

Presidents Message

As I write this, we are digging out of a record breaking December snowstorm. I hope everyone has their generators fueled and their batteries charged just in case our radio skills are needed. I have a feeling we will see a lot more snow this winter.

It is hard to believe that we are starting the second decade of the 21st Century. The year 2010 sounds like something out of a science fiction novel. The GCARC had a banner year in 2009. We celebrated the Clubs 50th anniversary, had a very successful Hamfest, got our Clubsite VHF tower back in the air, and added many new members. I hope to continue this success in the coming year.

I would like to thank Harold, AC2BK, and Vinnie, N4NYY, for taking positions on the GCARC Board. We need newer members to get involved either as board members or committee chairpersons. A Club only thrives when all its members pitch in for the good of the organization.

We are always looking for topics for Club meeting programs. It can be as simple as antenna basics or a little more technical like D-Star basics. If you have a topic you would like to present, or one that you would like to see presented, let me know.

This coming year I would like to focus on the Clubsite. It has been somewhat neglected the past few years and is in need of some repairs. I want to put up some more HF antennas and get all the operating positions setup so that anyone can use them. I plan on installing a card reader system to make it easier for members to gain access. The GCARC Clubsite is a valuable resource so let's make good use of it.

If you would like to try contesting, perhaps we could get some of the Club contesters to run a few of the smaller contests at the Clubsite and teach newcomers the basics. Be careful though, contesting can be very addictive.

The GCARC is a "general purpose" Club. We all have different aspects of a very diverse hobby that we are interested in. I think the GCARC can accommodate all of these different interests. So, at the Club meetings, don't just sit there, get to know one another. We are, as hams, communicators after all. You never know, you might make a new friend. See you at the meeting.

Best wishes to all for a prosperous new year.

Al, KB2AYU

Down Jersey DXing

By Bill Grim, W0MHK

While watching one of the DX clusters on a snowy Saturday afternoon, the question occurs as to what to expect DX-wise for radio conditions in the year 2010. Frankly, it seems we know less about this new sunspot cycle now than we did a year ago. Cycle 24 has gotten stranger as the 2009 has unfolded.

A huge sunspot just traversed the sun's earth-side face during this past week raising the Solar Flux to an 84! That's about the highest it has been in a year or more, but you sure could not tell much of difference in propagation on 20 through 10 meters the past week! Conditions seemed to be better with around a 74 number for the Solar Flux during the last week in November during CQ WW DX Contest, especially on 15 Meters. Wonder what the big spot might have done for us on 6 Meters this past June?

Guess the best answer to this situation is to check the cluster, check the Solar Flux and check the bands with your ears! Nothing beats listening to really tell you what is going on with propagation. We are still having some very narrow band openings to different parts of the world on different bands at times. The DX is there, but you need to be there too!

40 through 160 Meters have quieted down quite a bit now that we are in the winter season. Early sunsets and late sunrises take the edge off listening for some nice "gray-line" openings on these bands at this point of our Northern Hemisphere calendar.

For you occasional DXers, don't forget to keep your envelope credits on file with the W2 QSL Incoming Bureau. All the details about the bureau are at the ARRL website. With so many of the club members paying League dues, take advantage of this inexpensive service! I have had my gripes about the bureau from time to time, but overall it has given me many thousands of DX confirmations over the years. I just received a bureau card this week from UT5UGR looking for a conformation from me for a qso on 17 Meters made in 1998. Neat part is, I was living in Connecticut back then and worked the guy from Princeville, Hawaii on the Big Island while I was vacationing there. He'll be getting the confirmation even after 11 years!

With the major holidays behind us, more DX travel should ensue a ramp up of our possibilities for a new one. Let's comb January's upcoming DXpedition data for some exotics worth hunting for:

STATION	DATES	HIGHLIGHTS	PRIORITY	ENTITY
XR9JA	1/10-1/14	AN-010,160-6, CW/SB,PSK	2	S. SHETLANDS
HS0ZJF	1/12-3/8	160-10M - CW ONLY	3	THAILAND
J5UAP	1/15-3/31	160-10, MAINLY DIGITAL	1	GUINEA BISSAU
FO/A	1/18-2/5	160-30M, SSB/DIGITAL	3	AUSTRAL IS.
CE0Z	1/19-2/2	160-10M, SSB/CW/DIG	3	JUAN FERNAN.
YJ0MM	1/21-1/28	160-10M, SSB/CW/DIG	3	VANUATU
VP8DMN	1/21-1/29	IOTA SA002, SB/CW/DIG	2	FALKLAND IS.
ST26ASC	1/22-1/28	26TH ARAB SCOUT CONF.	3	SUDAN
6W	1/27-2/10	HA0NAR/6W	1	SENEGAL

PRIORITY - 5 BEING MOST DIFFICULT CREDIT: N3GK ADXO

Welcome New Member

This month the Club welcomes an old member back to the Club. Bill Martino, N2AAY, has rejoined the club. Bill holds a General Class License and lives in Williamstown. Please welcome Bill back to the Club when you see him at Meetings and functions.

Your 2010 Officers

The following officers were elected for the year 2010 at the December General Membership Meeting:

President: Al, KB2AYU
Vice President: Harry, K2ATX
Recording Secretary: Harold, AC2BK
Corresponding Secretary: Vinnie, N4NYY
Treasurer: Ken, N2CQ
3 Yr. Director: Gene, AA2YO
3 Yr. Director: Doug, WA2NPD
4 Yr. Trustee: Steve, W2TDS

Please come out to meetings and give your 2010 officers your full support.

Programs for January and February Meetings

We will have two interesting programs at our upcoming January 6th and February 3rd Club meetings, respectively. At our January meeting, Doug, WA2NPD, will present an updated program on the Global Warming Issue. He gave this program some 5 years ago, but recent data and developments have added new dimensions to this very current worldwide issue and an updated program seems justified. Doug worked extensively in the area of Greenhouse Warming and Ozone depletion chemistry for 18 years at DuPont, and has traveled extensively to assist and to monitor analytical work in these fields. He capped his working career as Laboratory Director for National Refrigerants, Inc. for nearly ten years.

At our February 3rd meeting, we are honored and very pleased to announce that the program (to be announced next month) will be given by Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH, who recently retired as the FCC's Special Counsel for the Spectrum Enforcement Division. Riley held this position with the FCC for nearly ten years. He is a graduate of the University of South Carolina and earned his Law Degree at Wake Forest. Following his retirement from the FCC, Riley was appointed as an Assistant Director of the Mid Atlantic Division by ARRL Division Director Bill Edgar. Riley has often spoken at the annual Dayton Hamvention and elsewhere during his years with the FCC. He is an excellent speaker and his subject matter will certainly be of great interest to all hams. You will want to put this meeting down on your calendar.

Radio Merit Badge Day

A Radio Merit Badge course will be held at The College of New Jersey in Ewing, NJ on Saturday, January 9, 2010. At the course Scouts will be able to complete the requirements for the Radio Merit Badge in a single day. If you are interested in helping with this course or know a Scout interested taking this course please contact Gary Wilson at k2gw@arrl.net.

Computer Projector Donated to Club

We are delighted to announce that Vinnie, N4NNY, has generously donated a computer projector to the Club. Considering the value of these projectors, this is a most significant contribution. The unit may require a bit of service and our resident service technician, Al, KB2AYU, is going to check it over. Heretofore, we have been borrowing a projector from one of the local schools and, to date, have been very successful with this source. Now, we will have our own projector and will have access to it at any time. We extend special thanks to Vinnie and to Al for any service that may be necessary.

Philadelphia Wireless Law

By Cory Sickles, WA3UVV

Effective December 1, the City of Philadelphia's new law prohibiting the operation of "wireless devices" went into effect. Although the rationale behind the law addresses "mobile telephones", the final text paints broad strokes and prohibits anything that can be considered a "wireless device".

This regulation made it through the entire legislative process with out any consideration for Amateur Radio or other types of non-governmental 2-way communications equipment usage. The vague language in certain areas of the act appear to prohibit the use of GPS receivers and garage door remotes as well.

While the spirit of such legislation certainly has merit, the execution leaves something to be desired and given the increasing ways in which state/commonwealth and local governments are looking for any income sources possible, Philadelphia will surely be searching for every opportunity to enforce this new high-profile law and collect fines. Until an exemption for Amateur Radio is added in, you may well be wise to just leave the rig off until you are outside the city/county line. Hopefully, "someone" in Pennsylvania is working on this correction.



The full text can be read at: webapps.phila.gov/council/attachments/6317.pdf.



Doug, WA2NPD, presents Dave, W2YC, with his DX A-1 Honor Roll Plaque




JANUARY **CONDUCTED BY N2SS** **2010**

 **WARC BANDS** 


<u>30 Meters</u>	<u>17 Meters</u>	<u>12 Meters</u>
W2YC. 315	N2SS ...327	WØMHK313
N2SS303	WØMHK.. 325	N2SS303
WØMHK ..290	W2YC 321	W2YC283
WA2NPD ..238	WA2NPD . 257	N2CQ 128
N2CQ181	N2CQ 191	WA2NPD.. 105
AA2WN ...171	AA2WN ... 122	AB2E92
AB2E147	AB2E 122	AA2WN20

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


 **MOBILE DX**

W2YC276	WØMHK 141
N2SS234	AA2WN 131


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

 **6 METER DXCC**



WØMHK..... 108	N2SS55
W2YC69	AA2WN15

 **1.5K Club**

W2YC1616	AA2WN 1369
N2SS1548	AB2E 1185
WØMHK ...1503	N2CQ 1135
WA2NPD ...1479	


 **GRID SQUARES**

WØMHK.....563
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 **160 Meters** 



W2YC..... 222	N2SS 82
WØMHK 161	AA2WN 36
AB2E 100	N2CQ 9
WA2NPD 103	

W2YC continues as our undisputed Top of Top Band.

 **Islands On The Air**

N2SS879	AB2E 205
W2YC712	N2CQ 159
WØMHK432	

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**

W2YC..... 303	N2SS 87
N2CQ 188	K2AWS 29
AA2WN 187	WA2JSG 10

CURRENT OFFICIAL ARRL DXCC STATISTICS

Active Count	338
Deleted Count.....	58
Last Addition	KH8/S
Last Deletion.....	STØ

January Birthdays

Congratulations to these members celebrating birthdays in January:

James Alston, KC2UND
Al Arrison, KB2AYU
John Czuba, K2AEN
Jim Davidson, KA2AKV
Joe DiNovi, WA2GFK
Lou Joseph, W2LYL
Anthony Pitale, N2PKN
Lou Ranson, KC2FXK
Gary Reed, N2QEE
Curt Trainer, AA2C
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:
1/24/2010

Club Website

<http://www.w2mmd.com>

President-Al Arrison, KB2AYU
Vice President-Harry Ewell, K2ATX
Treasurer-Ken Newman, N2CQ

Bill Blakeley, WA2ADB
Chuck Colabrese, WA2TML
Doug Gehring, WA2NP

Steve, W2TDS
Cory, WA3UVV

GCARC Officers

Recording Secretary-Harold Garron, AC2BK
Corresponding Secretary-Vinnie, N4NYY

Board of Directors

William Grimm, W0MHK
Harry Bryant, AA2W
Gene Schoeberlein, AA2YO

Trustees

Ray, WB2NBJ
Mike, N2SRO

Committees

ARES/RACES-John, AA2BN
Awards-Dave, W2YC
Budget-Steve, W2TDS
Clubhouse Site-Al, KB2AYU
Club License Trustee-Darrell, AB2E
Constitution-As needed
Crosstalk-Gene, AA2YO
Database-Ken, N2CQ
DX-Bill, W0MHK
Field Day-Vinnie, N4NYY
Hamfest-Harry, K2ATX
Historian-Marty, W2ILT

Hospitality-Ray, WB2NBJ
Membership-Cory/Ray, WA3UVV/WB2NBJ
Nominations-Doug, WA2NPD
Programs-Doug, WA2NPD
Publicity-Cory, WA3UVV
Repeaters-Al, KB2AYU
Scholarships-Greg, WN2T
Special Services, Darrell, AB2E
Sunshine-Ray, W2RM
Technical/TVI-Cory, WA3UVV
VEC Testing-Harry, K2ATX
4H Liaison-K2ATX

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

7:30 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

Global Warming
Doug Gehring, WA2NPD

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



Happy New Year