

GCARC CROSSTALK

FEBRUARY 1999

President's Message

First off I would like to take the opportunity to welcome aboard Wayne Wilson (WA2LET) as Trustee, and new members Donna Strong (no call), Bob Krchnavek, (K2DAD), Ginny Wallace, (KB2JCQ), and Insu Chon, (KC2ENF).

One of the things I want to see happen with this club is increased participation in any and all activities we undertake. Last week I had my first Board of Directors meeting and I was amazed at all those that attended. We had a phenomenal turnout and I thought that if this is an indication of where the club is going, we are on the right track. Also, on Friday, Jan. 22, we had an open house at the club trailer and although we didn't advertise it we had a fair number of people come out. We decided we should have a regularly scheduled open house so everyone knows about it and can come out to see what is there and to operate if they wish. So on the third Friday of each month, at around 7:30 PM we will be holding an open house at the club site and welcome everyone to come down and visit.

Our big three events of the year are Field Day, 4-H parking, and Hamfest. There is a really great article from Tony, KG2MY, regarding Field Day and from the information I received thus far, Hamfest is progressing along very nicely. I have some calls to make concerning the 4-H parking, but we still have time for that to get rolling along.

I have received requests for some social; activities to get our families involved with the club. I have some ideas that I will present but I need to have some input from the families of the members. So, members, talk to your families and see what they think might be some fun activities.

That wraps it up for this month. Hope to see you at the meeting.

ART - KA2DOT

GCARC Ham Honored for Emergency Service

Harry Bryant, AA2WN, our immediate past Vice-President, was recently honored and duly recognized for his recent extensive work in handling many emergency messages and phone patches between Honduras and the USA during the recent hurricane crises. The small country of Honduras was especially devastated and thousands were left homeless and without basic services. Harry devoted much time and resources, as duly noted in a very FB article appearing on pages 67-68 of the January QST, and was a mainstay on the SATERN frequency.

AA2WN who hails from Pennsville, was furthermore written up on the front page of the Salem Sunbeam complete with a picture of Harry in his shack at the mike. This article was especially accurate in describing in considerable detail the good work carried out by hams in assisting others in times of great need. Although not mentioned in these articles, it should be known that Chick, WA2USI, RACES County Radio Officer, also spent considerable effort in arranging for assistance to Honduras. Obviously, it is this sort of publicity that our club and ham radio, in general, needs more of, and these two hams deserve much applause and thanks from all of us.

Tnx Doug - WA2NPD

DUES FOR 1999 ARE DUE

They may be mailed to:

GCARC

PO. BOX 370

Pitman, NJ 08071

or given to the Treasurer Lou, W2LYL, at the General membership meeting.

Field Day 1999

You are cordially invited to join the Gloucester County Amateur Radio Club during its annual participation in the ARRL Field Day exercise. If you like to mix your hobby with a little bit of "roughing it" in the form of camping, this event is for you. Field Day is an exercise where your skills in setting up and operating under less than ideal circumstances is put to

the test.

Field Day is NOT a contest, although it may seem like one. You keep track of the contacts made as though it were a contest, and you try to make as many contacts as possible in a twenty-four hour period. However, the event is one that tests the ability to throw a station together under "emergency-like" circumstances. Typically, contesters spend many man-days a year preparing for a major contest. Towers are erected. Massive amounts of money are poured into equipment in the form of competition-grade transceivers, accessories, and amplifiers. The station is usually built to go "flat out!" for a 24-48 hour time period.

Field Day is different in that the preparations are for stations designed to be temporary and "make-do". This introduces a whole new set of variables. How quickly can an antenna be erected and still be reliable enough for what could be several weeks of operation? What is the minimum amount of equipment necessary to get the job done? Can I easily repair or replace this piece of equipment if it fails? Is it easily transportable? These are the type of questions that should be going through the mind of your band chairman or anyone designing a station for emergency communications. If you are an operator, you should looking for ways to improve your operating skills. Perhaps you just need more practice in digging out that weak station buried in the QRM. Field Day is a perfect way to hone all these skills.

Even if you have never joined us before, you can make a valuable contribution to our effort. We typically have several stations on the air using both CW and SSB. We try to have a presence on all the bands from 160 through 2 meters during the event. We have even had a satellite station in the past several efforts. Perhaps you are looking to get your feet wet on a band you have never been on before. Or perhaps you want to get a feel for what it is like to "contest". As I mentioned before, Field Day is not a contest, but because it has a feel like one, you can try it out and see if you like it without the pressure of thinking you are disappointing your fellow "contesters".

Field Day is an educational event as well as a great social event. When we aren't operating or fixing

whatever Murphy broke this year, we are reminiscing about previous Field Days, discussing the unique design of a particular antenna being used at the site, or enjoying a meal among friends who share a common interest. There's something for just about everyone at the site. You don't want to miss it.

I will be calling the band chairmen from last year to see if they wish to host the bands again this year. I will list the chairmen as I get them confirmed in the next several issues of Crosstalk leading up to Field Day. Please contact the chairmen directly if you wish to help out their effort. Even if you sign up to operate a particular band, feel free to float among the stations when you aren't working that particular band. Help at the other stations is always appreciated.

If you are an incumbent band chairman or are considering being a chairman, I can be reached at (609)694-3384 in the evening or via email at anthonyscandurra@firstusa.com any time.

This year's GCARC Field Day effort will be held at the club site on the 4H fairgrounds in Mullica Hill, NJ just off Rt. 77. It will be on June 26th and 27th. The event starts at 2:00PM EST and lasts for 24 hours. Setting up the previous night is permitted. When I have a clearer picture of what bands will be on the air this year, I will be creating a site map of where the various stations will be on the site. Note for band chairmaen: This map will be STRICTLY adhered to. I expect to get input from all of you so we can keep inter-station interference to a minimum. Once the site map is blessed, no deviation will be permitted. I hope to see you there.

73, Tony KG2MY, 1999 Field Day Chairman

G.C.A.R.C. AWARDS PROGRAM

GCARC General Award: Work 15+ GCARC members on any band any mode. Endorsement stickers are available for higher increments. A log tally sheet is required.

NOVICE/TECH Award: Work 25+ GCARC members on the 10 meter band. QSLs required.

CW Award: Work 25+ GCARC a members on CW, any band below 54 MHz. QSLs required.

RTTY Award: Work 15+ GCARC members on RTTY, any band below 54 MHz. QSLs required.

UHF/VHF AWARDS

SSB- Work 25+ GCARC members, SSB, any band above 50 Mhz. QSLs required.

PACKET - Work 15+ GCARC members, any band above 50 MHz. QSLs required.

UHF - Work 10+ GCARC members, point-to-point simplex any frequency above 430 MHz. QSLs required.

See Jack Zerbua K2ZA Awards Chairman
Tnx K2JF

QST de W1AW

FCC official meets hams on their own turf

The FCC's Amateur Radio enforcer, Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH, turned up in an unexpected place January 13--75 meters. In what could be an unprecedented move, Hollingsworth, legal advisor for amateur enforcement within the FCC's Compliance and Information Bureau, showed up at around 3894 kHz to discuss enforcement and encourage compliance.

"A couple of them were pretty shocked," he said. "This has never been tried before," Hollingsworth said the next morning. He said he broke in on an argument that was growing increasingly nasty in an effort to settle things down, then stayed to discuss enforcement with the hams on frequency.

Hollingsworth says he thinks one key to compliance is just getting people to listen to what he has to say. "Most people, if you can just get to them on a one-to-one basis, they'll listen," he said, reflecting his overall enforcement approach to attempt to reason violators into voluntary compliance rather than writing them up. During his time on the air, Hollingsworth confronted one individual he'd already been in touch with about alleged on-air misbehavior.

Among other things, he told those on hand that noncompliance and inappropriate on-air behavior could even threaten the hobby's HF allocations. Hollingsworth advised hams to be more tolerant and

patient and to avoid confrontation or retaliation.

"We all have to realize we're on a mission here: to save Amateur Radio," he said the day after his 75-meter appearance. "There are going to be licenses lost and fines owed." The jammers already are well on their way to "hanging themselves" right now, he said.

Even as he preached better behavior, Hollingsworth says he understood from the others on frequency that someone was attempting to jam his signal. "I hope the monitoring folks were on the frequency too," he said.

Hollingsworth advised the hams on 75 to contact him with enforcement problems, and he gave out his e-mail address and telephone number, rholling@fcc.gov, 717-338-2502. "I don't know what effect it will have," he said of his on-air foray. Hollingsworth says he'll "do what it takes" to improve amateur compliance, and that could include future on-air visits with amateurs.

"I've gotten a lot of feedback this morning by phone and e-mail asking me to do it more often," he said. "We'll be listening more and asking to be allowed in QSOs more."

Hollingsworth, who's based in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, took over the FCC's most recent Amateur Radio enforcement initiative last September.

Hams Respond As Killer Tornadoes Rake South

Hams in Tennessee and Arkansas responded as unusual tornadoes threatened, then struck, this week. A call went out January 22 for additional ham radio volunteers to assist emergency operations in Tennessee in the storms' wake.

Tornadoes in the Jackson, Tennessee, area January 17 killed eight people. Another eight died when tornadoes struck in the vicinity of Little Rock and White County, Arkansas, January 21. The National Weather Service called it "an unprecedented outbreak of tornadoes for January."

Arkansas Section Manager Roger Gray, N5QS, in Searcy, reports he was up all night and observed four or five funnel clouds, but he estimated that at least 30 tornadoes swept through the area. Gray has been

actively managing the ARES operation. "We have had an incredible response from the amateur community," he said. He estimated that up to 60 hams were active on VHF and HF nets. "We have been running nets almost continuously since 4 o'clock yesterday afternoon and no end in sight," he added.

Amateur Radio was filling the gap as long-distance telephone circuits have become overloaded. "That's why we're handling as much traffic as we are." Damage was primarily confined to four areas, and he expected ham radio involvement to conclude within 24 hours.

"Another wild night in Arkansas," said ARRL Vice President Joel Harrison, W5ZN, in Judsonia, who reported "lots of damage" in his area. "I have to tell you, in my 41 years of living here, I have never seen storms like we had last night," he said. Harrison said the first line came through around 5 PM, "then another, and another, and another for what seemed like every half hour till about 10:30 PM."

"The damage in a 10 mile radius around my home is horrible." Harrison said. Arkansas State University in Beebe--where his son, Mark, attends school--had extensive damage. "There is considerable damage in Little Rock, even to the Governor's Mansion," he added.

Mark Harrison, KC5YNE, said most of the town of Beebe was damaged or destroyed, and eight tornadoes hit White County alone. He reports the family spent an anxious night. "It was a relief when the storms finally quit, and everything was fine here," he said.

Meanwhile, Delta Division Vice Director Henry Leggette, WD4Q, in Memphis, Tennessee, reports considerable ham radio activity in the Jackson area, where tornadoes hit last weekend, as well as in Clarksville, where twisters struck early on the morning of January 21. Leggette said he planned to visit the Jackson area over the weekend to assist.

Tennessee SEC Jim Jarvis, WD4JJ, in Bristol, relayed a request for amateurs with mobile units to assist at the Clarksville/Montgomery County Emergency Operations Center. Hams willing to volunteer may

contact the EOC directly on the 147.39 MHz repeater, he said. "The police department and city hall have been completely demolished, and the downtown area is a complete wreck." Jarvis also reports damage in Humphreys County, as well as in McEwen, Waverly, and Camden counties. He estimated that up to three dozen hams active in providing emergency communication in the Clarksville/Montgomery County area.

In the aftermath of the earlier storms, Jarvis reports that EC Kenny Johns, AB4EG, in Jackson was rounding up volunteers to assist the Red Cross with damage assessment in the seven counties hit last weekend. Johns said a SKYWARN net was activated last Sunday afternoon, but the tornadoes were unexpected. After the storms struck, more than two dozen ARES members handled health-and-welfare traffic at the EOC for 22 hours.

DX REPORT

VIETNAM, 3W - Coly, 3W5FM, has been trying CW on 3790 khz between 1200 and 1215z daily. QSL via UA0FM.

EASTER ISLAND, CE0 - CE0/JA7KXD is QRV using CW and SSB on 40 to 10 meters. His length of stay is unknown. QSL to home call.

CROZET ISLAND, FT5W - Look for Gilles to be QRV as FT5WH on 14190 khz from 1800 to 2000z. Check also 14278 at 1700z and 21170 khz just before 1400z.

ECUADOR, HC Paul, DL6FBK, is QRV until February 3 as HC/DL6FBK, using CW and SSB on 40, 20, 15 and 10 meters. QSL to home call.

OGASAWARA ISLANDS, JD1 - Aki, JD1AMA, is QRV on 80 meters SSB from 2100 to 2300z.

ANTARCTICA - LZ0A is active on 30 to 15 meters from Livingstone Island, IOTA AN-010. QSL via LZ1KDP.

BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA, T9 Edin, T97M, is very active using the digital modes RTTY, Amtor and Pactor. QSL via K2PF.

3A, MONACO - YL operator Laura, 3A2MD, can usually be found active on SSB most days around 21230 kHz (+/- few) at 1400z. It has been reported that she does not like tailender. By the way, she does operate CW. Check around 21027 kHz at 1345z.

5H, TANZANIA - Dave (K8MN), 5H3US, has been active this past week on 40, 80 and 160 meters. Watch between the times 0300 and 430z. Also, ONLY QSL direct to his QSL Manager WA8JOC (no bureau or E-mail QSLs).

5Z, KENYA - The "DX News Sheet" reports to look for Graham, G0VNW, who is about to be active until October, possibly as 5Z4GC. Activity will be on SSB and on all bands. QSL via WB2YQH.

9N7, NEPAL - The 59(9) DXReport states 9N7AR is active on

40/15/12/10 meters CW and SSB. His length of stay is not known. QSL via JR8FEK.

C21, NAURU - A CW operation from the Republic of Nauru in the Central Pacific will take place from February 27th until March 7th. Bob, G3ZEM, will sign C21ZM and Roger, G3SXW, will sign C21SX. Priority will be given to Europe where C21 is most needed and to WARC bands. The operation will be with beams and linear amplifiers. Check frequencies ending in "3", listening up 1-3 KHz. Please QSL to home call.

EL, LIBERIA - Ghis, ON5NT, reports that Mark, ON4WW now signing EL2WW, returned to Monrovia last Sunday, January 10th. He will be very busy with his job and putting up new antennas. He now has a Yaesu FT900 and a linear (TNX to Bruce, KD6WW) with him. He will be putting up a K9AY loop for listening on the low bands, and he will be active on all HF bands CW and SSB. He plans to pay a lot of attention to 160 meters. He will also have SSTV capabilities (TNX to Danny, ON4VT). This past weekend he was very active on 40/30/20/17/12 meters. Mark will be home again on holidays sometime in March. Mark will be in Monrovia for several more months. QSL via ON5NT.

ET, ETHIOPIA There has been plenty of activity from here this past week. Stations ET3AA, ET3BN and ET3VSC were heard on various bands (including the WARC bands). The best times to check are between 1300 and 1530z. H4, SOLOMON ISLANDS (and Temotu Islands). Bernhard, DL2GAC, at Temotu (Pigeon Island, OC-065). They will be active at Temotu Island from January 28th through February 10th. Look for CW activity to be done by DK9FN and SSB by DL2GAC. Their callsigns have not been announced yet. QSL DK9FN via HA8FW and DL2GAC via his home callsign.

HC8, GALAPAGOS ISLANDS - The "DX News Letter" reports that Paul, DL6FBK, is going to Ecuador on January 18 and hopes to become active from there. He wants to visit the shack of Henri, HC8KU, and plans to operate as HC8/DL6FBK/p on CW/SSB on 40/20/15/10m from February 4-9th.

HP, PANAMA (IOTAs to be activated). Joel, F5PAC, will be on holiday here but plans to fit in some radio time as HP?/F5PAC from February 5-25th. He will try to be active from Isla Grande (NA-202), Isla Colon (NA-088), Cebaco (NA-071) and maybe Iguana (NA-203). Remember, his holiday is first and radio after. QSL via bureau.

VP2V, BRITISH VIRGIN ISLAND - Look for Jack/W4NF, Bill/W4RM, Cliff/W4CE and Dave/W4DAV, who are going here for the ARRL Phone Contest in March. They will be running a Multi-2 operation from Tortola.

VQ9, CHAGOS ISLANDS - Ron, AA5DX, reports to OPDX he will be returning to Diego Garcia on January 24th. He states that he should be active by the end of this month with his old callsign VQ9DX. This tour will last 4 months, but he doesn't know at this time if the entire 4 months will be spent on VQ9. QSL via his home callsign, AA5DX. Ron won't be back in the states until the end of May, so cards will not start going out until June.

Tnx Ohio DX, QRZ DX, others,

Ham Website

There is a website that has the full text of all of the current question pools from novice to extra - plus a lot more. The site is <http://www.hamtest.com>. Check it out!

Tnx Chuck WA2TML

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO THE FOLLOWING FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY FROM ALL THE MEMBERS OF G.C.A.R.C.

CALL	FIRST	LAST	DAY
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N2PKF	JOHN	YEAGER JR	1
N3RYO	RICHARD	HARKINS	3
W2RCM	RICHARD	MUNYAN	4
K2HPV	HERBERT	SCHULER	10
KB2ZTK	ADOLFO	NICDAO	11
K7LIF	JOHN	STAUFFER JR	18
N7NUA	CHRISTINE	WEST	19
KZ2N	ALVIN	ZIPKIN	25
WA2TML	CHARLES	COLABRESE	27

DEADLINE FOR CROSSTALK

Feb. 19 is the cutoff date for submissions to Crosstalk. Send them to ka2Dot@ix.netcom.com, or Apt. 11-E 801 w.Park Ave. Lindenwold, NJ 08021

FEBRUARY 1999

GLOUCESTER COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 General Membership Meeting 1900	3	4	5	6 N. American Sprint - PH. 0000-0400Z
7	8	9	10	11	12	13 N. American Sprint -CW WW RTTY WPX Contest 0000Z Feb 13
14 VALENTINE'S DAY Don't forget that significant other that shares in this hobby!	15	16	17 Board Meeting 2000	18	19 Deadline for Crosstalk	20 ARRL Intl' DX contest - CW
21	22	23	24	25	26 CQ WW 160- meter SSB contest	27
28						