

CROSSTALK

Issue #5

MAY, 2002

Presidents Message

Judging from the weather the last few days, summer is already here. Time is getting short for several events. The up-coming events include Williamstown Day on June 1, Field Day on June 22 and 23 and of course our Hamfest on August 18.

The club is going to have a table on Main St. at Williamstown Day and we are hoping to have some demonstrations of what Ham Radio is all about. So far a QRP setup is in the works by John Zaruba, AA2BN, along with other items. I hope to set up a 2 meter rig so that we can let people (mostly kids) talk with the Battleship New Jersey. That will require some clearance with the folks on the battleship. Our section manager Jean Priestly, KA2YKN, is getting us literature to pass out and Harry, AA2WN, is working on a flyer for us to hand out telling about the GCARC. It is hoped this will attract some prospective members and new hams.

Lou, W2LYL, is coming along well with field day and we should have another successful outing. It is hoped that we will be able to attract visitors and press coverage from our participation at Williamstown Day. The timing is right. Lets all get out and make it a fun time.

That brings us to the Hamfest. Most things are moving along on schedule. The only thing that worries us is the permit from the state and the permit from Monroe Township which is dependent upon us getting the state permit. The date is set and the papers have been sent to the ARRL. We should be hearing from them soon.

Last month Ed Ianni of Turnersville visited our meeting. I just found out Ed has just received his Novice ticket. Congratulations! Keep up the good work Ed and we hope to see you at the May meeting.

Unfortunately I missed the open house at the trailer but I understand several members were there.

Hope to see you all on May 1 for the regular meeting.

Best 73,
Ray WB2NBJ

2002 DUES
GCARC dues for the year 2002 are due. The annual dues are \$15.00. Please send your checks directly to the treasurer, Bob Krchnavek, (K2DAD) at 50 Eastwick Dr., Gibbsboro, NJ 08026.

DX Dope

By Doug Gehring, WA2NPD

With expert help, advice and inspiration from the likes of W2YC, AA2WN, N2SS and WA2LET, yours truly is gradually sliding into the 21st Century of DXing; namely the marriage of radio equipment and computers. Each day as we pick up a few new bits (and bytes) of computer knowledge, we come to realize how much more is out there yet to be learned. Having made the initial investment plunge (about 1.5K) and getting over the shock of the Comcast monthly bill jumping about 40 bucks (one does need a cable connection of some sort), one is almost forced to knuckle-under and learn in order to justify the investment to oneself and to the singularly skeptical XYL. Then there are the various absolutely essential specifically designed extra DX-related software programs needed to further enhance the DX mission. Generally, these are reasonably priced ranging from maybe 30 to 100 bucks apiece. Hence, one can add programs such as DX4WIN and the DXTelnet. These programs, when mastered, will allow the DXer to do away with paper log books, to log on to the local Packet Cluster, to see if one is in the DX stations log long before the QSL card arrives, and to receive all the up-to-date information on the progress of most any major DXpedition. Indeed, most all major DXpeditions now have a web site, which can be visited prior to, during, and after completion of the event. The information provided by the web site is really very informative. The web site often gives very detailed historical and geographical information on the DXpedition location and personal background on the DXpeditioners. Often maps, color pictures and other miscellaneous information are provided. These enhancement programs seem almost endless and also seem to stay at least one step ahead of even the experienced computer using ham DXer.

On a corollary note, with the help of K2FL, W2YC and the computer (e-mail and Internet), your humble scribe was recently able to secure a Burundi, CW QSL card from a Polish amateur worked in 1982. This card is my 326th entity. This means I have just enough entities now to qualify for the CW Honor Roll. Successes like this soon make one a computer believer.

Just a reminder, next month we will again publish the annual listing of club member's DX accomplishments for the past year. So all please check your logs and either let me know or await my contact. Tnx in advance.

Here we go for this month:

<u>Station</u>	<u>Dates</u>	<u>Freq./Mode</u>	<u>Rarity*</u>	<u>Country</u>
P5/4L4FN	daily	21.225; SSB	5+	No. Korea (1)
XW3ZNR	4/24-5/4	80-10; SSB	4	Laos
K1B	4/29-5/9	160-6; All	5+	Baker & Howland **
TN ?	5/16-5/27	80-6; SSB, RTTY, CW	4	Congo
FG/F6FXS	4/17-5/16	40-10; SSB,CW	2	Guadeloupe
5B4/AI5P	5/4-5/14	NA; SSB, CW	2	Cyprus
T2DA	5/11-5/16	160-10; All	3	Tuvalu
VK0MQI	till Dec.	160-6; SSB	4	MacQuarie Is.
JD1YBO	5/1-5/5	All; SSB, CW, RTTY	4	Ogasawara (2)
T9/F5LPY	now-5/31	20; CW, SSB	2	Bosnia
VQ9J	now-July	160-10; CW, SSB	2	Chagos
AH6HY/AH8	5/18-5/24	20-10; SSB	2	American Samoa

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C6AGN 4/10-5/29 NA; SSB, CW 2 Bahamas

* 5 is rarest; ** major DXpedition
(1) Now approved by ARRL for SSB only
(2) New Club Station

Thanks to Weekly DX, 425 DX News, WA2LET, AA2WN, K2JF

Field Day, June 22 and 23

As Ray mentioned in his President's message, Field Day is approaching rapidly. Field Day Chairman, Lou, W2LYL, says that he has chairmen for all the bands except 10-meter phone and all bands above 6 meters. If you wish to fill any open positions contact Lou.

Lou also reminds us that all are welcome to Field Day, visitors and members alike. So tell your friends and come on out even if you can only stay for a short time. We will put you to work or let you operate. This is a fun event and the more the merrier.

Meeting on May 1

As most of you know, the Club lost a lot of equipment last year due to a nearby lightning strike. The club has collected on its insurance policy and is now deciding what should be done about replacing the damaged equipment.

We have auctioned off some of the damaged equipment on the Internet and find that the damaged equipment has some value to hams who want parts from damaged equipment to repair their similar equipment. Before we auction off any more of the equipment, we would like to see if any of the members could use the equipment. At the May meeting the equipment will be available for the members to look at and evaluate.

Also at the May meeting the board of directors would like the membership to tell the board what type of equipment should be purchased for the Clubhouse if any.

Come out the May meeting and express your opinion on the Clubhouse equipment and take a look at the damaged equipment.

DXCC to Accept P5/4LFN Contacts for Credit

To great sighs of relief from the DX community, the ARRL in early April announced that it would accept SSB contacts with P5/4L4FN in North Korea for DXCC credit. Operator Ed Giorgadze of the Republic of Georgia, has been active from the capital city of Pyongyang since early last November. Valid SSB contacts from the onset of the P5/4L4FN operation last fall now may be submitted for DXCC credit.

"The ARRL has now received adequate evidence that the operation by Mr. Giorgadze is being conducted with the knowledge and approval of telecommunications officials in Pyongyang," said ARRL Membership Services Manager Wayne Mills, N7NG.

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The P5/4L4FN operation is not a DXpedition. Giorgadze is employed by the United Nations World Food Program and often spends as much as 12 hours a day on the job, operating in his off-hours. According to The Daily DX, Giorgadze learned this week that he will be in North Korea at least until July 2003.

While P5/4L4FN has been doing some RTTY operation in addition to SSB, those contacts are not yet being accepted for DXCC credit.

Bruce Paige, KK5DO, has been acting as QSL manager and liaison for P5/4L4FN. He said he expects to receive the first printing run of P5/4L4FN QSL cards this week and hopes to have all QSLs out by May 1. Paige said that any stateside operator who mails for a QSL after May 15 must include 37 cents postage to cover the new first-class mail rate going into effect June 30. "I have 2900 requests for cards," he said. P5/4L4FN has made more than 6000 QSOs during his stay in North Korea.

Thanks to the American Radio Relay League and the ARRL Letter

FCC Invites Comments on Novice Band

Comments are due by May 16 on the Petition for Rule Making put on public notice this week by the FCC. An ARRL petition, designated RM-10413, would eliminate the 80, 40 and 15-meter Novice/Technician Plus CW subbands and reuse the spectrum in part to expand the 80 and 40-meter phone allocations. Amateurs may view and comment on these proposals via the FCC's Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS), <http://www.fcc.gov/e-file/ecfs.html>. (Click on "Search for Filed Comments." In the "Proceeding" field enter the rulemaking number, with "RM" in upper case and the hyphen included.)

The ARRL's petition, filed in March, asks the FCC to eliminate the Novice and Technician-Plus CW bands and reapportion these "inefficiently deployed segments" to alleviate overcrowding elsewhere. If the FCC goes along, current Novice and Technician Plus (i.e., Technician with Element 1 credit) licensees would be permitted to operate on the 80, 40, 15 and 10-meter General-class CW allocations at up to 200 W output. For General and higher-class operators, the ARRL plan would implement changes in the 80, 40 and 15-meter phone bands, expanding phone segments for many amateurs.

Thanks to the American Radio Relay League and the ARRL Letter

Happy Birthday

Congratulations to the following club members:

Walton Ashton, WB2OYQ 5/22
Carmen Inverso, WA2TRS 5/25
Virginia Wallace, KB2JCQ 5/28



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: 5/20/2002

Crosstalk is available on the web at:
www.gcarc-w2mmd.org

President-Ray Schnapp WB2NBJ
Vice President-Wayne Wilson WA2LET
Treasurer-Bob Krchnavek K2DAD

Chuck Colabrese WA2TML
Lou Joseph W2LYL
Al Arrison KB2AYU

GCARC Officers

Recording Secretary-Harry Bryant AA2WN
Corresponding Secretary-Chris West WA2MVU

Board of Directors

Gene Schoeberlein AA2YO
Bob Krukowski KR2U
Bill Blakeley WA2ADB

Committees

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-John AA2BN
DX-Doug WA2NPD
Field Day-Lou W2LYL
Hamfest-Open

Hospitality-Chris WK2W
Membership- John AA2BN
Nominations-Art Strong KA2DOT
Publicity-Open
Repeaters-Chuck WA2TML
Scholarships-Greg WN2T
Special Services-Gene N2IMK
Sunshine-Open
Technical-Bob KR2U
TVI-John AA2BN
VEC Testing-Chick WA2USI
4-H Parking-Bob KR2U

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)

May Meeting Program

Clubhouse Equipment
Socializing

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

www.gcarc-w2mmd.org

