



THE FRANKFORD RADIO CLUB NEWSLETTER

PROFICIENCY THROUGH COMPETITION

CALENDAR

February 2005:

- 5 No. Amer. Sprint, SSB
- 5-6 Delaware QSO Party
- 8 **FRC Main Meeting, Phila**
- 8 **Rexy Meeting B**
- 12 No. Amer. Sprint, CW
- 17 **T.I.T.S. Meeting, Noon**
- 19-20 **ARRL DX Test, CW**
- 22 **Rexy Meeting B**
- 26-27 CQ 160 Meter Contest, SSB

March 2005:

- 5-6 **ARRL DX Test, SSB**
- 8 **FRC Main Meeting, Phila**
- 8 **Rexy Meeting B**
- 17 **T.I.T.S. Meeting, Noon**
- 19-20 Russian DX Contest
- 22 **Rexy Meeting B**
- 26-27 CQ WPX Contest, SSB

CHANGES

New Member

Mark Kempisty - N3GNW
88 Eagle Mount Drive
Richboro, PA. 18954
Wife - Marianne - KA2VJO

Email Address: n3gnw@arrl.net

Email

John, K3CT
k3ct@verizon.net

Deadline for March issue:

Wednesday, February 23, 2004

President's Column

I am pleased to say things are looking up for our club with our winning of the 2004 ARRL contests followed by the winning of both 2004 CQWW contests.

CONGRATULATIONS!!

WE ARE BACK IN THE GAME KNOWN AS CONTESTING.

We now must do a back-to-back WIN in the coming ARRL CW and Phone Contests. We cannot let up on beating our rivals! Let's not give them any slack.

I hope the club members have been spared any major damage from the many storms we have had and that everyone's station is ready for Feb. 19th & 20th. Remember that is CW weekend and the club needs each member's contribution of points.

Also mark your calendar for March 5th & 6th which is the ARRL Phone contest. We need the time and effort of each club member to keep our winning streak going. We need to show everyone again that **FRC** is the number one CONTEST CLUB in the WORLD and always has been! We are BACK ON TOP!.

Doug, **W3CF**, has a list of operators and where they will be for both contests. He updates the list every week, so send him an e-mail advising when and from where you will operate. I will again be with Alex on V4 for the ARRL phone contest and also the CQ 160 phone contest. If you are planning to go on a dxpedition, please advise Doug so he can add this information to the list. This list is a big help to us all and I hope everyone can work both modes.

At this month's meeting, we will have nominations for President, Vice-President and Secretary. If you have any one interested in becoming a club officer, please be at the February meeting to nominate them. Our meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 8th at 8 PM. Hope to see everyone there.

73, Joe K3NM/V47NM

MEETINGS

Main Meeting Back in Philadelphia

The main monthly meeting of the **Frankford Radio Club** will be held Philadelphia on Tuesday, February 8 at 8 PM. Location is Rosenburger Hall, Room 102 at the University of the Sciences.



T.I.T.S. meeting—The Trexlertown International Transmitting Society meets on Thursday, February 17 at 12:00 noon. Location is the Hometown Diner on Route 222 in Trexlertown..

Rexy Meeting B—The REXY's **FRC Meeting B** meets about 8 PM on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month..

— . . . —

John, **K3CT**, has created a CT help document that can be found at: http://www.k1ea.com/CT_additions.htm It documents the changes to CT since the manual printing and includes information for CTWin and other user tips. Version 1.2 of the document should be posted soon and Version 1.3 is in process. It will list all the CT text commands and their function. AD1C should be posting updated CT.HLP files on the CT website that have been updated by Ed, K1EP.

John also ran across an email reflector for the IC756 Pro3. Information is available at: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/ic756pro3/>



FOR SALE: \$2195.00

TS-950SDX Includes:

- ◆ Both (2) 500hz cw filters
- ◆ Remote RM-1 for internal voice/cw keyer
- ◆ Internal antenna tuner.
- ◆ IF-232c computer interface
- ◆ Kenwood SP-950 external speaker with filters
- ◆ Original boxes

Will sell radio with out options if interested.

Contact Rick K300 k3oo@k3oo.com

FRC CHATROOM INSTRUCTIONS

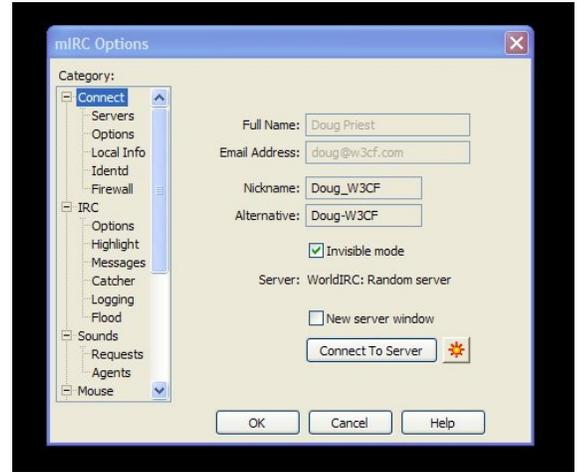
Attached are complete screen shots on how to get into the #FRC chatroom. Several guys stop in and say hi.... Good from any connection in the world....with spots, too. Think of it as a digital FM repeater that covers all FRC territory... Been up non stop for 3 years now...

#FRC Chat room instructions.....step by step

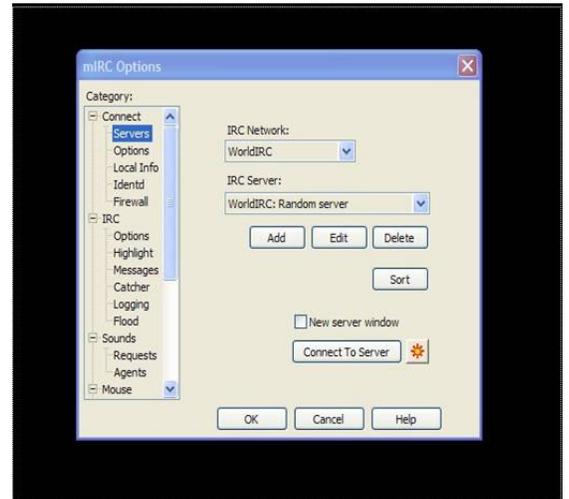
1) go to <http://www.mirc.com/> and download latest version. This will give you a 30 day free trial that works forever . I sent him 20 bucks after using it for two years.

2) Run the executable file and open mirc

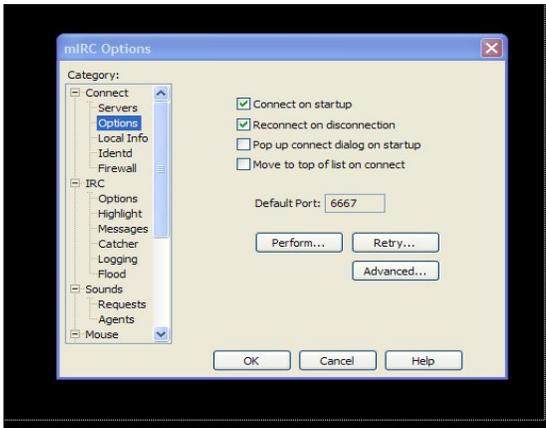
3) Under the VIEW menu pick options if the options box does not open automatically. Enter your info as shown to the right



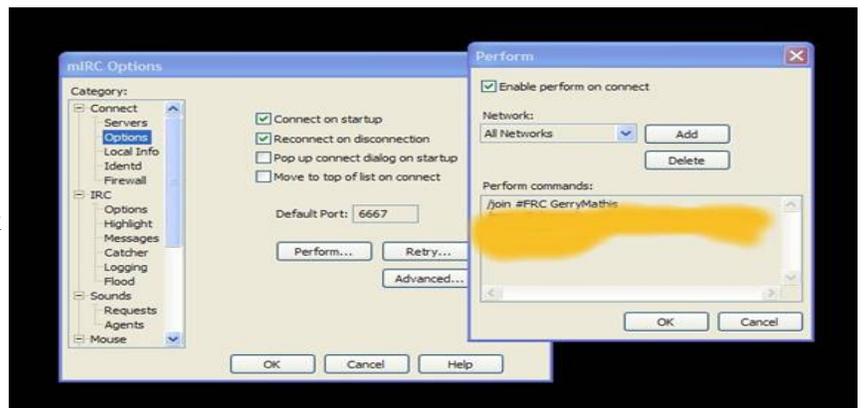
4) Now come down to servers and choose the WORLDIRC server



5) Now scroll down



Pick Options and click as at left then hit PERFORM which brings up following screen



Fill in as shown to the right and hit ok and back out to beginning....and under file hit connect. In case you get lost command line is /join #FRC GerryMathis (case sensitive)

Reprinted with permission from the December 29, 2004 ARRL Contest Rate Sheet

Resolutions Three

Here we are at the New Year once again and I'm sure that many of us are making firm resolutions of one sort or another. More exercise, quit [fill in the blank], do more, do less, and all are admirable in their intent. What about ham radio? Shouldn't there be a few resolutions for our favorite past time? (It IS a past time, isn't it?) I have a suggestion; three suggestions, actually, in order of difficulty.

Resolution One - Improve The Station

This one isn't so hard. Maybe all you have to do is dust! Surely, there is one gadget missing or some nagging problem that needs repair. Mine is a goofy mike cord on a VHF/UHF rig that I keep "meaning to fix" but never quite seem to find the time for. You might choose to do a major upgrade, too. At any rate, put shoulder to the wheel and improve your station's performance. Maybe I'll finish that new sound card interface!

Resolution Two - Improve The Operator

Getting a little more difficult, this time. I know, we are all stellar operators and couldn't be any better. Right. In our honest moments, we all know that there are a few deficiencies in our operating or understanding skills. Is there some style or mode that you haven't mastered? Maybe your logging accuracy isn't what it could be? Now is the time to pick something to focus on this year to be a better operator. Perhaps it's a technical challenge instead. You could buy a book or take one of the ARRL's on-line courses. Pick an area that's new to you - satellites, low bands, digital modes. Get those neurons shaking off the rust. Look for me to get on meteor scatter this year - ka-ping!

Resolution Three - Improve The Amateur Service

Ah - this is the tough one. It's one thing to put effort into your own abilities and station. It's quite another to figure out how to improve the hobby itself. Your personal contribution of time and energy is usually required. Is rotten operating giving you heartburn? Why not invite some young dogs over for a multi-op and lead by example. (You ARE a good example, right?) Bemoaning the lack of new blood? Go give a talk on contesting at a general-purpose club meeting or volunteer to help them out on Field Day.

Take a good look at the excellent set of personal skills you have developed by contesting. How can these be put to work to improve the Amateur Service - and that's just what it is, a service - for everyone, not just testers? You'll probably have to get out of your comfort zone a little bit, meet someone new, and take a chance. The result is guaranteed to expand your consciousness of ham radio as it enters the 21st century. It's a lot bigger than you might think, particularly if you've been licensed for a long time.

There may not be a clear topic that leaps to mind right away. That's fine - just hold the thought as the year wends it way along. The opportunity will present itself, I'm sure. As the line in the movie "Polar Express" goes, the secret lies in getting on the train when it stops for you!

<http://www.qsl.net/lz1jz>



CONTESTING — TIPS, TECHNIQUES, RESOURCES

Reprinted with permission from the December 15, 2004 ARRL Contest Rate Sheet

A problem discovered in the IARU log checking process will cause the results to be printed in the March issue of QST instead of February, allowing time to ensure the corrections made by the log checking team are done properly. All other log data entry and processing is on schedule. Although most plaques for the ARRL 2004 DX Contest have been shipped, about a dozen are waiting for more inventory from the vendor which will be received in early January. (Thanks, Dan N1ND)

For those of you pondering how to get the most benefit out of radials made from a fixed amount of wire, the Al Christman K3LC, article "Maximum Gain Radial Ground Systems For Vertical Antennas" that was printed in the March/April edition of NCJ is on-line at <http://www.ncjweb.com/k3lcmaxgainradials.pdf>. He lays it all out there very nicely, so to speak. Another good reason to be an NCJ subscriber! (Thanks, Bill W7KXB and others)

The folks at Elecraft just added a new article to their Tech Notes page at <http://www.elecraft.com/>, "A 100W Z-Match for 160m - 10m", By Geoff Cottrell G3XGC. Lots of pictures and schematics. (Thanks, Eric WA6HHQ)

I think I mentioned this gadget last year - the Leatherman 9-in-1 electronics tool. It's available at RadioShack (part number 64-2912) and includes a wire stripper, pliers, screwdrivers, knife (imagine that!) and they all work well. I got one last year and it's always in my pocket. During December, it's bundled with a Maglite flashlight (61-2821) so you might want to make a strategically-timed hint.

Maybe you accidentally spilled the oil in your Cantenna? Where to get more? You shouldn't just dump any old oil in there. Bob W9YA says, "The correct oil for this application is labeled ISO 46, regardless of what trade name the oils carry." These are oils designed to transport heat (among other things) and will not have additives that could degrade resistor plating, such as motor oils might. Mineral oil is said to be OK, but the ISO 46 oils are designed specifically for the job. These oils can be purchased from a petroleum product distributor, but are more inexpensively found at farm/tractor supply stores - check the hydraulic oils. (Also thanks to Norman KA4PUV)

Eric K3NA has put together a detailed description (http://www.yccc.org/articles/k3na_stubs.pdf) of the switching and cabling at the top-notch W1KM SO2R station. This is not a recipe for duplication, but will give you a lot of ideas to apply to your own station, whether for contesting, emergency work, or even Field Day where more than one station is on the air at a time. While I'm on the subject, George W2VJN has written a top-notch book about stubs, "Managing Interstation Interference" which is available from International Radio at <http://www.qth.com/inrad/book.htm>.

Kyle WA4PGM has made up keyboard overlays for CT, N1MM, and Writelog available laid out singly or as five per page. Take a look at http://www.wa4pgm.us/my_station.htm. Created with Excel 2000 you can edit them to suit your needs. Your suggestions on improving them are welcome. Two free Excel viewer programs are available at <http://www.microsoft.com/downloads>. Under "Search for a Download", select "Excel" in the Product/Technology menu and enter "viewer" in the Keyword window.

Tracey G5VU reports an interesting article, "Impedance Matching Transformers for Receiving Antennas at Medium and Lower Shortwave Frequencies" written in June 2003 by Bill Bowers, John Bryant and Nick Hall-Patch VE7DXR. He says that it has a lot of supporting technical information and can be found at http://radiodx.com/spdxr/media/imt_doc1.doc.

FCC chairman resigns

FCC Chairman Michael K. Powell announced January 21 that he'll step down, effective "sometime in March." Nominated by former President Bill Clinton, Powell joined the FCC in 1997 and became its chairman two days after President George Bush was sworn in for his first term in 2001. ARRL CEO David Sumner, K1ZZ, called Powell's performance "a deep disappointment" after some initial optimism--especially given his unabashed cheerleading on behalf of the FCC's broadband over power line (BPL) initiative.

"It's no secret that we thought Chairman Powell was going entirely in the wrong direction on BPL and dragging the other commissioners and FCC staff along--willing or not--because he was, after all, the chairman," Sumner said. "A new chairman might be a chance for a fresh start."

When the FCC adopted new Part 15 rules for BPL last October, Powell called it "a banner day." While conceding that BPL will affect some spectrum users, including "all those wonderful Amateur Radio operators out there," Powell implied that the FCC must balance the benefits of BPL against the relative value of other licensed services. He listed the FCC's adoption of BPL rules among the "policy highlights" of his tenure.

Possibilities to replace Powell include the other Republican members of the five-member FCC--Kathleen Q. Abernathy, a staunch BPL supporter, and Kevin J. Martin. Speculation also has been raised about various outside candidates. "We look forward to the opportunity to work with the new chairman, whoever that may be," Sumner said.

In his announcement, Powell said it was "with a mixture of pride and regret" that he informed the president of his decision to step down. "Having completed a bold and aggressive agenda, it is time for me to pursue other opportunities and let someone else take the reins of the agency," he said. "During my tenure, we worked to get the law right in order to stimulate innovative technology that puts more power in the hands of the American people, giving them greater choices that enrich their lives."

The chairman said the seeds of the Commission's policies under his leadership "are taking firm root in the marketplace and are starting to blossom." He cited the increased use of cell phones, digital TV and other digital technology "increasingly connected anytime, anywhere by a wide variety of broadband networks." Proclaimed Powell, "Our children will inherit this exciting future."

As FCC chairman, Powell also was in the forefront of enforcing the Commission's rules on indecency, largely through imposing huge fines on violators. He also supported changes in media ownership rules that permitted even greater concentration of broadcast station ownership.

ARRL Board of Directors Outline Ambitious Legislative Agenda

Frigid New England temperatures and a major snowstorm failed to chill enthusiasm as the ARRL Board of Directors met January 21-22 in Windsor, Connecticut, to tackle a lengthy agenda. ARRL President Jim Haynie, W5JBP, chaired the gathering. Among the highlights of the session was the Board's unanimous adoption of positions on six initiatives for the 109th Congress. Topping the list was a call for "consistent application" of the FCC's limited federal preemption policy--PRB-1--to Amateur Radio antenna systems. The League wants PRB-1 to apply to "all types of land use regulations," public and private. That would include deed covenants, conditions and restrictions (CC&Rs).

"The American Radio Relay League seeks congressional instruction to the FCC to extend its limited preemption policy governing residential Amateur Radio antennas, so that private land-use authorities cannot preclude, but must reasonably accommodate, Amateur Radio communications in subdivisions and communities," the Board resolved. After the FCC declined to include CC&Rs under the PRB-1 umbrella, the League since 2002 has initiated bills in Congress to accomplish the same end.

In addition, the Board expressed support for measures to improve federal management of telecommunications, including beefing up the FCC's ability to regulate transmitter, receiver and antenna issues and resolve electromagnetic interference.

The Board also wants public service allocations, including Amateur Radio's, exempted from auction or commercial reallocation, and compensatory spectrum whenever the federal government reallocates existing public service spectrum to another service. The resolution reflected the essence of the "Amateur Radio Spectrum Protection Act of 2004," HR 713. An identical bill will be introduced into the 109th Congress.

Calling amateur frequencies "the technological equivalent of a national park," the Board further resolved to support measures that "preserve and protect" primary Amateur Radio access to existing amateur spectrum "as a natural resource for the enjoyment of all properly licensed individuals, and protect against interference from unlicensed transmitters such as Part 15 devices" operating on amateur frequencies. Finally, the Board expressed support for requiring the FCC to develop effective, mandatory standards for radio frequency susceptibility of consumer electronic devices. And it expressed general opposition to expansion of current prohibitions against the reception of radio signals beyond those already on the books.

In a related vein, the Board affirmed support for the ARRL Grassroots Legislative Action Plan and called for its immediate implementation. Hudson Division Director Frank Fallon, N2FF, says the Grassroots Legislative Action Plan will function mainly by direct contacts with lawmakers in their members' home districts and by motivating legislative support through letter writing by members.

Working with the new Congress could prove more difficult than in the past, ARRL's congressional consultant John Chwat of Chwat & Co suggested to the Board. He expressed the belief that the 109th Congress is very contentious and advised that every League effort on Capitol Hill focus on Amateur Radio's role in emergency communication.

Following recommendations of the ARRL Executive Committee, the Board adopted changes to the League's pending petition that would propose segmenting bands principally by maximum bandwidth rather than by emission type. Amendments to the plan, still in the draft stage, would call on the FCC to permit non-telephony emissions not exceeding 3 kHz at 10.135 to 10.150 MHz, prohibit "continuous" test transmissions on most frequencies above 51 MHz, and clarify the rules to specify that amateur stations may use any published digital code, as long as other rules are observed. The Board will consider the amended bandwidth petition at its July meeting. The League is not expected to file the petition with the FCC until later this year.

DXCC Listings Now Available on the ARRL Web Site

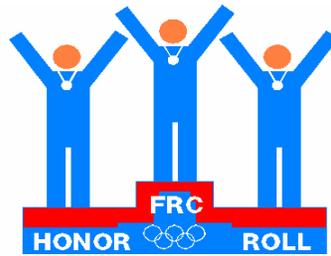
The ARRL Web site now features up-to-date listings of DXCC awards earned. The new system shows every issued DXCC award known to ARRL's computerized DXCC system, with the exception of individual standings for 5BDXCC. ARRL Membership Services Manager Wayne Mills, N7NG, says the Web site listing is even more complete than the DXCC Yearbook ever was, since the printed list did not list inactive band-accounts for the previous year.

"This will list everything and everybody," Mills emphasized. "The new system makes available a separate listing for each DXCC award type--band or mode." Even more important, Mills notes, is that it essentially renders

obsolete the manually generated monthly and yearly reports. "Under the new system, DXCC listings will updated daily," he emphasized. The DXCC standings of all ARRL members will remain in dark type. Call signs of non-members who have not submitted credits for 10 years or more are in grayed-out type.

Each listing by band or mode is complete in a separate Adobe PDF file. The largest listing (DXCC Mixed) now runs to more than 50 pages, but the size of the PDF file is only about 150 kbytes because of file compression. Printing format options include US letter-sized or ISO A4 paper.

The DXCC listings can be found at <http://www.arrl.org/awards/dxcc/#listings> <<http://www.arrl.org/awards/dxcc/#listings>.



FEBRUARY **CONDUCTED by N2SS** **2005**

WARC BANDS

<u>30 Meters</u>	<u>17 Meters</u>	<u>12 Meters</u>
K2FL.. 331	K2FL...335	N2TK ..327
N2TK326	N2TK 334	K2FL..... 326
N2LT313	N2LT 331	N2LT..... 319
W3BGN311	W3CF 329	W3BGN... 312
K2RW296	W3BGN ... 325	N2SS..... 301
W2YC292	K2RW 324	K2RW 300
W8FJ286	N2SS 319	W3CF 282
N2SS284	K2PS 302	W2YC 272
K2PS281	W2YC 295	K2PS..... 268
W2UP248	W2UP 293	W2UP 247
N3RD230	W8FJ 291	W8FJ 228
K3II222	N1RK 252	N1RK..... 217
W2LE212	KQ3F 245	KQ3F 215
NZ3O188	K3II237	K3II 202
KQ3F182	NZ3O 233	K2NJ 190
AA2WN...171	W2LE 202	NZ3O 188
W2RQ144	W2YR 194	W2YR 186
W2YR130	K2NJ 179	W2LE 176
AB2E124	K2JF 168	N3KN 176
K2NJ113	NA2U 162	NA2U 154
K2JF112	N3KN 147	K2JF 135
NA2U105	W2RQ 142	AB2E 92
N1RK90	K3ND 119	W2RQ 62
N3KN85	AA2WN ... 116	K3GYS 30
K3ND76	AB2E 105	N2VW 27
N2VW71	K3GYS 85	AA2WN 20
W3CF55	N2VW 65	W2CG 1
K3GYS17		

K2FL and N2TK still duking it out for that elusive, undisputed **KING OF WARC**

Rules for FRC 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. Countries do not count until HQ Awards Committee takes action and announces a start date for a new country.

160 Meters

W3BGN291	K2RW 93
AA1K285	AB2E 87
N2LT244	W2CG 85
N2TK240	W2YR 80
K3SX224	N2SS 79
W8FJ200	NA2U 78
NO2R197	N2VW 77
W2UP186	W3CF 77
K3JIG186	K3NL 70
K3NZ172	K2NJ 59
W2YC171	NZ3O 55
K3NM156	KQ3F 54
N3RS156	N1RK 40
K3II149	AA2WN 36
K2FL141	K2JF 34
K3ND136	W2LE 28
W2RQ123	K3GYS 12
K2PS106	

W3BGN continues as the undisputed Top of Top Band.

DIGITAL

W2UP335	W2YR 122
N2LT329	K2JF 113
K2PS285	W2LE 85
W3SB268	KQ3F 78
K2RW266	N2SS 53
W2YC238	N1RK 39
K2NJ235	K3GYS 15
AA2WN187	W8FJ 12
N3KN165	

MOBILE DX

W2YC276	K3GYS 143
AA1K269	AA2WN 131
N2SS234	W2YR 21
K2JF150	

1.5K Club

K2FL..... 1707	K2NJ.....1406
W3BGN 1694	W3CF1403
N2TK 1685	AA2WN.....1369
N2LT 1676	K2JF1350
W2UP 1659	NA2U1335
W2RQ 1623	W2CG1305
K2RW 1610	N1RK.....1277
W8FJ 1591	N2VW1258
N3RS 1581	K3CT1177
W2YC 1533	W2LE1141
N2SS 1517	W2YR.....1138
K2PS 1516	W3SB1132
N3RD 1515	K3NM.....1107
NO2R 1511	NZ3O1088
K3ND 1496	N3KN1065
KQ3F 1446	AB2E1055

Islands On The Air

K2FL..... 984	NZ3O317
N2SS 810	N2VW259
W2YC 600	W3CF253
W8FJ573	W2YR.....230
N1RK537	K3GYS214

6 METER DXCC

N2LT..... 106	N1RK.....57
K2NJ 100	N2SS.....55
AA1K 98	K2RW42
K2PS 96	W2YR.....41
K2JF 94	W2YC.....19
K3SX 75	AA2WN.....15
K3OO 71	K3GYS10
N3KN 61	



THE FRANKFORD RADIO CLUB NEWSLETTER

P. O. Box 431 Albury, PA 18011-0431



Affiliated Club

The Frankford Radio Club

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Repeater - 2 meters, 147.27/147.87 Output PL tone, 114.8

Home Page - www.gofrc.org

Meetings

Meetings are held on the 2nd Tuesday of each month (Sep through May) at 8 PM at the University of the Sciences, Philadelphia. Summer meetings are held at member homes (one Saturday/ Sunday per month).

Packet Cluster Contest/DX System

144.930 W3FRC
145.010 N3ED
145.650 K2TD
145.530 K3WW
145.530 AA1K
145.570 WT3Q
145.570 K2TW
145.590 N2NT
144.950 K3ZV
145.730 N2BIM
147.495 W3MM
145.670 W3PP
TBA W2JT

Telnet DX Cluster

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