



# THE PROPAGATOR

8 Donner St.  
Holmdel, NJ 07733  
Editor: Bob Buus, W2OD

SEPTEMBER 2012

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## UPCOMING GSARA MEETING

The next regular meeting of the GSARA will be on Wednesday, September 5 at 7:30 PM at the Red Cross. The program will have Bob Buus, W2OD talking about amateur radio in the 1920s. A lot has changed in amateur radio during the past 90 years but a surprising number of things remain essentially the same. See the article on page 5 about the 3ABL QSL cards which inspired this talk. Refreshments will be served and guests are always welcome.

The second GSARA meeting in September will be held on **Wednesday, September 19 at 7:30 PM** at the Red Cross. This will be our regular business meeting. Guests are always welcome and light refreshments will be served.

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## ARRL PLANS 2014 CENTENNIAL

When the ARRL Board of Directors met for its 2012 Second Meeting July 20-21 in Windsor, Connecticut, it did so with a full agenda. Besides hearing and approving recommendations from its two standing committees -- the Administration and Finance Committee and the Programs and Services Committee -- the Board voted to hold the 2014 ARRL National Convention July 17-20 in Hartford, Connecticut, the birthplace of the League in 1914. Read more here.

From *The ARRL Letter*, July 26, 2012

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## GSARA HOMEPAGE

<http://www.gardenstateara.org>

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## HUDSON DIVISION HOME PAGE

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

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Please welcome Paul Strongoli, KD2CQT to the GSARA. Paul just got his Technician license and lives in Howell. He is a CDL driver and a welder. He also likes diving. He has a dual-band HT and can be heard on the local repeaters. He's studying for his General. Please add to your roster:

**KD2CQT**, Paul Strongoli

9 Pearl Drive  
Howell, NJ 07731  
732-865-3738  
njpaul962@yahoo.com

Please also welcome George McBride, N2VEH from Tinton Falls to the GSARA. Licensed since 1993, George holds an Extra Class license and can be found on the local repeaters as well as 20 and 40 with his IC-7410 and FT-8800. He is an ARRL member who likes QRP and backpacking and is interested in photography. He is a network security manager. Please add to your roster:

**N2VEH**, George McBride

17 Colonial Drive  
Tinton Falls, NJ 07753  
732-643-0594  
gmcbride@digdata.com

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## CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Our Treasurer Bruce McLeod, K2QXW has moved. Although his phone and e-mail re unchanged, his new address is as follows:

**K2QXW**, Bruce McLeod

42 Freesia Court  
Holmdel, NJ 07733-2908  
732-946-4368  
brucemcleod@verizon.net

## GSARA OFFICERS

President	W2XYZ	Frank Wroblewski	942-7705
Vice Pres.	W2HTS	Howard Suffill	460-1885
Secretary	W2OD	Bob Buus	946-8615
Treasurer	K2QXW	Bruce McLeod	946-4368
Engineer	N2LXM	Jeff Harshman	922-0816
Webmaster	KC2TKK	Josh Gluck	
Publicity	NJ2H	Bill Shockley	207-4466
Trustees	W2KQ	Joe Dreifuss	493-4236
	W2OD	Bob Buus	946-8615
	W2HAM	Lou Russo	842-6431

## DX MEETING EACH LAST MONDAY

For those interested in DX or learning about how to chase DX, there is a meeting of DXers on the last Monday of each month at 7:30 PM at the Red Cross. The last Monday of September is on the 26<sup>th</sup> so mark your calendars if you would like to attend.

## BADGES AND PATCHES

If you would like a GSARA name badge, you may order one by getting a Badge Order Form from our Secretary, **Bob Buus, W2OD**, filling it out and turning it in to Bob with your \$7.00 payment.

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

## 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). We then send them as a group 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?

## 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.

## EDITOR'S NOTES

I got so wordy going on about the 3ABL QSL cards that GSARA acquired (p. 5) that I had to drop the 10, 15, 20, 25, 30 and 40 years ago columns. I hope to have them back by the next issue. Also, I had to drop the information on VE tests in this area. I hope that you don't mind. I really got wrapped up in the analysis of the old QSL cards which led me to dig deeper into the early history of amateur radio in the 1920s. This was a dynamic and exciting time to be a radio amateur. I hope to share some of this additional information at the program for the September 5 meeting.

Congratulations to Paul, KD2CQT for having passed his Technician exam and getting this pretty neat call out of the deal. Paul is already studying for his General and is looking at building an HF station. To that end, he is looking for a tower to mount his VHF/UHF antenna that would also support an HF wire antenna. If you know of anyone trying to get rid of a tower, let Paul know at 732-865-3738 or njpaul962@yahoo.com.

Our President, Frank, W2XYZ has been deployed to Florida by the Red Cross so will not be at the September 5 meeting. Hopefully, he will be back in time for the September 19 meeting.

I'd like to remind everyone that this is YOUR newsletter and I would appreciate feedback as to what you like or don't like about each issue. It's always a tough decision as to what to include and what to delete from each issue and any comments you might have would be appreciated. This month, I had two pages of articles that I had to cut and leave on the floor plus a potential new puzzle. I have to guess what you might like or not.

If you are interested in obtaining a [gardenstateara.org](http://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 October issue is September 15.

73 de Bob, w2od@arrl.net

## MINUTES OF AUGUST 1 MEETING

**By Bob Buus, W2OD, Secretary**

President Frank Wroblewski, W2XYZ called the meeting to order at 7:38 PM at the Red Cross. There were 12 members and three guests present. The guests were Jim Hawkins, WA2WHV from Middletown, Charlie Hodges, W2WDF from Oakhurst, and Paul Strongoli from Howell. After the pledge to the flag, all present introduced themselves.

### New Member

An application for membership was received from Paul Strongoli from Howell. He is studying for his Technician license and has built a 2-meter J-pole antenna out of copper pipe. He is a CDL-certified driver and a welder. By unanimous vote, Paul was voted into the GSARA.

### Program

Frank, W2XYZ and Tom, N2VFK gave an interesting talk about CPR and ACDs. Frank had a two-page handout with one page listing the signals of a heart attack and the other page showing how to administer hands-only CPR. He then went on to show how to use an Automated External Defibrillator (AED). Quick response before a trained responder arrives could save a life.

### Close

The door prize of \$13.50 was won by Bob, W2OD who donated it back to the club. The second prize, an ARRL Handbook donated by Bruce, K2QXW, was won by Tony, WA2ZSI who donated it to Paul Strongoli. There being no further business, a motion was made by Kevin, W2FA and seconded by Steve, N2WLH to adjourn. With unanimous vote, the meeting was adjourned at 8:40 pm.

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## MINUTES OF AUGUST 15 MEETING

**By Bob Buus, W2OD, Secretary**

President Frank Wroblewski, W2XYZ called the meeting to order at 7:38 PM at the Red Cross. There were 16 members and two guests present. The guests were Hunter Suffill, son of W2HTS from Eatontown and George McBride, N2VEH from Tinton Falls. After the pledge to the flag, all present introduced themselves.

### New License

Member Paul Strongoli passed his Technician exam last Saturday and is awaiting his call. Congratulations!

### Secretary's Report

A motion was made by Jeff, N2LXM and seconded by Laura, N2HGI to accept the secretary's report from the last meeting as will be published in the September Propagator. The motion passed unanimously.

### Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Bruce, K2QXW was absent so the Treasurer's report was presented by Bob, W2OD. A motion was made by Ralph, KC2YNL and seconded by Lou, W2HAM to accept the report. The motion passed unanimously.

### Hamfest

The GSARA Fall Hamfest will be on Saturday, September 22 at our usual site at MOESC (MAECOM) at the corner of Tornillo Way and Shafto Road. The MOESC managers decided to increase the usage fee from \$200 (which was already paid) to \$300. The Treasurer issued a \$100 check payable to MOESC which was given to Joe, W2KQ for delivery. Our publicity chairman, Bill, NJ2H has prepared flyers which were available at the meeting. KJI Electronics will be there. We will have VE testing available. Allan, W2NIR asked about placing an ad in the Asbury Park Press under happenings but this would cost \$85 and the question was raised as to its value. A suggestion was made to utilize some of the many free papers for publicity as well as use the internet.

### Old Business

The International Lighthouse/Lightship Weekend (ILLW) is this coming weekend. In spite of Jeff's, N2LXM best efforts, approval from Twin Lights was not received in time for GSARA to participate there but the paperwork is in place for our operation next year. OMARC will be operating at Sandy Hook and invites any GSARA member who would like to participate in ILLW to operate from there. There are also expected to be operations from Old Barney and Cape May.

Starting in October, GSARA will be conducting VE Testing at the Red Cross on the

second Saturday of each month at 11 AM. Thanks to Kevin, W2FA for coordinating this.

Steve, N2WLH is working to get the linear amplifiers in the GSARA shack working. He found a burned coil in the Collins 30L1 which he is repairing. A power plug (for 230 volts) has been purchased for the SI amplifier which will soon be checked out by Steve.

The sign-up form for ordering GSARA club jackets and shirts was circulated and several people signed up for them. We now have sufficient quantities to place an order which should take place next week.

#### Mini Program

GSARA received a QSL request from a Field Day contact and Jeff, N2LXM agreed to respond to the request. Since there were several new members present, Jeff then gave a brief tutorial on incoming and outgoing QSL cards – both domestic and foreign.

#### New Member

An application for membership was received from George McBride, N2VEH from Tinton Falls. He holds an Extra class license and has been licensed since 1993. He is active on 20 and 40 meters as well as the local repeaters with an IC-7410 and a Yaesu FT-8800. He is particular interested in QRP and backpacking as well as photography. By unanimous vote, George was voted into the GSARA.

#### Announcements

JSARS is holding their Hamfest on Sunday, August 19 at the Riverwood Recreation building. GSARA members are encouraged to support this Hamfest.

A major Red Cross fundraiser called Rock and Ride will take place in September at Long Beach Island.

Infoage is sponsoring a World War II symposium on Saturday and Sunday at the Marconi Hotel from 1 to 5 pm. The program, which is the same both days, consists of several experts reporting on interesting developments used during the War. Admission is \$10 per person with WWII veterans admitted free.

Len, WA1PCY found a yellowed paper announcing the GSARA 4<sup>th</sup> annual Banquet on

January 25, 1975 at the Cobblestones Restaurant on Route 35 in Middletown. Cost was \$8.00 per person for a choice of roast sirloin of beef or baked stuffed flounder.

#### Close

The door prize of \$16.00 was won by Paul Strongoli. The second prize, a digital multimeter donated by George, K2EPD was won by Bob, W2OD. There being no further business, a motion was made by Joe, W2KQ and seconded by Paul Strongoli to adjourn. With unanimous vote, the meeting was adjourned at 8:32 pm.

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### **RICH EVANS, KB2MUN - SK**

Past GSARA member Richard T. Evans, 58, of Middletown, NJ, died Monday, August 20, 2012 at his home. He was born in New Brunswick and lived in Belford, Keansburg, Leonardo, and in Middletown for the past 17 years. Richard worked as a truck driver for the Monmouth County Road Department for the past 6 years. He was a graduate of Middletown High School class of 1973. He was a member of Middletown First Aid, former Belford Independent [fireman](#), and a member of the Office of Emergency Management in Middletown Township. Rich was active in Middletown RACES and was a VE for the Croyden Hall VE test sessions. He was a man who would go out of his way to help anyone. Richard has saved many lives working with the first aid and was known for his great sense of humor. He was a veteran of the US [Army](#) serving during Vietnam.

Surviving are his wife of 29 years, Maryann Boyer Evans of Middletown; 2 sisters and brothers-in-law, Barbara and Robert Steiner of Belford, and Carol and Robert Horn of Belford; sister-in-law, Tina Evans of Belford; and many nieces and nephews.

Rich was preceded in death by his parents, Arnold and Marion Evans, and his brother, John Evans.

Funeral services were Thursday, August 23, at 10 am at John F. Pflieger Funeral Home. Burial followed at Fair View Cemetery, Middletown. For more information or to send condolences, please visit [www.pfliegerfh.com](http://www.pfliegerfh.com).

## TALES FROM QSL CARDS OF 3ABL

By Bob Buus, W2OD

GSARA recently acquired a shoebox full of old QSL cards from a stamp collector who had first mined all of the interesting stamps from the collection. Upon perusal of these cards, I discovered that they were from Ed Edwards, W3ABL from Philadelphia. I also recalled that Ed Edwards, W2ABL was a member of GSARA when I first joined in 1970 and that he had a son, Ed Edwards, Jr., W2ZEP who was also a member. I also recalled that W2ZEP had a son who was also licensed, making three generations of amateurs in one family – quite unusual at the time.

I also noted that some of the QSL cards had no prefix – just a number followed by two or three letters. These dated to 1928 or earlier so I thought it would be interesting to further study these cards in order to get a feel for what it might have been like to operate an amateur radio station in those early days.

I started my research by checking the GSARA silent key plaque and found Ed Edwards, W2ABL listed. I also found a 1954 GSARA Roster that listed both Ed Edwards, W2ABL and Ed Edwards, Jr., W2ZEP at the same Eatontown address. I then checked the FCC database and found that Ed Edwards, Jr., W2ZEP was still licensed and living in Phoenix, AZ so I wrote him a letter inquiring about his father and his son. He replied that his father was first licensed in 1922 as 3ABL and lived in Philadelphia. He moved to New Jersey in 1940 and worked at Ft. Hancock and Twin Lights on then secret RADAR work. After the war, he became W2ABL and was a member of the Monmouth County ARA which merged with the Jersey Shore ARA to become GSARA in 1950. He retired from Camp Evans Signal Lab in 1969 and became a silent key in 1974.

Ed Edwards, Jr., W2ZEP was licensed in 1948 and worked at Electronic Associates. He moved to AZ in 1984 and retired from Lockheed-Martin in 1994. He is still active on CW. Ed Jr. has a son, Steve, who became WA2PQL in 1968. Steve became inactive when he went to college. Ed Jr. and his son have many fond memories of GSARA, especially Field Days.

My next activity was to sort out the cards with calls starting with “W” and setting them aside

since they were all after October 1, 1928 and I decided to concentrate my analysis to those cards prior to that date. Similarly, there were about 40 “DX” cards with familiar prefixes that dated after October 1, 1928 and were also set aside.

The remaining cards for QSOs prior to October 1, 1928 were of particular interest to be studied further. These consisted of 164 United States cards and 21 “DX” cards. The amount of DX worked by 3ABL is impressive in this time frame. It was only on November 27, 1923 that the first two-way transatlantic QSO was completed (on 100 meters) and the cards show 3ABL working England, Denmark, Belgium, Germany, Algeria, Honduras, Canada and Puerto Rico on 40 meters only a few years after that historic event.

It should be noted that until 1928 throughout the world, amateur calls were a number followed by two or three letters. How could we distinguish 2FO in Canada from 2FO in New Jersey from 2FO in England? Lacking International standards, the amateurs worked out a system whereby a lower case prefix letter would represent a continent (“n” for North America, “e” for Europe, “s” for South America, “f” for Africa, and “o” for Oceania). Then the country would be represented by a second lower case letter of the prefix (“u” for United States, “c” for Canada, “g” for England, “d” for Denmark, “b” for Belgium, “k” for Germany, etc.). Ed would then be unofficially nu3ABL although his station license was 3ABL. These prefixes were called “International Intermediates” and served to identify countries until the 1927 International Radiotelegraph Convention in Washington where country prefixes were established and the United States got W and K. It was decided by the Radio Division of the Department of Commerce that “W” would precede all amateur calls for stations within the Continental limits of the U.S. and the letter “K” shall precede all such calls for stations in the insular possessions and Alaska. This change was to take place on October 1, 1928 and amateur station licenses already issued would require no change or amendment.

When Ed Edwards, 3ABL was first licensed in 1922, the license was for operation at a single wavelength of 200 meters (1.5 MHz). To avoid the terrible congestion on that one frequency, amateurs were subsequently authorized to spread

out between 150 and 220 meters (1.36 to 2 MHz) in 1923. In late 1924, new short wave amateur bands were established at 80 meters (3.5 to 4 MHz), 40 meters (7 to 8 MHz), and 20 meters (14 to 16 MHz). These harmonically-related bands were CW only, no spark allowed. Since essentially all of the cards were for 40 meter contacts (the few exceptions were probably mistakes) this obviously inspired 3ABL to build a 40 meter vacuum tube transmitter and receiver. The earliest QSL card in this collection was with 9BBJ in South Bend, IN on February 25, 1925 – less than 4 months after the band was available. One might wonder why there were no cards for 1923 or 1924. I suspect that 3ABL was operating a very simple spark station (probably with a Model T spark coil) and kept any resulting QSL cards separately if he had received any at all (most of the beginners with Model T spark coils did not get out very far and may not have bothered with QSL cards).

Of the U.S. cards between 1925 and 1928, about one-third of the cards were 2-letter calls and the other two-thirds were 3-letter calls with the first letter of the suffix an early letter of the alphabet. It appears that the Department of Commerce issued the calls sequentially starting with AA for the 2-letter calls (between 1912 and the early 20s) and then continuing from AAA onward in each of the nine districts after the 2-letter calls had all been assigned. Thus, 3ABL was probably the 38<sup>th</sup> 3-letter call issued in the third district.

There were 31 cards from the first district, 24 from the second, only 11 from the third, 5 from the fourth, 37 from the eighth, and 55 from the ninth: It's not surprising that the most cards were from the ninth district since that was a very large area (basically the present 9 and zero areas combined). What is surprising is that there are not more cards from Ed's own third district. I suspect that there were a lot more third district cards and those they probably were filed in a separate box. It's not too surprising that there are no cards from the seventh and sixth districts since they are a long way away and the path would probably be open only very late at night (well after midnight). Most of the contacts were made in the afternoons and evenings with some of the nines in the west being worked as late as midnight CST (1 am EST). One

would have to stay up still later to work the sixes and sevens further to the west.

Of the 21 DX cards between 1925 and 1928, 8 were from Canadian provinces (NC1xx to NC4xx), all with two-letter suffixes. It is interesting to note that some of the Canadian cards displayed ARRL membership. Five of the DX cards were from England (EG6xx), two from Belgium (EB4xx), two from Denmark (ED7xx) and one each from Puerto Rico (NP4KD), Germany (EK4HL), Algeria (FM8ACS) and Honduras (KDO). I suspect that the 3-letter call from Algeria used the "A" in the suffix to denote Algeria (FM included Tunisia, Algeria, Morocco and Tangier). The Honduras contact is interesting insofar as it was with a United Fruit Co. ship docked in Tela, Honduras using the ships call of KDO. Apparently that was allowed in 1927! There were also SWL cards from England and France. I suspect that there were other DX cards but that they were destroyed in removing the exotic stamps from them.

The backs of the DX cards are also interesting. The stamps have been removed from 5 of them but residual glue is still visible. About a half dozen of the cards from England and Belgium are stamped "FORWARDED BY A.R.R.L." and have a 2-cent U.S. stamp on them. Apparently the ARRL had a forwarding service at that time.

Many of the U.S. cards were printed on penny post cards so the penny stamp was printed on the back of the card. Those that had a stamp affixed had a 2-cent stamp which I think was the first-class rate at that time. Finally, there are two different Philadelphia addresses used on the cards. Those before 1928 were addressed to 1921 E. Wensley St. and those sent in 1928 went (or were forwarded) to 4122 Maywood St. so Ed must have moved in early 1928.

After examining these cards, I am very impressed with the operating skills of Ed Edwards, 3ABL. He worked DX when it was very rare and well before the WAC and DXCC awards were available. The cards, of course, do not tell anything about Ed's own station (other than it had a nice pure DC tone). Obviously, it was home-built, including the receiver. The type of receiver and the power of the transmitter are unknown. I suspect that the power was modest since high-power transmitting tubes cost hundreds

of dollars then. Knowing what I know now, I wish that I had sat down with Ed when he was at GSARA meetings to find out more about his remarkable operating. Maybe I'll be fortunate enough to meet up with him in heaven and have that conversation.

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## HEATHKIT CLOSES FOR GOOD

The July 19 edition of The Herald-Palladium -- a newspaper serving the communities of Benton Harbor and St Joseph, Michigan -- is reporting that Heathkit Education Company has declared bankruptcy and has officially closed its doors after defaulting on its lease. According to the paper, Heathkit employed more than 1800 people in its heyday after World War II. When it finally closed, its workforce totaled fewer than six people. This is the second time since 1992 that Heathkit Educational Services has shuttered its doors. In August 2011, Heathkit announced it was returning to the kit building business, and in September, that it would once again be manufacturing Amateur Radio kits. Read more here.

From *The ARRL Letter*, July 26, 2012

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## ICOM 706 FOR SALE

**Icom IC-706 MkIIIG Transceiver**, 100 watt mobile-sized, all band, all modes with:

Mobile HF antenna spring mount  
Ham-Stick antennas for 40, 20 & 17 meters  
Separate 2-meter/70 cm mobile antenna  
External speaker  
Separation cable for remoting front panel  
All in excellent condition, with manual.

Asking \$500

Matt Bregoff, W2AOJ (Oakhurst)  
732-660-0203  
mbregoff@verizon.net

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## FCC RELEASES AMATEUR REPORT

On August 20 -- in response to a Spring 2012 Congressional directive -- the Federal Communications Commission released its findings on the Uses and Capabilities of Amateur Radio Service Communications in Emergencies

and Disaster Relief: Report to Congress Pursuant to Section 6414 of the Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2012.

This report contains the FCC's " review of the importance of emergency Amateur Radio Service communications relating to disasters, severe weather and other threats to lives and property in the United States; and recommendations for enhancements in the voluntary deployment of Amateur Radio operators in disaster and emergency communications and disaster relief efforts; and recommendations for improved integration of Amateur Radio operators in the planning and furtherance of initiatives of the federal government." It also required "that the study identify impediments to enhanced Amateur Radio Service communications and provide recommendations regarding the removal of such impediments."

"There are many positive things included in the FCC report to Congress," said ARRL Regulatory Information Manager Dan Henderson, N1ND. "We are pleased that the Commission highlighted the existing Amateur Radio infrastructure to provide disaster and time-critical communications. They also recognized the flexibility of the Amateur Service in working with federal, state, local and tribal emergency service agencies to supplement existing communications. The affirmation of the value that Amateur Radio brings to the communities across the country is underscored by the suggestion that 'DHS work with state, local, and tribal authorities so they may develop disaster area access or credentialing policies for trained amateur operators, including a means for documenting their qualifications...'"

While the FCC did hold Amateur Radio in a positive light in its discussion of emergency Amateur Radio Service communications, the FCC report was not as favorable in the portion of the study that addressed impediments to enhanced Amateur Radio Service communications. In the comments provided to the FCC as they prepared the study, the ARRL -- as well as numerous individuals -- cited the proliferation of specific land-use restrictions, such as deed restrictions and homeowner's associations covenants, that prohibit the erection of even modest Amateur Radio antennas. Read more here.

From *The ARRL Letter*, August 23, 2012

## VANITY FEE INCREASES SEPT. 4

On August 3, the FCC announced via a Final Rule in the Federal Register that the cost of an Amateur Radio vanity call sign will increase 80 cents, from to \$14.20 to \$15. The new fees take effect 30 days after publication, making September 4, 2012, the first day the new fee is in effect. Earlier this year, the FCC released a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking and Order, seeking to raise the fee for Amateur Radio vanity call signs. The vanity call sign regulatory fee is payable not only when applying for a new vanity call sign, but also upon renewing a vanity call sign for a new 10 year term. Read more here.

From *The ARRL Letter*, August 9, 2012

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## FT. MONMOUTH REUNION

There will be a Garrison/Ft Monmouth Reunion at the InfoAge Museum at the former Camp Evans area on Saturday, September 15 from 1100-1600.

For \$25 per person, you get: chicken, hamburgers, cheeseburgers, veggie burgers, hot dogs, potato and garden salads, corn on the cob and watermelon. There will be soda and water - you have to bring your own alcoholic beverages of choice. There will be a DJ and door prizes to include numbered prints of the Johnson Gate. The InfoAge museums will be open (see [www.infoage.org](http://www.infoage.org)) and military vehicles will be on display. InfoAge has some picnic tables but plan on bringing your own beach chairs, blankets, folding tables, umbrellas, etc.

POC is- Mike Ruane whose email is: [thejamesthomasgroup@comcast.net](mailto:thejamesthomasgroup@comcast.net); His phone numbers are 732-431-7450 (work) and 908-565-4691 (cell) if you have any questions. Make your check out to InfoAge with Ft Mon Reunion in the memo line, and send it to InfoAge (FM Reunion), 2201 Marconi Road, Wall, NJ 07719.

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## NIUE GETS E6A-E6Z PREFIX

On August 3, the ITU updated its Table of International Call Sign Series to reflect a call sign change for Niue. The island will now have the entire E6 prefix block. Niue -- an island located

approximately 1700 miles northeast of New Zealand -- is a self-governing island nation that has been in free association with New Zealand since 1974. Prior to the change, the island used ZK2. According to the CIA World Factbook, Niue is about 1.5 times the size of Washington, DC, and has a population of almost 1300 people.

From *The ARRL Letter*, August 9, 2012

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## RAC FORMS NEW ONT. SECTIONS

In March 2012, the Radio Amateurs of Canada (RAC) announced that it would split its Ontario Section into four new Sections "to create a management model that better communicates with, and represents the interests of, the overall Ontario amateur population." The new Section boundaries go into effect as of September 1, 2012. On August 8, RAC Chief Field Services Officer Doug Mercer, VO1DTM/VO1DM, announced the new Section boundaries, names and abbreviations. Read more here.

From *The ARRL Letter*, August 9, 2012

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## MONMOUTH COUNTY SKYWARN

Monmouth County Skywarn now has the call WX2MON. Any time a severe weather net is called, net control will be WX2MON. Having a vanity call will keep things simple, especially since we have multiple operators who can be net control.

All operators with or without Skywarn training are welcome to check into severe weather nets and give weather observations. This data is integral to the Skywarn program's success, and provides invaluable data for the NWS.

Any operator who is interested in being a NCS for Monmouth Skywarn and is current with their Skywarn training can write to me, [kd2aur@gmail.com](mailto:kd2aur@gmail.com), providing your call, Skywarn ID, and a general schedule of availability.

For more information on Monmouth County Skywarn, please visit [www.mnnjskywarn.org](http://www.mnnjskywarn.org).

73's and Safe Spotting!

Matthew Bartky, KD2AUR  
Monmouth County Skywarn Coordinator

## NOTES ON CALENDAR (see next page)

Large Call letters denote birthdays e.g. **N2WLH** on September 7. All times are EDST. Contests are listed in the September QST, p. 79

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

September 3 – **Labor Day Holiday**.

September 4 – **Middletown Pancake House Luncheon** at noon at left rear table. All are welcome.

September 4 – **Old Barney VE Session** at 6:30 pm in Manahawkin. Contact Urb Lejune, W2DEC at 609-296-5785 or urb@usats.com

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

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

September 5 – **GSARA Meeting** at 7:30 pm at the Red Cross in Tinton Falls. Program about early radio.

September 6 - **Holiday City ARC meeting** at 7 pm at Holiday City South Clubhouse in Toms River.

Sept. 7-8 – **QCWA QSO Party** from 2 pm Friday to 2 pm Saturday. All modes, all bands. See <http://www.qcwa.org/qso-party.htm>

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

September 8 – **OMARC Meeting**, 9:00 am at the Diana Site on Marconi Road, Wall, NJ. Guests are welcome.

Sept. 8-9 – **ARRL September VHF Contest**, all modes, 6 meters and up from 2 pm Sat. to 10:59 pm Sun. See <http://www.arrl.org/contests>

September 8 – **North American Sprint**, CW on 80 through 20 from 8 pm to midnight. See <http://www.ncjweb.com>

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

September 11 – **VE Test Session** at Croyden Hall, Leonardo section of Middletown at 7:00 pm. For more information, contact Mario Sellitti, N2PVP at 732-787-7184 or n2pvp@n2pvp.com

September 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

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

September 16 – **Mullica Hill Hamfest** by Gloucester County ARC. \$6 admission. \$10 per table.

September 16 – **North American Sprint**, SSB on 80 through 20 from 8 pm to midnight. See <http://www.ncjweb.com>

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

September 19 – **W1AW Qualifying Run** at 7 pm (10-40 wpm). See <http://www.arrl.org/qualifying-run-schedule>

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

September 20 – **JSARS VE Test Session** at 7:30 pm Riverview Park Recreation Bldg., Rt. 527 and Riverwood Drive in Toms River. Contact Ed Genoino, WA2NDA at 609-971-2792 or [wa2nda@comcast.net](mailto:wa2nda@comcast.net).

September 22 – **GSARA Hamfest** on Tornillo Way in Tinton Falls. \$5 per person. \$10 per table space

September 22 – **Neptune Amateur Radio Club Meeting** at 9 am at Irv's Deli & Restaurant, Hwy 33 in Neptune.

September 24 - **Monmouth County RACES Net** meets on 147.045 +600, PL=67.0 at 7:30 pm.

September 24 – **GSARA DX Interest Group** at 7:30 at the Red Cross.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 InfoAge	3 <b>Labor Day</b>	4 Pancake House Old Barney ARC QCWA News 9 PM	5 GSARA Mtg.	6 Hol. City Mtg.	7 N2WLH QCWA QSO CW Qual. Run	8 OMARC Mtg. QCWA QSO ARRL VHF CW Sprint
9 ARRL VHF InfoAge	10 RACES Net 7:30	11 Croyden VE 7 PM QCWA News 9 PM	12 Hol. City VE	13 KD2CQT JSARS Mtg.	14	15 SSB Sprint
16 Mullica Hill InfoAge SSB Sprint	17 ARES/RACES 7:30	18 QCWA News 9 PM	19 N2UUS CW Qual. Run GSARA Mtg.	20 JSARS VE	21	22 Neptune Mtg GSARA Hamfest
23 InfoAge	24 RACES Net 7:30 DX Mtg 7:30	25 QCWA News 9 PM	26	27 KC2Q	28 KC2FDR	29
30 InfoAge						



G.S.A.R.A.

8 DONNER STREET

HOLMDEL, NJ 07733

FIRST CLASS