

CROSSTALK

ISSUE #5

MAY, 2005

Presidents Message

Well, I can't believe another month has gone by. I'm sorry I missed the excellent program presented last month by Harry, AA2WN, and Dave, W2YC, about their VP5 DXpedition. Having been on numerous expeditions myself, I wholeheartedly encourage you to try operating as DX sometime during your ham career. I thought this month I would talk about some of the preparation and planning which goes into operating from another country, whether it's a plug-and-play ham rental spot designed for hams, or from a stark and hostile environment such as one of the Antarctic islands, which are normally uninhabited. If you've been thinking of going on a DXpedition, but just didn't know where to start, try checking out the excellent resource for DXpeditions maintained by Ken, K2KW, at www.dxholiday.com. Ken has collected valuable information on ham rentals and ham-friendly hotels from around the world. I was fortunate enough to start off on my first DXpedition at what is now the Caribbean superstation V26B on Antigua. This started out with a motley crew of 4 guys who just wanted to have fun and make some noise on the bands back in 1993. We found a local ham with a decent antenna setup, who was willing to rent his shack and cottage to us. We immediately realized the great potential, since V2 had become rather rare during the 1980s, when amateur radio for foreigners, had been banned for a number of years due to the bad behavior of a previous DXpedition. Through the assistance of another local ham, Roy Carty, V21N, we were able to obtain renewable licenses, which were great in helping us establish our multi-multi callsign V26B, which is actually the call of Sam WT3Q. From 1994, V21N was happy to put up 4 towers on his property, and today there are stacks on 10 through 40M, a 3 element inverted vee beam pointed on Europe, and an inverted vee for 160. V26B has managed a couple of second place World finishes. The great thing is the place is rented year round, providing an excellent opportunity for all DXers. This brings me to another point I always find when operating overseas. The local hams are without exception always willing to help and are very hospitable. I have forged many lasting friendships from operating overseas. So far I have operated on V2, ZP, GJ, G, KP2, and EI. Sometimes I get to return, and sometimes not. I was fortunate in the mid-90s to be able to operate rather frequently from V2, and made almost 20,000 QSOs from 1993 to 1999. I would like to go back to ZP, but it's quite a long trip. I will be operating from EI towards the end of May in the WPX CW contest. If any of you need EI, John, EI7BA, has an excellent station near Cork, on the southeast coast of Ireland, and will again be my host for operating and contesting. EI is such a beautiful country; it really lives up to its nickname of the Emerald Isle. The rest of the month of May I hope to be on occasionally from London, as my XYL winds up things there for her move to the US. Often, the overall cost for operating DX is not as great as you think. Have you seen the crazy prices at the Jersey shore? You can travel to the Caribbean or farther, rent a well-equipped ham shack, eat well and sightsee, all for less than the cost of a pricey condo at the Jersey shore. If you get the chance, don't just work DX – BE DX!

2005 DUES
GCARC dues for
the year 2005
are due. The
annual dues are
\$20.00. Please
send your
checks directly
to the treasurer,
Bob Krchnavek,
(K2DAD) at 50
Eastwick Dr.,
Gibbsboro, NJ
08026.

Darrell, AB2E

DX Dope

By Doug Gehring, WA2NPD

Several items need some publicity this month. First of all, many of you missed a very fine talk at last month's meeting as Harry, AA2WN, presented a slide showing of the recent DXpedition that he and Dave, W2YC, conducted at the Turks and Caicos Islands (VP5) in the Caribbean Ocean. They actually were on the Island of North Caicos and were virtually by themselves (except for the XYLs). They operated before and after the ARRL DX CW contest and also did very well during the contest using the call VP5Y. For those of you who worked them, be sure to see either Harry or Dave and collect your beautiful QSL card.

And it seems like the DXpeditions come in pairs, as our president, Darrell, AB2E, will be operating the upcoming WPX CW contest from Ireland as EI/AB2E. Darrell will be there from May 27 to May 31, so will be on before and after the contest also. He will be working from the first class station of John, EI7BA, in Cork. So if you need EI on various bands, or simply need EI, here is a great opportunity as Darrell will be on the lookout for GCARC members.

Also, attention all DXers and DX sympathizers!! HR-1183 has been introduced in the US House of Representatives and, if approved, will again open up the door to Desecheo and Navassa in the Caribbean for DXpeditions. These Islands have been off limits to hams for over ten years (no thanks to the US Fish and Wildlife Service), and passage of this bill is a must. Please call or drop a note to Congressman Andrews, or whoever is the Congressman of your District, asking their support for this bill. A big show of strength is really necessary to get this bill underway. Thanks in advance to one and all.

And, note elsewhere in this month's edition, that our speaker for our May 4th meeting will be our own Bob, K2DAD, who will talk on the Future of Electronics. Bob is professor of Electrical Engineering at Rowan, and has been doing collaborative work at Columbia University on some really new innovations and discoveries in the world of electronics. Bob is also an excellent speaker. Let's all be sure not to miss this presentation and support Bob and your Club by your attendance.

Last, but hopefully not least, June is the issue where we present our annual Club DX Yearbook listing of our club DXers and their accomplishments. The only requirement for entry to the list is that you have DXCC, regardless of mode. And, as before, all submitted data is on the honor system, you only need to have the QSL card or LoTW listing to qualify, League certification is not mandatory. As of last year, the categories are DXCC total, 5BDXCC, WAS, 5BWAS, WAZ, 5BWAZ, Challenge standing, and Honor Roll (M, CW, or SSB). So, check your totals and be ready to submit when you receive an Email or call for your data. Idea is to look for improvement over 12 months ago. All newcomers are welcome to the list.

So, what's hot for this month as we approach the cycle bottom?

STATION COUNTRY	DATES	FREQ/MODE		RARITY*
TT8M	Now till August	160-6; All	3	Chad
TT8AMO	Now till August	160-10; CW	3	Chad
D2DX	Now till Jan. 06	All; All	3	Angola
EZ60V	Now thru 5/15	NA; NA	3	Turkmenistan
ZK2QQ	Now thru 5/8	40-15; CW, SSB, RTTY	3	Niue
ZA2/IK75WX/p	5/1 - 5/4	160-10; SSB, RTTY, PSK31	3	Albania
TK/HA0HW	5/22 - 5/29	All; All	3	Corsica
7Q7WW	5-20 - 6/7	80-40; CW, SSB	3	Malawi
C6AKA	5/1 - 5/15	160-10; CW, RTTY	2	Bahamas
HS0ZCW	4/28 - 5/14	NA; NA	4	Thailand
S79QK	4/27 - 5/8	20-10; SSB	3	Seychelles
ZL7/KH0RR	5/2 - 5/6	NA; NA	4	Chatham I
JD1BLZ	5/5 - 5/8	80-17; SSB	4	Ogasawara
SV5/LY1DF	4/28 - 5/4	80-17; NA	3	Dodecanese

Number 5 is rarest. (1) is a Major DXpedition

Thanks to [The Weekly DX](#), [425 DX News](#), W2YC, AA2WN, K2JF, and WA2LET

Club Member Profile

This month [Crosstalk](#) profiles Ray Metzger, AI2B:

Ray says that he first got interested in Ham Radio when he was 16 years old and living in Janvier, NJ. He eventually sent for a correspondence course in radio and electronics from National Radio Institute in Washington, DC. But about six months after he started the correspondence course Uncle Sam told him, "I want you". He did not want to crawl through muddy foxholes so he joined the Navy and needless to say that ended his correspondence course.

In 1968 he met Carmen Inverso, now WA2TRS, and Mike Lizzeo, now WA2TOP, and they got him interested in CB. He was living in Mantua, NJ and deeply into CB when one Sunday night the FCC knocked on his door and said that he was talking too much technical stuff on the air. That made up his mind for him and he decided to get into Ham Radio.

He purchased an Ameco kit which contained a code course on a 78 rpm record and started learning code. In June of 1971, he saw a note in the newspaper saying that there would be a field day set-up at the golf course in Pitman. He visited field day on the Sunday of the event and met Harry McCormick, WA2SEA, now a silent key. Harry invited him over to his house to take the Novice Exam and he passed it. On August 3, 1971 he received his first call, WB2BZY, which he says he never liked. In January 1972 he passed the General Exam and in March 1972 he passed the Advanced Exam. In 1978 while President of the GCARC he took and passed the Extra Exam and received the call AI2B.

He says he was active until October 1990 when he moved to Lehigh Acres, Florida. He says he is completely inactive these days except for contacting his brother-in-law, WA2QOY, in Malaga, NJ every Monday.

Club Dues

Club Dues are coming in at a very slow rate this year and our Treasurer , K2DAD, says they are down about a third from last year. Send your dues directly to Bob, K2DAD. His address is on page one of the newsletter. He can be contacted at krchnavek@rowan.edu if you have any questions regarding dues.

Dayton Hamvention

Our own Harry Bryant, AA2WN, will be a speaker at the Dayton Hamvention. He and others from the Battleship New Jersey radio group will be talking about Museum ships and the history of the "Big J". They will talk about their restoration efforts on the ship and the integration of Ham Radio into the ship's overall plan of public education. All who happen to be at the Hamvention are welcome to stop by Room 2 and enjoy the forum.

May Program, by Bob, K2DAD

We have a treat in store for us at our May 4th Club Meeting. Bob, K2DAD, our Club Treasurer, will present a program on some innovations in electronics. Bob has been collaborating with scientists from Columbia University for some time and will describe some of this work and accomplishments. Bob holds a Ph.D. in Electrical Engineering and is a Professor in the College of Engineering at Rowan University. Bob also is an excellent speaker and we are fortunate to have him as our presenter for this month. Make every effort to show our appreciation by your attendance at this meeting.

Thanks to Doug Gehring for the above info.



MAY **CONDUCTED BY N2SS** **2005**

WARC BANDS

<u>30 Meters</u>	<u>17 Meters</u>	<u>12 Meters</u>
W2YC. 292	N2SS ...320	N2SS....302
N2SS286	W2YC 295	W2YC..... 272
AA2WN....171	K2JF..... 168	K2JF 135
WA2NPD..166	WA2NPD . 142	AB2E 92
AB2E132	AA2WN ... 116	WA2NPD... 73
K2JF.....112	AB2E..... 114	AA2WN..... 20

When the same call heads all 3 WARC bands we will have that elusive, undisputed **KING OF WARC**

DIGITAL

W2YC238	K2JF..... 113
AA2WN.....187	N2SS 53

6 METER DXCC

K2JF94	W2YC.....19
N2SS55	AA2WN.....15

MOBILE DX

W2YC276	K2JF..... 150
N2SS.....234	AA2WN 131

GRID SQUARES

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Looks like Dave and I have spent entirely too much time behind the wheel!

160 Meters

AB2E 90	K2JF 34
N2SS 79	WA2NPD 27
AA2WN 36	

El-presidente, AB2E is the undisputed Top of Top Band.

Have some totals to add or updates? You can reach me as follows:

email: n2ss@n2ss.com

1.5K Club

W2YC1533	AA2WN 1369
N2SS.....1520	K2JF..... 1350
WA2NPD ...1399	AB2E 1074

Rules for GCARC Honor Roll Listings
Provide me with your total IOTAs worked, or countries (including deleted) worked for: WARC Bands, 160 Meters, Digital modes, Mobile, 6 Meters or your total for 80,40,20, 15 and 10 for 1.5K Club. Final category is Grid Squares – just send me your total worked. Lastly, you do not have to participate in every category to be listed; just send me your totals for any of the categories listed.

Islands On The Air

N2SS.....811	W2YC..... 600
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May Birthdays

Congratulations to the following Club members with birthdays in May:

Walt Ashton, WB2OYQ
In Su Chon, AB2IT
Edith Flanigan, KC2BON
Carmen Inverso, WA2TRS
Darrell Neron, AB2E



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: 5/25/2005

President-Darrell Neron, AB2E
Vice President-Wayne Wilson WA2LET
Treasurer-Bob Krchnavek K2DAD

Chuck Colabrese WA2TML
Bob Krukowski KR2U
Bill Blakeley WA2ADB

GCARC Officers

Recording Secretary-Harry Bryant AA2WN
Corresponding Secretary-John Fisher K2JF

Board of Directors

Al Arrison KB2AYU
Gene Schoeberlein AA2YO
Steve Blasko, W2TDS

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-Ray WB2LNR
DX-Doug WA2NPD
Field Day-Bob KC2NLM
Hamfest-Harry AA2WN

Hospitality-Ken N2CQ
Membership-Ray WB2LNR
Nominations-Art Strong KA2DOT
Publicity-Open
Repeaters-Chuck WA2TML
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)

May Meeting Program

The Future of Electronics
Bob Krchnavek, K2DAD

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

