



CROSSTALK

Issue 56:01

56 Years of Service to our Community

January 2015

2015 Club Officers

President :	Jim Wright, N2GXJ	Trustees - 4 year term	
Vice President :	Cory Sickles, WA3UVV	Martin Wilt, W2ILT	<i>(2012-2015)</i>
Treasurer :	Al Arrison, KB2AYU	Ray Martin, W2RM	<i>(2014-2016)</i>
Recording Secretary :	Sheldon Parker, K2MEN	Brian Jones, KD2BXD	<i>(2014-2017)</i>
Corresponding Secretary :	Ron Block, NR2B	Bob Demola, KD2GFL	<i>(2015-2018)</i>

Board of Directors - 3 year term

Jeffrey Garth, KC2WCS	<i>(2013-2015)</i>	John Zaruba Jr, K2ZA	<i>(2014-2016)</i>
Mark Townsend, W2OCY	<i>(2013-2015)</i>	Chuck Colabrese, WA2TML	<i>(2015-2017)</i>
Dan Tremolini, N2TXG	<i>(2014-2016)</i>	Bill Price, NJ2S	<i>(2015-2017)</i>

This Month's Calendar...

General Membership Meeting
 Wednesday, January 7, 2015 @ 1930 Hours
 Pfeiffer Community Center

VE License Testing Session
 Thursday, January 8, 2015 @ 1900 Hours
 Franklin Township Public Library

Tech Saturday
 Saturday, January 10, 2015 @ 0900 Hours
 GCARC Clubhouse

GCARC 2M Ragchew Net
 Thursday, January 15, 2015 @ 2000 Hours

Board of Directors Meeting
 Wednesday, January 21, 2015 @ 1900 Hours
 GCARC Clubhouse

SKYWARN™ Net: Every Sunday @ 1945 Hours

ARES/RACES Net: Every Sunday @ 2000 Hours

All Nets are held on the 147.180 MHz Repeater

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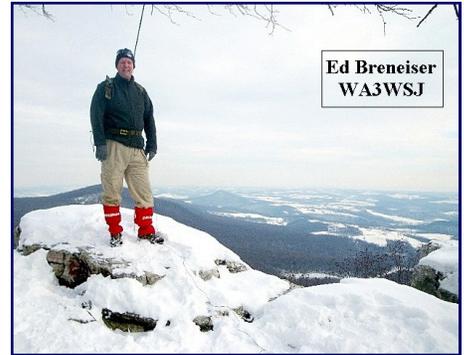
President's Message



Let me take this opportunity to wish everyone Happy Holidays, and Happy New Year!

Reflecting back on this past year, it sure has been a good year for our club! Thank you to all our volunteers, and to everyone who joined with us in club activities and events this year. It really is great to be part of an active club like ours!

Recapping this past year, you need look no further than at all the hearty souls who made it out to the January meeting, despite the weather, to realize there's more than just this crazy radio hobby that makes it fun to get together. But, of course, there's more. What about "Pedestrian Mobile"? Who'd even heard of it until our guest speaker Ed Breneiser, WA3WSJ described what this is all about at our February club meeting.



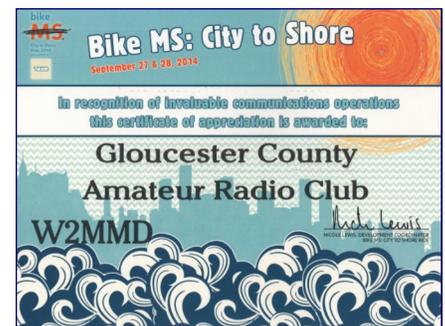
Ed Breneiser
WA3WSJ



And what about those radio fox hunts, starting with the "spring has sprung" fox hunt in March? That was followed up in April by a trip to be guest operators on board the Battleship New Jersey. April was also the start of major upgrades to the repeater systems the club maintains when we became one of the first in the nation to

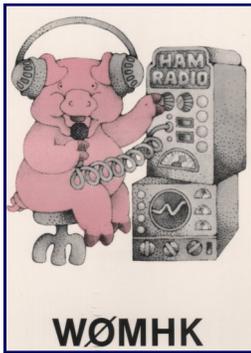
install and begin field trials of one of the new DR-1 C4FM dual analog/digital voice repeaters. We are now finishing the year with four repeater systems on the air, with C4FM capability on both 2M and 70cm.

By May, we got the certificate of occupancy for our new clubhouse trailer, and were supporting local charity walk events with radio support here in our local communities. In June, there was field day, where we managed to put 12 stations on the air simultaneously, plus a "Get on the Air" station run by the Boy Scouts, and if that wasn't enough, we also had the public debut and grand opening celebration for our new clubhouse! In August, we were on the air from there as one of the W1AW/2 stations representing New Jersey as part of ARRL's Centennial celebration. But this just scratches the surface, as there's way more than just what I've mentioned here. I could go on and on about the representation our club had in providing radio support to the MS150 City to Shore bike ride this year, our record breaking volunteer support to pull of the fantastic Hamfest we had as our fund raiser in September, the fun time we had at our holiday celebration party in December, but I don't have to. You were there, and were part of it all too!



On behalf of the Club's new and returning officers, thank you again for making 2014, the 55th year of our club, the Gloucester County Amateur Radio Club, such a great year. And now, onwards, and upwards into 2015!

Respectfully, Jim Wright, N2GXJ



Down Jersey DXing

By Bill Grim, WØMHK

Judging by the recent CQ WW CW Contest in November and the more recent ARRL 10 Meter Contest, it looks like 10 Meters (and its sister 12 Meters) may be "cooling off" DX-wise. There were plenty of QSOs to be made in both contests in Western Europe and Latin America, but propagation into Northern Europe, Russia and Asia was not as prevalent compared to the last two years. This probably underscores the need to "squeeze" as many DX entities as possible out of these two bands in the near future. If you have a directional antenna, don't forget Long Path possibilities in the morning in SNJ for those truly distant hook-ups on 10 and 12 Meters.

The sun has been up to its old tricks again being quite active, but creating a great deal of geomagnetic disturbances earth-wise to hamper exceptional propagation with the enticing high solar flux numbers. The bands below 20 Meters have been OK, but not exceptional so far this winter season. The next two or three months will give us a better indication of what 30-160 Meters are capable of in 2015. Note how much quieter these bands are now!

Be alert for a couple of "blockbuster" DX efforts in January! EP6T should be coming alive in mid-January. Working the few active Iranian stations is tough enough, but I have heard estimates between \$10-\$18 for them to mail a QSL card to stateside!!! This DXpedition should make working this rare one easier and QSLing much more economical. The Europeans are going to be all over this group trying to work them on every possible band 160-10 Meters with their close geographic proximity. North American stations should have some decent shots at them especially during times when EP6T will listen for "North America only". That would be the best time for even a modest station to work them with your "best" antenna.

The situation will be REVERSED in late January with the appearance of the long-awaited K1N, Navassa Island operation. This one, even though close to SNJ, has taken over a decade to be re-activated. Don't be intimidated by the initial "buzz" of so many stations calling them during the first days of the DXpedition. These fellows should be available to us on some band any time of the day. Wait out the first frenzied days and you will more than likely chalk-up a new one for yourself before they go QRT in mid-February.

Don't know if you noticed it, but Europe has been working Europe on 6 Meters quite often in the last few weeks. They get EXCEPTIONAL propagation that we don't here in Down Jersey. Aurora from the sun's active state (I counted 13 sunspots on the sun's surface today) has contributed to VHF openings in Europe of late. Many records and outstanding 6 Meter DX propagation have been recorded this year throughout the world, but we here have not been on the receiving end of much of these great successes. Still, it would pay to watch the DX cluster for some 6M propagation in SNJ between late December and early January. Some decent stateside openings are possible.

General DXpedition activity should pick up again in January. With the end of seasonal holidays emphasizing family, more exotic spots should again be visited. Keep in mind the quieter low bands as you search for some of the following in January:

Down Jersey DXing - Continued on page 4

CALL	DATES	HIGHLIGHTS	DIFFICULTY (5=MOST RARE)	ENTITY
TX5A	01/05 - 01/11	40-10M/SSB	2	Austral Island
KH8	01/07 - 01/12	WARC Bands/CW, SSB	2	American Samoa
T88	01/07 - 01/15	160-6M/CW, SSB	3	Palau
XR0YJ	01/09 - 01/17	80-6M/CW, SSB, Digital	2	Easter Island
HH5	01/11 - 02/03	160-40/CW-500W	1	Haiti
XW4XR	01/15 - 01/23	HF/CW, SSB	4	Laos
C5X	01/15 - 01/26	160-10M/CW, SSB, RTTY, Digital	1	Gambia
EP6T	01/16 - 01/31	160-10M	4	Iran
V47JA	01/20 - 03/01	160-6M/SSB	1	Saint Kitts
K1N	01/25 - 02/13	All Bands/Modes - 15 Ops	5	Navassa Island

Credits : NG3K ADXO



K1N Navassa Island DXpedition 2015

Website : www.navassadx.com Facebook: www.facebook.com/2015Navassa
 QSLs will be handled by the South Jersey DX Association - www.sjdxa.org

January's Program

By Cory Sickles, WA3UVV

We're going to start the year with another "un-program", allowing everyone to seek out some answers to your questions and get to know each other a bit better.

Or not...

There may just be a last-minute surprise in store for us, with something very new and highly anticipated to see. More details as things develop, so stay tuned!

No matter what is happening on the 7th, we'll have the ability to compare some digital radios and modes, plus our welcome refreshments.

As to the rest of the year, I asked what everyone would like to see in the coming year. A handful of you gave me some excellent ideas, so we're working out the schedule. Some of them – such as how to program your new radio - were more suited for K2ZA's technical exchange Saturdays, so there will be a schedule of those, as well. On deck for February, we'll have a visit from Thomas "Skip" Arey, N2EI, our new Section Manager. In April, John Dilks, K2TQN, will entertain us with a sense of radio history. June offers our summer Pizza Party (boy could I use some summer right now) with some surprises in store throughout the year. It looks like 2015 will be another great year for our club! **Ω**



Tech Saturdays - First one is January 10, 2015

By John Zaruba, K2ZA

Have questions about D-STAR, APRS, or working Amateur Radio Satellites? Got a new radio you want to show off? Need help building a kit? Want to talk about microwaves, tropo-scatter, or moon bounce?

Then come out to GCARC Tech Saturdays and join in on the fun. No formal meeting or agenda, just people getting together to explore the technical side of ham radio.

We meet the Saturday after the General Membership Meeting at the Clubhouse on the Gloucester County 4-H Fairgrounds in Mullica Hill. The door opens at 0900 Hours and the get together ends around 1200 Hours, but you can come late or leave early if it fits your schedule.

Tech Saturdays are open to all - club members and non-members, young and old, hams and non-hams who want to learn more about this exciting hobby.

For more information, go to www.w2mmd.org on the Tech Saturdays page. 



100 Watts at the Clubhouse Station - November 28, 2014

By Mark Gottlieb, WA2DIY

Date	Time	Call	Band	Freq	Mode	Grid	Country	Comments
11/28	21:50	Z81B	20M	14.190	SSB	KJ54tu	South Sudan	Massimo
11/28	21:30	W1AW	17M	18.130	SSB	FN31pr	United States	Connecticut - ARRL HQ Operators Club
11/28	21:00	KD4POJ	10M	28.500	SSB	DN98ig	United States	North Dakota - Dwayne E Lipscomb Sr
11/28	20:54	VP2EAR	10M	28.420	SSB	JJ00aa	Anguilla	Anna Sombor
11/28	20:23	ZL2WL	10M	28.438	SSB	RF80ki	New Zealand	Wayne. Lester. ZL2WL. Wilson 0226128922
11/28	20:14	VP2EAQ	10M	28.420	SSB	JJ00aa	Anguilla	Rich Seifert
11/28	20:11	NN1N	10M	28.388	SSB	FN31ww	United States	Connecticut - David C Patton
11/28	20:06	HC2AO	12M	24.940	SSB	EI97nt	Ecuador	Alexey Ogorodov
11/28	20:03	FG5DH	12M	24.960	SSB	FK96ef	Guadeloupe	Christian Combet
11/28	20:00	VP8LP/100	12M	24.950	SSB	GD08pg	Falkland Islands	Bob Mcleod
11/28	19:56	W1AW	15M	21.325	SSB	FN31pr	United States	Connecticut - ARRL HQ Operators Club
11/28	19:52	AL7GA	15M	21.307	SSB	BP51de	United States	Alaska - Kenneth J Perry
11/28	19:25	CA7CAQ	10M	28.447	SSB	FE36fu	Chile	Javier Capdebilla Alvarado
11/28	18:39	F5MUX	10M	28.400	SSB	IN78qb	France	Laurent Fontaine



Something Old

By Cory Sickles, WA3UVV

The ARRL CW Rookie Roundup on December 21st nearly ends the year with some fun using our least expensive and very effective mode. While Straight Key Night (SKN) allows us to celebrate the new year and the joys found in CW and straight keys, there's an opportunity in February that gives us an excuse to either fire up equipment similar to what we had as Novice class licensees – or set up a simple station that reminds us of our roots. Quoting from the Facebook Page <https://www.facebook.com/groups/624239621035186/> here's more:

“A Novice Rig Round-Up (NRR) event will be held the second week of February, 2015. It will begin (Friday evening) 0000 UTC on February 7th and runs through 0000 UTC on FEB 14th. -Eastern Standard Time, that would be from 7 pm Friday until 7 pm Friday. Details will be announced.

The point of this event is simply to enjoy memories, relive the challenges, and possibly explore for the first time the awe and mystery of sending a signal around the world with the very basic equipment most Novices of the 1950s through 1980s used. In particular, the days when all novices were limited to xtal control with a plate input of no more than 75 watts.

This page is dedicated to the discussion of :

- Event details*
- Transmitters and Receivers being considered for this event*
- Novice Memories & Stories you may wish to share.*
- Available resources. Anything offered for sale should be only directly applicable to Novice Rigs. Xtals, Tubes, Keys, ACRs, QSL cards or things that Novices would have used in the typical operation of a Novice Station.*
- Anything that Orbits the above. All ages, all levels of license, and even if you are no longer an active ham, but wish to join in the reverie, feel welcome to join the fun. Hey! Maybe you might be inspired to get back into Amateur Radio!”*

If you are wondering about the “75 watts input”, that translates to just under 40W out, given the technology of the day. The reality is that most Novices operated with less than 20W out and many were QRP – before we even knew what that was. Thus, just a low power signal and a straight key in the 7100~7125 kilocycle (let's really go back in time) puts you into the spirit of the fun.

I don't know about you, but I still have some tube gear that relates directly to my Novice year, along with a few FT-243 crystals that still fit into the 40M CW sub-band. Also, I have a few homebrew items that I can “give a spin” during the week in question.

Besides, any excuse to light up a tube or two and bang out some code, is good enough for me. **Ω**



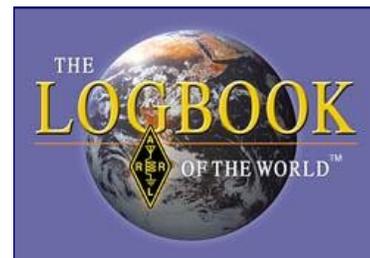
What special item did we get in the mail? Find out when it's revealed, at our January 7th meeting...

Cory, WA3UVV

A Hundred Million QSLs

By Jim Wright, N2GXJ

As reported in the ARRL Letter for December 11, 2014, Logbook of the World (LOTW) just achieved 100 million QSL records (2-way contacts confirmed in the LOTW system). The article said that was out of some 630 million uploaded contacts (QSO).



Out of 630 million contacts, the 100 million QSL number just seemed low to me. For example, if every one of the uploaded contacts was electronically confirmed, the 630 million uploaded contacts (QSO) would result in 315 million QSLs – but of course a 100% QSL rate is not realistic. The article said they just got to 100 million QSL. So I think that means, on average, that with LOTW, you can expect, on average, about 100 confirmations for every 315 contacts that you make and upload to the system. That represents a QSL to QSO ratio of about 32%. Is that right? But shouldn't it be more like 50%? From your experience, what would be a realistic rate?

Curious as to how that compared with the confirmation ratio for my contacts, I set out to find out. And while I was at it, I would compare my LOTW confirmation rate to my eQSL confirmation rate as well. Why eQSL too? Well, like many, I upload my logs to both LOTW and to eQSL. I do that to be fair to users of both systems, as some prefer the ARRL awards program available through LOTW contacts, and some prefer the electronic QSL cards you get through eQSL, and some prefer both. They both accept the same log data from you as input, so it's really not much trouble to upload to both, so I do.

Your results may differ, but here's what I found out using my log data for the past 4 years:

- 6,040 QSO uploaded to both LOTW and eQSL systems
- On LOTW I had 2918 QSL (about 48%)
- On eQSL I had 3050 QSL (about 50%)

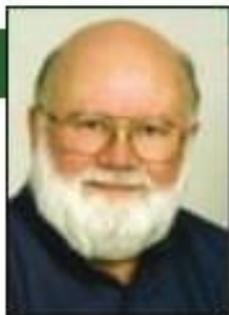
Basically, the QSL rate for both these systems was about the same. But in both cases, my confirmation rate was much higher than 32% implied by the LOTW statistics. Any ideas as to what might be different?

Maybe it was because these were all relatively new QSO (in last 4 years), whereas QSO entered into LOTW by others might go back many more years. Maybe it was because many of my QSO are digital, whereas maybe users of the digital modes are more likely to submit their QSOs to LOTW, and the ratio of modes in the LOTW data might be different than what I use most. Obviously, without the ARRL's raw data, it would just be speculation. But I wondered if I could see a difference in my data in the per-mode QSL rates, based on the modes I was using.

You can try this at home too, to see if we get similar results. Going to your ARRL account, then selecting "Your QSOs", allows you to download a report of your QSLs. That report can then load into a spreadsheet. If you're using Excel, when loading it in, select ">" character as delimiter. And then add a formula to use "countif()" function to see how often "SSB", "PSK31", "RTTY", and other modes shows up in the second column. You can compare that to an exported QSO output similarly. Then compute the ratios for each mode type.

In my data, I had negligible CW contacts, so couldn't tell if the rate of QSO via LOTW for CW was different than for other modes. But for other modes, I was finding the QSL/QSO ratios to be RTTY: 73%, PSK125: 73%, JT9: 65%, JT65: 56%, PKS63: 49%, SSB: 48%, PSK31: 44%, and FM on HF: only 29%.

Yes, that is showing an astounding better than 70% QSL rate for both RTTY and PSK125 mode use. Are these results typical with your experience? **Ω**



K2TQN's Oldradio Column™

~ Ham Radio History ~

Continuing the great stories about those who made Ham Radio History, what they did, and about the radios they built.

John Dilks oldradio@comcast.net

The First YL – Updated

While certainly not the first female ham radio operator, M. Adaire Garmhausen, 3BCK, is the first "YL," and she was an excellent example. It all came about when she submitted an article to QST, "How to Build a Wireless Station," in early 1920. She received a letter back on the official ARRL QST letterhead from Edwin C. Adams. It was dated May 13, 1920 and read:

Miss M. Adaire Garmhausen,
516 W. 27th St.,
Baltimore, Md.

My Dear YL:-

We have had to coin a new phrase for your benefit as you will readily see that OM will not fit and OL would certainly be most inapplicable. Thank you very much indeed for your most amusing history of the trials and tribulations of a lady ham. We will be very pleased to present this to the radio fraternity in an early issue of QST.

Again thanking you and assuring you of our best wishes, we remain Sincerely yours,

THE AMERICAN RADIO RELAY LEAGUE

By E. C. Adams (signed)

Her article was published in the July 1920 issue of QST. She became quite a celebrity, both in Baltimore and in Hartford. She was an excellent operator and many a local, single, young ham became smitten with her good looks and radio abilities. A second article, "Breaking Out," was published in May 1921 QST.

By 1922 she was already into more ham radio activities than most of us will ever do in a lifetime. QST editors, and many others, were trying to find out more about her and wondered,



By courtesy of the A.R.R.L.
Miss M. Adaire Garmhausen, an active American wireless enthusiast. Her station is 3BCK. She is the author of several constructional articles published in America.

"What did she look like?"

The answer came in the October 1922 QST column, "Who's Who in Amateur Wireless." The column featured her photo and started by saying, "Ahh! At last! The Ladies' Number of Hooshoo! You know, gang, we have been wondering all this time what these Y.L.'s look like and now after years of pestering we have got them to come across with enough dope to introduce themselves." (The column also profiled Miss Winifred Dow, 7CB, from Tacoma, Washington.)

She was good friends with Elizabeth Zandonini, 3CDQ, of Washington DC, another well-known YL. Like many hams, they worked together on radios and were active in Baltimore area clubs.

From Who's "Who in Amateur Radio," QST, Oct 1922

Miss Marion Adaire Garmhausen hardly needs any introduction as most of us have heard of her in one way or another. She admits she was born May 28, 1899, but swears she does not look a day over sixteen. Being a telegraph operator by trade, she went to wireless school just after the war and found a QST somebody had left lying about (careless!). Our budding Y. L. says she was struck by the spirit of the organization and wrote Mr. Duvall, whose name she found in the magazine, for further particulars. His reply harmonized exactly with the spirit of the magazine. When she put in her first set the reigning forces offered her every discouragement known to mankind, so she retired to her shell. Her articles in July 1920 QST ("How to Build a Wireless Station") and May 1921 ("Breaking Out") tell in her own words of her experiences in getting started, so any attempt on our part to repeat the tales of woe would at best be infringing on her original masterpieces. 3BCK (for that is her call) remained in her shell until the organization of "The Radio Condenser," sometime Third District organ, when the remorseful crowd invited her to join them. And she was not merely decorative, either—she was of real help on the "Condenser," and she likewise was an active force in the planning and management of the hugely successful Third and Fourth District Convention in Washington last February. However, they say she doesn't often venture out thusly. No ham has ever laid eyes on her station, despite sundry pleadings, and she swears "no ham ever shall until I get darn good and ready to let him." Ain't it like a woman! She admits her room "looks more like a blacksmith's shop than a young lady's 'boojwar,'" and in view of all of this discouragement we have given up hopes of having a photo of 3BCK in our "Amateur Radio Stations" department.

Continued-

The First YL - Continued on page 9

The First YL – Updated continued

In spite of all her modesty we find that Miss Garmhausen holds two certificates in electrical engineering and is working for the last one necessary to get a diploma. We know she has been an ardent booster of the League and always will be, and it is her ambition some day to have to move to some place where her set will be able to fill a necessary place in A.R.R.L. relays.

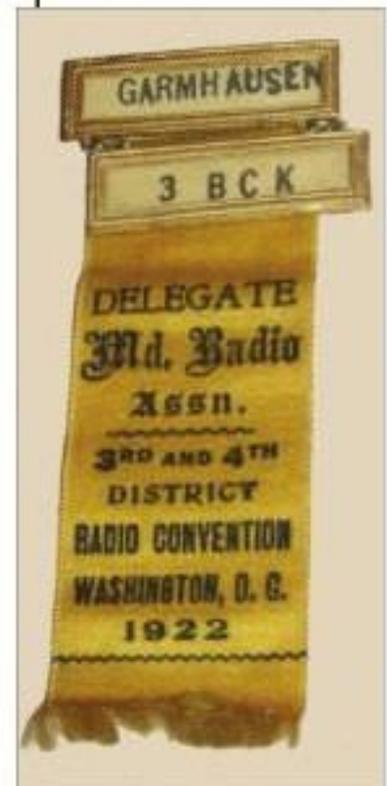


Adaire Gramhausen at 102, still an attractive and active lady.

I am continuing this story about 3BCK with information I later learned. She lived in Baltimore her entire life and never married. She turned 103 years old in June 2002 and was still active in her church. She became a SK in November, 2002. —K2TQN

This Column is available for Ham Club newsletters. Please request permission to reprint. And send me a copy of your newsletter.

oldradio@comcast.net



Life Membership Opportunity

By Jim Wright, N2GXJ

Let me again say thank you to all who have contributed to the GCARC, and for making 2014 such a great success! As we enter 2015, just a friendly reminder that our Treasurer will be accepting your (still only) \$20 annual dues payment either in person at the January club meeting, or via snail mail to our club's mailing address:

**Gloucester County A.R.C.
PO Box 370
Pitman, NJ 08071**

Annual dues are still an incredibly low \$20 for full membership. Though \$20 might not seem like much, to the club, it's huge, as dues represent the second largest source of income in our operating budget each year. We thank you in advance for your January payment!

But after your payment, which keeps your membership in good standing, there is another opportunity that you might not have been aware of, that you might like to consider. And that is the opportunity to apply for Life Membership in the Gloucester County Amateur Radio Club.

For the select few of you that might be interested and are considering applying for Life Membership, Article VI, Section 3 of our club's constitution defines the details, but let me summarize them here.

If you're a member in good standing with our club, and hold a valid amateur radio license, you may apply to the Board of Directors for Life Membership. You can do that via written petition, delivered to myself or one of the other club officers, or sent via snail mail to our club's mailing address. You may also appear in person at a Board of Directors meeting to deliver your petition in person. As they do for new member applications, the Board of Directors will review any petitions they have received at their next regularly scheduled board meeting. The next BOD meeting is scheduled for 7pm January 21 at our clubhouse. Any petitions received by that date will be considered.

As specified in the constitution, if approved, the candidate shall pay dues equal to twenty (20) times the current "short rate" annual dues. With annual dues presently at \$20, this would be a one-time dues payment of $20 \times \$20 = \400 . The payment can be made as a lump sum, or in three equal payments within one year of the approval. Note that the constitution also says that under no circumstances will payments for life membership be refundable.

If you think you might be interested, and you have any additional questions, please email them to me, and then we can set up a time to discuss. Thank you, Jim Wright, [jim.n2gxj <at> gmail <dot> com](mailto:jim.n2gxj@gmail.com). Ω

Club Membership Stats - 2014 was a very good year!

We now have 128 members. We had 21 new members and 5 returning members join the club in 2014.

We have 17 Technician Class, 39 General Class, 12 Advanced Class, and 59 Amateur Extra Class licenses in our club.

We have 114 Full, 4 Family, and 10 Life members in the club.

Something New

By Cory Sickles, WA3UVV

Yaesu surprised just about everyone when a display ad for the FT2DR dropped in early December – with the digital (complete magazine) issue of CQ. The FT2DR further advances the System Fusion line and incorporates many of the features and changes we suggested to them – over the past year.

I don't expect to see the FT2DR being delivered for some time, but it's difficult to ascertain a pattern in Yaesu's announcement vs delivery delta. Some things hit the streets early and others do not. It's a fairly safe bet that they'll be shipping by the time Dayton 2015 rolls around, though.

With what some dealers are offering as to a projected price, I think there will remain a market for the FT1DR for some time. "Power Users" will want the FT2DR for the increased features. "Casual Users" will remain more attracted to the FT1DR - initially for price, but ultimately for value - which has all the features that someone is looking for in a dual-band portable. Digital capabilities may be simply a bonus, especially for newly licensed hams. As I've owned one for well over a year, I'm still thrilled with what it offers.

As most hams seem to want the FT1DR in black, Yaesu has shipped the last run of the silver models – SOWG (sold out when gone). HRO has apparently acquired most or all of that inventory and has it available for an even lower price - than the black FT1DR. So, if you want to join "Team Fusion" with a portable for less, here's your opportunity.

Meanwhile, reservations for the FT2DR are being accepted by Gigaparts, Ham Radio Outlet and others. 



Cherry Valley Model Railroad Club Holiday Open House

Grace Episcopal Church
7 East Maple Avenue
Merchantville, NJ

- Saturday, January 3, 2015, 1200 - 1600 Hours
- Saturday, January 10, 2015, 1200 - 1600 Hours
- Sunday, January 4, 2015, 1200 - 1600 Hours
- Sunday, January 11, 2015, 1200 - 1600 Hours

No Admission Fee! Bring the Family.
Please note the club layout is not wheelchair accessible.

Information supplied by Ernest Kraus, KD2EAV

Shipping early 2015

Introducing
The Most Advanced Digital Portable
C4FM/FM 144/430 MHz DUAL BAND DIGITAL TRANSCEIVER
FT2DR



Actual Size

- System Fusion compatible
- FM friendly digital operation with AMS
- Easy operation with Large touch panel display
- Loud and Clear voice technology

Digital Functions

Digital Group Monitor (GM)
Automatically checks whether members registered to a group are within communication range, and displays the distance and the direction for each call sign on the screen.

Snapshot (Image Data Transmission)
Simply connect an optional speaker microphone with camera (MH-85A11U), you can take snapshots and easily send them to other System Fusion radios. (9600bps data transmission speed)

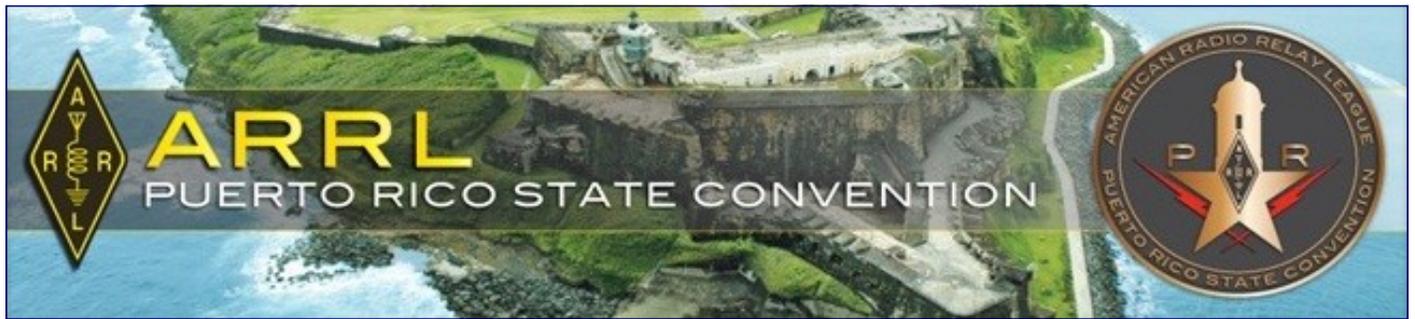
Smart Navigation
Real-time navigation function enables Location checking at any time. With the simple touch of a button, you can start navigating to your departure point or any location previously saved. (Backtrack Function)

This device has not been approved by the FCC. This device may not be offered for sale or lease or be sold or leased until approval of the FCC has been obtained. The information shown is preliminary and may be subject to change without notice or obligation.

YAESU
The radio

YAESU USA
8155 Phyllis Drive, Cypress,
CA 95630 (714) 827-7600

For latest Yaesu news, visit us on the internet: <http://www.yaesu.com>
Specifications subject to change without notice. Some accessories and/or options may be available at certain times. Frequency coverage may differ in some countries. Check with your local Yaesu Dealer for specific details.



Third ARRL Puerto Rico State Convention is January 24-25, 2015

Radio Amateurs in Puerto Rico will have their 3rd American Radio Relay League (ARRL) Puerto Rico State Convention, in the Francisco “Pancho” Deida Coliseum in the city of Hatillo on January 24-25, 2015. ARRL President Kay Craigie be present again, along with Doug Rehman, Michael Lee, Ward Silver, Tim Duffy, Charles” Chip” Margelli and Ted Jimenez.

Also returning will be exhibits from the radio companies Yaesu, ICOM, ELECRAFT, FLEX-Radio and electronic accessories R & L. Also ARRL/VEC Exam sessions and license renovations will be given both days, radio station KP4AW will be on the air, for the first time Contest University Caribbean Edition, amateur radio forums, radio balloon repeater launch, Amateur of the Year presentation, various prizes and much more. Fifteen hundred radio amateurs are expected to be present at the biggest amateur radio event in the Caribbean, so why not escape the Winter Cold and come to Paradise?

The general public is invited and entrance is free. The event is sponsored by the Caribbean Amateur Radio Group, the Puerto Rico Amateur Radio League and the Municipality of Hatillo. More information and free registration on www.arrlpr.org Ω

Something Bleu

By Cory Sickles, WA3UVV

As a holiday tradition when I was growing up, my grandfather used to make a bleu cheese dip. I watched and watched as he made it over the years. He never wrote down the recipe, but I had a pretty good handle on what he used and the proportions. Nonetheless, what I make never tastes *exactly* like what he made. It does, however, bring back memories of times when everyone in my family was alive and well – enjoying times that I look fondly upon.



Hoping it might add something to your holiday snacking, I share it here with you. Feel free to make adjustments for what tastes best to you.

- **¼ Pound of bleu cheese – crumbled (Roquefort is best)**
- **½ Pound of sour cream**
- **½ Tsp of fresh parsley – finely chopped**
- **2 Tsp of mayonnaise**
- **Juice of ½ lemon**

Mix the bleu cheese, sour cream and mayonnaise in a bowl. Add the lemon juice, then the parsley. If you like, add a bit of your favorite hot sauce, finely chopped shallot or perhaps some freshly ground white pepper. My grandfather’s special touch was a few drops of Worcestershire sauce. Ω



Internet access at the GCARC Club Site

By Al Arrison KB2AYU

Having internet access at the Club Site isn't an absolute necessity, but it is kind of expected in this information age. The problem is that it would be expensive and really not see a lot of use. The options of DSL, cable or satellite are all at least \$50 a month. What better way to solve this problem than by using radio, Ham radio.

I have an 80 foot tower at my home in Ewan, and the Club has an 80 footer at the Site. It turns out there is a line of sight path of about 2 miles between the towers. (Figures 1 and 2) So I picked up some older Cisco industrial wireless bridges and a couple of 2 foot "bar-b-que grill" parabolic dish antennas. (Figure 3) The bridges operate on 2.4Ghz (which includes Ham frequencies) at 100mW output with a speed of 11Mbps. Since the internet connection at my home is 3Mbps DSL, the 11Mbps bridge speed is plenty fast enough.

At first I used one of the hardline cable runs on my tower to connect the wireless bridge in the shack to the antenna topside. However, since I really didn't want to tie up a hardline run for this, I found another solution. I mounted one of the bridges right at the antenna (only need to supply 48VDC power and there is no feedline loss) and it acts as a repeater for the bridge sitting in the shack. (Figure 4) I tried the same configuration at the Club Site but found better performance with just a bridge in the shack and a bi-directional amplifier in the feedline at the base of the tower. (It is about a 200 foot run from the shack to the top of the tower). When I run link tests on the system it shows over 70% signal strength on both ends of the path. However, 2.4Ghz is a very "polluted" band, with a myriad of wireless gadgets using it, so there are some retries of data packets. (Not completely error free data transmission).

To conclude, yes we have internet access at the Club Site. It is not blazing fast, but it works well enough and it is free. If I ever upgrade to a cable modem, I could install some 5.8Ghz wireless bridges and really crank up the speed. Ω



*Internet access
Continued on page 14*

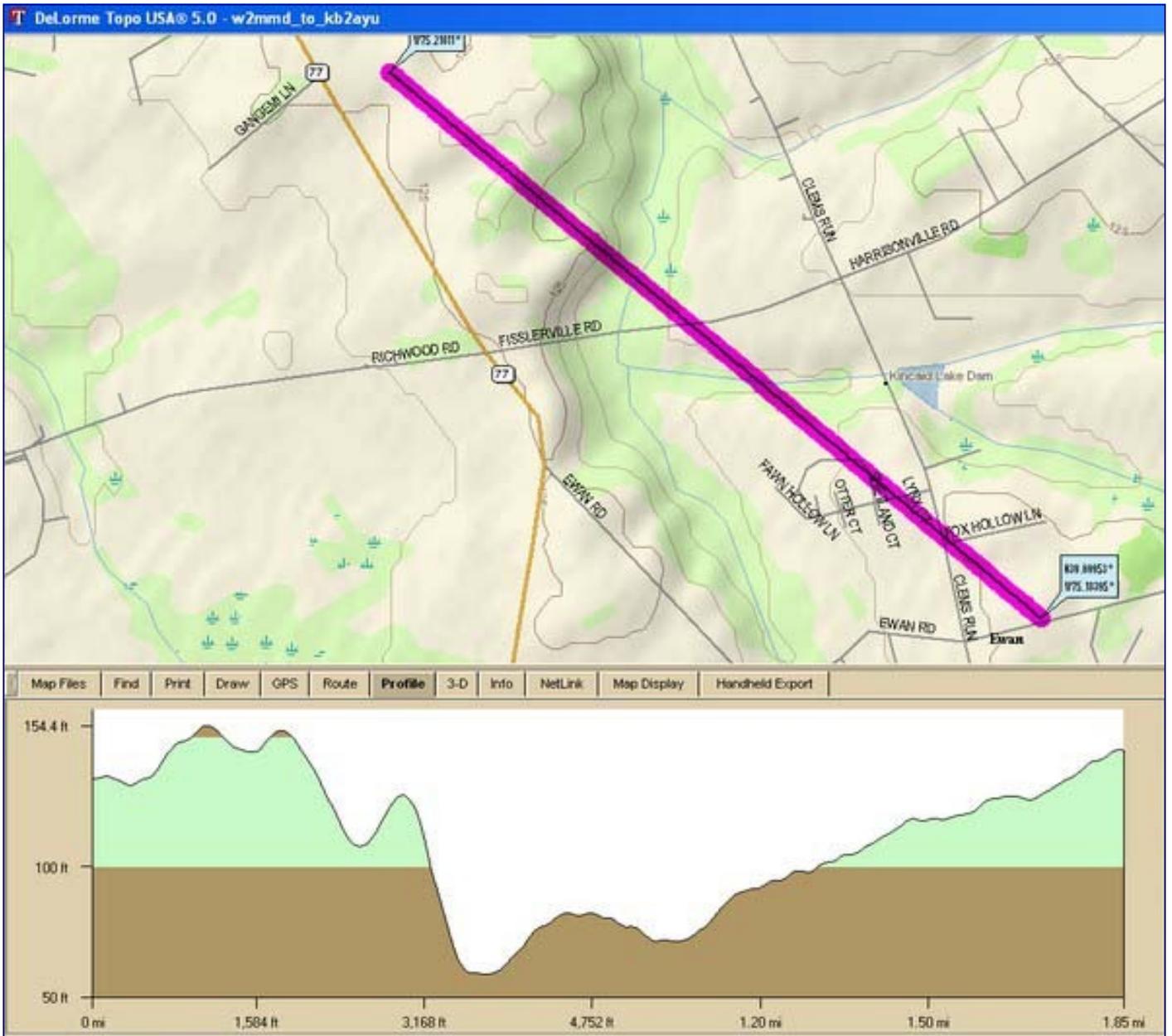


Figure 2 : Notice the profile of the path at the bottom of the figure. From ground level the path is blocked by the two 154 foot ridges. Even with an 80 foot tower on both ends there is not much clearance, especially when you consider that there are at least 50 foot trees on those ridges.

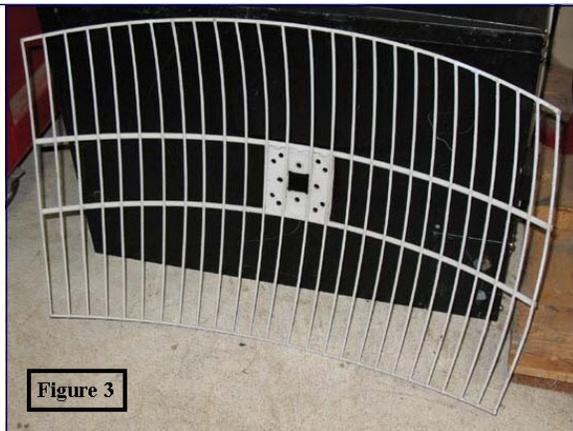


Figure 3



Figure 4

Something Borrowed

By Cory Sickles, WA3UVV

Along with all of the other digital voice methodologies that hams can tap into, there's one known as NXDN. Designed for Land Mobile Radio (LMR) customers, it's a lower-cost digital alternative to P-25. To create the common air interface, ICOM and Kenwood joined forces. ICOM branded their version IDAS, while Kenwood went with the name NEXEDGE.

Kenwood offers a "wide" digital option at 12.5 kHz (like System Fusion) and a "narrow" of 6.25 kHz. (like D-STAR) ICOM elected – not surprisingly – to stay with 6.25 kHz as the only option. As long as NEXEDGE gear is running at 6.25 kHz, Kenwood users can talk to ICOM users.

As part of a review of IDAS gear for my column "Digitally Speaking" in The Spectrum Monitor, (www.thespectrummonitor.com) I got to borrow some gear. UHF radios are typically grouped as 470~520MHz or 400~470MHz. I got the latter, so I can try them out on 440. There is an NXDN repeater at the Booths Corner Farmers Market in Bethel, PA and I can work with them on simplex, but thankfully there's an NXDN repeater here in South Jersey.

Harry, W2FLY, operates a set of NEXEDGE repeaters in Waterford Works. Also thankfully, he has his repeater and radios set for 6.25 kHz. Harry graciously extended his hospitality and we'll have a better idea of what NXDN audio sounds like and some of the advantages it offers over analog and other digital methodologies.

Harry's repeaters aren't networked, but they could be. A group promoting NXDN for use in ham radio has a reflector set up. So far, they have less than 50 North American repeaters connected, with three in Turkey. (that's the country, not a town in North Carolina)



One thing that is helping NXDN to gain ground is ICOM's FR-5000 (VHF) and FR-6000 (UHF) repeaters. The machines are readily available for less than a kilobuck and offer up to 50W intermittent service or 25W continuous. In contrast to D-STAR and System Fusion, the gateway connection can be accomplished with just a Raspberry Pi single-board computer. The Pi typically sells for \$35.

With a very reasonable price, you can see how attractive the repeater has been to many clubs looking to replace a problematic one – even if all you want is analog FM service. That means that more than a few ICOM IDAS repeaters are already installed throughout the country. One local club that has one is SJRA. While they currently have no desire to add digital voice to their 145.290 MHz repeater, they could do it – simply by "flipping the switch".

Something Borrowed - Continued on page 16

Something Borrowed - Continued from page 15

While the current promotion by Yaesu - offering a DR-1X to qualifying clubs for a ridiculously low price of \$500 - trumps the price of an FR-5000, NXDN remains attractive if your group has already invested in the IDAS repeater.

Kenwood portables can be had on EBay, starting in the \$200 range. ICOM's tend to run a bit higher. Not exactly what we're used to in the amateur radio pricing structure, but very reasonable for LMR digital. Speaking of which - when/if Connect Systems' CS7000 portable starts shipping, they plan to offer an NXDN firmware package, as well.

If you'd like to hear what NXDN sounds like – compared to D-STAR and System Fusion – I plan to have a set of radios for a little “show ‘n’ tell” at our January meeting.

More info on what's happening in NXDN and ham radio can be found at <http://nxdninfo.com/wp/> and a list of known and active NXDN repeaters can be seen at http://www.repeaterbook.com/repeaters/FeatureSearch.php?type=NXDN&state_id=%25&band=%25#sthash.mWwpCxWg.dpbs Ω

	Gloucester City Amateur Radio Club NJ2GC	
<small>This site is dedicated to the memory of Bill Hunsinger, KB2YJB-SK</small>	Dwell on the Beauty of the Journey through Amateur Radio rather than the Destination.....	<small>Winner of the Gloucester City Silver Eagle Mike Award for Communications Excellence - 2012</small>
Gloucester City Hamfest - Saturday, February 21, 2015		
<p>The officers of the Gloucester City Amateur Radio Club are proud to announce that the Club will be conducting an ARRL approved Hamfest on Saturday, February 21, 2015 beginning at 6AM.</p> <p>The location is the Pine Grove Fire Association Fire Hall, 827-829 Jersey Avenue, Gloucester City, NJ. The facility is well suited to limited ability access. Plenty of parking including some off street. The event is entirely indoors so there is no tailgating. Talk in will be maintained on the NJ2GC repeater, 447.775 MHz, (PL 146.2 Hz).</p> <p>Further information can had from Jay Goheen, KB2ADL, kb2adl <at> comcast <dot> net or their web-site at: www.nj2gc.org.</p>		

	The Mid-Atlantic's Largest Winter Hamfest!
Richmond Frostfest - Saturday, February 7, 2015 Richmond Raceway Complex (Richmond, Virginia)	
<p>Frostfest is now BIGGER AND BETTER! New and improved!!! We now have 10,000 square feet more exhibition space and everything is under one roof! The Frostfest website at www.frostfest.com has all the details</p>	

Club Elections

By Jim Wright, N2GXJ

Congratulations to our newly elected club leaders!

As ratified at our December club meeting, for 2015 we have President: Jim Wright, N2GXJ. Vice President: Cory Sickles, WA3UVV. Treasurer: Al Arrison, KB2AYU. Recording Secretary: Sheldon Parker, K2MEN. Corresponding Secretary: Ron Block, NR2B. Starting a new term as Trustee: Bob Demola, KD2GFL. And new terms as Directors: Bill Price, NJ2S and Chuck Colabrese, WA2TML. The full list of returning trustees and directors appears on the cover page.

In addition to elected positions, there are various volunteer committee opportunities available for next year. We are, after all, all volunteers in this all-volunteer organization! Two areas that are most important to the club, and require the most volunteers, will be the 2015 field day, and planning for our 2015 Ham-fest. If you have an ability to guide us in either of those areas, please contact Jim N2GXJ direct. If you have an interest in helping out in any other area, please contact the current committee chair direct. Thank you! Ω

Live! From Gloucester County, It's your Two Thousand and Fifteen Club Officers!

Starring:



**President:
Jim Wright,
N2GXJ**



**Treasurer:
Al Arrison,
KB2AYU**



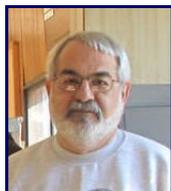
**Vice President:
Cory Sickles,
WA3UVV**



**Corresponding Secretary:
Ron Block, NR2B**



**Recording Secretary:
Sheldon Parker, K2MEN**



**Director:
Chuck Colabrese, WA2TML**



**Director:
Bill Price, NJ2S**



**Trustee:
Bob Demola, KD2GFL**

GCARC Holiday Dinner - December 11, 2014

Special thanks to the Seven Star Diner and Restaurant (www.sevenstardiner.com) in Sewell
Great Friends, Great Food (lots of it), and Great Service!



**Our hosts:
Phyllis and Ray Martin**



For more pictures, see our website, www.w2mmd.org - Holiday Party 2014 page
or our Facebook page, www.facebook.com/w2mmd

Congratulations on getting your first HF Radio! Now what?

By Jim Wright, N2GXJ

Thank you Santa! And congratulations! You've just got your first HF radio, and no matter what your license class is, you're anxious to attach some kind of antenna to it, at least to hear what's happening on the "ham bands", and to maybe push that TX button up on your authorized portion of 10 meters for the first time to see if there's anyone out there that can hear you!

But the antenna choices are bewildering! Where to start? Vertical, horizontal, so many choices! It's "analysis paralysis", so much to learn, so much advise, so many technical details, all so confusing. I just want to do something, but I don't want to do the wrong thing, what should I do? – Help!

Well, the great news is that you're not alone. We all went through this, and the amazing lesson we learned is that you don't have to be perfect, that it is OK to experiment, that it doesn't have to cost a lot of money, and there are members of our club who are willing to help, if asked. Let's step back for a moment, take a deep breath, and see what our options are.

Before you buy that "fancy" antenna, take some advice from the ARRL, and read this article <http://www.arrl.org/building-simple-antennas>. You're going to encounter manufacturer claims that are, well, how to say this politely, designed to sell you their product, sometimes with wild claims. This is something that the ARRL, and us, your fellow Hams, would like to caution you about. For example, you generally won't see claims of antenna gain in advertisements in QST magazine, because they have a strict policy that requires the manufacturer to prove it before they will publish it.

What I'm suggesting is maybe trying something simple first, while you shop around, and visit and talk with other hams for a while, to see what works best for them, and what doesn't, before spending big money on something like an outdoor antenna system that you're not likely to know that much about yet anyway.

So, now that I have a radio, but I don't have an antenna yet, what would you recommend I do?

There are two suggestions, and they're both simple.

First: As a member of the GCARC, you can be given the access and security alarm codes for our clubhouse, and you can try out your new radio with both wire and beam antenna systems that we have set up out there! Also, you can get in-person help from a fellow ham on how to set up and operate that new radio. Starting in January, each month, on the first Saturday after our Wednesday general membership meeting, we'll be having "**Tech Saturdays**" mornings out at the clubhouse. You can read more about this in a separate article in this month's Crosstalk and on our website on the **Tech Saturdays** page. There should be people there who can help you figure out "how does my radio work", and help you get it on the air. So that's my first suggestion. Make it easy on yourself. Bring your radio out for a **Tech Saturday** morning, and with some help from other club members, see how it works with the different antennas available to try out at the clubhouse. Then after that, you can borrow the clubhouse setup whenever you want until you have something set up at home that you'd like to try and use.

Second: If you've tried the first suggestion, and now want to also be able to use your radio at home, you have two basic choices for your antenna: you can buy something, or build something. This being ham radio, I'd actually suggest building your first antenna, rather than buying one. But you're welcome to buy or

Congratulations - Continued on page 20

build as you desire. That's part of the joy of ham radio!

So, from here on out, this article is just a recommendation for how I would suggest you would get started with your own home antenna. Others may, and probably will, have other opinions. That's OK. I recognize there are many ways to accomplish the same goal, and this is just one of them. I'm not looking to be "flamed" by those who have different suggestions, or who might do it differently. I am just describing what worked for me, and am putting this out there for your consideration.

The recommended antenna is a really simple, inexpensive, and very forgiving design made from cut lengths of insulated wire attached in the center to a thing called a **balun** (which I'll explain later). They call this antenna a **multi-band** or **fan dipole**. You don't have to be perfect when putting it up, which makes it great for a starter antenna.

We'll install this fan dipole up in the attic, so it is both protected from the weather, and won't be able to be seen by prying eyes of neighbors. And we'll build it using simple insulated wire, rather than tubing, so you might be able to save some cost by using materials that you or other club members might just have laying around. Your FCC license allows you to experiment with wire antennas for Ham radio like this, so why not have a little fun?

This antenna, is going to be in the attic you say? Yes. As described in the ARRL article <http://www.arrl.org/indoor-antennas>, if you have some sort of attic in your home, apartment or condo, you're in luck. Attics are great locations for indoor antennas. They're protected from the wind, weather, and from prying eyes. Let's get something up there and try it!

When it comes to what to use to connect your radio to the antenna, don't sweat it too much. This is HF radio, not VHF/UHF that we're talking about. If you use a balun at the antenna as I suggest, you won't need to use ladder line, making it very simple, and it will work just fine, to just use coax cable for the connection. Don't worry about the precise length of coax – just buy or borrow a length long enough to get from your radio to the attic, with spare (that you can coil up in the corner somewhere).

If your radio has a built-in antenna tuner, and many new ones do, you'll just connect the coax to the connector on the back of your radio. If it doesn't, then connect it to the external antenna tuner you have separately attached to your HF radio. The other end goes up into the attic to connect to the balun in the center of the dipole antenna, as described next.

So what do I need to build this fan dipole?

1. A coax cable with male connectors each end, one end to attach to the radio (or external tuner), and other end to attach to the bottom of the balun that will be at the center of our antenna. You run this from your radio up to the balun in the center of your attic. They typically come with connectors pre-installed, which makes it easier. The connector type should match what you need to connect to the back of your radio (or your external tuner), and to the balun described next.

2. A 1:1 current balun, that the antenna wire is attached to on the sides, and the coax cable connector screws into on the bottom. You hang the balun high in the cen-

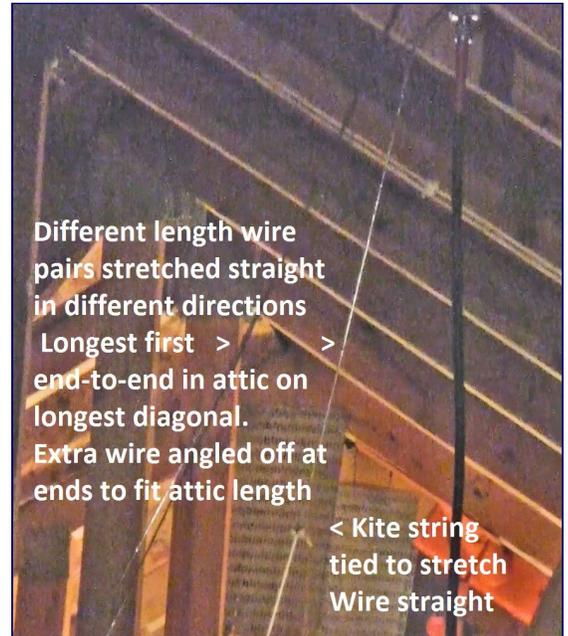
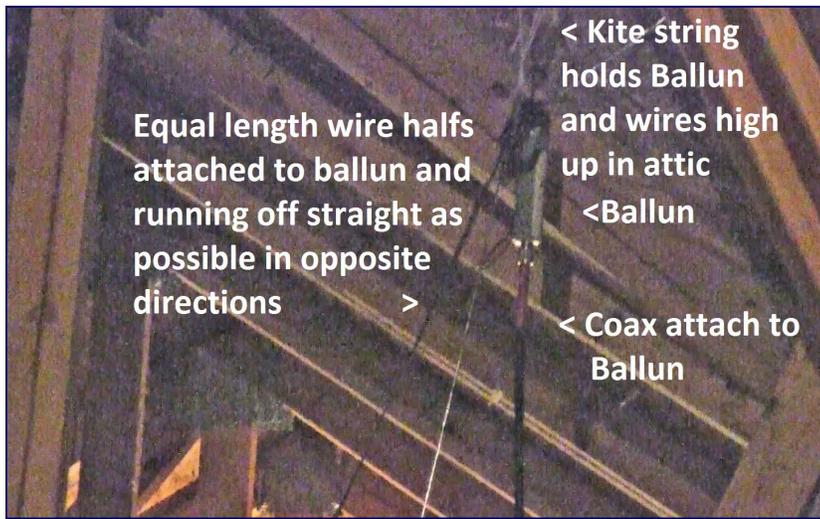


Congratulations - Continued on page 21

ter of your attic from the underside of the roof. The balun does triple duty for us as 1) a center point to attach each half of the wire antenna to, 2) a center point to attach a coax cable to, and 3) as a balanced-to-unbalanced transformer match between the wire antenna and the coax that also helps choke unwanted RF from running down the outside of the coax back into your shack. I bought one from Ham Radio Outlet (www.hamradio.com) in Delaware that was made by a company called RadioWavz (www.radiowavz.com) that has threaded posts on the sides to make it easy to attach the wires to. Other choices are available.

3. One or more pairs of equal length 14 gauge insulated and stranded (not solid) wire, cut to specific lengths. You can find such at Lowes in the electrical section. I say stranded, not solid, because it is easier to work with. To make the equal length pair, you cut one piece to the full length specified, and then cut it in half, attaching each equal length half of the cut to opposite sides of the balun in the middle. My favorite web site for referencing wire antenna lengths is <http://www.chem.hawaii.edu/uham/antennas.html>. To make it easy, and to allow for a tiny bit of inevitable droop when trying to make them straight and level in the attic, you can follow the directions below, as a start, for your three wire antenna lengths. The wires are slightly longer than necessary on purpose, to accommodate the droop, but also to facilitate tuning by an expert by wrap-back length shortening, rather than adding, should you so desire to do so (you shouldn't have to, but it's still an option).
 - a. For 40 Meters that also works on 15 and 6 Meters, you don't have to be that exact. Cut one piece approximately 67 feet long, and cut it in the middle to make two equal 33 feet 6 inch halves to attach to the center balun. If you just put up this one dipole length, and none of the others, this one should let you talk with stations for several hundred miles up and down the East Coast fairly well during the day, and even better in the late afternoons and early evenings.
 - b. For 20 Meters, cut one piece 34 feet long, and cut it in the middle to make two 17 foot long halves to attach to the center balun. If you're putting up just one dipole in the attic, this might be the one to put up. Whereas the higher frequencies usually give out after dark, there are usually stations on this band at all hours of the day and most of the night, particularly on 14.070 MHz which is the frequency commonly used for PSK digital communications (one of my favorites).
 - c. For 10 Meters, be a little more precise, and cut one piece 16 feet 10 inches, and cut it in the middle to make two 8 feet 5 inch long halves to attach to the center balun. If you're just putting up this dipole, this one will let you have morning Europe contacts and afternoon West Coast contacts – but only temperamentally. Temperamentally because it's up to somewhat unpredictable solar conditions for when this band is “open”, and when it is not. It's kind of like fishing, you never know what you'll catch unless you try it on this band. Your attic dipole is high above ground, relative to a 10M wavelength, so when the band is open, you should be able to make some long distance contacts on this band.
4. Some kite string, or clothes line, or other rope to tie things off up in the attic. Being in the attic, you have the advantage of not having to worry about the wind and weather; e.g. your antenna and supports are not going to get wet so you can ignore the extra steps you'd have to take to make this antenna and its connections and supports weather-proof for hanging outdoors.

When you're done, it might look like this:

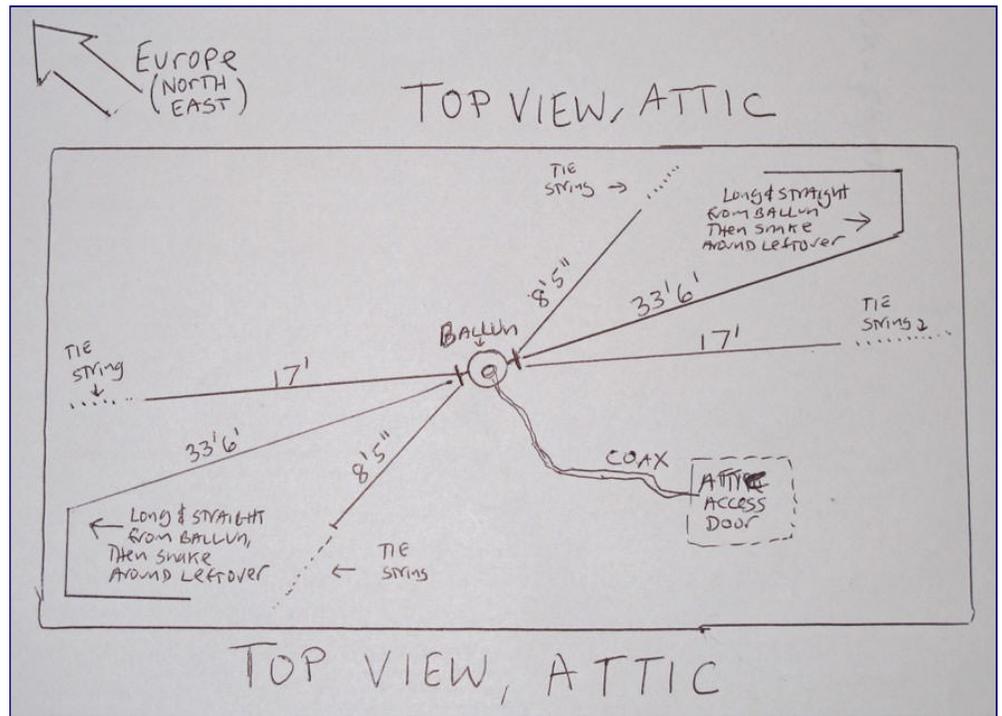


A YouTube video showing **WD0AKX** constructing such an antenna can be seen here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8KHzsKYsZL0>.

You get the idea. He put his outside. We'll put ours in the attic. And because we put ours in the attic, we don't have to use those spacers between the wires that he built. Like he shows early in the video, you can run the wires off in different directions, instead of using spacers, which is really easy to do in the attic. So that's what we'll do.

Just put the balun up near the roof in the center of your attic and run the longest wires straight as far as you can in opposite directions from each other, then angle them

around to make it all fit up there. The shorter pairs of wires, run those as far as you can in a straight line in opposite directions, again with the balun in the middle, but to different tie down points at a slightly different angle than the other wire pairs you put up.



Use kite string, or rope to tie to the end of the wire (you can make a small knot at the end of the wire to attach the string to) and stretch out and attach to a convenient roof support in that direction in your attic. For the short antenna (the 10M antenna), if you can, you might want to stretch it broadside to the direction of Europe, as shown in the picture. From where we are in NJ, when the band is open, this will improve the strength of received signals from both Europe and South America, though any direction will do. For now, it's just important to get something up there, and get on the air! You can always experiment later.

Also note that in the video, he added a wire for 6M, but says in the video he didn't need it (because the 40M dipole already can be used with that band and an antenna tuner). To make things simpler for our antenna, we won't include it. I don't think you'll miss it. That band isn't used much, and having more wire pairs makes it harder to attach the wire bundle to each side of the balun.

Once you have it built, and installed, you can borrow an expert's "SWR meter" to measure how perfect it is on the different bands, but as shown in the video, with your antenna tuner, it probably won't matter much. After that, you're on the air, and then off to experimenting with other antenna types no doubt, like back yard verticals, and various forms of wire or yagi beams.

So that's it! Once again, congratulations on your new radio! Hope to catch you on the air soon! [Ω](#)

Tune In, Turn On and Drop-In

By Cory Sickles, WA3UVV

How do you charge your portables? Do you use the wall wart adapter that came with it and have a small array of dangling cables for your radios, tablet, cell phone and more? Maybe it's time to upgrade to a better-looking way of doing things – at least for your radios.



While some of mine had drop-in charging cradles, not all did. As I picked up a portable for the 902 MHz band (probably the last analog-only VHF/UHF radio I will ever buy) that came with a drop-in charging cradle, I decided it was time to standardize on something that looked much better.

Most of the manufacturers we purchase from have charging cradle options for their radios. You don't have to do all of them at once - but once you do – it will look a lot more professional and keep you from constantly looking to see what cable goes where. [Ω](#)

Regional Hamfest and Events

January 24, 2015 : W3UU Harrisburg Radio Amateurs' Club WinterFest, Harrisburg Area Community College, Cooper Student Union, South Hall, 1 HACC Drive, Harrisburg, PA. 0800 - 1200 Hours. Talk-in: 146.760 MHz (PL 100Hz). www.w3uu.org

Regional Yaesu System Fusion Repeaters

Location	City	Callsign/Club	Frequency	Off-Set	PL Tone
Atlantic County, NJ	West Atlantic City	W2HRW/SPARC	443.250 MHz	Plus	146.2 Hz
Atlantic County, NJ	Atlantic City	K2ACY	444.650 MHz	Plus	156.7 Hz
Atlantic County, NJ	Brigantine	K2ACY	447.525 MHz	Minus	146.2 Hz
Atlantic County, NJ	Brigantine	K2ACY	447.575 MHz	Minus	156.7 Hz
Camden County, NJ	Runnemede	WA2WUN	147.225 MHz	Plus	192.8 Hz
Camden County, NJ	Blue Anchor	KB2AYS	445.125 MHz	Minus	91.5 Hz
Gloucester County, NJ	Pitman	W2MMD/GCARC	147.180 MHz	Plus	131.8 Hz
Gloucester County, NJ	Pitman	W2MMD/GCARC	442.100 MHz	Plus	131.8 Hz
Ocean County, NJ	Manchester	WA2RES/OCARES	145.170 MHz	Minus	131.8 Hz
Ocean County, NJ	Toms River	W2DOR/JSARS	146.910 MHz	Minus	127.3 Hz
Ocean County, NJ	Toms River	NJ2AR/JSARS	448.625 MHz	Minus	141.3 Hz
Berks County, PA	Reading	KB3WLV	445.175 MHz	Minus	114.8 Hz
Bucks County, PA	Southampton	W3SK/PWA	448.225 MHz	Minus	131.8 Hz
Chester County, PA	Paoli	WB3JOE/MARC	445.675 MHz	Minus	131.8 Hz
Lancaster County, PA	Holtwood	KX3B	146.745 MHz	Minus	114.8 Hz
Lawrence County, PA	Ellwood City	N3ZJM/ECARA	443.625 MHz	Plus	131.8 Hz
Lawrence County, PA	New Castle	N3ETV/ARLLC	444.725 MHz	Plus	131.8 Hz
Monroe County, PA	East Stroudsburg	KB3TEM	144.920 MHz	Input 446.550	D343
Philadelphia County, PA	Roxborough	W3QV/Phil-Mont	444.800 MHz	Plus	186.2 Hz
Sussex County, DE	Selbyville	WS3ARA/SARA	145.250 MHz	Plus	156.7 Hz

This list seems to be getting longer every day. I have shortened this list to just New Jersey, Eastern Pennsylvania, and Delaware. See our website on the System Fusion page for a longer list which includes Southern New York, all of Pennsylvania, Maryland, and Virginia.

DA's and DIT's

Gary Reed, N2QEE reports that the December 11, 2014 VE session had 2 candidates - 1 new Technician and 1 upgrade to Amateur Extra

A big thank you to **Bill Price, NJ2S** and **Kevin Hall, KD2FFZ**, who installed and hooked up the new 10 foot heater in the clubhouse. It was very comfortable for the Wednesday night board meeting.

Two million pages of AM, FM & TV Broadcasting History online - www.americanradiohistory.com

Jim Mollica Jr has changed his callsign from **N2NRD** to **K2OWE** which was his father's (**Jim Mollica Sr**) callsign. He has also upgraded to the General class license.

Tony Otowski, KD2AFY, is looking into the possibility of holding an ARRL Basic EMCOM course in the Fall of 2015. He will provide more information in future issues of Crosstalk.

10 Meter Contest

In recognition of achieving a winning score by working fellow amateurs on 28 MHz during the contest period.

Presented to

W2RM

SCORE: 19,800

FIRST PLACE

**SINGLE OPERATOR MIXED MODE, HIGH POWER
SOUTHERN NEW JERSEY SECTION**

2013

Kay Craigie **N3KN**

President, ARRL

Matt Wilhelm

W1MSW

Contest Manager



ARRL The national association for
AMATEUR RADIO™



ARRL
100
YEARS

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AMATEUR RADIO®

Advancing the Art and Science of Radio—Since 1914

ADMINISTRATIVE HEADQUARTERS
225 Main Street, Newington, Connecticut, USA 06111-1494
Telephone: 860-594-0200 • FAX: 860-594-0259
www.arrl.org

December 1, 2014

Dear 10 Meter Contest participant-

Enclosed please find your certificate for your winning effort in the 2013 ARRL 10 Meter Contest. Congratulations on your achievement!

We were pleased to have great conditions and increased activity in 2013 and if recent contests are an accurate indicator, the 2014 contest will be just as fun. We look forward to your participation again this year.

You can track what the Contest Branch is working on at any time by going to <http://www.arrl.org/plaques-and-awards>. We will be updating this page regularly so you will always know what awards are being processed.

If you have any questions about your awards or the Contest Branch, please do not hesitate to contact me.

73,

Matt Wilhelm, W1MSW
Contest Branch Manager
w1msw@arrl.org

January Birthdays

Congratulations to these
members celebrating birthdays

James Alston AC2BY
Alan Arrison KB2AYU (*President 1998, 2010, 2011*)
Henry Bunk KD2HBO
Mark Clark N3QMJ
John Czuba K2AEN
Paul Dallard Jr KM3W
Joseph DiNovi WA2GFK (*President 1986*)
Laurie Love KD2EYW
Peter Marek KD2EYU
Adan Maskery KC2YJX
Gary Reed N2QEE
Clarence Rodgers AA2QD
Gene Wallace Jr N2IMK
Matthew Wilson K2MFW



Former Member and President 1990:
Beth Barnish KB2EAL

In Memoriam January Birthdays

Silent Keys:

Sidney Bozarth WB2YHX
John Fahey WB2ONY
William Hunsinger KB2YJB
Louis Joseph W2LYL
Miriam Kravitz KB2EUA
Charles Naylor W2CAN
Steve Pakyz W2PZX



<https://www.facebook.com/W2MMD>

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
Jeffrey Garth, KC2WCS at [jeff.garth <at> comcast.net](mailto:jeff.garth@comcast.net).

**Submission deadline for the February 2015 issue:
Thursday, January 22, 2015**

**Club Website <http://www.w2mmd.org>
Club E-Mail Reflector: gcarc@mailman.qth.net**

**CQ Worldwide DX Contest, CW
November 29, 2014**

**Call: N2CQ
Operator (s) : N2CQ
Station: N2CQ**

**Class: SOAB)A) LP
QTH: SNJ
Operating Time (hrs):
Location: USA**

Summary: Compare Scores

Band QSOs Zones Countries

Band	QSOs	Zones	Countries
160:			
80:			
40:	61	41	54
20:	193	28	85
15:	291	31	104
10:	168	24	91
6:			
2:			

Total: 713 97 334

Total Score = 871,071

Club: Frankford Radio Club

**CQ Worldwide DX Contest, CW
November 29, 2014**

**Call: W2YC
Operator (s) : K2SE, KA2NDX, W0MHK, W2YC, WK2G
Station: W2YC**

**Class: M/2 HP
QTH: NJ
Operating Time (hrs): 46
Location: USA**

Summary: Compare Scores

Band QSOs Zones Countries

Band	QSOs	Zones	Countries
160:	46	10	30
80:	286	21	84
40:	1016	37	125
20:	984	39	137
15:	1198	33	127
10:	893	32	127
6:			
2:			

Total: 4423 172 630

Total Score = 10,286,452

Club: Frankford Radio Club

Comments: Great ops...lotsa seat time. ACOM amp at stn #1 made it to within a couple of hours from the end, thank-fully.

**ARRL 160 Meter Contest
December 5, 2014**

**Call: W2YC
Operator (s) : W2YC
Station: W2YC**

**Class: SO Unlimited HP
QTH: SNJ
Operating Time (hrs): 13
Location: USA**

Summary: Compare Scores

**Total: QSOs: 700
Sections: 72**

Total Score = 109,186

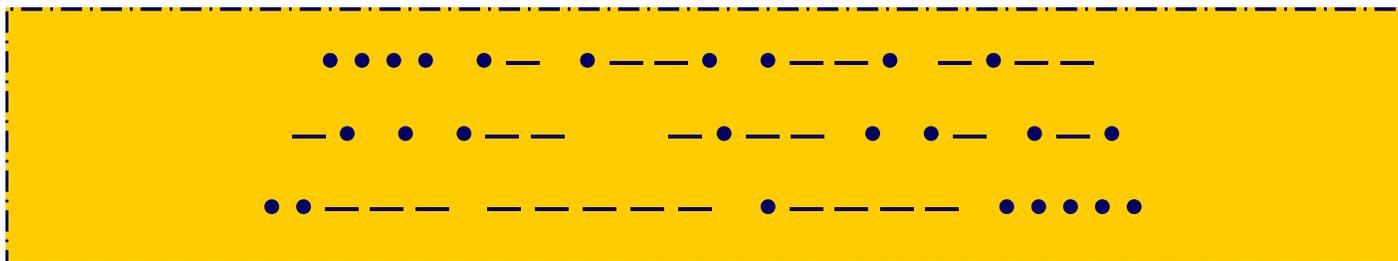
Club: Frankford Radio Club

Straight Key Night

Every day is a good day to send CW, but January 1 is reserved for Straight Key Night. Enjoy CW as it has been sent and enjoyed since the earliest days of Amateur Radio.



**Straight Key Night is held every January 1 from
0000 UTC to 2359 UTC**



Edward Sumek, W2GSN (SK) QSL cards from the Jim Mollica Sr, K2OWE's QSL collection.

Image Credits: Jim Mollica Jr, K2OWE



Contest Calendar

For more information on the contests, please go to the WA7BNM Contest Calendar website:
www.hornucopia.com/contestcal

January 2015

+ SARTG New Year RTTY Contest	0800Z-1100Z, Jan 1
+ AGCW Happy New Year Contest	0900Z-1200Z, Jan 1
+ QRP Fox Hunt	0200Z-0330Z, Jan 2
+ NCCC Sprint Ladder	0230Z-0300Z, Jan 2
+ WW PMC Contest	1200Z, Jan 3 to 1200Z, Jan 4
+ ARRL RTTY Roundup	1800Z, Jan 3 to 2400Z, Jan 4
+ EUCW 160m Contest	2000Z, Jan 3 to 0700Z, Jan 4
+ NCCC Sprint Ladder	0230Z-0300Z, Jan 9
+ North American QSO Party, CW	1800Z, Jan 10 to 0600Z, Jan 11
+ NRAU-Baltic Contest, CW	0630Z-0830Z, Jan 11
+ DARC 10-Meter Contest	0900Z-1059Z, Jan 11
+ NRAU-Baltic Contest, SSB	0900Z-1100Z, Jan 11
+ Midwinter Contest	1000Z-1400Z, Jan 11
+ NCCC Sprint Ladder	0230Z-0300Z, Jan 16
+ LZ Open Contest	0000Z-0400Z, Jan 17
+ Hungarian DX Contest	1200Z, Jan 17 to 1200Z, Jan 18
+ North American QSO Party, SSB	1800Z, Jan 17 to 0600Z, Jan 18
+ NCCC Sprint Ladder	0230Z-0300Z, Jan 23
+ CQ 160-Meter Contest, CW	2200Z, Jan 23 to 2159Z, Jan 25
+ REF Contest, CW	0600Z, Jan 24 to 1800Z, Jan 25
+ BARTG RTTY Sprint	1200Z, Jan 24 to 1200Z, Jan 25
+ ARRL January VHF Contest	1900Z, Jan 24 to 0359Z, Jan 26
+ NCCC Sprint Ladder	0230Z-0300Z, Jan 30
+ UBA DX Contest, SSB	1300Z, Jan 31 to 1300Z, Feb 1

Interview With A Ham...Reboot

By Jeff Garth, KC2WCS



Many moons ago, Crosstalk used to have a column called ‘Interview with a ham’. I would like to bring it back, but I need your help. I would like to “hire” a reporter. He or she would interview a fellow club member and gather some basic information about that member such as:

- Name, callsigns, member pictures
- How and when they got started in Amateur Radio
- Their radio equipment, hamshack pictures
- Etc. - Whatever information the interviewee feels comfortable revealing.

It’s an easy gig. It does not have to be every month, whatever fits your schedule.

Oh yeah, the ‘Hire’ part! Ok, for every interview I get, I will pay 1 Russian Ruble, payable in 2 checks.

So, let me know at [jeff.garth <at> comcast.net](mailto:jeff.garth@comcast.net) or see me at a meeting.

P.S. In my opinion, the first interview I would do would be Charles Sketchley, K2PQD, our oldest original club member. Ω

Committee Chairs

Awards and Contests	Kenny Denson, WB2P
Budget	Al Arrison, KB2AYU
Clubhouse Replacement Project	Ray Martin, W2RM
Clubhouse Site	Al Arrison, KB2AYU
Club License Trustee	Darrell Neron, AB2E
Club Publications	Jeffrey Garth, KC2WCS
Community Outreach	Cory Sickles, WA3UVV
- Scout Liaison	Frank Simila, KC2SJ
Constitution and By-Laws	Ron Block, NR2B
Database	Ken Newman, N2CQ
DX	Bill Grim, W0MHK
Emergency and Public Service	Joe Shevlin, KC2PHM
- ARES/RACES	Joe Shevlin, KC2PHM
- CERT	Martin Wilt, W2ILT
Field Day Co-Chairs	Mark Townsend, W2OCY and Kyle Townsend, W2KBT
Hamfest	Tom Gorman, KE2ES
- Hamfest Contact	Cory Sickles, WA3UVV
Health and Welfare	Ray Martin, W2RM
Historian	Jeffrey Garth, KC2WCS
Hospitality	Dave MacDonald, WB3JOY
Membership	Cory Sickles, WA3UVV and Ray Schnapp, WB2NBJ
Nominations	Jim Wright, N2GXJ
Programs	Cory Sickles, WA3UVV
Publicity	Cory Sickles, WA3UVV
Repeaters	Al Arrison KB2AYU
Special Services	Darrell Neron, AB2E
Technical and TVI	Cory Sickles, WA3UVV
VEC Liaison and License Testing	Gary Reed, N2QEE



ARRL 2014 Field Day Results for the Gloucester County Amateur Radio Club

	2014	Rank		Total #
Score	10,826	#36	out of	2,686
Category	12A	#1	out of	1
QSOs	2,574			
Power Mult	2	#29	out of	2,278
Section	SNJ	#2	out of	25
Division	AT	#5	out of	279
Participants	29			

Maximilian Kolbe, SP3RN Patron Saint of Amateur Radio Operators



The W2MMD Repeaters

Output: 147.180 MHz
Input: 147.780 MHz
Offset: +600 kHz - PL: 131.8 Hz
(Conventional FM plus C4FM Capability)

Output: 442.100 MHz
Input: 447.100 MHz
Offset: +5 MHz - PL: 131.8 Hz
(Conventional FM plus C4FM Capability)

Output: 1284.400 MHz
Input: 1272.400 MHz
Offset: -12.0 MHz
PL Tone: None

The above 3 repeaters are all
located in Pitman, NJ
GPS: 39.728481°, -75.131088°

Output: 224.660 MHz
Input: 223.060 MHz
Offset: -1.6 MHz
PL Tone: 131.8 Hz
Location: Sewell, NJ
GPS: 39.781382°, -75.099963°

GCARC 2M Ragchew Net

Thursday, January 15, 2015 @ 20:00 Hrs

SKYWARN™ Net
Sunday 19:45 Hrs

ARES/RACES Net
Sunday 20:00 Hrs

All Nets on 147.180 MHz Repeater

VE License Session

Thursday, January 8, 2015 @ 1900 Hrs
Franklin Township Public Library
Franklinville, NJ
Gary Reed, N2QEE
[glreed49 <at> verizon <dot> net](mailto:glreed49@verizon.net)

Meeting Calendar

General Membership Meeting

19:30 Hrs, Wednesday, January 7, 2015
Pfeiffer Community Center
301 Blue Bell Road
(Main Street and Blue Bell Road)
Williamstown, NJ

Board of Directors Meeting

19:00 Hrs, Wednesday, January 21, 2015
GCARC Clubhouse
Gloucester County 4-H Fairgrounds
235 Bridgeton Pike (Rt 77), Mullica Hill, NJ

January Club Meeting Program

**Break-out sessions with Q&A about a
variety of ham radio related topics**



*New is the year;
New are the hopes;
New is the resolution;
New are the spirits;
And new are my warm
wishes just for you.
Have a promising
and fulfilling New Year!
Happy New Year*

QuotesHDWallpapers.com

**GCARC 11:00 am Brunch
Every Friday @
The Seven Star Diner
1890 Hurffville Road, Sewell, NJ**

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