

GLOUCESTER COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

OFFICERS FOR 1992

PRESIDENT: Marla Bozarth, N2DWR

VICE PRESIDENT: Joseph Wells, N2KLE

RECORDING SECRETARY:

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY: John Fisher, K2JF

TREASURER: Charles Colabrese, WA2TML

DIRECTORS

THREE YEAR: Jim Mollica, K2OWE

THREE YEAR: Chris Chamberlain, N2IVN

TWO YEAR: Ken Bozarth, KNZU

TWO YEAR: Irma Colabrese, N2FNF

ONE YEAR: Bob Layton, KB2COB

ONE YEAR: Frank Malinowski, KE2NY

TRUSTEES

FOUR YEAR: Joel Supkow, KE2AYW

THREE YEAR: Milt Marder, WA2FGA

TWO YEAR: Howard Marder, WA2IBZ

ONE YEAR: Virginia Macrie, KA2ZZA

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS WILL BE
ANNOUNCED AT THE JANUARY GENERAL
MEMBERSHIP MEETING.

President's Message

It is soon going to be 1992 and I find myself about to take position at the helm. Though in a new official role, I feel I have an already established rapport with most of the attending/participating members. Thank you all for your support this past year and, of course, for your vote of confidence. I would like to meet more of you at our club functions. If you have any suggestions on how to make our club even stronger in 1992 please feel free to contact me; I'm open for all suggestions. Thank you to all the past officers for a job well done in '91.

There are still a few positions open (ie, recording secretary, hamfest chairperson, and a few others.) If you are interested in working with us in any capacity, please don't hesitate to give me a call.

In closing, I hope everyone had a nice holiday. 73, Marla, N2DWR

ABOUT IOTA

You have probably heard stations referred to as being in "NA-045 or "OC-118." These are not zone or grid square designations, but rather locations areas of islands. "IOTA" stands for Islands On the Air, and the rules of its awards program define these locations. The basic awards for confirming two-way contact with 100 such islands or island groups. This might at first seem easy, since there are tens of thousands of islands in the world. But the IOTA rules divide them into logical groupings, of which about 650 have Reference Numbers like those above, which signify the continent (NA, AF, EU, etc) and the groups number Islands that count separately for DXCC fall within a unique Reference Number region, but so do many more islands that do not count separately for DXCC. A single island group might include many islands or, in fact, none at all. This is because of the way groups are defined, for completeness, in terms of latitude and longitude boundaries. Some island groups can never be activated and receive a Reference number because they have no qualifying islands in them ! This may at first seem undesirable. But consider the alternative of trying to find out if there are qualifying islands in advance. The IOTA program was conceived about 25 years ago by Geoff Watts, and English SWL. Its administration was taken over by the RSCB in 1985. There are now 17 separate awards available. Those wishing more information about the IOTA awards and criteria for qualifying islands should contact Roger Balister, G3KMA, IOTA Director, La Quinta, Mimbridge, Chobham, Woking, Surrey, GU24 8AR, ENGLAND. Enclose 2 IRC's when a reply is requested. (Three "greenstamps" will also work) Those who wish to start chawing the IOTA-100 Award will want a copy of the complete IOTA Directory, available for U.S.\$10 from The DX Magazine, P.O. Box 50-I, Fulton CA 95439. Tnx IOTA/K2JF>

DECEMBER MEETING MINUTES

The GCARC held its monthly meeting on December 4, 1991, at the Woodbury VFW. N2DWR called the meeting to order at 8:00 p.m. A motion was approved to dispense with reading the minutes and giving the Treasurer's report.

Visitors: Joe Seraday, Grant Fonda, Wayne Clifford and Joe Grace (KB2CFB)

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Awards: K3JGJ has received an 80 meter CW operating award.

Banquet: Scheduled for January 11. Cost \$16.55 per person, at the Dutch Inn.

Crosstalk: A combined issue for November and December was mailed over the weekend.

DX: K2JF reported on current conditions and contacts.

Sunshine: WB2YHX's wife was recently admitted to the hospital.

Training: Current class consists of 35 students. December 19 is next exam date.

NEW BUSINESS

Site Equipment: Due to the recent unauthorized removal of equipment from the trailer, the following steps have been taken: locks and security code have been changed, and trailer is now wired to a central security system. Anyone interested in gaining access to the site may see a Board member to obtain a key. KD2CR offered to number the keys. Keys may not be duplicated. A list of keyholders to contact for access will be included in Crosstalk. KB2COB suggested implementing a card key access system. Further suggestions may be brought up at the next Board meeting.

Election: Membership only needed to vote for two three-year Directors. Other candidates ran unopposed. The office of Recording Secretary is still open. Results of the election for 1992 officers are as follows:

President:	Marla Bozarth, N2DWR
Vice President:	Joe Wells, N2KLE
Recording Secretary:	---OPEN---
Treasurer:	Chuck Colabrese, WA2TML
Corresponding Secretary:	John Fisher, K2JF
Three-Year Director:	Jim Mollica, K2OWE
Three-Year Director:	Chris Chamberlain, N2IVN
Four-Year Trustee:	Joel Supkow, KB2AYW

Meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, N2KLD, Recording Secretary.

PROPAGATION

Certainly we have passed the peak of the current solar cycle. But where is the cycle headed now? A look at the averages for 1991 shows it holding fairly steady above 200. Recent forecasts show the solar flux heading down over the next year, with average flux about 40 points lower in December 1992, and another 40 points below that at the end of 1993. The solar flux could bottom out by the end of 1996. Wondering when flux levels will climb back to where they are now? Wait until after the turn of the century. (Note: I suggest that you Novices and Tech. who want to work other other countries and some DX up grade before too long. The ten meter band will just about disappear in the next year. K2JF). Tnx ARRL/K2JF.

PROVING EINSTEIN RIGHT

The British astronomer whose observations during a solar eclipse confirmed part of Albert Einstein's general theory of relativity was born 109 years ago. Sir Arthur Stanly Eddington, who served as director of the Cambridge University Observatory for almost a third of a century, also significantly advanced our understanding of the internal workings of stars. Eddington was an outstanding theoretical and observational astronomer. In 1909, while working at the Royal Observatory at Greenwich, Eddington was dispatched to Malta to determine the longitude of an observing station there. In 1912 he led an eclipse expedition to Brazil. Eddington distinguished himself in his studies of stars. He determined that the reason stars do not contract under the influence of gravity is because outward pressure from heat and radiation counter-balances gravity's inward pull. He was also the first to show that the interior temperatures of stars must be several million degrees and that a star's luminosity depends on its mass. One of his greatest areas of interest, however, was relativity. In 1919 Eddington led an expedition that confirmed a basic point of general relativity. According to the theory, gravity should bend light rays; the stronger the gravitational field, the greater the angle of deflection. Eddington realized that it would be possible to test this point during a total solar eclipse, when stars that appear near the Sun in our sky become visible. On May 29, 1919, Eddington observed a total solar eclipse from the island of Principe in West Africa. True to Einstein's predictions, the Sun's gravity bent the light coming from stars near the solar limb, deflecting their apparent positions slightly away from the solar disk. A similar experiment can be performed by taking a magnet and placing it near the beam of an oscilloscope and a needle. Place the needle on the electron beam on the face of the scope and put a magnet at the other end of the needle. As you move the needle you will see how a "spot" on the electron beam moves. Your needle point can be looked-at as a star and the electron beam, a beam of light from a far-away star.

Tnx K2JF>

SCANNER BILL UPDATE

The "Scanner Bill", A-3044, has apparently STILL not been brought to the floor of the Assembly. Time is running out... To make sure Trenton knows we aren't about to let this die, call the Speaker's Office at 609-777-0973. Tell them you want this bill moved on to the schedule for a vote. DO IT TODAY!

Then call Collins and Stuhltrager at 853-7868 or 769-3633. Let them know (politely) of your concern(s) about this legislation and its importance. Tell them WHY this bill should pass.

I am convinced that there would be a lot less misdirection and "stupid" laws if the people of this nation would take an active part in communicating their needs, desires and concerns to their elected officials. These people are our "employees", and just like regular employees, they will do their jobs best when the desired results and expectations are effectively communicated to them.

FROM WA3UVV addressed to ALL on the KB2COB-10 EBS, TNX CORY

EDITOR'S NOTE

IF YOU HAVE NOT GOTTEN YOUR TICKET FOR THE INSTALLATION BANQUET, JANUARY 11, 1992 THAT WILL BE HELD AT THE DUTCH INN IN GIBBSTOWN, YOU NEED TO CONTACT MARLA, N2DWR QUICKLY. SPEAK TO ANYONE WHO HAS ATTENDED IN THE PAST, THEY WILL TELL YOU A GREAT TIME WAS HAD BY ALL WHO ATTENDED. THIS YEAR WILL BE NO EXCEPTION. HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE.

THIS IS MY THIRD EDITION OF X-TALK, I WOULD LIKE TO THANK ALL THOSE WHO HAVE COMMENTED ON THE X-TALK. YOUR SUPPORT HAS BEEN GREATLY APPRECIATED. I AM TOLD A NEW AND TALENTED EDITOR IS WAITING IN THE WINGS AND WILL TAKE THE REINS AFTER THE FIRST OF THE YEAR. ONCE AGAIN THANKS FOR THE HELP AND SUPPORT!!!!!! THIS HAS BEEN FUN.

ENCLOSED IS AN UPDATED CLUB ROOSTER. PLEASE CHECK YOUR LISTING AND REPORT ANY ERRORS, OR CORRECTIONS THAT SHOULD BE MADE.

TEN COMMANDMENTS FOR THE HAM RADIO OPERATOR

1. Beware the lightning that lurketh in the undischarged capacitor, lest it cause thee to bounce on thy buttocks in a most unprofessional manner.
2. Cause thou the switch that supplieth large amounts of juice to be opened and duly tagged before sticking thy nose into the rig, that thy days be long in this world.
3. Prove to thyself that all circuits that radiateth are duly grounded lest they lift thee to radio potential and causeth thee to radiate too.
4. Take care that thou tampereth not with interlocks and other safeties, for this is the sure road to perdition.
5. Make sure that thou useth proper method when thou takest the measure of a high voltage circuit, lest thou incinerate both thy meter and thyself.
6. Tarry thou not amongst those fools that engage in intentional shocks, for they are surely non-believers and not long for this world.
7. Work thou not on energized equipment for if thou doest, thy fellow hams will surely buy many beers for thy widow and console her in other ways.
8. Service thou not thy gear alone, but seek a wise companion to quickly pull switches when thou art immobilized by a short circuit through thy body.
9. Trifle thou not with radioactive tubes and substances, lest thy mate have no use for you other than thy wages.
10. Note clearly upon equipment all modifications made by thee thereon, lest thou (or the unwitting Amateur to whom you sell the rig) go mad in a future attempt to discover whence came the rat's nest which finally develops.

Through the courtesy of:
Paul R. Langevin, Bayshore, NY
and the Shofar Newsletter of the Windy City Chaverim

TNX WB2DXB

DX SPECIAL

The 1992 Navassa Island DXpedition Team will arrive on Navassa Island and start operations on January 17-23rd They will operate 160-6 meters and the new bands. They will operate RTTY, CW, and SSB. QSL route : Randy Rowe N0TG, 2120 Reverchon Dr., Arlington, TX 76017. For you needy DX this island is rated number 53 as one of the most wanted. Look for them on the usual DX frequencies. There will be 6 to 8 operators working 24 hrs. The calls will be the operators call followed by KP1. GOOD LUCK C U in the Pile-Ups JOHN K2JP>

From the Net Chairman

The 10 Meter GCARC Net currently held on Tuesday Evenings at 2100 Local time will be changed to Sunday evenings at 2030 on 28.350 mhz due to lack of participation. I hope that this change will give more members an opportunity to have some fun with their HF radios. The Net Control Station will be WA2TOP, KB2ETV or KB2DHQ (who has been holding it together) or anyone else that wants to. I would like the first Sunday Net to start on Sunday Jan. 12th. See you on 10. 73, Mike WA2TOP.