



Presidents Message

By the time this message gets to you Field Day will be history but the Hamfest will be on the horizon. That means I have to get on the proverbial soap box and ask every member to help out and make our only money maker of the year a huge success. There are many jobs to be done both on the Sunday of the Hamfest and on the Saturday afternoon of the day before the Hamfest to set up and run this very important event. Some of the jobs are selling tickets, lining out tailgate spaces, arranging tables in the pavilion, and parking cars. Remember we need to deal with those attending in a cheerful manner because we depend on these fellow hams and this event to fund our club each year.

2004 DUES

GCARC dues for the year 2004 are due. The annual dues are \$20.00. Please send your checks directly to the treasurer, Bob Krchnavek, (K2DAD) at 50 Eastwick Dr., Gibbsboro, NJ 08026.

There are a few other items to be discussed. One is that there has been another lightning strike at the trailer. Luckily the damage was less severe than from the hit a few years ago. Thanks to Al Arrison, KB2AYU, for installing grounding antenna switches on some of the equipment. There is still more work to do. From the damage we sustained this time, it appears to be from a hit on the power lines. A commercial all house surge protector has been purchased and it will be installed soon if it has not already been installed by the time you get this message.

The Generator has been checked out and found to be running OK, a new fan belt has been installed and that should silence the squeaks that we had last year. I picked one of the hottest days of the year so far to do this job. Bill, WA2ADB, and I were pretty washed out after we were done changing the belt. I still have to put the left side fan guard on before we fire it up for Field Day. This shouldn't take much time, but it was just too hot that day.

That's about all for now except if you still have not paid your 2004 dues yet "GET IT UP."

Best 73 & 88 to all;
Ray WB2NBJ

DX Dope

By Doug Gehring, WA2NPD

Following a very delightful interruption (i.e. Field Day), we are now back at the DX operating position raring to go "at em." Your scribe just received his 1500th band country QSL card, so I now will get ready to submit to the League for the 1500 Challenge endorsement sticker.

As AA2WN is off to the south on another business trip, the FD logs most likely are not all completed for submission, so a complete FD report will be forthcoming in the August issue of Crosstalk. A preliminary report is certainly appropriate in that one could hardly have asked for better weather for the event (sunny, breezy, cool, etc.). Also, band conditions across the FD spectrum were quite good considering we are about half way towards the beginning of the next cycle (i.e. rock bottom). And this year's food service was magnificent, to say the least! Overall, the Club did considerably better than last year's score and we were 9A precedence, same as last year. Murphy struck as per usual, especially the 20 meter CW station. But enough for now, the complete run down will be out next month. Suffice to say, Bob, KC2KGM, the FD Chairman, can be very proud of his effort this year. Everything generally went quite well.

DX wise, the summer northern latitude doldrums are now upon us on the higher bands and the summertime QRN is in full swing on the lower HF bands. Thirty years ago, I can remember virtually moth balling my station during the months of July thru September. But, not anymore! How come the difference? Simple, today's equipment is far superior to that of 30-40 years ago and, to a considerable extent, overcomes the summer doldrums! The sensitivity and stability of today's receivers is superior to that of even 15-20 year old receivers and the efficiency of today's 100 watt transmitter sounds like a 500 watt station of a few years back. Also, most all DXers today have either a Quad or a Yagi some 50 feet off the ground and many stations have match boxes for loading purposes. Also, band pass filters and baluns are now quite common. And a linear amplifier now is almost always present at the station. And a final word about reliability, today's equipment rarely breaks-down. So, with all of the above as a send-off, you may not hear China every day, but there will be DX out there workable in many parts of the world. So, let's see what's there for this month.

STATION	DATES	FREQ/MODE	RARITY*	COUNTRY
3D2EA	Now thru Sept.	40 – 17; SSB, CW	3.	Fiji Is.
4S7RO	6/15 – 10/1	HF ; CW, SSB, PSK	3.	Sri Lanka
ST2T	Now thru 9/1	160 – 10; CW, SSB	3.	Sudan
TK/F6AUS	6/22 – 7/23	All ; CW, SSB	3.	Corsica
YE1P	7/21 - 7/25	80 – 10; All	3.	Indonesia
9H3RH	7/25 - 8/8	40 - 10; All	2.	Malta
9M6AAC	7/8 - 7/12	30 – 20 ; SSB, CW	3.	E. Malaysia
V31KG	7/5 - 7/14	80 – 6; SSB, CW	2.	Belize
H/C/KH0	7/9 - 7/12	160 – 6; SSB, CW	3.	Mariana Is.
NC2N/V44	7/5 – 7/12	160 – 10; All	2.	Nevis Is.
VP2M	6/30 – 7/17	6 m; SSB	2.	Montserrat
VP9/WA4PGM	7/9 – 7/19	160 – 6; CW, SSB, RTTY	2.	Bermuda
ED8ERC	7/3 – 7/10	160 – 10; SSB, CW	2.	Canary Is.
3A/H/C	7/15 – 7/18	40 – 10 ; CW, SSB	3.	Monaco
9Y/H/C	7/3 – 7/17	160 – 6; All	2.	Tobago Is.
J79KV	Now - ?	160 – 6; SSB, CW	2.	Dominica
PJ7M	7/2 – 7/12	HF; 2 m; All	2.	St. Maarten

* Number. 5 is rarest

TNX to Weekly DX, 425 DX News, W2YC, WA2LET, AA2WN, K2JF

Club Receiver for Sale

The Club has a Heathkit SB-301 receiver with matching speaker that is surplus. We thought that it should be offered to the membership before it is put up for bids on E-bay. The receiver has been aligned and is good working order. Those who have used it say its sensitivity rivals many of the receivers sold today. The Club is offering the SB-301 at \$120 to the first Club member interested. If you are interested in buying it contact our President, Ray Schnapp,

Ham Radio for Dummies

A new book, "Ham Radio for Dummies" written by Ward Silver, N0AX, has been released by Wiley Press and has been receiving good reviews on the Web. It was written as a "Desktop Elmer" and for people interested in becoming hams. Even so, experienced hams will also find new items to pique their interest. There is a sample chapter at <http://www.dummies.com/WileyCDA/DummiesTitle/productCd-0764559877.html> as well as a substantial "bonus content" package on the technical details of operating and a large list of Web references. All can be downloaded without charge.

The book is available both on-line and in bookstores at prices from \$15 to \$22.

Coming Events

Coming up August 6-8 is the International EME Conference in Ewing Township, NJ at the College of New Jersey on Route 31 South. For information e-mail eme2004@qsl.net or see website www.qsl.net/eme2004.

Hamfest by the Shore is coming up August 8 in Bayville, NJ sponsored by JSARS. For information contact Ed, WA2NDA, at wa2nda@aol.com. Talk-in is 146.910- (p1127.3). You can also send e-mail to hamfest@jsars.org.

Last but not least is our Gloucester County ARC Hamfest on August 22 at the 4H Fairgrounds on Route 77 just south of Mullica Hill. E-mail questions to aa2wm@arrl.net.

Virginian First Ham to Accomplish "Tuna Tin II" WAS

The next time you are complaining about how lousy the bands are and how hard it is to make contacts with your 100 watt rigs think about Bob Chapman, W9JOP, and the frustration he must have gone through earning WAS with only 250 mW. It took him four years, but Chapman, a ham from Bealeton, Virginia, has become the first US amateur licensee to work all states using a flea-power "Tuna Tin II" transmitter. Bob recently completed his "QRPP" (less than 1 W output) accomplishment and has received his ARRL Worked All States Award certificate. "Unfortunately, ARRL does not issue a certificate for WAS QRPP," he said. "Mine is endorsed with 'QRP-CW.'"

Chapman, 71, says he actually used two Tuna Tin transmitters to accomplish the feat. He worked and confirmed the contiguous 48 states with a classic Tuna Tin, which uses an inverted tuna can as a chassis. Not only was Chapman running just 250 mW--one-quarter of a watt--he was crystal controlled on 7043 kHz! Chapman says he snagged the last two states, Hawaii (KH6U) and Alaska (WL7WH) using a homebrew 20-meter Tuna Tin, rockbound on 14,060 kHz and also running 250 mW.

"No QRO here," Chapman says of his setup. "Just a low-power, low-tech station with a G5RV wire antenna at 50 feet and a 'TiCK' keyer." He uses a vintage Collins 51S-1 receiver.

A ham for 50 years, Chapman further points out that he accomplished his QRPP WAS without any schedules but "just by waiting for the states to pass within my capture area--namely, on my frequency," he said. He also has a QRP Amateur Radio Club International QRPP Worked All States certificate.

In 2001 Steve Chapman, VE7SL, in British Columbia, Canada, became the world's first amateur to accomplish QRPP WAS using a Tuna Tin II running about 400 mW.

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

Editors Note: The 40 meter version of the Tuna Tin II was a kit put out by the NJ QRP Club and was an update of a [QST](#) project from the late 1970s.



The Crowd Gathers for Field Day 2004

Happy Birthday

Congratulations to the following Club members:

Ray Flanigan, N2WHL	7/21
Tony Gargano, N2SS	7/14
Edward Hankin, KB2ODJ	7/3
Christopher Kelly, KC2PC	7/16
Bob Krchnavek, K2DAD	7/11
John Logan, KB2VSE	7/18
Frank Messick, KC2JIW	7/31
Louis Miceli, WB2THM	7/22
Art Strong, KA2DOT	7/20
Alan Trueblood, N2FJQ	7/4
Don Vincent, KC2LRK	7/22



Crosstalk Submissions

All submissions, queries, comments, editorials, etc. should be directed to:

Gene Schoeberlein, AA2YO
401 Westwood Drive
Woodbury, New Jersey 08096-3131

aa2yo@arrl.net

Submission deadline: 7/28/2004

President-Ray Schnapp WB2NBJ
Vice President-Wayne Wilson WA2LET
Treasurer-Bob Krchnavek K2DAD

Chuck Colabrese WA2TML
Lou Joseph W2LYL
Al Arrison KB2AYU

Advertising-Open
ARES/RACES-Chick WA2USI
Awards-Jack K2ZA
Banquet-Bob KR2U
Budget-Bob K2DAD
Clubhouse Site-Al KB2AYU
Constitution-Open
Crosstalk-Gene AA2YO
Database-Ray WB2LNR
DX-Doug WA2NPD
Field Day-Bob KC2KGM
Hamfest-Harry AA2WN

GCARC Officers

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

Board of Directors

Gene Schoeberlein AA2YO
Bob Krukowski KR2U
Bill Blakeley WA2ADB

Committees

Hospitality-Ken N2CQ
Membership-Ray WB2LNR
Nominations-Art Strong KA2DOT
Publicity-Open
Repeaters-Chuck WA2TML
Scholarships-Greg WN2T
Special Services-Gene N2IMK
Sunshine-Open
Technical-Bob KR2U
TVI-John AA2BN
VEC Testing-Chick WA2USI

The W2MMD Repeaters

147.78/18 Mhz- Pitman
(CTCSS 131.8Hz)

223.06/224.66 Mhz-Sewell

447.1/442.1 Mhz - Pitman
(CTCSS 131.8Hz)

GCARC Meetings

General Membership

8 pm 1st Wednesday every month
Pfeiffer Community Center
Williamstown, NJ

Board of Directors

8 pm 3rd Wednesday every month
GCARC Club site
Harrison Twp. 4H Grounds
1 mile south of Mullica Hill on RT77

Nets

ARES/RACES
Sunday 20:00 Hrs
(147.78/18 and
223.06/224.66
repeaters)

10 Meter- Sunday
following the
ARES/RACES Net
(28.350 Mhz)

July Meeting Program

Socializing

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

