



Presidents Message

2006 DUES
GCARC dues for
the year 2006
are due. The
annual dues are
\$20.00. Please
send your checks
directly to the
treasurer, Steven
Blasko, W2TDS,
448 Melvin Ave.
Glendora, NJ
08029.

The 3Y0X DXpedition is now history, reportedly with over 82,000 QSOs in the log. WA2NPD will have more on this elsewhere in Crosstalk. Somehow, I managed to miss them on all bands. Not having my own station at home at the moment, I did manage to try a couple of evenings to snag them out at the trailer. The pileups on 30M were incredible, and after 2 hours of calling with no luck, I gave up. Luckily, I had 3Y0PI in the log on 4 bands from the previous 3Y expedition in the early 1990s. An interesting tie-in, if you have not seen the new movie *Eight Below*, which takes place in the Antarctic, it will give you an idea of the stark and hostile environment some of these DXpeditions have to endure. The logistics alone are quite incredible and they deserve our support. It's one thing to fly to an island to operate a plug-and-play ham shack (like I have done numerous times), in contrast to taking everything you need in shipping containers on an icebreaker, with a helicopter and a team surgeon in case someone gets ill or hurt on the trip.

Darrell, AB2E

New Directors Appointed

Wayne Wilson, WA2LET, has agreed to fill the open position of two year director on the Club's Board and Doug Gehring, WA2NPD has agreed to fill the open position of one year director. With these two appointments the Club now has a full compliment of officers.

March Meeting Program

Doug, WA2NPD, will present the program for this month centered on the answers to the dipole quiz which appeared in the February issue of Crosstalk. Doug's information about dipole antennas is certainly not new, but is easily forgotten by experienced hams and could be helpful to the beginner who is considering the structure of his antenna farm. Doug has been a licensed ham for 46 years and is primarily interested in DXing. He is a retired chemist/Lab Director having worked 37 years with DuPont and 10 years with National Refrigerants.

DX Dope

By Doug Gehring, WA2NPD

By now, probably one of the greatest major DXpeditions ever is history. Of course I am referring to the Peter I Island, 3Y0X, operation which is in progress as I write this. At this writing, some 6 days before the scheduled shut down, they have already logged some 70,000 QSOs covering ALL bands and modes. And this all accomplished as we near the bottom of solar cycle 23. They even had many QSOs on 10 and 12 meters, two bands that were not expected to yield much success, as the SFI remained mostly in the seventies during the entire operation. The QRM psychopaths were out in full force during the first few days of the operation, but, gradually subsided as they agonizingly realized the PI ops were working right through the worst of their invective. As listed in the recent DX Magazine most wanted summary, Peter I Island, at number 4, should now drop considerably, perhaps to below the first 30 or 40 entities. Now, if we could only arrange a similar DXpedition to Scarborough Reef, your humble scribe (and many others) could hang up their DX hats for good! Actually, this won't happen, as, already at least two other entities are now under consideration for the DX list, and, as experience has shown, the DX countries list is really a moving target over time. This DXpedition was advertised as the most expensive ever (no problem in believing that claim), and the results certainly reflect the cost. Certainly, many congratulations to the organizers and all participants, if there were any serious problems at any time, it certainly was not apparent. Looks like Bob, N2OO, and his Southern New Jersey DX group now have their work cut out for them in answering all the QSL requests—which also should set a record as the most QSL cards ever sent out for one operation.

Well, upward and onward; lets see what is our there for this month:

STATION	DATES	FREQ/MODE	RARITY*	COUNTRY
HQ9F	2/23- 3/17	160-10; CW, SSB, RTTY	2	Hondorus
W4OWY/V25WY	3/13- 3/19	160-6; SSB,RTTY, CW	2	Antigua
YJ/H/C (1)	2/24- 3/11	160-10 ; ALL	3	Vanuatu
SB8/ON4LAC	3/17-5/13	80-10; SSB, RTTY, PSK	3	Mauritius
TY5WP (1)	3/15-3/30	160-10; ALL	3	Benin
JW/F8DVD	3/24-3/31	ALL; CW, SSB	3	Svalbard
ZD8Z	3/19-3/30	NA ; NA	3	Ascension Is.
ZD8WX	2/20-3/3	160-10; ALL	3	Ascension Is.
3W3JR	Now-1 Yr.	20-12; CW, SSB	4	Vietnam
TZ9A	Now-5/1	80-10; CW, SSB	3	Mali
7Q7HB	Now-5/10	80- ? ; ALL	3	Malawi

* Nr. 5 is rarest (1) is DXpedition

TNX to: The Weekly DX, 425 DX Report, K2JF, AA2WN, W2YC, WA2LET

Answers to last months Dipole quiz. 1. False; 2. True; 3. False; 4. No; 5. No; 6. True; 7. False; 8. True; 9. False; 10. True. (note: see brief article in re this months Club meeting).

Local Hamfest

The Delaware Valley Radio Club is holding a Hamfest on Sunday, April 2, 2006 at the Skating Center at Mercer County Park in West Windsor, New Jersey. For more information visit their web site at www.w2zq.com or e-mail abbott0903@hotmail.com.

SuitSat Attracts World Wide Attention

SuitSat is the name given to a space suit stuffed with old clothes and a radio transmitter that was launched from the International Space Station the second week of February. Dubbed Ivan Ivanovich, the satellite was designed to transmit recorded messages in six languages and data on the voltage of the internal battery and the external temperature. The transmitter frequency is 145.99. As of Friday, February 17, the satellite's transmitter was still working but battery voltage was starting to drop fast and the transmitter was only expected to last a few more days at most.

Amateurs around the world have been listening for the satellite as it passes over head and have been recording their observations on the satellite's web site. It had been reported on February 17 by NASA that the satellite had stopped transmitting but demise of the satellite had been greatly exaggerated as amateurs were still making reports of hearing the transmitter.

You can learn more about the SuitSat and view reports of reception of the satellite's signal at www.suitsat.org and www.amsat.org/amsat-new/index.php. Frank Bauer, KA3HDO, AMSAT-VP for Human Spaceflight Programs said that they need as much information on reception from the satellite and on battery life as possible and encouraged amateurs to keep listening and reporting data. He also said that they plan special recognition for the person who records the last transmission from the satellite.

Chic Naylor, W2CAN, Update

Chic Naylor, W2CAN, a long time member of G C A R C is battling cancer that has spread through his body. Tony Gargano, N2SS, has visited Chic and reports that he is "perky and talkative" but in some pain. The doctors have told him that the chemotherapy does not seem to be working.

Chic told Tony that he is very appreciative of all the cards he has received and of everybody's concern for his condition. He also passed on his best regards to all and thanked everyone for their understanding that he did not want visitors.

We all wish Chic the best in his battle.

Thanks to Tony Gargano, N2SS, and Ray Martin, W2RM, for passing along the above information.

Harry Spiece, NJ2B, Silent Key

It is my sad job to report the passing of Harry Spiece. Harry, NJ2B, passed away on January 22, 2006. Our condolences go out to Harry's family.

March Birthdays

Congratulations to these members celebrating birthdays in March:

Joseph Arsenault, WA2KDV

Stephen Blasko, W2TDS

Jim Casto, N2IMH

Stu Cleveland, N2WUP

Doug Gehring, WA2NPD

Janice Gorman, N2HYS

Paul Munzenmayer, K2DX

Robert Slippey, KC2NLM

Mark Smith, N2MR

Christine West, WA2MVU



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: 3/25/2006

President-Darrell Neron AB2E
Vice President-Bob Krukowski KR2U
Treasurer-Sтивен Blasko, W2TDS

Doug Gehring, WA2NPD
Bill Blakeley WA2ADB
Chuck Colabrese WA2TML

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 W2RM
DX-Doug WA2NPD
Field Day-Bob KC2NLM
Hamfest-Harry AA2WN

GCARC Officers

Recording Secretary-Harry Bryant AA2WN
Corresponding Secretary-Al Arrison KB2AYU

Board of Directors

Gene Schoeberlein AA2YO
Wayne Wilson, WA2LET
James Mollica Jr. N2NRD

Committees

Hospitality-Ken N2CQ
Membership-Ray W2RM
Nominations-Art Strong KA2DOT
Publicity-Open
Repeaters-Mike N2SRO
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)

March Meeting Program

Doug Gehring on Dipole Antennas

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

