## GLOUCESTER COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB. W2MMD

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## **CLUB REPEATERS**

147.78/18 MHZ. 224.66/223.06 MHZ. 442.100/447.100 MHZ. CTCSS 131.8

## **CLUB NETS**

ARES/RACES .. EVERY SUNDAY AT 2000 HRS. ON THE 147.78/18 AND 224.66/223.06 RPTS.

10 METERS ...... EVERY TUESDAY AT 2100 HRS. ON 28.350 MHZ.

## **CLUB MEETING**

# WEDNESDAY, MARCH 6, 1991; 2000 HOURS SHARP; AT VFW POST 2117, WOODBURY HEIGHTS, NJ.

## Presidents Message - March 1991

WOW! What a great club to be a part of! So many things are happening and so many people are contributing their time and talents. I told you we were great and we're getting better. Our membership is growing in leaps and bounds. Just since January, 1991, the Board of Directors has approved ten (10) new members. Obviously, you the members like the club well enough to want to share it. Keep up the great work. Let's shoot for at least fifty (50) new members this year.

In my January and February President's messages, I strongly urged all the members to become more involved in the club by sharing their time and talents and indicated that the rewards of such involvement are beyond description. Well, some of you have decided to give it a try and have come forward to volunteer for some of the committees which were lacking chairpersons; others have volunteered to work on existing committees; some have volunteered their services as club photographers; others have bent over backwards working out at the site. I just can't tell you how nice it is to see so many people getting involved.

There are a couple of events coming up which I really want to share with you. You know, all work and no play...Well, Marla is at it again. She's cooked up another one of her famous "BOWLING" parties. The last one was great. So, come on out to the La Martinique Lanes on Saturday, March 23 and bowl, eat, chat or do whatever you want to have fun. Marla's also come up with another great idea. We all know now much she loves to get certificates for her work on the air. Well, she has amassed much information on a number of awards which many of us probably could qualify for "if we knew about them". So, you guessed it—she's going to hold a Certificate/Awards Night at the club site in Mullica Hill on Wednesday, March 27 beginning at 7 PM. Let's go everybody—bring your qsl cards and logbooks and let's go award hunting.

Hey, that reminds me—do you have any good ideas for a club activity? IT'S YOUR CLUB! Let me or one of the board members know about it. We'll be glad to give it a try if we can. So, for now, thanks for all you do for the club and for one another. And keep that great spirit of enthusiasm going. As long as it keeps going, we keep growing. See va next month! Bless ya!

## EDITORS NOTES

Last month I wrote that I hoped the Persian Gulf War would end in February, and it has!!

Starting this month the "meeting minutes" will be expanded and in more detail. Look for the dates and chairpersons for several upcoming special events. Sign-up and help out for a few hours with these important events. It's easy and alot of fun!

The copying machine is still in need of some work so you'll have to bear with me on the copy quality of the paper.

Is anyone in the dub on the I296 Mhz band? If so I'd like to hear from you.

AI. KBZAYU

#### FEBRUARY MEETING MINUTES

The monthly meeting of the GCARC was held on 2/6/91 at the VFW Post in Woodbury Heights, New Jersey. The meeting was called to order at 20:00 hrs. by WA2BMQ. Minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved. Treasurer's report was read and approved. Hamfest mail was displayed. Received a thank-you card from N2ILB. Visitors: Tom (KB2KCM), Dean and Ray. KB2IQP upgraded to Extra; waiting for new call, KE2YL has new call, KE2ZF. N2DWR is Chairperson for 1992 Banquet. KB2IQP announced upcoming contests. KB2FRM is new Field Day Chairperson. N2ILB and K2PQD are responding to N2EDK's request for assistance on Packet setup. New Member: Charles Prelle (KA3SER); also presented materials to new members announced last month. WA2BMQ suggested sending photos of Club events to ARRL and to other amateur radio publications; asked for photographers. Site: Will decide action to be taken about the heater problem at the next Board meeting. Still need names of remaining keyholders. Special Events: Retarded Citizens Bike Hike on Sunday, 4/21/91 (W2GSN). Walk America Walkathon on Sunday, 4/28/91 (WB2GSF). KB2EUA feeling better; sent cards to N2ILB, NM2T, KB2ETX and N2DWK. Phil Mattison (WA2WOD) passed away on 1/6/91. WA2VQG reported that next date for FCC exams is 2/21/91. New classes start 3/19/91. He also thanked membership for nominating him for the "Instructor of the Year" Award. N2FNF distributed raffle questionnaires. K2JF reported on DX activity. Old Business: Due to absence of K2HPV, motion was passed to table election for 2-yr. Director until next meeting. Thanked 1990 Banquet Committee and congratulated N2AKL on receiving Milt Goldman Award. Still need chairpersons for Advertising and 4-H Committees. New Business: N2DWR distributed Club Member questionnaires. Bruce Eichmann, ARRL Section Manager, will be our speaker for March meeting. Motion passed to have a raffle to raise money for whatever the Club determines be done with the money. Announcements: N2FJQ is still WAS Counter for Gloucester County. KB2AYU can handle HF Packet questions. WA2PFC has antenna grounding information. WB2UVB is Traffic Handler for Operation Desert Storm. AA2BN has information on satellites and Packet. WB2DXB announced there is a Packet seminar on 2/12/91 at the Cherry Hill Community Center. Due to backlog, ARRL is instituting a new field checking service for new DXCC applications, and needs volunteers. Meeting adjourned at 21:20 hrs.

Respectfully submitted, N2KLD, Recording Secretary.

## DUES REMINDER

Club dues must be paid by March 31, 1991 or you will be dropped from the membership roles. If you are dropped, you will have to pay the initiation fee and rejoin again. If you still owe dues and are not able to attend the March 6th General Membership Meeting, please mail them to me directly, or via Box 370, Pitman, NJ 08071. To save postage, membership cards for those who have already paid are stapled into this issue of Crosstalk (unless I've gotten it to you some other way).

STRATWARM, phenomenon has arrived. Four to five STRATWARMS occur per each winter season, with the last and largest occurring in March ( for the Northern hemisphere) and September ( for the Southern Hemisphere) as Sun light returns to the polar regions.

A STRATWARM is a major disturbance of winter, polar, middle atmosphere heights. (according to our NOAA/SESC Space Environmental Laboratory studies, from the tropopause to the D-layer ionosphere). This phenomena may last for several days at a time and is most easily recognized by a warming of the Stratosphere by some 10's of degrees C. This anomaly results from a breakdown (behavior) of the polar vortex (i.e. a polar night time jet stream flowing around the polar cap in a counter-coriolis effect) into two cells. Air which had been trapped in the middle of the vortex is now mixed by the new meridional (southerly/pertains to meridian) flow and its Alpha radiation ionizes the Nitric Oxide (NO, atmospheric nitrogen) enhancing the electron density and thus producing strong High Frequency Absorption (for trans-polar paths), much like the effects of Ionospheric Absorption in the D-layer. Both WWV and WWVH will relay these STRATWARM bulletins as a part of their 18 - and 45 - propagation announcements.

There is no evidence that STRATWARMS affect the lower atmosphere; in fact the disturbance may itself be generated by tropospheric conditions.

The bottom line is that some DX locations may be effected more or less by the location of the disturbance in the polar region. Whereas some locations may observe absorptions, others will observe good to excellent DX paths.

This excellent article appeared in the DX publication INSIDE DX and was written by "KH6BZF REPORTS." For those who are DXers the STRATWARM alert issued by WWV is very important when over-the-pole communications are attempted. Such as working VU, EY, HS, JT and into Russia areas. I hope that you find it interesting and enlightening.

TNX K2JF

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Saturday, March 23rd, 7:00 to 11:00 pm.
La Martinique Bowling Lanes
South White Horse Pike and Stratford Rd., Stratford, N.J.
\$32.00 a lane, free shoes and use of room

Depending on the number of people in your lane, the cost will vary per person. The lane cost will be \$32.00 for the four hours. If you have six people on your lane, the cost will be \$5.33 per person. If you have four people, the cost will be \$8.00 per person. We'll get a room that has tables and chairs in it, and we'll be allowed to bring in food and drinks. I'd like to set up some sort of buffet. If you are willing to bring something, please let me know. If you are interested in going, I need to know so that we can give the alley plenty of notice so we'll have enough lanes. Last year the night was a huge success, but there wasn't enough time, so I thought I'd rent the lanes for an extra hour. Please let me know if you plan to attend. Call 468-6255 or 464-0938.

#### THE MOON OVER THE PLEIADES

The slender crescent Moon plays a game of astronomical tag with a cluster of bright young stars, the Pleiades, on the evening of March 20. In fact, the Moon appears to "catch" the Pleiades, hiding the stars from our view, before it sets.

Of course, the Moon only appears close to the Pleiades. The cluster of several hundred stars is really about 400 light-years from Earth, some 10 billion times more distant than our Moon. Still, the view should be impressive, particularity through a good pair of binoculars.

The Pleiades is one of the loveliest naked-eye objects in the night sky. Six tightly grouped stars in the shape of a small dipper are normally visible to the naked eye and dozens more can be seen with binoculars. The brightest star in the Pleiades is Alcyone, a blue-white giant several hundred times more luminous than our Sun.

Look for the Moon and the Pleiades fairly high in the west as twilight deepens on March 20. The moon already may appear in front of the cluster. As the evening progresses the Moon keeps moving relative to the cluster and many of the cluster's stars will be occulted, or hidden from view, by the Moon. Because the Moon has no atmosphere and the stars appear as pinpoints of light, the individual Pleiades disappear instantly when the dark limb of the Moon passes in front of them.

The Pleiades cluster, named for the mythological Seven Sisters of the Pleiades (the daughters of Atlas), contains several hundred stars. The Pleiades became known as the Sailor's Stars during classical times when the cluster ascended into the eastern sky at the beginning of the Mediterranean Sea's calm-weather season.

THE PLANETS THIS MONTH

Mercury visible in evening twilight, mid to late month Venus sets at 9 p.m.

Mars sets at 1 a.m.

Jupiter sets at 4 a.m.

Saturn rises at 4. am

Some Information

March 5 Voyager 1 flies past Jupiter 1979

March 10 Rings of Uranus discovered 1977

March 14 William Herschel discovers Uranus 1781

March 16 Robert Goddard launches first liquid-fuel rocket 1926

March 17 ST. PATRICK'S DAY

March 20 VERNAL EQUINOX 10.02 PM EST

March 24 Palm Sunday

March 29 Good Friday, Passover begins at sunset

March 31 EASTER SUNDAY

TNX K2JF

### Ways and Means Committee Questionnaire Results

We received 56 Questionnaires from our members. Thank you for participating.

1. Do you think that \$750 is an adequate prize to attract buyers?

YES 34, NO 13, No answer 9

2. If NO, how much should the prize be?

\$1000 7, \$500 4, Not sure 1, Rig 1, No answer 43

Should there be only one Main Prize or should there be 1st, 2nd, and 3rd prizes?
 One Main Prize 20, 3 Prizes 23, No answer 13

4. Would you be willing / able to sell tickets? YES 28, NO 25, No answer 3 IF YES, HOW MANY? 114 total, Not sure 2

5. If you can't sell tickets, would you yourself buy any? YES 30, NO 9, No answer 17 IF YES, HOW MANY? 51 total, Not sure 2, No answer 4

6. How should the club use the money made from this raffle?

SCHOLARSHIP 7, CLUB SITE IMPROVEMENTS 18, NO ANSWER 18, OTHER 13, (General Fund, Membership should decide - these were the most frequent answers)

We received the following comments...

Rolling over the prize may discourage future ticket sales.

Five Dollars is alot, people will purchase NJ Pick-3 instead.

If this gets rolling, all committees can benefit.

I'm opposed to raffles!

Why ask us? You do what you want anyway!

Any tickets not turned in by the deadline should not be counted and void. Get rid of site.

Give 2 months to sell tickets.

One month is too long to wait for drawing.

We received questions on the following:

Rolling over the prize, if winning ticket is not sold. This has yet to be decided.

The expenses involved. Tickets will cost \$20, permit \$6 (includes notary fee) and postage.

Each ticket has three numbers, so three chances to win for \$5.

We will operate the raffle in complete accordance with the NJ Legalized Games of Chance Control Commission Rules which we have rules from '86 & '88. We are in the process of getting current rules. According to what we have determined so far, a cash prize is illegal. The '88 rules allow prizes and / or gift certificates to a merchant verifiable by Pitman. We must get the tickets printed and submit them with an application to Pitman for approval. Approval takes 7 working days. This will not be possible in time for the March meeting.

The Ways and Means Committee will be meeting again before we attempt to do this in April. I hope to have more information at the March General Membership Meeting.

#### DX COLUMN

OMAN A41JT & A41JV will be active on CQWW SSB WPX CONTEST ON MARCH 30-31

COMOROS D68YD, D68YH, D68KN & D68TS will be operational from 8-12 and from the 12-20 they will be on Mayotte (FH) call signs not known at this time and then will be back to D68 land from 20 -22.

ETHIOPIA ET2A is in operation on 21300 list operation at 1800z The QRM on the list is furious but some are getting through. They will be there until April. QSL manager is WB2WOW. (Good Luck).

SUDAN ST2..PA0GAM/ST2 active on CW 40-10 around the .025 mark on 10-20. Try 21025 at 1900.

CAMEROON JT1BJ now active on 75 meters. He shows up on Saturdays at 0500Z or 3675 listening on / about 3795. Also try 21303 at 1230Z on Saturdays and Mondays. QSL K4UTE.

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC TLBJL TLBOS AND TLBSC ON 21303 Saturdays and Monday mornings at 1230Z to exchange QSL info. After their sked these stations are available for QSO's.

CHAĞOS VQ9 VQ9AY Andy, is usually active around 14188 at 1800Z on Wednesdays. CYPRUS-SOV MILITARY BASE Glynn ZC4CZ works 10-80 emphasizing CW but can be found on SSB. Mostly in the ADVANCED portion of the bands.

SOUTH COOKS ZK1 ZK2XL & ZK1XX are operating from there now for the next several weeks before returning to Hungary. Try 28492 at 2345Z.

VIETNAM XV XV5XA on 21013 at 0030 and 21029 at 0350..He is running low power and works CW only at this time.

BANGLADESH S2. After talking to Jim Smith (VK9NS) Jim informed a group of the HIDXA people he is all set to go to S2 land and will be there on March 10 and expects to start operation on March 11. He has Tribander beam and amplifier. He now has permission to work SSB and will try to obtain permission for CW and RTTY. He is taking the equipment with him for the RTTY just in case he receives the OK. He is hoping to get the call S21JS. Just as soon and he makes his first QSO he will give the relevant information.

AFGHANISTAN YA.. For those who were lucky enough to work YA0RR the paper work has been approved at the DXCC desk and the operation is an accredited operation.

Good DXing C U in the Pile-Ups. K2JF

#### NOVICE CLASSES

A NEW NOVICE CLASS WILL START UP ON MARCH 19, 1991 AT THE BELLMAWR COMMUNITY CENTER.

#### FCC EXAMS

F.C.C. EXAMS FOR ALL LICENSE CLASSES ARE HELD ON THE THIRD THURSDAY OF THE MONTH AT THE BELLMAWR COMMUNITY CENTER.

#### 10-10 NET

THE 10-10 INTERNATIONAL DELAWARE VALLEY NET MEETS EVERY THURSDAY EVENING AT 7:30 ON 28.360 MHZ.

### BILL TO PROTECT AMATEUR RADIO SPECTRUM INTRODUCED IN HOUSE

On the first day of the new 102nd Congress, a bill to prevent the loss of radio spectrum by the Amateur Radio Service was introduced by Rep. Jim Cooper (D-Tennessee). Cooper is a member of the House Subcommittee on Telecommunications and Finance, where the bill is likely to be referred for consideration. The bill, The Amateur Radio Spectrum Protection Act of 1991, is designated as H.R. 73.

The legislation proposes that "the Federal Communications Commission shall not diminish existing allocations of spectrum to the Amateur Radio Service after January 1, 1991. The FCC shall provide equivalent replacement spectrum to the amateur Radio Service for any frequency reallocation after January 1, 1991."

In commenting on H.R. 73, the President of the American Radio Relay League, Larry Price, W4RA, welcomed Rep. Cooper's support of the Amateur Radio Service and expressed the hope that many Congressmen will join him as co-sponsors. "We know that Amateur Radio has many friends on Capitol Hill. Our success in defeating unreasonable license fees in 1989 proved that," said Mr. Price.

In the findings portion of his bill, Rep. Cooper states that nearly one-half million radio amateurs are licensed by the FCC, after thorough examinations in radio regulations and technical principles of radio communications; that amateurs operate their stations solely with a personal aim and without pecuniary interest; that among the basic purposes of the Amateur Radio Service is to provide voluntary non-commercial radio services, particularly emergency communications; and that emergency communication services by volunteer radio amateurs "have consistently and reliably been provided before, during, and after floods, tornadoes, forest fires, earthquakes, blizzards, train wrecks, chemical spills, and other disasters." However, he also notes that the FCC "has taken actions which resulted in the loss of over 100 MHz of spectrum to Amateurs."

73 de Bill/WA3SCW @ WB3V ARRL MDC Bulletin Manager (TNX KE2M PBBS)

#### MARKET PLACE

K2HPV ICOM IC-725 HF TRANSCEIVER, WITH FL-101 250 HZ CW FILTER AND MANUAL. 6700

WA2TML ICOM IC-02AT 2 METER HANDHELD, 5 WATTS, 10 MEMORIES, WITH RUBBER DUCK, BP-3, WALL CHARGER AND BOOK. \$225

KB2AYU COMET CA-2x4Z DUAL BAND 146/446 MHZ BASE

ANTENNA AND CF-416 DUPLEXER, LIKE NEW. \$190

#### AWARDS ANYONE ??

Would anyone be interested in getting together, down at the site, to go over different DX and stateside awards that are available to us? I purchased a book that has over 1800 different awards. If you're interested, bring either your log book and/or qsl cards, and maybe you've already qualified for a couple of them. Let me know how Wednesday, March 27th at 7:00 pm. is. If that date isn't good for you, then we'll decide what date would be better. If you'd rather get together on the weekend, let me know...

Tnx N2DWR, Marla

#### HOW LONG WILL IT TAKE YOU?

This test does not measure your intelligence, your fluency with words, and certainly not mathematical ability. It will however, give you some gauge of your mental flexibility and creativity. In the many years since this test was discovered, few people were found that could solve more than half the 23 questions on the first try. Many however, reported getting answers long after the test had been set aside-particularly unexpected moments when their minds were relaxed. Some reported solving all the questions over a period of several days. Take this as a personal challenge.

INSTRUCTIONS: Each equation contains the initials of words that will make it correct. Find the missing words. For example: 12 = M. in a Y would be: 12 = Months in a year.

```
b: 54 = C, in a D. (With the J's)
    28 = L. of the A.
     #≈= W. of the W.
                                     9 = P, in the S. S.
    12.= S. of the Z.
                               h: 13 = S, on the A. F.
    88 = P. K.
    32 = D.F. at which W.F.
                               i: 18 = H. on a G. C.
                               l: 200 = D. for P.G. in M.
    90 = D. in a R. A.
     8 = S. on a S. S.
                               n: 3 = 8. M. (S. H. T. R.)
                               p: 24 = H, in a D.
     4 = Q. on a G.
                             r: 5 = D. in a Z. C.
     1 = W. on a U.
                               t: 11 = P. on a F. T.
    57 = H. V.
                               v: 29 * D. in F. in a L. Y.
u: 1000 = U, that a P, is W.
    44 = S, on a C. B.
```

Author unknown, source: Bill Heimerag, WA2VQG From the collection of Sonny Gutin, WB2DXB

\_\_\_\_\_ BITS

I am interested in obtaining a manual for the Kenwood 2570 two meter set. If anyone has one that I can borrow, I'd appreciate it....Trix Maria, N2DWR

Congratulations to Marla, N2DWR on upgrading to Advanced!

John, formerly KB2IQP, is now an Extra! His new call is AA2DJ.

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