



Presidents Message

It looks like the worst of the hot summer weather is behind us. We should have some great weather for the Hamfest! I hope to see all of you there. There's a good chance that we may see increased activity with the nicer weather in September.

In recent months Gene, WB2UVB, has been doing a great job lining up programs for the club. September's program will be no exception, when Derrick Pitts from the Franklin Institute will be the club's guest. I hope all of you can make it out to see this interesting program. If you have any ideas for future programs, or know someone who could present an interesting program, contact Gene, WB2UVB.

Hamfest

This is the last issue of Crosstalk before the Hamfest which is scheduled for Sunday, September 17th, rain or shine. We need to make this Hamfest a success if we wish to continue all the Club activities that we have enjoyed in the past as it is our only fund raising event for the year. Please see the August issue of Crosstalk for all the jobs that we need help with. If you don't still have that issue you can contact Harry, our Hamfest Chairman, at aa2wn@arrl.net with any questions or to volunteer to help out. We hope to see you there.

September General Membership Meeting

At the September General Membership Meeting the guest speaker will be Derrick Pitts, Chief Astronomer at the Franklin Institute in Philadelphia. Mr. Pitts is currently doing a program every Friday evening throughout the month of September at the Franklin Institute on exploring the night sky. If the weather allows, Mr. Pitts will bring a telescope so we can do a bit of star gazing.

New Ham Classes

John Zaruba, AA2BN, will be holding classes starting September 12th and running for 10 weeks for individuals who wish to get a Technician License. The classes will be held at the Franklin Township Community Center and will start at 7PM. Pre-registration is required. You can contact John at 609-374-0721 or at aa2bn@mac.com. If you know of someone interested in becoming a ham, this would be a good place for them to get started.

DX Dope

By Doug Gehring, WA2NPD

Well, the old saying that you learn something new every day certainly applies to the information below. Did you know that the sunspots are bipolar? Yes, they resemble bar magnets with north and south poles. A good explanation of this was recently given in an article published by NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center in Huntsville, AL. On July 31, by studying a SOHO Magnetogram (whatever that is) of the sun, scientists discovered a tiny sunspot in the lower latitude of the sun whose dipole orientation was horizontally south/north, rather than the north/south orientation of all southern latitude sunspots for the past 10 years (essentially throughout cycle 23, which is normal). It turns out that, during an eleven year cycle, the sunspots in the northern hemisphere of the sun are all of the same orientation whereas those in the southern hemisphere are all of the opposite orientation. When a new eleven year cycle begins, all of the new sunspots are of the opposite orientation in the respective hemispheres, i.e. the polarities all "flip" orientation! This phenomenon is referred to as "Hales Law". The July 31st sunspot of opposite orientation was discovered in the southern hemisphere of the sun and only lasted 3 hours. It was initially reported that this was the official beginning of the new cycle (cycle 24), however, because this sunspot was so tiny, so short lived, and in the southern hemisphere, it was most likely an anomaly; they are awaiting the appearance of a much longer lived sunspot of opposite polarity to appear in the northern hemisphere before making the official announcement. Regardless, another piece of possibly good news for DXers is that University of Colorado scientists are predicting Cycle 24 will be the most intense cycle within the past 50 years, and the new cycle is expected to begin any day now. If you didn't know about the bipolar nature of sunspots, don't feel badly, I have been a ham for 46 years, and have never heard this explanation until now. And a very special thanks to AA2WN for bringing the above article to our attention.

So, is there any hope for getting the below stations into your log this month? You have to listen first! Incidentally, thanks to Ken, N2CQ, we now learn that ARRL LoTW yearly certificates have been extended to 3 years!! This is very good news.

STATION	DATES	FREQ/MODE	RARITY*	COUNTRY
XV3DHY	8/31 – 9/7	80 - 6; CW, SSB, RTTY	4	Vietnam
TX5T	8/31 - 9/11	160 – 6; ALL	4	Mayotte
J7R	9/21 – 9/27	ALL; RTTY	2	Dominica
EX15ID	8/25 – 9/5	NA; NA	3	Kyrgystan
OH0Z; OH0I	9/23 – 9/24	80 – 40; RTTY	3	Aland Is.
E51KH	9/8 – 9/22	20; SSB	3	So. Cook
7P8WO et.al.	9/3 – 9/12 (1)	80 – 10; ALL	3	Lesotho
OJ0 ?	9/8 – 9/14	40 et. al.; NA	3	Market Reef
EA8/DH5JG	8/30 – 9/12	40 – 10; ALL	2	Canary Is.
7Z1SJ	Now	20; CW	3	Saudi Arabia
R1ANF/p	Now	30 – 20 ; CW, SSB	3	So. Shetland

* Nr. 5 is rarest. (1) 3 Man DXpedition
TNX to the Daily DX, 425 DX Report, AA2WN, W2YC, K2JF, WA2LET

W2MMD Field Day Results

The following table shows the preliminary results for Field Day 2006 and the actual results from previous field days since 1999 for the GCARC station, W2MMD.

<u>Year</u>	<u>QSO's</u>	<u>Number of Participants</u>	<u>Score</u>	<u>Class</u>
1999	2816	16	10,860	9A
2000	2722	26	10,350	9A
2001	2218	19	8,140	9A
2002	2401	?	9,294	9A
2003	1773	?	7,388	9A
2004	2132	18	8,660	9A
2005	990	25	4,174	7A
2006*			~8,300	11A

*2006 – Raw score. The results have not yet been posted on ARRL.org

Silent SuitSat-1 Keeps Going and Going

When SuitSat-1, the novel satellite built from a ham radio and a surplus Russian spacesuit was launched during a spacewalk from the International Space Station last February 3, those familiar with orbital mechanics predicted it would stay in orbit for 120 days at best. But as of August 25, some 203 days later the largely forgotten piece of space junk and its silent ham radio voice has defied the odds and remains in orbit some 155 miles above Earth.

The SuitSat-1 mission proved to be an Amateur Radio public relations bonanza. In addition to prompting dozens of news items on Web sites and in journals around the world, Reader's Digest judged SuitSat-1 "Best Empty Suit" in its "America's 100 Best: The 2006 List". Popular Science ran an article about SuitSat-1 in its June issue called "Tossed in Space."

To keep the SuitSat-1 momentum going a bit longer ARISS and AMSAT in May announced a "Chicken Little Contest", <<http://www.amsat.org/amsat-new/ariss/suitsatContest.php>>, in which participants pick the date on which they believe SuitSat-1 will drop out of orbit and burn up in Earth's atmosphere. Entrants are only allowed one guess, and the winner will be the individual who picks the date closest to SuitSat-1's actual demise. Those who have not already entered may do so by filling out the online entry form on the AMSAT Web site.

Certificates will go to winners in each of three age groups. Winners not only earn bragging rights, but the fame and notoriety associated with successful satellite re-entry prognostication.

ARISS and AMSAT have been discussing the possibility of Suitsat-2 with a solar panel to extend its usable life. No formal announcements about SuitSat-2 are expected until around mid-October.

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



SEPTEMBER **CONDUCTED BY N2SS** **2006**

WARC BANDS

<u>30 Meters</u>	<u>17 Meters</u>	<u>12 Meters</u>
W2YC. 303	N2SS ...321	WØMHK309
N2SS.....291	WØMHK.. 315	N2SS..... 302
WØMHK ..272	W2YC 306	W2YC..... 275
WA2NPD ..197	WA2NPD . 190	K2JF 135
AA2WN....171	K2JF..... 168	N2CQ..... 99
AB2E132	AA2WN ... 116	AB2E 92
K2JF.....112	N2CQ 115	WA2NPD... 85
N2CQ.....111	AB2E..... 108	AA2WN..... 20

When the same call heads all 3 WARC bands we will have that elusive, undisputed **KING OF WARC**

160 Meters

W2YC..... 186	N2SS 79
WØMHK 133	AA2WN 36
AB2E 94	K2JF 34
WA2NPD..... 88	N2CQ 9

W2YC continues as our undisputed Top of Top Band.

Have some totals to add or updates? You can reach me as follows:

email: n2ss@n2ss.com

Digital

W2YC260	K2JF..... 113
AA2WN.....187	N2SS 53
N2CQ.....151	

MOBILE DX

W2YC276	WØMHK 141
N2SS.....234	AA2WN 131
K2JF150	

Looks like Dave and I have spent entirely too much time behind the wheel!

1.5K Club

W2YC1567	AA2WN..... 1369
N2SS.....1524	K2JF..... 1350
WØMHK 1441	N2CQ..... 1135
WA2NPD ... 1429	AB2E 1164

Islands On The Air

N2SS.....832	AB2E 205
W2YC.....639	N2CQ..... 159
WØMHK.....302	

6 METER DXCC

WØMHK..... 102	W2YC.....29
K2JF94	AA2WN.....15
N2SS55	

Congrats to Bill for hitting the Century mark on 6 Meters!!

GRID SQUARES

WØMHK.....505	K2JF285
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Rules for GCARC Honor Roll Listings
Provide me with your total IOTAs worked, or countries (including deleted) worked for: WARC Bands, 160 Meters, Digital modes, Mobile, 6 Meters or your total for 80,40,20, 15 and 10 for 1.5K Club. Final category is Grid Squares – just send me your total worked. Lastly, you do not have to participate in every category to be listed; just send me your totals for any of the categories listed.

CURRENT OFFICIAL ARRL DXCC STATISTICS

Active Count.....	337
Deleted Count.....	58
Last Addition.....	KH8/S
Last Deletion.....	STØ

September Birthdays

Congratulations to these members celebrating birthdays in September:

Gene Schoeberlein, AA2YO
Dave Strout, W2YC



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: 9/25/2006

President-Darrell Neron AB2E
Vice President-Ray Schnapp, WB2NBJ
Treasurer-Steven Blasko, W2TDS

Doug Gehring, WA2NPD
Bill Blakeley WA2ADB
Chuck Colabrese WA2TML

Advertising-Open
ARES/RACES-Open
Awards-Jack K2ZA
Banquet-Open
Budget-Steve W2TDS
Clubhouse Site-Al KB2AYU
Constitution-Open
Crosstalk-Gene AA2YO
Database-Ray W2RM
DX-Doug WA2NPD
Field Day-Mike, N2SRO
Hamfest-Harry AA2WN
Club License Trustee-Darrell AB2E

GCARC Officers

Recording Secretary-Harry Bryant AA2WN
Corresponding Secretary-Al Arrison KB2AYU

Board of Directors

Gene Schoeberlein AA2YO
Wayne Wilson, WA2LET
James Mollica Jr. N2NRD

Committees

Hospitality-Ken N2CQ
Membership-Ray W2RM
Nominations-Darrell AB2E
Publicity-Open
Repeaters-Mike N2SRO
Scholarships-Greg WN2T
Special Services-Gene N2IMK
Sunshine-Open
Technical-Open
TVI-Open
VEC Testing-Wayne WA2LET
Programs-Gene WB2UVB

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)

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)

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

September Meeting Program

Derrick Pitts Chief Astronomer
at the Franklin Institute

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

