

CROSSTALK -- Official Publication of the
 GLOUCESTER COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, W2MMD
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 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-- OCTOBER 1986

EDITOR'S NOTE: The staff of CROSSTALK hopes that you will join us in wishing Joe, WA2GFK, a speedy recovery from his injuries which he recently suffered due to a serious automobile accident. So that he may rest and recuperate, we have not requested this month's President's Message from him. We hope to have this feature in the next issue if Joe is able.

OCTOBER PROGRAM

This month, our guest speaker will be Joe Fisher, KC2TN, who will be telling us everything we need to know about Packet Radio. As you may know, Packet is the new state of the art mode of communications for Amateur Radio. We are sure that this program will be informative and interesting, so be sure to come out to the meeting this month and take it all in. Your friends both old and new will be there, too. Jim, N2AKI, will have a pot of coffee ready by the close of the business meeting, and Bud will be up front drawing cold draft beer. We hope you can make it to the meeting. See you there.

CLUB BANQUET

This is a reminder that the annual banquet will be held on November 8 at Ron Jaworski's Eagles Nest country club in Sewell, NJ. For tickets or additional information, contact Roslyn Marder, N2AKL.

HAMFEST 1986-- FINAL REPORT

This report closes the pages of yet another Hamfest. I truly enjoyed working on the Hamfest this year, and I feel that it was a big success. Many thanks to the wonderful committee who worked so hard, especially Milt, K3WIL, and John, K2JF, just to mention a couple of those who have been on the committee since the year 1978.

One of the important functions is getting people to the site with Talk-In. Walt Ashton, Jerry Barnish, Mike Lizzio, and Art Strong certainly deserve an A-Plus for their efforts on the Talk-In frequencies. Once on the site, Chuck Colabrese and his committee did an excellent job of selling tickets and directing traffic to the tailgating area. Tony Starr handled the tailgaters smoothly like the pro he is, while Tom Gordon kept order in the parking area by directing the cars into neat aisles.

At the main pavillion, with information of the day's events, were Sonny Gutin and Steve Sosson on the PA System. Also there were Len and Miriam Kravitz, who handled the Club Table quite efficiently.

Hungry anyone? Well fear not! Chick Naylor took care of the food,

with delicious hamburgers, hot dogs, and even corn-on-the-cob. This was served by lovely YLs like Ros Marder, Irma Colabrese, Claudia Schuler, Gladys Fisher, Ruth Sketchley, and Beth Barnish. Herb Schuler handled the selling of the food tickets.

We cannot forget the fellows at our VEC testing site. Bill Helmetag from the Bellmawr group, with help from many of our own members, worked hard all day giving exams. Complete results of the testing can be found in this issue of Crosstalk.

Here are the winners of the Main Prizes:

\$250 COMPUTER GIFT CERTIFICATE-- Geo. Fisher, KA2TAD, Pennsville.

BIRD WATTMETER-- Geo. McCormick, N2BCX, of Gloucester.

PACKET RADIO CONTROLLER-- Jos. Smith, W2EHS, of Belford NJ.

1200 BAUD HAYES MODEM-- Robt. Haworth, W2PUA, Somerdale NJ.

I wish to thank each and every one of you who helped out for your support this year. I know I didn't mention everyone's name here, but all of the help was appreciated. Finally, I would like to wish next year's Hamfest Chairperson and committee the best of luck!

73-- Virginia Martin, N2FJM.

RESULTS OF W5YI AMATEUR RADIO EXAMINATION

Twenty-five applicants took the exam in the morning. Fifteen applicants took the exam in the afternoon, (one of which, took the Novice exam only).

The results are as follows:

A total of 34 regular examinations, 15 of the applicants upgraded, and 4 did not upgrade, but received code credit for either 13 or 20 wpm.

Upgraded:

Novice to Technician	4
Novice to General	4
Technician to General	4
General to Advanced	1
Advanced to Extra	2

Total 15

Seventeen applicants failed to upgrade (although 4 of those did get code credit).

The youngest to upgrade was Ben Milstein, 11 years and 3 months, went from Novice to General.

The next youngest was Martin Gruen, 14 years and 4 months, went from General to Advanced.

The oldest to upgrade was Henry Enckler, was 74 years and 3 months, went from Novice to Technician.

There were three women who took the examination all of whom passed. They are as follows:

Beverly Leary	Novice to Technician
Merle Williams	Technician to General
Loretta Hausman	No license to Novice

Tnx N2FJM

CONTEST CORNER

This month we start the contest season with the CQ WW DX Phone Contest, a club competition. As I noted last month in regard to the CQ WW DX Contests, October 25 and 26, 1986, and November 29 and 30 are club competitions.

ALL MEMBERS SUBMITTING LOGS, PLEASE GIVE A COPY OF AT LEAST THE SUMMARY SHEET TO YOUR CONTEST CHAIRMAN. AT LEAST 3 ENTRIES MUST BE MADE AND THE MEMBERS NAMES AND SCORES MUST BE SUBMITTED BY A CLUB OFFICER IN ORDER TO BE COUNTED.

This is the first of several contests counted for Megapoint Awards. I have received forms which will be available at the meeting.

Also coming in November is the ARRL SWEEPSTAKES both phone and CW. Again we will need entries in order that the GCARC entry will count. Remember these contests also count toward the Megapoint Awards. Let's have some activity from the members so we can make a good showing. At this time I haven't received the log sheets I requested from ARRL a while ago, but I will have them at the meeting. Sheets for ANY contest are available from me for the asking--give me a call and we'll work out the details!

Here goes the list for the rest of the year:

MONTH	DATES	CONTEST
OCTOBER	4-5	VK/ZL Oceania Contest, SSB
	11-12	VK/ZL Oceania Contest, CW
	12	RSGB 21/28 MHz SSB Contest
	15-16	YRYL Anniversary CW Party
	18	RSGB 21 MHz CW Contest
	18-19	Boy Scouts Jamboree
	18-20	CART16 RTTY Contest
	25-26	CQ WW DX CONTEST, PHONE
	29-31	YRYL Anniversary SSB Party
NOVEMBER	1-2	ARRL SWEEPSTAKES, CW
	8	YL/OM Contest
	8-9	European RTTY Contest
	15-16	ARRL SWEEPSTAKES, PHONE
	29-30	CQ WW DX CONTEST, CW
DECEMBER	5-6-7	ARRL 160 METER CONTEST
	13-14	ARRL 10 METER CONTEST

I hope to have 1987 contest listings for you next month. Please note: I will be taking a course, which is given on Wednesday nights, so I will be late to the meetings. I will make sure that forms are at the next two meetings. I expect to be back full time after that.

From now on you should be able to catch me at home during the daytime if you need to get forms, etc.

(TNX ARRL, CQ, QST, 73, WORLD RADIO)

de George, KB2GW

GCARC ASSISTS SCOUTS AT SUMMER CAMP

The initial effort to provide a ham shack and to teach radio theory at Boy Scout Camp Roosevelt (Southern New Jersey's Camp) during the entire summer camping season was, by all standards, judged to be highly successful. The official scout family critique included much praise for GCARC for providing an outlet (Radio), which had long been desired as a new "wrinkle" from which to choose during the camping season. About 12 scouts successfully completed the Radio Merit Badge while many others became exposed to Radio via visits to the "Shack" set-up in Shobe Lodge. In fact, GCARC services have been solicited for the annual JOTA weekend this October as well as next year at camp.

A really great "teaching" job was turned in by Walt, WB2OYQ; Ray, WR2LNR; Mike, N2FKS; Joe, WA2GFK; Jerry, WB2CAK; and Doug, WA2HPD. Set-up assistance also was provided by Jim, KA2QSV, and Art, KA2DOL. The "teachers", on a weekly basis, spent a full evening in camp instructing and "manning" the shack. Particular plaudits must go to

Walt, WB2OYQ, who spent an entire week at camp, thereby providing additional daytime instruction. Special thanks to Dennis, WB2GES and Walt for providing the gear. And great thanks to Joe, WA2GFK, for providing antennas and for providing and fabricating the instructional audio oscillator kits. And to the professional scouting staff for their fine hospitality and excellent cooperation.

Although we suffered some growing pains in getting the operation "smoothed-out", the instructors believe that much was learned, and accomplished and that solid groundwork was laid for conducting this project on an annual basis for the future.

Again, many congratulations to all for a job well done.

de WA2NPD

SWAP & SHOP

HEATHKIT: HW-101 xcvr, PS 23, Desk microphone, SB 604 Spkr. Excellent condition. Can be seen at my QTH or worked on the air. \$200.00 firm. Contact Ed Stetser, K2JJC.

"HANDY" TIP FOR ICOM USERS

If you own one of the IC2A, 3A, 4A, or O2AT series Hand-helds, you may be interested in reading on.

I know my hearing is pretty good, but have you ever tried to listen to the audio coming out of your speaker mike on the above ICOM's? For the most part it's pretty low. I may be the last guy to figure out a cure for this, but here it is anyway.

On the O2AT etc., there is a groove on the back near the top of the rig that is just the right size to accept the HM9 speaker mike turned 90 degrees so that the mike plug fits in that groove in the rear of the rig. Thus allowing all the audio to be heard from the internal speaker of the rig, usually much better than the speaker mike.

Now, in the case of the 2A series etc., the fix is more complex. These rigs don't have that handy groove built in, so I decided a groove had to be made to accept this configuration. I thought long and hard, about a minute, before getting the "Dremel" out and making my own slot or groove. It works well on both hand-helds I have. In fact, you can hook up an external speaker for even more loudness in the auto.

So, give it a try or see me for a demo....

73 Howard, WA2IBZ

The World of DX

by WA2VEE



AN IRREVERENT LOOK INTO DXERS

Let's examine the DXer for a moment. It is already well known that DXers are the brightest and most agile aficionados of the radio sport. Given this fact, why do they torture themselves so much? Is it that struggle give rise to strength and pride? The answer to this is YES; yet that is not the only component of a DXer's drive. There is another facet, even more important and also mysterious. You see, the DXer has a disease. A DXer is bitten by a mysterious, invisible organism that results in a disease process known as "DXitis." Far more serious than such minor maladies as appendicitis or meningitis, DXitis is terminal. I can personally attest to the fact that there is no known cure for DXitis. Even super doses of the newer antibiotics, which can knock out many other dreaded diseases, won't even touch DXitis. A brief summary of signs and symptoms will aid those who, for any reason, need to make the diagnosis.

If a DX club repeater frequency being monitored anywhere in the home is activated, the DXer responds with a snap of his head and a remarkable extension of the ear closest to the VHF rig. REASON: A country and frequency may be put out by a club member who is tuning, or some gossip about how so and so got his 707 QSL may be aired. A DXer cannot afford to miss this type of information. To see a person's head move so fast and to see a human ear stretch is really a marvelous sight.

If a DXer comes across a pileup where the DX station is not identifying himself, and, in addition, the stations working him are also not identifying the DX station, there is a problem. Upon not knowing who the DX station is, the DXer always develops deep, anxious, tense frown and begins perspiring profusely. He also becomes grouchy.

If a DXer stumbles onto a spread-out pileup indicating that the DX station is operating split frequency, and the DXer can't find the DX frequency, his hands and body start to vibrate and shake violently, resulting in erratic tuning of the HF knob. The result is that finding the DX station is even more difficult.

If a rare DX station is sending CW faster than a DXer can copy, the DXer develops what is called the "Acute Death Fright Syndrome." This syndrome is very serious and can only be relieved in one of two ways: The DXer suddenly realizes that the DX station is sending slow enough so that at least he can recognize his own call if he gets through or someone announces the DX call on VHF, and the DXer realizes it is a station he doesn't need.

Family and friends of a DXer may see other, more subtle signs when the DXer is not by his rig. On a trip or vacation the DXer's spouse may notice, at meals for example, a silent far away stare and a glaze on the DXer's eyes. This is because the DXer knows an expedition is on and even though he's on vacation he is absolutely miserable. Friends who meet with a DXer regularly—say, for a weekly golf

game-often find the DXer late (if he shows up at all) with peculiar excuses such as, "I had something extra to do at the office." (Whoever heard a golfer missing a game for work?)

The friends of a DXer may take these excuses for years, never realizing there is a deeper, stronger call: the fatal pull of DX.

This is the law of DXing
That only the strong shall thrive;
That surely the weak shall perish,
And only the Deserving survive.

73's
Good DXing

(tnx to K5RSG)

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An 11-meter transceiver has been shot to death in La Habra, California, by an armed intruder. According to the Orange County Register, Dennis Carrico was talking on his CB set after midnight when he sensed he was not alone. Carrico turned and saw a stranger with a gun standing over him. The gunman ordered him to turn off the CB and move away from it. Carrico obeyed, after which the stranger shot it three times and quietly left. Carrico was not harmed, but his \$500 transceiver was destroyed. (ARRL Letter, Westlink Report)

TNX WORLD RADIO

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