

CROSSTALK -- Official Publication of the
 GLOUCESTER COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, W2MMD
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CROSSTALK STAFF

Tony Starr, WA2FZB	Editor	John Fisher, K2JF	Circulation
Milt Goldman, K3WIL	Publisher	Jim Mollica, K2OWE	Circulation
Ed Sumek, W2GSN	Printer	Len Kravitz, KD2CR	Circulation

AREA NETS

GCARC RTTY NET:	Tuesday, 8:00 PM 147.78/18 Rptr
ARES NET:	Sunday, 8:00 PM 147.78/18 Rptr

Club Repeaters: 147.78/18, 223.06/224.66, 447.10/442.10

General Meeting: First Wednesday of each month at the V.F.W. Hall in Woodbury, NJ. Meetings begin at 8:00 pm sharp.

Contributions: CROSSTALK, Tony Starr,
 Deadline: Ten (10) days before each general meeting.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE-- MAY 1986

Greetings members,

With the coming of spring we will be having more warmer days and our thoughts turn to our antennas. Try to make it a habit to get help. When you work on those towers, the roof, in those trees or wherever, get some help even if it is just someone to watch. You never know what can happen or when.

Our meetings are growing. There are between four to five new faces at each meeting. It's nice to see that our club is gaining interest. Hope to see you soon.

Our club has again been asked to lend our expertise in communications to help a community function. July 20 is the American Cancer Society Bike-a-thon. Mark this date down on your calendar. If you can donate some time to this good cause PLEASE let Jerry Barnish, WB2CAK, or me know. We still need plenty of help.

73-- Joe DiNovi, WA2GFK

MAY PROGRAM

This month, our own Ray Martin, WB2LNR, will be speaking to us about how to suppress RFI in your telephone system. Ray has many years experience in all phases of the phone networks. During his employment with New Jersey Bell, Ray has done quite a bit of technical work on many types of communications lines, including some exotic specialty services. As a ham, he is naturally interested in controlling RFI. If you are concerned with RFI, you shouldn't miss this program. So come on out to the meeting and learn all about it. You never know when this problem may show up, and you will be one step ahead if you know how to solve it. See you there!

HAMFEST UPDATE

Tickets will be distributed at the May general meeting, and every member is urged to sell his or her share. Ticket prices are \$3.50 in advance (\$4.00 at the gate). We need to generate some operating capital in order to get the Hamfest rolling, and selling tickets is the only way we can do it. Last year each member was given ten tickets to sell. We are mortified to have to report in print that a shocking number of ticket packages were returned with nary a cent enclosed or a single ticket sold. If any of you who are reading this are one of the culprits who did this, we would now like to give you the opportunity to make restitution to your club. All you have to do is sell your allotment of 1986 tickets, and all will be forgiven.

What's that you say? You are TOO BUSY to sell ten tix?? Relax,

my friend! Why don't you just buy some of them for yourself, or your spouse? Then you won't have as many to sell. Many of our members do that anyway to get a chance at the prizes.

We hope to be able to give a full report on the planning progress next month, so until then SELL THOSE TICKETS!!!

FIELD DAY REPORT

As I reported at the last general meeting, we had an opening come up for a band chairman (80m CW) since Dave, W2YC, informed us that he couldn't make it. Since then I received a phone call from John, K2JF, who told me that his group would take 80 instead of 20. This is fine, but we still need to find someone to take 20 CW. Also, a novice station would be nice. It is not too late to volunteer, so let me know if anyone is interested. I will have more to report next month, after we have had our committee meeting.

ATTENTION ALL BAND CHAIRMEN: There will be two meetings held at the VFW hall (our regular meeting place) in Woodbury. The dates are May 14 and June 11. Make a note on your calendar. If you cannot attend, please send one of your designated operators on your behalf. The meetings will begin at 7:30 PM. Food and power personnel are also invited to attend.

73-- Tony Starr, WA2FZB

"HAMS" ACROSS AMERICA

April 10, 1986

Gloucester County A.R.C.
P O Box 370
Pitman, NJ 08071

RE: Hands Across America.

Dear Fellow Amateurs:

No doubt that you have already heard that on May 25, 1986, Sunday of Memorial Weekend, six million Americans will join hands from New York to Los Angeles to take a stand against hunger and homelessness in America.

The event is a project of U.S.A./Africa, and the ARRL board of directors has voted to volunteer the amateur radio community to assist in this historic event.

We are in need of amateur radio operators with 2 meter capabilities who will be available to donate their time that Sunday

from 12 noon until 4 pm. The actual event will take 15 minutes. At 3 pm there will be a human chain stretching 4000 miles.

We would like to make this event a joint effort of South Jersey R.A., Gloucester County A.R.C., West Jersey Amateur Radio, Shore Points A.R.C., Bellmawr Emergency Management and the Cherry Hill Township Department of Emergency Management.

If you would like to volunteer your time please call me at
or I can be reached on the Cherry Hill repeater
145.370/144.770.

Sincerely yours,

Mark A. Kernagis, KA2MSH
Cherry Hill Township
Dept. of Emergency Management

SCHOLARSHIPS

The Dayton Amateur Radio Association will award two (2) \$1000 scholarships to licensed amateurs graduating from high school in 1986. Please make this known to any amateurs in your area who may qualify. For further information and application forms write DARA, P O Box 44, Dayton, OH 45401, Attention: Scholarship Committee.

FCC OKAYS RETRANSMISSION OF 3rd-PARTY MESSAGES ON VHF PACKET RADIO

Newington CT, March 14 -- Today the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) released a waiver of the rules to permit retransmission of third-party traffic via packet radio under certain conditions in response to a Petition for Extraordinary Relief filed by the American Radio Relay League (ARRL).

The following is the text of the waiver:

"(a) The provisions of Sections 97.80(b) and 97.114(b)(4) are waived to permit amateur stations, retransmitting digital packet radio communications (see Section 97.69) on frequencies 50 MHz and above, using the AX.25 (or compatible) protocol, to be operated under automatic control while retransmitting third-party traffic. See section 97.3(v).

"(b) This waiver applies only to the retransmission of third-party traffic originated at another amateur station which is under local control or remote control. See Section 97.3(m).

"(c) When an amateur station is operated under automatic control, devices must be installed and procedures must be implemented which will ensure compliance with the rules when the control operator is not

present at the control point of the amateur station. See Section 97.80(a).

"(d) This waiver will remain in effect until the Commission takes final action on the petitions for reconsideration filed in PR Docket No. 85-105."

The Waiver Order goes on to say:

"Control operators of amateur stations capable of monitoring AX.25 packet transmissions must be alert to the increased dependency upon them for monitoring during the period of this waiver. We call upon them to immediately make known to the responsible control operator of a station retransmitting communications under automatic control any misuse of the station so that the control operator can take prompt corrective action."

According to FCC officials, formal Commission action on the pending Petitions for Reconsideration is not scheduled until late summer. Tnx AREL Headquarters

LES BELLES

Cheaper By the Dozen!! Yes, we now have a dozen YL members in GCARC.

Joanne Weiler, KA2ZRN, of Glassboro is a new member and is already working on our children's activities at the Hamfest.

Marla Bozarth, N2DWR, of Wenonah is another new YL who will help at the Hamfest.

Our regulars, N2AKL, Roz and N2FNF, Irma will handle the food at Field Day and at the Hamfest.

Our Hamfest Chairlady and Vice President Ginny, N2FJM, is real busy getting programs, overseeing the Hamfest while keeping house, working full time and taking care of her two young children as well as her OM WB2LNR.

The SAYLARC Spring Luncheon had a few GCARC members: K2JF and Gladys; N2AKC and K2EHN; and yours truly, N2RE. We had 38 in attendance. Speaker Mary Lou Brown, NM7N, gave an interesting slide show of birds and animals from Kenya. Vi Grossman, W2JZX, was recently awarded her 50 years service certificate at a OCWA meet in New York City. WA2NFY flew over from Rochester, WA1UVJ flew down from Nashua, New Hampshire. NM7N drove her motor home from Anacortes, Washington and is giving the same show at Dayton and other points to and from her QTH. Anyone wishing to become a SAYLARC member, please see N2RE or N2AKC or N2FJM who are all members. WB3JUT came up from Florida for the lunch and stayed around a while to visit all her old friends.

Several prizes were drawn and most carried the butterfly theme of SAYLARC. The next meeting will be in the fall at the Syracuse Hamfest.

If anyone wishes to make a prize to be given out at the Hamfest, please let me know. The club always buys some prizes, but some home made items are always welcome. So if you are handy, your talents are most welcome at this time. The hospitality and YL booth will be handled by N2RE with W2AFZ and N2AKC taking turns at holding down the spot, answering questions and all sorts of things. Any YL member or XYL of a member is welcome to come and help us out.

See you at the next meeting.

33/73/88, Rose Ellen, N2RE

SWAP & SHOP

FOR SALE: 2 TOWERS; Morrison 40 ft. and 60 ft. Contact Ray Martin, WB2LNR,

FOR SALE: ANTENNA SYSTEM; Wilson MT-45 tower, Cushcraft ATB34 4 element tribander, Alliance HD73 Heavy-Duty rotor. Package deal preferred. Will demonstrate on the air in person. Contact Len Kravitz, KD2CR,

FOR SALE: HEATHKIT TWINS; SB300 & SB400 80-10 mtrs. Full crystal pack, split and transceive capable. Beautiful condx. \$150.00 for the pair.

20 METER AMPLIFIER; 4 6LQ6's - make offer. Contact Fred Munzenmayer, KB2BF, at

ATTENTION - STOLEN RIG

Be on the lookout for a stolen two-meter rig. Kenwood TM-201A, serial no. 3122244. Contact Joe Sherman, K2PSI,

CONTEST CORNER

First, let me thank those who saw me or called with suggestions or questions. The only one I didn't answer was "who won the W2SUA TROPHY?" That will await the presentation at the meeting.

I would like to thank Ken, N2CQ for his excellent article on the MEGAPOINT AWARDS, which appears in this issue of Crosstalk. I will be getting those records straight as soon as possible. Let you all know how I'm doing as time goes by.

The next contest with club participation is the CW portion of the CQ WPX CONTEST this month. I'll still have forms for that contest, VHF

Sprints and a package for the IARU Radiosport Contest in July.

I'm sure that a lot of help plus operators will be needed for field day, so if you can help, volunteer. It's a club competition too.

One question you might consider...."How far ahead would you like to know contest dates?" I think I'm covering that OK, but I've been asked twice for dates of fall contests. I don't mind the requests for any information, so if the list is doing the job--good.

DATE		CONTEST
May	8	1296 MHz Sprint
	17	50 MHz Sprint
	24-25	CQ WW WPX CONTEST CW
June	7-8	ARRL VHF QSO Party
	28-29	Field Day LET'S SEE A GOOD TURNOUT!!
July	12-13	IARU RADIOSPORT CONTEST (NOTE RULES CHANGE)

(Tnx to ARRL, QST, CQ & 73)

DE KB2GW

MEGAPOINT AWARD

Many of our newer members may have heard of the Megapoint Award mentioned at meetings, and wondered what it was about.

We had been an active contest club several years ago, but recently the activity has fallen off. The award was born in 1977, in hope of generating some more competition, and we are hoping to rekindle some more of the same now in 1986.

Points for the award are given to members who enter the Club Contest Team in radio contests. To enter the Team, all that is necessary is to enter the contest and report your scores to the sponsor and to the Club Contest Manager, KB2GW. The club will keep the records, and will present your award when you have entered a Million Points. There is no time limit to win the award. All club contest participation points are added year by year.

The points are computed by multiplying your contest score and the Megapoint Multiplier to give you a total. Last month's "Crosstalk" had a listing of which contests are considered, and the Megapoint Multiplier for each contest. To give you an example, K2JF had 2720 points in the ARRL VHF Sweepstakes in 1986. The Megapoint Multiplier for this contest is x50. K2JF, therefore, has been given 136000 points

(2720 x 50), for the award. For any contest to be considered eligible, there must be a club competition. If a contest does not have competition between clubs, points cannot be counted for the Megapoint Award.

The idea is to have a Club Contest Team playing other clubs for the highest score. (Multi-operator and multi-transmitter entries are welcome as long as the points went to the club score.)

Winners will be presented with a special award and with stickers for each million points won.

You don't have to be a "Big Gun" to win either, just have a lot of fun. Why not give it a try?

73 de Ken, N2CQ

SOME UPCOMING HAMFESTS

MAY 4 -- STIRLING, NJ - Tri-County Radio Ass'n
9am to 3pm at Passaic Twp Community Center, off Valley Road in Stirling. Admission \$2.00, Tables \$7.50, with AC \$10.00. Talk-in 147.255/855 and 444/449.975. Grand prize IC-02AT.

MAY 18 -- WILLINGBORD, NJ - Willingboro Repeater Group
8am to 3pm at Holiday Lakes, Rt. 130 & Creek Road. Admission \$3.00, Tables \$5.00. Grand prizes: Kenwood Mobile Rig, IC-2AT. Talk-in on 146.925 RPT and 146.52 sim.

LIGHTNING PROTECTION

Lightning protection is founded upon providing a low impedance path for electrical potentials (read voltages) to ground. To accomplish this, we use heavy ground wires having large surface areas and long ground rods. Every external element of a station should be at or near ground potential. By bringing the system to ground potential, we reduce the likelihood of attracting a lightning strike. Providing a low impedance path, we increase the chances that any strike will shunt to ground without seeking additional paths to ground, such as through the shack, or creating enough heat to cause a fire. Last month, I wrote about grounding, and said that I would explain why NOT to use soldered connections in ground systems, and secondly, if you do take a strike or near strike, the solder will vaporize, causing a high resistance path, which will cause heating.

Now let's talk about practical methods to protect your station. First, the antenna mast, tower or base should have a ground placed immediately beside it. Second the feed lines should have a static

discharge device such as a "Blitz Bug" for coaxial lines, or a spark gap device such as shown in the ARRL Handbook for open lines, placed immediately at the point of entrance into the building and attached to the ground rod at that point. Lastly, all unused antennae should have their feedlines shorted together, either with a shorting switch or by use of a shorting clip or plug. Watching arcs jump between the shell and pin of a FL259 during a thunderstorm is no fun! (Oh yes it is! Ed.)

The final step in lightning protection is to UNPLUG all antenna feedlines and powercords from your equipment. Approximately one-half of all lightning damage that I have repaired has been caused by lightning strikes to the powerline. I say unplug, because even the "Big Switch" may not have enough isolation. Tnx Maryland Radio Center Newsletter.

LEGISLATIVE NEWS

HEY, LOOK HERE! WE GOT ANOTHER ONE!!! Remember Randy and Winslow Township? Did you know that ordinance is still on the books? Read the following:

TOWNSHIP OF EWING, NJ (near Trenton-- Ed.) -- 3.1A, Interference by Radio Transmitter:

It shall be unlawful for any person to transmit, continue, or cause to be transmitted or continued any radio emission, signal, or transmission of any nature, which causes or creates electrical, visual, or audible interference with the operating of television or radio receiving sets, musical instruments, phonographs, stereos of any type, or other machine or device designed to receive and/or produce or reproduce pictures, images, or sounds in such a manner as to disturb the peace, quiet, comfort, enjoyment, repose, health, safety, or general well being of others within the limits of the Township. Upon the first conviction a warning shall be issued by the Court and noted on the record; on any subsequent conviction the person shall be subject to the penalties provided by Ordinance 3-10.

We are getting boxed in.....Any suggestions? Tnx SCM/K2JF.

OPEN HOUSE AT HQ

The ARRL HQ. building and W1AW, the Hiram Percy Maxim Memorial Station, will be open on Sunday, June 8, from 10 AM to 5 PM. If your club would like to schedule a visit to HQ. on this date, please notify HQ. and be sure to bring a copy of your operator's license if you'd like to operate W1AW. Over 170 visitors toured ARRL HQ during the ARRL "Open House" on April 5. Most popular section of the tour was naturally, W1AW, where the visitors could operate many QSO's were made during the day. Tnx The ARRL Letter.

SIMPLEX AUTOPATCH ADVERTISEMENTS

ARRL members are reminded that it is legal to operate a home simplex autopatch transmitter by remote control from a mobile rig in auxiliary operation within certain constraints. The station in auxiliary operation must confine the control link frequency to 220.5 MHz and above (except 431-3, and 435-8 MHz). ARRL policy requires that ads describing the features of simplex autopatches include the following statement: "Use of this device with a transceiver operating in the 2-meter band, or on any frequency low 220.5 MHz is not permitted unless a separate control link is provided." Some advertisers in other publications are advertising devices which contain a simplex autopatch feature, and stating that ANY VHF/UHF portable or mobile can be used to control these devices. ARRL members are reminded that control via a 2- or 6-meter rig is illegal. It is exactly this sort of confusion which the ARRL policy was intended to address. Tnx The ARRL Letter.

WANT TO WORK W1AW?

Because of the many hours devoted to code practice and bulletins, W1AW is not available for casual QSOs during the evening. However, there is usually a 30-minute "window" between 11:30 PM EDST and midnight, when W1AW is available for contacts. A number of HQ staff "insomniacs" are operating W1AW nearly every weekday evening during this half-hour. Look for W1AW on 7040 kHz. Tnx The ARRL Letter.

WAYNE GREEN, W2NSD, VISITS ARRL HQ

Wayne Green, W2NSD, editor of 73 Magazine, visited HQ March 26. Wayne said that it was his first visit to HQ since the League was located on LaSalle Road! He characterized his visit as "bridgebuilding". He had long discussions with Executive Vice President Dave Sumner, Club Services Department Manager Curt Holsopple, and Affiliated Club Program Manager Leo Kluger concerning his ideas for revitalizing Amateur Radio. Tnx The ARRL Letter.

CANCELLING A LICENSE OF A SILENT KEY

The FCC no longer deletes calls of Silent Keys unless its cancellation is specifically requested. Since the term of an amateur license is now 10 years, the family of the deceased amateur could continue to receive correspondence, which is sent based upon FCC records, for that period. In order to avoid this correspondence, families of deceased amateurs are urged to send the license, or a letter if a license cannot be found, to FCC, Consumer Affairs Office, Gettysburg, PA 17325, requesting cancellation of the license. Tnx The ARRL Letter.

IMPORTED AMATEUR EQUIPMENT BECOMING MORE EXPENSIVE

Have you noticed that the list prices of imported amateur equipment have recently increased? Some list prices have increased as much as 20% since October. The reason for this is the declining value of the dollar against foreign currencies. A depreciating dollar makes U.S. exports cheaper and therefore more competitive. Conversely, it makes imports more expensive. For example, the dollar is now trading at the 180-yen level, compared to 240 yen in early September. Thus, the Japanese manufacturers are receiving less yen per U.S. dollar, and must increase their prices to maintain profits. International economics may be hard to understand, but its gyrations are quickly felt in our pocketbooks. Tnx The ARRL Letter.

A FRIENDLY REMINDER FROM UNCLE CHARLIE!

The FCC has asked us to remind amateurs that transmitting equipment used in other services (except MARS and the like) must be type-accepted. Much two-meter equipment available today can be made to work on frequencies considerably above and below this amateur band. Amateurs should bear in mind, while it may be a great temptation to do so, the use of gear converted from the Amateur Service to another service is not permitted. Tnx The ARRL Letter.

FCC CRACKS DOWN ON USE OF ILLEGAL CB LINEAR AMPLIFIERS

The FCC Plans to increase its efforts to combat the illegal sale and use of linear amplifiers used to boost the power of Citizens Band equipment. Last summer, the Field Operations Bureau conducted a study of cases reported to local FCC offices concerning CB interference to television and other home electronic equipment. It was found that 57% of these cases could be attributed to overpowered CB stations, of which 91% involved linear amplifiers. All FCC Field Offices are now stepping up their activity in locating and closing stations using linear amplifiers and other illegal transmitters. FCC personnel are especially interested in determining major manufacturers and distributors of this kind of equipment, as well as dealers and service technicians who modify or repair modified equipment. Anyone who has information concerning the use of CB linear amplifiers, of their manufacture or marketing, is encouraged to telephone their nearest FCC Field Office. Tnx The ARRL Letter.