



THE PROPAGATOR

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

DECEMBER 2009

UPCOMING GSARA MEETINGS

The next regular meeting of the GSARA will be held on **Wednesday, December 2 at 7:30 PM** at the Fort Monmouth MARS building. Please plan to attend.

The second meeting in December will be on **Wednesday, December 16 at 7:30 PM** at the **American Red Cross - Regional Office**, 1540 West Park Avenue, Tinton Falls, New Jersey. Our program will feature Charles Burke, WA2SLK as our guest speaker. Charles will show us how easy it is for a club or even an individual to produce a TV video and then have it shown on the local cable TV networks. Not only should this be an interesting topic to learn more about, but this information can be used by Hams to get others interested in our hobby or document special presentations or events like Field Day. Charles has a very diverse background which includes authoring an article in QST, June 2009, page 76, where he talks filming Storm Preparedness/Safety Links TV shows. Don't miss it! Guests are always welcome.

OPERATION SANTA RUN

Every year the youth council at the Red Cross collects toys for both boys and girls under the age of 12 years. GSARA members could help out by donating a toy or two. Toys should be new and cost between \$10 and \$20. Toys are being collected until December 14th so the last convenient GSARA meeting to bring the toy is the December 2 meeting at Fort Monmouth.

The toys collected are wrapped by the youth council and then given to families who have lost everything due to a house fire over the past year. This project has been going for 7 years and the families are most grateful as they are struggling to get back everything they have lost.

NEPTUNE ARC XMAS PARTY

The Neptune Amateur Radio Club will hold their annual Christmas party on Sunday, December 13 from 2-5pm at the American Legion Post on Gully Rd in Neptune. Cost is a covered dish with enough for yourself and guest or \$10 per individual or \$15 for the family. The party is open to all, but participants must coordinate with Laura N2HGI or her daughter Pam for the party. Anyone planning on attending should call Pam at 732-801-8233. Soda is available, but the bar will also be open for alcoholic beverages. Music will be provided by Carl Albern Jr, N2SRG.

WELCOME MARTIN TORBERT, N2BMK

Please welcome Martin Torbert, N2BMK as the latest member to GSARA. Martin holds a General Class license and lives in Little Silver. He operates 20 through 80 meters with a TS 430S and a 3-element yagi. He is primarily interested in DX but is also interested in music, sailing and antique radios. Please add to your roster:

N2BMK, Martin Torbert
63 Lippincott Rd.
Little Silver, NJ 07739
732-492-8132
martintorbert@msn.com

MONMOUTH CLUB MEETING CHANGE

The Monmouth Amateur Radio Club has changed its meeting time from the morning of the second Saturday of the month to the evening of the second Tuesday at 7 PM. They still meet at the Union Beach Police Annex (Municipal Building) on Poole Avenue.

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@gardenatateara.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

On my question last month as to how to treat URL links in the printed copy of *The Propagator*, I received no feedback from those receiving printed and only limited feedback from those receiving electronic copies. Based on that feedback, I am continuing to not show the complete URL address in the printed copies. If this is not desirable, PLEASE LET ME KNOW.

I was saddened to see that Tom Thompson, KC2DND became a silent key (p. 4) at the relatively young age of 74. I saw him a few years ago at Field Day and he seemed to be in very good health. I recall that he attended a few meetings after that as well. May he rest in peace.

Is your CW a bit rusty and you avoid getting on the air for fear that you might hook up with a speed demon that you can't copy? Well, why not try Straight Key Night on New Years eve and day. Without keyers or bugs, we all slow down quite a bit and it can be a lot of fun. If you don't own a straight key, you have time to make one out of junk you might have laying around. I got on a few years ago with my modified key from a computer keyboard topped by a cap from a bottle of water. My sending was lousy but I had a good time!

If you are interested in obtaining a [gardenstateara.org](mailto:kc2tkk@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 January issue is December 15. I wish all of you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

73 de Bob, w2od@arrl.net

HUDSON DIVISION HOME PAGE

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

MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 4 MEETING

By Bob Buus, W2OD, Secretary

President Frank Wroblewski, W2XYZ was absent as was Treasurer Joe Dreifuss, W2KQ so Vice President Harold Suffill, W2HTS called the meeting to order at the Fort Monmouth MARS building at 7:40 PM. Since there were only 7 members present, we did not have a quorum and thus could not conduct any official business.

Secretary's Report

There was no report.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Joe Dreifuss, W2KQ was absent so no report was given at the meeting.

Announcements

Jeff, N2LXM announced that notices have been sent out regarding the operation of the K2USA special event station in late January.

A proposal was received from Dave Struebel, KB2FTX asking if GSARA would be interesting in operating a FlexNet node at the Red Cross on 2 meters. It will be discussed more at the next meeting when Dave will be here to give further details.

Charles Burke has offered to talk to us about TV production at SCAN in Monmouth Mall. We will await Frank's return before proceeding with this.

Closing

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 PM.

MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 18 MEETING

By Bob Buus, W2OD

President Frank Wroblewski, W2XYZ, called the meeting to order at Red Cross Headquarters at 7:32 PM. After a Pledge to the Flag, each attendee introduced themselves. There were 14 members and seven guests present. The guests were Jim McEowen, WA2HPD from Holmdel, Martin Torbert, N2BMK from Little Silver, Rod Grindell, N3JAZ from Maine, Joe Basket, KC2LFF from Highlands, Henry Sonntag, W2HES from Middletown, Greg Szpunar, N2GS from Chester and Dave Struebel, WB2FTX from Butler. The latter two were our guest speakers.

Secretary's Report

A motion was made by Lou, W2HAM and seconded by Laura, N2HGI to accept the minutes of the October meetings as published in the November Propagator. The motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Joe Dreifuss, W2KQ GAVE THE Treasurer's report. A motion was made by Lou, W2HAM and seconded by Laura, N2HGI to accept the report as read. The motion passed unanimously.

Announcements

The youth Council at the Red Cross are seeking donations of new toys of value \$20 or less that they will wrap and distribute to needy children. Donations can be made at the December 2 GSARA meeting at Fort Monmouth.

The Neptune Amateur Radio Club is again sponsoring a Christmas Party at the American Legion on Gully Road in Neptune on Sunday, December 13 from 2 to 5 PM. All amateurs in the area are invited. Cost is a covered dish or a contribution of \$10 (\$15 per family). Please let Laura, N2HGI know if you are planning on attending and what you are bringing.

The Program

Greg Szpunar, N2GS and Dave Struebel, WB2FTX gave an informative talk about handling traffic on the National Traffic System. Dave also demonstrated how FlexNet facilitates the distribution of traffic on a statewide packet network. W2GSA has agreed to be an additional node on this network and Dave will furnish most of the equipment needed except for antennas.

Closing

The door prize of \$15 was won by Bob Guercio, AC2Z. A motion was made by Lou, W2HAM and seconded by Laura, N2HGI to close the meeting. With a unanimous vote, the meeting was ended at 9:21 pm.

Q: Doctor, should I reduce my alcohol intake?

A: No, not at all. Wine is made from fruit. Brandy is distilled wine that means they take the water out of the fruity bit so you get even more of the goodness that way. Beer is also made out of grain. Bottoms up!

TOM THOMPSON, KC2FRN - SK

GSARA member Thomas C. Thompson, KC2FRN, of Highlands, NJ, died Thursday, Nov. 19, 2009, in Highlands, NJ at the age of 74. He was born in Long Branch and was a lifelong resident of Highlands, NJ. He was a Professional Engineer and a Civil Engineer with the Army Corps. of Engineers, Ft. Monmouth, NJ, retiring in 2005 after 43 years of service. He was a communicant of Our Lady of Perpetual Help RC Church, Highlands, NJ. He served in the US Navy with the rank of Lt. JG from 1959 - 1963. He was a 1959 Graduate of Villanova University with a degree in Civil Engineering and was a member of the ROTC Program. He was also a member of the Twin Lights Historical Assoc. of Highlands and served as a former Vice President & Trustee; member of Garden State Amateur Radio Association; member of the Ship Ahoy Beach Club, Sea Bright; member of the Rifle Club - Old Bridge, NJ.

Surviving Family Members include: 1 sister, Elizabeth & husband Thomas Dillon of Red Bank; 1 nephew, Thomas & wife Susan Dillon of Upper Saddle River, NJ; 2 nieces, Kathleen & husband Christopher McGovern of Philadelphia, PA and Nancy Dillon of Tinton Falls, NJ; 1 grandnephew, Ryan Thomas Dillon of Upper Saddle River and 1 grand niece, Emily Dillon of Upper Saddle River.

Interment was at Mt. Olivet Cemetery, Middletown, NJ.

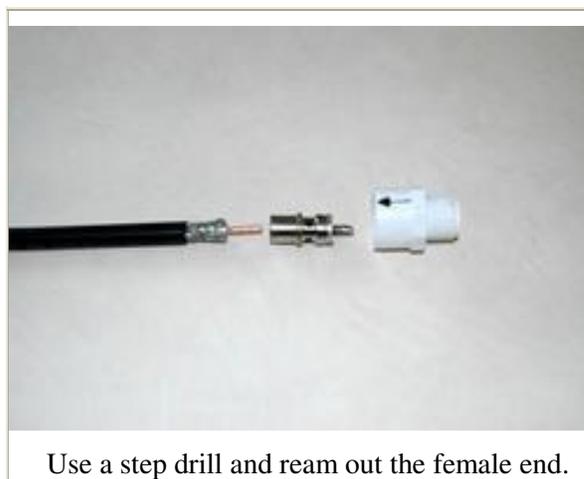
JOHN DI BLASI, W2QNR - SK

John S. DiBlasi, W2QNR, of Leisure Knoll, Manchester, died Sunday, Nov. 1, 2009, at the age of 85 at Kimball Medical Center, Lakewood. Born in Queens, N.Y. he lived in Syosset, N.Y. before moving to Manchester in 1987. He owned and operated John DiBlasi & Associates, Great Neck, N.Y. for 40 years before retiring in 1982. He was an Army veteran of World War II. He was a communicant of St. John's Roman Catholic Church, Lakehurst. He belonged to the Knights of Columbus, Council #10022, the Italian-American Club, the Golf Club, and the Fishing Club, all of Leisure Knoll. He was also a member of the Army O.S.S. Association and the Quarter Century Wireless Association. His father, John DiBlasi, W2FX - SK was President of the National QCWA from its founding in 1947 until 1964.

Surviving is his wife of 59 years, Rosary (Piazza) DiBlasi; a son and daughter-in-law, John T. and Diane DiBlasi of Fresh Meadows, N.Y.; two daughters and sons-in-law, Eveann and Bob Giroux of Seaside Heights, and Theresa and Mark Rust of New Paltz, N.Y.; a brother, Paul DiBlasi of Hilton Head, S.C.; a sister, Lucille Stocker of Greenport, N.Y.; and six grandchildren, Stephen, Ian, Paula, Alex, Siena, and Christina.

Interment was at the Brig. Gen. William Doyle Veterans Memorial Cemetery, Arnetown. To send online condolences, please visit our website at www.oliveriefuneralhome.com.

HINTS & KINKS: PL-259 TOOL



Tired of using pliers to screw on the PL-259 connectors when you are preparing cables? Pliers always seem to do some damage by the amount of force this task requires. I use an inexpensive 1/2 inch PVC female to male coupler. Simply use a step drill and ream out the female end (see the arrow in the photo). This works for most half inch coaxial cables. PL-259s do vary in diameter. Be sure to measure yours before you ream out the PVC adapter. It will not take a lot of reaming for the connector to fit snugly. The outer part of the PL-259 that fits into the connector is 0.55 inch diameter. This makes a secure fit. If you wear out the adapter, purchase another, as they are inexpensive. This works for me. -- 73, Paul Marsha, K4AVU, 200 Garden Trail Ln, Lexington, SC 29072-7341

From *The ARRL Letter*, November 19, 2009

WATCH OUT FOR THIS SCAM

It happened at Wal-Mart a month ago. I bought a bunch of stuff, over \$150, & I glanced at my receipt as the cashier was handing me the bags. I saw a cash-back of \$40. I told her I didn't request a cash back & to delete it. She said I'd have to take the \$40 because she couldn't delete it. I told her to call a supervisor. Supervisor came & said I'd have to take it. I said NO! Taking the \$40 would be a cash advance against my Discover & I wasn't paying interest on a cash advance!!!! If they couldn't delete it then they would have to delete the whole order. So the supervisor had the cashier delete the whole order & re-scan everything! The second time I looked at the electronic pad before I signed & a cash-back of \$20 popped up. At that point I told the cashier & she deleted it. The total came out right. The cashier agreed that the electronic pad must be defective. Obviously the cashier knew the electronic pad was defective because she NEVER offered me the \$40 at the beginning. Can you imagine how many people went through before me & at the end of her shift how much money she pocketed?

Another person adds, "My co worker went to Milford, DE Wal-Mart last week. She had her items rung up by the cashier. The cashier hurried her along and didn't give her a receipt. She asked the cashier for a receipt and the cashier was annoyed and gave it to her. My co worker didn't look at her receipt until later that night. The receipt showed that she asked for \$20 cash back. SHE DID NOT ASK FOR CASH BACK! My co worker called Wal-Mart who investigated but could not see the cashier pocket the money. She then called her niece who works for the bank and her niece told her that this is a new scam going on. The cashier will key in that you asked for cash back and then hand it to her friend who is the next person in line."

Please, please, please check your receipts right away when using credit or debit cards! This is NOT limited to Wal-Mart, although they are the largest retailer so they have the most incidents.

And a third person adds, "My husband and I were in Wal-Mart North Salisbury and paying with credit card and when my husband went to sign the credit card signer he just happen to notice there was a \$20 cash back added. He told the cashier that he did not ask nor want cash back and she said this machine has been messing up and she canceled it.

We really didn't think anything of it until we read this email."

I wonder how many "seniors" have been, or will be, "stung" by this one????

To make matters worse..... THIS SCAM CAN BE DONE ANYWHERE, AT ANY RETAIL OR WHOLESALE LOCATION!!!

From the Internet via KC2Q

HOW ELECTRONS GOT THEIR NAME

Ask any high school physics student and they'll tell you that electrons govern pretty much everything we do. We call electrons in motion an electrical current, and those radio waves that we hams are so fond of are the result of high frequency electrons traveling in our antenna conductors. Think of a 40 meter wave as an accidental tourist who wants to go somewhere (somewhere nice and warm, maybe a rare DX station). But how to get there? It needs some mode of transport -- think of electrons as the transport providers.

We use our transmitters to move the electrons in our antennas to-and-fro to produce radio waves, hopefully to that rare DX destination. When the radio waves get there, they set electrons in another antenna in motion. That current -- electrons in motion -- is amplified and detected at the receiving location and a QSO is made.

But why do we call them electrons? The ancient Greeks noticed that amber attracted small objects when rubbed with fur; apart from lightning, this phenomenon is thought to be man's earliest known experience of electricity. Back in the year 1600, the English physician William Gilbert -- in his treatise [De Magnete](#) -- coined the [New Latin](#) term *electricus* to refer to this property of attracting small objects after being rubbed. Both electric and electricity are derived from the Latin *ēlectrum*, which came from the Greek word ἤλεκτρον (*ēlektron*) for amber. Now you know!

From *The ARRL Letter*, November 19, 2009

Q: Doctor, will sit-ups help prevent me from getting a little soft around the middle?

A: Definitely not! When you exercise a muscle, it gets bigger. You should only be doing sit-ups if you want a bigger stomach.

US CALL SIGNS NOT ISSUED BY FCC

If you're an American ham, chances are that your call sign was issued by the Federal Communications Commission. A "no brainer," right? Well, if you're an American ham who happens to be stationed at Guantanamo Bay or at one of the US bases in the Antarctic, your call sign is not issued by the FCC -- it's issued by the base commander. Guantanamo Bay (or Gitmo as it's commonly called) uses the KG4 prefix, followed by a two-letter suffix; this block is reserved exclusively for American hams at Gitmo. As for Antarctica, the [Antarctic Treaty](#), signed on December 1, 1959 (and entered into force on June 23, 1961), established the legal framework for the management of Antarctica, including allocation of amateur call signs; the National Science Foundation received their block on July 1, 1959. US military hams in Japan and Korea are also issued special call signs:

- KA2AA-KA9ZZ -- reserved for US Army-authorized amateur stations in Japan.
- [KC4AAA-KC4AAF](#) -- reserved for the National Science Foundation's use at the South Pole.
- KC4USA-KC4USZ -- reserved for US Navy-authorized amateur stations at their Antarctic bases.
- [KG4AA-KG4ZZ](#) -- reserved for US Navy-authorized amateur stations at Guantanamo Bay).
- KL9KAA -- KL9KHZ -- reserved for assignment to US personnel stationed in Korea.
- The 40 call signs having the first two letters AF, KF, NF or WF and the letters "EMA" following a numeral are available to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

The FCC once issued call signs to hams who lived in the Caroline Islands and the Marshall Islands. Even though these entities -- former United Nations Trust Territories -- now have their own sovereignty (and DXCC prefixes), the FCC will not issue call signs in the following blocks:

- KC6AA-KC6ZZ -- KC6 was two DXCC entities: The Eastern Caroline Islands and the Western Caroline Islands. The Eastern Carolines became the Federated States of Micronesia (V6) and the Western Carolines became the Republic of Palau (T8).

- KX6AA-KX6ZZ -- the former Marshall Islands, now the Republic of the Marshall Islands (V73).

You can [find out more](#) on the FCC's Web site. Now you know!

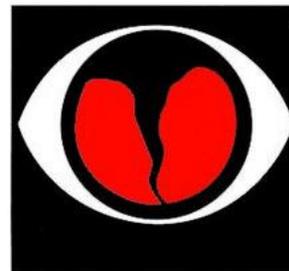
From *The ARRL Letter*, November 12, 2009

NEW TECH QUESTION POOL IN 2010

The Question Pool Committee (QPC) of the National Conference of Volunteer Examiner Coordinators (NCVEC) is due to release the new Technician class (Element 2) question pool to the 14 VECs on December 1, 2009; it will be released to the public in January 2010. Each question pool for the three Amateur Radio license classes -- Technician, General and Amateur Extra -- is reviewed on a four-year rotation. This new Technician class pool will become effective on July 1, 2010. Read more [here](#).

From *The ARRL Letter*, November 19, 2009

SKYWARN RECOGNITION DAY DEC. 5



SKYWARN

The 11th Annual SKYWARN Recognition Day (SRD) Special Event will take place Saturday, December 5, 2009. SRD is co-sponsored by the ARRL and the National Weather Service (NWS) as a way to recognize the commitment made by Amateur Radio operators in helping to keep their communities safe. According to SRD Coordinator David Floyd, N5DBZ, Amateur Radio operators can visit their local participating NWS office to contact other hams across the world throughout the 24 hour event. Read more [here](#).

From *The ARRL Letter*, November 19, 2009

Q: Doctor, aren't fried foods bad for you?

A: YOU'RE NOT LISTENING!!! Foods are fried these days in vegetable oil. In fact, they're permeated in it. How could getting more vegetables be bad for you?

NJ ARRL STATE CONVENTION 2010

For many years, dating back to before World War II, the Delaware Valley Radio Association sponsored a very large hamfest in Trenton that also served as the New Jersey State ARRL Convention. We are happy to announce that we have now joined forces with the popular Trenton Computer Festival to again offer such an event to the hams of New Jersey on Sunday April 25th, 2010 at The College of New Jersey in Ewing, NJ.

The ARRL has designated the Sunday of that event as the ARRL New Jersey State Convention. As a result, a reduced \$10 single day Sunday admission will be offered. Of course, persons purchasing the TCF \$15 (\$12 if purchased in advance at <http://www.tcf-nj.org/>) entire weekend admissions ticket will be permitted to join in the Amateur Radio related activities on Sunday as well. This should prove a boon to promoting Amateur Radio to tech savvy non-hams as well.

As we all know, hamfests that serve as simple electronic flea markets have suffered ups and downs recently. This non-profit festival runs a whole weekend and has numerous presentations and speakers, commercial electronics vendors, large attendance, and an electronics flea market. Details of past events are at <http://www.tcf-nj.org/>

We're now soliciting speakers on radio related topics for the ARRL State Convention on Sunday. We envision having at least three classrooms dedicated solely to Amateur Radio topics, such as contesting, DXing, homebrewing, EmComm, Youth Activities, etc. A VE session is planned as well. Speakers are customarily offered free admission. If you're interested in making a presentation, please register at <http://www.tcf-nj.org/>

Finally, a half-price \$35 non-commercial, single tailgate selling space will be available to hams. Commercial dealer spaces are \$70 for 9'x16' and \$100 for 14'x16'. Each tailgate or dealer space is good for two days and includes one admission ticket. Inquiries on commercial vendor, tailgate and flea market spaces should be sent to vendor@tcf-nj.org

Thanks & 73
Gary Wilson, K2GW
Radio Speaker Coordinator

2010 NJ State ARRL Convention

www.w2zq.com

K2gw@arrrl.net

HIRAM PERCY MAXIM AND W1AW

More than 1000 visitors come to see ARRL and operate W1AW each year. Each visitor has a chance to tour ARRL HQ and meet and talk with staff, and see all that the League does to promote the Amateur Radio Service. When they go over to W1AW, some guests want to know if the station was once the home of Hiram Percy Maxim, cofounder and first President of the ARRL.

In February 1936, when Maxim died of pneumonia on his way back from visiting [Lick Observatory](#) on Mt Hamilton in San Jose, California, the ARRL HQ station -- W1MK -- was located at [Brainard Field](#) in Hartford. In March 1936, the Connecticut River flooded and the building where the station was housed was destroyed by the flood waters. The League's Board of Directors decided that a new station be built on a more suitable site in memory of Maxim. In December 1936, the FCC -- in the first action of its kind -- assigned the call W1AW to ARRL in memoriam. The ARRL purchased a 7 acre site in Newington, about 5 miles southwest of Brainard Field. From the flood until September 1938, W1MK operated from ARRL Headquarters, then on LaSalle Road in West Hartford. On September 2, 1938 -- what would have been Maxim's 69th birthday -- W1AW, the Hiram Percy Maxim Memorial Station, was dedicated, with the ceremony broadcast across the country by CBS Radio. So, no, the building where W1AW is located was never home to Hiram Percy Maxim; in fact, he never saw it. But even so, we know that his spirit lives on every time we sit down at a radio. Now you know!

From *The ARRL Letter*, November 5, 2009

Q: Doctor, I've heard that cardiovascular exercise can prolong life. Is this true?

A: Your heart is only good for so many beats, and that's it... don't waste them on exercise. Everything wears out eventually. Speeding up your heart will not make you live longer; that's like saying you can extend the life of your car by driving it faster. Want to live longer? Take a nap.

JUST HOW BAD IS IT?

The economy is so bad that I got a pre-declined credit card in the mail.

It's so bad, I ordered a burger at McDonalds and the kid behind the counter asked, "Can you afford fries with that?"

The economy is so bad McDonalds is selling the 1/4 ounce.

The economy is so bad parents in Beverly Hills fired their nannies and learned their children's names.

The economy is so bad Dick Cheney took his stockbroker hunting.

The economy is so bad Motel Six won't leave the light on anymore.

The economy is so bad Exxon-Mobil laid off 25 Congressmen.

And finally... Congress says they are looking into this Bernard Madoff scandal. Oh Great!! The guy who made \$50 Billion disappear is being investigated by the people who made \$1.5 Trillion disappear!

ARCHAEOLOGICAL BATTLE

After having dug to a depth of 10 feet last year, New York scientists found traces of copper wire dating back 100 years and came to the conclusion that their ancestors already had a telephone network more than 100 years ago.

Not to be outdone by the New Yorkers, in the weeks that followed, a California archaeologist dug to a depth of 20 feet, and shortly after, a story in the LA Times read: "California archaeologists, finding traces of 200 year old copper wire, have concluded that their ancestors already had an advanced high-tech communications network a hundred years earlier than the New Yorkers."

One week later, The Coon Valley Journal, a local newspaper in Wisconsin, reported the following: After digging as deep as 30 feet in his pasture near Coon Valley, Wis., Ole Olson, a self-taught archaeologist, reported that he found absolutely nothing. Ole has therefore concluded that 300 years ago, Wisconsin had already gone wireless.....

ARRL SWEEPSTAKES

The ARRL November Sweepstakes was once called "The January Contest." First held in 1930, the first running of what we know of today as ARRL Sweepstakes, lasted two weeks. In 1930, J. F. Feely, W1ADW, of Danbury, Connecticut, came in first place with 153 contacts in 43 Sections, giving him a score of 13,158 points. Click [here](#) for more information on this event, now in its 76th running.

From *The ARRL Letter*, October 29, 2009

AREA AMATEUR EXAM SESSIONS

Amateur radio exam sessions in this area are as follows but please contact the responsible person to be sure that the time and date are accurate.

Wall Township, Camp Evans Area on Marconi Road: Exams are held on the first Saturday of the even numbered months (December 5, 2009) at 10 AM. The contact person is Pat Brannick, N2BZD at 732-267-0308 or e-mail to pbrannick@aol.com.

Middletown, Croyden Hall on Leonardo Road: Exams are on the second Tuesday of every month at 7 PM. The contact person is Mario Sellitti, N2PVP 732-787-7184 or e-mail to n2pvp@n2pvp.com.

Toms River, Riverview Park Recreation Building: Exams are held on the third Thursday of every month at 7:30 PM. The contact person is Ed Genoino, WA2NDA at 609-971-2792 or e-mail to wa2nda@aol.com.

Toms River, Holiday City South Clubhouse, Meeting Room #1, Mule Road at the corner of Santiago Drive on the second Saturday of the odd numbered months (January 9, 2010) at 10 AM and on the second Wednesday of the even numbered months (December 9, 2009) at 7 PM. The contact person is Larry Puccio, K2QDY, 732-349-2950 or lpuccio1@comcast.net.

In all cases, the fee is \$15 and you should bring the original and a copy of any amateur license presently held and original and one copy of any credit (CSCE) forms you have. Also bring 2 forms of ID with one being a picture ID.

Q: Doctor, is swimming good for your figure?

A: If swimming is good for your figure, explain whales to me.

NOTES ON CALENDAR (see last page)

Large call letters denote birthdays e.g., **N3RB** December 1. All times are EST. Contests are listed in the December QST, p. 66.

December 1 – **Middletown Pancake House Luncheon** at noon at left rear table. All are welcome.

December 1 – **Old Barney ARC Meeting**, 7:30 PM at Ocean Acres Community Center in Manahawkin, NJ.
See <http://www.obarc.org>

December 1 and every following Tuesday – **QCWA News Net** on 147.045 PL=67 at 9:00 PM.

December 2 – **GSARA Meeting** at 7:30 PM at the MARS Building at Fort Monmouth.

December 3 - **Holiday City ARC meeting** at 7 PM at Holiday City South Clubhouse in Toms River.

December 4 – **WIAW Qualifying Run** at 10 PM (10-35 wpm). See December QST, p. 66 or www.arrrl.org/wlaw

Dec. 4-6 – **ARRL 160 Meter CW Contest** from 5 PM Friday to 11 AM Sunday. See www.arrrl.org/contests

December 5 – **OMARC VE Session** at the Diana site on Marconi Road in Wall. For more information contact Pat Brannick, N2BZD at 732-267-0308 or e-mail to pbrannick@aol.com

December 5 – **Skywarn Recognition Day**. See p. 5.

December 6 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.

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

December 8 – **Monmouth Amateur Radio Club meeting** at 7 PM in Union Beach Police Annex (Municipal Building) on Poole Avenue.

December 8 – **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

December 9 – **Holiday City VE Session** at 7 PM in Toms River. Pre-register with Larry Puccio, K2QDY at 732-349-2950 or e-mail at lpuccio1@comcast.net

December 10 – **Jersey Shore Amateur Radio Society (JSARS)** meeting in Riverview Park Recreation Building, Rt. 527 and Riverwood Drive in Toms River at 7:30 PM.

Dec. 11-13 – **ARRL 10 Meter Contest, SSB & CW** from 7 PM Friday to 7 PM Sunday. See www.arrrl.org/contests

December 12 – **OMARC Meeting**, 9:00 AM at the Diana Site on Marconi Road, Wall, NJ.

December 13 – **NARC Christmas Party** from 2 to 5 PM. See p. 1

December 14 - **Monmouth County RACES Net** meets on 147.045 +600, PL=67.0 at 7:30 PM.

December 15 – **WIAW Qualifying Run** at 9 AM (10-40 wpm). See December QST, p. 66 or www.arrrl.org/wlaw

December 16 – **GSARA Meeting** at 7:30 at the Red Cross, West Park Ave. and Shafto Road in Tinton Falls. Program is about the NTS and traffic handling.

December 17 – **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.

Dec. 18-Jan. 3 – **Lighthouse Christmas Lights QSO Party, SSB & CW** from 7:01 PM Friday to 6:59 PM Sunday. See www.arlhs.com

December 21 - **Monmouth County ARES Net** meets on 147.045 +600, PL=67.0 at 7:30 PM.

December 25 – **Merry Christmas!**

December 26 – **Neptune Amateur Radio Club Meeting** at 9 AM at the American Legion on Gully Road in Neptune.

December 28 – **Monmouth County RACES** on 147.045 +600, PL=67.0 at 7:30 PM.

Dec. 31-Jan 1 – **Straight Key Night, CW** from 7 PM Thursday to 6:59 PM Friday. See www.arrrl.org/contests

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		N3RB 1 Pancake House Old Barney ARC QCWA News 9 PM	2	3	4 160 CW CW Qual. Run	5 OMARC VE Skywarn Recog. 160 CW
6 160 CW InfoAge	7 ARES/RACES 7:30	8 MARC Mtg 7 PM Croyden VE 7 PM QCWA News 9 PM	9 Hol. City VE	10 Hol. City Mtg. JSARS Mtg.	11 10 Mtr SSB/CW	12 OMARC Mtg. 10 Mtr SSB/CW
13 NARC Xmas Pty 10 Mtr SSB/CW InfoAge	14 RACES Net 7:30	15 CW Qual. Run QCWA News 9 PM	16 GSARA Mtg	17 JSARS VE	18 Lighthouse QSO	19 Lighthouse QSO
20 Lighthouse QSO InfoAge	21 Lighthouse QSO ARES/RACES 7:30	22 Lighthouse QSO QCWA News 9 PM	23 Lighthouse QSO	24 Lighthouse QSO	25 Christmas	26 Neptune Mtg Lighthouse QSO
27 Lighthouse QSO InfoAge	28 Lighthouse QSO RACES Net 7:30	29 Lighthouse QSO	30 Lighthouse QSO	31 Lighthouse QSO SKN	1 Lighthouse QSO SKN	Lighthouse QSO



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FIRST CLASS