



Presidents Message

Thanks to Al, KB2AYU; Lou, KC2FXK; Gene, AA2YO; Tom, KE2ES; and Sheldon, K2MEN; we now have a new roof on the shed at the Clubsite. Lou was the foreman for the job as he has prior roofing experience. The job was quite a bit more work than I had imagined. 3 sheets of plywood were rotted and had to be replaced. All of the old shingles had to be bagged and we each took some home to put out for trash. We started promptly at 8AM and worked with no breaks until after 1PM. The materials cost about \$325 and the estimates we had gotten for the job were in the \$700 to \$800 range, so we saved the Club quite a bit of money by doing it ourselves.

I don't think there will be enough time this year to get the trailer leveled, put on new skirting, and get the roof done. We will probably apply some brush on sealant as a temporary fix to get through the winter. There is even some talk of replacing the trailer with a newer one. I will be looking into this over the winter.

I omitted a few folks from the list of members who helped with the Hamfest. Thanks to Ken, N2CQ; his wife Martha; and Gene, AA2YO; all of whom worked behind the scenes mailing and emailing Hamfest flyers.

As we wind down another year, I hope everyone has checked out their towers and antennas to make sure that they will withstand the rigors of winter. Another thing we do at the end of the year is elect Club officers for next year. Many thanks to Doug, WA2NPD, for putting together an initial slate of candidates for 2012. As of the close of nominations at the October meeting, the slate of candidates is as follows:

Officers:		Board of Directors:	
President	Tom (KE2ES)	3 yr. Director	Dave (WB3JOY)
Vice President	Jim (N2GXJ)	3 yr. Director	Chuck (WA2TML)
Treasurer	Lou (KC2FXK)	2 yr. Director	Gary (WA3SVW)
Recording Sec.	Sheldon (K2MEN)	Board of Trustees:	
Corresponding Sec.	Cory (WA3UVV)	4 yr. Trustee	Al (KB2AYU)

Nominations will be open again at the November meeting. Elections will be held at the December meeting for any contested positions. Thanks to the members in the list above who are taking a position for the first time. It is greatly appreciated by us "old timers".

73, Al KB2AYU

Down Jersey DXing

By Bill Grim, W0MHK

T32C sure made it very possible for you to work East Kiribati for DXCC this October. At this writing they are wrapping up a most successful operation from Christmas Island (not to be confused with another DXCC entity, VK9X, in the Indian Ocean) with a new world record of over 200,000 QSO's for a DXpedition! Two teams have taken turns manning their multiple stations. Signals from their perch in the Pacific were Q5 often on all modes and bands one would expect. Hope you are in their on-line log which can easily be Googled with their callsign. A big thank you and congratulations to the T32C team for an outstanding effort!

So how is 10 Meters treating you DX-wise? "Just fine" should be the answer with huge openings to many areas of world not heard in Down Jersey for years! Openings have been excellent most mornings from here to many areas of the world including "over the pole". Be sure to remember 10 Meters now that 12M openings are more prevalent. It's easy to forget how great and what a large piece of radio spectrum 10M is! Solar Flux has raised the MUF (Maximum Usable Frequency) to the top of 10 Meters and beyond. Even 10 Meter FM has been showing signs of life above 29 Mhz. My station logged 5B4ES in Cyprus on 10 FM a few days ago, and T32C was spotted and heard on 10M FM also. Get the cobwebs off your 10M antenna and join the fun. Even a dipole or simple CB antenna will do. There is room aplenty for operating and modest signals and antennas have amazing efficiency on this band. I remember in a past cycle bringing my TS-430 from Iowa to my father-in-law's QTH in Millville and using his CB Super Scanner to make some nice qsos in Europe one summer!

Those of you who enjoy mobile operation may consider putting an HF rig in the car and doing some DXing. Rigs are more compact than ever and 10 Meters is perfect for mobile when the band is open. You can enhance your signal and short antenna also by picking a high location or salt water QTH down at the shoreline to maximize your output. My preference was to operate especially during DX contests from a scenic point up in Atlantic Highlands, Monmouth County. A clear shot to Europe and my first qsos with Japan from the mobile were made from that great location. Operating from the parking lot of bar at my Highlands "spot" made it possible also to never go thirsty during CQ World Wide DX Phone Contests!

Finally, don't sell 10 Meters short because of our progressively earlier sunsets. The band has been energized with enough solar flux lately to keep it open into the hours of darkness. Some long-haul DX surprises can be found without the sun shining on 10 Meters. DXpeditions love the space and ease of an open 10 Meters for contacts and contesting. It's a great place to log that DX station you have been after for a while. What a difference a change solar flux can make!

With the CQ World Wide CW Contest coming the end of November, watch for some DX action as stations "fine tune" for the contest before it begins. Besides that activity, look for the following good DX bets (with credit to NG3K and ADXO):

Please see "DXing" on Page 3

“DXing” from Page 2

CALL	DATES	HIGHLIGHTS	RARITY 5 is rarest	ENTITY
TX3T	11/1-11/4	10 OPS/160-10M/CW,SB,DIG	2	TAHITI
XV2RZ	11/1-12/12	80-6M/CW,SSB	4	VIETNAM
A52	11/3-11/13	80-10M/CW,PSK	4	BHUTAN
VK9XW	11/8-11/14	40-10M/SSB	4	CHRISTMAS IS.
ZD8	11/8-11/22	HF/CW,RTTY,SSB	2	ASCENSION IS.
T2T	11/10-12/6	6 OPS/160-6M/CW,SSB,RTTY	3	TUVALU
9N0MD	11/13-11/25	17 OPS(!)/160-6M	4	NEPAL
K8A	11/17-11/28	160-10M/CW,SSB,RTTY	3	AMER. SAMOA
5Z4HW	11/20-12/3	160-10M/ALL MODES	2	KENYA
9LOW	11/22-12/4	5 OPS/160-10M/CW,SSB,TY	2	SIERRE LEONE
PJ7I	11/24-11/28	80-6M/SSB,CW, DIG	1	ST. MARTIN

November Club Meeting Program

The November General Membership Meeting will be November 2nd and the program will be a talk on radio amplifiers entitled “Amplifier Basics”, given by Doug, WA2NPD. The talk will trace the development of amplifiers from the beginning of radio with emphasis on the triode and grid bias inventions. The characteristic curves describing the various classes of amplifiers will be discussed and their applications to audio and radio frequency service reviewed. Due to the complexities in preparing slides of electronic schematics, etc., flip charts will be used for display purposes. The talk is expected to last for some 45 minutes.

Who Says Amateur Radio is Dead

According to the ARRL, at the end of the third quarter of 2011 there were over 700,000 US Amateurs. This is an all-time high. Looking at the different license classes, the number of Technicians peaked in March 2011 at 342,572, while in September 2011, Generals and Extras peaked at 159,861 and 125,661, respectively. With new Technicians earning their Amateur Radio licenses, and current Technician licensees moving on to General and Generals upgrading to Extra, there is a lot of fluctuations in the individual totals but the steady amount of upgrading indicates that new hams are staying with the hobby.

In the past 40 years, the number of Amateur Radio operators in the US has grown at a remarkable rate:

December 1971: 285,000

December 1981: 433,000

December 1991: 494,000

December 2001: 683,000

September 2011: 700,221

The hobby has changed through the years along with changes in technology but growing numbers of hams are still finding something worthwhile in ham radio to keep them interested.

Thanks to the ARRL Letter for the above information.

Welcome New Member

This month the Club welcomes William Robinson, KD2ANM, as a new member. Will holds a Technician License and lives in the Franklinville area. Please welcome and introduce yourself to Will when you meet him at Club meetings and events.

2011 Pitman/Glassboro Crop Walk for Hunger

By Tom Gorman, KE3ES

On Sunday, October 16, Club members helped out at the annual Pitman/Glassboro Crop Walk. We have provided emergency communications support for this event for many years. The organizers of the event were very satisfied with our support as they have been in the past. This year's event included a short and long route both starting and ending at the Sunset Auditorium in Pitman. There may have been fewer walkers than in past years but support from the Club was as good as ever. The participating operators included:

Joe, KC2PHM
Gary, WA3SVW
Carl, KC2UYG
Gary, N2QEE
Wayne, WA2VOY
Frank, W2FJM
Mark, KE2WC
Gene, N2IMK
Bret, KB2YJE
Art, K2AWS
Tom, KE2ES

The event received coverage from Channel 3 News. We got good coverage and Gary, N2QEE, gave a interview for our group however the footage shot at the event and the interview did not make it on TV.

We also received a 2010 appreciation award for the Club's support at last years walk.

VEC Testing

Regular VEC testing sessions are scheduled for the second Thursday of the month at 7:00 PM and are held at the Franklin Township Public Library on Coles Mill Road in Franklinville. The cost of the exam is \$15. Candidates are required to have a photo ID and two copies of their current license if they have one. For further information on VEC testing or to sign-up for a session contact Gary Reed at 856-582-4365 or at glreed49@verizon.net.

November Birthdays

Congratulations to these members celebrating birthdays in November.

Fr. Brian Burgess, KD4UTL

Robert Durham, KC2SGP

Russel Glans, N2ASV

Howard Marder, WA2IBZ

Ray Martin, W2RM

Lawrence Mommicco, AD2L

Cory Sickles, WA3UVV

Martin Wilt, W2ILT



Crosstalk Submissions

This is your Club newsletter. Make use of it. Feel free to contribute general interest articles and ideas for articles.

All submissions, queries, comments and editorials should be addressed to Gene Schoeberlein at aa2yo@arrl.net.

Submission deadline for the December issue: 1/22/2011

Club Website

<http://www.w2mmd.org>

President-Al Arrison, KB2AYU
Vice President-Tom Gorman, KE2ES
Treasurer-Lou Ranson, KC2FXK

Chuck Colabrese, WA2TML
Doug Gehring, WA2NPD
Art Strong, K2AWS

Steve Blasko, W2TDS
Cory Sickles, WA3UVV

GCARC Officers

Recording Secretary-John Zaruba, K2ZA
Corresponding Secretary-Vinnie Sallustio, N4NYY

Board of Directors

Dave MacDonald, WB3JOY
Gene Schoeberlein, AA2YO
Bob Krukowski, KR2U

Trustees

Ray Schnapp, WB2NBJ
Mike Mollet, N2SRO

Committees

ARES/RACES-John, K2ZA
Awards-Dave, W2YC
Budget-Steve, W2TDS
Clubhouse Site-Al, KB2AYU
Club License Trustee-Darrell, AB2E
Constitution-As needed
Crosstalk-Gene, AA2YO
Database-Ken, N2CQ
DX-Bill, W0MHK
Field Day-Vinnie, N4NYY
Hamfest-Al, KB2AYU
Historian-Art, K2AWS

Hospitality-Ray, WB2NBJ
Membership-Cory/Ray, WA3UVV/WB2NBJ
Nominations-Al, KB2AYU
Programs-Tom, KE2ES
Publicity-Cory, WA3UVV
Repeaters-Al, KB2AYU
4H Liaison-Cory, WA3UVV
Special Services, Darrell, AB2E
Sunshine-Ray, W2RM
Technical/TVI-Cory, WA3UVV
VEC Testing-Gary, N2QEE
Website-Art, K2AWS

The W2MMD Repeaters

147.78/18 Mhz-Pitman
(CTCSS 131.8Hz)

223.06/224.66 Mhz-Sewell

447.1/442.1 Mhz-Pitman
(CTCSS 167.9Hz)

1272.4/1284.4 MHz-Pitman

GCARC Meetings

General Membership

7:30 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

GCARC 2 Meter Net
Third Thursday of the Month
8:00PM
147.78/18Mhz (PL131.8Hz)

ARES/RACES
Sunday 20:00 Hrs
(147.78/18 and
223.06/224.66
repeaters)

November Meeting

Amplifier Basics
Doug Gehring, WA2NPD

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

