



Presidents Message

Fall is upon us and leaves will soon be all over our yards. Soon we will be switching to standard time and dark will come on sooner, so get that antenna work done soon.

The lupus walk was very well attended by GCARC and we had a pleasant few hours keeping the runners and walkers safe. Unfortunately there was no map of the course available so our guys and gal had to play it by ear. We were appreciated and next year I will make arrangements to get a useable map to plan our stations better. My thanks go out to everyone who helped; Ray Flanagan, N2WHL; Edith Flanagan, KC2BON; Steve Blasko, W2TDS; Bill Blakeley, WA2ADB; Jack Zaruba, K2ZA; Wayne Wilson, WA2LET; Doug Gehring, WA2NPD; Gene Schoeberlein, AA2YO; Gene Wallace, N2IMK; Wayne Welsh, WA2VOY and myself.

Coming up on October 19th is the Pitman Crop Walk. We need members to help out. Last year we did not do the walk as they (the organizers of the walk) wanted to try cell phones. It was not nearly as well coordinated without us and the people remarked they didn't have the feeling of security that we provided. It feels good that someone appreciates our presence. Let's get a good crew out to the Sunset Auditorium on the 19th at 1330hrs and show them what we can do. Call John Fisher, K2JF, or me for information or directions. Please bring a jar of peanut butter to help with the cause.

At the October meeting there will be a silent auction of some radio gear run by Ken Newman, N2CQ, and Doug Gehring, WA2NPD. There will be more information elsewhere in Crosstalk.

Plans are being made to increase the use of the club site and make the trailer more accessible to the members. Jim Mollica Jr., N2NRD, did a super job cleaning the trailer from stem to stern and it looks great. Jim also put W2MMD on the map during the VHF contest. Many thanks from all. Glad to have you aboard.

We have several new members recently, Ed Hankin Jr., KB2ODJ, former member Emil Busko, WB2EOR, Bill Godfrey, WB2VFX, and Don Vincent, KC2LRK. Welcome to GCARC.

Hope to see a good turn out at the October meeting and the crop walk on the 19th.

73,
Ray, WB2NBJ

2003 DUES

GCARC dues for the year 2003 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

The big DX news for this month is the announcement made several days ago that the Logbook of the World (LoTW) is now up and ready to go. Although there have been many articles written on this new innovation (including some in this column), perhaps the best summary is in the October issue of QST on page 46, where Wayne Mills, N7NG, presents an excellent overview of the program. Although the cost per QSL match has not yet been announced (this appears to be about the only missing link), everything else is in place. Remember, you have to obtain your Digital Certification first in order to get underway. This is your individual identification number which is very important to the integrity of the program.

On another subject, your scribe has been asked why not include or incorporate IOTA and contest information within this blurb, at least from time to time? Well, we do indicate large DXpeditions who are operating in contests and simultaneously offer a DX entity challenge but only list an IOTA when the IOTA also counts for a DX entity. This is consistent with why this monthly article is written in the first place. Very simply, the intent of this article is to hopefully stimulate and interest both new and older club members in the sub-interest of our hobby called DXing. If, in the relatively short time of presenting this article, we have arm-twisted even one or two club members into plunging into the world of DX, then the effort has been successful. One needs to work a few world entities, obtain the QSL card, etc. before worrying about collecting IOTAs, etc. My reading of our club is that we have perhaps a dozen members who are avid DXers, another 7 or 8 who are weekend DXers, and about 5 members who are absolutely "whacko" DXers (including yours truly). There are still maybe half of the active club membership who has yet to give DXing a try, and that is the half who perhaps do more to "drive" this article forward. As nothing is forever, perhaps we will eventually interject a change in philosophy, but for now the status quo is as stated.

So, let's see what is out there for this month. Band conditions are starting to generally improve, although they still a way to go.

<u>STATION</u>	<u>DATES</u>	<u>FREQUENCY/MODE</u>	<u>RARITY*</u>	<u>COUNTRY</u>
HB0/HB9QQ	10/12 – 10/15	160 – 40; SSB, CW	3	Liechtenstein
NP2SH	10/4 – 10/12	80 – 10; SSB, CW	2	US Virgin Is.
S79NS	10/4 – 10/17	80 – 10; CW, SSB	3	Seychelles
T88ZX	10/1 – 10/7	80 – 10; SSB, CW, RTTY	3	Palau Is.
V63ZT	10/9 – 10/16	80 – 10; SSB, CW, RTTY	3	Micronesia
BQ9P	10/9 – 10/16	160 – 6; SSB, CW, RTTY	4	Pratas Is.
A61AD	10/6 – 10/11	160 – 10; SSB, CW, RTTY	3	Arab Emirates
PJ4/DL/H/C	10/16 – 10/26	80 – 6; CW, SSB, RTTY	2	Bonaire
HS8AC/P	10/11 – 10/12	40 – 10; All	3	Thailand
ZK1TLA	10/11 – 11/6	80 – 10; CW, SSB, RTTY, PSK	2	So. Cook Is.

* Number 5 is rarest

Thanks to Weekly DX, 425 DX News, AA2WN, W2YC, WA2LET, K2JF

Hoaxed!

Along with many others, QST was snookered by a bogus satellite photo that purported to depict the US as seen from space during the August 14 electrical power outage in the Northeast. The image was on page 80 of the October QST. Widely circulated via the Internet, the image apparently was a retouched composite of old satellite photos with fake identification added. As several astute members have pointed out, among other things, the faked photo shows the blackout zone as totally dark, which it was not, and the area shown is geographically inaccurate.

Thanks to the American Radio Relay League and the ARRL Letter.

2003 Hamfest Wrap-up

Now that the Club has paid most of the bills relating to the 2003 Hamfest, it looks like it was an unqualified success. Not like the roaring successes of five to ten years ago when we filled the fairgrounds with vendors and buyers but still well worth the effort.

The Club is looking at making changes for next season to see if we can turn things around and get the Hamfest attendance growing again. One suggestion is having interactive displays that would be fun for all not just hams. We have had things like this in the past and they were well received. An example of what had been done was to have a large key that people could use to send Morse code with their feet. If you have any ideas like this for next years Hamfest bring them up and we will see what we can do. There may be some ideas that have been used in the past or you have seen other places that we can use. Any other ideas for attractions are welcome also.

The winner of the grand prize at the Hamfest was Katherine Williams of Cherry Hill, KC2JSC. She plans to buy a new hand held VHF/UHF rig with the prize.

Thanks again to Harry Bryant, AA2WN, for chairing the 2003 Hamfest and to everybody else who helped to make it a success.

Open House at GCARC Clubhouse

The Club is planning to hold an open house on October 8 and November 12 at the GCARC clubhouse at the Gloucester County 4-H Fairgrounds starting at 8 PM each evening. Someone knowledgeable about the Club's equipment will be at the clubhouse each of these evenings to acquaint members and prospective members with what the clubhouse has to offer. This was done earlier this year with mixed results but because we have a number of new members, we thought it would be worth repeating a few times this fall.

This is your opportunity to learn about the clubhouse so bring a friend and come visit us one or both of these nights.

Pitman Crop Walk

We have another public service event coming up on October 19. This is the Pitman Crop Walk which starts from the Sunset Auditorium on Laurel Avenue in Pitman. Set up starts at 1:30 PM. We usually need about a half dozen Hams with 2 meter rigs along the route to provide support. If you are able to help, give John Fisher, K2JF, a phone call.

October General Meeting

At the October meeting the club will hold a silent auction of the radio equipment from the estate of Jim Peck, W2LVW, and from John Fahey's, WB2ONY, station. Jim Peck is a SK and his wife has donated some of his equipment to the club to be auctioned off to benefit the club. John Fahey is moving and will not have room for his equipment at his new location and has also donated equipment to the club for auction. At this point we don't have a complete list of what is involved but there are a number of rigs and accessories included. So come on out to the meeting and make a few bids on the auction items.

Upcoming Area Hamfest

The R F Hill Amateur Radio Club is holding their hamfest at the Sellersville Firehouse on October 19. For more information visit their website at www.rfhill.ampr.org

Happy Birthday

Congratulations to the following Club members:

Stephen Blasko, W2TDS	10/20
Harry Bryant, AA2WN	10/15
Emil Busko, WB2EOR	10/24
William Kardas, N2BK	10/30
Michael Lipnitz, N2FKS	10/11
Michael Scanzello	10/26
Preston Weil, WA2TSZ	10/10
John Zaruba, K2ZA	10/09



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: 10/27/2003

For Sale

Collins S Line
Collins 75A-4 Receiver
Crystal Controlled 2 Meter Rig
Station Accessories including dummy load, Vibroplex bug and other equipment

Contact Ray Martin
wb2lnr@arrl.net

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-John Fisher K2JF

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-Ray WB2LNR
DX-Doug WA2NPD
Field Day-Ray WB2LNR
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-John AA2BN
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)

October Meeting Program

Silent Auction

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

