



## *Presidents Message*

First, I'd like to extend a get well soon to W2RM, Ray Martin. While in Orlando attending the Orlando Hamfest, Ray was bitten by a brown recluse spider and was hospitalized for several days while the anti-venom antidote took hold and neutralized the poison. As of this writing, he is home recuperating in Florida, and can be reached on his cell phone. The eyeball QSO with SPIDER was a first for Ray.

Doug, WA2NPD, continues to do well and I understand has been looking for new DX. Welcome back Doug! Hope to see you out the meetings again soon.

I wanted to share an experience this month about using less than optimum antennas and low power. I normally operate the big contests out at the club site, but this past weekend for ARRL CW, I had a number of other things going on and decided to try operating from home. The only problem with that scenario was the fact that I only have a G5RV for 10-80M strung up at 25 feet. A little lower and it would make a great beverage! Surprisingly, the antenna performed a lot better than I expected, considering I was also running barefoot with only 100W. I currently don't have a 220 power line for an amp. I wound up with about 350 QSOs, including ZL3WW on 40M, along with about 10 KH6 stations as well on 40M. I found 80 to be almost as good, and I made it through a number of pileups, easily getting into Africa and EU. The point I'm making here, is you may think you don't have room for a decent HF antenna, or that the antenna you do have room for will not work very well. Give it a try anyway! You might be pleasantly surprised and wind up with some nice DX in the log.

## **Bus Trip to Dayton for Hamvention**

The Jersey Coast Chapter of the North American DX Association is sponsoring the 18th Annual Bus Trip to the 2007 Hamvention in Dayton Ohio. The bus leaves Thursday, May 17th, with pick-ups at several different locations in NJ and PA and returns late Sunday May 20th.

Hamvention is 3 days of hamming, talks, demos, ham equipment sales, and forums on various ham radio and ham equipment topics. In other words it will be a ham's Mecca. There will be demonstrations of all the latest equipment and displays of historical equipment. 250 different companies will be represented at the over 600 indoor exhibit booths and there are over 2000 flea market and tailgating spaces outdoors.

Contact Mike DiPersio, KC2Q for details.

Or you can contact him by e-mail at [kc2q@arrl.net](mailto:kc2q@arrl.net).

# DX Dope

By Doug Gehring, WA2NPD

First off, let me thank Harry, AA2WN, who so ably pinch-hit as your DX Editor last month. He did so well that I may offer him a permanent position (or perhaps Editor, AA2YO, will beat me to the punch). Your usual scribe has sufficiently recovered from open heart surgery (new heart valve) that the surgeon stated I am good now for another 10,000 miles, at least! I am now allowed to pick up 20 lbs., instead of merely ten, and sleep on my side. Well, enough of that, and on to bigger and better things. Foremost, of course, is the DX announcement last week that a large multinational group of DXers has received permission from the Philippines, China, and Vietnam to conduct a DXpedition from Scarborough Reef, that rock pile 300 miles off the coast of Manila in the South China Sea! This is the biggest, singular piece of DX news in recent memory! Scarborough Reef (BS7) is the most needed DX country of all the current 337 entities and is your scribes last needed country to have them all confirmed! The last operation from BS7 was in 1997, and only lasted 2 days (a Philippine gunboat ordered the surprised DXers to get off their rocks, etc.). The bad news is that this operation will take place for a ten day period sometime next month (i.e. April) which is virtually at the bottom of the eleven year sunspot cycle, and conditions will most likely be from bad to poor. Our guess is that 20 and 17 meters may be the only bands open to New Jersey on a quasi regular basis. The latest projection from NASA now indicates the very bottom of the cycle will not occur until next August. April is only 4 months from the expected bottom. Well, as DXers can appreciate, you have to bite the bear when he's there, and the operators going there will take anything offered, even the bottom of the cycle! In addition, you will note below that the newest entity, Swains Island, will also be up in April, as another large group headed by Dr. Hrane, YT1ATD, will be in the saddle. So, looks like plenty of action is in store for us over the next few months. More below:

STATION	DATES	FREQ/MODE	RARITY*	COUNTRY
3DAO (1)	3/16 – 3/25	ALL: ALL	3	Swaziland
J8/W0AW	3/10 – 3/16	80 – 10; CW, RTTY, SSB	2	St. Vincent Is.
V26H	2/28 – 3/9	ALL; SSB	2	Antigua
CT3/DL3KWR	3/8 – 3/22	WARC; CW, RTTY	2	Madeira Is.
MJ/K6PT	3/14 – 3/22	160 – 6; CW, SSB RTTY	3	Jersey Is.
JW/IN3SAU	3/8 – 3/11	160 – 40 ; SSB, RTTY	3	Senegal
YI9SV	Now – 3/31	80 – 10; SSB, CW	3	Iraq
9M6/SM5GMZ	3/13 – 3/21	160 – 40; CW	4	E. Malaysia
N8S (1)	4/4 – 4/15	ALL: ALL	5	Swain's Is.

(1) is Major Dxpediton \* Nr. 5 is rarest TNX to The WEEKLY DX, QRZ.DX, AA2WN, W2YC, WA2LET, K2JF

## March Meeting

At the March meeting Joe Vilardo, K3JV, will give a presentation on emergency power supplies for home and shack use. Joe works for HRO in Delaware.

## Special Thanks

I wish to thank many Club members for your thoughtful concerns, cards, and help during my recent period of illness and convalescence. I now have a new aorta heart valve and the Doctors say I am now good for another dozen Field Days, at least. Just had a check up and I can now drive my car again (frightening thought!), sleep on my side, take a bath instead of showers, pick up twenty lbs, and go up flights of stairs indefinitely (also some other stuff). Thanks again.

Doug Gehring, WA2NPD

## New Member and TVI Chair

The Club welcomes Cory Sickles, WA3UVV, as a new member. Cory has also volunteered to Chair the TVI Committee for the Club. Welcome Cory and we hope to see you at Club functions and meetings regularly.

## New Director-Bill Grimm, W0MHK

Darrell, our President, has named Bill Grimm, W0MHK, to fill the vacancy on the Club's Board of Directors. Welcome Bill and our thanks to you for volunteering to help out the Club.

## First Come First Served

I have complete QST issues dating from July 1979, to the present, all in excellent condition. They are free to anyone who wants them. The first call I get is the winner, and winner takes all!

Doug, WA2NPD,

## A Sign of the Times? "Hosstraders" Hamfest Calls it Quits

Sponsors of the Hosstraders Tailgate Swapfest, a New England tradition for more than 30 years, have announced that last October's event was the last. "After careful consideration, we have decided to discontinue hosting the event," said a statement on the Hosstraders' Web site. The Web site added, "We want to take things out on a high note, while we can still be proud of our efforts."

The swapfest debuted in 1973 in Seabrook, New Hampshire. It subsequently took up residence in Deerfield, Kingston, Rochester and Hopkinton, New Hampshire. Over the years, Hosstraders donated some \$1.3 million to the Shriners' hospitals. Competition from Internet auction/sales sites and the change in the direction of Amateur Radio were two of the reasons cited as to why they decided to quit.

Thanks to the American Radio Relay League and the ARRL Letter for the above.

## What Can We Do for The Future of Our Hobby?

The following is a list of items that were discussed at the February General Membership meeting as ways to bring new life into Amateur Radio. Your comments and input would be appreciated on these and other topics.

1. Have a demo of building a simple receiver and/or transmitter for young people.
2. Bring your kids to the meeting.
3. Contact the Scouts and mentor the radio merit badge.
4. Give VE Exams to replace the Bellmawr center closing.
5. Make public contacts with space station.
6. Hold a demo at a shopping mall.
7. Hold a barbecue and tour of clubhouse.
8. Show the tie-in between Amateur Radio and computers.
9. Reach out to former members and hold a reunion.



## March Birthdays

Congratulations to these members celebrating birthdays in March:

Steve Blasko, W2TDS  
James Casto, N2IMH  
Stu Cleveland, N2WUP  
Doug Gehring, WA2NPD  
Janice Gorman, N2HYS  
Paul Munzenmayer, K2DX  
Mark Smith, N2MR  
Chris West, WA2MVU  
Wayne Wilson, WA2LET



## 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: 3/24/2007

## GCARC Officers

President-Darrell Neron, AB2E  
Vice President-Wayne Wilson, WA2LET  
Treasurer-Ken Newman, N2CQ

Recording Secretary-Dave MacDonald, WB3JOY  
Corresponding Secretary-Al Arrison, KB2AYU

## Board of Directors

Bill Blakeley, WA2ADB  
Chuck Colabrese, WA2TML  
Doug Gehring, WA2NPD

William Grimm, W0MHK  
Harry Bryant, AA2WN  
Gene Schoeberlein, AA2YO

## Committees

Advertising-Open  
ARES/RACES-Dave, WA3JOY  
Awards-Jack, K2ZA  
Banquet-Open  
Budget-Steve, W2TDS  
Clubhouse Site-Al, KB2AYU  
Constitution-Open  
Crosstalk-Gene, AA2YO  
Database-Ray, W2RM  
DX-Doug, WA2NPD  
Field Day-Mike, N2SRO  
Hamfest-Harry, AA2WN  
Club License Trustee-Darrell, AB2E

Hospitality-Ken, N2CQ  
Membership-Ray, W2RM  
Nominations-Darrell, AB2E  
Publicity-John, K2JF  
Repeaters-Mike, N2SRO  
Scholarships-Greg, WN2T  
Special Services-Gene, N2IMK  
Sunshine-Open  
Technical-Open  
TVI-Cory, WA3UVV  
VEC Testing-Wayne, WA2LET  
Programs-Gene, WB2UVB

**The W2MMD Repeaters**

147.78/18 Mhz-Pitman  
(CTCSS 131.8Hz)

223.06/224.66 Mhz-Sewell

447.1/442.1 Mhz-Pitman  
(CTCSS 167.9Hz)

1284.4/1272.4 MHz-Pitman

**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**

Joe Vilaro, K3JV  
Emergency Power Supplies

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

