



Presidents Message

Happy New Year to all our members, I wish all a great and healthy 2003.

Getting down to serious business, I have to notify all members that the January meeting will be held on Monday, January 13th, at the Phieffer center. The speaker will be Ron Block, KB2UYT, who will speak on lightning protection and grounding. Ron has had a series of articles published in QST on this subject. Wayne WA2LET has been trying to schedule this talk for some time but had been unable to schedule it due to elections and other business. We will try to keep the business meeting short so Ron has enough time for his presentation.

2003 DUES

GCARC dues for the year 2003 are due. The annual dues are \$15.00. Please send your checks directly to the treasurer, Bob Krchnavek, (K2DAD) at 50 Eastwick Dr., Gibbsboro, NJ 08026.

There is a talk in the works from the emergency coordinator for Monroe Township Frank McLaughlin tentatively set for the February meeting. There will be more on this in the next Crosstalk.

Looking to the future, the May meeting will be held on the usual date but in the Senior Center which is across the parking lot from the main building. This should pose no problem as the senior center can accommodate 50 people.

I am happy to announce that Ken Newman, N2CQ, has agreed to become the new hospitality chairman so we should see coffee and donuts at the January meeting. We all missed the refreshments and will be happy to see them back. Thank you, Ken, for filling the gap.

We were glad to see Insu Chon, AB2IT, at the December meeting after a long absence. Insu paid up his dues and also donated \$100 to the club. We were all glad to see him again and thanked him for his generosity to the club. We all hope to see more of him in the future.

As some members may have noticed the 2 meter repeater is off the air. Chuck and Mike are trying to find a replacement for the board causing the problem. This board has probably been acting up for quite a while. With any luck they will find one soon and get the machine back on line.

Best 73
Ray, WB2NBJ

January Meeting Speaker

By Wayne Wilson, WA2LET

The Gloucester County Amateur Radio Club will hold its monthly meeting on Monday, January 13th, at 8:00 PM in the Pfeiffer Community Center, Williamstown, NJ. Ron Block, KB2UYT, will be the guest speaker at the meeting. Ron will be talking about lightning protection and grounding of amateur radio stations and other electronic equipment. Ron is an expert on this subject and last year did a three part series on the subject in QST. Come on out and bring your friends and your questions.

Membership Database

Bob Krchnavek, K2DAD, our Treasurer, is in the process of updating the club database and needs your help. He needs updated information for each member including name, home address, e-mail address, phone number, birth date, license class and call if applicable and if you are a current ARRL member.

Dues for 2003 are due so if you are mailing Bob a check for your dues please include the above information with the check or you can e-mail Bob with the information. Bob's e-mail address is krchnavek@rowan.edu and his mailing address is 50 Eastwick Drive, Gibbsboro, NJ 08026.

GCARC Officers for 2003

By Ray Schnapp, WB2NBJ

At the December meeting the following individuals were elected as officers, directors and trustees of the Gloucester County Amateur Radio Club for 2003.

President-Ray Schnapp, WB2NBJ

Vice President-Wayne Wilson, WA2LET

Treasurer-Robert Krchnavek, K2DAD

Recording Secretary-Harry Bryant, AA2WN

Corresponding Secretary-John Fisher, K2JF

Board of directors-Chuck Colabrese, WA2TML and Al Arrison, KB2AYU

Trustee--Ray Martin, WB2LNR

2002 Hamfest a Success

The Treasurer's final report on the 2002 Hamfest is in and the numbers show that it was worth all the time and effort that went into putting it on. Profits are down from the glory days of Hamfests before the State of New Jersey interfered but were better than the budgeted numbers for the event

A lot of effort went into making the event a success, so thanks to all who helped out. A special Club thanks to Chris, WK2W, for stepping forward and Chairing the event for 2002.

Since Chris will be unable to Chair the event this year, we need another member to step forward and do the job this year. As the Club's only major fund raising event, it is very important to the Club's financial health. So please do a little soul searching and if you can afford the time, volunteer to Chair the 2003 Hamfest.

New Jersey Lawmaker Introduces PRB-1 Bill

New Jersey State Assemblyman Matt Ahearn (D-Fair Lawn) has introduced an Amateur Radio antenna bill, Assembly Bill 3065. If approved by New Jersey lawmakers, the measure would essentially codify the limited federal pre-emption known as PRB-1 into the Garden State's statutes. The measure also would preclude regulation via any ordinance or regulation that effectively prohibits an antenna support structure of 70 feet or less above ground level--exclusive of any antenna upon the structure.

"This policy enhances the state's available pool of emergency communications volunteer operators and stations that can provide reliable emergency communications at no cost to the State or municipal governments," said Ahearn.

Ahearn said his bill also would help to keep municipalities out of court. "By codifying PRB-1, the bill protects municipalities that might otherwise prohibit or unreasonably regulate such structures from the litigation that would occur because of the preemptive effect of PRB-1," he said in a statement.

Ahearn's bill would prohibit governing bodies from adopting a zoning ordinance or regulation that "prohibits or has the effect of prohibiting" the construction, maintenance or use of an Amateur Radio antenna and support structure. The measure would require municipal zoning ordinances and regulations to "reasonably regulate the location and height of those antenna structures for the purposes of health, safety or aesthetics" provided that those ordinances and regulations "permit sufficient height of those antennas and support structures so as to reasonably accommodate Amateur Radio communications."

Restrictions on antennas and support structures "shall constitute the minimum practicable regulation necessary to accomplish the legitimate purposes of the governing body enacting that ordinance or regulation," the bill states.

The bill, A3065, has been referred to the Housing and Local Government Committee for further consideration. The text of the proposed legislation is available on the New Jersey Legislature Web site <<http://www.njleg.state.nj.us/>>. Search on "A3065" in the "Bill Search" engine. Interested New Jersey amateurs may contact Ahearn via e-mail <asmahearn@njleg.org>.

More information on PRB-1 is available on the ARRL Web site <http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/regulations/PRB-1_Pkg/index.html>.

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

North Korea Asks P5/4L4FN to QRT

The only Amateur Radio station active from North Korea has been ordered off the air. Ed Giorgadze, 4L4FN, had been operating for the past year as P5/4L4FN from Pyongyang. The ARRL subsequently accredited SSB and RTTY operation of P5/4L4FN for DXCC.

Paige said that on Friday, November 22, Giorgadze was called into a meeting with the "Radio Regulation Board" without any explanation, and he was politely asked to quit all transmissions and pack all his radio equipment. "Saturday, he spent all day on the roof disassembling his antennas and packing boxes." Paige said North Korean government officials later came by and sealed all of the boxes. When Giorgadze leaves North Korea on December 10 for two weeks of vacation, "he is to take everything with him out of the country," Paige indicated.

Giorgadze made more than 16,000 contacts during his stint in North Korea, and earlier this year attained the first DXCC ever from that country.

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

First Amateur Transatlantic HF Digital Voice QSO Reported

Radio communication pioneers Ten-Tec and Thales have announced that they've used an Amateur Radio linkup to span the Atlantic on HF digital voice for the first time. Ten-Tec's Doug Smith, KF6DX, and Thales' Didier Chulot, F5MJN, successfully transmitted and received HF digital speech signals November 22 between Paris, France and Ten-Tec's Sevierville, Tennessee, headquarters.

"We view this as a significant accomplishment," said Smith. "Amateur Radio has long been at the forefront of technological development. It's nice to be able to show that our legacy is alive and well." Tests are being conducted under the auspices of ARRL's Digital Voice Working Group, which Smith chairs. A written report on the tests is due in January.

Calling it "a major breakthrough," a Ten-Tec news release said the two amateur stations "demonstrated the advantages of digital audio during the conversation, including noise-free, FM-like reception and the potential for simultaneous voice and data." The feat was accomplished on 15 meters using Ten-Tec transceivers and Thales Communications Skywave 2000 digital audio software. Operating as F8KGG, Chulot spoke with Smith for several minutes over the HF digital link, operating within a 3-kHz bandwidth.

Smith said he and F5MJN used unmodified Ten-Tec transceivers in upper-sideband mode, although AM or FM mode also would work. No additional hardware was required beyond the cables connecting the transceiver and the microphone to the PC sound card. Smith said audio quality was roughly the same as a conventional telephone circuit. An Amateur Radio version of the Thales system is expected to appear on the market early next year. "At this stage, the system is experimental-only for ham radio, but it looks like it's going to take off," Smith predicted.

In terms of Amateur Radio, Alinco was the first manufacturer to come out with a digital voice option for some of its transceivers. ICOM debuted its D-Star digital "concept radio" system last May at the Dayton Hamvention--where Smith chaired the Digital Voice Forum--and demonstrated it at the ARRL-TAPR Digital Communications Conference in September. The unit, which operates on 1.2 GHz, was scheduled to hit the ham radio market this fall.

Technical details of the Thales system will appear in an article "International Digital Audio Broadcasting Standards: Voice Coding and Amateur Radio Applications" in the January/February issue of QEX, which he edits.

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

Happy New Year

Happy Birthday

Congratulations to the following Club members:

Al Arrison, KB2AYO	1/15
Joseph DiNovi, WA2GFK	1/13
John Fahey, WB2ONY	1/19
Lou Joseph, W2LYL	1/22
George Munns, KB2GW	1/17
Gene Wallace, N2IMK	1/21



Crosstalk Submissions

All submissions, queries, comments, editorials, etc. should be directed to:

Gene Schoeberlein, AA2YO
401 Westwood Drive
Woodbury, New Jersey 08096-3131

aa2yo@arrl.net

Submission deadline: 1/27/2003

President-Ray Schnapp WB2NBJ
Vice President-Wayne Wilson WA2LET
Treasurer-Bob Krchnavek K2DAD

Chuck Colabrese WA2TML
Lou Joseph W2LYL
Al Arrison KB2AYU

Advertising-Open
ARES/RACES-Chick WA2USI
Awards-Jack K2ZA
Banquet-Bob KR2U
Budget-Bob K2DAD
Clubhouse Site-Al KB2AYU
Constitution-Open
Crosstalk-Gene AA2YO
Database-Bob K2DAD
DX-Doug WA2NPD
Field Day-Lou W2LYL
Hamfest-Open

GCARC Officers

Recording Secretary-Harry Bryant AA2WN
Corresponding Secretary-John Fisher K2JF

Board of Directors

Gene Schoeberlein AA2YO
Bob Krukowski KR2U
Bill Blakeley WA2ADB

Committees

Hospitality-Ken N2CQ
Membership- John AA2BN
Nominations-Art Strong KA2DOT
Publicity-Open
Repeaters-Chuck WA2TML
Scholarships-Greg WN2T
Special Services-Gene N2IMK
Sunshine-Open
Technical-Bob KR2U
TVI-John AA2BN
VEC Testing-Chick WA2USI

The W2MMD Repeaters

147.78/18 Mhz- Pitman
(CTCSS 131.8Hz)

223.06/224.66 Mhz-Sewell

447.1/442.1 Mhz - Pitman
(CTCSS 131.8Hz)

GCARC Meetings

General Membership

8 pm 1st Wednesday every month
Pfeiffer Community Center
Williamstown, NJ

Board of Directors

8 pm 3rd Wednesday every month
GCARC Club site
Harrison Twp. 4H Grounds
1 mile south of Mullica Hill on RT77

Nets

ARES/RACES
Sunday 20:00 Hrs
(147.78/18 and
223.06/224.66
repeaters)

10 Meter- Sunday
following the
ARES/RACES Net
(28.350 Mhz)

January Meeting Program

(Monday, January 13, 2003)
2003 Budget
Ron Block-Lightning Protection and Grounding

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

