align: center;">38</td></tr> </table> <hr/> <p>Total: 256    Sections = 82    Total Score = 41,984</p> <p>Club: Gloucester County Amateur Radio Club</p> <p>Comments:</p>	160:		80:	83	40:	50	20:	77	15:	8	10:	38
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## Local News

Congratulations :

Kenny Denson, new callsign is WB2P (exW2KRD).

Bill Szkromiuk, new callsign is W4WCS (exN2VIL).

Congratulations to Art Strong, K2AWS for being elected to Life Member of the ARRL on October 5, 2013.

Monroe Township : Tree Lighting Ceremony, Saturday, December 7, 2013 @ 6:00 pm. Main Street in Williamstown, NJ. Open house tours of the Ireland-Hofer House, "N" Gauge train display, Thomas The Train, and vintage trains. Hosted by the Monroe Township Historical Society dedicated volunteers.

Monroe Township : Hall Street School - Open house and garden model trains, December 14, 2013 from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm. Main and Hall Streets, Williamstown, NJ. "G" gauge garden trains, Christmas trains, and HO train with town as it was 100 years ago in miniature. Return to those Happys Days when you were a kid. Come and find the Christmas Spirit.

## GCARC@mailman.qth.net e-mail reflector guidelines

- Do not send attachments (attached files, such as pictures) of any sort to mailing lists.
- If you have club-related pictures that you would like to share, you can send them to the webmaster, he will put them on the website and he will send out a general e-mail to all the members.
- Otherwise, the pictures will have to be sent to the members' addresses.
- Do not send any addresses to BCC (Blind Carbon Copy). Use only the **To:** or **CC:** fields.
- Whenever a message sent to GCARC@MAILMAN.QTH.NET is rejected or **bounced** for various reasons, the administrator (**yours truly**) has to log-in to the Mailman.QTH website and approve the message.
- FYI...If you use Comcast e-mail, you are limited to 100 addresses per message.

For more information about the e-mail reflector, goto : [www.mailman.qth.net](http://www.mailman.qth.net)



## Contest Calendar

For more information on the contests, please go to the WA7BNM Contest Calendar website:  
<http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/>

### December 2013

+ SARL Digital Contest	1300Z-1600Z, Dec 1
+ ARS Spartan Sprint	0200Z-0400Z, Dec 3
+ NRAU 10m Activity Contest	1800Z-1900Z, Dec 5 (CW) and 1900Z-2000Z, Dec 5 (SSB) and 2000Z-2100Z, Dec 5 (FM) and 2100Z-2200Z, Dec 5 (Dig)
+ NCCC Sprint	0230Z-0300Z, Dec 6
+ ARRL 160-Meter Contest	2200Z, Dec 6 to 1600Z, Dec 8
+ TARA RTTY Melee	0000Z-2400Z, Dec 7
+ Wake-Up! QRP Sprint	0600Z-0629Z, Dec 7 and 0630Z-0659Z, Dec 7 and 0700Z-0729Z, Dec 7 and 0730Z-0800Z, Dec 7
+ SKCC Weekend Sprintathon	1200Z, Dec 7 to 2400Z, Dec 8
+ TOPS Activity Contest	1600Z, Dec 7 to 1559Z, Dec 8
+ EPC Ukraine DX Contest	2000Z, Dec 7 to 1959Z, Dec 8
+ AWA Bruce Kelley Memorial CW Contest	2300Z, Dec 7 to 2300Z, Dec 8 and 2300Z, Dec 14 to 2300Z, Dec 15
+ Ten-Meter RTTY Contest	0000Z-2400Z, Dec 8
+ NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint	0130Z-0330Z, Dec 11
+ CWops Mini-CWT Test	1300Z-1400Z, Dec 11 and 1900Z-2000Z, Dec 11 and 0300Z-0400Z, Dec 12
+ NCCC Sprint	0230Z-0300Z, Dec 13
+ ARRL 10-Meter Contest	0000Z, Dec 14 to 2400Z, Dec 15
+ Run for the Bacon QRP Contest	0200Z-0400Z, Dec 16
+ NAQCC-EU Monthly Sprint	1800Z-2000Z, Dec 16
+ NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint	0130Z-0330Z, Dec 18
+ NCCC Sprint	0230Z-0300Z, Dec 20
+ AGB-Party Contest	2100Z-2400Z, Dec 20
+ Feld Hell Sprint	0000Z-2359Z, Dec 21
+ OK DX RTTY Contest	0000Z-2400Z, Dec 21
+ Croatian CW Contest	1400Z, Dec 21 to 1400Z, Dec 22
+ ARRL Rookie Roundup, CW	1800Z-2359Z, Dec 22
+ SKCC Sprint	0000Z-0200Z, Dec 25
+ DARC Christmas Contest	0830Z-1059Z, Dec 26
+ NCCC Sprint	0230Z-0300Z, Dec 27
+ RAC Winter Contest	0000Z-2359Z, Dec 28
+ Stew Perry Topband Challenge	1500Z, Dec 28 to 1500Z, Dec 29
+ Original QRP Contest	1500Z, Dec 28 to 1500Z, Dec 29
+ RAEM Contest	0000Z-1159Z, Dec 29

## December Birthdays

Congratulations to these members celebrating birthdays this month :

**Bart Conrad KC2WVP**  
**Tom Gorman KE2ES**  
**William Grim Jr W0MHK**  
**Gary Mirkin WA3SVW**  
**Sheldon Parker K2MEN**  
**William Robinson KD2ANM**  
**Wayne Welsh WA2VOY**

**Arthur Goldman K3WIN (SK)**  
**James Peck W2LVW (SK)**  
**Norman Williams W2SPN (SK)**



## Crosstalk Submissions

This is your Club newsletter. Make use of it.  
Feel free to contribute general interest articles and ideas for articles.

All submissions, queries, comments and editorials should be addressed to Jeffrey Garth KC2WCS at [jeff.garth@comcast.net](mailto:jeff.garth@comcast.net).

**Submission deadline for the  
January issue: Saturday, December 21,  
2013**

### Club Website

<http://www.w2mmd.org>

### Club E-Mail Reflector:

[gcarc@mailman.qth.net](mailto:gcarc@mailman.qth.net)

#### **2013 Club Officers - 1 year term**

**President : Tom Gorman, KE2ES**  
**Vice President : Jim Wright, N2GXJ**  
**Treasurer : Al Arrison, KB2AYU**

**Recording Secretary : Sheldon Parker, K2MEN**  
**Corresponding Secretary : Cory Sickles, WA3UVV**

#### **Board of Directors - 3 year term**

**Art Strong, K2AWS (2011-2014)**  
**Chuck Colabrese, WA2TML (2012-2015)**  
**Mark Townsend, W2OCY (2013-2016)**

**Gary Mirkin, WA3SVW (2011-2014)**  
**Dave MacDonald, WB3JOY (2012-2015)**  
**Jeffrey Garth, KC2WCS (2013-2016)**

#### **Trustees - 4 year term**

**Steve Blasko, W2TDS (2010-2014)**  
**Martin Wilt, W2ILT (2012-2016)**

**Ray Schnapp, WB2NBJ (2011-2015)**  
**Bill Szkromiuk, W4WCS (2013-2017)**

### Committees

**ARES/RACES : Joe, KC2PHM**  
**Awards : Kenny, WB2P**  
**Budget : Al, KB2AYU**  
**Club House Site : Al, KB2AYU**  
**Club License Trustee : Darrell, AB2E**  
**Constitution : Adan, KC2YJX**  
**Contests : Kenny, WB2P**  
**Crosstalk Editor : Jeff, KC2WCS**  
**Database : Ken, N2CQ**  
**DX : Bill, W0MHK**  
**Field Day : Mark/Kyle, W2OCY/W2KBT**  
**Hamfest Contact : Cory, WA3UVV**  
**Historian : Art, K2AWS**

**Hospitality : Dave, WB3JOY**  
**Membership : Cory/Ray, WA3UVV/WB2NBJ**  
**New Club Trailer Project : Bill, W4WCS**  
**Nominations : Tom, KE2ES**  
**Programs : Jim, N2GXJ**  
**Publicity : Cory, WA3UVV**  
**Repeaters : Tom, KE2ES**  
**4H Liaison : Cory, WA3UVV**  
**Special Services : Darrell, AB2E**  
**Sunshine : Ray, W2RM**  
**Technical/TVI : Cory, WA3UVV**  
**VEC Testing : Gary, N2QEE**  
**Webmaster : Jeff, KC2WCS**

### The W2MMD Repeaters

Output: 147.180 MHz  
Input: 147.780 MHz  
Offset: +600 KHz  
PL Tone: 131.8 Hz

Output: 442.100 MHz  
Input: 447.100 MHz  
Offset: +5.0 MHz  
PL Tone: 167.9 Hz

Output: 1284.400 MHz  
Input: 1272.400 MHz  
Offset: -12.0 MHz  
PL Tone: None

The above 3 repeaters are all  
located in Pitman, NJ  
GPS: 39.728481°, -75.131088°

Output: 224.660 MHz  
Input: 223.060 MHz  
Offset: -1.6 MHz  
PL Tone: 131.8  
Location: Sewell, NJ  
GPS: 39.781382°, -75.099963°

### Nets

**GCARC 2M Ragchew Net**  
Thursday, December 19, 2013  
20:00 Hrs  
147.180+ MHz (PL131.8Hz)

**ARES/RACES**  
Sunday 20:00 Hrs  
(147.180 and  
224.660  
repeaters)

### GCARC Meetings

#### **General Membership**

19:30 Hrs, Wednesday, December 4, 2013  
Pfeiffer Community Center  
Williamstown, NJ

#### **Board of Directors**

19:00 Hrs, Wednesday, December 18, 2013  
GCARC Club Palace  
Harrison Twp. 4H Fairgrounds  
1 mile south of Mullica Hill on RT77

### Club Meeting Program

**December 4, 2013**

**Dean Sargent, W2CGZ**

**GCARC Holiday Dinner Party**  
**December 3, 2013**

**GCARC 11:00 AM Brunch**  
**Every Friday @**  
**The Seven Star Diner**  
**1890 Hurffville Road, Sewell, NJ**