

CROSSTALK

ISSUE #6

JUNE, 2005

Presidents Message

2005 DUES
GCARC dues for
the year 2005
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.

I'm writing this month's message sitting in London, as I prepare for my mini-expedition to EI, which by the time you read this, will have hopefully gone smoothly. A few members have asked me to relate more about the trip to EI, so I will take this opportunity to fill you in on the Emerald Isle. I'll have to ask my host John, EI7BA, if the EI prefix has anything to do with the nickname Emerald Isle, but I suspect it's more to do with the Irish name for Ireland, which is Eire. Having flown over Ireland many times on the way to London, it is a striking view from the air. I have never seen such a rich green and lush landscape from the air. It's easy to see how it has earned the nickname of the Emerald Isle. The first trip to Cork materialized during one of my trips to London, which was in late November 2004. Always trying to think of an interesting place to operate on short notice, I started looking at the excellent DXHoliday website, which has a wealth of information for the ham who plans to travel and operate. The website is <http://www.dxholiday.com> and is maintained by Ken, K2KW. I noticed with some interest that there were no listings for Ireland. Granted, Ireland is not terribly rare, and there are a number of locals who get on the HF bands quite regularly, including some modest contest entries. The big contest station is the multi-multi EI7M, which many of you likely have in the log.

I stumbled on my host's website by accident (<http://www.iol.ie/~bravo/index.htm>). John Tait, EI7BA, is quite the antenna experimenter and has a couple of acres in a rural area east of Cork, in the southeastern corner of Ireland, so plenty of room for antennas and a really low-noise quiet QTH. We traded a couple of e-mails and he invited me to operate CQWW CW. Wow! This was great. I was already in London, and the flight to Cork is only about 40 minutes. Better yet, I had brought only my IC-706 to London, and John, EI7BA, has a Yaesu Mark V, an FT1000MP, and a pair of Alpha 78s. Plans were quickly made and the flight booked. My XYL, Mildred, was also excited, having never been to Ireland before. We did some sightseeing the first day, but I was itching to get over to check out John's station. It proved a lot more difficult finding his QTH than I had imagined! The roads in Ireland are not generally named or marked, most of them being what we would consider two-lane country roads. Shoulders are narrow and often you must stop to let the oncoming car squeeze by. Sure there are major highways between the big cities, but once you exit one of these you will have fun figuring out where you are going. Also, Ireland drives on the left like the UK, the steering wheel is on the right and automatic transmissions are rare. This means you will become quickly familiar with left-handed shifting if you are going to drive in Ireland or the UK!

It was getting near dark and we still had not found John's QTH. After driving around and getting lost a few times, about an hour or so later, we stopped a postman who was very helpful and we arrived at our destination. We were quickly ushered into John's lovely

country home, and quickly became friends with him and his wife Eunice. After tea we went to the shack, where I checked out the setup and made sure it was contest ready for the weekend. The following day we spent sightseeing in the East Cork area, and visited the Tower of Cloyne, which was built by monks in the 10th Century. Taking a tour is easy, you ask the clerk at the post office across the street for the key! If you go inside, you have to climb a ladder to the doorway. Evidently, back in medieval times, the entrance was elevated to keep out the invaders or would-be conquerors. The tower served as a lookout and therefore had strategic importance. Ireland is full of many old buildings and churches like the ones we visited and the people are really nice. Strangers are quick to smile and say good morning or good afternoon, as the case may be.

Operating a contest from Europe is an interesting experience and requires adjusting your attitude and planning. First of all, the contest starts at midnight local time. This means you will be starting on the low bands since it is already dark. Just as the US stations want to work EU for 3 points in CQWW, EU wants to work the US or JA for 3 points. However, unlike the US, which has only a small number of multipliers (mostly the Caribbean) with a small ham population, EU has a dense concentration of amateurs in many countries. It's real easy to get 50 multipliers on 80M for instance, just call CQ and all of EU will come back to you. The down side is that these Qs are only worth 1 point, not 3, so while you feel busy and have a full log, you may not have a lot of points! This is what happened to me in CQWW CW. I had a great time operating, and had a lot of Qs, but I had lousy openings to the US. Also, imagine the strong stations in Sweepstakes, and trying to hear DX in between. That is the problem you face operating in Europe, heavy local QRM making it hard to copy the US stations.

The contest went well from EI7BA's location and several local EI stations stopped by to say hello, including a couple of the ops from EI7M, including Dave EI4BZ. The East Cork Contest Group is the most active radio club in the southern part of Ireland. Like clubs everywhere, the challenge is attracting new members. An interesting note on call sign sequences and licensing in EI, there are no regional identifiers. The call signs are issued sequentially and started with EI1 (this would be a really old-timer), and is currently somewhere in the EI9 sequence. Any US ham can operate automatically without any special license under the CEPT agreement, which allows US hams to operate essentially anywhere in Europe (Andorra C3 being the exception, no one, not even other EU hams can operate there).

Well, in WPX CW I will hopefully take advantage of the high density of EU stations. The prefix is the multiplier, and while EU will also count as 1 point from EI, there should be a rich variety of prefixes. The strategy is to work as many US stations on 40 and 80, which count 6 points on those bands. Well, that's about it. The 2005 WPX CW contest will be history by the time you read this, and I hope to have worked you in the contest. I have special full color photo QSLs which were made by Gennady UX5UO, which will be sent if I work you. If you ever get the chance, be sure to visit Ireland, it truly is the Emerald Isle.

Darrell, AB2E

2005 Dues

The following members are up-to-date with their 2005 GCARC dues as of May 1, 2005. Thank you. If your call sign is not on this list, please send your dues to the Treasurer (see page one of this issue). If you paid your dues and your call sign is not shown below, contact the Treasurer via e-mail at krchnavek@rowan.edu.

AA2WN	AA2YO	AA4N	AB2E	AB2IT
AI2B	K2DAD	K2JF	K2PQD	K2ZA
K3WIN	KA2DOT	KB2AYU	KB2COB	KB2JCQ
KB2ZTL	KC2BON	KC2ELC	KC2JIW	KC2PC
KE2ES	KR2U	N2ASV	N2BK	N2BYC
N2CQ	N2DJN	N2FNF	N2HYS	N2IMH
N2IMK	N2MR	N2SBQ	N2SI	N2SRO
N2WHL	N2WUP	NJ2B	W0MHK	W2LYL
W2TDS	W2YC	WA2ADB	WA2GFK	WA2IBZ
WA2KDV	WA2LET	WA2MVU	WA2NPD	WA2TML
WA2TRS	WB2DXB	WB2GSF	WB2LNR	WB2NBJ
WB2OYQ	WB2THM	WB2UVB	WK2W	WN2T

DX Dope

By Doug Gehring, WA2NPD

Again, it's that time of year, hence, below is our Club Annual DX listing. It appears that the solar cycle is having its effect, as less activity from most has been evidenced. N2SS continues to lead the DXCC pack with W2YC in front on most of the other categories. In fact, Dave is ranked about number 85 in the world for the Challenge Award. Bill, W0MHK, is now on the CW Honor Roll and continues his Challenge pursuit. We welcome our president, Darrell, AB2E, into the fray with his very impressive numbers. Again, if we missed someone, please let me know via E-mail or in person. Good DXing to all for the remainder of this year.

2005 CLUB DX YEARBOOK

CALL	DXCC	5BDXCC	WAS	5BWAS	WAZ	5BWAZ	CHALLENGE	HONOR ROLL
K2HPV	195	N	Y	N	N	N	N	N
K2OWE	348	N	Y	N	Y	N	N	M; CW
N2CQ	321	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	1352	N
N2SS	358	Y	Y	N	Y	190	N	M; P
WB2DXB	156	N	Y	N	N	68	N	N
K2JF	342	Y (a)	Y	Y (b)	Y	194	N	M; CW
WA2LET	264	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
K2ZA	181	N	Y	N	N	N	N	N
AE2L	307	N	Y	N	N	N	N	N
W0MHK	339	Y (c)	Y	Y	Y	187	2454	M; CW
W2YC	337	Y (d)	Y	Y (d)	Y (e)	200	2580	M; P; CW
WA2NPD	347	Y (f)	Y	N	Y	197	1681	M; P; CW
AA2WN	323	Y (f)	Y	N	Y	193	1656	N
N2FJQ	327	N	Y	N	N	N	340	M
WB2LNR	308	N	Y	Y (g)	N	N	N	N
WB2NBJ	131	N	Y	N	N	N	N	N
AB2E	310	Y (f)	Y	N	Y	40	1500	N

(a) 8 band endorsement plus RTTY. (b) 6 band endorsement (c) 9 band endorsement (d) 9 band endorsement plus RTTY (e) Endorsed on RTTY, 30, and 17 (f) Endorsed on 30 and 17 (g) 8 band endorsement. M = Mixed Mode; P = Phone; CW = CW; N = not yet.

Below is this month's hot stuff:

STATION	DATES	FREQ/MODE	RARITY*	COUNTRY
5B/G3VMK	5/23 – 6/4	80 – 10; CW	3	Cyprus
CY9SS (1)	6/7 – 7/7	All ; All	2	St. Paul Is.
9Q0AR	Now – 12/31	40 – 6; CW, SSB	3	Rep. of Congo
YI9LZ	Now – 11/30	160 – 10; CW, SSB	3	Iraq
TT8PK	5/20 – 7/20	80 – 10; All	3	Chad
C37JPE	5/23 – 6/5	80 – 10; SSB, CW	3	Andorra
EA8/EA9CP	6/15 – 6/23	80 – 10; SSB, CW	2	Canary Is.
7Q7WW	5/13 – 6/13	160 – 40; CW, SSB	3	Malawi
YL740C	Now – 6/28	160 – 10; All	3	Latvia
C91EP	Now – 7/2	20-17-15; SSB, CW	3	Mozambique

* Nr. 5 is rarest (1) is Major DXpedition

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

Field Day

CQ to the GCARC members. Field Day is rapidly approaching and I am trying to get things organized. At the May General Meeting I asked for volunteers for band chairmen. I have received the following so far...

40 SSB	Wayne	WA2LET
40 CW	Doug	WA2NPD
80 SSB	Art	KA2DOT

We still have a lot of other bands to cover and this year we need enough volunteers to be able to man each band separately. Please contact me to volunteer to be a band chairman or if you want to operate or help in any way. We also need someone to handle the food for the event. Last year is going to be very hard to beat. Anyone up to the challenge, please contact me by E-mail at rwslippey@comcast.net

Also as discussed at the meeting no operating can take place from the trailer. Field Day rules specifically state that no operating should take place from a permanent station.

I need some help from someone working with ARES in the area to make us eligible for bonus credits. Any one who can help with this please contact me.

Last year was a great Field day, almost perfect weather in my opinion, the food was great, and band conditions were good. Lets get out there again this year and blow the bands apart. I've noticed a decline in the number of participants through the last couple years that I have participated with the Club. I would love to see a big increase this year. Come on out and have some fun, if there is anything that can't physically be done station wise, I would be glad to assist but we really need operators and band chairmen. GCARC has been involved in some big numbers when it comes to contesting and FD should be our biggest turnout.

With that I'll say 73's and I hope to see everyone there on June 25th...

Rob, KC2NLM

GCARC Hamfest in July QST

John Dilks, K2TQN, writes the monthly Old Radio column in QST. In the upcoming July issue, which comes out in early June, John references the Club's Hamfest. These references are sure to stir some interest in this year's event. As most of you know John also has a mobile old radio museum which he has brought to our Hamfest in the past. The museum has been a big attraction in past years and he is hoping to bring it again this year. With John's help this year's Hamfest should be a real success. Look for John's column in QST and plan to come out to the Hamfest and bring a friend.

June General Membership Meeting

Those of you who attended the May General Membership Meeting had the pleasure of hearing Bob, K2DAD, speak on the future electronics. Bob talked about the current limits in design of computer chips and the possible ways that these limits may be overcome. It was a fascinating program. Bob has a Doctorate in Electrical Engineering, is a professor in the College of Engineering at Rowan University and is a very interesting speaker. During his May talk he was only able to scratch the surface of his subject so he was asked if he could come back this month and continue where he left off. Bob has graciously accepted that invitation and will once again be the speaker at the June meeting. Come on out and enjoy Bob's talk, support your Club and socialize with your fellow Club members.



JUNE **CONDUCTED BY N2SS** **2005**

WARC BANDS

<u>30 Meters</u>	<u>17 Meters</u>	<u>12 Meters</u>
W2YC. 296	N2SS ...320	WØMHK309
N2SS286	WØMHK.. 308	N2SS 302
WØMHK ..261	W2YC 300	W2YC 273
AA2WN...171	K2JF 168	K2JF 135
WA2NPD..166	WA2NPD . 142	N2CQ 99
AB2E132	AA2WN ... 116	AB2E 92
K2JF112	N2CQ 115	WA2NPD... 73
N2CQ111	AB2E 114	AA2WN 20

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

R T T Y J DIGITAL

W2YC242	K2JF 113
AA2WN187	N2SS 53
N2CQ151	

6 METER DXCC

K2JF94	W2YC19
WØMHK94	AA2WN15
N2SS55	

MOBILE DX

W2YC276	WØMHK 141
N2SS234	AA2WN 131
K2JF150	

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

GRID SQUARES

WØMHK457	K2JF285
.....

160 Meters

W2YC 171	AA2WN 36
WØMHK 119	K2JF 34
AB2E 90	WA2NPD 27
N2SS 79	N2CQ 9

W2YC roars into the role as undisputed Top of Top Band.

Have some totals to add or updates? You can reach me as follows:

email: n2ss@n2ss.com

1.5K Club

W2YC1542	AA2WN 1369
N2SS1520	K2JF 1350
WA2NPD ...1399	N2CQ 1135
WØMHK1395	AB2E 1074

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

Islands On The Air

N2SS811	N2CQ 159
W2YC604	

June Birthdays

Congratulations to the following Club members with birthdays in June:

Joe Arsenaunt, WA2KDV
Joshua Brem, AE2L
Neil Griffith, W2GTV
Scott Medaugh
Ken Newman, N2CQ
Ray Schnapp, WB2NBJ
Charles Sketchley, K2PQD
Jim Wilson, N2SVN



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: 6/27/2005

President-Darrell Neron, AB2E
Vice President-Wayne Wilson WA2LET
Treasurer-Bob Krchnavek K2DAD

Chuck Colabrese WA2TML
Bob Krukowski KR2U
Bill Blakeley WA2ADB

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 KC2NLM
Hamfest-Harry AA2WN

GCARC Officers

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

Board of Directors

Al Arrison KB2AYU
Gene Schoeberlein AA2YO
Steve Blasko, W2TDS

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-Open
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)

June Meeting Program

The Future of Electronics (Part Two)
Bob Krchnavek, K2DAD
Field Day Planning

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

