



Presidents Message

Outgoing Presidents Message:

It has been a pleasure being president of the Club for the last 3 or 4 years. I don't mean to sound like it has been a bed of roses. We have had our problems but most of them have been taken care of satisfactorily. It is time to move on with a younger and more able chief. My most urgent desire is that all the members of GCARC give our new president, Darrell Neron, AB2E, your utmost cooperation in any way possible.

2005 DUES

GCARC dues for the year 2005 are due. The annual dues are \$20.00. Please send your checks directly to the treasurer, Bob Krchnavek, (K2DAD) at 50 Eastwick Dr., Gibbsboro, NJ 08026.

There are a few things coming up that we need each and every member to help with as best they can. The first one is the Hamfest; which as you know is our most important fund raising function. Harry needs lots of help before and after. Mailings have to go out, vendors have to be lined up, refreshments have to be arranged and paperwork filled out. The second one is Field Day; help is needed for all kinds of things, so let's get with it.

I'm going to get off my soap box now and fade away, well not exactly.

Best 73 & 88 to all,
Ray WB2NBJ

Incoming Presidents Message:

Hello GCARC members and Happy Holidays!

I am looking forward to being your new President, and will try my best to do a good job for you. I have some difficult shoes to fill, and I'm hoping to get some guidance from Ray, WB2NBJ. Some of you I have known since 1967, when I first joined the club. I've been in and out of the club since then due to many changes and events in my life, but now plan on devoting more time to the club. Other members I am meeting as I attend the meetings and am getting to know you, and I have had a great time at the last two Field Days operations with you. Collectively, we have a great club with lots of diverse talent! I'm hoping that through the year we can maybe get more club members involved in some of the existing activities, and perhaps we can become active in some new ones as well. Wishing all of you and your families the very best of the holiday season!

Darrell Neron AB2E

DX Dope

By Doug Gehring, WA2NPD

At this writing, we are listening to VU4RBI, one of the Andaman Islands Dxpeditio stations, passing emergency traffic related to perhaps the worst possible interruption any Dxpeditio ever experienced! By now, you have all read about the terrible earthquake, aftershocks and resulting tidal waves that have killed thousands and demolished property in the Indian Ocean part of the world. Of course, the news has not mentioned the Andaman and Nicobar Islands (they are too small on the map) where the rare Dxpeditio is (was) going full-swing! Unfortunately, the earthquake epicenter was only about 500 miles from the Andamans (200 miles from Nicobar), and they estimate at this time some 1000 have been killed on the Andamans alone. At this writing, the Dxpeditio has been put on hold; however, depending upon the clean-up timeframe, the operators are hopeful that some additional QSOs can be made before leaving on Jan. 1st. Also, they have asked for an extension of their license time and the emergency assistance rendered may count favorably towards the granting of this request. If there were any silver lining to this otherwise very dark cloud, it would certainly be the extensive emergency communications rendered to the Andaman populace and to the Indian government by the Dxpeditioers—a sort of built-in emergency crew with emergency equipment with immediate response time. For several days, this ham Dxpeditio was the only source of communications between the Andamans and the mainland. Depending upon whether a license extension will be granted, those now reading this may still possibly have a shot at working them. The last operation here was in 1987, hence, a shot at it now could well be worthwhile. Unfortunately, the only opening to the Eastern part of the USA to date (almost), has been on 20 meters (SSB and/or CW) and occurs between about 6:30 AM and 8:30 AM (plus or minus) EST. The opening is long path only; point your beam about 220 deg. Those with a 20 m dipole may be able to hear them for perhaps 20 or 30 minutes around 7:30 AM. Remember, they are working split and their CW is rather slow at about 18 wpm.

Well, what else is out there for this month?

STATION	DATES	FREQ/MODE	RARITY*	COUNTRY
3YOX	1/21 – 2/4	All; All (1)	5 PLUS	Peter I Is.
3D2TJ	1/1 – 1/7	40 – 10; SSB	3	Fiji Is.
8Q7PR	1/9 – 1/17	40 – 10; CW, SSB	3	Maldives
ZB2/H/C	12/29 – 1/4	All; All (2)	3	Gibraltar
V85SS	Now	40 – 17; CW, SSB	4	Brunei
YJ0AKA	Now till 1/2	80 – 10; All	4	Vanuatu
FK/H/C	1/3 – 1/9	80 – 10; All	3	New Caledonia
KG4AS	1/18 – 1/26	80 – 10; CW, SSB	2	Guantanamo

*Nr. 5 is rarest (1) is very major Dxpeditio (2) Dxpeditio

TNX to [The Weekly DX](#), [425 DX Report](#), K2JF, AA2WN, W2YC, and WA2LET; Also a very special thanks to Bernie, W3UR, who supplied the Andaman Information.

2005 DUES ARE DUE NOW!

Election of Officers

The following people were elected to serve as officers at the December General Membership Meeting:

President – Darrell Neron, AB2E	Vice President – Wayne Wilson, WA2LET
Treasurer – Robert Krchnavek, K2DAD	Recording Secretary – Harry Bryant, AA2WN
Corresponding Secretary – John Fisher, K2JF	Director, three year term – William Blakely, WA2ADB
Director, three year term-Steve Blasko,W2TDS	Trustee-Ray Schnapp, WB2NBJ

Phone Patch Question at December Meeting

At the December General Meeting those present voted to eliminate the phone patch on the 147.78/18 MHz repeater. Since the phone patch has been inoperable for an extended time the only effect of the will be the elimination of the phone line at the repeater site which will reduce Club expenses.

Club Member Profile

This month's Crosstalk profile features Robert W. Slippey , KC2NLM, one of our younger members:

When I was about 14 and living in Salem, NJ with my dad, KC2LGW, he started giving me electronic tutorials and I started building little kits and stuff like that. Eventually he showed me what else I can do with electronics as a hobby and I became very interested in Ham Radio. I had a CB rig but I wasn't very happy with it. In September of 2002, I was licensed as a technician with the call sign KC2KGM.

I mostly stayed on repeaters and my first contacts were on a repeater near my mother's house in Salisbury, MD. I then went home to New Jersey and played around with the 625 machine as well as others. This is where I met our fellow club member Harry Bryant, AA2WN. I checked into his ARES/RACES net on the 625 machine and a couple days down the road I got a package with a QSL card and some information on RACES. Harry of course was just one of the guys I met that were really, really helpful. He introduced me to the GCARC and I attended a few meetings. In was not able to drive but Harry helped out great there too. Harry let me ride with him to meetings and to some club activities. I attended my first Field Day with the GCARC and I might add it was a very enjoyable one. I enjoyed working 2/440 with my dad using the good old W2MMD call sign. Correction I loved it! Field Day was great and we also had help there too. Harry and Ray, WB2LNR helped me get a station together for Field Day.

After Field Day I got into six meters and made some contacts while in the mean time I passed my general theory but completely blanked out on the code. I then attended a meeting with the GCARC and took on the job of Field Day Chairman which scared me half to death to tell you the truth. I enjoyed setting things up as best as I could and I do apologize for any mistakes I may have made. Thanks to all that helped me. This year field day was even better. We had great weather and even better band conditions. VHF and UHF were kind of on the down side but our HF guys really pulled in the QSOs for us. FD 2004 was really a great year. After Field Day I continued working the repeaters and in October I passed the code (by the skin of my teeth) and just in time too. I passed it on October 16 and my CSCE year ran out on October 25th. With that I became KC2NLM.

I have an FT817 and an MFJ random wire tuner and have just started making contacts on the HF bands. I wish I had more time between work and school but hey that's what happens. I'll have plenty more time to work in the future. So I am in no rush as long as BPL goes away!

SCAMP On-Air Testing Commences

The Sound Card Amateur Message Protocol--or SCAMP--is not just a conference paper topic anymore. On-the-air testing of the digital communication protocol began in late November, and the first transcontinental communication using SCAMP occurred on December 4. SCAMP is designed to eliminate the need for pricey external hardware for passing e-mail traffic on relatively narrow-bandwidth channels. Rick Muething, KN6KB, prepared a presentation on SCAMP for the ARRL-TAPR Digital Communications Conference in September.

"SCAMP is an example of what is now possible with sound card, computer and software technology using cooperative amateur efforts," he says. As he explains, SCAMP is intended for transmitting messages--text with binary attachments--via 2-kHz bandwidth HF and VHF voice channels. He says SCAMP offers a moderate-throughput, error-free protocol that works using conventional sound cards and modestly powered computers.

Muething says a dozen dedicated testers began initial on-air testing on HF and VHF November 27 using the alpha version of a Windows-based SCAMP client called Paalink SCD that he and Vic Poor, W5SMM, developed.

The first successful transcontinental exchange of Amateur Radio e-mail messages using SCAMP took place December 4 on 20 meters between N6KZB in Temecula, California, and W3QA in West Chester, Pennsylvania. Each station ran 70 W. "Several other two-way exchanges were also made over the weekend as operational and protocol bugs were fixed in the alpha software," Muething reports. "The throughput of SCAMP adjusts to the channel quality, reaching a current net maximum of about 4800 bytes per minute before compression gains."

Muething says SCAMP doesn't require anything more than a 1-GHz class Pentium or Celeron processor with a minimum of 128 MB of memory to reach full throughput. Lesser systems may be used at reduced throughput.

Muething has more information on SCAMP. Contact him via e-mail at <kn6kb@arrl.net>. More information is available on the Web at <<http://www.svs.net/wyman/examples/hdsstv/index.html>>.

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

FCC Acts on Long-Range Cordless Telephone Complaint

The FCC in November responded to a complaint from the Holmesburg Amateur Radio Club about interference on 2 meters from a high-powered so-called long-range cordless telephone. FCC Special Counsel, Riley Hollingsworth, forwarded information from the club to the FCC Philadelphia District Office on November 22.

The club claimed that the cordless telephone system was causing interference on its repeater's 146.080 MHz input frequency. On November 27, an agent from the Philadelphia District Office investigated the complaint and determined that a resident of Glassboro, New Jersey, was operating a "Senao High Quality Cordless Telephone," model SN-358. The base unit appeared to operate on 146.080 MHz, while the handset appeared to operate on 228.960 MHz (specifications listed on Senao's Web site indicate the model SN-358 handset operates on 268 MHz and the base on 394 MHz).

During an on-site inspection, the telephone's owner voluntarily surrendered the unit to the FCC agent. The telephone owner asserted that he'd purchased the system, which reportedly did not display an FCC certification notice, from an eBay advertiser.

The FCC's Philadelphia District Office is continuing to investigate.

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

Happy Birthday

Congratulations to the following Club members:

Al Arrison, KB2AYU 1/15
Joseph DiNovi, WA2GFK 1/13
Louis Joseph, W2LYL 1/22
Robert Layton, KB2COB 1/11
Charles Naylor, WA2USI 1/9
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: 1/24/2005

President-Darrell Neron, AB2E
Vice President-Wayne Wilson WA2LET
Treasurer-Bob Krchnavek K2DAD

Chuck Colabrese WA2TML
Bob Krukowski KR2U
Bill Blakeley WA2ADB

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-Ray WB2LNR
DX-Doug WA2NPD
Field Day-Bob KC2NLM
Hamfest-Harry AA2WN

GCARC Officers

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

Board of Directors

Al Arrison KB2AYU
Gene Schoeberlein AA2YO
Steve Blasko, W2TDS

Committees

Hospitality-Ken N2CQ
Membership-Ray WB2LNR
Nominations-Art Strong KA2DOT
Publicity-Open
Repeaters-Chuck WA2TML
Scholarships-Greg WN2T
Special Services-Gene N2IMK
Sunshine-Open
Technical-Bob KR2U
TVI-Open
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

Socializing

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

