

CROSSTALK -- Official Publication of the
 GLOUCESTER COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, W2MMD
 G.C.A.R.C. OFFICERS

President	Joe DiNovi, WA2GFK
Vice President	Ginny Martin, N2FJM
Recording Secretary	Steve Sosson, KR1M
Corresponding Secretary	John Fisher, K2JF
Treasurer	Ed Wargo, KA2KNW
Chaplain	Ed Stetser, K2JJC

DIRECTORS

Jim Mollica	K2OWE
Chris Kelly	KC2FC
Al Trueblood	N2FJQ
John Zaruba, Jr.	WB2VOH
Chuck Colabrese	WA2TML
Mike Lizzio	WA2TOP

TRUSTEES

Bill O'Donnell	WA2VRY
Harry Jackson	WB2GSF
Ed Sumek	W2GSN
Rich Netherby	WB2OCR

COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

Program: Ginny Martin, N2FJM	Technical: Chuck Colabrese, WA2TML
Awards: Jack Zaruba, K2ZA	Repeater: Chuck Colabrese, WA2TML
Training: Chic Naylor, WA2USI	Technical Manager
Membership: Art Strong, KA2DOT	House: Jim Bray, N2AKI
Contests: George Munns, KR2GW	Historian: Charlie Sketchley, K2PQD
Hamfest: Ginny Martin, N2FJM	DX: Bill Bachman, WA2VDE
Field Day: Tony Starr, WA2FZB	A.R.E.S.: Harry McCormick, WA2SEA
Legislative: John Fisher, K2JF	L.R.P.: Chic Naylor, WA2USI
Data: Charlie Sketchley, K2PQD	Repeater: Joe DiNovi, WA2GFK
Demo: Milt Ashtoh, WB2OYQ	Business Mgr.
VHF: Ray Martin, WB2LNR	Publicity: John Fisher, K2JF

CROSSTALK STAFF

Tony Starr, WA2FZB	Editor	John Fisher, K2JF	Circulation
Milt Goldman, K3WIL	Publisher	Jim Mollica, K2OWE	Circulation
Ed Sumek, W2GSN	Printer	Len Kravitz, KD2CR	Circulation

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 -- SEPTEMBER 1986

Greetings Members;

As I write this, it is almost time for our Hamfest. After a year of hard work the final preparations are being made. Now all we need are blue skies and plenty of people. Please remember this Hamfest provides a majority of our income and, as every year, we need your support. There is always something for everyone, plenty of prizes, and plenty to look at and buy.

The new location is perfect. The 4-H grounds in Mullica Hill are well mowed, and there is plenty of shelter and plenty of parking close to the flea market area. And there is no hot asphalt to stand on.

By the time you read this, the Hamfest will be over. Hope you came out and enjoyed yourself.

Sincerely yours,
Joe DiNovi, WA2GFK

SEPTEMBER PROGRAM

This month our program committee (Ginny, N2FJM) informs us of another fine program. We are pleased to welcome Rick Connor, WB2NPE, of Tabernacle, Burlington County. Rick is a well known VHF/UHF contest operator, and he is going to share his experience with us. You may remember Rick from our past several January meetings, when he spoke to us about the VHF Sweepstakes. If you would like to get involved in VHF/UHF contesting, this is one program you should not miss.

So let's close out a busy summer of activities for GCARC, and get back to attending the meetings regularly. Hope to see all of you out on Wednesday night, where we will pat each other on the back for a job well done at our 1986 Hamfest.

HAMFEST 1986 -- PRELIMINARY REPORT

As we go to press with this issue, our Hamfest is just hours past. Early reports indicate that the annual event was a smashing success. The weather was just beautiful with cool breezes and warm sunshine throughout the entire day. The new site was well received by most all of our guests, tailgaters, and our membership. Chairperson Ginny Martin, N2FJM, did a superb job of keeping everything in line. All committees involved worked their tails off to make this our biggest and best Hamfest yet.

Estimates of this year's earnings are not yet available, but some indications suggest that the figures may be impressive. For example,

the tailgating area was completely sold out, filled to capacity! And, long lines at the food concession were seen from early in the morning and throughout the day. We will be bringing you a full report, complete with commentary by Chairperson Ginny in an upcoming issue. The club wishes to thank all who participated in making this Hamfest such a success.

AMATEUR RADIO CLASSES

The Jewish Community Center of Southern New Jersey, in collaboration with the Chaverim of Delaware Valley, the amateur group sponsoring the amateur radio station at the Center, will once again offer its popular classes at the Center leading to amateur radio licensure.

The class, leading to the Novice License, will include electronic theory and Morse Code instructions and culminate in the taking of the examination at the end of sessions. The instructors are KR1M, ND2P, K2UK, WB2NBJ, NN2A, KA2ZEE.

The classes start Thursday, September 11, 1986, and extend for eight weeks 7:30 to 9:00 pm. The fee is \$10.00 for members and \$18.00 for non-members and includes study materials.

To register go to the Jewish Community Center, 2395 West Marlton Pike, (Route 70) Cherry Hill

Following the completion of the novice course, the same instructors will be offering continued upgrading to the General and Advanced class licenses during the winter and spring sessions.

LOCAL HAMFESTS UPCOMING

SEPTEMBER 14, 1986 (Sunday) -- Pennsauken, NJ -- The South Jersey Radio Assn. will hold its 38th annual Hamfest at Pennsauken High School, Remington Avenue and Hylton Road, just off Route 130, from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm. Tickets are \$2.50 in advance and \$3.00 at the gate. Tailgating cost is \$5.00 per space. Talk in on K2AA Repeater, 145.29/144.69 MHz. For advance tickets or information, send a S.A.S.E. to J. Wesley Sammis, W2YRW, Hamfest Chairman,

SEPTEMBER 20, 1986 (Saturday) -- Maple Shade, NJ -- The Maple Shade Amateur Radio Club announces its first annual Hamfest, to be held at Maple Shade High School, Coles Avenue, Maple Shade. Admission is \$5.00 per car load and includes one tailgating spot. Extra spots are \$5.00 each. Set up is at 8:00 am with the Hamfest opening at 9:00 am. Talk in on 146.52 MHz Simplex, and W2MX Repeater 224.62 MHz.

CONTEST CORNER

We have the start of the contest season this month with the ARRL SEPTEMBER VHF QSO PARTY as a good high activity VHF warm-up. October starts the heavy stuff with the CQ WW DX CONTEST -- the first club competition of the fall.

PLEASE NOTE: Regarding the CQ WW DX Contests, CW October 25 & 26, 1986, phone November 29 & 30 are club competitions. ALL MEMBERS SUBMITTING LOGS, PLEASE GIVE A COPY OF AT LEAST A SUMMARY SHEET TO YOUR CONTEST CHAIRMAN. AT LEAST 3 ENTRIES MUST BE MADE AND THE MEMBERS' NAMES AND SCORES MUST BE SUBMITTED IN ORDER TO BE COUNTED. This is the first of several contests counted for Megapoint Awards. I have not yet received forms, but hope to have them for both this meeting and the next two. Please cooperate with me so I can send your entry in on time!

Here goes the list for the rest of the year:

MONTH	DATES	CONTEST
SEPTEMBER	7	LZ-DX Contest, CW
	13-14	ARRL SEPTEMBER QSO PARTY
	13-14	European DX Contest, PHONE
	20	CRRL Can-Am Contest, PHONE
	21	CRRL Can-Am Contest, CW
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	CARTIG RRTY Contest
	25-26	CQ WW DX CONTEST, PHONE
	29-31	YRYL Anniversary SSB Party
NOVEMBER	1-2	ARRL SWEEPSTAKES, PHONE
	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

LET'S GET STARTED ON THE MEGAPOINTS AGAIN!

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

de KB2GW

SMOKE THEORY

(Ever had rig trouble? Has your computer every quit on you? Wonder why? Well then, read on.)

Flash! A new theory has been developed which at long last helps to explain most, if not all, component failures in all our electronic equipment.

The theory postulates that all component manufacturers use a secret ingredient in their components. This is true whether the component is a transistor, IC, capacitor, resistor, diode or even a wire. It has now been revealed, that these and all other components used in our rigs, computers and other electronic entertainment equipment contain the special, secret ingredient called SMOKE. During a proprietary part of the manufacturing process each component has a precisely measured amount of smoke carefully sealed into it.

The theory goes on to state that in each case of failure of a component, the cause can directly and irrefutably attributed to an escape of the ingredient SMOKE. SMOKE, it seems, is essential for the proper operation of all components, and once it escapes, the component can no longer function as originally intended.

You have probably observed that some components are constructed in significantly larger sizes than others and I am sure you have often wondered why. Well, we now know the obvious. Of course, these larger sizes are made to accommodate larger quantities of SMOKE. Further, under carefully controlled scientific conditions it has been observed that when SMOKE escapes from these larger components, they often fail in rather more spectacular ways than the smaller components.

There you have it. At long last you know the way to keep all of that precious electronic equipment operating: **DON'T LET THE SMOKE OUT!!!**

Submitted by N2SS. Based on an original idea that appeared in the Enjoying Radio column of the DX Listening Digest.

VEC EXAMS UPDATE

Responding to concerns for the quality of examinations, the FCC said, "Thus, while the majority of VE's elect to use the multiple choice format, they are now authorized to use true-false, fill in the blank, and essay formats as well as multiple choice examinations." Tnx K2JF/W5YI

AMWAY TO INTRODUCE SATELLITE DISH

Amway Corporation, the in-home cosmetics/housewares sales company, intends to become a door to door marketer of encrypted cable-delivered programming and plans to introduce its own (\$3,000) 10 foot home satellite dish setup this fall. Tnx K2JF/WSYI

NEWS FROM THE ARRL DX ADVISORY COMMITTEE

TOSS OUT DXCC? - That's one of the major questions to be addressed by the DX Advisory Committee. Minute 59 of the recently concluded July meeting of the ARRL Board of Directors meeting reads as follows:

59) On motion of Mr. Wilson, seconded by Mr. Olson, it was VOTED that the DXAC consider the advisability of restructuring DXCC. This group will not be precluded from considering any possibilities, up to and including even a "fresh start" award, replacing the present DXCC. If restructured, the award might take any form, but should include:

- 1) Ease in administration, including countries criteria, and
- 2) If the present DXCC is replaced, there should be a closeout period to achieve an additional level of recognition and to receive final confirmations.
- 3) Opinions of other DXers, particularly those in other nations of the IARU, should be invited.

It is understood that the Board may or may not adopt a restructured award, but is interested in the input of the amateur community as to whether one is desired and the form it should take if implemented.

Progress reports should be made by DXAC 60 days in advance of each Board meeting, with final report expected by December 31, 1989.

There you have it. Do you have some suggestions for change? Prefer to keep it as is? Give it a lot of careful thought. In the past some of the GCARC DX fraternity has mentioned to me various aspects of the DXCC awards program that they were particularly unhappy about. Well, now is the time to speak up. The board has given the DXAC a mandate that could bring about sweeping changes to the program.

As the DXAC representative for the Atlantic Division, I represent YOU and would like to hear YOUR opinion. I am soliciting as many inputs as possible throughout the Division. Thus, it would be most helpful in the assimilation of these collective inputs if you could jot

down any ideas or opinions you might have in writing. The action ultimately taken could be potentially the most revolutionary we will ever experience in our DXing hobby. AND, YOU HAVE AN UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY TO PARTICIPATE IN IT.

In order to handle this monumental task, the DXAC is being broken into several subcommittees that will concentrate on specific areas of study and recommendation. I am on the subcommittee studying two areas: a) the numbers and types of DXCC awards, and b) operating ethics. Although having a specific interest in these two areas, let me have your other opinions as well. I will see that they get routed to the proper destination and, being a voting member of the full committee, it would be useful to have your overall opinions.

OTHER DXAC NEWS - Grupo Argentino de CW has communicated with the League to formally request that consideration be given for new country status for Tierra del Fuego. This question has been addressed previously, and, as late as 1979, was rejected.

Grupo Argentino de CW bases its current request on DXCC country criterion #3: separation by foreign land.

Pull out your DXCC countries list and criteria, check your world atlas and let me know what you think. 73 es Gud DX, Tony Gargano, N2SS

WITH SYMPATHY.....

The club wishes to offer sincere condolences to:

Ed, KA2KMW, on the loss of his son.

Milt, K3WIL, on the loss of his sister.

DX NEWS RETURNS TO CROSSTALK
-- ---- -

This month we would like to kick off a new monthly feature, "The World of DX", by Bill Bachman, WA2VEE. We are glad to have a monthly DX column once again. Bill's column will usually be found near the back of each issue. We hope you will enjoy this new feature and we look forward to bringing you more DX news each month.



7
The World of DX
by WA2VEE



Welcome to the world of DX. I hope this column will enlighten you as to what DX is all about and provide some pointers on how to land the good contacts.

You probably have asked, "What do I have to do to be a DX'er?"

You do not have to have 2000 watts of power to a 10 element monobander to get started. A 100 watt transmitter with a real good receiver along with a dipole will get you moving along at a good pace. Then when the going gets tough you can expand your capability.

A good DX'er is one who listens 90% of the time and talks the other 10%. If you want to be a "Jabber-jaw" then DX will be hard to accomplish.

Listen on the air for information about DX and on the repeaters (Frankford and GCARC). 144.930 is a good intercom for finding out where it is happening also.

Help can be found through DX'ers but don't expect them to do all the legwork for you and then call you and tell you where it is or you will wear out your welcome fast. There is time when we all need some assistance.

If there is a DX station that has a call that seems strange, work it first and worry about the legality later. I for one know from experience that some wild callsigns are for real.

With modest power and a good antenna you should be able to make 100 to 200 DX contacts without any trouble.

Subscribe to a DX bulletin such as "Long Island DX" or "QRZ DX" to name a couple for valuable information about pending DX and their QSL routes.

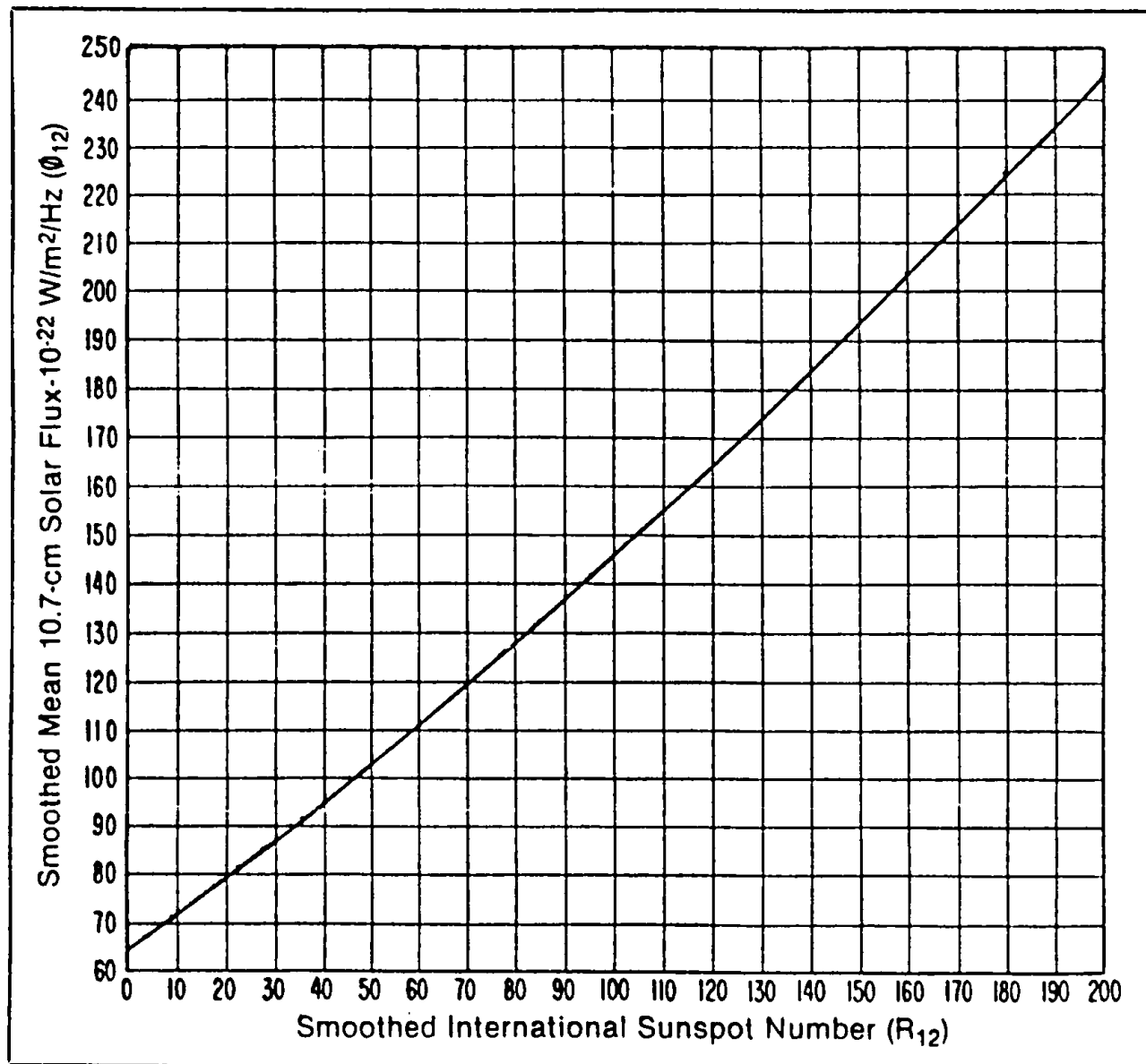
You can send your QSL cards to ARRL to be sent to other QSL bureaus for a very inexpensive rate. But to get QSL's back, you have to belong to the Northern New Jersey DX Bureau. Details can be found in QST or ask someone who knows.

The DX picture is getting better each month and by early 1987 it should be really humming along so get those stations ready for the big fun in DX.

So if there is anything that you would like to see written in this column please feel free to let me know and I will try to get it in. In the meantime.....

73's

Good DX'ing



— Relationship between the smoothed International Sunspot Number and the smoothed mean 10.7-cm Solar Flux.

For many DXers and others, the sometimes mysterious difference between Sunspot numbers and Solar Flux, the above graph will be useful. As we end the low portion of Cycle 21 and anxiously await the beginning of Cycle 22, we can see that the very low SF of 68 and 66 that are now being reported tell us that there are no Sunspots at all, and we depend upon the Spots to generate the high flux levels that influence the Ionosphere for long distance communications and the awakening of the 15 and 10 meter bands. Tnx K2JF