



# CROSSTALK

Issue 56:02

56 Years of Service to our Community

February 2015

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<b>Dan Tremolini, N2TXG</b>	<i>(2014-2016)</i>	<b>Bill Price, NJ2S</b>	<i>(2015-2017)</i>

### *This Month's Calendar...*

#### **General Membership Meeting**

Wednesday, February 4, 2015 @ 1930 Hours  
Pfeiffer Community Center

#### **Tech Saturday**

Saturday, February 7, 2015 @ 0900 Hours  
GCARC Clubhouse

#### **VE License Testing Session**

Thursday, February 12, 2015 @ 1900 Hours  
Franklin Township Public Library

#### **Board of Directors Meeting**

Wednesday, February 18, 2015 @ 1900 Hours  
GCARC Clubhouse

#### **GCARC 2M Ragchew Net**

Thursday, February 19, 2015 @ 2000 Hours

**SKYWARN™ Net:** Every Sunday @ 1945 Hours

**ARES/RACES Net:** Every Sunday @ 2000 Hours

*All Nets are held on the 147.180 MHz Repeater*

### *Inside This Issue...*

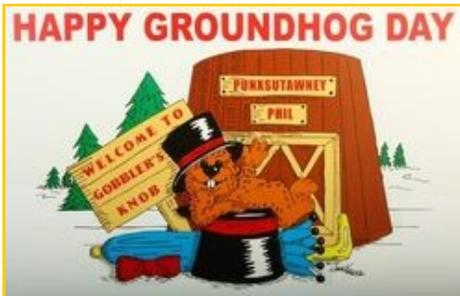
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# President's Message



Super Bowl Sunday, and the NFL's flat football fiasco (a.k.a. "Deflategate"), are sure to make this February memorable. But that's not all that's happening this February. Let us not forget, the month kicks off with Groundhog day!



Yes, the Punxsutawney radio club will be on the air again this year with their Groundhog Special Event Station, offering a fun certificate to any amateur who gets an on-air confirmed contact number. Listen for them near 7.225 MHz starting around 9am on Saturday morning, Jan 31. Then let me know if you manage to catch 'em. Good luck! Read more about this on page 5.

Just a few days later, on February 4, we have quite the club program lined up. In a "double feature", you'll first get to meet-and-greet with our newly elected ARRL Southern New Jersey Section Manager, Thomas "Skip" Arey, N2EI. And then (fingers crossed), Steve Molo, KI4KWR, representing Gigaparts, will be treating us to one of the first ever live demonstrations of a certain vendor's high tech, brand new, highly anticipated, backordered radio. Read more about this on page 4.

And then there's this funny place called Navassa. Never heard of it? Me neither, until Bill Grim mentioned it in last month's Down Jersey DXing column. It seems that it has been 22 years since anyone has been able to secure permission to transmit ham radio from there. Helicopter flights lined up to get equipment in to get K1N on-air as soon as possible once the USFWS has declared it is safe to proceed? This is a big deal! The expedition even has their own website, [www.navassadx.com](http://www.navassadx.com). Oh boy. Get ready for some serious QRM!

Last month, a big hit was our first Tech Saturday held at our new clubhouse on the first Saturday after the club meeting. There were "ask the guru" sessions, and live satellite tracking and HF radio demonstrations. Several visitors stopped in. Got questions? Bring a friend. You don't have to be a ham yet to stop in. We'll do it again this month, Saturday morning, February 7. Read more about this on page 5. You in?



See you Feb 4 at the club meeting,

Respectfully, Jim Wright, N2GXJ

**PRINCEVILLE, HAWAII'**  
KAUAI COUNTY • CQ ZONE 31

**WØMHK/KH6**

CONFIRMING QSO WITH	DATE			UTC	BAND	RST	MODE	QSL
	DAY	MONTH	YEAR				2-WAY	
								PSE TNX

TS-570S  
Hustler Mobile Ant.  
QTH at 12,500 feet  
overlooking Pacific

**BILL GRIM**  
Princeville, HI  
U.S.A.

A W4MPY QSL

## Down Jersey DXing

By Bill Grim, WØMHK

Beyond consistency, propagation remains mediocre on the high bands Down Jersey. Sure, we have some openings to Europe and Latin America (and bits of Africa with their scarce ham populace), but the really distant DX into Asia and much of the Pacific is rather rare. Low bands aren't setting the world on fire either! 160M has again been disappointing at this shack with 80 and 40 Meters just OK.

The EP6T DXpedition is at a halfway point at this writing, and it is not performing as well as hoped. Openings seem to be few, and signal levels are not very good at all. Even the best plans don't always equal a needed QSO! There will be more about this effort after it wraps up in a few days. Word on the net is that it is not political but just engineering problems and possibly a high nearby noise source.

Be keenly aware of a number of close-in DXCC entities that should be more than workable for you in February. The K1N, Navassa Island effort, will begin February 1. They hope to activate around seven different stations for your DX pleasure. They are planning to dedicate one station on 20 Meters to 24 hour operation while on the island. This should really enhance the chances for anyone stateside to work them for a new one regardless of your power or antenna.

TI9 will be active in mid-February with hopes of making many stateside QSOs. The Cocos Islands are a separate DXCC entity from Costa Rica (TI). Proximity and probably good openings on the high bands from SNJ should help you log this one. They will be there for 10 days and are at a beam heading of 200 degrees with a distance of about 2500 miles from us.

Guantanamo Bay operations will commence around February 6 with a stateside group including a YL. USA hams using the KG4 prefix and a TWO LETTER suffix will be on plenty of bands and modes. Don't mistake their call signs with KG4's that have THREE LETTER suffixes. They are merely USA fourth call district hams with a "confusing" prefix!

HR5, Honduras and CE0Z are two other entities to the south that should be very workable on 10, 12, and 15 Meters. The HR5 DXpedition will emphasize the WARC bands. The CE0Z, Juan Fernandez group, will be further away (about 5000 miles) but similar propagation during this time of year as HR should make them quite accessible on the high bands. Chile sports a number of DXCC entities. The first letter of the suffix usually helps define the particular entity. The rarest of the lot is San Felix Island – CE0X. Chile also has Antarctic stations which are considered another DXCC entity.

Let me sneak in FP/KV1J from St. Pierre Island which will be operating approximately the same time as CE0Z. This is another entity you can rack up bands with because of its proximity of about 1000 miles to the Northeast. Bring close to us makes it a bit tricky to work them on 10 and 12 Meters, but by watching propagation and your favorite cluster, you should be able to log St. Pierre on a number of bands and modes.

No excuses will be accepted for not being able to be competitive for many of the above mentioned stations after the fine article by our Prez Jim Wright on assembling DX capable antennas in your attic! N2GXJ's DXCC record is proof that what he has done and can be done by anyone will catch DX even in less than

*Down Jersey DXing - Continued on page 4*

ideal antenna situations. Who says the attic is just for Christmas storage?

And as a change of pace, check out K7UA’s DX primer at [www.k7ua.com](http://www.k7ua.com) . Thanks to Chuck, WA2TML, for making us aware of this DX “gem” which can be downloaded for free. More on this tool for DXing in a future column.

Ready, set, go after the following in February:

CALL	DATES	HIGHLIGHTS	DIFFICULTY (5=MOST RARE)	ENTITY
K1N	02/01 - 02/14	Big Effort!	5	Navassa Island
H44MS	02/01 - 04/30	Multi-Bands/Modes	3	Soloman Island
XW8BM	02/05 - 02/25	Multi-Bands/Modes	4	Laos
KG4	02/06 - 02/16	All Bands/CW, SSB, Digital	1	Guantanamo Bay
MJ5RIC	02/11 - 02/16	Mostly WARC & RTTY	1	Jersey Island
TI9	02/16 - 02/26	160-10M/CW, SSB, RTTY	3	Cocos Island
5Z4	02/16 - 03/08	80-10M/CW, SSB	2	Kenya
HR5	02/17 - 02/25	160-10M/RTTY	1	Honduras
CE0Z	02/23 - 03/04	22 Ops/160-10M	2	Juan Fernandez

Credits : NG3K ADXO

## February’s Program

The Gloucester County Amateur Radio Club’s February 4th meeting will feature two guests that should be of interest to area hams and those interested in amateur radio.



“Skip” Arey, N2EI, is scheduled to appear and give attendees an outline of some exciting growth and activities he has planned, as our new Section Manager. This will be an excellent opportunity to learn what’s in store and how you can participate.



In addition, Steve Molo, KI4KWR - Chat Support Lead Expert for GigaParts ([www.gigaparts.com](http://www.gigaparts.com)) - will be conducting a demonstration of Yaesu’s new FT-991 transceiver. This highly anticipated radio features HF, VHF and UHF capabilities, plus supports System Fusion Digital operation. Ω





## Tech Saturdays - February 7, 2015

By John Zaruba, K2ZA



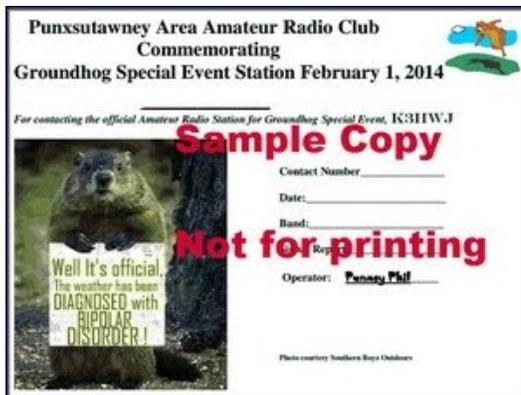
On January 10th, 2015, the Gloucester County Amateur Radio Club held its inaugural Tech Saturday meeting at the clubhouse in Mullica Hill. The objective of the meeting is to have a longer duration forum for Elmering as well as venue for members to show off their latest ham radio projects or gadgets. Approximately 12 people were present, both club members and guests.

Topics discussed included:

- Station Grounding best practices
- Digital voice and the differences between Yaesu System Fusion and Icom D-STAR
- Uses for Raspberry Pi in the shack
- Aviation
- Astronomy
- Horseback Riding

The Tech Saturday meetings are held the Saturday after the General Membership meeting, the next one is February 7th, 2015 from 0900 - 1200 Hours. The opening topic will be Automatic Packet Reporting System (APRS), but feel free to bring your topic!

For more information, go to [www.w2mmd.org](http://www.w2mmd.org) on the Tech Saturdays page. Ω



## Punxsutawney Area Amateur Radio Club K3HWJ

[www.punxclub.com/special-events/ground-hog-day](http://www.punxclub.com/special-events/ground-hog-day)

**Our Annual Ground Hog Day Special Event Station will be held this year on Saturday, January 31, 2015 from about 0900 Hours to at least 1600 Hours or later, depending upon band conditions at the time.**

We plan, as before, to be on:

40 Meters on or about 7.225 MHz, +/- about 5 kHz

20 Meters on or about 14.320 MHz, +/- about 5 kHz

80 Meters (Backup in case of problems) on or about 3.845 MHz, +/- about 5 kHz

We will as before, offer a certificate for a "SASE" and mail it to the address which is listed below.

***Editor Note: For the past couple of years, they have also been on the W3WAN repeater system, which in our area is 441.700 MHz (Plus; PL 74.4 Hz). Give a try, I got my first QSL card from them. Ω***



## What's Happening?

By Cory Sickles, WA3UVV

Fans of “Office Space” may have a visual of Gary Cole wearing suspenders and holding an Initech coffee mug, when hearing that phrase. We do have a good deal of things happening throughout this year in the way of programs for meetings.



Here's a brief rundown, so far.

**February 4<sup>th</sup>** - Newly-elected Section Manager Thomas “Skip” Arey, N2EI, will outline his plans to promote amateur radio in our area. Also, Steve Molo, KI4KWR, will bring us Yaesu's new FT-991 transceiver - complete with a demonstration - plus Q&A time.

**March 4<sup>th</sup>** - Section Emergency Coordinator John Zaruba, Jr, K2ZA, will unveil a new rapid-deployment communications resource – funded through the New Jersey South Region Healthcare Emergency Preparedness Coalition. Known simply as a “Pod”, each features the latest in amateur radio technology, supports up to four operators and can begin operating within 10 minutes of arrival on scene.

**April 1<sup>st</sup>** – Taking a step away from cutting-edge gear, noted author John Dilks, K2TQN, encourages us to relive some moments of yesteryear and appreciate the efforts of those who have pioneered in commercial and amateur communications. John's talks are always well-attended and received.

**May 6<sup>th</sup>** - Nobel Prize recipient Dr. Joseph Taylor, K1JT, will speak at our meeting. Active in ham radio, weak signal work and astronomy, Dr. Taylor developed the popular JT9, JT65 and other means of keyboard-to-keyboard and computer assisted communications – usable when the signal to noise ratio is far from ideal. He is sure to captivate attendees with a wide variety of interests. Members of radio astronomy clubs have also been invited to attend.

**June 3<sup>rd</sup>** – It's time for the club's annual Pizza Swap. This is another chance to get to know fellow club members better, plus an opportunity for some to liquidate a bit of unwanted gear and for others to find some bargains.

**July 1<sup>st</sup>** – A recap of Field Day, our biggest emergency preparedness exercise (and contest) will be presented with stats, stories and pictures. If you haven't signed up for this fun-filled weekend, there's still time to get involved – even if you can only participate for a few hours.

We're still working on some more programs for the rest of the year. Thanks to all who suggested topics for our meetings – many of which are being addressed with Tech Saturday sessions.

We've invited members of other area clubs to attend many of these meetings and encourage you to invite some visitors – whether they're already hams or have expressed some interest in amateur radio. Our club is a “happening” place and we serve a greater number of the amateur community when we share with others.



# 100 Watts at the Clubhouse Station - December 06, 2014

By Mark Gottlieb, WA2DIY

Date	Time	Call	Band	Freq	Mode	Grid	Country	Comments
12/06	17:57	HC2RAT/8	10M	28.480	SSB	JJ00aa	Galapagos Islands	Levkin
12/06	18:10	6V1A	15M	21.260	SSB	JJ00aa	Senegal	IOTA AF-045 Expedition of Goree Island
12/06	18:17	HZ1PS	15M	21.282	SSB	KL91np	Saudi Arabia	Peter Saunders
12/06	18:20	W1AW/9	17M	18.153	SSB	FN31pr	United States	Illinois - ARRL HQ Operators Club
12/06	18:32	W1AW/1	20M	14.241	SSB	FN31pr	United States	Maine - ARRL HQ Operators Club
12/06	18:46	GD6IA	10M	28.532	SSB	IO74dq	Isle of Man	Alex
12/06	18:57	WK9U	12M	24.953	SSB	EN65as	United States	Wisconsin - Jason Leslie
12/06	19:05	KL7FWX	10M	28.413	SSB	BP64bu	United States	Alaska - WSFO Fairbanks Skywarn
12/06	19:13	FR4LI/P	15M	21.262	SSB	LG78rq	Reunion Island	Nicolas Dhiver
12/06	19:22	W1AW/9	10M	28.340	SSB	FN31pr	United States	Illinois - ARRL HQ Operators Club
12/06	19:38	S01WS	10M	28.470	SSB	IL56hb	Western Sahara	Sahrawi Amateur Radio Union URS
12/06	20:32	OH9SCL	20M	14.188	SSB	KP26um	Finland	Santa Claus Land Napapiirin Yhdeksikot Ry
12/06	20:36	8P6NW	12M	24.987	SSB	GK03ed	Barbados	Glenroy D Corbin
12/06	20:56	ZD8KFC	20M	14.195	SSB	JJ00aa	Ascension Island	Jimmy Peters
12/06	21:09	ZD7VC	20M	14.216	SSB	IH74db	Saint Helena Island	Bruce R Salt

## Welcome New Club Members:

David DiMartino, N3YYZ, who has a General class license and lives in Williamstown, NJ.

Ronald Schaffer, W2RES, who has an Amateur Extra class license and lives in Pilesgrove, NJ.

We are glad to have you as members of the Club and hope to see you regularly at Club events, activities, and meetings. Ω



# K1N Navassa Island DXpedition 2015

Website : [www.navassadx.com](http://www.navassadx.com)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/2015Navassa](http://www.facebook.com/2015Navassa)

QSLs will be handled by the South Jersey DX Association - [www.sjdxa.org](http://www.sjdxa.org)

## Budget Update

By Jim Wright, N2GXJ

Thank you Ed (N2RO), Mark (WA2DIY), Brian (KD2BDX), and Al (KB2AYU) who served on the budget committee with me this year. As planned, the committee met on Saturday January 10. Working hard, the committee was able to develop and finalize a conservative balanced budget proposal for 2015 that could be presented to the Board of Directors for their review. That budget has now been reviewed by the Board of Directors. It will be presented to the membership for approval at the February general membership meeting.

# The DBJ-1: A VHF-UHF Dual-Band J-Pole

Searching for an inexpensive, high-performance dual-band base antenna for VHF and UHF? Build a simple antenna that uses a single feed line for less than \$10.

**T**wo-meter antennas are small compared to those for the lower frequency bands, and the availability of repeaters on this band greatly extends the range of lightweight low power handhelds and mobile stations. One of the most popular VHF and UHF base station antennas is the J-Pole.

The J-Pole has no ground radials and it is easy to construct using inexpensive materials. For its simplicity and small size, it offers excellent performance. Its radiation pattern is close to that of an "ideal"

dipole because it is end fed; this results in virtually no disruption to the radiation pattern by the feed line.

## The Conventional J-Pole

I was introduced to the twinlead version of the J-Pole in 1990 by my long-time friend, Dennis Monticelli, AE6C, and I was intrigued by its simplicity and high performance. One can scale this design to one-third size and also use it on UHF. With UHF repeaters becoming more popular in metropolitan areas, I accepted the challenge to incorporate both bands into one antenna with no degradation in performance. A common feed line would also eliminate the need for a duplexer. This article describes how to convert the traditional single band ribbon J-Pole design to dual-band operation. The antenna is enclosed in UV-resistant PVC pipe and can thus withstand the elements with only the antenna connector exposed. I have had this

antenna on my roof since 1992 and it has been problem-free in the San Francisco fog.

The basic configuration of the ribbon J-Pole is shown in Figure 1. The dimensions are shown for 2 meters. This design was also discussed by KD6GLF in *QST*.<sup>1</sup> That antenna presented dual-band resonance, operating well at 2 meters but with a 6-7 dB deficit in the horizontal plane at UHF when compared to a dipole. This is attributable to the antenna operating at its third harmonic, with multiple out-of-phase currents.

I have tested single-band J-Pole configurations constructed from copper pipe, 450  $\Omega$  ladder line, and aluminum rod. While all the designs performed well, each had shortcomings. The copper pipe J-Pole matching section would be exposed to the

<sup>1</sup>J. Reynante, KD6GLF, "An Easy Dual-Band VHF/UHF Antenna," *QST*, Sep 1994, pp 61-62.

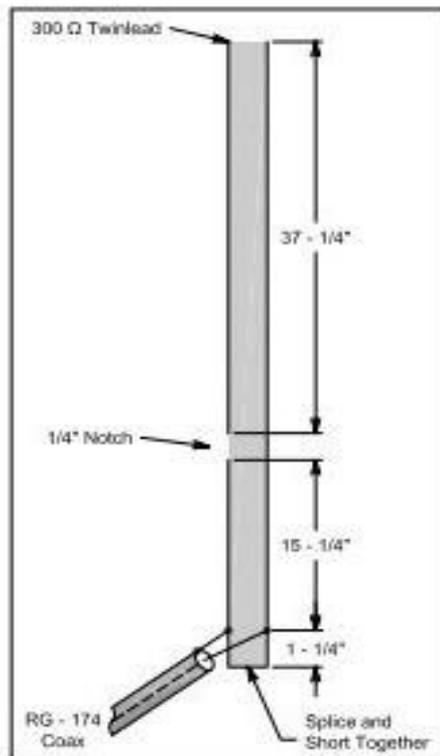


Figure 1—Basic diagram and dimensions for the original 2-meter ribbon J-Pole.

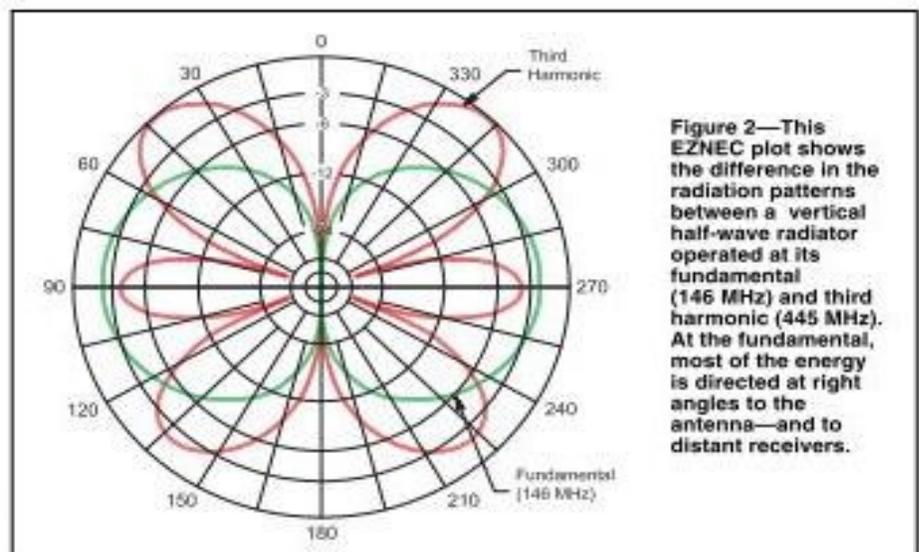
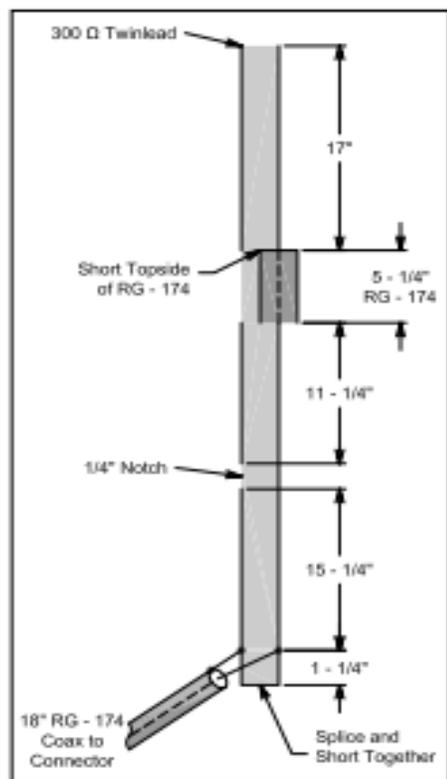


Figure 2—This EZNEC plot shows the difference in the radiation patterns between a vertical half-wave radiator operated at its fundamental (146 MHz) and third harmonic (445 MHz). At the fundamental, most of the energy is directed at right angles to the antenna—and to distant receivers.



**Figure 3—The 2 meter J-Pole modified for both VHF and UHF operation. These measurements are approximate (see text).**

air, raising a durability question. The aluminum design would be faced with a similar issue in the salt air of the San Francisco Bay area. I favor the use of 300  $\Omega$  twin lead because it is easily obtainable and inexpensive. An advantage of the copper pipe design was an 8 MHz bandwidth—about twice that exhibited by the twin lead version. That was expected, since the copper pipe had a much larger diameter than the twin lead elements used in that version. My final decision was to be based on aesthetics, cost and durability...but the antenna had to be a true dual-band design.

**How the J-Pole Works**

The basic J-Pole antenna is a half-wave vertical radiator, much like a dipole. What separates this design from a vertical dipole is the method of feeding the half-wave element. In a conventional dipole or groundplane, the radiation pattern can be disrupted by the feed line and there is usually a tower or some other support that acts as a reflector as it is frequently parallel to the antenna. The J-Pole pattern resembles that of an ideal vertical dipole because of its minimal interaction with the feed line. The performance of this J-Pole is, theoretically at least, equal to a 1/4 wave radiator over an ideal ground.

The J-Pole also matches the high impedance at the end of a 1/2 wave radiator

to a low feed point impedance suitable for coax feed. This is done with a 1/4 wave matching stub, shorted at one end and connected to the 1/2 wave radiator's high impedance at its other end. Between the shorted and high impedance ends there is a point that is close to 50  $\Omega$ . This is where the feed line is attached.

**Creating the Dual-Band DBJ-1**

So how can one add UHF to the conventional 2-meter J-Pole? First of all, a half-wave 2 meter antenna does resonate at UHF. Resonating is one thing, but working well is another. The DBJ-1 not only resonates, but also performs as a 1/2 wave radiator on both bands. An interesting fact to note is that 1/2 wave center-fed dipole-type antennas will resonate at odd harmonics (3rd, 5th, 7th, etc). This is why a 40 meter center-fed 1/2 wave dipole can be used on 15 meters. Similarly, a 150 MHz antenna can be used at 450 MHz. However, the performance of the antenna at the third harmonic is poor when it is used in a vertical configuration. At UHF (450 MHz) the 1/2 wave radiator becomes 3/2 wavelengths long. Unfortunately, at UHF, the middle 1/2 wavelength is out of phase with the top and bottom segments and the resulting partial cancellation results in approximately 2 dB less gain in the horizontal plane compared to a J-Pole operating at its fundamental frequency. Maximum radiation is also directed away from the horizon. Thus, although the J-Pole can be made to work at its third harmonic, its performance is poor, often 6-8 dB below that of a groundplane. Figure 2 shows a polar plot of a vertical 1/2 wave radiator operating at its fundamental (146 MHz) and third harmonic (445 MHz) frequencies. Note the difference in energies of the two frequencies.

What is needed is a method to decouple the extra length of the 2 meter radiator at UHF, in order to create independent 1/2 wavelength radiators at both VHF and UHF. The DBJ-1 accomplishes this by using a coaxial stub, as shown in the antenna drawing of Figure 3.

There is 18 inches of RG-174 transmission line connecting the bottom RF connector to the radiating element. Eighteen inches was chosen so that the bottom portion of the antenna housing can be used to mount the antenna without disturbing its electrical characteristics. [The use of RG-174 coax in this design limits the power the antenna can handle to less than 60 W at low SWR. By substituting RG-213, RG-8 or RG-58 cable, power ratings can be improved considerably. However, the length of the decoupling stub at the UHF antenna may have to be recalculated, because of the change in velocity factor (VF) of the different cable.—Ed.]

The 16 1/2 inch matching stub of 300  $\Omega$  twin lead works like a 1/4 wave stub at VHF and a 3/4 wave stub at UHF with virtually no penalty, except for a slight 0.1 db loss from the extra 1/2 wavelength of feedline. By experimentation, the 50  $\Omega$  point was found to be 1 1/4 inches from the shorted end of the stub. Although the impedance at this point is slightly inductive, it is still an excellent match to 50  $\Omega$ , with an SWR of approximately 1.3:1.

Connected to the open end of the matching stub, the radiating element for UHF is 11 1/4 inches long. The stub and radiator are constructed of a single piece of twin lead, separated from the matching stub by a 1/4 inch notch in one conductor, as shown in Figure 3. The extra wire in the twin lead radiator sections radiates along with the driven wire, creating a thick element that is shorter than its free-space equivalent. To terminate the UHF radiating section, a shorted stub, using RG-174 coaxial cable, is used. As with the input matching stub, the open end presents a high impedance and is connected to the upper end of the UHF radiating section. Note that the stub is only an open-circuit at UHF, acting as a small inductance instead, at VHF.

The RG-174 stub connects to the upper section of 300  $\Omega$  twin lead and that completes the VHF radiating element. Note that the total length of the UHF and VHF radiating elements plus the coaxial stub do not add up to a full 1/2 wavelength at VHF because the inductance of the coaxial stub acts to shorten the antenna slightly.

**Construction Details**

The dimensions given in Figure 3 should be considered a starting point for adjustment, with final tuning requiring an SWR analyzer or bridge. During the antenna's construction phase, I started at the feed point (see Figure 3) and after each section was assembled, the input SWR was checked. After the 1/4 wave VHF matching section is connected to the 11 1/4 inch UHF 1/2 wave section, check the SWR at UHF. Then add the 1/4 wave UHF shorted RG-174 stub. The stub will require trimming for minimum SWR at UHF. Start with the stub 10-15% long and trim the open end for lowest SWR. As a last step, add the 17 inch section of twin lead. Again, this section should be trimmed for the lowest SWR at your frequency of choice in the 2 meter band.

To weatherize the antenna, enclose it in 3/4 inch schedule-200 PVC pipe with end caps. These can be obtained from your local hardware or building supply store. When sliding the antenna into the PVC tubing, I found no need to anchor the antenna once it was inside. [If larger coaxial

**Table 1**  
**Measured Relative Performance of the Dual-Band Antenna at 146 MHz**

	VHF ¼ Wave Mobile Reference	VHF Flex Antenna ("Rubber Duck")	Standard VHF J-Pole	DBJ-1 J-Pole
Received Signal Strength	-24.7 dBm	-30.5 dBm	-24.3 dBm	-23.5 dBm
Difference from Reference	0 dB	-5.8 dB	+0.4 dB	+1.2 dB

**Table 2**  
**Measured Relative Performance of the Dual-Band Antenna at 445 MHz**

	VHF ¼ Wave Mobile Reference	VHF Flex Antenna ("Rubber Duck")	Standard VHF J-Pole	DBJ-1 J-Pole
Received Signal Strength	-38.8 dBm	-45.3 dBm	-45 dBm	-38.8 dBm
Difference from Reference	0 dB	-6.5 dB	-6.2 dB	0 dB



Figure 4—The Advantest R3361 spectrum analyzer used in the test.

cable is used for the stub, it is likely that the top of the antenna will require some glue or foam to hold the antenna in place because of the additional cable weight. —Ed.] The 300 Ω twin lead is sufficiently rigid so as not to bend once it is inside the pipe. Install an SO-239 connector in the bottom end cap. Once the antenna is trimmed to the desired operating frequency, glue both end caps and seal around the SO-239 connector. Presto! For a few dollars, you'll have a dynamite antenna that should last for years.

The antenna should be supported only by the lower 12 inches of the housing to avoid interaction between the matching stub and any nearby metal, such as an antenna or tower. The results from the antenna are excellent considering its simplicity.

**Measured Results**

Brian Woodson, KE6SVX, helped me make measurements in a large parking lot, approximating a fairly good antenna range, using the Advantest R3361C spectrum analyzer shown in Figure 4.

The transmitter was a Yaesu FT-5200 located about 50 yards from the analyzer. The reference antenna consisted of mobile

¼ wave Motorola ground plane antennas mounted on an NMO connector on the top of my vehicle. The flex antenna ("rubber duck") was mounted at the end of 3 feet of coax held at the same elevation as the groundplane without radials. The J-Pole measurements were made with no groundplane and the base held at the same height as the mobile ground plane. Table 1 gives performance measurements at 146 MHz, while Table 2 gives those same measurements at 445 MHz.

As can be seen in the UHF results, the DBJ-1 outperforms the standard 2 meter J-Pole by about 6 dB (when used at UHF), a significant difference. The standard 2 meter J-Pole performance is equivalent to a flex antenna at UHF. Also note that there is no significant difference in performance at 2 meters between the DBJ-1 and a standard J-Pole. The flex antenna is about 6 dB below the ¼ wave mobile antenna at both VHF and UHF. This agrees well with the previous literature.

The completed antenna can be seen mounted to the author's roof in Figure 5.

If you do not have the equipment to construct or tune this antenna at both VHF and UHF, the completed antenna is available from the author, tuned to your desired



Figure 5—The completed antenna mounted to the roof.

frequency. The cost is \$20. E-mail him for details.

*Ed Fong was first licensed in 1968 as WN6IQN. His Extra Class came with WB6IQN. He obtained the BSEE and MSEE degrees from the University of California at Berkeley and his PhD from the University of San Francisco. A Senior Member of the IEEE, he has seven patents and two-dozen published papers in the area of communications and integrated circuit design. Presently, he is employed by the University of California at Berkeley teaching graduate classes in RF design and is a Senior Member of the Technical Staff at Foveon Corporation in Santa Clara, California. You can contact the author at 1163 Quince Ave, Sunnyvale, CA 94087; edison\_fong@hotmail.com.*



## Eastern Pennsylvania to Start the New Year with a New Section Manager

**Joseph Ames, W3JY**, of Malvern, Pennsylvania, will become ARRL Eastern Pennsylvania Section Manager on January 1, 2015. He will complete the remaining term of the incumbent SM, Bob Famiglio, K3RF, who will become Atlantic Division Vice Director when the new year begins. Ames has been appointed to succeed him in that role.

ARRL Field Services and Radiosport Manager Dave Patton, NN1N, made the appointment after consulting with incoming ARRL Atlantic Division Director Tom Abernethy, W3TOM. Ames's appointment as Section Manager continues until March 31, 2016.

A ham since 1977 and an ARRL Life Member, Ames brings a wealth of Field Organization experience to his new position. In the 1980s he served as Section Traffic Manager and was once president of the Carbon County Amateur Radio Club.

More recently, Ames has been an Assistant Section Manager in Eastern Pennsylvania since 2008 and currently holds Official Emergency Station and Official Relay Station appointments. He was also elected as the new Eastern Area Staff Chair of the ARRL National Traffic System, effective on January 1, 2015. Ames will take over the reins of that position from Marcia Forde, KW1U. Ames also serves as net manager of the Eastern Pennsylvania Emergency Phone & Traffic Net.



Tom Abernethy  
W3TOM

Ames is the training and safety officer for Delaware County ARES/RACES and is active with the Chester County ARES/RACES organization. He's a Volunteer Instructor for ARECC and as a Volunteer Examiner with the ARRL VEC. He is the manager of the Pennsylvania Eastern Area RACES Net.

An avid outdoorsman, his primary operating interest is emergency, mobile, and field/portable communication. His favorite modes include CW, sent on a vintage Vibroplex "Lightning Bug" using a vintage Yaesu FT-101 transceiver.  $\Omega$

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## You Dooze?

**By Jim Wright, N2GXJ**

For the majority of you who are already paid-up, we thank you! For the rest of you, it's dues time! Still only \$20, you can pay in person at the February club meeting, cash or by check. If paying by check, make it payable to the Gloucester County ARC, with your callsign in the notes section. You can also snail-mail it by sending to our mailing address: Gloucester County ARC, PO Box 370, Pitman NJ 08071.

Feeling generous, and want to make an additional donation to help out the club? Our treasurer can handle that too!

Also recall there is an opportunity to petition for life membership. A summary of the process was described in the January Crosstalk.

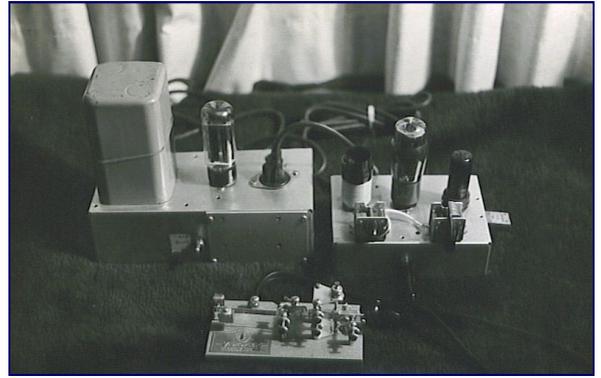
And last, by not least, have you remembered the radio club in your will?

## Novice Rig Roundup-February 6 - 13, 2015

By Cory Sickles, WA3UVV

As a reminder, the NRR starts February 7<sup>th</sup>. Whether you participate with solid-state or “empty-state” gear, I’m sure there will be lots of activity on portions of the 80, 40 and 15 meter bands – as well as the lower end of 10M.

*“A Novice Rig Round-Up (NRR) event will be held the second week of February, 2015. It will begin (Friday evening) 0000 UTC on February 7th and runs through 0000 UTC on FEB 14th. Eastern Standard Time that would be from 7 pm Friday until 7 pm Friday. Details can be found on the website - [www.novicerigroundup.com](http://www.novicerigroundup.com)*



*The point of this event is simply to enjoy memories, relive the challenges, and possibly explore for the first time the awe and mystery of sending a signal around the world with the very basic equipment most Novices of the 1950s through 1980s used. In particular, the days when all novices were limited to xtal control with a plate input of no more than 75 watts.*

The Facebook page [www.facebook.com/groups/NOVICERIGROUNDUP/](http://www.facebook.com/groups/NOVICERIGROUNDUP/) is dedicated to the discussion of:

- Event details
- Transmitters and Receivers being considered for this event
- Novice Memories & Stories you may wish to share.
- Available resources. Anything offered for sale should be only directly applicable to Novice Rigs. Xtals, Tubes, Keys, ACRs, QSL cards or things that Novices would have used in the typical operation of a Novice Station.
- Anything that Orbits the above. All ages, all levels of license, and even if you are no longer an active ham, but wish to join in the reverie, feel welcome to join the fun. Hey! Maybe you might be inspired to get back into Amateur Radio!”  $\Omega$



## Another CQ Shuffle

By Cory Sickles, WA3UVV

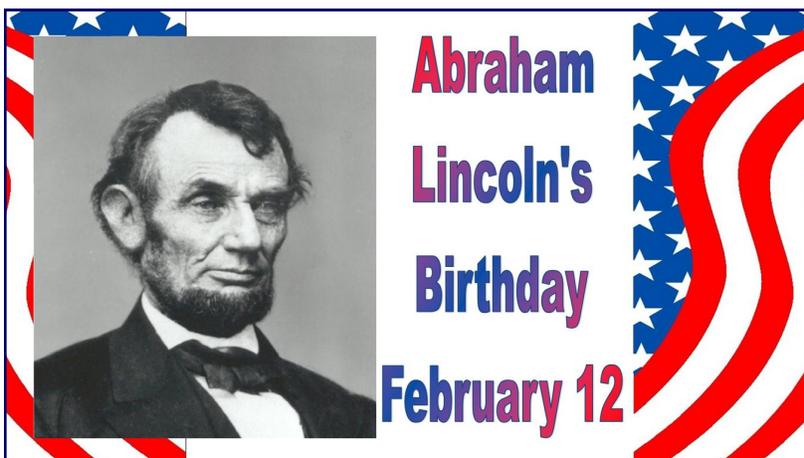
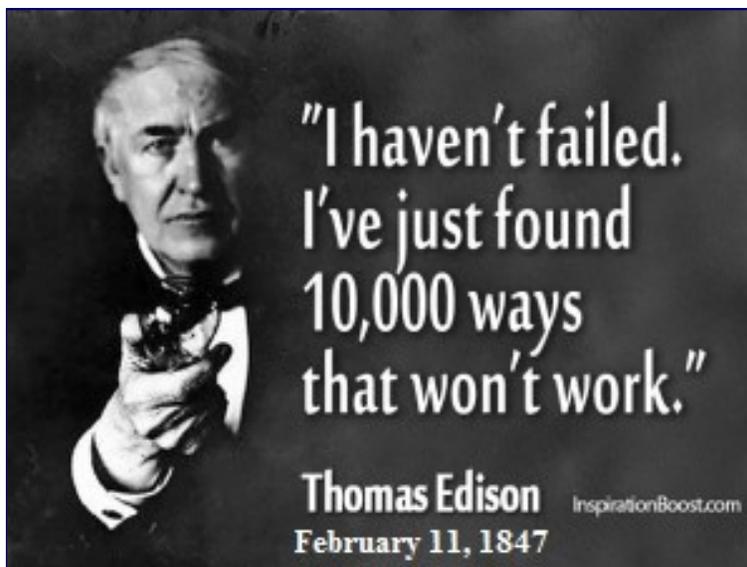


CQ has again announced a bit of shuffling with the magazine. Although they will still publish a digital version, the additional pages of CQ Plus have been discontinued. Although a worthwhile endeavor, not enough forward-thinking subscribers were secured to make the extra content profitable.

A number of authors (including me) had to read between the lines of what columns would next be due, in order to ascertain if we would continue our work in CQ or not. While it seems certain that my Personal Communications (formerly CB & More) column is history, it looks as though Off the Air will possibly continue, albeit with less frequency.

On the up side, I have been offered another column – on a totally different subject - which I'm considering. You'll know more when I know more.

In the meantime, the digital version of CQ (print) will continue to be available, just not with the extra 50 or so pages. Also, January and February issues have again been combined (digital subscribers already have their copies) with March picking up anew. CQ is celebrating 70 years in 2015. As ham radio needs as many divergent voices and sources of information as possible, let's hope they enjoy many more.



## QTH Member Map

By Jim Wright, N2GXJ

Curious about who your club member neighbors might be?

Gloucester County is easily accessible from most areas in the tri-state NJ/PA/DE region. We have club members who live and/or work in each of these states, and in several of the counties located nearby here in Southern New Jersey. Though our club's activities generally concentrate in Gloucester County, there are no geographic limitations to membership. As you can see from the club's database roster, we're from all over.

Thanks to the efforts of Ken Newman, N2CQ, you should have an emailed copy of the club's database, updated approximately monthly as new members are added to the club. Like me, ever look at that spreadsheet and wonder who might be your 'club neighbors'? Knowing who they are, maybe you'd like to talk to them about getting together outside of club meetings and events? If there was just an easy way to visualize where all the addresses in the database were, that could be helpful.

It turns out there is a website, [www.mapalist.com](http://www.mapalist.com), that lets you do this. It takes in a spreadsheet and creates a mapable output. From the output, you can get a snapshot picture of where the members are. The output can also be fed into Google Earth, which then allows you to interactively pan, spin, and zoom around from different angles exploring the list of QTH's from our club's database in whatever manner you like. If you were at the January club meeting, you may have seen this demonstrated there.

Want to give it a try? I've sent over to our webmaster, Jeff, KC2WCS, a ".kmz" file that he'll post to the "members only" page on our website. If you have Google Earth installed, download the kmz file, and then open it in Google Earth to play with it.

It's not perfect; you'll see there are some glitches. For example, not all members are in there, and even if they are, sometimes the dots don't show up on the map exactly where the address is, but it's usually close. Let me know how it works out for you. Have fun exploring!

*See maps on pages 15 and 16.*

## And Then There Were Fourteen

By Cory Sickles, WA3UVV

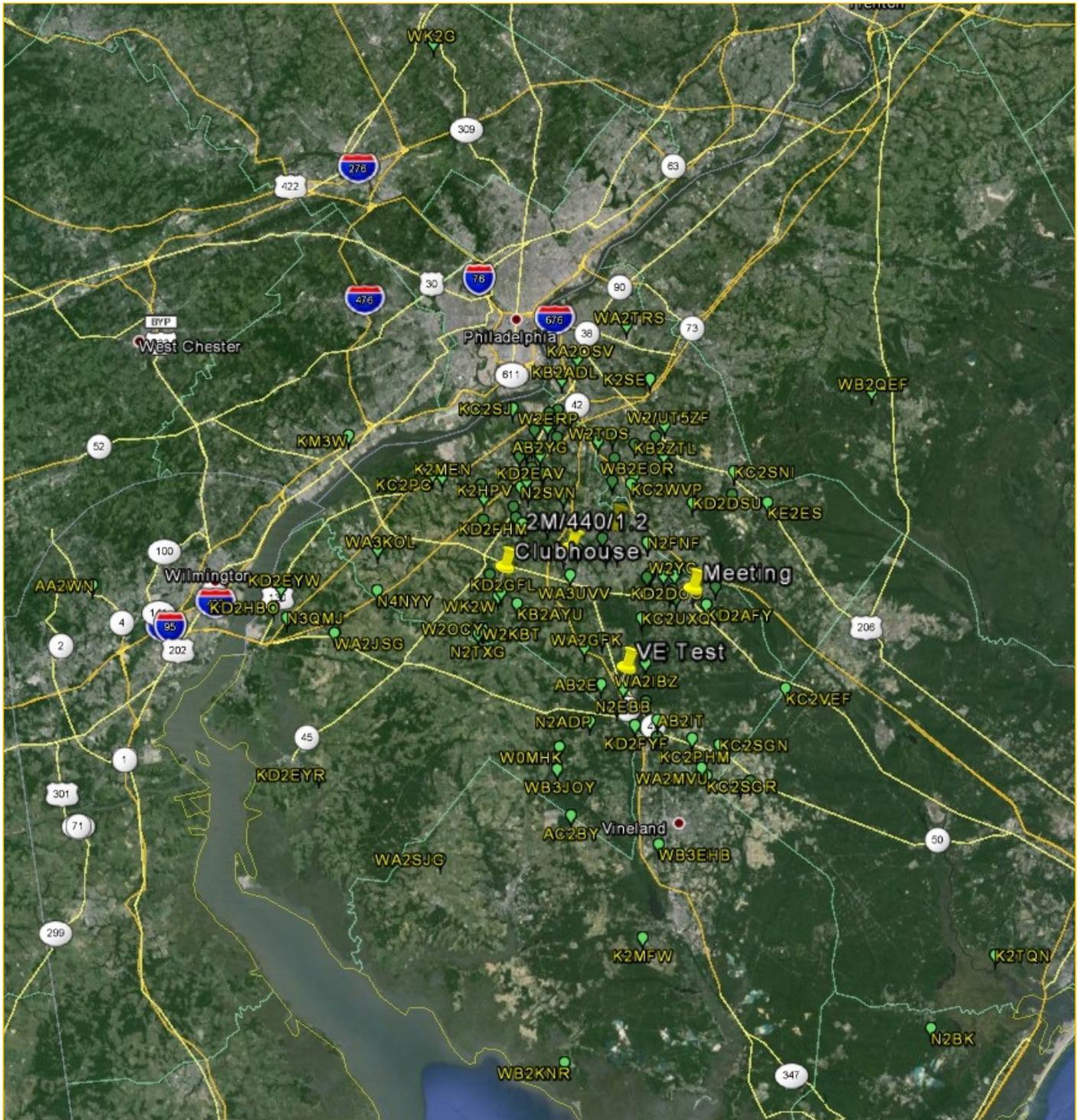
For decades, Ham Radio Outlet has operated a dozen stores – the most recent of which is the one in New Castle, DE.

Starting the first week of February, a new location in Plano, TX will open its doors. This fills a hole in shipping response time for that portion of the country and gives Texan hams a new place to shop.

As thirteen is considered unlucky by some (as is the number four in Japan) and it makes it hard to even out store locations at the bottom of advertising, HRO is also "adding" the web store as an official presence. While it has existed for many years as well, that pesky thing about the number thirteen may have kept them from publicly touting it as such.

In any case, they remain the largest amateur radio dealer around. With all that's gone on in our economy in recent years, it's nice to know that hams have been stimulating growth enough to make the newest store possible and that the growing numbers seem to be having a positive effect on manufacturers and retailers, alike.



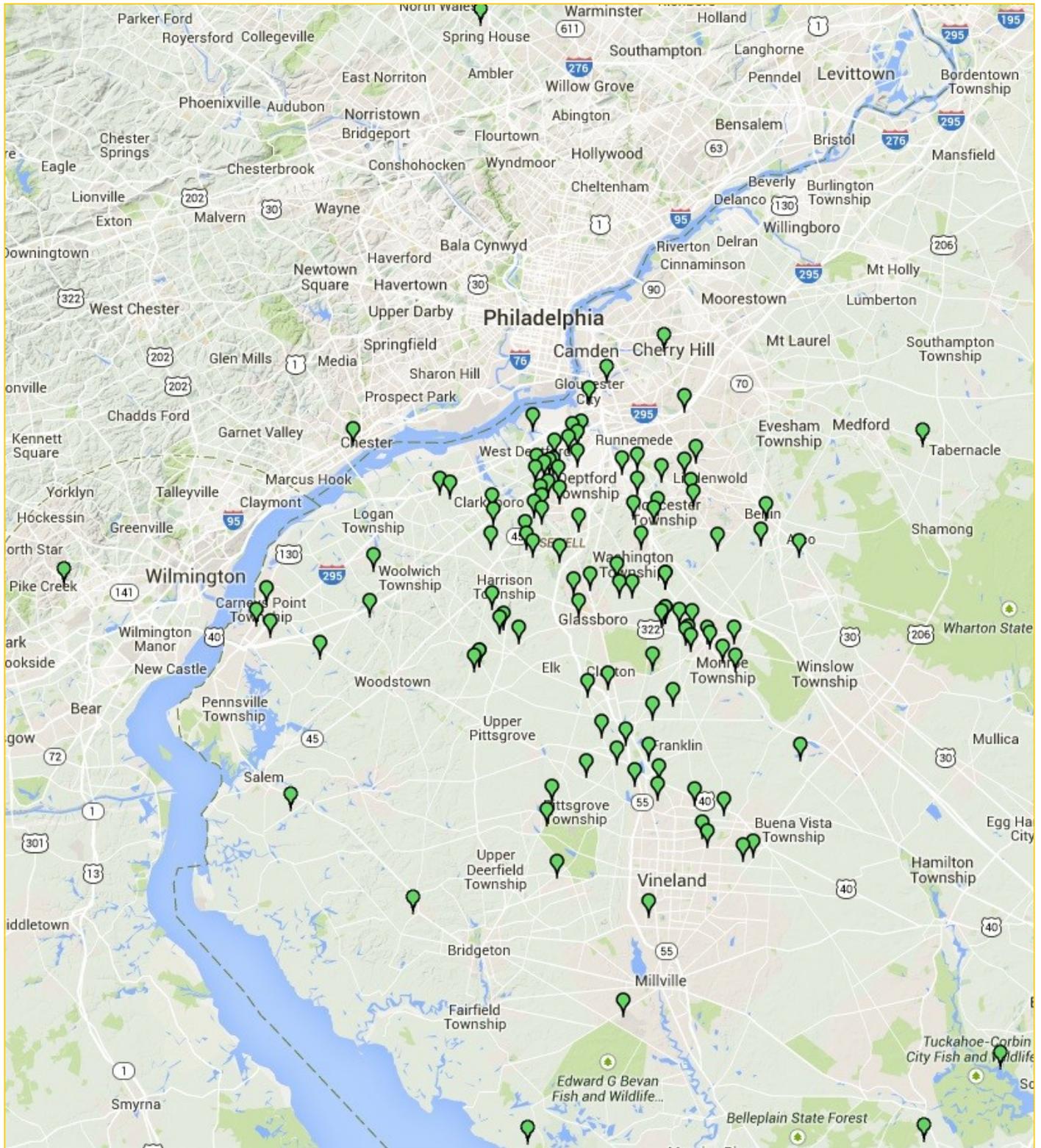


## What Trenton Makes...

By Cory Sickles, WA3UVV

There is a need for a Section Government Liaison - who can develop (or already has) relationships with our elected government officials. If you or someone you know would be a good choice for this important position, please let our Section Manager know, when he visits us.

The interests of amateur radio have been well-protected over the years and we would all like to continue that in the future, as well as encourage a closer bond.



## Who To Contact?

By Jim Wright, N2GXJ

Want to get more involved with the club, but don't know where to start? Take a look at the amazing list of club volunteers on the updated list of GCARC committee chairs and club contacts for 2015 later in this edition of Crosstalk. Feel free to contact any of them directly with any questions you may have.



## Electronic QSL Update

By Jim Wright, N2GXJ

Electronic QSLing is all the rage these days. You might have seen the article in the January Crosstalk comparing QSL rates between LoTW and eQSL. Thank you everyone for your comments.

Well, there's another service available that I forgot to mention: QRZ logbook. And the big news this week is that they have worked it out with the ARRL to now offer reciprocal confirmations with LoTW!

If you're already an LoTW user, this is great news. QRZ.com has now made it super easy to direct download your contacts from LoTW directly into your QRZ logbook. And one nice thing about QRZ logbook is that you can collect color jpg pictures from many of the stations you've contacted. Using your photo printer, you can build up a nice little collection of picture cards this way. Just right-click on the picture in the confirmed contact to save the linked picture as jpg onto your computer. For example, check out the picture from Cuban station C06LC that I just collected after importing from LoTW. And they have their own awards you can chase and track progress for 50 States, World Continents, DX, and Grid Squared. Very nice!

More info about this reciprocal agreement, LoTW, and QRZ logbook can be found online from the article located at

<http://www.arrl.org/news/qrz-logbook-now-offering-reciprocal-confirmation-credit-and-lotw-download>.



# Congratulations to Ken Newman, N2CQ

## 2014 Missouri QSO Party

April 5-6, 2014

The Boeing Employees'  
Amateur Radio Society - St. Louis

Presents this  
Certificate of Accomplishment To:

# Ken Newman

## N2CQ

### First Place, New Jersey



*George Mackus, ABØRX*

George Mackus, ABØRX, President

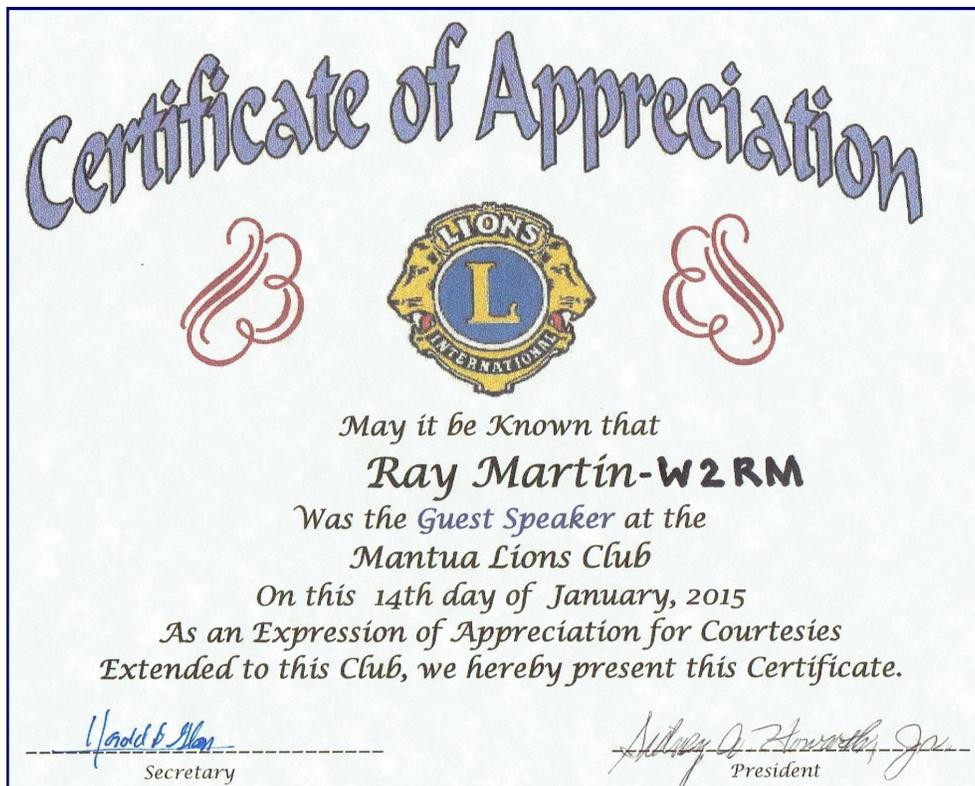
*Randy Wing, NØLD*

Randy Wing, NØLD, Contest Coordinator



# My Ham Shack

By Mark Gottlieb, WA2DIY



**Certificate of Appreciation for Ray Martin, W2RM Ham Radio presentation**

## Regional Hamfest and Events

**February 27, 2015** : New Providence Amateur Radio Club (NPARC) Annual Auction, New Providence High School, 35 Pioneer Drive, New Providence, NJ. [www.nparc.org](http://www.nparc.org)

**New Providence Amateur Radio Club 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary HF Event:** NPARC is conducting an HF activity in 2015 to 1) celebrate it's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, 2) promote/publicize the club in the Amateur community, and 3) have fun in a club operating activity. More information can be accessed at:

[www.nparc.org/2015/50thAnniversary/2015%20NPARC%20desc.pdf](http://www.nparc.org/2015/50thAnniversary/2015%20NPARC%20desc.pdf) and [www.grz.com/N2XJ](http://www.grz.com/N2XJ)

	<b>Gloucester City Amateur Radio Club NJ2GC</b>	
<small>This site is dedicated to the memory of Bill Hunsinger, KB2YJB-SK</small>	<b>Dwell on the Beauty of the Journey through Amateur Radio rather than the Destination.....</b>	<small>Winner of the Gloucester City Silver Eagle Mike Award for Communications Excellence - 2012</small>

### Gloucester City Hamfest - Saturday, February 21, 2015

The officers of the Gloucester City Amateur Radio Club are proud to announce that the Club will be conducting an ARRL approved Indoor Hamfest on Saturday, February 21, 2015. Doors open to vendors at 0600 Hours, then to shoppers at 0700 Hours and close about 1500 Hours. Vendors - Hall open Friday evening, then Saturday at 0600 Hours for light breakfast.

The location is the Pine Grove Fire Association Fire Hall, 827-829 Jersey Avenue, Gloucester City, NJ. The facility is well suited to limited ability access. Plenty of parking including some off street. The event is entirely indoors so there is no tailgating. Talk in will be maintained on the NJ2GC repeater, 447.775 MHz, (- 146.2 Hz) and 146.820 MHz (- 131.8 Hz).

Entry donation : \$5.00. Display tables (8 foot) Free!

VE testing available from 1000 to 1200 Hours. Walk-ins invited. \$15.00 fee.

Further information can had from Jay Goheen, KB2ADL, [kb2adl <at> comcast <dot> net](mailto:kb2adl@comcast.net) or their website at: [www.nj2gc.org](http://www.nj2gc.org).

	<b>The Mid-Atlantic's Largest Winter Hamfest!</b>
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### Richmond Frostfest - Saturday, February 7, 2015 Richmond Raceway Complex (Richmond, Virginia)

Frostfest is now BIGGER AND BETTER! New and improved!!! We now have 10,000 square feet more exhibition space and everything is under one roof! The Frostfest website at [www.frostfest.com](http://www.frostfest.com) has all the details

## DA's and DIT's

**Gary Reed, N2QEE** reports that the January 8, 2015 VE session had 4 candidates - 3 new Technicians and 1 new General.

**Kathy Sauder** of **Sauder Electronics** reports that she took their website down for good.

*"We are only going to do a few local shows in our area anymore. So I guess you could say we have semi-retired. I still have the products so if there is anything you need you can give us a call. I still do PayPal... or checks or money orders." (717) 389-6077*

**Steve Sterling, WA7DUH**, of **Tri-Cities Amateur Radio Club**, has put together a PowerPoint slide deck covering the basics of baluns - [www.setxac.com/wp-content/uploads/2013/12/Baluns.pdf](http://www.setxac.com/wp-content/uploads/2013/12/Baluns.pdf)

Once you are familiar with the technology, this paper from DX Engineering will help you choose the right type of balun - [www.static.dxengineering.com/pdf/Choosing%20the%20Correct%20Balun.pdf](http://www.static.dxengineering.com/pdf/Choosing%20the%20Correct%20Balun.pdf)

The 2015-2019 General Class (Element 3) Question Pool has been released by the National Conference of Volunteer Examiner Coordinators. It takes effect on July 1, 2015, and remains valid until June 30, 2019. You can download a copy of the question pool from our website on the '**Get Your Ham Ticket**' page.

**Chuck Colabrese, WA2TML**, reports that "The New DXer's Handbook" By Bryce Anderson, K7UA has a lot of good information in it. Bryce explains DX Clusters, a bit about propagation, and QSLing. Go to: [www.k7ua.com/uploads/4/9/9/0/4990079/new\\_dxers\\_handbook\\_second\\_edition\\_optimized\\_1.15.15.pdf](http://www.k7ua.com/uploads/4/9/9/0/4990079/new_dxers_handbook_second_edition_optimized_1.15.15.pdf)

**John Dilks, K2TQN**, reports that the regular meeting on February 3, 2015 of the Old Barney Amateur Radio Club in Manahawkin, NJ, will have a program featuring George Smith, AA2EJ, and Janet Murphy, AA2EI. George is a Nobel Prize winner in Physics for his invention of the *Charged Coupled Device* (CCD). When George retired from Bell Labs, he and Janet took a sailing trip around the world that lasted for 17 years. Janet handled the communications on the trip. Please talk up this program to your friends and neighbors because the program has appeal beyond ham radio. Less than one percent of the adult population of the US has ever met a Nobel Prize Laureate. Here is your chance to shake hands with one. The meeting will be upside-down. They will start with the program @ 7:30, take a break and then conduct the business meeting. [www.obarc.org](http://www.obarc.org)

**Tom Gorman, KE2ES** successfully completed all FEMA coursework and received his **Level I – Professional Continuity Practitioner** certification. Courses in the Continuity of Operations curriculum tie in with the **National Response Framework** and will help federal, state, local officials and medical personnel plan for and maintain operations in order to continue providing critical services to their stakeholders following a disaster. FEMA's Continuity Excellence Series is dedicated to recognizing and enhancing excellence in the development and implementation of Continuity programs. For additional information, please visit [www. http://www.fema.gov/continuity-excellence-series-professional-and-master-practitioner-continuity-certificate-programs](http://www.fema.gov/continuity-excellence-series-professional-and-master-practitioner-continuity-certificate-programs)

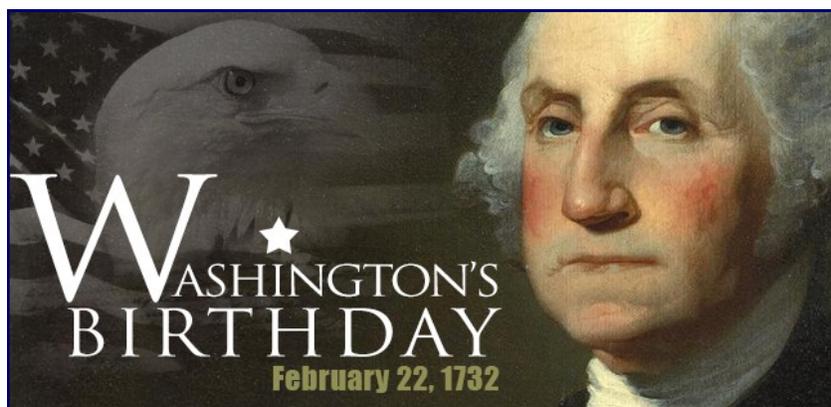
**ARRL Ham Radio License Exam Practice Website**  
<http://arrlexamreview.appspot.com/>

## Regional Yaesu System Fusion Repeaters

Location	City	Callsign/Club	Frequency	Off-Set	PL Tone
Atlantic County, NJ	West Atlantic City	<a href="#">W2HRW/SPARC</a>	443.250 MHz	Plus	146.2 Hz
Atlantic County, NJ	Atlantic City	K2ACY	444.650 MHz	Plus	156.7 Hz
Atlantic County, NJ	Brigantine	K2ACY	447.525 MHz	Minus	146.2 Hz
Atlantic County, NJ	Brigantine	K2ACY	447.575 MHz	Minus	156.7 Hz
Camden County, NJ	Runnemede	WA2WUN	147.225 MHz	Plus	192.8 Hz
Camden County, NJ	Blue Anchor	KB2AYS	445.125 MHz	Minus	91.5 Hz
Gloucester County, NJ	Pitman	<a href="#">W2MMD/GCARC</a>	147.180 MHz	Plus	131.8 Hz
Gloucester County, NJ	Pitman	<a href="#">W2MMD/GCARC</a>	442.100 MHz	Plus	131.8 Hz
Ocean County, NJ	Manchester	<a href="#">WA2RES/OCARES</a>	145.170 MHz	Minus	131.8 Hz
Ocean County, NJ	Toms River	<a href="#">W2DOR/JSARS</a>	146.910 MHz	Minus	127.3 Hz
Ocean County, NJ	Toms River	<a href="#">NJ2AR/JSARS</a>	448.625 MHz	Minus	141.3 Hz
<b>*Salem County, NJ</b>	<b>Pennsville</b>	<b>N2KEJ/SCRA</b>	<b>146.625 MHz</b>	<b>Minus</b>	<b>131.8 Hz</b>
Berks County, PA	Reading	KB3WLV	445.175 MHz	Minus	114.8 Hz
Bucks County, PA	Southampton	<a href="#">W3SK/PWA</a>	448.225 MHz	Minus	131.8 Hz
Chester County, PA	Paoli	<a href="#">WB3JOE/MARC</a>	445.675 MHz	Minus	131.8 Hz
Lancaster County, PA	Holtwood	KX3B	146.745 MHz	Minus	114.8 Hz
Lawrence County, PA	Ellwood City	<a href="#">N3ZJM/ECARA</a>	443.625 MHz	Plus	131.8 Hz
Lawrence County, PA	New Castle	<a href="#">N3ETV/ARLLC</a>	444.725 MHz	Plus	131.8 Hz
Monroe County, PA	East Stroudsburg	<a href="#">KB3TEM</a>	144.920 MHz	Input 446.550	D343
Montgomery County, PA	Horsham	K3JJO/DRC	147.165 MHz	Plus	162.2 Hz
Philadelphia County, PA	Roxborough	<a href="#">W3QV/Phil-Mont</a>	444.800 MHz	Plus	186.2 Hz
<b>*Kent County, DE</b>	<b>Dover</b>	<b>KC3ARC/KCARC</b>	<b>146.970 MHz</b>	<b>Minus</b>	<b>77.0 Hz</b>
Sussex County, DE	Selbyville	<a href="#">WS3ARA/SARA</a>	145.250 MHz	Minus	156.7 Hz

*This list seems to be getting longer every day. I have shortened this list to just New Jersey, Eastern Pennsylvania, and Delaware. See our website on the System Fusion Repeaters page for a longer list which includes Southern New York, all of Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia, and West Virginia.*

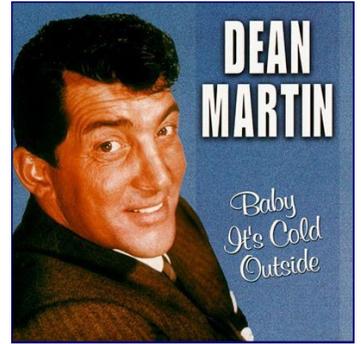
*\*New entry as of the issue.*



## Baby, It's Cold Outside!

By Cory Sickles, WA3UVV

The cold, icy, freezing, miserable, horrible, etc. temperatures we've been experiencing have affected some of our repeater sites. Our "Old Timer", on 224.66MHz in Washington Township has been shutting down or acting up when the temperatures dip below a certain level. A trip to remediate the problem is planned and may be accomplished by the time you read this.



As this machine uses 1970-era technology, it has held up rather well. While never a machine with "bells and whistles" it has provided excellent coverage and service throughout its life. It is part of the SNJ Section EMCOMM plan and does get some use, but it would be nice if more area hams took advantage of this valuable asset.

Over in Pitman, it appears that some ice has changed the pattern for our 147.18MHz repeater. We've discussed the eventuality of replacing the antenna (which has been up there for many years) with a new one. Once that's done, we can investigate whether the existing one can be repaired, possibly for use with a backup site.

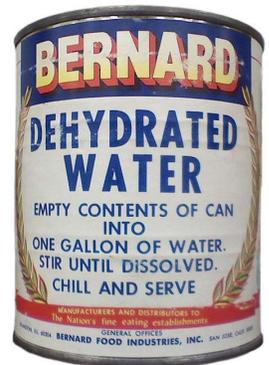


## Emergency Supplies For Sale

By Marty Wilt, W2ILT

If you are interested in more emergency supplies, I still have 17-unopened cases of Dehydrated Water.

Each case is 6-one gallon cans. (To use, simply open the can and add one gallon of fresh water.) If interested, contact Marty Wilt by e-mail: [w2ilt@arrrl.net](mailto:w2ilt@arrrl.net)



## Digital University

By Cory Sickles, WA3UVV

In South Carolina recently, they held a "D-STAR University" session that was well attended. Initial feedback is good, as many learned something new and useful, plus walked away with some prizes.



While we won't be able to give away radios, having a "Digital University" of our own might be a good idea – if enough of you think it is. As a subject for a Tech Saturday, coverage of D-STAR and System Fusion would be primary, since those are the most-used methodologies in our area and are the best-supported by virtue of the (increasing) number of digital repeaters.

Although there are already numerous adopters of such technologies, inviting more of you to join in on the fun and learn more about what's available, how it's best used and how to configure your equipment is of value. Please let K2ZA or me know if you have an interest in such an event. If we get an enthusiastic response, we'll put it on the schedule.

## February Birthdays

Congratulations to these  
members celebrating birthdays

Chuck Colabrese WA2TML  
Thomas Cusack KC2THO  
Patrick Guilfoy AB2HM  
Jennifer Robinson KD2EYR  
Vinnie Sallustio N4NYY  
Herbert Schuler K2HPV (President 1977)  
Thomas Snorf KC2IKD  
Bill Szkromiuk W4WCS  
Christine West WA2MVU



## **In Memoriam February Birthdays**

### **Silent Keys:**

Marla Bozarth N2DWR (President 1992, 1995)  
Milt Goldman K3WIL (President 1963)  
Harry McCormick WA2SEA  
George Munns Jr KB2GW  
Richard Munyan Sr W2RCM



<https://www.facebook.com/W2MMD>

## 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 <at> comcast.net](mailto:jeff.garth@comcast.net).

Submission deadline for the March 2015 issue:  
Thursday, February 21, 2015

Club Website <http://www.w2mmd.org>  
Club E-Mail Reflector: [gcarc@mailman.qth.net](mailto:gcarc@mailman.qth.net)

ARRL RTTY Roundup  
January 3, 2015

Call: W2YC  
Operator (s) : W2YC, WB2P  
Station: W2YC

Class: M/S HP  
QTH: NJ  
Operating Time (hrs): 12  
Location: USA

Summary: Compare Scores  
Band QSOs

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160:	
80:	101
40:	146
20:	155
15:	108
10:	105
6:	
2:	

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Total: 615 State/Prov: 57 Countries: 48

Total Score = 64,575

Club: Frankford Radio Club

North American QSO Party, SSB  
January 17-18, 2015

Call: WB2P  
Operator (s) : WB2P  
Station: W2MMD

Class: Single Op LP  
QTH: NJ  
Operating Time (hrs): 05:18  
Location: USA

Summary: Compare Scores  
Band QSOs Mults

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160:	0	0
80:	6	4
40:	37	17
20:	100	26
15:	63	22
10:	18	9
6:	0	0
2:	0	0

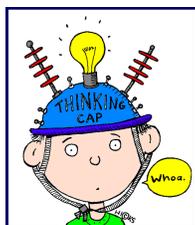
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Total: 224 78

Total Score = 17,472

Club: Gloucester County Amateur Radio Club

Comments: *Operated with my Yaesu FTDX-1200, N3FJP software, 100W into 20-15-10 Beam, 160-10 dipole at the W2MMD Clubhouse.*



## Interview With A Ham...Reboot

By Jeff Garth, KC2WCS

Many moons ago, Crosstalk used to have a column called 'Interview with a ham'. I would like to bring it back, but I need your help. I would like to "hire" a reporter. He or she would interview a fellow club member and gather some basic information about that member such as:

- Name, callsigns, member pictures
- How and when they got started in Amateur Radio
- Their radio equipment, hamshack pictures
- Etc. - Whatever information the interviewee feels comfortable revealing.

It's an easy gig. It does not have to be every month, whatever fits your schedule.

So, let me know at [jeff.garth <at> comcast.net](mailto:jeff.garth@comcast.net) or see me at a meeting.

P.S. In my opinion, the first interview I would do would be Charles Sketchley, K2PQD, our oldest original club member. [Ω](#)

Facebook Page



w2mmd.org



## Contest Calendar

For more information on the contests, please go to the WA7BNM Contest Calendar website:  
[www.hornucopia.com/contestcal](http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal)

### February 2015

+ North American SSB Sprint Contest	0000Z-0400Z, Feb 1
+ ARS Spartan Sprint	0200Z-0400Z, Feb 3
+ QRP Fox Hunt	0200Z-0330Z, Feb 4
+ CWops Mini-CWT Test	1300Z-1400Z, Feb 4 and 1900Z-2000Z, Feb 4 and 0300Z-0400Z, Feb 5
+ QRP Fox Hunt	0200Z-0330Z, Feb 6
+ NCCC Sprint Ladder	0230Z-0300Z, Feb 6
+ Vermont QSO Party	0000Z, Feb 7 to 2400Z, Feb 8
+ YL-ISSB QSO Party, CW	0000Z, Feb 7 to 2359Z, Feb 8
+ 10-10 Int. Winter Contest, SSB	0001Z, Feb 7 to 2359Z, Feb 8
+ Black Sea Cup International	1200Z, Feb 7 to 1159Z, Feb 8
+ Minnesota QSO Party	1400Z-2400Z, Feb 7
+ British Columbia QSO Party	1600Z, Feb 7 to 0400Z, Feb 8
+ AGCW Straight Key Party	1600Z-1900Z, Feb 7
+ Mexico RTTY International Contest	1800Z, Feb 7 to 1759Z, Feb 8
+ AWA Amplitude Modulation QSO Party	2300Z, Feb 7 to 2300Z, Feb 8
+ North American Sprint, CW	0000Z-0400Z, Feb 8
+ Classic Exchange, Phone	1400Z, Feb 8 to 0800Z, Feb 9
+ ARRL School Club Roundup	1300Z, Feb 9 to 2359Z, Feb 13
+ NAQCC CW Sprint	0130Z-0330Z, Feb 11
+ QRP Fox Hunt	0200Z-0330Z, Feb 11
+ CWops Mini-CWT Test	1300Z-1400Z, Feb 11 and 1900Z-2000Z, Feb 11 and 0300Z-0400Z, Feb 12
+ QRP Fox Hunt	0200Z-0330Z, Feb 13
+ NCCC Sprint Ladder	0230Z-0300Z, Feb 13
+ CQ WW RTTY WPX Contest	0000Z, Feb 14 to 2400Z, Feb 15
+ SARL Field Day Contest	1000Z, Feb 14 to 1000Z, Feb 15
+ Asia-Pacific Spring Sprint, CW	1100Z-1300Z, Feb 14
+ Dutch PACC Contest	1200Z, Feb 14 to 1200Z, Feb 15
+ New Hampshire QSO Party	1600Z, Feb 14 to 2200Z, Feb 15
+ FISTS Winter Unlimited Sprint	1700Z-2100Z, Feb 14
+ Run for the Bacon QRP Contest	0200Z-0400Z, Feb 16
+ QRP Fox Hunt	0200Z-0330Z, Feb 18
+ CWops Mini-CWT Test	1300Z-1400Z, Feb 18 and 1900Z-2000Z, Feb 18 and 0300Z-0400Z, Feb 19
+ AGCW Semi-Automatic Key Evening	1900Z-2030Z, Feb 18
+ QRP Fox Hunt	0200Z-0330Z, Feb 20
+ NCCC Sprint Ladder	0230Z-0300Z, Feb 20
+ ARRL Inter. DX Contest, CW	0000Z, Feb 21 to 2400Z, Feb 22
+ REF Contest, SSB	0600Z, Feb 21 to 1800Z, Feb 22
+ Feld Hell Sprint	2000Z-2159Z, Feb 21
+ High Speed Club CW Contest	0900Z-1700Z, Feb 22
+ QRP Fox Hunt	0200Z-0330Z, Feb 25
+ CWops Mini-CWT Test	1300Z-1400Z, Feb 25 and 1900Z-2000Z, Feb 25 and 0300Z-0400Z, Feb 26
+ QRP Fox Hunt	0200Z-0330Z, Feb 27
+ CQ 160-Meter Contest, SSB	2200Z, Feb 27 to 2200Z, Mar 1
+ UBA DX Contest, CW	1300Z, Feb 28 to 1300Z, Mar 1
+ North American QSO Party, RTTY	1800Z, Feb 28 to 0600Z, Mar 1

# Committee Chairs

<b>ARES/RACES</b>	<b>Ed Champion, N2RO</b>
<b>Awards and Contests</b>	<b>Kenny Denson, WB2P</b>
<b>Budget*</b>	<b>Al Arrison, KB2AYU</b>
<b>Club Publications</b>	<b>Jeffrey Garth, KC2WCS</b>
• <b>Crosstalk Magazine</b>	
• <b>Website</b>	
<b>Clubhouse Site/Operations*</b>	<b>Al Arrison, KB2AYU</b>
<b>Constitution and By-Laws*</b>	<b>Ron Block, NR2B</b>
<b>DX</b>	<b>Bill Grim, W0MHK</b>
<b>Field Day*</b>	<b>Kenny Denson, WB2P</b>
<b>Fox Hunts</b>	<b>Jim Wright, N2GXJ</b>
<b>Hamfest*</b>	<b>Sheldon Parker, K2MEN and Bill Price, NJ2S</b>
• <b>Hamfest Contact</b>	<b>Cory Sickles, WA3UVV</b>
<b>Health and Welfare*</b>	<b>Ray Martin, W2RM</b>
<b>Historian</b>	<b>Jeffrey Garth, KC2WCS</b>
<b>Hospitality*</b>	<b>Dave MacDonald, WB3JOY</b>
<b>License Testing, VEC Liaison</b>	<b>Gary Reed, N2QEE</b>
<b>License Trustee</b>	<b>Darrell Neron, AB2E</b>
<b>Member Database</b>	<b>Ken Newman, N2CQ</b>
<b>Membership*</b>	<b>Cory Sickles, WA3UVV</b>
<b>Nominations*</b>	<b>Jim Wright, N2GXJ</b>
<b>Programs</b>	<b>Cory Sickles, WA3UVV</b>
<b>Publicity*</b>	<b>Cory Sickles, WA3UVV</b>
<b>Repeaters*</b>	<b>Cory Sickles, WA3UVV</b>
<b>Scout Liaison</b>	<b>Frank Simila, KC2SJ</b>
<b>Summer Picnic</b>	<b>Jennifer Robinson, KD2EYR</b>
<b>Technical and TVI</b>	<b>Chuck Colabrese, WA2TML</b>

## 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)

## The W2MMD Repeaters

Output: 147.180 MHz  
Input: 147.780 MHz  
Offset: +600 kHz - PL: 131.8 Hz  
(Conventional FM plus C4FM Capability)

Output: 442.100 MHz  
Input: 447.100 MHz  
Offset: +5 MHz - PL: 131.8 Hz  
(Conventional FM plus C4FM Capability)

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 Hz  
Location: Sewell, NJ  
GPS: 39.781382°, -75.099963°

**GCARC 2M Ragchew Net**  
Thursday, February 19, 2015 @ 20:00 Hrs

**SKYWARN™ Net**  
Sunday 19:45 Hrs

**ARES/RACES Net**  
Sunday 20:00 Hrs

*All Nets on 147.180 MHz Repeater*

**VE License Session**  
Thursday, February 12, 2015 @ 1900 Hrs  
Franklin Township Public Library  
Franklinville, NJ  
Gary Reed, N2QEE  
[glreed49 <at> verizon <dot> net](mailto:glreed49@verizon.net)

## Meeting Calendar

### *General Membership Meeting*

19:30 Hrs, Wednesday, February 4, 2015  
Pfeiffer Community Center  
301 Blue Bell Road  
(Main Street and Blue Bell Road)  
Williamstown, NJ

### *Board of Directors Meeting*

19:00 Hrs, Wednesday, February 18, 2015  
GCARC Clubhouse  
Gloucester County 4-H Fairgrounds  
235 Bridgeton Pike (Rt 77), Mullica Hill, NJ

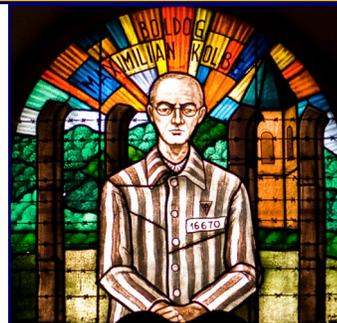
## February Club Meeting Program

**Skip Arey, N2EI**  
**SNJ Section Manager**

**Steve Molo, KI4KWR**  
**Yaesu FT-991 Demo**

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

**Maximilian Kolbe, SP3RN**  
**Patron Saint of Amateur Radio Operators**



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