

CROSSTALK

Issue #11

NOVEMBER, 2001

Presidents Message

Today the club helped John Fisher with the Pitman crop walk. We did this successfully with just five members showing up. That meant that each of us had to cover two stations and spend twice the time helping out on a beautiful Sunday afternoon. It goes without saying that I am very disappointed. A club this size should be able to get out at least eight or ten members out for a public service project like this. We need all the public exposure we can get to attract new members and create public awareness of what we can do.

At the next meeting we have two jobs to do:

- 1 Hold nominations for next years officers.
- 2 Form a committee for the Milt Goldman award.

At the last board meeting there was much discussion on how to budget for next year without the revenue from the 4H parking. The treasurer is going to work out some scenarios for possible solutions to present to the membership.

Yesterday, 10/20/01, the Battleship New Jersey was open to the public for it's first Saturday and the response was gratifying. About 1000 people took the tour and most of the comments were good. Also the radio club worked Jamboree on the Air, JOTA, a long time event which gets scouts and hams together. Many scouts and cubs got to talk on the air. This activity also gives amateur radio more exposure and hopefully will lead to more people joining our hobby.

We must try to get more members. It is vital that we do.

Best 73,
Ray WB2NBJ

2001 DUES
GCARC dues for the year 2001 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

Having already gotten his "feet wet", so to speak, in the land of the Great Wall, Harry, AA2WN, is again headed back to China expecting to arrive somewhere around November 15th. He was able to establish contacts with BY ops on his last trip and this time fully expects to operate without problems. He will be in Shanghai both coming and going and expects to operate there from David Zhou's station signing AA2WN/BD4DW. The bulk of his stay will be inland in SW China where he expects to operate from Mr. Ni Bin's QTH in Leishan as AA2WN/BD8CD. Harry expects to be in China for about a week and says his workload should be much lighter, hence, giving him more time to operate. We wish Harry the best of luck and will be listening for him most extensively.

In local news, we see GCARC's prime contender, Dave, W2YC, finished first in the 2000 ARRL 10 Meter contest for the SNJ Section. He scored some 677K points. This was a packet assisted effort but, regardless, was a terrific score. Coming in second place was Merrill, WK2G, with a fine score of 458K. Both of these A-1 ops were "weaned" on contesting at the GCARC Field Day "trough" as it were (Hi). Congratulations to both Dave and Merrill.

Finally, be sure to look for the new DX entity (almost certain) Ducie Island, located about 300 miles from Pitcairn Island. The group is expected to fire up on November 16th to coincide with the anticipated IARU announcement admitting Pitcairn Amateur Radio Association to IARU membership. QSL via Garth Hamilton, VE3HO. So what else is hot?

<u>Station</u>	<u>Dates</u>	<u>Freq./Mode</u>	<u>Rarity*</u>	<u>Country</u>
VP6??	11/16-?	160-6; All	5	Ducie Is.
ZL8CW	11/1-11/26	160-10; All	4	Kermadec
FO/SP9FIH	10/24-11/10	80-6; SSB	2	Marquesas IS.
H44MA	10/15-11/30	40-15; CW, SSB, PSK31	3	Solomon Is.
T2OT	11/1-11/8	160-6; CW,SSB, RTTY	3	Tuvalu Is.
ZD9IR	10/6-1 year	160-10; SSB, CW, RTTY	4	Gough Is.
DJ6QT/CT3	10/23-11/26	80-10; SSB, CW	3	Madeira Is.
9U5D	11/15-3/02	80-6; SSB, CW	4	Burundi
F5/KF2HC	11/26-12/2	40-10; SSB, CW	2	St. Martin Is.
XU7ABW	10/22-11/10	80-6; SSB, CW	3	Cambodia

* 5 is rarest

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

Repeater Report

For the benefit of those of you who haven't heard, the Club's 147.78/18 repeater now requires a PL tone (also known as CTCSS) for access. The PL frequency is 131.8 Hz.

The interference we were experiencing from the Spanish speaking non-hams necessitated this action. They were (still are . . .) using 147.78 MHz simplex frequency to chat amongst themselves. This of course tied up our machine and caused many of our users to stop listening to the machine. The interference was not local. We were able to determine that the signals were coming from the N.E. New Jersey / New York City area. The signals could not be heard by the typical mobile or base station in Gloucester County, but our repeater, at one of the highest locations in Gloucester County had no trouble hearing them - albeit noisily.

I was always reluctant to PL the 147.18 repeater because it has always been an open machine available for anyone to use. And I wanted to keep it that way. But since most radios now come with PL this is no longer the barrier it once was. I'm also going to devise a way to be able to turn PL off when it's not needed. (This is not as simple as it sounds because of the way the Controller works).

I know this still leaves some people (including myself) with older 2 meter handhelds / mobile rigs that don't have PL. I would like to see some of our more "technically savvy" members assist other members in selecting a PL deck and installing it in the older radios. Who makes a good PL encoder? How big is it? What does it cost? How hard is it to install? Could someone maybe do a Program on this at a General Meeting?

73, Chuck, WA2TML

Articles Wanted

Help! Your editor needs articles for your newsletter.

If you look at recent issues of Crosstalk, you will see that there are only two regular contributors from the Club. The president writes a monthly message and Doug Gehring writes a monthly DX column. The rest of the newsletter is filler, material that anyone with internet access can obtain.

Crosstalk would be of more interest to Club members if it had more local content. That is why your editor is calling on you, the membership, to write articles for Crosstalk. These articles could be in the form of a monthly column on your area of interest or expertise in amateur radio or just an occasional article. Most radio amateurs have one or more areas of the hobby in which they tend to specialize. Others may not be familiar with that area and would enjoy learning more about it and hearing what you are doing.

So I repeat my plea again. Please send your articles for Crosstalk to your editor. They will be accepted in hard copy or e-mail. The addresses for submissions are on page 5 of each issue of Crosstalk.

Sweepstakes Invitation

Wayne Wilson, WA2LET, has extended an invitation to the club to operate in the Sweepstakes contest from his cabin in Lower Bank, NJ. He says all are invited and that if you plan on coming to bring sleeping bags, tents, trailers, etc. to make yourself comfortable. Wayne can be contacted at _____ or wwilson@drpa.org. Contact him for more information and to let him know if you are coming.

Crosstalk Available on the Web

As I am sure most of you know Crosstalk is available monthly on the Web. You can go to the Club web site at www.gcarc-w2mmd.org and find both current and back issues of Crosstalk. The Club is currently looking for ways to save money, as it no longer appears likely that we will be getting any revenue from 4H parking. One small way to help is to use the electronic version of Crosstalk rather than the paper version. About half of the membership still gets a paper copy of the newsletter. Each paper copy costs the club over \$4.00 per member per year just for postage and postage rates are slated to increase next year. If you are currently getting a paper copy of Crosstalk but are able to access it from the web site, please let the treasurer know when you pay your dues for 2002 and he will take you off the mailing list. If you give him an e-mail address you will get a notification each month when Crosstalk is available.

A Sign of the Times

CQ magazine is asking all participants in CQ-sponsored Amateur Radio contests to submit their logs electronically. "In light of recent events regarding hazardous items sent through the mail, logs received through the mail at the CQ offices will be held unopened until all potential health risks have been evaluated," a CQ Communications news release said. CQ said it couldn't guarantee that logs submitted via the US Postal Service would be opened.

All logs for the CQ World Wide DX Contest, the CQ WPX Contest, the CQ World Wide 160-Meter Contest, the CQ World Wide VHF Contest and the CQ/RTTY Journal RTTY contests should be submitted via e-mail according to the instructions in the rules for each contest.

CQ Communications President Dick Ross, K2MGA, said, "CQ regrets the inconvenience to contesters lacking Internet or e-mail access or those who log by hand." He said, "CQ did not want to risk the chance that staff members or contest committee volunteers might be exposed to dangerous packages sent through the mail." CQ suggested that contesters not now using computer-logging programs start doing so.

CQ also suggested that hand loggers transcribe their logs into an ASCII (.txt) file using a word processor, separating each contact element with a tab, separating each contact with a carriage return, and e-mailing the resulting file to the address listed in the contest rules. "Be sure to include the required information about your station in a covering e-mail message," the CQ notice advised.

Thanks to the [ARRL Letter](#)

Happy Birthday

Congratulations to the following club members:

Hank Basch N2DJN	11/30
John Fisher K2JF	11/1
Russel Glans N2ASV	11/24
Andrea Logan KB2ZWK	11/8
Howard Marder WA2IBZ	11/9
Raymond Martin WB2LNR	11/14



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: 11/26/2001

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

President-Ray Schnapp WB2NBJ
Vice President-Bob Budd KB2EAH
Treasurer-Bob Krchnavek K2DAD

Chuck Colabrese WA2TML
Lou Joseph W2LYL
Wayne Wilson WA2LET

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

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

Hospitality-Open
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
(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)

November Meeting Program

Socializing
2002 Budget

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

www.gcarc-w2mmd.org

