



## *Presidents Message*

I am honored to have been selected as your Club President for 2008. I will do my best to fulfill your expectations and to dedicate myself to trying to do a respectable job for this year. But, I will need your help. First off, we thank Darrell, AB2E, for serving 3 long years as Club President. Due to his job Darrell was not always able to make meetings, but somehow he was able to steer the Club onwards and upwards, regardless.

Any Club, organization, etc. is only as good as the number of members willing to put in some time volunteering to head-up or to help-out with various Club activities. To be perfectly honest, our Club especially needs to have some of our newer members volunteer to head some of our Committees and other activities. Obviously, not everyone feels they are qualified or interested in chairing some Committee or activity, but for those willing to give it a shot, we have a slot for you. Recently, Harry, K2ATX, offered to give the Hamfest Chairmanship a-go and he only very recently became a member of our Club. This is the kind of spirit we are looking for and we thank Harry for his willingness and for his leadership. Also, we are very grateful to another Harry, AA2WN, for his five years as Hamfest Chairman and for the super job he did in bringing the Club back from the jaws of death at the hands of the State Division of Taxation. In looking at the Committees roster, we are still looking for the following Chairmanships: Awards, Field Day, and Publicity. These are fun jobs. Hopefully, we will have some folks step forward within the next few weeks. One thing you will find is that the previous Chairman, or a Club Officer, will always be available to give the new guy help and advice. Dave, WB3JOY, has done a splendid job with our programs and he will continue in 2008 as our Club Program Chairman. Already, Dave has good programs lined-up for Jan. and February. And we welcome John, AA2BN, back and heading up our RACES/AREC committee. We need to become more involved here as the world is not the same place it was only a few short years ago. We now have a Federal Department of Homeland Security, and we need to prepare for any future 9-11s, etc. Space limits a complete run down of our Committees status, however, we cannot fail to mention our Repeaters Committee which Al, KB2AYU, has offered to chair. Al has a full slate of work (check the officers/committees roster), and we are looking for someone to serve as Corresponding Secretary to give Al a bit of relief. Fortunately, he has Mike, N2SRO, Wayne, WA2LET, and Chuck, WA2TML on his Repeaters Committee, and these are all seasoned, experienced, repeater veterans to compliment Al. I will close by wishing all had a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year and hoping to see everyone out to our Club meeting January 2<sup>nd</sup> where we will be treated to another fine program with Dave, W2YC, giving us an update on the status of the popular computer program, Log Book of the World. The 50:50 drawing will include a mystery gift, or two. Hope to see everyone then.

Doug

## Down Jersey Dxing

By Bill Grim, W0MHK

It's the end of another year! But DXing doesn't know that it is.... For me, we are getting into the better part of the year for the low bands. Propagation, especially on 80M and 160M, can really peak during the cold months. It is amazing how quiet the low bands can be as we prepare for snow, ice, and another Eagle's loss! Take a listen just before bed at night or early morning before work, and you may be surprised by what you hear and how much easier it may be to hear it! I can still remember being stunned one morning before going to high school listening on 40M in the winter and hearing an Hawaiian station "booming" in. I worked it for my first ever KH6 contact! Not bad for 50 watts, an unstable Heathkit VFO, and a low dipole that my mother thought about using for a clothesline!

This particular season is also a good time to take stock of what you did for the year as far as operating is concerned. I take a look at how well my antennas/rigs did for the year. Was I satisfied with their operation? Is a major change, especially in antennas, needed? Would I like to have a better skywire before going next year's holiday season? I always seem to get great ideas for new antennas when I have the least amount of desire to work outside. Push the "sugar plums" aside in your head and think about some new gain antenna, better coax, or a better place to put that poorly performing antenna.

Finally, there has been quite a bit of "hubbub" about (FJ), Saint Barthelemy Island (St. Bart's to the jet-set that frequent the Caribbean), possibly becoming a new DXCC entity! Martti (OH2BH) and Olli (OH0XX) began giving out FJ/OH2AM in their highly efficient style. They are said to be sticking to 20M and 17M (CW and Phone) to give out as many QSOs as possible to those hoping that this is a new one. Thus far, however, the ARRL DX Desk has not announced if it will accept these contacts for a new DXCC entity. Work them if you can, and don't worry about the League's DX Blessing until after the smoke clears! More definitive information will be forthcoming concerning this operation after [Crosstalk](#) is published. And on to some DX possibilities in the first month of the New Year ala WA2NPD's format:

<u>STATION</u>	<u>DATES</u>	<u>FREQ/MODE</u>	<u>RARITY</u>	<u>ENTITY</u>
PZ5YV	1/5-1/15	60-6/ALL MODES	2	Surinam
HS0ZFI	1/1-1/20	160-6/ALL MODES	4	Thailand
FO/M	1/9-1/22	160-6/ALL MODES	3	Marquesas Is.
KH0	1/10-1/14	80-6/ALL MODES	3	Mariana Is.
J5C	1/10-1/24	160-10/ALL MODES	2	Guinea-Bissau
VP8DIF	1/27-2/28	ALL BANDS	4	S. Georgia Is.

5 is the rarest

Credits: NG3K ADXO, [The Daily DX](#)

## Ray Schnapp Recovering

I talked with Ray a few minutes this week and it sounds like he is recovering well from his health problems. He is able to drive now and says he will make it to Club meetings as soon as he feels up to it. He said to say thank you to all the Club members who called and sent get well cards.

Your editor

# John Fisher, K2JF SK

By Doug Gehring, WA2NPD

There is little argument that, with John Fisher's recent passing, GCARC has lost its most complete ham to the SK rolls. John was probably involved in and interested in more facets of the hobby than any member of our Club. John did not join GCARC until the middle nineteen seventies long after acquiring his first license in 1938. But in a few short years, his accomplishments within the Club were legend. He served the club as Director, President (1988), and was Corresponding Secretary for some 10 years. He was Hamfest Chairman, Field Day Chairman, and, for some 20 years, was a FD band chairman for 20, 40, 80, or 6 meters. He headed up GCARC's support of the Pitman Crop Walks and spearheaded the Clubs participation in the Cancer Bike-A-Thons for many years. He was a prolific writer authoring many technical, DX, and other articles for Crosstalk and was involved in the circulation of Crosstalk for several years. He served the Club as TVI and Technical Committee Chairman and was the Technical Chairman for the ARRL SNJ Section for some 20 years. He was a DXCC card checker and a VEC for the League. By virtue of his technical expertise (RCA engineer), he presented many technical talks for our Club's programs. John was an avid Dxr and Contester. He had 342 countries confirmed and was on both the Mixed and CW Honor rolls. John needed only N. Korea to attain the position of Top of the Honor Roll. John participated in 3 Dxpeditions to the Galapagos Islands (HC8). He held virtually all other DX achievements including the coveted 5BWAZ award. John was also a member of the Frankford Radio Club, the former Southern NJ DX Club, and was a Life member of the League. His versatility extended to VHF/UHF as he was very active in the RACES and AREC nets and related activities. GCARC honored John in 1982 by presenting him with the Milt Goldman Award. John was the first club member, following the initial presentation to Milt, K3WIN, in 1981, to receive this honor. Unquestionably, GCARC has lost a "Pillar" of our Club and a good friend to its members. The Club extends its condolences and sympathies to his two sons and to his family.

## New Officers for 2008

The election of 2008 officers was held at the December General Membership Meeting. The following individuals were elected:

President: Doug, WA2NPD  
Recording Secretary: Open  
Corresponding Secretary: Al, KB2AYU  
Director 3-yr.: Bill, WA2ADB  
Director 2-yr: Darrell, AB2E  
Trustee 3-yr: Ray, WB2NBJ

Vice President: Wayne, WA2LET  
Treasurer: Ken, N2CQ  
Director 3-yr: Bill, W0MHK  
Trustee 4-yr: Cory, WA3UVV

## Technical Information Exchange

By John Zaruba Jr., AA2BN

Since there are some time constraints at the general membership meetings, there isn't much time for involved discussion of technical topics. Are you interested in any of the following or another topic:

QRP	Homebrewing	Kit building	APRS
Satellites	Winlink	Moonbounce	Digital modes
Antenna construction			

Please see "Exchange" on page 4.

“Exchange” continued from page 3.

Come meet with other interested folks at the Technical Information Exchange, located at the GCARC trailer in Mullica Hill. The first meeting will be on Saturday, January 5th, 2008 from 9:30 to 11:30 AM. Thereafter, meetings will be held the first Saturday of the Month in the same time slot.

## ARES/RACES Happenings

By John Zaruba Jr., AA2BN

For 2008 I'll be chairing that ARES/RACES Committee. Thanks to Dave MacDonald, WB3JOY, for his service to the club as the previous committee chair. Doug Gehring, WA2NPD, asked me to write a monthly update for Crosstalk; my goal is to provide timely and concise news to the membership in the emergency communications segment of ham radio.

The biggest news in Southern New Jersey emergency communication (EMCOMM) begins with the initials MCC (Medical Coordination Center). Funded by the NJ Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS), there are 2 MCC facilities in the section, Cooper University Hospital in Camden and Atlanti-Care Regional Medical Center in Atlantic City. The mission of the MCC is planning, coordination and management of medical and medically related activities. The MCC allows “one stop shopping” for hospitals to request assistance from DHSS and allow information and resources to flow between hospitals and County Emergency Operations Centers. Last month I attended a meeting at the Cooper University Hospital MCC with personnel from Cumberland and Camden County’s RACES organizations and the atmosphere was exciting. DHSS has embraced ham radio in a big way and has plans in place to utilize ARES and RACES for many EMCOMM needs. The administrations of all NJ hospitals initially requested ham radio support and the MCC will help the County organizations establish relationships and maintain liaisons. This is a huge service opportunity for ham radio and we’ll need more operators to help out.

In the January 2008 issue of QST magazine there is a great article on free online Incident Command System training provided by the Federal Emergency Management Agency. A computer with a web browser is all that is required to take the classes. The classes are short and easily digestible, about 2 to 3 hours apiece. The ARRL recommends ICS100, 200, 700, and 800 for ARES members, as does Gloucester County for RACES. Also recommended is the Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Course (ARECC) Level I. While it isn’t free, it is an excellent investment that leaves no doubt about your qualifications. ARECC Level I and II can (and have been) be taught locally if online courses don’t meet your needs.

Every ham with a desire to be involved in EMCOMM needs to take advantage this training and improve their skills. The agencies we serve have built their response structures based on the Incident Command System, and if ham radio wants to play a part there needs to be integration with those served agencies. If we’re not ready and qualified to respond, we won’t get called.

## Possible Change in General Membership Meeting Start Time

The General Membership Meeting has started at 8PM for a number of years and we have to vacate our current meeting room by 9:30PM which gives us very little time for a business meeting and a program. At a future meeting the board would like to hear discussion from the members about changing the meeting starting time to 7:30PM or earlier.




**JANUARY**                      **CONDUCTED BY N2SS**                      **2008**

**WARC BANDS**


<u>30 Meters</u>	<u>17 Meters</u>	<u>12 Meters</u>
<b>W2YC. 308</b>	<b>N2SS ...325</b>	<b>WØMHK310</b>
N2SS.....295	WØMHK..322	N2SS.....303
WØMHK ..279	W2YC .....312	W2YC.....278
WA2NPD ..216	WA2NPD .221	K2JF .....135
AA2WN....171	K2JF .....168	N2CQ.....99
AB2E .....146	AA2WN ...122	WA2NPD...96
K2JF.....112	AB2E.....121	AB2E .....92
N2CQ.....111	N2CQ .....115	AA2WN.....20

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

 **MOBILE DX**


<b>W2YC .....276</b>	WØMHK ..... 141
N2SS.....234	AA2WN ..... 131
K2JF ..... 150	

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


 **6 METER DXCC**

<b>WØMHK..... 106</b>	W2YC.....29
K2JF .....94	AA2WN.....15
N2SS ..... 55	



Congrats to Bill for hitting the Century mark on 6 Meters!!

 **1.5K Club**

<b>W2YC .....1584</b>	AA2WN ..... 1369
<b>N2SS.....1540</b>	K2JF..... 1350
WØMHK ....1478	AB2E ..... 1185
WA2NPD ...1453	N2CQ..... 1135

 **GRID SQUARES**

<b>WØMHK.....540</b>	K2JF .....285
.....	.....



 **160 Meters** 

<b>W2YC..... 201</b>	N2SS ..... 79
WØMHK ..... 152	AA2WN ..... 36
AB2E ..... 100	K2JF ..... 34
WA2NPD..... 96	N2CQ ..... 9


W2YC continues as our undisputed Top of Top Band.



**Rules for GCARC Honor Roll Listings**  
Provide me with your total IOTAs worked, or countries (including deleted) worked for: WARC Bands, 160 Meters, Digital modes, Mobile, 6 Meters or your total for 80,40,20, 15 and 10 for 1.5K Club. Final category is Grid Squares – just send me your total worked. Lastly, you do not have to participate in every category to be listed; just send me your totals for any of the categories listed.

 **R T T Y**  **DIGITAL**

<b>W2YC..... 276</b>	K2JF ..... 113
AA2WN ..... 187	N2SS ..... 53
N2CQ ..... 151	WA2JSG ..... 10

 **Islands On The Air**

<b>N2SS.....843</b>	AB2E ..... 205
W2YC.....656	N2CQ..... 159
WØMHK.....381	

**CURRENT OFFICIAL ARRL DXCC STATISTICS**

Active Count .....	337
Deleted Count.....	58
Last Addition.....	KH8/S
Last Deletion.....	STØ

## January Birthdays

Congratulations to these members celebrating birthdays in January:

Al Arrison, KB2AYU  
Anthony Pitale, N2PKN  
Gary Reed, N2QEE  
Curt Trainer, N2BYC  
Gene Wallace, N2IMK  
Matt Wilson, K2MFW



## Crosstalk Submissions

This is your Club newsletter. Make use of it. Feel free to contribute general interest articles and ideas for articles.

All submissions, queries, comments and editorials should be addressed to Gene Schoeberlein at aa2yo@arrl.net.

Submission deadline for February issue:  
1/28/2008

## Club Web-Site

<http://users.tellurian.com/freddie/w2mmd/>

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

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

Cory, WA3UVV  
Steve, W2TDS

### GCARC Officers

Recording Secretary-Al Arrison, KB2AYU  
Corresponding Secretary-Al Arrison, KB2AYU

### Board of Directors

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

### Trustees

Ray, WB2NBJ  
Mike, N2SRO

### Committees

ARES/RACES-John, AA2BN  
Awards-Open  
Budget-Steve, W2TDS  
Clubhouse Site-Al, KB2AYU  
Club License Trustee-Darrell, AB2E  
Constitution-As needed  
Crosstalk-Gene, AA2YO  
Database-Ray, W2RM  
DX-Bill, W0MHK  
Field Day-Open  
Hamfest-Harry, Harry, K2ATX

Hospitality-Ray, WB2NBJ  
Membership-Ray, W2RM  
Nominations-Doug, WA2NPD  
Programs-Dave, WB3JOY  
Publicity-Open  
Repeaters-Al, KB2AYU  
Scholarships-Greg, WN2T  
Special Services, Darrell, AB2N  
Sunshine-Ray, W2RM  
Technical/TVI-Cory, WA3UVV  
VEC Testing-Ray, W2RM

**The W2MMD Repeaters**

147.78/18 Mhz-Pitman  
(CTCSS 131.8Hz)

223.06/224.66 Mhz-Sewell

447.1/442.1 Mhz-Pitman  
(CTCSS 167.9Hz)

1272.4/1284.4 MHz-Pitman

**GCARC Meetings**

**General Membership**

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**

Log Book of the World  
W2YC

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

