



THE PROPAGATOR

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

AUGUST 2009

UPCOMING GSARA MEETINGS

The next regular meeting of the GSARA will be held on **Wednesday, August 5** at **7:30 PM** at the Fort Monmouth MARS building. Please plan to attend.

The second meeting in August will be on **Wednesday, August 19** at **7:30 PM** at the **American Red Cross - Regional Office**, 1540 West Park Avenue, Tinton Falls, New Jersey. This meeting will be about the Battleship New Jersey in Camden. If there is enough interest, we'll schedule a trip to visit it. Don't miss it! Guests are always welcome.

RENEWING FT. MONMOUTH PASSES

To renew your pass for Fort Monmouth when it is ready to expire, simply give the information to Frank, W2XYZ and he will take care of the details.

HAMFEST SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 13

The North American DX Association will be holding their first annual Tailgate swap meet on Sunday, September 13, 2009 at Luigi's Restaurant Parking lot on the corner of Asbury Ave. and Shafto Road in Tinton Falls. This is about a mile south of the Red Cross on Shafto Road.

Buyers are admitted **FREE** after 8 AM. Seller's spaces are available at 7 AM for \$10 for the first space and \$5 for each additional space. Breakfast and coffee will be available. Talk in is on the W2NJR linked system.

For more information: e-mail nadxa@juno.com or phone Mike, KC2Q at 908-415-6162.

HUDSON DIVISION HOME PAGE

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

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Please welcome two brothers who have recently joined the GSARA. They also happen to be the sons of GSARA member Don Pingitore, KG2NV.

Aaron Pingitore, KC2RRP holds a technician license and has been licensed since 2008. He is a student and is active on 2 meters with a Yaesu VX-7. Besides amateur radio, Aaron is also interested in baseball and police explorers.

Michael Pingitore, KC2VIN holds a technician license and has been licensed since 2009. He is a student and is active on 2 meters with a Yaesu VX-5. Besides amateur radio, Michael is also interested in baseball and swimming.

Let's give a hearty welcome to these two brothers. We look forward to seeing them at our upcoming meetings as well as on the air.

BATTLESHIP NEW JERSEY TALK

For our August 19 meeting at the Red Cross, Frank has lined up Dave Burgess, WA2TVS to give a talk about the battleship New Jersey which is now a museum in Camden and includes amateur radio station NJ2BB aboard. Dave and his wife, Margaret, KB2BRR gave this talk at Dayton and it was well received. Plan to attend this meeting and hear this fascinating talk. Perhaps we can schedule a trip to visit the ship this fall.

Dave is past president of the Old Barney Amateur Radio Club (OBARC) and Margaret is past editor of the OBARC Newsletter. These two hams are examples to us all about what volunteering is all about.

NEW GSARA HOMEPAGE

<http://www.gardenstateara.org>

GSARA OFFICERS

| | | | |
|------------|--------|------------------|----------|
| President | W2XYZ | Frank Wroblewski | 942-7705 |
| Vice Pres. | W2HTS | Howard Suffill | 460-1885 |
| Secretary | W2OD | Bob Buus | 946-8615 |
| Treasurer | W2KQ | Joe Dreifuss | 493-4236 |
| Engineer | N2LXM | Jeff Harshman | 922-0816 |
| Webmaster | KC2TKK | Josh Gluck | |
| Publicity | NJ2H | Bill Shockley | 207-4466 |
| Trustees | KG2NV | Don Pingitore | 229-2925 |
| | W2OD | Bob Buus | 946-8615 |
| | WA2FVL | Jack Keating | 264-7670 |

PROPAGATOR AVAILABLE BY E-MAIL

Would you like to help the finances of GSARA and at the same time get your issue of *The Propagator* a few days earlier? You can get every issue e-mailed to your computer every month by simply giving your e-mail address to Josh Gluck, KC2TKK and request *The Propagator* electronically. Josh's e-mail address is <kc2tkk@gardenstateara.org>.

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

GSARA had another great Field Day. Although we didn't do quite as well on SSB as we have done in past years, part of the reason had to be the mediocre propagation conditions. I'm really getting kind of tired of this sunspot minimum that we have been in for so long. Anyway, I think that all of the participants enjoyed themselves. As always, I'm disappointed that a rather large percentage of members don't participate. Let's make next year's Field Day (likely our last one at Fort Monmouth) the best ever!

There are still lots of goodies available at the MARS building free to members. When you are at the August 5 meeting, look things over and take what looks interesting to you. Even if you're only mildly interested in something, take it home for your junk box and thus rescue it from the Fort Monmouth garbage.

Microsoft did it to me again. This time, my USB to serial converter cable quit working after one of Microsoft's updates to my Windows XP. When I tried reloading the driver, I just got an error message. I tried downloading a later version of the driver from the internet but that still didn't work. Finally, I just went out and bought a new USB to serial cable and that worked fine when I installed the driver that came with it. Why does life with Windows have to be so complicated?

I recently bought the PSK Meter as a kit and have put it together and tested it. It looks pretty neat for running PSK as it will automatically adjust your audio level for optimum performance. I'll report further on it after some experience on the air.

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

Remember if you change your e-mail address; please be sure to inform Josh Gluck, KC2TKK.

As always, I appreciate feedback or material for *The Propagator*. The deadline for the September issue is August 15.

73 de Bob, w2od@arrl.net

MINUTES OF JULY 1 MEETING

By Bob Buus, W2OD, Secretary

President Frank Wroblewski, W2XYZ called the meeting to order at the Fort Monmouth MARS building at 7:50 PM. There were 10 members and two guests present. The guests were Mel Palawasta, N2MEL of Forked River and Aaron Pingitore, KC2RRP of Oakhurst. After the pledge to the flag, all members introduced themselves.

Secretary's Report

A motion was made by Margo Struening and seconded by Jeff, N2LXM to accept the minutes of the June meetings as published in the July Propagator. The motion passed unanimously.

A letter from former member Frank, K2TVY was read. He had worked K2USA on Field Day from K4VRC, 2A NFL. Apparently, he has moved from Key Largo to north Florida.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Joe Dreifuss, W2KQ gave the Treasurer's report for June. A motion was made by Mike, KC2Q and seconded by Jeff, N2LXM to accept the report. The motion passed unanimously.

New Members

Applications for membership were received from Aaron Pingitore, KC2RRP and Michael Pingitore, KC2VIN, both from Oakhurst. They were accepted by unanimous vote.

Old Business

Jeff, N2LXM reported that the GSARA polo shirts have been ordered and will be available at the next meeting. The price will be \$22.

New Business

Since Fort Monmouth will be closing next year, it was proposed that GSARA operate a special event station commemorating this closing. It was suggested that we plan for this special event for January 2010.

Field Day

GSARA successfully operated K2USA as 1A at Dean Field for Field Day. Although we didn't make as many SSB contacts as in the recent past, all had a good time. Set up started on Friday afternoon and included setting up the NVIS antenna and the two tents. Unfortunately, a storm came through

Friday night and both tents were damaged. We made one tent out of the salvaged two and then purchased a new tent on Saturday morning for \$150.

The 1000-foot loop worked well as it always does but the NVIS was disappointing on transmit although outperformed the loop on receive. We might want to consider separate transmit and receiving antennas next year.

We made 380 CW contacts, 268 SSB contacts, and 16 PSK-31 contacts. With our 100 watts, that gave us a total of 2120 QSO points. We picked up 950 bonus points for a total score of 3070.

Special thanks to Jim, K2EI for the loop antenna, the generator, and the article in the Monmouth Messenger. Thanks to Joe, W2KQ for demonstrating an antique heliograph. Thanks to Frank, W2XYZ, Bruce, K2QXW and Bob, W2OD for copying the ARRL special bulletin and to Howard, W2HTS for sending out the message to Rich, N2SMV. Thanks to Jeff, N2LXM for providing the solar power. Special thanks to all of the GSARA members who participated in setting up, operating, logging, and tearing down.

A fruit basket was given to the Fort Monmouth Fire Department for their help in erecting the loop antenna.

Announcements

There is a Sussex county Hamfest on Sunday, July 12.

The Antique Radio Club of NJ will hold a swap meet at InfoAge in Wall on July 25.

Closing

The drawing for the door prize was won by Bob, W2OD. There being no further business, a motion was made by Mike, KC2Q and seconded by Laura, N2HGI to close the meeting which was adjourned at 8:27 PM.

Q: What is the most common remark made by 60+ year olds when they enter antique stores?

A: "Gosh, I remember these."

Q: Why should 60+ year old people use valet parking?

A: Valets don't forget where they park your car.

MINUTES OF JULY 15 MEETING

By Bob Buus, W2OD

President Frank Wroblewski, W2XYZ, called the meeting to order at Red Cross Headquarters at 7:35 PM. After a Pledge to the Flag, each attendee introduced themselves. There were 15 members and two guests present. The guests were Phil O'Donnell, W2LNB from Oakhurst and Joe Basket, KC2LFF from Highlands.

Health and Welfare

Bob, W2OD sadly reported two new silent keys. Cecil Bastian, W2OOG and Dennis Pochmerski, WA2DWV both died Sunday, July 12 and both were 92 years old. Both had worked at Fort Monmouth and both lived in Freehold. Cecil, W2OOG was a Diamond Jubilee member of QCWA Marconi Chapter 138. A moment of silence was observed for both silent keys.

Old Business

Jeff, N2LXM brought the new GSARA polo shirts for all who had ordered them. Those who paid the \$22 cost received them immediately.

Announcements

GSARA caps are for sale at \$8 each and cloth patches are \$3 each.

The NADXA will be holding a Hamfest on Sunday, September 13 at Luigi's Restaurant Parking lot in Tinton Falls. There is FREE admission for buyers.

Go to www.staples.com to register for a chance at winning a free printer.

The NJ Antique Radio Club will have a swap meet on July 25 at the Infoage center in Wall.

Lighthouse weekend is August 15-16. OMARC will be at Sandy Hook and visitors and visitors are always welcome.

Ray, W2NXG has a surplus BC-312 receiver looking for a good home. Jeff, N2LXM agreed to take it.

Frank, W2XYZ is trying to get a program together for the August Red Cross meeting about the Battleship New Jersey.

The Program

Frank, W2XYZ gave an interesting program on Logbook of the World (LoTW). After a brief introduction, he demonstrated how to upload log entries using W2OD's log that was on DXKeeper. After a few glitches, he got it to work and uploaded 51 log entries of which 10 were "hits" (the other station had also loaded to LoTW).

Using Joe's (W2KQ) computer, there was a brief demonstration of Micro Log (a free logging program) and Morse Runner (a CW contest simulator).

Closing

The door prize was won by Margo Struening. A motion was made by Margo Struening and seconded by Joe, W2KQ to adjourn the meeting. With a unanimous vote, the meeting was ended at 9:24 pm.

CECIL W. BASTIAN, W2OOG - SK

Cecil W. Bastian, 92, of Freehold, passed away Sunday, July 12, 2009, at home, under the care of Hospice. Mr. Bastian was born in Jamestown, N.Y. and was a lifelong resident of Freehold. Mr. Bastian was a graduate of Tri-State University, Indiana. He was an engineer with the U.S. Army Signal Corps at Fort Monmouth and Camp Evans until his retirement in 1972. Mr. Bastian was a lifelong amateur radio enthusiast with the call W2OOG and a former member of the civil defense and the Boy Scouts of America. He was a Diamond Jubilee member of the Marconi Chapter 138 of the QCWA.

Mr. Bastian is survived by his wife, Sally Bastian; a son, William Morgenstern of Jamestown, N.Y.; two daughters, Lynda Campbell of Bristol, R.I., and Susan Borden of Allenhurst; three stepdaughters, Deanna Greenwood of Tinton Falls, Sharon Sickler of Allentown, Pa., and Nancy Maphis of Bethlehem, Pa.; 17 grandchildren; and many great grandchildren.

Interment was in Maplewood Cemetery, Freehold. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions in Cecil's memory may be made to the VNA of Central Jersey, 176 Riverside, Red Bank, NJ 07701. For information, or condolence messages to the family, visit www.claytonfuneralhome.com.

DENNIS POCHMERSKI, WA2DWV - SK

Dennis Pochmerski, 92, of Freehold Township, died Sunday, July 12, 2009, at CentraState Medical Center, Freehold Township. Born in New York City, he resided in Freehold for over 50 years. Dennis graduated with an electrical engineering degree from CUNY and a master's degree from Brooklyn Polytech. He retired from Fort Monmouth in 1977. He was a life-long member of the American Radio Relay League and held the call WA2DWV. While in retirement, he enjoyed his family, computers, golfing, swimming, clay work, and gardening. He was also a communicant of St. Rose of Lima Roman Catholic Church.

Mr. Pochmerski was predeceased by his daughter, Leona Tynan and is survived by his loving wife Helen of 64 years; a son William; a daughter Roberta; and four grandchildren.

Interment was at St. Rose of Lima Cemetery, Freehold Township.

FIELD DAY RESULTS FOR K2USA

K2USA, NNJ, 1A

Participants: 20

Power Source(s): Generator, Solar

Power Multiplier: 2X

Bonus Points:

| | |
|--|-----|
| 100% Emergency power | 100 |
| Media Publicity | 100 |
| Set-up in Public Place | 100 |
| Information Booth | 100 |
| NTS message to ARRL SM/SEC | 100 |
| W1AW Field Day Message | 100 |
| Natural power QSOs completed | 100 |
| Site Visit by invited served agency official | 100 |
| Submitted via the Web | 50 |
| Educational activity | 100 |
| Total Bonus Points | 950 |

Score Summary:

| | CW | Digital | Phone | Total |
|---------------------|-------|---------|-------|-------|
| Total QSOs | 380 | 16 | 268 | |
| Total Points | 760 | 32 | 268 | 1060 |
| Claimed QSO Score = | 2,120 | | | |
| Total Score = | 3070 | | | |

Submitted by: Frank Wroblewski, W2XYZ

NEW EDITION OF VOIP LINKING BOOK

Through a technique called Internet linking, ham radio operators are harnessing the immediacy and portability of radio communication to the global reach of the Internet. Today's radio amateurs are using the Internet as the relay between their radio base stations, handhelds and mobile transceivers for long-distance communication, spanning thousands of miles. The ARRL has released a second edition of "VoIP: Internet Linking for Radio Amateurs", the complete guide to several of the most widely used Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) systems used by today's radio amateurs, with particular attention to EchoLink and the Internet Radio Linking Project (IRLP). The book is designed for beginners as well as those hams who are long-time VoIP users. If you're new to VoIP, you'll discover information on how to get started, set up and use these systems. The more advanced ham will find plenty of technical "meat" to dig deeper into VoIP applications and discover how they actually work. Written by EchoLink creator Jonathan Taylor, K1RFD, "VoIP: Internet Linking for Radio Amateurs" is available for \$21.95 from the ARRL Web site. Order your copy today <<http://www.arrl.org/catalog/?item=1431>>.

From *The ARRL Letter*, No. 25, June 26, 2009

FREE TRIP TO DAYTON 2009

A \$10 donation to the North America DX Association, Inc. (NADXA, Inc.) will allow each donating person an opportunity to earn an **all expense paid trip** to the **2010 Annual Bus Trip** to the **Dayton Hamvention** in **Dayton, OH** in May 2010. Send your donation to **NADXA, Inc., PO Box 357, Bradley Beach, NJ 07720** or via **Pay-Pal**.

The odds of being selected will be restricted to one in 75 and the numbers will be drawn on March 29, 2010. For further information contact: nadxa@juno.com. Thank you.

Q: Where can men over the age of 60 find younger, sexy women who are interested in them?

A: Try a bookstore under fiction.

Q: How can you avoid that terrible curse of the elderly wrinkles?

A: Take off your glasses.

WALTER CRONKITE, KB2GSD – SK



Legendary CBS newsman Walter Cronkite, KB2GSD, who held the title of "Most Trusted Man in America," passed away Friday, July 17 after a long illness. He was 92. The avuncular Cronkite anchored the CBS Evening News for 19 years until 1981 when he retired. During that time, he reported on such subjects as the Kennedy assassinations, the Civil Rights movement, the Apollo XI lunar landing, Vietnam and the Vietnam-era protests, the Arab-Israeli Six Day War, Watergate and the Begin-Sadat peace accords.

Cronkite, an ARRL member, narrated the 6 minute video "Amateur Radio Today" (<http://www.arrl.org/ARToday/>). Produced by the ARRL in 2003, the video tells Amateur Radio's public service story to non-hams, focusing on ham radio's part in helping various agencies respond to wildfires in the Western US during 2002, ham radio in space and the role Amateur Radio plays in emergency communications. "Dozens of radio amateurs helped the police and fire departments and other emergency services maintain communications in New York, Pennsylvania and Washington, DC," narrator Cronkite intoned in reference to ham radio's response on September 11, 2001. "Their country asked, and they responded without reservation."

Walter Leland Cronkite was born in St Joseph, Missouri on November 4, 1916, the only child of a dentist father and homemaker mother. When he was still young, his family moved to Texas. "One day, he read an article in "Boys Life" about the adventures of reporters working around the world -- and young Cronkite was hooked," said his obituary on the CBS Web site. "He began working on his high school newspaper and yearbook and in 1933, he entered the University of Texas at Austin to study political science, economics and journalism. He never graduated. He took a part time job at the Houston Post and left college to do what he loved: report."

In 1963, it was Cronkite who broke into the soap opera "As the World Turns" to announce that the president had been shot -- and later to declare that he had been killed." CBS called it a "defining moment for Cronkite, and for the country. His presence -- in shirtsleeves, slowly removing his glasses to check the time and blink back tears -- captured both the sense of shock, and the struggle for composure, that would consume America and the world over the next four days."

One of Cronkite's enthusiasms was the space race. In 1969, when America sent a man to the moon, he couldn't contain himself. "Go baby, go." he said as Apollo XI took off. He ended up performing what critics described as "Walter to Walter" coverage of the mission -- staying on the air for 27 of the 30 hours that astronauts Buzz Aldrin and Neil Armstrong were on the moon. In 2006, NASA honored Cronkite by giving him their Ambassador of Exploration Award. "His marathon, live coverage of the first moon landing brought the excitement and impact of the historic event into the homes of millions of Americans and observers around the world," NASA said in a news release announcing the award. Cronkite was the first non-astronaut and only NASA outsider to receive the award.

Steve Mendelsohn, W2ML, was Cronkite's radio engineer at CBS for many years. "I had many chances to discuss my favorite hobby, ham radio, with 'the world's most trusted anchor man,'" he told the ARRL. "Gradually, his interest increased, but on finding that he had to pass a Morse code test, he balked, saying it was too hard for him; however, he told me he had purchased a receiver and listened to the Novice bands every night for a few minutes. At

the CBS Radio Network, Walter would arrive 10 minutes before we went on the air to read his script aloud, make corrections for his style of grammar and just 'get in the mood' to do the show. In those days Rich Moseson, W2VU, was the producer of a show called "In the News," a 3 minute television show for children voiced by CBS Correspondent Christopher Glenn. On this day, Rich was at the Broadcast Center to record Chris' voice for his show and had dropped by my control room to discuss some upcoming ARRL issues." At the time, Mendelsohn was the ARRL Hudson Division Director.

"When Walter walked into the studio, I started to set the show up at the behest of our director, Dick Muller, WA2DOS," Mendelsohn recalled. "In setting up the tape recorders, I had to send tone to them and make sure they were all at proper level. Having some time, I grabbed "The New York Times" and started sending code with the tone key on the audio console. For 10 minutes I sent code and noticed Walter had turned his script over and was copying it. We went to air, as we did every day, at 4:50 PM and after we were off, Walter brought his script into the control room. Neatly printed on the back was the text I had sent with the tone key. Rich and I looked at the copy, he nodded, and I told Walter that he had just passed the code test. He laughed and asked when the formal test was, but I reminded him that it took two general class licensees to validate the test and he had just passed the code. Several weeks later he passed the written test and the FCC issued him KB2GSD."

Mendelsohn helped Cronkite make his first Amateur Radio contact: "Having passed the licensing test, Walter was now ready to get on the air. His first QSO was on 10 meters about 28.390 MHz. He was nervous and I called him on the phone to talk him through his first experience. As we talked on the air, a ham from the Midwest come on and called me. Acknowledging him, I asked the usual questions about where he was from, wanting to give Walter a bit of flavor of what the hobby was about. I turned it over to Walter, and following his introduction, the gentleman in the Midwest said, 'That's the worst Walter Cronkite imitation I've ever heard.' I suggested that maybe it was Walter and the man replied, 'Walter Cronkite is not even a ham, and if he was, he certainly wouldn't be here on 10 meters.' Walter and I laughed for weeks at that one."

In 2007, ARRL Hudson Division Director Frank Fallon, N2FF, presented Cronkite with the ARRL President's Award. This award, created in 2003 by the ARRL Board of Directors, recognizes an ARRL member or members who "have shown long-term dedication to the goals and objectives of ARRL and Amateur Radio" and who have gone the extra mile to support individual League programs and goals. Cronkite was selected to receive the award in April 2005 in recognition of his outstanding support of the ARRL and Amateur Radio by narrating the videos "Amateur Radio Today" and "The ARRL Goes to Washington" (<http://www.arrl.org/pio/VTS-video.wmv>.) "It was quite a thrill to make this presentation to Cronkite," Fallon said. "He has long been recognized as the 'most trusted man in America,' so lining our causes to his face, name and voice has been a great help."

Cronkite is the recipient of a Peabody Award, the William White Award for Journalistic Merit, an Emmy Award from the Academy of Television Arts and Sciences, the George Polk Journalism Award and a Gold Medal from the International Radio and Television Society. In 1981, during his final three months on the CBS Evening News, Cronkite received 11 major awards, including the Presidential Medal of Freedom. In 1985, he became the second newsman, after Edward R. Murrow, to be selected for the Television Hall of Fame.

A private memorial service was scheduled for July 23 in New York City. Cronkite will be cremated and his remains buried in Missouri next to his wife Betsy, who passed away in 2005. A public memorial service will be held within the next month at Avery Fisher Hall at the Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts. In lieu of flowers, the family is requesting donations to the Walter and Betsy Cronkite Foundation through the Austin Community Foundation (<http://www.austincommunityfoundation.org/>), which will distribute contributions to various charities the couple supported.

As Cronkite said on March 6, 1981, concluding his final broadcast as anchorman: "Old anchormen, you see, don't fade away, they just keep coming back for more. And that's the way it is."

From *The ARRL Special Bulletin*, No. 10, July 20, 2009

SECTION ADDED TO LICENSE MANUAL

The most common question asked by new radio amateurs is "Now that I have my license, what kind of radio should I get?" The ARRL, in an attempt to help newcomers to Amateur Radio answer that very question, has added a bonus supplement to the ARRL Ham Radio License Manual. "Choosing a Ham Radio: Your Guide to Selecting the Right Equipment" is aimed at the new Technician licensee ready to acquire a first radio, a licensee recently upgraded to General class and wanting to explore HF or someone getting back into Amateur Radio after a period of inactivity.

The guide features two main sections -- one covering gear for the VHF and UHF bands, and one for HF band equipment, including a VHF/UHF and an HF glossary of terms you will encounter. The guide also urges you to discover just what you want to do with Amateur Radio and where you want to do it from. Do you want to ragchew on your local repeater system? Maybe you want to join your local ARES unit and help provide communications support in times of emergency. This guide will help you select the right rig for what you want to do.

This Guide isn't a traditional "buyer's guide" with feature lists and prices for many radios. Manufacturer's Web sites and catalogs from radio stores have plenty of information on the latest models and features. As such, you won't find operating instructions or technical specifications here, but many manufacturers' Web sites will let you download brochures and manuals directly.

Second only to "What kind of radio should I get?" "What kind of antenna do I need?" is the most common question asked by the new amateur. Don't worry! "Choosing a Ham Radio: Your Guide to Selecting the Right Equipment" talks about all kinds of antennas -- from "rubber duckies" to verticals to dipoles to Yagis; it even explains rotators and antenna gain.

An explanation of power, filters and digital signal processing (DSP), as well as special features commonly found on VHF/UHF and HF radios are also included in the guide. ARRL members who are logged on to the ARRL Web site can view the guide online <<http://www.arrl.org/members-only/choosingaradio/>>

From *The ARRL Letter*, No. 29, July 24, 2009

PASSPORT TO WORLD BAND RADIO

The publisher of "Passport to World Band Radio" told readers that the future of the seminal SWL guide is in "limbo." Acknowledging on the Passport's Web site <<http://www.passband.com/passport-to-world-band-radio%C2%AE-in-limbo/>> that "solid content" is essential to the success of a publication, publisher Larry Magne cited "other considerations" as the impetus behind the decision to possibly cease publication. While Magne gave no exact reason for the decision, it reflects the decline in popularity of shortwave listening, as well as the availability of shortwave schedules on the Internet. Magne said that "Passport to World Band Radio," which just released its 25th edition this year, will continue "to maintain the WorldScan database and uphold all proprietary material. Among other things, this should help allow for an orderly return to production...should conditions allow. For Passport readers and our small team alike, this is a seminal moment. After all, 'Passport to World Band Radio' goes back a quarter century and has had something like a million readers worldwide. But the future has its own rhythm that confounds prognostication. There may yet be more chapters to this story. Stay tuned." "Passport to World Band Radio" is available from the ARRL Online Store <<http://www.arrl.org/catalog/?item=0339>>.

From *The ARRL Letter*, No. 29, July 24, 2009

W1AW TO ADD NEW DIGITAL MODES

Effective August 17, W1AW, the Hiram Percy Maxim Memorial Station, will replace its AMTOR and ASCII transmissions with PSK31 and MFSK16, respectively. RTTY (Baudot) will continue to be the first digital mode used in the transmission schedule. The frequencies used by W1AW for all its digital transmissions will remain the same. "All regular 6 PM and 9 PM (Eastern Time) digital transmissions will begin with RTTY," said W1AW Station Manager Joe Carcia, NJ1Q. "PSK31 and MFSK16 will be sent as time allows. The Tuesday and Friday Keplerian data bulletins will be sent using RTTY and PSK31." The W1AW operating schedule -- complete with times and frequencies -- can be found on the ARRL Web site <<http://www.arrl.org/w1aw.html#w1awsked>>.

From *The ARRL Letter*, No. 28, July 17, 2009

NOTES ON CALENDAR (see last page)

Large call letters denote birthdays e.g., **WA2DJN** August 9. All times are EDST. Contests are listed in the August QST, p. 76.

July 31-August 2 – **10-10 Summer Phone QSO Party** from 8:01 Friday to 7:59 Sunday. See www.ten-ten.org

August 1-2 – **North American QSO Party**, CW from 2 PM Sat. to 2 AM Sun. See www.ncjweb.com

August 2 and every Sunday – **InfoAge Marconi Hotel** open from 1 to 4 PM on Marconi Road in Wall. Exhibits by QCWA, OMARC, Antique Radio, Broadcaster's Hall of Fame, etc. \$5 donation requested.

August 3 - **Monmouth County ARES Net** meets on 147.045 +600 at 7:30 PM.

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

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

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

August 5 – **GSARA Meeting** at 7:30 PM at the MARS Building at Fort Monmouth.

August 5 – **W1AW Qualifying Run** at 10 PM (10-35 wpm). See August QST, pp. 76 or www.arrl.org/w1aw

August 6 - **Holiday City ARC meeting** at 7 PM at Holiday City South Clubhouse in Toms River.

August 7-9 – **Worked All Europe**, CW from 8 PM Fri. to 7:59 PM Sun. See www.waedc.de

August 8 – **OMARC Meeting**, 9:00 AM at the Diana Site on Marconi Road, Wall, NJ.

August 8 – **Monmouth Amateur Radio Club meeting** at 10 AM in Union Beach Police Annex (Municipal Building) on Poole Avenue.

August 10 – **Monmouth County RACES** on 147.045 +600 at 7:30 PM. RACES members only.

August 11 - **Holiday City VE Test Session** at 10 AM in Toms River. Pre-register with Larry Puccio, K2QDY at 732-349-2950 or e-mail at lpuccio1@comcast.net.

August 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

August 12 – **Holiday City VE Session** at 7:00 PM in Toms River. Pre-register with Larry Puccio, K2QDY at 732-349-2950 or e-mail at lpuccio1@comcast.net

August 13 – **Jersey Shore Amateur Radio Society (JSARS)** meeting in Riverview Park Recreation Building, Rt. 527 and Riverwood Drive in Toms River at 7:30 PM.

August 15-16 – **North American QSO Party**, SSB from 2 PM Sat. to 2 AM Sun. See www.ncjweb.com

August 15-16 – **NJ QSO Party**, SSB & CW from 4 PM Sat. to 10 PM Sun. See www.qsl.net/w2rj

August 17 - **Monmouth County ARES Net** meets on 147.045 +600 at 7:30 PM.

August 19 – **GSARA Meeting** at 7:30 at the Red Cross, West Park Ave. and Shafto Road in Tinton Falls. Program is about battleship New Jersey.

August 20 – **JSARS VE Test Session** at 7:30 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.

August 20 – **W1AW Qualifying Run** at 4 PM (10-35 wpm). See August QST, pp. 76 or www.arrl.org/w1aw

August 22 – **Neptune Amateur Radio Club Meeting** at 9 AM at the American Legion on Gully Road in Neptune.

August 24 - **Monmouth County ARES Net** meets on 147.045 +600 at 7:30 PM.

August 31 – **Monmouth County RACES** on 147.045 +600 at 7:30 PM. RACES members only.

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|-------------------------------|--|--|--------------------------------|-----------------|--|
| | | | | | 31 10-10 QSO | 1 10-10 QSO N.A. CW QSO |
| 2 10-10 QSO N.A. CW QSO InfoAge | 3 ARES/RACES 7:30 | 4 Pancake House Old Barney ARC QCWA News 9 PM | 5 W2ML GSARA Mtg CW Qual. Run | 6 Hol. City Mtg. | 7 Europe CW | 8 OMARC Mtg. MARC Mtg Europe CW |
| 9 WA2DJN Europe CW InfoAge | 10 RACES Net 7:30 | 11 Croyden VE 7 PM QCWA News 9 PM | 12 Hol. City VE | 13 JSARS Mtg. | 14 N2GT | 15 N.A. SSB QSO N.J. QSO |
| 16 N.A. SSB QSO N.J. QSO InfoAge | 17 K2EI ARES/RACES 7:30 | 18 QCWA News 9 PM | 19 GSARA Mtg | 20 CW Qual. Run JSARS VE | 21 | 22 Neptune Mtg |
| 23 InfoAge | 24 ARES/RACES 7:30 | 25 QCWA News 9 PM | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |
| 30 InfoAge | 31 RACES Net 7:30 | | | | | |



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FIRST CLASS