



THE FRANKFORD RADIO CLUB NEWSLETTER

PROFICIENCY THROUGH COMPETITION

CALENDAR

May 2008:

- 10-11 CQ-M DX Contest
- 13 FRC Main Meeting, KofP**
- 13 Remy Meeting B**
- 15 T.I.T.S. Meeting, Noon**
- 17-18 Baltic Contest
- 24-25 CQWW WPX Contest, CW
- 27 Remy Meeting B**

June 2008:

- 10 Remy Meeting B**
- 19 T.I.T.S. Meeting, Noon**
- 21-22 All Asian DX Contest, CW
- 24 Remy Meeting B**
- 28-29 ARRL Field Day

July 2008:

- 1 RAC Canada Day Contest
- 8 Remy Meeting B**
- 12-13 IARU World Championship
- 13 FRC Summer Mtg, N3RD**
- 17 T.I.T.S. Meeting, Noon**
- 19-20 North Am. QSO Party, RTTY
- 22 Remy Meeting B**

CHANGES

Mobile Phone

W2YR—732 556-7307

Deadline for June issue:

Sunday, May 25, 2008

President's Column

Spring has arrived and it's once again the season to be outdoors. This is the time **FRCer's** start thinking about antennas - fixing the ones that are broken, and putting up new ones or experimenting with new ideas. Get started early! If you need help ironing out your thought processes ask questions. There is a huge pool of knowledge and experience within the club. If you need help building things or putting things up, ask, and ask early! We will need to be fully functional as a club in the fall, and the time between now and then will go quickly. Who knows?? We might even have some sunspots by October to bring the band conditions out of the doldrums of this protracted sunspot minimum.

We need volunteers to host summer meetings. At this point I am only aware of two summer meetings: Dave, **N3RD's** get-together scheduled for Sunday, July 13 and Mark, **K2AX's** affair in August (not sure what date). Are there others of you who would like to host a meeting? Let me know.

It is also time for our annual fund raiser, and return envelopes for contributions will be mailed within the next month or so.

Please plan on attending the May Meeting at the Firehouse in King of Prussia. I look forward to seeing many of you there on Tues, May 13th. The formal meeting will begin at 8 pm. Food and drink are available at the Firehouse before and during the meeting. **GO FRC! 73, John W8FJ**

New FRC Cluster Resource Available

My new AR Cluster node is up and running here in Northeast PA. Connect to w3tua.no-ip.org on standard port 23. There's also an RF port on 145.050. This node serves the Towanda, PA area of the Endless Mountains and parts of the Southern Tier of NY.

73, Korey W3TUA



Special thanks to Chas, **K3WW**, for traveling to Schwenksville and the QTH of W9QQ (SK) and removing all of the coax, rotor and control cables that were running over the ground in areas and preventing his XYL from mowing. It saved me a trip from Harrisburg, which I certainly appreciate and I know JoAnne appreciated his efforts!

73 de Glenn, K3SWZ

MEETINGS

Main Meeting

The main monthly meeting of the **Frankford Radio Club** will be held in King of Prussia on Tuesday, May 13 at 8 PM.

The firehouse address is 170 Allendale Road, King of Prussia, PA 19406. Phone number is 610-265-5635.



T.I.T.S. meeting—The Trexlertown International Transmitting Society meets on Thursday, May 15 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.

2008 FRC Fund Drive



The 2008 **FRC** Annual Fund Drive is now officially underway. This issue should contain a stamped envelope for your contribution.

Here a few reminders when getting ready to make your annual contribution to help keep our club running...

- 1) **PLEASE** make **ALL** checks payable to **FRANKFORD RADIO CLUB**, and **NOT KQ2M**.
- 2) **PLEASE** write your return address and callsign on the envelope.
- 3) **PLEASE** write your callsign/callsigns on the check.
- 4) **PLEASE** seal the envelope.

Each year quite a few people forget to do at least one of the above and we lose some contribution checks. Also, some people make a much-needed contribution but then do not receive credit for making it. Clearly no one wants that, so **PLEASE** take a few extra seconds to make sure that you follow #1 - 4 before you mail the envelope.

If for some reason you don't get an envelope, or you misplace it, you can send your contribution to:

Robert L. Shohet, KQ2M
51 Scudder Road
Newtown, CT 06470

As you know, these are contributions and not "dues" so there is no fixed rate. To set the scale, however, it may help you to know that the cost of operating the club last year was about \$50.00 per member

List of 2008 FRC Contributors as of May 2, 2008

K2UT	K3ZV	W2TV	W3GNQ
KQ2M	W0MHK	W3EA	W3SQ

FRC - THE 1958 ARRL DX CONTEST

By Carl Lump, K2CJ

Shortly after seeing all the 3830 scores reported on the **FRC** Reflector of the 2008 ARRL DX Contest a few weeks ago, including my own K2CJ contributions, I was reading the October 1958 QST (my daily ritual preparing to go off to work consists of some “Quality Time” perusing old QST’s – I think you get my drift). In doing so, I saw the Official Results of the 1958 ARRL International DX Competition on page 50. Seemed like it might make for an interesting **FRC** news-letter piece, so here it goes:

Apparently the Northeast got hit with a blizzard on March 20 that year, which was the day before the second CW week-end (yes, “back in the day” ARRL was two (2) weekends for each mode and, to boot, in the CW portion one had to contend with quotas of 6 Q’s per country !). Anyway, the blizzard seems to have wreaked havoc on antennas of the contest stations of the period, and thus there appears much whining in the Soapbox comments about the loss of primary antennae and the necessity of working the 2nd CW weekend with make-shift antennas. A quote in the QST summary article notes an East Coast contest club member characterizing the weekend as “ the battle of the dipoles”.

The overall winner of the CW side was KH6IJ with a world record score of 1.14 Meg. Boy – that call brings back memories – KH6IJ. High **FRC** CW single-op score was W3MFW, Russ Martin, operating W3ECR in Lancaster to 478K. The multi-op high for **FRC** was W3BES with 575K – with operators W3BES (W3GM), W3GXP and W3GYP. With a multi-op score of 253K (second place EPA) was the team of Harry Stark (W3CGS) and our beloved W3WJD (nice going Sig !). Also in the list of single op scores was John Possehl, W3KDF (W3KV), Gene Reynolds, W3EAN and W3MDE (any takers on the current call sign of W3MDE ? this is a test ! Jack - us OT’s remember !!)

Switching to Phone (really Phone), **FRC**’s single-op leader was Bud Green, W3DHM. I remember Bud showing up at the meetings at PCPS in his green Porsche (I think that’s what it was....). Bud’s phone score (no quotas) was 220K. Top multi-op for **FRC** on Phone was again W3BES with GXP & GYP. Clarence Fry W3KFQ was next with W3QKV, and in the show position was Harry Stark, W3CGS but this time with Alan Donziger, N3AD (then W3DQG) rather than Sig. I can hear Alan now shouting “CHARLIE GEORGE SUGAR, CHARLIE GEORGE SUGAR” - hi !

On both modes, other well-known **FRC**’ers were in there - Jesse W3KT, Roger W3EVW, Harry W3GHM, Dick Weiler W3GRS, Bob Wilson W3GHD, Bruce W3EQA, Ed W3ALB and many others. Oops – almost left out Delaware with Roy Belair W3IYE (W3NX) and Ed Limberger W3DRD, and South Jersey with Norm K2ERC (W2NS), Bob Scully W2FXN, Jack K2CPR, and Pete K2OEA among others.

FRC placed third in the Club Scores by the way. #1 was PVRC (5.9 Meg) with Vic Clark, W4KFC the CW single op winner and W3KDP on Phone. 2nd place (5.09 Meg) went to the Northern California DX Club and 3rd – **FRC** (5.06 Meg). Pretty interesting, huh ? Fifty years ago – 50 ! No CT, N1MM, Packet, Telnet, Voice Keyers. DX-100’s, Rangers and Valiants, 75A-4’s, HRO’s, homebrew amps.

Hope you enjoyed the brief look back !

73 de K2CJ (SWL in 1958, K3LJZ in 1960)

<http://www.lz1jz.com>



CONTESTING — TIPS, TECHNIQUES, RESOURCES

Reprinted with permission from the March 3, 2008 Contest Rate Sheet

Carl N4AA, editor of "QRZ DX" <<<http://www.dxpub.com/>>> notes that the saga of the Peter Dahl Co. has a happy ending. "Jeff Weinberg, W8CQ of Harbach Electronics, has purchased the rights to the name, the original transformer and choke specifications and designs, and the design equipment. The transformers will be built by MagCap Engineering using the original PWD specs, and sold through Harbach Electronics under the Peter Dahl name. The transformer and chokes will be FOB Canton, MA and shipped directly to the customer from MagCap." Positively transforming news, isn't it?

Another well-known name is changing hands, too: I.C.E. (Industrial Communication Engineers), maker of lightning arrestors, bandpass filters and other contest station fixtures, is up for sale. See <<<http://tinyurl.com/2apdne>>> for more details. (Thanks, Dave W9ZRZ)

Elecraft has added K3 receiver performance data to their comparison table at <<<http://elecraft.com/>>> - click on "Rig Comparisons" to find the information. The K3 turns in some fairly recherche performance in the strong-signal departments.

Lots of contesters travel - on business and to multi-op or expeditions - and boy, they lug a lot of stuff! A good discussion ensued on Slashdot <<<http://tinyurl.com/27s774>>> when a reader asked a question about slimming down travel electronics yet still having acceptable performance. Lots of tips and suggestions in this story might be useful to our portable brethren and sistern.

Jeff KE9V is impressed with the new Issuu publication Web site that converts PDF documents into stunning Web presentations. And so is your editor. Take a look at the manual for assembling a Rock-Mite QRP transceiver at <<<http://tinyurl.com/ytjsrv>>>. If you have project documentation or other material you'd like to publish on-line, this site is worth checking out.

Jim AD1C has been maintaining a Web site <<<http://www.dxcluster.info/>>> with a wealth of information on DX cluster nodes. He updates it at least monthly. If you know of information that is missing or find some that is incorrect, please let him know via the email address on the Web site.

WXSpots is a free, new, Internet based system designed to collect and quickly disseminate observed reports of severe weather to all connected users. It provides the means to help monitor and warn of local severe weather. It also retains a historical record of observations. In short, another way to keep tabs on the local weather if you're not near a radio. To download the software and learn more, point your browser at <<<http://www.wxspots.com/>>> (From the ARRL E-Letter, 22 Feb 2008)

More from ARRL Contest Branch Manager, Sean KX9X: "The Contest Branch is starting to step up enforcement of contest rules; we recently disqualified three entrants from the 2007 IARU results and we are now starting to send out notices of potential rules violations via email while the contest is still going on. The contesting community has taken notice of these efforts, with mixed results. You can read about the community's reaction to these events at <<<http://www.radio-sport.net/>>>

Steve K7LXC reminds the Rate Sheet's readership that soldered or brazed joints are not appropriate for lightning protection systems. The only NEC approved grounding connections are compression or exothermic (e.g. CadWeld). Why? Because soldered or brazed connections will vaporize from the high current of a strike. If you are trying to protect feedlines, grounding blocks and clamps designed for that use are available at electrical supply houses. Gene AD3F notes that the Polyphaser Web site <<http://www.polyphaser.com/technical_notes.aspx>> contains thirty white papers on grounding and lightning protections, all of which are good reads.

CONTESTING — TIPS, TECHNIQUES, RESOURCES

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Here's a good set of propagation URL's to bookmark for reading while you look for band openings:

KN4LF Daily LF/MF/HF/6M Frequency Radiowave Propagation Forecast

<<<http://www.kn4lf.com/kn4lf6.htm>>>

KN4LF Daily Solar Space Weather & Geomagnetic Data Archive

<<<http://www.kn4lf.com/kn4lf5.htm>>>

KN4LF Daily LF/MF/HF/6M Frequency Radiowave Propagation Forecast & Archive

<<<http://www.kn4lf.com/kn4lf6.htm>>>

KN4LF 160 Meter Radio Propagation Theory Notes: <<<http://www.kn4lf.com/kn4lf8.htm>>>

LF/MF/HF/VHF Frequency Radiowave Propagation Email Reflector:

<<<http://montreal.kotalampi.com/mailman/listinfo/kn4lf>>> (Thanks, Thomas KN4LF)

Reprinted with permission from the March 19, 2008 Contest Rate Sheet

If that second radio in one ear is too confusing, you may need more practice hearing different things in each ear. Our natural wiring expects and looks for the same sound in both ears. To do SO2R, we have to learn to turn off that circuit for a while. When you're on the air between contests, DXing or whatever, listen to regular old radio in one ear, such as the ball game, talk show, music. Anything but radio. This will help you get used to the two streams of audio. Later, you can graduate to two streams of radio chatter. Can the Top Ten be far behind?

While many of you tower toppers are already aware of the TowerJack appliance for getting tubular tower sections apart <<<http://www.towerjack.com/>>>, are you also aware that the same company makes a device to get them back together again? The Leg-Aliner puts the leverage where you need it and without that banging and those interesting words. (Thanks, Dino K6RIX)

If your feedlines occasionally get hung up on thrust bearing hardware at the top of the tower, Joe WD0M suggests Cool-Whip. "Well, it's the container, actually. I took the container, cut a hole in it the size of the mast, split it down the side so it could slip over the mast, put it on top of the tower upside down, then used tape to cover the container all the way around. That covered up the top of the tower, the thrust bearing bolts, and provided a smooth surface for the cables to slide over." For our non-US readers, Cool-Whip is a non-dairy version of whipped cream sold in round, plastic tubs. A post from Stan K5GO <<<http://www.k5go.com/>>> shares some information on an anti-icing paint, Wearlon Super F1. It has a high silicone content and sheds ice quickly. He has verified the anti-icing ability against unpainted antennas at his station. It is made specifically so that ice will not build up on the surface. My experience is that although I did not do the very best job of applying the paint, it works well. It has a high content of silicone. If ice starts to form, it slides off pretty quickly. For questions, he recommends calling distributor Nick Patenaude at Ecological Coatings in Clifton Park, NY (518-664-3468). The paint is expensive (\$189/gal), but far less expensive than replacing an antenna.



Watt Meters

Fill ALL your Thruline® wattmeter needs at <<<http://www.nm3e.com>>>

Featuring new and used meters, elements, loads and more by BIRD® and Coaxial Dynamics.

73 Tim Brown NM3E 610-207-4865

CONTESTING — TIPS, TECHNIQUES, RESOURCES

Reprinted with permission from the April 2, 2008 Contest Rate Sheet

Rob Sherwood NC0B of Sherwood Engineering recently published a new presentation called "Roofing Filters, Transmitted IMD & Receiver Performance" in PowerPoint and PDF formats. <<<http://www.sherweng.com/>>> Also posted is an MP3 audio file. Play the audio and follow along with the PPT or PDF. The presentation with audio lasts about an hour, followed by another 30 minutes about AGC in modern rigs. The presentation was made to the Boulder, Colorado Amateur Radio Club in February. (Thanks, Chet K8RA)

Tim K3LR announces the program list for the 2008 Dayton Hamvention Antenna Forum (Friday, May 16 from 1430-1700 EDT at Hara Arena): "Real World Antenna Patterns vs. Theoretical Computer Antenna Plots" by Mike Wetzel, W9RE and Tom Chance, K9XV "A New Approach for Measuring Complex Antenna Currents in a Vertical Array" by Greg Ordy, W8WWV "Multi-element Lowband Vertical Arrays - Approaches for Small Lots" by Dr Ted Rappaport, N9NB and Ray Sokola, K9RS And don't forget the Contest Supersuite <<http://contestsupsuite.com>> while you're at it!

After a weekend of mangling unusual call signs, your talking muscles may seem pretty worn out, especially if you used an unfamiliar call yourself! Take this as a sign that you should spend some time studying your regular contest call. Do the phonetics "flow" into each other so that your mouth works as little as possible? It might be a good idea to get together with a friend on a quiet band and try out different combinations of phonetics that have plenty of audio punch with a minimum of syllables and effort. You'll thank yourself after the next phone contest.

Reprinted with permission from the April 30, 2008 Contest Rate Sheet

Array Solutions <<<http://www.arrayolutions.com/>>> has a new antenna analyzer product -- the PowerAim 120. Designed for the commercial broadcast engineer, it would certainly make an exceptional tool for the HF/6 meter contesteer. The PowerAim can make measurements in the presence of significant strong-signal RF interference from nearby transmitters. The package includes sophisticated DSP PC-based software and reporting/graphing utilities. The product won the "Pick Hit" and "Cool Stuff" awards at the recent National Association of Broadcasters convention -- congratulations!

Force-12 Antennas, long rumored to be changing ownership, is now in the hands of Mark Hooper N5WEB. The Force 12 product line will be manufactured in Bridgeport, Texas (NW of Dallas-Fort Worth). Mark is a long-time ham with a career in electronics manufacturing. He plans on emphasizing customer service and support. You can check out the new Force-12 Web site at <<<http://force12inc.com/>>>. (Thanks, John K1AR)

Brush the rust into the dust! The Kansas City DX Club is sponsoring its annual CW Pile Up Contest on Saturday night of the Dayton Hamvention weekend in the KCDXC Hospitality Suite at the Crowne Plaza, as for the last 25+ years! The test will begin at 7 PM and run until midnight! An Icom IC-7000 is the top prize again this year! (Thanks, Alex KU1CW)

If you are really, really, really anxious for the sunspots to return, you can watch for them on a real-time sunspot telescope <<<http://tinyurl.com/4d5cka>>> that tracks the Sun. If you are patient, you'll see clouds go by. It's not even necessary to wear sunglasses when viewing the solar disk this way! The telescope is covered if inclement weather occurs. (Thanks, Dave K4SAV and QRZ DX)

For those of you following Skimmer development, Felipe, PY1NB has activated query capability at <<<http://skimmer.dxwatch.com/>>> so that you can find out what is being heard by a given Skimmer (aka -- "reverse beacon"), by whom, on what bands, etc. For example, you can see what European stations were heard first on a given band on a given day in the US. (Thanks, Pete N4ZR)

Bob N6TV put together a good set of PowerPoint slides <<<http://tinyurl.com/3ok29m>>> about the new SDR-based technology options available to contesters. Whatever your position regarding these enhancements, Bob provides some good resources to evaluate them further.

Even if you're a triple-shot espresso buff, take a week or so to cut back on your caffeine consumption before tackling a 48-hour contest. That way, once in the contest, small amounts of caffeine in sodas or coffee or energy drinks will have a much greater effect. Save the boost for when you really need it.

CONTESTING — TIPS, TECHNIQUES, RESOURCES

Reprinted with permission from the April 16, 2008 Contest Rate Sheet

The 2008 Dayton Hamvention Contest Forum will be held on Saturday, May 17, from 11:45 AM to 2:15 PM in HARA Arena EDT Room 1. The forum will be moderated by Doug Grant K1DG. The topics span history to cutting-edge technology:

"Passing the NCJ torch" by Carl Luetzelschwab K9LA and Alan Dewey K0AD

"When giants walked the bands - the early days of multi-multi" by Doug Zwiebel KR2Q

"SDR and Contesting - The Future is Now" by Pete Smith N4ZR and the CW Skimmer

"Beamforming on 160 Meters" by Victor Kean K1LT

"Contesting with 28 Miles of Feedline" by John Battin K9DX (Remote station operation)

"The Great 2008 Contest Technology Debate" by Barry Merrill W5GN, and Bob Naumann W5OV (Thanks, K1DG)

Jamie NS3K has updated the WRTC rankings with some newly published scores <<http://wrtc.radio-sport.net/US_ranks0408.htm>> and there has been some movement in the US regions. Check out Jamie's terrific radiosporting news site for some good reading and to see who's zooming by who lately!

Digital contesters may want to put this on their Dayton to-attend list: Shelby K4WW announces the 2008 Dayton RTTY Forum from 1230 to 1330 on Saturday, May 17 - in Room 2 at Hara Arena. Speakers will be Ed W0YK and Fred WW4LL. Ed will talk about the history of the NA RTTY Sprint contest, operating techniques for beginner and seasoned contesters, and an overview of the log submittal and log checking process for Sprint. Fred will report on recent WPX M/M operations at W8JI.

If you missed the "60 Minutes" story about John Kanzias K3TUP's innovative RF-based approach to cancer treatment, the program is on-line at <<<http://tinyurl.com/6lft2n>>> While the exact words "ham radio" were not used, they did show him at his rig sending "TEST DE K3TUP" on the paddles. A television professional, John was also responsible for this video about WRTC-96 <<<http://tinyurl.com/k8las%3E>>>. (Thanks, Bob N6TV)

Go mow the yard! Spring is a good time of year to play "Hide the Ground Radials". If the thought of trenches in the sod raises the blood pressure of you or your spouse, here's a time-tested, no-digging procedure. Get out the mower, sharpen its blade, and cut the grass as short as possible. Yes, that short! Scalp it! Then lay out the radials and hold them down against the crew-cut blades with short U-shaped pieces of wire placed every couple of feet or so along the radial. (Cheap iron wire will do nicely and rusts away fairly quickly.) In a couple of weeks the grass will have completely covered the radials and you'll never trip over them or hit them with the mower! The grass will continue to work the wire down until it hits the soil. Grass clippings and earthworm activity will contrive to bury it.

A Lightning Protection Yahoogroups forum <<<http://tech.groups.yahoo.com/group/LightningProtection>>> has been established. This is a moderated technical forum for all aspects of power quality so there are plenty of topics that might strike your fancy! (Thanks, Rick O'Keefe)

Instructions for building a switchable "Field Day" stub that reduces interference between stations on 40/20/15/10 are on the Hands-On Radio Web site <<<http://www.arrl.org/tis/info/HTML/Hands-On-Radio>>>. (This was originally suggested by K6LL or N2IC.) Download Experiment #22 on "Stubs". At the 80/75-meter station, attach a 1/4-wave shorted stub as that will act as a short on 40, 20, 15, and 10 with varying degrees of attenuation on the higher bands. For the complete (and I mean COMPLETE) story, get a copy of W2VJN's book "Managing Interstation Interference" from International Radio <<<http://www.qth.com/inrad>>>.

Mario S56A notes that COM ports implemented via USB generally don't support the RTTY Baudot standard. As it turns out, there is at least one known USB adapter that does. Mike NF4L replied that AA5AU's authoritative RTTY Web site <<http://www.aa5au.com/gettingstarted/rtty_start8.htm>> lists the Belkin F5U103 as being an adapter that will run 5-bit Baudot code. Little things like this can derail big efforts!

ARRL Card Checking at Dayton Hamvention

DXCC staff and volunteers will be checking cards at the 2008 Dayton Hamvention during all hours of operation on Friday, Saturday and Sunday. The Dayton Hamvention is May 16-18 at the Hara Arena in Dayton, Ohio. ARRL DXCC Manager Bill Moore, NC1L, said, "Many hams travel from all over the world to attend Hamvention, so card checkers are especially busy." Card checkers will be checking cards for the following ARRL awards: DXCC, Worked All States (WAS), VHF/UHF Century Club (VUCC) and Worked All Continents (WAC). In order to help applicants and the card checkers through the process to avoid delays and allow the checkers to serve everyone, Moore offers the following tips:

Preparation

- * There is a 120 card limit per applicant.
- * Make sure that cards are in proper order -- band first, then mode. Applicants should place cards with multiple QSOs at the end.
- * The order on the record sheet must match the order of the cards. The latest forms are on the DXCC Web site <<<http://www.arrl.org/awards/dxcc/>>>.
- * Have all paperwork completed before coming to the table, and make sure everything is legible.
- * List only those QSOs for which you want credit.
- * Applicants planning to do a hybrid application (paper application with Logbook of The World) should do the LoTW portion just prior to leaving for Dayton.

Upon Arrival

- * Take a number.
- * Stay in line.
- * Notify the card checker of anything important before they start checking cards. The card checker, upon finishing checking the cards, will review any problem(s) with the applicant.
- * Stay with the card checker until completion.
- * Vendors may drop off their application to a checker and return later for pickup.

Upon Completion

- * The card checker will return your cards to you; DXCC staff will not keep any cards.
- * The card checker will advise applicants of the final fees upon completion of the application.
- * Payment is due upon completion of your application. Applicants may pay for their award in the following ways: Credit Card or Cash (US or Euro only), Check (from USA bank only), Money Order (US or International). DXCC will not bill applicants.
- * For the latest fee information, please see DXCC Rule 15 <<<http://www.arrl.org/awards/dxcc/rules.html>>>. Moore advises that, if possible, applicants should bring a copy of their last credit slip. "Remember," Moore said, "if you are doing a hybrid application -- LoTW plus cards -- be sure you do the LoTW element prior to leaving for Hamvention." If you have questions concerning the DXCC program, please contact DXCC desk via e-mail <dxcc@arrl.org>.

Japanese Amateurs Receive More Privileges on 75/80 Meters:

Japan's Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications (MIC) announced that Japan's Table of Frequency Allocations and the Japanese Amateur Bandplan <<http://www.jarl.or.jp/English/6_Band_Plan/JAbandplan.pdf>> have been amended, giving amateurs in that country more privileges on certain frequency blocks in the 75/80 meter band. Japanese amateurs are now allowed to operate the following additional frequencies on the 75/80 meters: 3.599-3.612 MHz, 3.680 to 3.687 MHz, 3.702-3.716 MHz, 3.745-3.747 MHz and 3.754-3.770 MHz.

As of April 28, 2008, Japanese amateurs have privileges on the following frequencies in the 75/80 meter band:

3.500-3.520 MHz (CW only)

3.520-3.525 MHz (Digital Mode and CW)

3.525-3.575 MHz (CW and Phone)

3.599-3.612 MHz (CW and Phone)

3.680-3.687 MHz (CW and Phone)

3.702-3.716 MHz (CW and Phone)

3.745-3.770 MHz (CW and Phone) and

3.791-3.805 MHz (CW and Phone).

"This makes it a bit easier for US amateurs to make contacts with Japanese amateurs, especially in contests, since Japan does not have phone privileges on the 160 meter band," said ARRL Membership Services Manager Dave Patton, NN1N. "These new privileges will also make it easier for DXpeditions to work Japan." -- Information provided by JARL

<<<http://www.jarl.or.jp/English/>>>

Eastern Pennsylvania Section Convention

The Harrisburg Radio Amateurs Club (HRAC) has been given approval to have their annual Hamfest in Bressler, PA labeled as the EPA Section Convention. The annual event is held on July 4th. Further information, including directions, are available at <http://hrac.tripod.com/>. We are looking forward to the 2008 event with the Harrisburg group hosting the Section Convention. Put this event on your calendar for July 4, 2008 and plan to attend. See you there.

73, Eric, WB3FPL, EPA Section Manager

(Editor's note: KQ3F is treasurer for the Harrisburg Radio Amateurs Club)

Spring is Here!!!

Work Wanted:

Experienced tower climber immediately available to perform antenna and tower maintenance.

Install/repair/remove antennas, replace feedlines and cabling, rotator servicing, guy wire renewal, new tower installations (guyed and self-supporting), and tower removal.

Reasonable hourly rates and scheduling that meets your needs.

Contact: John Crovelli W2GD

w2gd@hotmail.com

New Reach Number: 908 391 5611 (Mobile)



Notes From Your Editor

It's May! That can only mean it's time for Dayton. I was able to arrange for an extra day's coverage for my wife here at home, so K2SB, N2VW and I will actually be headed out to Dayton a day early. No, not to attend the Contest University but to spend a day at the Air Force museum at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base. The last time I was there was about ten years ago and since that time I understand it has almost tripled in size. As an ex-Air Force type I am really looking forward to spending the day there and to taking some photographs. When we return I'll put a slide show up on my www.pixgargano.com photography site to compliment some of my air show photos on the site.

Speaking of that photo site, I know that some of you have enjoyed the Wing Bowl pictures I posted there. Well, now you will be able to see of them in print. In the July issue of Penthouse Magazine they will be doing a feature on Wing Bowl and they have purchased the rights to 10 of my pictures for use in the feature. I have been an avid photographer for many years but never thought my first published photo credits would be in Penthouse Magazine! Center folds next?

NAB Show

During April, I attended my 40th National Association of Broadcasters convention in Las Vegas. Missed Bob Heil out there this time, so I'll have to catch up with him at Dayton. I did sign in at the ARRL desk but missed the ham reception this year. Shame. Always lots of nice door prizes. Attended a live demonstration of the next "hot new technology" – 3D-HD. Really, really cool stuff!
OFFICIAL ARRL DXCC STATS

Active Count.....	338
Deleted Count.....	58
Last Addition.....	FJ
Last Deletion.....	ST0

3V8 TUNISIA

Z31MM and Z33F will be signing as **3V8SS** from May 15th to 26th. (Not particularly rare but you gotta love that call sign!) Operation will be on RTTY, PSK, CW, SSB and SSTV. That should satisfy a lot folks mode requirements. QSLs will be handled by IZ8FWN.

4W TIMOR

CT1ERC, EA1QF, EA3CUU, EA4KA, EA4DB and EA5BWR are planning an all band SSB, CW and RTTY operation as **4W6R**. Best estimate for operating dates at this time is Jun 1st to 15th. The group will have 2 stations on the air at all times and when they depart, will leave one of the stations set up permanently at the University of Dili for use by students there. Visit the dxpedition's web site at: www.ure.es/hf/eadx/expediciones/4w2008/ for the latest info and for on line log checking once operations begin. The organizer of the dxpedition, URE (the Spanish Amateur Radio League) will handle the QSL chores. QSL direct or via the bureau to EA4URE.

A5 BHUTAN

OZ1TL should be on by the time you are reading this as **A52TL**. He plans an all band 160 through 10 meters operation, CW only and with a concentration on the low bands. He's scheduled to be there through May 30th. QSL via his home call.

VR HONG KONG

For those of you who collect Olympics QSL cards, in celebration of the XXIX Olympiad to be held in

Beijing, the Hong Kong Amateur Radio DX Association has been granted permission to operate special event station **VR20080** from July 15th to 31 August. Activity will be on 40 through 6 meters SSB, RTTY and PSK31. QSL direct only to VR2XMT.

ZL7 CHATHAM ISLANDS

Look for a quickie operation by VK2CZ as **ZL7M** on May 10th and 11th. QSL to the home call.

ZS8 MARION ISLAND

ZS6GCM expects to be on air May 9th and should be on until about the end of the month signing as ZS8T. Visit Petrus' web site for the latest details. The URL for the site has to be one of the shortest on the web! <http://zs8t.net>

DX ALERT LEGEND

-  160 METER ALERT
-  IOTA ALERT
-  Digital Mode ALERT
-  WARC BAND ALERT

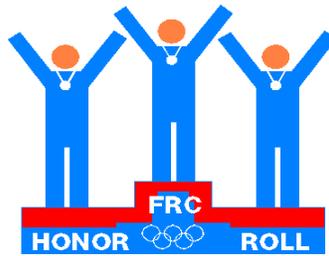
N2 Special salute

Have you made your contribution yet? Contribute to your Newsletter and get the "S" "S".

©

73, Tony N2SS

You can reach me as follows:
H:856-227-4896 C:609-221-4899
n2ss@n2ss.com



MAY

conducted by N2SS

2008

WARC BANDS

<u>30 Meters</u>	<u>17 Meters</u>	<u>12 Meters</u>
K2FL .. 337	K2FL...340	N2TK ..330
N2TK335	N2TK 339	K2FL.....327
N2LT326	N2LT 337	N2LT.....323
W3BGN....324	W3BGN ... 333	W3BGN...317
W2YC.....312	N2SS 325	WØMHK..310
N2SS297	WØMHK.. 322	N2SS.....303
W8FJ.....298	W2UP..... 321	W2YC.....280
W2UP292	W2YC 316	K2PS.....269
K2PS290	K2PS 311	W2UP267
N3RD.....284	W8FJ 298	W8FJ.....233
WØMHK ..279	W2IRT..... 266	N1RK.....218
W2IRT239	N1RK..... 261	K3II.....203
K3II.....234	K3II 256	W2LE 198
W2LE.....221	W2LE 244	W2YR.....187
N2VW.....165	K2AX 224	W2IRT131
AB2E156	W2YR 203	W2IRT105
N1RK.....134	AB2E..... 127	AB2E92
W2YR.....134	K3ND 127	K2AX77
K3ND.....91	N2VW..... 123	N2VW.....35
K2AX.....72	K3GYS..... 85	K3GYS.....30
K3GYS17		

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



ARRL DXCC Challenge

N2LT 2964	N2SS 1952
N2TK 2925	N1RK 1908
W2YC 2721	W2IRT 1827
WØMHK ... 2628	W2YR 1712
K2PS 2295	AB2E..... 1104

Lew takes over the lead as Tony corrects his totals to eliminate deleted!

Rules for FRC Honor Roll Listings.

DXCC Challenge is CONFIRMED total ACTIVE (no deleted) per ARRL rules. For all others provide me with your total IOTA's 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.

160 Meters

W3BGN304	WØMHK 152
AA1K301	K2FL..... 151
WT3Q.....272	K3ND..... 137
N2LT264	W2IRT 115
N2TK.....256	K2PS 112
NO2R.....243	N2VW..... 103
K3SX241	AB2E 100
W8FJ231	K2AX..... 91
K3JIG230	W2YR..... 83
W2UP219	N2SS 79
W2YC.....208	K3NL 70
K3II160	W2LE..... 64
N3RS156	N1RK..... 56
.....	K3GYS 12

Another FRC'er Top Bander attains the magical 300 mark. Congratulations Jon. W3BGN, the ultimate 160 Meter DXer however, continues at the **Top of Top Band!**



Digital

W2UP.....342	W2YR..... 132
N2LT339	KQ3F 132
K2PS.....298	N2SS 53
W2YC.....287	N1RK..... 39
W2IRT.....171	K3GYS 15
W2LE141	W8FJ..... 12



MOBILE DX

AA1K.....277	K3GYS 143
W2YC.....276	W2YR..... 28
N2SS.....234	

Well, he's done it! Jon is now our official Big Wheel.



1.5K Club

K2FL..... 1725	N2SS.....1543
W3BGN 1711	K3ND1508
N2TK..... 1703	WØMHK1478
N2LT..... 1703	K3II1449
W2UP 1684	N2VW1315
N3RS..... 1638	N1RK.....1309
W8FJ 1612	W2LE1193
W2YC 1598	AB2E1185
N3RD..... 1578	W2YR.....1157
NO2R..... 1556	W2IRT.....1147
K2PS..... 1544	K2AX1063



Islands On The Air

K2FL..... 1021	N1RK.....555
N2SS 846	N2VW.....275
W2YC 674	W2YR.....248
W8FJ 623	W2IRT.....232
WØMHK..... 381	K3GYS232
.....	AB2E205



6 METER DXCC

N2LT..... 110	N1RK.....57
K2PS 108	N2SS.....55
WØMHK..... 106	W2YR.....44
AA1K.....99	W2YC.....38
K30090	K2AX21
K3SX.....75	N2TK.....20
.....	K3GYS10

N2LT is right back at the top of 6 Meters!



THE FRANKFORD RADIO CLUB NEWSLETTER

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



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The Frankford Radio Club

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Repeater - 2 meters, 147.27/147.87 Input and 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

144.950 K3ZV
145.050 W3TUA
145.530 AA1K
145.530 K3WW
145.570 WT3Q
145.670 W3PP

Telnet DX Cluster

k2ut.gofrc.org
k3ww.gofrc.org 7300
w3tua.no-ip.org