

CROSSTALK

Volume 54 Issue #9

September 2013



President's Message

September is upon us and with it comes Labor Day weekend, the end of summer and our annual hamfest which will be held on Sunday, September 15th. At the September 4th general membership meeting, I'll be requesting volunteers to help work this event and make it as successful as last year's.

Work is proceeding at the clubhouse site and once the ground has been leveled the new trailer will be moved into its final resting place. A couple of rooms have been gutted along with removal of defective flooring. As I said at the last general membership meeting I'm concerned that only 10% of our general membership has been actively involved in this project which leads me to believe that a majority do not support this effort and therefore have elected not to help out. I would venture to guess that completion of the new clubhouse will extend well into next year at the current pace if it gets completed at all. I leave it up to the general membership to decide whether or not they want this project to come to a successful conclusion within a reasonable time frame. And if it's decided that a majority does want this then it's time for the members to stand up and volunteer to help. If however, it's decided not to continue then I suggest the project be cancelled and have the club stop incurring any additional costs. I've already listed the perceived benefits of having a completed clubhouse in my August President's message but quite possibly I may be in the minority with this thought pattern. Think about it in that it's your club and every member has a say as to how they either want to proceed with this project or not.

As most of you know the 147.18 repeater is back in operation at the Pitman water tower site. A complete equipment change out less the antenna system was recently conducted by Al, KB2AYU. The new repeater that's currently in service was donated to the club last year by Harry, W2FLY. Prior to this, the repeater was fully operational at the 145.21 site in Waterford Works. With the help of Gary, N2QEE new 147.18/78 crystals were ordered, tested and Harry installed them in the repeater and conducted full system tests before we picked it up where it was stored for over a year. That said, I have every confidence in the operational performance of this machine. However, if persistent coverage problems are reported by system users then plans need to be put in action to relocate the machine to a more suitable location after the antenna system is fully tested and found to be operational.

As we approach the 4th quarter of this year, we'll be looking to the general membership to submit nominations for 2014 officers and board members whose term will expire 12-31-13.

Our next general membership meeting will feature HF digital software demonstrations including Ham Radio Deluxe. I'm looking forward to seeing everyone there.

Thanks and 73, Tom, KE2ES

Down Jersey DXing

By Bill Grim, W0MHK

With few exceptions, the DX days of August have not been very kind to DXers Down Jersey! Six Meters pretty much closed up tighter than a drum for SNJ. Most of the HF bands were harried by the same combo of low solar flux and multiple Coronal Mass Ejections from the sun badly distorted the ionospheric layers from which we need to bounce our signals to hear and work the DX goodies we crave.

Some over-the-pole Indonesian (YB, YC, etc.) stations bucked the trend a bit with propagation here on 12 and 15 Meters a few times these past weeks. This should give us a bit of hope and insight into HF conditions we should seasonally be hearing with the coming of autumn. Don't forget to have an antenna up for 12 Meters as conditions improve. As they say, the more height and aluminum, the better. It should be one of the best bands for exceptional and relatively easy DX in the next weeks leading to winter.

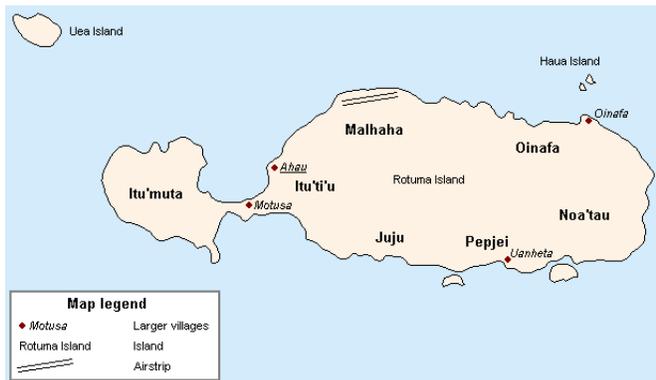
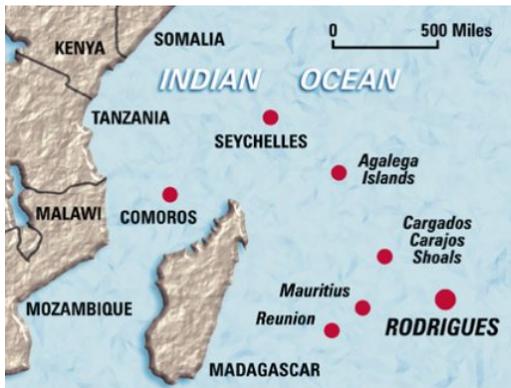
We will just have to wait and see about predictions for a "double peak" during our present solar cycle. You can't plan on it, but it may also enhance our DX chances in the coming months. It would sure do much to encourage those of you who are operating during your first or second complete solar cycle.

Watching DX Cluster and listening on the bands have been our mainstay during these poor DX producing summer months. But two DXpeditions that should be effective this month are 3D2GC/p, Rotuma Island (not far from Fiji) and 3B9EME(callsign not finalized) on Rodriguez Island in the Indian Ocean. Both of these seem to be very well organized significant efforts that would like to work you!

Despite Rodriguez Island's distance from Down Jersey (about 9,600 miles) the propagation path to this area of the world can be quite good. Digital enthusiasts should definitely put in some effort on hearing/working this one. BTW, Miss Rodriguez Island was on one of the last DXpedition QSL's confirming this distant DXCC entity!

Let's stop prognosticating as to why we AREN'T working much DX and make a real effort to work some needed countries this upcoming month. To encourage that idea, our best "picks" for the month have been divided into two lists: DX Heavy and DX Light.

Check off below what you have already worked/confirmed from the two lists. "Clean up" what you can from the DX Light List. These should be a bit easier to snag. The DX Heavy List will be more difficult but possible and see what progress you can make during the month on that grouping. Consider anything you get on the DX Heavy List as DX "gravy". I hope you'll drop me an email toward the end of the month (W0MHK7388@aol.com) and share your experiences with the lists:



(Continued on page 3)

(Continued from page 2)

DX “Heavy”

CALL	DATES	HIGHLIGHTS	DIFFICULTY (5=MOST RARE)	ENTITY
3B9EME	9/1 - 9/9	160-6M/SB,CW,DIG	4	Rodriguez Island
V63	9/4 - 9/16	40-6M/SB,RTTY	3	Micronesia
XW	9/5 - 9/10	HF/SB,CW (FB OPS!)	4	Laos
P29VNX	9/7 - 9/14	30-10M/CW,SB	3	Papua
V55V	9/7 - 9/15	HF/CW,SB	2	Namibia
T8GM	9/15 - 9/19	80-10M/CW,SB	3	Palau
A43GI	9/20 - 9/24	HF/CW,SB,DIG	2	Oman
3D2GC	9/20 - 9/26	160-10M/CW,SB	2	Fiji
VK9LL	9/22 - 9/29	160 & 80M/CW,SB	2	Lord Howe Island
3D2GC/P	9/27 - 10/11	HF/CW,SB	3	Rotuma Island

DX “Light”

CALL	DATES	HIGHLIGHTS	DIFFICULTY (5=MOST RARE)	ENTITY
9H3BF	9/2 - 9/6	20 Meters	1	Malta
TK9ZM	9/2 - 9/8	HF/CW,SB	1	Corsica
YS1/AI5P	9/6 - 9/12	HF/CW,SB	1	San Salvador
YN2PX	9/12 - 9/23	HF/CW	1	Nicaragua
JW5E	9/13 - 9/16	HF/CW,SB,DIG	1	Svalbard
PJ4E	9/13 - 9/26	HF/CW,SB	1	Bonaire
OJ0W	9/21 - 9/27	40-10M/CW,SB	1	Market Reef

CQ World-Wide RTTY Contest : 9/28 - 9/29

(Check www.ng3k.com “Announced DX Operations” for a detailed list of stations)

Sources : NG3K ADXO

Club Programs Update

By Jim Wright, N2GXJ

Our September 4 club meeting will feature live HF demonstrations of some popular radio software, including 'Ham Radio Deluxe', the amazing DX-friendly 'JT65-HF', and the very cool operation of the 'pskreporter' reverse beacon network. Pick up on some of the tricks your club members Jim N2GXJ and Jerry WB2QEF have learned with these software tools that you can use too. With a General class license, and some wire for an antenna up in the attic, it's amazing what this software allows you to do! There's a world of digital HF out there waiting for you. Go get it!

Our October 2 club meeting will feature the exploits of two of our high flying radio remote control enthusiasts, Sheldon K2MEN and Art K2AWS.

In addition to our regularly scheduled club meetings, there are some club events of note coming up that you will want to make room for on your calendar. They include our Sunday Sept 15 GCARC Hamfest out at the 4H fairground, and assistance to the MS 150 City to Shore bike ride on Sept 28-29.

And for everyone who likes to have a little fun, we are now looking at Sat Oct 5 as the likely date for our next GCARC Foxhunt radio hunt-and-see event. Not familiar with radio foxhunting? Just ask at the next club meeting!

D-STAR QSO Party 2013

By Cory Sickles, WA3UVV



If you've joined the Cult of D-STAR on the heels of K2ZA's excellent presentation at the August 7th meeting or plan to soon, ICOM is hosting another D-STAR QSO Party. The primary goal is to make as many contacts with as many foreign countries as possible between September 20th and 22nd. There are 10 prizes and multipliers to better your odds at getting one of those prizes.

With my purchase of an ID-31A earlier this year, it will be my first opportunity to participate in one of these. I know I've seen many of you also sporting the same rig, with a few ID-51A and ID-92A dual-band portables showing up, as well. "Da Rulez" are available at ICOM's web site: <http://www.icomamerica.com/en/products/amateur/dstar/dstar/default.aspx>

Welcome Returning and New Club Members:

Harry Elwell K2ATX, who holds an Amateur Extra class license and lives in Williamstown.

James Alston AC2BY, who holds an Amateur Extra class license and lives in Pittsgrove.

Christine West WA2MVU, (a returning long-past member) who holds a General class license and lives in Vineland. She is the sister of John Zaruba, K2ZA.

James Lamanteer WB2KNR, who holds an Amateur Extra class license and lives in Newport.

Thomas Snorf KC2IKD, who holds an Amateur Extra class license and lives in Quinton.

We are glad to have you as members of the Club and hope to see you regularly at Club functions and meetings.

Bat Wing Style

By Cory Sickles, WA3UVV



Some decades ago, I fell in love at first sight, with a desk microphone. Some folks are enamored by the D-104. My heart was taken by a design from Motorola. There was just “something” about the combination of thin, flat, curved, angled and sloping about the TMN1004. As expensive as it was, I had to have it. First, I got one for my Metrum II FM rig - then another one for my HF rig.



Over the years, I’ve experimented with others and had some great results, but there’s still something so iconic about that mike. Now, instead of off-white and gray, they are produced as all-black. The structure is the same – a design that’s held up well for about 40 years.



While looking around recently to see what was new in the ham radio marketplace, I stumbled upon the Anytone AT-5888UV VHF/UHF mobile dual-band transceiver. (http://www.universal-radio.com/catalog/fm_txvrs/0588.html) One of the accessories they offer for it

is a near-twin of that coveted Motorola desk mike. Labeled the QDM-01, Universal Radio is selling them for just under \$48. I’m trying to resist, but don’t know how long I can hold out...



2013 Ohio QSO Party

<p>Call: N2CQ Operator(s): N2CQ Station: N2CQ</p> <p>Class: Single Op QRP QTH: SNJ Operating Time (hrs): 2.5</p> <p>Summary: Band CW Qs Ph Qs</p> <p>-----</p> <p>80: 40: 20: 15: 10:</p> <p>-----</p> <p>Total: 46 0 CW Mults = 23 Ph Mults = 0 Total Score = 2,116</p> <p>Club: Gloucester Co ARC</p> <p>Comments: Good activity but couldn't stay as long as I would like.</p>	<p>Call: W2KRD Operator(s): W2KRD Station: W2KRD</p> <p>Class: Single Op LP QTH: NJ Operating Time (hrs): Location: Out of State/Province LP Summary: Compare Scores Band CW Qs Ph Qs</p> <p>80: 38 40: 69 20: 15: 10:</p> <p>Total: 0 107 Ph Mults 52 Total Score 5,564</p> <p>Club: Gloucester Co ARC</p>
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Test Your Knowledge

By Jim Wright, N2GXJ

First, congratulations to all our new General class ham licensees! The world of HF now awaits you! As you progress in your radio understanding, it might make sense to “peek ahead” from time to time at questions from the Extra class pool. And for those who are already Extra, it might make sense to see how the questions have evolved over time to meet today’s amateur radio needs.

Following are a few questions taken from the current Extra class question pool that went into effect in July of last year. There’s a theme in these questions: they all pertain to some of the modes supported by the software that is intended to be demonstrated at our next club meeting. Can you guess the right answers?

The full question pool, inclusive of answers to these questions, can be found by clicking on the “Get Your Ham Ticket” tab on the left side of our club’s excellent web site, w2mmd.org. Good luck!

E2E09: Which of the following HF digital modes uses variable-length coding for bandwidth efficiency?

- A. RTTY
- B. PACTOR
- C. MT63
- D. PSK31

E8C13: What is one advantage of using JT-65 coding?

- A. Uses only a 65 Hz bandwidth
- B. The ability to decode signals which have a very low signal to noise ratio
- C. Easily copied by ear if necessary
- D. Permits fast-scan TV transmissions over narrow bandwidth

E8C04: What technique is used to minimize the bandwidth requirements of a PSK31 signal?

- A. Zero-sum character encoding
- B. Reed-Solomon character encoding
- C. Use of sinusoidal data pulses
- D. Use of trapezoidal data pulses

E2E10: Which of these digital communications modes has the narrowest bandwidth?

- A. MFSK16
- B. 170-Hz shift, 45 baud RTTY
- C. PSK31
- D. 300-baud packet

E2E12: Which type of digital communication does not support keyboard-to-keyboard operation?

- A. Winlink
- B. RTTY
- C. PSK31
- D. MFSK

Club leadership office terms that will expire on December 31, 2013:

President : Tom Gorman, KE2ES Vice President : Jim Wright, N2GXJ Treasurer : Al Arrison, KB2AYU Recording Secretary: Sheldon Parker, K2MEN Corresponding Secretary : Cory Sickles, WA3UVV	Director : Art Strong, K2AWS Director : Gary Mirkin, WA3SVW Trustee : Steve Blasko, W2TDS
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Club House Update

The Permit from Harrison Township has been issued and is posted in the window of the Club House Trailer. As, you may already know, the old trailer was demolished in place. The old trailer tongue proved to be too rusty to allow us to have it towed away. We are in the process of preparing the site for movement of the new trailer from its “parking place”. The plan is to get it as level as possible and use a different method for the foundation. I think it will make for a more stable platform and we should not see the settling that we did on the old trailer. Wayne WA2VOY has graciously used one of his tractors for some preliminary work. We are now investigating additional methods for the final prep work. After that is completed, we will need help setting anchors and the first level of concrete blocks. Then we will move the trailer about 100 feet. More to follow as to the dates. If anyone has any expertise or equipment that might help please contact me. You don’t have to come out to the location, I am interested in any input from any member. Thanks in advance.

Interior improvements have begun. We demolished the existing bathroom on the west end of the trailer to make room for the VHF/UHF Radio Room. More interior work will be scheduled shortly.

And finally, I word from our sponsor
HELP! We need help. We have had about 12 people volunteer so far from day one. That is a lot of work for the “Dirty Dozen” Thank You!

I realize that people have physical limitations and some still work. Moral support can be important also. We will also schedule Saturdays immediately after the weekday effort. As we move forward, we can use any material that anyone would like to contribute. Maybe you can help in this way. Have anything we can use laying around?

1. Building materials : lumber, nails, PVC pipe, plywood, windows.
2. Electrical wire and such, light fixtures.
3. Plumbing, etc.
4. Furniture, book shelves, tables, lamps.
5. Carpet.

Call or email me with what you may have to contribute or willing to get for the Club House trailer. I will see if we can use it. Thank You in advance! And again I am very open to ideas and suggestions.

73, Bill, N2VIL - (856) 582-4162 H, (856) 426-3718 C

North American QSO Party, SSB - August 2013

Call: W2KRD Operator(s): W2KRD Station: W2KRD
Class: Single Op LP QTH: NJ Operating Time (hrs): 9:28

Summary:

Band	QSOs	Mults
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160:

80:	34	18
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40:	151	37
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20:	53	17
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15:	6	5
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10:

Total:	244	77	Total Score = 18,788	Club: Gloucester Co ARC
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Ham Radio Stuff at the Truck Stop

By Cory Sickles, WA3UVV

Growing up in the Pittsburgh area, a common saying was “Nobody goes to Denny’s - you just end up there.” The meaning being that although you might have originally wanted to go to a particular restaurant, because of the crowds, time of night or myriad of other things, Denny’s ended up being your only option.

Recently I did, in fact, intend to go to Denny’s – for a breakfast meeting. This particular one is in Carneys Point Township, near the last right between the NJ Turnpike and the Delaware Memorial Bridge, on Slapes Corner Road. The restaurant is combined with a Pilot Flying J truck stop. After the meeting was over, I decided to go exploring before I headed to my next appointment.

Along with all the things you’d expect to find in any convenience store, there are some things that stand out. One is the occasional PA page that a shower is available for the next person in line (a visual image of which I’ve tried to suppress) and some others are the truck oriented merchandise available. There are air hoses, 12V electric warmer/cookers, reflectors, LED safety lighting, assorted tools and – CB radios.

Well, where there’re CB radios, there has to be CB radio accessories. PL-259’s, RG-58, various antennas, plugs and more could be found along with microphones (power, low noise and “regular”) most of which already had 4, 5 or 8 pin connectors.



While some prices were as bad as the \$8 box of Pop-Tarts I saw at the Rowan B&N bookstore, others were quite reasonable. So, the next time you’re near a truck stop or CB shop (like to one off I-295 in Paulsboro) stop in a have a look around. It just might be a good source for some inexpensive accessories or a reasonable source for certain connectors when making a late night or emergency repair.



BTW, while I was there I picked up another Vise Grip antenna mount. You never know when you’ll need one...

2 Meter Repeater - Signal Report Help!

Al Arrison, KB2AYU, reported that he was able to complete installation of our backup 'W2FLY' 2 meter repeater as a replacement to our problematic 2 meter repeater at the water tower site. This is good news!

This includes on-air audio adjustments with help from other hams that were on frequency. He also reports that the 70 cm repeater has also been brought back online, and verified linked operations with the 2M repeater in anticipation of both units being able to be used for the ARES/RACES net. At this point, both repeaters are deemed ready for an operational field trial. But that is where we need your help.

We need to characterize the behavior of the new repeater, so that we can make additional adjustments, as necessary. So please give your club's replacement repeater a workout if you can over the next two weeks, so that we can compare notes and collect your feedback at the next club meeting (Wednesday, September 4)!

15 Years PSK31, 5 Years JT65-HF, and welcome JT9!

By Jim Wright, N2GXJ

Happy birthdays to two of the most popular digital software tools in our ham radio arsenal of HF communications tools, psk31 and JT65-HF! And congratulations to the proud WSJT parents of a new signal mode this year, JT9!

PSK31 was developed by English amateur radio operator Peter Martinez G3PLX, and was first introduced to the amateur radio community 15 years ago in a publication dated December of 1998. Having been in service now for a decade and a half, it's well into its "teenage" years, and is still as popular as ever as more and more new hams get on the air world-wide on the digital modes. Congratulations PSK31!

JT65-HF was branched off from the main WSJT codebase by Joe Large W6CQZ (a.k.a. W4CQZ) 5 years ago, in 2008, to specifically focus on simplifying and enhancing the use of the JT65A mode for HF contacts. Since September of 2010, this software package has been maintained and upgraded as an open source software project at <http://jt65-hf.sourceforge.net>. However, earlier this year, Joe announced that his program is end of life. But it is still great and extremely popular software! Alas, such is the nature of an ever changing open source software landscape. And things may have gone full circle in this case.



Turns out W6CQZ passed his ideas for an enhanced JT65V2 protocol back to **Dr. Joe Taylor (K1JT)** last year. You might recognize K1JT as the Princeton professor who invented JT65 and who continues his involvement with the open source software project WSJT today.

The open source WSJT code base continues to evolve and innovative digital radio technologies for the radio amateur. For example, just in May of this year (2013), version 1.0 of WSJT-X was released which implements a new mode, JT9, optimized for weak-signal communication on the LF, MF, and HF bands. Efforts are already underway to combine JT9 with JT65, FSK441, and other WSJT capabilities into an updated software package. Updates can be tracked from the K1JT web site, <http://physics.princeton.edu/pulsar/K1JT>.

Just think, in 2018 we might be celebrating a happy 5th birthday to the JT9 mode! Who knows what other ham radio innovations we will be celebrating then. Encrypted amateur digital voice communications? Amateur spread spectrum? What others? The future has a way of becoming the present real fast. Maybe we won't have to wait that long to find out!

2013 ARRL International DX Contest (Phone)

#	Call	Score	QSOs	Mult	Class	Power	Section	US Call Area	Club
1	W2KRD	96,180	232	140	SAL	B	SNJ	2	Gloucester Co ARC
2	N2CQ	23,616	125	64	SAL	B	SNJ	2	Gloucester Co ARC
3	N2GXJ	15,189	87	61	S	B	SNJ	2	Gloucester Co ARC
4	KD2BXD	714	18	17	S	B	SNJ	2	Gloucester Co ARC
	Totals	135,699	462	282					

Digital Radio Update

By Cory Sickles, WA3UVV



The street price of Yaesu's FT1DR digital handheld recently dropped. HRO is now offering it for just under \$430. That's about \$100 less than when it started shipping, just a few months ago. For a dual-band analog and digital transceiver, with general coverage and GPS receiver, plus a few more features – that's a fairly reasonable price.

Apparently, people are buying them, just maybe not as fast as Yaesu would like. Perhaps the new pricing will help. While they have announced the FTM-400DR mobile, which has a cool-looking display, there's still no repeater. That may not be as big a deal as one might think, as I've heard the rumor (from several sources) that the radios can be used with (used) P25 repeaters. Apparently, C4FM FDMA is C4FM FDMA, although I expect the repeater in question needs to be programmed to "pass all" digital signals – so that it's not limited to just specifically coded P25 streams.



If you care, there are currently three P25-capable repeaters in our area – two on the 440 MHz and one on the 144 MHz band. With D-STAR, DMR, NXDN, P25 and Yaesu's new entry – there are now 5 digital methodologies for voice communications – although only 2 are designed with amateur radio specifically in mind.

As K2ZA explained at our August meeting, a substantial D-STAR infrastructure exists in our area – the result of many people and much hard work. However, for areas of the country where a specific digital methodology hasn't been embraced, modes like P25, NXDN and DMR offer "mixed mode" repeater set-ups – supporting legacy analog and/or digital communications on a "first in – first out" basis. This can make some of these alternatives rather attractive, depending on how easily (and inexpensively) equipment can be acquired and programmed. FYI - in South Jersey, there's at least one repeater for each of these standards.

Mirage BD-35 Dual-Band Amplifier

By Cory Sickles, WA3UVV

Many hams purchase a handheld radio as their first one. Later, they realize they'd like to go mobile and have increased power. One way to accomplish this is buy a new rig. Another is to get a small amplifier. Either way, you'll also want an antenna for your vehicle.



I went to HRO and bought a Mirage BD-35, so I could use my ICOM ID-31A D-STAR portable while driving around. On UHF, I get 35W out. On VHF, it does about 50W. The Mirage is a Class-C amplifier, so it works great with FM and most digital modes – except for DMR.

With an SMA to PL-259 adapter cable, there's really no need to get an external speaker mike. Most of our handheld radios today are about the size of a normal microphone anyway, so just having an antenna cable and another for power is enough.

You can keep them together with cable ties or heat shrink tubing, for neatness. The amp can sit under a seat, so when you leave the car, just disconnect your radio and take it with you. Don't forget the rubber ducky!

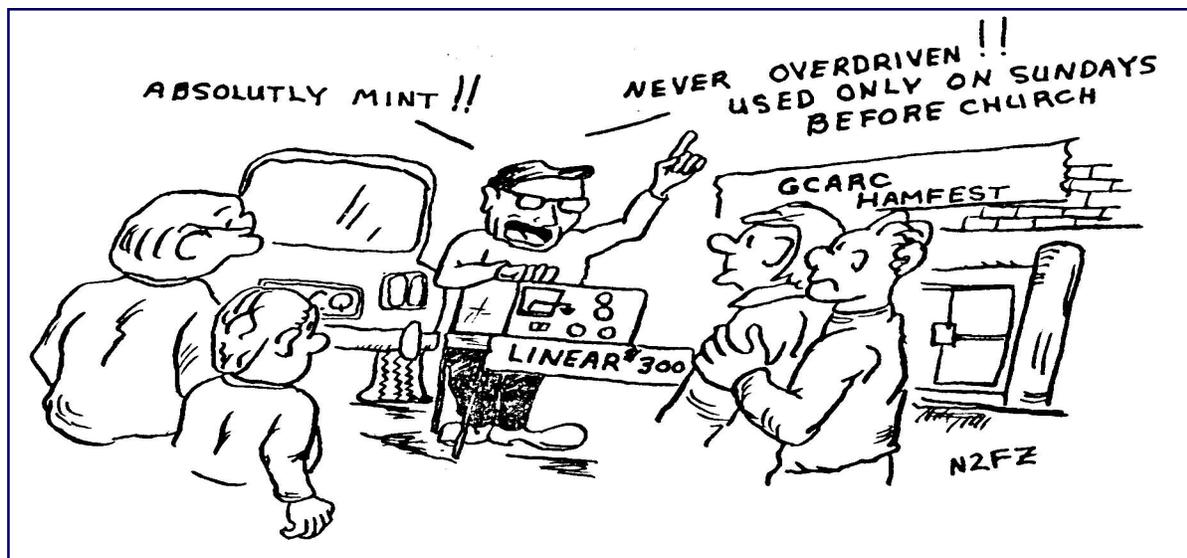
“Blast From The Past”

From Crosstalk - December 2003

New Engineering Conversion Factors

From John Fisher, K2JF

1. Ratio of an igloo's circumference to its diameter? = Eskimo Pi
2. 2000 pounds of Chinese soup? = Won ton
3. 1 millionth of a mouthwash? = 1 microscope
4. Time between slipping on a peel and smacking the pavement? = 1 bananosecond
5. Time it takes to sail 220 yards at 1 nautical mile per hour? = Knot furlong
6. 16.5 feet in the Twilight Zone? = 1 Rod Serling
7. Half of a large intestine? = 1 semicolon
8. 1,000,000 aches? = 1 megahertz
9. Basic unit of laryngitis? = 1 hoarsepower
10. Shortest distance between two jokes? = A straight line (Think about it for a moment)
11. 453.6 graham crackers? = 1 pound cake
12. 1 million-million microphones? = 1 megaphone
13. 2 million bicycles? = 2 megacycles
14. 365.25 days? = 1 unicycle
15. 2000 mockingbirds? = 2 kilomockingbirds
16. 10 cards? = 1 decacards
17. 1 kilogram of falling figs? = 1 Fig Newton
18. 1000 milliliters of wet socks? = 1 literhosen
19. 1 millionth of a fish? = 1 microfiche
20. 1 trillion pins? = 1 terrapin
21. 10 rations? = 1 decoration
22. 100 rations? = 1 C-ration
23. 2 monograms? = 1 diagram
24. 8 nickels? = 2 paradigms
25. 2.4 statute miles of intravenous surgical tubing at Yale University Hospital? = 1 IV League
26. Weight an evangelist carries with God = 1 Billigram
27. 365.25 days of drinking low-calorie beer because it's less filling = 1 Lite Year
28. 100 Senators = Not 1 Decision



Amateur Radio Technician License Course

September 11 to October 30, 2013

Every Wednesday, 7-10 pm
Office of Emergency Management, Cumberland County
637 Bridgeton Ave.
Bridgeton, New Jersey 08302

The Cumberland County Office of Emergency Management will be conducting a 24 hour Amateur Radio Technician Level course starting September 11, 2013 thru October 30, 2013. Upon satisfactory completion of the license examination, individuals will be able to operate amateur radio equipment during emergencies and recreationally.

The Amateur Radio Service offers a unique mix of technology, public service, convenience and fun. Some Amateur Radio Operators or “hams” enjoy communication across the country and around the world, making new friends over the airwaves. The goal of this course is to prepare students to take and pass the entry level Amateur Radio license examination.

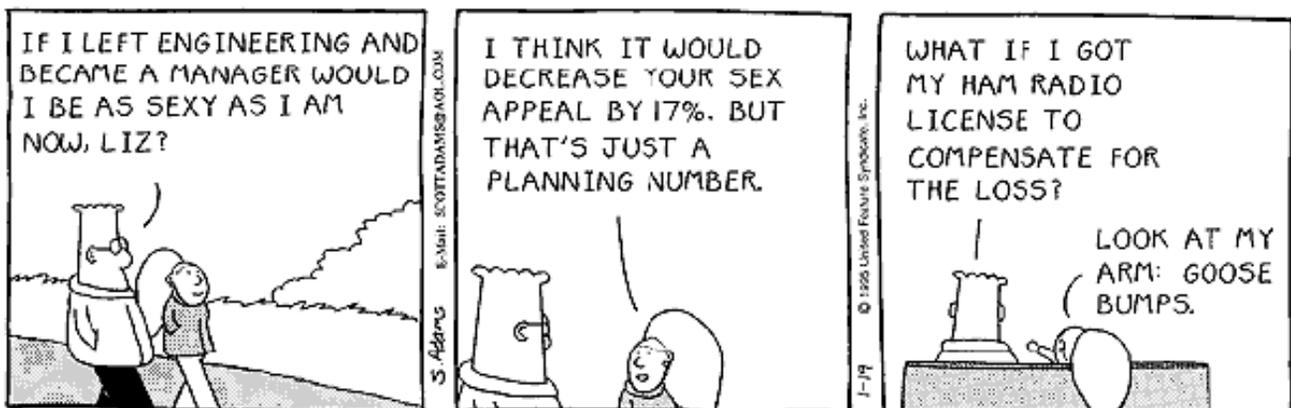
Course materials provided will be from the American Radio Relay League (ARRL). The cost of the ARRL Technician Manual and related documents are free. The Technician Course Manual must be returned at the end of the course. Students may purchase the ARRL Technician Manual from the American Radio Relay League on line, local RadioShack Store or from Ham Radio Outlet (HRO) in Wilmington, Delaware.

The cost of the examination is \$15.00. Examination fee will be paid directly to the ARRL/FCC Volunteer examiners on the day of the examination. Examination results will be provided the day of the exam on site.

Testing will held on either Saturday, November 2 or Sunday, November 3, 2013.

Note: Pre-registration is required to guarantee acceptance into the course and to receive the course materials. You can download the class syllabus using the link below.

To register, contact the Cumberland County Office of Emergency Management at 856-455-8770 ext. 360 or go to our website on the Get Your Ham Ticket page. Registration and orientation to the course will be held on September 11, 2013 at 7:00 PM. Classes will be held at the Cumberland County Office of Emergency Management, located at 637 Bridgeton Ave. (Deerfield Twp.), Bridgeton, NJ 08302.



From The New York Times, suggested by Harry Bryant AA2WN
Tom Christian, VP6TC, Descendant of Bounty Mutineer, Dies at 77
By MARGALIT FOX (The New York Times)



Tom Christian, known as the Voice of Pitcairn for his half-century-long role in keeping his tiny South Pacific island, famed as the refuge of the Bounty mutineers, connected to the world, died at his home there on July 7. Mr. Christian, Pitcairn's chief radio officer and a great-great-great-grandson of Fletcher Christian, the mutiny's leader, was 77.

With his death, Pitcairn's permanent population stands at 51.

The cause was complications of a recent stroke, his daughter Jacqueline Christian said.

Though Mr. Christian was the world's best-known contemporary Pitcairner, word of his death — reported in the July issue of The Pitcairn Miscellany, the island's monthly newsletter — reached a broad audience only this week, when it appeared in newspapers in Britain, Australia and New Zealand.

“It takes awhile for news to get out,” Ms. Christian said by telephone from Pitcairn on Thursday.

Mr. Christian's death is a window onto colonial history as played out in the South Pacific; onto a storied 18th-century mutiny, which lives on in books and motion pictures; and onto a 21st-century criminal case that made world headlines a decade ago — a case on which Mr. Christian took a public position, described in the news media as courageous, that led to his ostracism on the island on which he had lived his entire life.

Britain's only remaining territory in the Pacific, the Pitcairn archipelago lies roughly equidistant between Peru and New Zealand, about 3,300 miles from each. It comprises four small islands: Pitcairn, Henderson, Ducie and Oeno. Only Pitcairn Island, named for the sailor who sighted it from a British ship in 1767, is inhabited.

Pitcairn, settled by the mutineers and their Tahitian consorts in 1790, is a rocky speck of about two square miles. (Manhattan, by comparison, is about 24 square miles.) Most of its inhabitants are descended from the mutineers and the Tahitian women they brought with them.

Mr. Christian, who for his services to Pitcairn was named a Member of the British Empire in 1983, was long considered an elder statesman on the island. He served for years on the Island Council, the local governing body, and was a lay elder in the Seventh-day Adventist Church, to which most islanders belong.

For decades, starting in the mid-1950s, he operated radio station ZBP, Pitcairn's official lifeline to the world. His duties included filing daily reports to the island's administrative headquarters, formerly in Suva, on Fiji, and now in Wellington, New Zealand.

Mr. Christian filed his reports in Morse code, switching to voice communication only in the mid-1980s after Pitcairn acquired a radiotelephone.

And as Paul Harvey used to say “And now the rest of the story”, go to:

http://www.nytimes.com/2013/08/24/world/asia/tom-christian-descendant-of-bounty-mutineer-dies-at-77.html?nl=todaysheadlines&emc=edit_th_20130824&r=2&

Contest Calendar

For more information on the contest, please go to WA7BNM Contest Calendar website:

<http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/>

September 2013

+ Tennessee QSO Party	1800Z, Sep 1 to 0300Z, Sep 2
+ MI QRP Labor Day CW Sprint	2300Z, Sep 2 to 0300Z, Sep 3
+ ARS Spartan Sprint	0100Z-0300Z, Sep 3
+ NRAU 10m Activity Contest	1700Z-1800Z, Sep 5 (CW) and 1800Z-1900Z, Sep 5 (SSB) and 1900Z-2000Z, Sep 5 (FM) and 2000Z-2100Z, Sep 5 (Dig)
+ QRP Fox Hunt	0100Z-0230Z, Sep 6
+ NCCC RTTY Sprint Ladder	0130Z-0200Z, Sep 6
+ PODXS 070 Club Jay Hudak Memorial 80m Sprint	2000 local, Sep 6 to 0200 local, Sep 7
+ All Asian DX Contest, Phone	0000Z, Sep 7 to 2400Z, Sep 8
+ Wake-Up! QRP Sprint	0600Z-0800Z, Sep 7
+ SKCC Weekend Sprintathon	1200Z, Sep 7 to 2400Z, Sep 8
+ AGCW Straight Key Party	1300Z-1600Z, Sep 7
+ QCWA Fall QSO Party	1800Z, Sep 7 to 1800Z, Sep 8
+ North American Sprint, CW	0000Z-0400Z, Sep 8
+ DARC 10-Meter Digital Contest	1100Z-1700Z, Sep 8
+ Swiss HTC QRP Sprint	1300Z-1900Z, Sep 8
+ NAQCC-EU Monthly Sprint	1800Z-2000Z, Sep 11
+ QRP Fox Hunt	0100Z-0230Z, Sep 13
+ NCCC RTTY Sprint Ladder	0130Z-0200Z, Sep 13
+ FOC QSO Party	0000Z-2359Z, Sep 14
+ WAE DX Contest, SSB	0000Z, Sep 14 to 2359Z, Sep 15
+ ARRL September VHF Contest	1800Z, Sep 14 to 0300Z, Sep 16
+ North American Sprint, SSB	0000Z-0400Z, Sep 15
+ WAB 144 MHz QRO Phone	1000Z-1400Z, Sep 15
+ Run for the Bacon QRP Contest	0100Z-0300Z, Sep 16
+ NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint	0030Z-0230Z, Sep 19
+ NCCC RTTY Sprint Ladder	0130Z-0200Z, Sep 20
+ ARRL 10 GHz and Up Contest	0600 local, Sep 21 to 2400 local, Sep 22
+ SARL VHF/UHF Analogue/Digital Contest	1000Z, Sep 21 to 1000Z, Sep 22
+ Scandinavian Activity Contest, CW	1200Z, Sep 21 to 1200Z, Sep 22
+ SRT HF Contest SSB	1300Z, Sep 21 to 1300Z, Sep 22
+ QRP Afield	1500Z, Sep 21 to 0300Z, Sep 22
+ Washington State Salmon Run	1600Z, Sep 21 to 2400Z, Sep 22
+ Feld Hell Sprint	1600Z-1800Z, Sep 21
+ BARTG Sprint 75	1700Z-2100Z, Sep 22
+ SKCC Sprint	0000Z-0200Z, Sep 25
+ NCCC RTTY Sprint Ladder	0130Z-0200Z, Sep 27
+ CQ Worldwide DX Contest, RTTY	0000Z, Sep 28 to 2400Z, Sep 29
+ ARRL EME Contest	0000Z, Sep 28 to 2359Z, Sep 29
+ AGCW VHF/UHF Contest	1400Z-1700Z, Sep 28 (144) and 1700Z-1800Z, Sep 28 (432)
+ Texas QSO Party	1400Z, Sep 28 to 2000Z, Sep 29

September Birthdays

Congratulations to these members celebrating birthdays in September:

Christopher Collins KD2CUS
Harold Garron Jr. AC2BK
Gene Schoeberlein AA2YO
Frank Simila KC2SJ



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 Jeffrey Garth KC2WCS at jeff.garth@comcast.net.

Submission deadline for the October issue: Thursday, September 26, 2013

Club Website

<http://www.w2mmd.org>

Club E-Mail Reflector:

gcarc@mailman.qth.net

2013 Club Officers - 1 year term

President : Tom Gorman, KE2ES
Vice President : Jim Wright, N2GXJ
Treasurer : Al Arrison, KB2AYU

Recording Secretary : Sheldon Parker, K2MEN
Corresponding Secretary : Cory Sickles, WA3UVV

Board of Directors - 3 year term

Art Strong, K2AWS (2011-2014)
Chuck Colabrese, WA2TML (2012-2015)
Mark Townsend, W2OCY (2013-2016)
Gary Mirkin, WA3SVW (2011-2014)
Dave MacDonald, WB3JOY (2012-2015)
Jeffrey Garth, KC2WCS (2013-2016)

Trustees - 4 year term

Steve Blasko, W2TDS (2010-2014)
Martin Wilt, W2ILT (2012-2016)
Ray Schnapp, WB2NBJ (2011-2015)
Bill Szkromiuk, N2VIL (2013-2017)

Committees

ARES/RACES : Joe, KC2PHM
Awards : Kenny, W2KRD
Budget : Al, KB2AYU
Club House Site : Al, KB2AYU
Club License Trustee : Darrell, AB2E
Constitution : Adan, KC2YJX
Contests : Kenny, W2KRD
Crosstalk Editor : Jeff, KC2WCS
Database : Ken, N2CQ
DX : Bill, W0MHK
Field Day : Mark/Kyle, W2OCY/W2KBT
Hamfest Contact : Cory, WA3UVV
Historian : Art, K2AWS

Hospitality : Dave, WB3JOY
Membership : Cory/Ray, WA3UVV/WB2NBJ
New Club Trailer Project : Bill, N2VIL
Nominations : Tom, KE2ES
Programs : Jim, N2GXJ
Publicity : Cory, WA3UVV
Repeaters : Tom, KE2ES
4H Liaison : Cory, WA3UVV
Special Services : Darrell, AB2E
Sunshine : Ray, W2RM
Technical/TVI : Cory, WA3UVV
VEC Testing : Gary, N2QEE
Webmaster : Jeff, KC2WCS

The W2MMD Repeaters

Output: 147.180 MHz
Input: 147.780 MHz
Offset: +600 KHz
PL Tone: 131.8 Hz

Output: 442.100 MHz
Input: 447.100 MHz
Offset: +5.0 MHz
PL Tone: 167.9 Hz

Output: 1284.400 MHz
Input: 1272.400 MHz
Offset: -12.0 MHz
PL Tone: None

The above 3 repeaters are all
located in Pitman, NJ
GPS: 39.728481°, -75.131088°

Output: 224.660 MHz
Input: 223.060 MHz
Offset: -1.6 MHz
PL Tone: 131.8
Location: Sewell, NJ
GPS: 39.781382°, -75.099963°

Nets

GCARC 2M Ragchew Net
Thursday, September 19, 2013
20:00 Hrs
147.180+ MHz (PL131.8Hz)

ARES/RACES
Sunday 20:00 Hrs
(147.180 and
224.660
repeaters)

GCARC Meetings

General Membership

19:30 Hrs, Wednesday, September 4, 2013
Pfeiffer Community Center
Williamstown, NJ

Board of Directors

19:00 Hrs, Wednesday, September 18, 2013
GCARC Club site
Harrison Twp. 4H Fairgrounds
1 mile south of Mullica Hill on RT77

Club Meeting Program

September 4, 2013

Radio Software Demonstrations

GCARC Hamfest
4H Fairgrounds
Mullica Hill, NJ
September 15, 2013

GCARC 11:00 AM Brunch
Every Friday @
The Seven Star Diner
1890 Hurffville Road, Sewell, NJ