



# THE PROPAGATOR

Holmdel, NJ 07733  
Editor: Bob Buus, W2OD

**MARCH 2014**

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## UPCOMING GSARA MEETINGS

The first GSARA meeting for March will be held on **Wednesday, March 5 at 7:30 PM** at the Red Cross. The program for this meeting is "Ham Radio--Laughing Matter" by our President John King, KA2F. This audio-visual program will feature a selection of themes from Gil's QST cartoons that have proved true and accurate with local hams. Guests are welcome and light refreshments will be served.

The second meeting in March will be held on **Wednesday, March 19 at 7:30 PM** at the Red Cross. This will be a regular business meeting. As always, refreshments will be served and guests are always welcome.

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## GSARA NET 8:30 PM TUESDAYS

Did you know that there is a get-together of GSARA members on the Asbury Park repeater every Tuesday at 8:30 pm? In the four sessions in February, we have had 18 check-ins for an average of 4.5 per session. Surely we can do better than that in March! The following 9 members checked into this net at least once (number of check-ins in parenthesis):

N2HGI (4), W2OD (4), KD2EPA (2), K2QXW (2), KC2YNL (2), KG2CM, (1), KA2F (1), W2KQ (1), and N2LXM (1).

Mark your calendar so you remember to participate. The more participation, the more fun!

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## GSARA E-MAIL ADDRESS

Although our old e-mail address still works, we have arranged with the ARRL to forward any mail to [w2gsa@arrl.net](mailto:w2gsa@arrl.net) to us. Many of you will find this easier to remember.

## VE TEST SESSION MARCH 22

The GSARA monthly test session will be held on Saturday, March 22 at 11 am at the Red Cross in Tinton Falls. The fee is \$15 and you should bring the original and a copy of any amateur license presently held and the original and one copy of any credit (CSCE) forms that you have (copies will be sent in with your test results). Also bring 2 forms of ID with one being a photo ID. For more information, contact Rich Bilon, N3RB at 732-972-1397 or [n3rb@aol.com](mailto:n3rb@aol.com).

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## RADIO ROOM OPEN SATURDAYS

The GSARA radio room in the back of the Red Cross is open most Saturday afternoons. Simply drive all the way around to the back, where the antennas are located, to the RED DOOR. You have a choice of ways to gain entry (in order of preference):

1. Call W2GSA on the repeater 147.045 (pl 67)
2. Call on the telephone 732-493-9100 ext. 1252
3. Ring the door bell (CW preferred)
4. Bang on the door until either someone opens or your fist gets sore.

Hopefully, someone will let you in where you can operate or kibitz with others as you choose.

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## GSARA HOMEPAGE

<http://www.gardenstateara.org>

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## HUDSON DIVISION HOME PAGE

<http://www.hudson.arrl.org>

## GSARA OFFICERS

President	KA2F	John King	942-7705
Vice Pres.	W2HTS	Howard Suffill	460-1885
Secretary	W2OD	Bob Buus	946-8615
Treasurer	K2QXW	Bruce McLeod	946-4368
Engineer	W2EPD	George Graulich	255-7916
Webmaster	KE2V	Vince Rosati	229-3283
Publicity	NJ2H	Bill Shockley	207-4466
Repeater	N2LXM	Jeff Harshman	922-0816
Radio Room Phone		732-493-9100, X1252	
Trustees	W2KQ	Joe Dreifuss	493-4236
	W2OD	Bob Buus	946-8615
	W2HAM	Lou Russo	842-6431

## DX MEETINGS UP IN THE AIR

The DX meetings on the last Monday of each month have become a bit sporadic due to lack of interest. If you would like to meet, please contact Joe, W2KQ to find if the meeting will take place and whether it will be at the Red Cross or at the Blue Swan Diner. The last Monday of March is on the 24<sup>th</sup>.

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## PATCHES

We have GSARA patches available at all meetings and they cost \$3.

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## OUTGOING QSL CARDS

If any GSARA members wish to combine their QSL cards that are going through the outgoing ARRL Bureau, please bring them to the next GSARA meeting along with the label from a recent QST Magazine (you must be an ARRL member to participate in this program). Ray, WA1FFT will then send them on to ARRL at no charge to GSARA members. It couldn't be much easier than that to QSL. You are registered at the W2 incoming bureau, aren't you?

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## PROPAGATOR NOW ON THE WEB

The *Propagator* is available as a PDF file at:

<http://www.gardenstateara.org>

Click on "The Propagator" and then select the month you want.

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2 million bicycles = 2 megacycles

## EDITOR'S NOTES

Many of you have not yet renewed your dues for 2014. Per our Constitution, those not paid by March are dropped from the Roster and no longer receive *The Propagator*. Those receiving a paper copy of *The Propagator* in the mail can see their dues status on the mailing label on the last page. Hopefully, those who receive *The Propagator* via e-mail will be notified if they are in arrears. Please take care of this promptly.

New members are joining GSARA at a good pace with four new members in February (see page 5). I find it quite a coincidence that Mark, WA2ILB first joined 25 years ago (see page 7) and is rejoining now.

John, KA2F and I certainly had a very enjoyable and inspiring visit with Rusty, K2LL who turns 105 in June (see page 6). We hope to arrange another visit this spring.

John wrote the Bud Waite article (see page 5) over a month ago but I didn't have room for it in the February Propagator. I found it interesting that Bud discovered that radio altimeters work differently over ice than they do over water or land. He was quite an individual and we should be proud that he was a GSARA member.

The ARRL's 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary convention in Hartford should be a very good one (see page 7). John, KA2F has asked the members about their interest in going and whether GSARA should go as a group. Think about it as it will be discussed in upcoming meetings.

Finally, note the terrible tower accident in Idaho (see page 7). You can't be too careful – especially with crank-up towers.

If you are interested in obtaining a [gardenstateara.org](http://www.gardenstateara.org) email address which will give you webmail and POP3/SMTP access, please send an email to Josh at [kc2tkk@gardenstateara.org](mailto:kc2tkk@gardenstateara.org) with your First Name, Last Name, and Call Sign. Your email address [call\\_sign@gardenstateara.org](mailto:call_sign@gardenstateara.org) will be created and the login information sent back to the email address your request came from.

As always, I appreciate feedback or material for *The Propagator*. The deadline for the April issue is March 15. 73 de Bob, [w2od@arrl.net](mailto:w2od@arrl.net)

## MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 19 MEETING

**By Bob Buus, W2OD, Secretary**

President John King, KA2F was absent as was Vice President Howard, W2HTS so the meeting was called to order by Secretary Bob, W2OD at 7:35 PM at the Red Cross. There were 10 members and 2 guests present. Guests were Art Gray, AL2O from Matawan and a Chinese man and his son from Holmdel who were interested in learning about amateur radio. After the pledge to the flag, all present introduced themselves.

### Health and Welfare

Ralph, KC2YNL is going for another back treatment on Thursday and is doing well but can't yet come to the meetings.

John, KA2F is suffering from an upper respiratory infection and couldn't attend the meeting.

Howard, W2HTS is also under the weather and was absent from the meeting.

### Secretary's Report

A motion was made by Jeff, N2LXM and seconded by Joe, W2KQ to accept the secretary's report from the last meeting as was published in the February Propagator. The motion passed unanimously.

### Treasurer's Report

The treasurer's report was presented by Treasurer Bruce, K2QXW. A motion was made by Joe, W2KQ and seconded by Bill, NJ2H to accept the report and it passed unanimously.

Bruce mentioned that only 26 members and 3 families have renewed their dues for 2014 and we have 29 members yet to pay.

### VE Program

Rich, N3RB reported that we have one person signed up for the VE session on February 22 and one for Sunday, February 23. He has enough VEs to cover both of these sessions. It was suggested that the newer VEs be contacted and encouraged to attend any of these sessions to "learn the ropes." Bill, NJ2H volunteered to compile a list of all VEs in GSARA.

### New Members

An application for membership was received with initiation fee and first year's dues from Roger "Mark" Ziegler, WA2ILB from Pittsburg, NH. He lived in New Jersey prior to his retirement from Bell Labs. Licensed since 1959, Mark holds an Advanced Class license and is active on HF as well as 2-meter FM. He likes chasing DX and rag chewing. A life member of ARRL, Mark also enjoys photography, snowmobiling, fishing and shooting. A motion was made by Jeff, N2LXM and seconded by Bill, NJ2H to accept Mark, WA2ILB as an active member of the GSARA. The motion passed unanimously.

An application for membership was received with initiation fee and first year's dues from Chris Golden, KD2FDD from Long Branch, NJ. Licensed since 2013, he already holds an Extra Class license. Chris is a retired software engineer and is interested in setting up a station to make radio contacts and is interested in EME communication. Other interests include pool, billiards, biking and research. A motion was made by Jeff, N2LXM and seconded by Bill, NJ2H to accept Chris, KD2FDD as an active member of the GSARA. The motion passed unanimously.

An application for membership was received with initiation fee and first year's dues from Rich Gall, KD2FLE from East Brunswick, NJ. First licensed in 1989 but then letting it expire, he passed his General Class exam this year. Rich is active on 2 meters and 70 cm with a Kenwood TM-721A dual-band transceiver. He's interested in antique radios, working of electronic gear, woodworking, travel and reading. He is a member of ARRL. A motion was made by Jeff, N2LXM and seconded by Bill, NJ2H to accept Chris, KD2FDD as an active member of the GSARA. The motion passed unanimously.

An application for membership was received with initiation fee and first year's dues from Rich Meyer, KD2FHT from Neptune, NJ. An ARRL member, he obtained his Technician license in 2013 and is on 2 meters and 70 cm with a Yaesu FT-7900R. Rich is a telephone company technician and is interested in firefighting and music. He plans to upgrade and get on the HF

bands. A motion was made by Jeff, N2LXM and seconded by Bill, NJ2H to accept Chris, KD2FDD as an active member of the GSARA. The motion passed unanimously.

#### Repeater

Bob, W2OD reported that we have heard from MetroCor regarding the change in call sign to our repeater and that the only missing information was a letter from Frank, WB2ABT relinquishing his control. Frank sent such as letter by e-mail so we now only have to wait 30 days for our application to be reviewed by surrounding coordinating bodies for any unexpected objections.

With this looking like a slam dunk, there was discussion as to whether we should change the repeater call sign immediately or wait for formal approval. The consensus was to wait for the approval but have all the technical work completed so that the transition can be made immediately after approval.

#### Old Business

Jeff, N2LXM brought a telephone interface donated by W2RWJ that permits connecting two telephones such that if one goes off-hook, the other rings. We now need only to put a wall-mounted phone in a weather-proof box alongside the back door and connect it to a telephone in the radio room. Once implemented, one can gain access to the radio room by going to the back door, picking up the handset and whoever is in the radio room can then go out to let the person in. Bob, W2OD will check his junk box for the necessary telephones.

#### New Business

A motion was made by Jeff, N2LXM and seconded by Cy, K2CYS to make Bob Boule, W2OKM an honorary member of GSARA. Bob is a top DXer in the world with 394 confirmed countries and was our guest speaker at the last meeting. He was also a GSARA member many years ago. The motion passed unanimously.

#### Program

The planned program by John, KA2F was canceled. Instead, John asked Bob, W2OD to report on their visit with Rusty Schmid, K2LL in January. Rusty lives in Seabrook Village and has been an active ham since 1931. He will be 105 years old on June 27, 2014. Although he is blind

and needs a hearing aid, Rusty is in remarkably good health and has a very sharp mind. He reads a lot of talking books of a technical nature and has a wide range of interests. He still reads QST (in the audio version) and keeps up with the latest technology. It was truly inspiring to converse with someone who has led such an interesting life.

#### Close

There being no further business, a motion was made by Rich, N3RB and seconded by Joe, W2KQ to close the meeting which was adjourned at 8:30 pm.

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### **JOE CROWDER, N2GOG - SK**

Lowell E. "Joe" Crowder, 90, of 261 Jervis Road, Grove City, PA, passed away the evening of February 23, 2014 at Grove City Medical Center, Grove City, PA. Born July 16, 1923 in Liberal, Kansas, he was a son of Rolla and Ola Crowder. Joe is survived by his wife of 62 years, Betty C. Ferguson Crowder. He served his country in the U.S. Navy during WWII. During his service he was stationed in California, Texas, and 3 years in Okinawa, Japan. After his military service he attended barber school in Decatur, Illinois. He was a federal government employee, working in electronics technology at Ft. Monmouth, NJ. Joe and his wife lived several places over the years, making him a lifetime member of the American Legion, Elks, and VFW in Illinois, New Jersey, and in Mesa, Arizona. He was also a member of the Masons when living in Hammond, Illinois, and a hospital volunteer both in Arizona and New Jersey. Among his many interests, Joe enjoyed amateur radio, golf, bowling, playing cards, and mowing his yard. While in New Jersey, he was a member of the Neptune Amateur Radio Club and the Ocean-Monmouth Amateur Radio Club.

In addition to his wife Betty, he is survived by his daughter-in-law, Lana Crowder, of Grove City, PA; a brother, a sister, and several nieces and nephews. A Memorial Service was held on February 27, 2014, at the R. Cunningham Funeral Home in New Castle, PA. Memorial contributions may be made to Family Hospice and Palliative Care, 1965 Shenango Valley Freeway #2, Hermitage, PA 16148.

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Please welcome Mark Ziegler, WA2ILB to the GSARA. Mark holds an Advanced Class license and retired from Bell Labs. He is on 80 through 6 meters SSB and 2 meter FM. Please add to your roster:

**WA2ILB**, Mark Ziegler  
44 Stewart Young Road  
Pittsburg, NH 03592  
603-538-6695  
wa2ilb@arrl.net

Please welcome Chris Golden, KD2FDD to the GSARA. Chris recently passed the Extra Class exam and is setting about to build his station. He is a retired software engineer. Add to your roster:

**KD2FDD**, Chris Golden  
231 Long Branch Avenue  
Long Branch, NJ 07740  
732-229-3730  
[shore.thing@verizon.net](mailto:shore.thing@verizon.net)

Please welcome Rich Gall, KD2FLE to the GSARA. Rich held a Novice license in 1989 but let it expire. He recently passed his General exam and is on 2 meters and 70 cm. Please add to your roster:

**KD2FLE**, Rich Gall  
7 Allwood Road  
East Brunswick, NJ 08816  
732-247-5962  
rgall@comcast.net

Please welcome Rich Meyer, KD2FHT to the GSARA. Rich holds a Technician Class license and is on 2 meters and 70 cm FM. Add to your roster:

**KD2FHT**, Rich Meyer  
28 West Jumping Brook Road  
Neptune, NJ 07753  
732-918-0674  
icemansccs@gmail.com

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## BUD WAITE, W2ZK REMEMBERED

The news just reported the “rescue” of the 52 tourist “scientists” from the chartered Russian cruise ship MV Akademik Shokalskiy, trapped in the sea ice of Antarctica 22 miles from open water since Christmas day. A Chinese helicopter flew the passengers to the Aurora Australis which transported them to Hobart, New Zealand. They

were ice-bound in one of the windiest places on earth (by Guinness Book of Records standards), in Commonwealth Bay, Antarctica.

A GSARA member from years ago made history on the ice of Antarctica. This was Amory “Bud” Waite, W2ZK of Oceanport, N.J.

Waite said, “I got hooked on radio when I met a Navy radio operator and saw him operate his wireless set. This led me to enlist in the Navy for four years in World War I.” His knowledge of radio communication brought Waite to Antarctica, to Little America, as chief radio operator on Admiral Byrd’s Second Antarctic Expedition, 1933 to 1935.

In 1934, Byrd set out to spend the winter alone at Advance Camp, the southernmost weather station, 123 miles south of Little America on the Ross Ice Shelf. Byrd reported his scientific observations daily by radio to his headquarters station at Little America. After a few months, many back at Little America began to fear that Byrd was suffering from carbon monoxide poisoning from his kerosene heater. After two failed attempts, Dr. Thomas Poulter, Pete Demas and Bud Waite arrived and rescued Byrd.

Waite later participated in 22 other polar expeditions. After World War II, Waite was head of an Arctic and Antarctic research team that did much scientific research that greatly increased knowledge of the polar regions. While investigating the unusual number of plane crashes while landing on ice, he discovered that radio waves penetrated the ice instead of reflecting back to determine the plane’s altitude. This led to his method of measuring ice thickness using radio waves rather than seismic recording after buried explosions in the ice.

In 1960, a portion of the Antarctic continent located at 73 degrees south and 103 degrees west was officially named Cape Waite. Before Bud died in January, 1985, a group of islands 100 miles northwest of Cape Waite have been named The Waite Islands.

For all his accomplishments “Bud” Waite is to be remembered as a scientist, an explorer, an inventor, a friend and colleague of Admiral Byrd, and, of course, as a true radioman, W2ZK.

RIP Amory H. “Bud” Waite, 1902-1985  
73 de John, KA2F

## A VISIT WITH RUSTY SCHMID, K2LL

By Bob Buus, W2OD

In January, John, KA2F and I had the pleasure of visiting with Rusty Schmid, K2LL at Renaissance Garden in Seabrook Village. Rusty was born on June 27, 1909 in Lamberton, Minnesota, a small town in southwestern Minnesota about 50 miles north of the Iowa border and 50 miles east of the South Dakota border. If you do the math, you will see that he will be 105 years old this coming June. Although he has been blind for a number of years, he is in remarkably good health and looks 20 years younger than he really is.

Rusty was first licensed as W9BKK in 1931 (the upper Midwest was in the 9<sup>th</sup> district until after WW II) and subsequently obtained the prestigious Extra First Class license (the predecessor to the Extra Class license) in the 1930s. The Morse code came easy for him and shortly after receiving his license, he was copying 40 wpm and writing 35 wpm. He attributes that to a ham neighbor of his who always sent blazing fast. Rusty asked him one day why he always sent so fast to him and the neighbor replied that “if I sent slower, you’d never learn to copy at high speed.” During the depression, Rusty became very active in the Army Amateur Radio Service (AARS, the predecessor to MARS). He was eventually the Director of the 7<sup>th</sup> Corps Area District covering several states with headquarters in Omaha, Nebraska. This CW traffic activity took place just below the 80 meter band around 3495 kHz.

Just before World War II, Rusty had moved to Sioux Falls, South Dakota and was in the radio repair business. He noticed an ad in QST for a high speed radio operator which he thought looked intriguing so he applied. He was offered a lucrative job but it was in Alaska. After consulting with his wife, they decided to turn the offer down. In a subsequent month, there was another ad in QST for a job at Fort Monmouth. Since his wife had a sister living in the East, the New Jersey location looked attractive so he applied for the job. In a few days, a telegram came from Fort Monmouth that said “come right away.” Although he knew nothing about the job

or what it would pay, he packed everything in his Nash, including his wife and two kids, and drove east.

After arriving in New Jersey, Rusty got a room in Highlands, put his wife and kids on the train to Boston to visit his wife’s sister and reported for work at Fort Hancock (Sandy Hook). He was escorted into a shielded room with a large workbench stocked with various resistors and capacitors. A Lieutenant came into the room carrying a steel box which he plopped on the bench and told Rusty to “fix it” and left the room. Rusty opened the box and deduced that it was some kind of superhet radio receiver with acorn tubes for the VHF front end. He recognized the power supply and saw that the power was distributed to the various tubes along a power bus. Tracing the power to each tube, he found a broken resistor that didn’t let power get to one of the tubes. He read the color code of the resistor, found a replacement among the parts on the bench and replaced the damaged resistor. The Lieutenant came back into the room and asked how he was doing. Rusty said that it was fixed and this impressed the Lt. Rusty suspects that the resistor was deliberately broken and this served as a test to see how good he was at troubleshooting radio circuits.

He was given a Secret clearance and was issued a badge marked SECRET that was needed to get on Sandy Hook. The first badge also had the word “RADAR” on it but it was quickly recalled when even the word “RADAR” was classified and a new badge issued.

Being blind, Rusty can’t read anymore but he does rely heavily on talking books and loves to keep up on the latest technologies. He gets QST as an audio book and listens to it every month. He is a heavy user of the talking book library in Trenton and recently finished “Nuclear Roulette,” a book about problems in the nuclear power industry. He has been following the increasing efficiency and lowering cost of solar panels and is intrigued by EHV DC power transmission. He’s sorry he won’t be around to see the application of much of this new technology.

Rusty has a computer and has written about 50 stories about various aspects of his life. I asked him how he can use a computer and he said that it

is easy with a program that converts text to speech so he doesn't have to read on the monitor.

John and I were both very impressed with Rusty. His mind is sharper than that of many people 30 years younger than he and he is truly interested in all the latest technology. He is intrigued by PSK31 and thinks he could operate this mode with a text to speech converter. He inspires me to continue learning about all the new technology and to try to keep my mind at least half as sharp as his. God Bless Him!

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## CONVENTION REGISTRATION OPEN

Registration now is open for the ARRL National Centennial Convention, Thursday, July 17, through Saturday July 19, at the Connecticut Convention Center, to celebrate 100 years of the ARRL. Thousands of League members and friends will gather in Hartford -- the ARRL's birthplace -- to celebrate the first century of ARRL members' "Advancing the Art and Science of Radio."

The three days are packed with activities. The first day, Thursday, includes training workshops. Among these are [Contest University](#), [DX University](#), RFI 101, and a Public Service Communications Academy. The Exhibit Hall, open Friday and Saturday, will feature ARRL program representatives, Amateur Radio manufacturers, equipment sellers, and an indoor flea market. The Friday evening ARRL Centennial Banquet will be followed by a Wouff Hong ceremony. A Presidents Breakfast will be held on Saturday. On all three days there will be opportunities to tour ARRL Headquarters and W1AW.

A 3 day adult ticket is \$75; youth (21 or younger) is \$50, which includes a training workshop on Thursday and access to the exhibit hall and indoor flea market on Friday and Saturday, plus all forums and a coach bus trip to ARRL Headquarters and W1AW. A 2 day (Friday/Saturday) adult ticket is \$25; youth are free. Other ticket options are available, including spouse/companion tickets that include alternative non-ham activities. Advance registration is recommended. Join us in celebrating 100 years

(Visit <http://arrl2014.org/>!) From *The ARRL Letter*, Feb. 6, 2014

## TOWER MISHAP IN IDAHO

Robert "Bearpaw" Galindo, KE7ADT, of Athol, Idaho, was critically injured February 13 when the winching cable of his 40 foot crank-up tower snapped while he was working on the tower. Galindo, 52, a General class licensee and ARRL member, was reported trapped and dangling 20 feet in the air when rescue crews arrived at his home. His wife, Gail Perry, KE7ADN, witnessed the accident and called 911. The mishap resulted in the loss of Galindo's right hand and several fingers of his left hand.

Timberlake Fire Protection District officials reported that rescuers had to raise the upper tower sections to extricate Galindo. He was transported by helicopter to a hospital in Coeur d'Alene, where he underwent surgery. Galindo was listed in critical condition following the surgery and was expected to remain hospitalized for several days. -- Thanks to John Bigley, N7UR, [Nevada Amateur Radio Newswire](#)

From *The ARRL Letter*, Feb. 20, 2014

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## FIELD DAY INFO AVAILABLE

The 2014 [Field Day packet](#) is now available. ARRL [Field Day](#) is the most popular on-the-air event. It takes place each year in the US and Canada on the fourth weekend in June, when thousands of radio amateurs gather with their clubs, in groups, with friends, or by themselves to operate "in the field" to simulate an emergency communication situation.

In 2013, the ARRL received more than 2500 Field Day entries, representing participation by more than 36,000 radio amateurs who completed in excess of 1.2 million individual contacts on CW, phone, and digital modes.

Field Day 2014 is June 28-29, and it's not too early to start planning. The [Field Day Locator](#) will help you find a Field Day site near you. Rules in [Spanish](#) also are available. [E-mail](#) ARRL Headquarters for more information, or call 860-594-0236. From *The ARRL Letter*, Feb. 6, 2014

The time between slipping on a peel and smacking the pavement = 1 bananosecond.

## DAYTON 2014 AWARD WINNERS

Two radio amateurs with close ARRL ties are among the winners of Dayton Hamvention 2014 awards. Hamvention will honor three Amateur Radio operators and one ham radio club for their "significant contributions to the Amateur Radio Service" when the annual, 3 day gathering gets underway May 16. Named Amateur of the Year is Larry E. Price, W4RA, President Emeritus of the ARRL and of the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU). ARRL CEO David Sumner, K1ZZ, will receive the Special Achievement Award. The Technical Excellence Award winner is David Freese Jr, W1HKJ, and the Club of the Year is the Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society (W4GR) of Georgia.

From *The ARRL Letter*, Feb. 6, 2014

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## TEN YEARS AGO

From the March 2004 Propagator: Vice President Marty, WN2DX tendered his resignation. Jeff, N2LXM volunteered to replace him and was voted in as VP by unanimous vote. Ray, W2NXG (SK) reported that Kid's Day on January 4 was successful and he is planning a June 14 Kid's Day. The Morse symbol for the @ symbol was adopted as AC run together as didahdahdidahdit (remember it as an "a" wrapped in a "C"). Bob, N2DR was trying to resurrect the weekly lunch at Middletown Burger King. Hong Kong and Denmark dropped the requirement for Morse code for their amateurs.

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## FIFTEEN YEARS AGO

From the March 1999 Propagator: Phil Petersen, W2DME was on PBS television on February 15 in the "Rescue at Sea" program. International Marconi Day in April will be commemorated by OMARC's N2MO/IMD and QCWA's WA2GM/IMD. The program on March 17 features Gary, KB2YTN (SK) and Mike, KC2Q talking about how to work DX. PSK31 is catching on in popularity. Palestine was approved as a new country and E44DX is actively working the pile-ups. ARRL has initiating an e-mail forwarding service for members who can use their call sign @arrl.net. The QCWA awards banquet is coming in May and will feature Frank, K2TVY

talking about volunteer medical work in Guatemala.

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## TWENTY YEARS AGO

From the March-April 1994 Propagator: This was a double issue because Bob, W2OD was driving out to Arizona for an extended stay. New members joining GSARA were Ken Brockel, N2SMT, Tom Cosgrove, N2VFK, Joe Puccio, KC2XM; Nathan Justus, N2MYF and Rich Griffiths, W2RG. Charlie Gspann, W2ZEE (father of Frank, WB2ABT became a silent key on February 14, 1994. There were nine listed Public Service events where GSARA members were asked to participate. The March 16 meeting will feature Dave Worrall, N2IRO (now WD2DW) talking about erecting wire antennas. The April 6 meeting will feature Jeff, N2LXM talking about 2-meter fox hunting.

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## TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO

From the March 1989 Propagator: New members joining GSARA were Mark Ziegler, WA2ILB (he just joined again, see p. x) and George Mazmania, KB2GIJ. Phil Petersen, W2DME started transmitting "The World of Amateur Radio" on WADB. The 18 MHz WARC band was opened to amateurs (the 10 and 24 MHz bands had already been opened.). There was significant discussion about no code licensing. Hudson Division Director Steve Mendelsohn, WA2DHF (later W2ML but now SK) asked for comments and included a form to be sent back to him.

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## THIRTY YEARS AGO

From the March 1984 Propagator: The March 21 meeting will feature a talk by Mike Kaczynski, W1OD about a DX-pedition to St. Paul island. After a lively discussion of no-code, a letter was sent to the FCC giving the GSARA position. Unfortunately, 73 magazine reported that "W2GSA supported no code licensing." Our letter was misinterpreted by Wayne Green, W2NSD and an apology asked for. A list of 61 countries worked by W2GSA was published so we are on our way toward DXCC. A GSARA roster showing 95 members was published. Unfortunately, almost half are now silent keys.

## NOTES ON CALENDAR (see next page)

Large Call letters denote birthdays e.g. **AB2N** on March 26. All times are EST before March 9 and EDST afterward. Contests are listed in the March QST, p. 84.

Feb. 28-Mar. 2 – **ARRL International DX Phone Contest** from 7 pm Friday to 6:59 pm Sunday. See <http://www.arrl.org/contests>

March 2 and every Sunday – **InfoAge Marconi Hotel** open from 1 to 5 pm on Marconi Road in Wall.

March 3 - **Monmouth County ARES Net** meets on 147.045 +600, PL=67.0 at 7:30 pm

March 4 – **Old Barney VE Session** at 6:30 pm in Manahawkin. Contact Urb Le Jeune, W1UL at 609-296-5856 or [urb@w2dec.com](mailto:urb@w2dec.com)

March 4 – **Old Barney ARC Meeting** at 7:30 pm in Manahawkin, NJ. See <http://www.obarc.org>

March 4 and every following Tuesday – **GSARA Net** on 147.045 PL=67 at 8:30 pm.

March 4 and every following Tuesday – **QCWA News Net** on 147.045 PL=67 at 9:00 pm.

March 5 – **GSARA Meeting** at 7:30 pm at the Red Cross in Tinton Falls. Program features John, KA2F talking about “Ham Radio – Laughing Matter”

March 6 - **HCARC meeting** at 7 pm at Holiday City South Clubhouse in Toms River.

March 7 - **W1AW Qualifying Run** at 10 pm (10-35 wpm). See [www.arrl.org/qualifying-run-schedule](http://www.arrl.org/qualifying-run-schedule)

March 8 – **OMARC Meeting** at 9:00 am at the Diana Site on Marconi Road in Wall. Guests welcome.

March 8 – **North American RTTY Sprint** from 7 pm to 10:59 pm. See <http://www.ncjweb.com>

March 10 -. **Monmouth County RACES Net** meets on 147.045 +600, PL=67.0 at 7:30 pm.

March 12 – **Holiday City VE Session** at 7 pm in Toms River. Contact is Larry Puccio, K2QDY at 732-349-2950 or e-mail at [lpuccio1@comcast.net](mailto:lpuccio1@comcast.net)

March 13 – **JSARS meeting** in Riverwood Park Rec. Building, Rt. 527 and Riverwood Drive at 7:30 pm.

March 15-16 – **QCWA Spring QSO Party** from 2 pm Sat. to 2 pm Sun. See [www.qcwa.org/qso-party.htm](http://www.qcwa.org/qso-party.htm)

March 15 – **North American Phone Sprint** from 8 pm to 11:59 pm. See <http://www.ncjweb.com>

March 17 - **Monmouth County ARES Net** meets on 147.045 +600, PL=67.0 at 7:30 pm

March 18 – **W1AW Qualifying Run** at 7 pm (10-35 wpm). See <http://www.arrl.org/qualifying-run-schedule>

March 19 – **GSARA Meeting** at 7:30 pm at the Red Cross in Tinton Falls. Regular business meeting.

March 20 – **JSARS VE Test Session** at 7:00 pm Riverview Park Recreation Bldg., Rt. 527 and Riverwood Drive in Toms River. Contact Ed Genoio, WA2NDA at 609-971-2792 or [wa2nda@comcast.net](mailto:wa2nda@comcast.net).

March 22 – **VE Test Session** at 11 am at the Red Cross in Tinton Falls. Contact Rich Bilon, N3RB at 732-972-1397 or e-mail at [n3rb@aol.com](mailto:n3rb@aol.com)

March 28-30 – **CQ WPX SSB Contest** from 8 pm Friday to 7:59 pm Sunday. See <http://www.cqwp.com>

March 31 -. **Monmouth County RACES Net** meets on 147.045 +600, PL=67.0 at 7:30 pm.

March 31 – **DX Interest Group**, Check with Joe, W2KQ as to time and place. See page 2.

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### 2014 DUES ARE PAST DUE!

You have not yet paid your dues for 2014 so you have been dropped from our Roster. To restore your membership, please pay our treasurer **Bruce McLeod, K2QXW**. Regular membership is \$15. If you wish to have a paper copy of *The Propagator* mailed to you, add \$5 and check this box:

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ CALL \_\_\_\_\_

wishes to continue membership in GSARA for 2014. Payment of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ is enclosed.

Make checks payable to GSARA and mail or give to:

**Bruce McLeod, K2QXW**  
42 Freesia Court  
Holmdel, NJ 07733-2908

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					28 ARRL DX Phone	1 ARRL DX Phone
2 ARRL DX Phone InfoAge	3 ARES/RACES 7:30	4 OBARC GSARA Net 8:30 QCWA News 9 PM	5 GSARA Mtg.	6 Hol. City Mtg.	7 CW Qual. Run	8 OMARC Mtg RTTY Sprint
9 InfoAge	10 RACES Net 7:30	11 GSARA Net 8:30 QCWA News 9 PM	12 Hol. City VE	13 JSARS Mtg.	14	15 QCWA QSO Prty N.A. Sprint
16 QCWA QSO Pty InfoAge	17 ARES/RACES 7:30	18 CW Qual. Run GSARA Net 8:30 QCWA News 9 PM	19 GSARA Mtg.	20 JSARS VE	21	22 GSARA VE 11am
23 InfoAge	24 ARES/RACES 7:30	25 GSARA Net 8:30 QCWA News 9 PM	26 AB2N	27 N2VEH	28 CQ WPX SSB	29 CQ WPX SSB
30 CQ WPX SSB InfoAge	31 KD2DHQ DX Mtg. RACES Net 7:30					



G.S.A.R.A.

8 DONNER STREET

HOLMDEL, NJ 07733

FIRST CLASS