



## *Presidents Message*

Your scribe is suffering from a horrible cold, hence, I hope this write-up is not too full of holes and errors. I am relying on our Editor to make any corrections.

We had a busy Board of Directors meeting this month with a number of topics up for discussion. First off, the Budget Committee (Steve, W2TDS, and Ken, K2CQ,) presented their budget for 2009 and the Board voted to recommend approval by the membership at the February 4<sup>th</sup> Club meeting.. It was noted that our overall bank balance for 2008 had dropped below that of the ending balance for 2007, but the drop was much smaller than in previous years. This is a tribute to the conservative management of our funds by our Treasurer, et al. Maybe our Federal Government could use some of the money management advice from our financial wizards at GCARC.

The big news for this coming year is that this is the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary year of our existence! It should be noted that we still have two club members on our roster who were charter members of the Club, namely, Charley, K2PQD, and Art Goldman, K3WIN. Charlie still lives locally and Art lives in Maryland. Art is Milt Goldman's (K3WIL) son, and, years ago, Milt took out life memberships for himself and Art. Milt has since passed on and I don't believe Art has ever attended a Club meeting. Maybe someday he will surprise us all by putting in an appearance. Several ideas were discussed for our celebration including a much larger Hamfest, a club Field Day with special QSL cards, a picnic, and exhibits at the local Mall. Hopefully, we will narrow this down in the next month or two.

Thanks to Publicity Chairman Cory, WA3UVV, we have been given permission to set-up a club DTV table in the County Store at the Mall over the weekend of Friday and Saturday, January 30 and 31. The idea is to assist the public with answers to questions regarding the upcoming switchover to digital TV. Hopefully we will also be able to talk up our Club with interested folks. Cory is handling the arrangements, but needs volunteers (4 hr. Shifts) to man the booth. Please contact Cory to get your preferred time slot. Don't wait, this affair is almost upon us.

Another important recommendation to be offered by the Board is to authorize the expenditure of a maximum of two thousand dollars to complete the VHF tower installation at the Club site. This includes the necessary antennas, rotator, cables, etc. It is hoped that club members will donate some of these items to offset this cost. Al, KB2AYU, is spearheading this effort.

Lastly, but far from least, the ARRL has announced the creation of a new award, dubbed the "Triple Hitter" Award. A beautiful plaque awaits any ham who works all 50 states on CW, RTTY, and Phone with confirmation via LoTW. All contacts must be made after January 1, 2009. Well, lo and behold, none Please see "President's Message" on Page 3.

# Down Jersey DXing

By Bill Grim, W0MHK

How many of our club members will work the KP5 DXpedition to Desecheo Island this month from February 12 to February 26? It's an interesting question for our Club meeting in March! Since GCARC has contributed to the trip, let's see if we can maximize our members' success at working this rare, but relatively close, DXCC entity. Desecheo is about 1500 miles from Down Jersey which is about equivalent to the distance between us and Denver, Colorado. No one lives on the island, and it has been quite difficult to get permission from the Federal Government to DX there due to its wildlife sanctuary status. You will need to point your directional antenna (if you have one) at 157 degrees for Desecheo with its location being about 12 miles off the west coast of Puerto Rico. The effort will be comprised of 15 operators, 6-8 stations, and promised activity on 160-6 Meters with many modes represented. To this date, no call sign has been assigned.

Here are some Hints and Kinks for working this one:

1. They will be operating "split" for probably all their on-the-air time. Please do not call on their transmit frequency. Listen for the operator's instructions where to call and/or check your favorite DX cluster for a good frequency to get through.
2. Be sure to check if the KP5 is working a specific area of the world only! KP5 was recently ranked as the third most wanted DXCC entity in Europe and second most wanted in Asia!
3. "Fresh" operators are scheduled to arrive for the last week of operation on the island. Some new ops might enhance your chances of getting that rare mode or band QSO!
4. Check out their website at [www.kp5.us](http://www.kp5.us) for more information on the on-going effort. (At the time of this writing the website was temporarily down).
5. QSL via N200. Follow any particular website instructions on this matter also.

Finally, here are some "best times" in Eastern Standard Time (not GMT) for propagation to KP5 from East Coast USA:

6/10/12 Meters - 10Am-3PM EST. (6 Meters will be a especially difficult except for our W4 friends in the southern US for this time of year). Watch for Solar Flux reading over 70 for better chances at 10 and 12 Meters.

15 Meters - Peak times are 12Noon-4PM EST. Could be generally workable from mid-morning to before sunset.

20 Meters - Peak times 8AM-9AM EST and 5PM-6PM EST. But qsos will be very possible for hours either side of the peaks!

40 Meters - Peak times 7PM-9PM EST and 3AM-5AM EST. QSOs should be possible during many hours of darkness.

80 Meters - Peak times 9PM-4AM EST. QSOs possible for an hour or 2 either side of peaks.

160 Meters - Peak times 3AM-5AM EST. QSO's possible from sunset to sunrise.

FOR 17M and 30M - Try interpolating between 15M/20M peaks and 20M/40M peaks. Please see "DX" on Page 3.

## “President’s Message” from Page 1 continued

other than Dave, W2YC, one of our more prolific and active hams, has already submitted his contacts for this award and the League has notified Dave that he is the first in the WORLD to earn this award! Congratulations are certainly in order here. What a high note to end on!

73 de Doug, WA2NPD

## “DX” from Page 2 continued

For other DX possibilities in February, try the following:

Station	Dates	FQ/Modes	Rarity	Entity
5H1DF	2/3-2/12	160/10-CW/SB	2	Tanzania
OR3AX	2/9-3/10	-	2	Antarctica
3D2	2/11-2/16	160/10-CW/SB/TTY	2	Fiji
T2	2/17-3/2	160/10-CW/SB/TTY	3	Tuvalu
S79JF	2/22-3/6	40/10-CW/SB/RTTY	2	Seychelles
SV9	2/24-3/17	CW/SSB	2	Crete
VP2M	2/25-3/7	CW/SSB/RTTY	1	Montserrat
FH	2/26-3/5	80/10- MOSTLY CW	3	Mayotte

#5 is Most Difficult

Credits: NG3K ADXO & KP5 News Releases

## Welcome New Member

This month the Club welcomes new member Phyllis Scapellato, W2PDB. Phyllis lives in Franklinville. We welcome Phyllis to the Club and hope to see her at meetings regularly.

## Going Mobile

By Cory Sickles, Wa3UVV

Once upon a time, automobiles had all-metal dashboards with lots of knobs sticking out, bench seats, and lots of legroom and space. There were no airbags, seatbelts, headrests or air conditioning. There weren't half a dozen or more cup holders built in, either. Car radios “warmed up” and were AM-band only.

If you wanted to enjoy ham radio while mobile, you needed a big and loud power supply in the trunk and heavy cables, but there was certainly room for a transceiver under the center of your DeSoto's dashboard.

There was a time when hams built 160 meter AM transmitters and pulled the slugs in the car radio to cover part of the band. Not much DX was going on, but lots of folks enjoyed local contacts. Later, 75 and 40 meter rigs were pressed into service. Instead of modifying the car radio, receive converters were pressed into service. Remember, it was still an AM world. OK, ok, there were some of you (and still are) running around CW mobile...

The introduction and acceptance of SSB brought about transceivers. They were still fairly big, but there was still room under the dash. Do you remember the Swan and Heathkit Single-Banders? Interest in local communications over VHF brought about smaller radios like the “Lunchbox” and “Gooneybox” for 6 and 2 meters. Then FM appeared on the scene and we all ended up going crazy for 2 meters.

Everyone had to have one. First they were converted surplus, then 3, 6 and 12 channel crystal-controlled rigs appeared, then synthesized gear and, well, you know the rest. I don't think it's a stretch to think that every ham in this country has at least one 2 meter rig. How many of us have more? Home, mobile, handheld, a dual-bander, multi-mode, one for APRS, how many do you have?

For some time, we have been a hobby where the first rig for a new ham is, yes, 2 meter FM. How many are missing out on the HF experience? That's what many of us would call “real” ham radio. True, dashboards have less to no “blank space” and many essentially wrap around us and form in between the seats. (Glad I had girlfriends and those bench seats in my Road Runner and W-30 in the 70's...)

But the HF rigs of today are smaller with even smaller removable control heads and some cover 1.8 to 440 MHz. The antennas may be a bit bigger and bang into the occasional low-hanging branch, but maybe that's part of the fun. Even if yours is older and a bit bigger, it's not that difficult to put together a way of having it secured on the front passenger seat. With the auto-tuners of today, you don't have to be distracted while tuning your antenna.

Besides, there are still some thrills out there waiting for you as you talk to someone in a different state, country or continent while sitting in traffic. Plus, even with the lack of sunspots, there's a higher probability of raising someone during the day on 15 meters than on our own .18 repeater...

## 4H Radio Club Needs Help

The 4H Radio Club needs help setting up a display for the 4H at a multi-county 4H meeting. On Saturday, March 14th, Harry Elwell, K2ATX, and the group that will be working with the 4H Radio Club plan to set up a demonstration station to showcase Amateur Radio at this gathering. Their plans for this display are still being formulated and they will need help in the planning for this event and for the actual demonstration. They will need both people and equipment on the day of the event.

If you would be interested in helping out with this event, please contact Harry at 856-513-0407 or email him at HDRT@comcast.net. Harry and his group have done a lot to improve the Club's relationship with the 4H so let's all pitch in and help Harry set up something that will make the Club proud.

## Club Dues are Due

It is a new year and that means that Club dues for the year are due. Dues are due to be paid each year before April 1st and that deadline is fast approaching. You can pay your dues to our Treasurer, Ken, N2CQ, in person at meetings, by mailing your check to Ken at 81 Holly Drive, West Deptford, NJ 08096 or via Pay Pal (cash accounts only) at N2CQ@comcast.net.



**FEBRUARY**

**CONDUCTED BY N2SS**

**2009**

**WARC BANDS**

<u>30 Meters</u>	<u>17 Meters</u>	<u>12 Meters</u>
<b>W2YC. 314</b>	<b>N2SS ...325</b>	<b>WØMHK313</b>
N2SS .....298	WØMHK.. 323	N2SS.....303
WØMHK ..288	W2YC ..... 319	W2YC.....281
WA2NPD..231	WA2NPD .243	WA2NPD..102
AA2WN...171	AA2WN ... 122	N2CQ.....99
AB2E .....147	AB2E..... 122	AB2E .....92
N2CQ.....111	N2CQ ..... 115	AA2WN.....20

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



**MOBILE DX**

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

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



**6 METER DXCC**

<b>WØMHK..... 108</b>	W2YC.....47
N2SS .....55	AA2WN.....15



**1.5K Club**

<b>W2YC .....1607</b>	AA2WN ..... 1369
<b>N2SS.....1545</b>	AB2E ..... 1185
WØMHK .... 1499	N2CQ..... 1135
WA2NPD ... 1474	



**GRID SQUARES**

<b>WØMHK..... 540</b>	.....
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**160 Meters**

<b>W2YC..... 211</b>	N2SS ..... 81
WØMHK ..... 158	AA2WN ..... 36
AB2E ..... 100	N2CQ ..... 9
WA2NPD..... 99	

W2YC continues as our undisputed Top of Top Band.



**Islands On The Air**

<b>N2SS.....858</b>	AB2E ..... 205
W2YC.....692	N2CQ..... 159
WØMHK .....381	

**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.



**R T T Y DIGITAL**

<b>W2YC..... 294</b>	N2SS ..... 67
AA2WN..... 187	K2AWS..... 29
N2CQ..... 151	WA2JSG ..... 10

**CURRENT OFFICIAL ARRL DXCC STATISTICS**

Active Count .....	338
Deleted Count.....	58
Last Addition.....	KH8/S
Last Deletion.....	STØ

## February Birthdays

Congratulations to these members celebrating birthdays in February:

Chuck Colabrese, WA2TML  
Tom Cusak, KC2THO  
Geoffrey Ochs  
Vincenzo Sallustio, KC2NXV  
Herb Schuler, K2HPV



## 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 Gene Schoeberlein at [aa2yo@arrl.net](mailto:aa2yo@arrl.net).

Submission deadline for March issue:  
2/20/2009

## Club Website

<http://www.w2mmd.com>

President-Doug, WA2NPD  
Vice President-Wayne Wilson, WA2LET  
Treasurer-Ken Newman, N2CQ

Darrell Neron, AB2E  
Bill Blakeley, WA2ADB  
Chuck Colabrese, WA2TML

Steve, W2TDS  
Cory, WA3UVV

### GCARC Officers

Recording Secretary-Al Arrison, KB2AYU  
Corresponding Secretary-Harry Ewell, K2ATX

### Board of Directors

Gene Schoeberlein, AA2YO  
William Grimm, W0MHK  
Harry Bryant, AA2WN

### Trustees

Ray, WB2NBJ  
Mike, N2SRO

### Committees

ARES/RACES-John, AA2BN  
Awards-Dave, W2YC  
Budget-Steve, W2TDS  
Clubhouse Site-Al, KB2AYU  
Club License Trustee-Darrell, AB2E  
Constitution-As needed  
Crosstalk-Gene, AA2YO  
Database-Ken, N2CQ  
DX-Bill, W0MHK  
Field Day-Open  
Hamfest-Harry, K2ATX  
Historian-Marty, W2ILT

Hospitality-Ray, WB2NBJ  
Membership-Cory/Ray, WA3UVV/WB2NBJ  
Nominations-Doug, WA2NPD  
Programs-Doug, WA2NPD  
Publicity-Cory, WA3UVV  
Repeaters-Al, KB2AYU  
Scholarships-Greg, WN2T  
Special Services, Darrell, AB2E  
Sunshine-Ray, W2RM  
Technical/TVI-Cory, WA3UVV  
VEC Testing-Harry, K2ATX  
4H Liaison-K2ATX

**The W2MMD Repeaters**

147.78/18 Mhz-Pitman  
(CTCSS 131.8Hz)

223.06/224.66 Mhz-Sewell

447.1/442.1 Mhz-Pitman  
(CTCSS 167.9Hz)

1272.4/1284.4 MHz-Pitman

**GCARC Meetings**

**General Membership**

7:30 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)

**February Meeting**

**Socializing**

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

