



# Crosstalk

Issue #5

May, 2000



*affiliated club*



## President's Message

At this time we are still without power at the trailer and I don't know when it will be restored. I was told that Conectiv was supposed to be out the week of our past Board meeting, whether they were or not I don't know. I certainly hope that this is resolved and we are back up by Field day weekend.

Speaking of Field Day weekend, our program for the May meeting just happens to be about Field Day and will be hosted by Tony, KG2MY. Due to miracle of miracles even yours truly will be out there this year doing my fair share for 40 phone. It'll be the first Field Day that I've attended in a lot of years and I'm looking forward to it.

At present we still do not have a Hamfest Chairman and time is certainly marching on. I believe that there are a number of people that would help out but just don't want to be the "Chairman". We do have to have a central coordinating person to keep all the delegating going on in the proper channels and, hopefully, that person will come forth at the next club meeting.

In the mean time let's keep the DX hopping.

See you at the meeting. Art - KA2DOT

## NEWS FLASH!!!

Power has been restored at the Clubhouse!!!

**Thanks to all who facilitated the repair!!!**

## DX Dope

We had some inquiries recently regarding how come the recent Pratas Island DXpedition wasn't mentioned in last month's article? Well, like any newsletter, the editor necessarily must establish a submission deadline. [Ed note - Crosstalk Online has NO submission deadline. DX items will be added anytime they are submitted. Email late breaking DX news to [aa2bn@amsat.org](mailto:aa2bn@amsat.org)] Turns out that the Pratas operation was announced about two days after the April Xtalk deadline, hence, could not be added very easily. For the same reason, the very recent Ambrosio Island (San Felix) operation (XR0ZY) was not included, nor will it be listed below because it will have concluded by the time you read this. The same is true of the recent Yemen DXpedition (7O1YGF) which just concluded.

Unfortunately, there are a significant number of operations that occur, where the participants do not preannounce, nor preadvertise their intentions. Or, for whatever reasons, the operation doesn't get publicized sufficiently to meet newsletter deadlines. A final reason, of course, is that the article author (Yours truly, in this case) and his reporter "sleuths" were asleep at the switch! We, naturally, would never admit to such a transgression, however, it happens. An example of this is the recent (I think he packed up and left) 7Q7TB (Malawi) operation by G3TBK. I was informed this notice appeared in, uh, one of the DX bulletins, however, I never saw it or heard about it.

Now, all of these are from extremely rare locations and all would

Station	Dates	Freq./Mode	Rarity*	Country
A5---	5/1 - 5/12	All (big group)	5+	Bhutan
4W6MM	Now	20,15,10; CW/SSB	5	East Timor
HM0DX	Now	All; CW/SSB	5+	North Korea
D2BB	4/18 - 1 yr	Not Given	4	Angola
JX7DFA	Now - 6 mo	All Modes	4	Jan Mayan
XW2A	till 5/5	All; CW/SSB	4	Cambodia
VK9WI	5/6-5/16	All (big group)	4	Willis Island
JT1Y	5/23 - 6/6	All; CW/SSB	4	Mongolia
FM/F6BUM	4/27 - 5/4	All; CW/SSB	2	Martinique
KH0/Homecall	5/4 - 5/5	20,15,10; CW/SSB	3	Saipan

\* 5 is rarest

have received a five (plus) in regards to rarity. Which leads us to the following pronouncement: If anyone hears of a significantly rare operation in the making, please don't hesitate to call me and so inform. Thank you in advance. Oh, I forgot, note that Chesterfield Island has now been officially approved as a new DXCC country (TX0 prefix).

*continued next page*

## DX Dope *continued*

Well, the BIG news this month is the long awaited opening up of Bhutan and the appearance of a ham who claims he's living in North Korea. The HM0DX station may be a pirate, but as the saying goes WFWL (Work it First, Worry Later)!

73 de Doug WA2NPD

- *TNX to 59(9) Report, K2JF, AA2WN, and W2YC*

## The DX new guy

I guess Doug, WA2NPD, should put a warning on his report stating that DX can be addictive!

As most of you know, I'm primarily a satellite operator. The problem is, the satellites are not in view most of the time, which usually leaves me waiting for something to happen.

While editing one of Doug's articles, I started thinking "I wonder if I can hear any of these stations?". I started scanning 20 meters for some of the stations listed in the hot list in DX Dope. I hear a station, an LZ1, endlessly calling CQ, with no one coming back to him. I'm not quite sure where LZ1 is, but I call him anyway. In broken English the the reply comes "Alpha Alpha 2 Bravo November, you are 5-7, 57 in Bulgaria. My name is Misha". Cool, Bulgaria on 100 watts and a dipole! Misha and I have a nice chat, he's running a homebrew tranceiver, linear amplifier, and Yagi.

I sign with the LZ1, and start cruising 20 for more stations. I worked Russia, Bosnia, Croatia, Italy, Germany, Denmark, and the Netherlands, all in a couple of hours at the radio. I heard Kuwait, but after a half hour of trying, there was just too much pileup for me to get through. Well, there's always tommorrow nite. I make myself a mental promise to finish editing Doug's article BEFORE I turn the radio on.

I'm also an angler, and I'm finding out that workingDX is a lot like fishing. I know based on time of year, and weather conditions, what kind of fish should be in my favorite fishing hole. With DX Dope, and some propagation reports in hand, I know what DX should be out there. The trick is catching them! Best of Luck and Good DX.

73 de John AA2BN

## FCC to Generals: Advanced subbands off limits

The FCC says a lot of newly upgraded General class licensees have begun asking if they may operate in the current Advanced class subbands now that the new amateur rules are in place. "The answer is: Absolutely not," said the Bill Cross, W3TN, of the FCC's Public Safety and Private Wireless Division. "No privileges changed for any license class."

Cross pointed out that the Advanced class license did not cease to exist under restructuring, which went into effect April 15, although the FCC no longer accepts applications for Novice or Advanced class licenses. He said current Generals do not earn Advanced class privileges until they upgrade to Amateur Extra class, at which point they earn both Advanced and Extra privileges.

The FCC also says General class operators may hold only Group C (1x3) or Group D (2x3) call signs, as it was under the old rules. Generals are not entitled to apply for or hold Group B (2x2) call signs under the new rules.

Cross cautioned newly upgraded licensees to check the revised Part 97 rules carefully to make sure they're not operating beyond their privileges. "Now that they've gotten the license, it's time to look at the real rules," he said.

Amateurs further are reminded that in order to apply for upgraded volunteer examiner privileges or for a vanity call sign reflecting new license status, a licensee first must have been issued an upgraded license grant by the FCC. Interim privileges conveyed by a *Certificate of Successful Completion of Examination*--or *CSCE*--are insufficient for these purposes.

- *TNX to the ARRL Letter*

## ARRL not HPM's only "League"

History buffs may be interested to know that ARRL co-founder Hiram Percy Maxim, W1AW, also founded another "League"--the Amateur Cinema League.

Author and historian Alan Kattelle, who's writing a book that includes a chapter on HPM, says the Amateur Cinema League--the first national organization for amateur movie makers--was founded in 1926.

Hiram Percy Maxim, the man behind the whole idea was named President, and Col Roy W. Winton, US Army retired was named Executive Director. The stated objectives of the League were to publish a monthly magazine (later called *Movie Makers*), to increase the pleasure of making home motion pictures by aiding amateurs to originate and produce their own plays, to promote amateur cinematography as a national sport, and to maintain home motion picture making on an amateur basis.

The League's membership was taken over by the Motion Picture Division of the Photographic Society of America in 1954.

- *TNX to the ARRL Letter*

## General Membership Meeting Program

"GCARC Field Day 2000"

presented by

Tony Scandurra KG2MY

## Explosion of new Licenses coming

If ARRL-VEC statistics are any indication, the HF bands will be hopping with newly minted licensees starting April 15. Jahnke says interest in obtaining element credit prior to the big day has been nothing short of intense. ARRL-VEC statistics show that the number of individuals served has risen by more than 135% in the three months since the FCC announced restructuring December 30, 1999. The number of applicants--many Tech Plus ticket holders--attempting to pass Element 3B to upgrade to General rose by several hundred percentage points over last year's numbers. Interest skyrocketed among applicants--many Advanced licensees--trying to get credit for Element 4B, the Amateur Extra written examination. The number attempting that element rose on the order of 1500%. Demand for General and Extra license study materials also has been unprecedented.

Jahnke said that while a typical ARRL-VEC examination session last year served maybe a dozen or so examinees, sessions the first quarter of this year have seen five or six times that number--and more. VE teams across the US have scheduled so-called "paperwork processing" and examination sessions on April 15, some of them starting at the stroke of midnight so licensees can get an early start on using their new privileges. The upswing in the number of applications has slowed the normally swift flow of paperwork through ARRL-VEC. As a result, it now can take up to 10 days or more for a new license to show up in the mail.

- *TNX to the ARRL Letter*

### GCARC Officers

President - *Art Strong KA2DOT*  
 Vice President - *Gene Wallace N2IMK*  
 Treasurer - *Bob Krchnavek K2DAD*  
 Recording Secretary - *Open*  
 Corresponding Secretary - *Chris West WA2MVU*

### Board of Directors

*Chuck Colabrese WA2TML*  
*Wayne Wilson WA2LET*

*Al Arrison KB2AYU*  
*Bob Krukowski KR2U*  
*Bill Blakeley WA2ADB*

## Happy Birthday

Congratulations to the following club members:

Edith Flanigan KC2BON 5/30  
Carmen Inverso WA2TRS 5/25  
Virginia Wallace KB2JCQ 5/28



## Crosstalk Submissions

All submissions, queries, comments, editorials, or requests for interviews may be directed to:

**John Zaruba AA2BN**  
**491 Pennsylvania Ave**  
**Franklinville, NJ 08322**

***jzaruba@snip.net***  
***aa2bn@amsat.org***

**Submission deadline: 5/26/00**

---

## Committees

*Advertising - John N2AWD*

*ARES/RACES -Chick WA2USI*

*Awards - Jack K2ZA*

*Banquet - Bob KR2U*

*Budget - Bob K2DAD*

*Clubhouse Site - Al KB2AYU*

*Constitution - Open*

*Crosstalk - John AA2BN*

*Database - John AA2BN*

*DX - Doug WA2NPD*

*Field Day - Tony KG2MY*

*Hamfest - John N2AWD*

*Hospitality - Ray WB2NBJ*

*Membership - John AA2BN*

*Nominations - Bob KR2U*

*Publicity - John N2AWD*

*Repeaters - Chuck WA2TML*

*Scholarships - Greg WN2T*

*Special Services - Open*

*Sunshine - Open*

*Technical - Open*

*TVI - John AA2BN*

*VEC Testing - Chick WA2USI*

*4-H Parking - Bob KR2U*

**The W2MMD Repeaters**

147.78/18 Mhz - Pitman

223.06/224.66 Mhz - Sewell

447.1/442.1 Mhz - Pitman  
(CTCSS 131.8 Hz)

**GCARC Meetings**

**General Membership**

8p.m. 1st Wednesday every month, Pfeiffer Community Center, Williamstown, NJ

**Board of Directors**

8 p.m. 3rd Wednesday every month, GCARC Club site, Harrison Twp. 4-H Grounds  
~1 mile south of Mullica Hill on RT77

**Nets**

**ARES/RACES -  
Sundays 20:00 Hrs  
(147.78/18 and  
223.06/224.66  
repeaters)**

**10 Meter - Sundays  
following the  
ARES/Races Net  
(28.350 Mhz)**

**May Meeting Program**

“GCARC Field Day 2000”

presented by

*Tony Scandurra KG2MY*

stamp



P.O. Box 370  
Pitman, NJ 08071

Mailing Label