



Presidents Message

Thanks to the fine job the surgeons did on my hip, I am happy to say that I am well on my way to recovery and getting back to the regular routine. Although progress has been pretty much steady it still seems slow.

The Hamfest was pretty much the same as last year but possibly we may have realized slightly more in profit. The true and final figures will take a while to develop as outstanding bills etc. will affect the final result.

Unfortunately I could not attend the Hamfest due to above reasons but I was able to do the talk in from home. The people that did work the Hamfest did a great job, it appears that all who attended enjoyed it and hopefully will talk it up so next years will be even better. I want to thank Chris, WK2W, for taking on the job of chairman and to all that helped him. I know many who helped but I am afraid of leaving someone out. Great job!

The next challenge comes September 15th and it is the Lupus Walk at Washington Lake Park. Several of our members have participated in the past. They all enjoyed the walk and doing something for a worthy charity. If you haven't signed up yet please consider doing this public service. For info please contact Wayne Wilson, WA2LET, or me

We are still working in the website and hope to have it up and running soon.

Well I am going to sign off now and hope to see you all at the next meeting.

Best 73,
Ray, WB2NBJ

2002 DUES
GCARC dues for
the year 2002 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 end of another era (a victim of the computer) has been announced. The Radio Amateur Callbook will cease publication of its CD-ROM version effective with the 2003 Winter Edition. They already stopped the paper version of the directory in 1997. The company has been publishing the Callbook since 1920, however, rising costs and declining sales have done them in. Another reason, I suppose, for the budding DXer to invest in a computer.

Poor summer DX conditions still are with us. Ironically, the SFI has been very good with numbers ranging from 150 to over 200. Unfortunately, the K and A values, which reflect the degree of magnetic field stability, have been generally high which tends to neutralize the benefits of high solar flux activity. Well, as in past years, fall will arrive soon and conditions should improve accordingly.

DXers were saddened to learn that a "second" look by the League at the 701YGF April, 2000 DXpedition paperwork again failed to change the original assessment of insufficient documentation.

Congratulations to Merrill, WK2G, for his recent acceptance in to the FOC (the First Class CW operators Club), a very exclusive group based in the UK. Club acceptance is by invitation only and requires being tested by some 3 club members before recommendation. This is a very fine honor and Merrill deserves much credit. The September, 2002 issue of QST also notes that Merrill placed first in the SNJ section for the 2002 ten meter contest. Ken, N2CQ, turned in a respectable QRP score which also took first place. Both operators worked CW exclusively.

So let's see what is out there for this month.

<u>Station</u>	<u>Dates</u>	<u>Freq./Mode</u>	<u>Rarity*</u>	<u>Country</u>
N6XIV/KH9	Now to 9/15	20/SSB; 0700-0900Z	4	Wake Island
5B/G3PMR	9/12-9/18	80-10; SSB, CW	3	Cyprus
XU7ACJ/CAN	9/12-9/26	160-6; All	3	Cambodia
C98DC	9/22-10/5	17/6; CW, RTTY, Digital	3	Mozambique
LX/PA6Z	9/21-9/28	160-6; CW,SSB, RTTY	2	Luxemburg
V63KZ	9/9-9/15	80-10; SSB, CW	3	Micronesia
YJ0HE	8/21-9/2	160-10; SSB;CW	3	Vanuatu
C6ALW	8/14-9/18	40-6; SSB;CW	2	Bahamas
JT1FDJ	Now-9/29	80-10; SSB, CW	3	Mongolia
9H/DJ4KW	9/26-10/8	NA; CW, Digital	2	Malta
KH0R	9/6-9/10	80-6; SSB, CW	3	Marianas

* No. 5 is rarest

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

Information Needed

The Club needs information from you. We are currently updating the club membership list and need your e-mail address if you have one. Please take a few minutes and e-mail our treasurer, Bob Krchnavek, your e-mail address. Bob's e-mail address is krchnavek@rowan.edu.

Please send Bob your address even if you think he may have it as it may have been lost or may have changed and this will save Bob time.

Editor's Note: This request has been in the last few issues but we still don't have all the member's e-mail addresses. This is the last time I will run it so please get your e-mail address to Bob.

Ham-led Team Attempting Transatlantic Model Airplane Flight

A team of model airplane enthusiasts led by Maynard Hill, W3FQF, is attempting a record-breaking crossing of the Atlantic by a model aircraft. A model plane dubbed "The Spirit of Butts Farm" was launched August 20 and was on its way to Ireland. Monitoring the flight, TAM-3, the third in a series, from Newfoundland, Canada, Hill's team reports the plane was last heard from August 21 at 0428 UTC. "We are still uncertain what happened," said a terse announcement on the team's Web site.

The Transatlantic Model Aircraft--or TAM--project is Hill's brainchild as the president of the Society for Technical Aeromodel Research. Hill and his design team have spent four years on the ambitious project. The TAM aircraft are hand-launched and guided to an altitude of 1500 feet by radio remote control. Upon reaching that altitude, a sophisticated GPS-based autopilot system takes over. The aircraft sends periodic position reports to the flight team, and these are posted on the TAM Web site.

The first two TAMs failed soon after launch. The last position report for TAM-3 indicated that it had completed better than one-fourth of its journey before contact with the airplane was lost. TAM-4 will be the final attempt--at least for now.

A successful flight would mark the first transatlantic crossing by a true model airplane, an aircraft weighing 11 pounds or less with an engine with no more than 10 cc displacement, as specified by the Federation Aeronautique Internationale. It would also set a new world record for straight-line distance by a radio-controlled, piston-powered model airplane.

Thanks to the American Radio Relay League and the [ARRL Letter](#).

Hamfest

Chris, WK2W, wrote up a wrap-up report prior to going on vacation but his work got lost somewhere in hyperspace between his computer and mine. We may be able prevail on Chris to give us a final report on the Hamfest next month. But in the meantime I will pass on Chris's thanks to all of you who helped in any way toward making the Hamfest successful.

If you have any ideas how to improve the Hamfest next year pass your ideas on to a Club officer.

NJ2BB Scuttlebutt

A special thank you to Jersey Shore Amateur Radio Society (JSARS) and Gloucester County Amateur Radio Club (GCARC) for providing us with tables at their great Hamfests. Many hams stopped by to look at our photo display. We had a great time chatting and showing off "Big J" and the Amateur radio station.

NJ2BB participated in the New Jersey QSO Party contest. The operators had less than good band conditions but they made 90 contacts in the QSO Party. This was also the Light House weekend. The ham shack now has RTTY and PSK31 operating. That should add more fun operating NJ2BB.

Here we are with the end of summer rolling around fast. Now that we are approaching the fall and better band conditions this is the time to join us for some operating time. If your ham club has not contacted Dave Burgess for a visit to the Battleship New Jersey to operate NJ2BB now is the time to make your fall plans. Dave can be reached by e-mail at wa2tvs@arrl.net. We have had several groups come and have had a great time operating from the ship. Looking forward for more clubs to come.

We also have an updated presentation available to groups. The new presentation shows many photos of the ship and brings you up to date in the Ham Shack. If your group is interested in our presentation contact Joe Cramer via e-mail at n2xyz@juno.com. I would be glad to set up a date. I now have several non-amateur groups to present amateur radio, BNJARS and the battleship to. They should be interesting groups with some great questions.

Till next time Joe Cramer, N2XYZ

FCC Spells Out Utility's Obligations in Interference Cases

Electric utilities must correct equipment problems that cause harmful interference to stations operating in the Amateur Service. Following up on a recent pledge to get tougher on electric utilities that fail to promptly fix faulty gear that generates interference, FCC Special Counsel Riley Hollingsworth made that point doubly clear August 9 in a letter to Reliant Energy Company of Houston. The case involves unresolved interference complaints from Edward J. Gerber, W5GCX, of Houston.

"Reliant must do all things necessary, and bear any and all necessary costs, to comply with its obligations as an operator of unlicensed devices pursuant to the Commission's Part 15 regulations," Hollingsworth reminded the utility's attorneys. He asked Reliant to provide a written report in 30 days detailing steps taken to eliminate the interference to W5GCX.

In its reply to a May 23 letter from the FCC, Reliant had suggested that the interference Gerber was experiencing had come from an otherwise properly operating 250 kVA step-down transformer. The utility had proposed to relocate the transformer at Gerber's expense.

Hollingsworth pointed out that the utility may not pass on the cost of fixing the problem to the victim of the interference.

Thanks to the American Radio Relay League and the [ARRL Letter](#).

Happy Birthday

Congratulations to the following Club members:

William Blakeley, WA2ADB 9/3
Sonny Gutin, WB2DXB 9/7
Joseph Mitchell, KB2FRN 9/5
Harry Spiece, NJ2B 9/26
Edward Wargo, WA2ED 9/4



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: 9/23/2002

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

President-Ray Schnapp WB2NBJ
Vice President-Wayne Wilson WA2LET
Treasurer-Bob Krchnavek K2DAD

Chuck Colabrese WA2TML
Lou Joseph W2LYL
Al Arrison KB2AYU

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-Chris WK2W

GCARC Officers

Recording Secretary-Harry Bryant AA2WN
Corresponding Secretary-Chris West WA2MVU

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Bob Krukowski KR2U
Bill Blakeley WA2ADB

Committees

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Membership- John AA2BN
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
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)

September Meeting Program

Socializing

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

www.gcarc-w2mmd.org

