



THE PROPAGATOR

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

FEBRUARY 2010

UPCOMING GSARA MEETINGS

The next regular meeting of the GSARA will be held on **Wednesday, February 3 at 7:30 PM** at the **American Red Cross** - Regional Office, 1540 West Park Avenue, Tinton Falls, New Jersey. We will be recapping the K2USA Special Event station.

The second meeting in February will be on **Wednesday, February 17 at 7:30 PM** at the **American Red Cross** - Regional Office, 1540 West Park Avenue, Tinton Falls, New Jersey. Our program will feature Bob Buus, W2OD talking about how Murphy plagued Marconi for the first transatlantic radio transmission.

K2USA SPECIAL EVENT STATION

From Friday, January 29 through Sunday, January 31, GSARA will be operating special event station K2USA from the Fort Monmouth MARS studios. The station will be on for 48 hours starting at 7 PM Friday until 7 PM Sunday providing we have enough operators. We plan to operate SSB, CW, PSK-31 and VHF/UHF FM. If you have a Fort Monmouth pass, you will be on a special list for admittance to the Fort on this weekend so please plan to attend this event. If you could let Frank, W2XYZ or Jeff, N2LXM know your plans, it would be appreciated for scheduling purposes. But even if you don't know your plans, try to drop in whenever you can.

Also, try working the station from home. Those working the station and wishing to receive a handsome certificate should submit \$2 along with their QSL. This will be your last chance to work K2USA from Fort Monmouth so don't miss the opportunity.

NEW GSARA HOMEPAGE

<http://www.gardenstateara.org>

W2GSA PACKET STATION

The W2GSA packet station at the WHTG tower at the UPS site in Tinton Falls still has some problems but it is operational. The defective 2-meter antenna was replaced but the replacement antenna was cut for 158 MHz instead of the 145.05 MHz frequency of the packet station. As a result, we have a high SWR on the line so are radiating less than half of our power. More seriously, the antenna radiation pattern is also compromised so we are not getting the expected gain from the antenna. Arrangements are being made to replace the antenna in the spring.

Meanwhile, you can use the station by connecting to either W2GSA-2 or W2GSA-4 on 145.05 MHz. W2GSA-2 is a node on the Flex-Node network which covers much of the east coast. If you use the "d" (destinations) command after connecting, you will see a list of nodes available. You can connect to any of them with a simple "c" (connect) command followed by the appropriate call sign. To disconnect, use the "q" (quit) command.

W2GSA-4 is a standard packet bulletin board. When connecting for the first time, you will be asked for your name, call, location, etc. To disconnect from the bulleting board, use the "b" (bye) command. In both cases, the "h" (help) command will give you a list of possible commands.

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.

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

From now on, all GSARA meetings will be held at the Red Cross so the access problems with Fort Monmouth no longer exist and guests will have free access to all of our meetings. Use this as an opportunity to invite you friends to any meetings – especially those with a program that might be of wider interest. It was nice to see several guests at our January 20 meeting about the history of Fort Monmouth. If you missed it, you missed a very interesting talk.

The February program will be yours truly talking about Marconi's first transatlantic test. Murphy was present every step of the way and it's a miracle Marconi heard any signal at all.

Hopefully, this will reach you in time to participate in the Special Event station K2USA commemorating the closing of Fort Monmouth. We need operators if we are to support many modes/bands over most of the weekend. It runs for 48 hours starting at 7 PM Friday. Please show up whenever you can and help us out. Thanks.

If you haven't already done so, renew your membership NOW. You may pay your dues at any meeting or use the coupon on page 9 to mail them in to our Treasurer Joe, W2KQ. In addition, I encourage you to recruit a friend to also join GSARA. Applications are available on our web site (www.gardenstateara.org) or at any meeting.

If you are interested in obtaining a [gardenstateara.org](http://www.gardenstateara.org) email address which will give you webmail and POP3/SMTP access, please send an email to Josh at kc2tkk@gardenstateara.org 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 March issue is February 15.

73 de Bob, w2od@arrl.net

HUDSON DIVISION HOME PAGE

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

.MINUTES OF JANUARY 6 MEETING

By Bob Buus, W2OD, Secretary

President Frank Wroblewski, W2XYZ called the meeting to order at the Fort Monmouth MARS building at 7:40 PM. There were 12 members present and after the pledge to the flag, all members introduced themselves.

Health and Welfare

Bob, W2OD reported on two silent keys. They were Ed Bullwinkel, K2CVL from Eatontown and Joe Pate, N2YMO from Howell. Joe lived next door to Stan, N5AVY. A moment of silence was observed for these silent keys.

Secretary's Report

A motion was made by Bruce, K2QXW and seconded by Lou, W2HAM to accept the minutes as published in the January Propagator. The motion was accepted unanimously.

Correspondence

A package was received from Charles Burke, WA2SLK who was our guest speaker at our December 16 meeting. SCAN t the Monmouth Mall is offering a TV Production course starting January 15 and running for 10 weeks. The first two classes are free. If interested, contact Charles at 732-938-2481.

The package also contained a catalog of the upcoming courses offered by the SCAN Learning Center as well as DVDs of the Storm Preparedness program featuring amateur radio, a SCAN TV sampler, and a program "Welcome to SCAN, Career Corner & Safety Links". This material was turned over to Secretary Bob, W2OD and is available for loan to any members.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Joe Dreifuss, W2KQ gave his report. A motion was made by Lou, W2HAM and seconded by Howard, W2HTS to accept the report. The motion was accepted unanimously.

Old Business

Plans are proceeding on operating special event station K2USA during the last weekend in January (January 29-31). We hope to have two stations on HF and one on VHF. We plan to use eqsl for the logging program. Frank, W2XYZ will make

arrangements to allow anyone with a Wednesday pass to get access to the Fort on this weekend.

W2GSA is on the Flex Node network linked with other nodes on 223 MHz. Unfortunately, the 2-meter packet node on 145.05 is not yet working due to antenna/feedline problems. This will be fixed the next time a tower crew goes up the tower.

Joe, W2KQ is looking for donated items from members to be used in the upcoming while elephant sale scheduled for April 21. More valuable items will be handled by having the owner set a required minimum price. If it sells for more than the minimum, the GSARA will get the extra money. Food and sot drinks will be available at the sale.

New Business

This was our last meeting at Fort Monmouth. All future GSARA meetings will be at the Red Cross from now on. To that end, GSARA must carry liability insurance. A motion was made by Joe, W2KQ and seconded by Lorraine, KC2FDR to purchase a liability insurance policy. The motion carried unanimously.

GSARA has been asked to conduct another one-day amateur radio class. Frank, W2XYZ will check with Jeff, N2LXM to try to set an appropriate date for such a class.

Both Joe, W2KQ and Frank, W2XYZ have put together software defined radio kits. It is proposed that this might make a good club project. They will look into it further and make a more definite proposal.

Closing

The door prize of \$9 was won by Jim, K2EI. There being no further business, a motion was made by Jim, K2EI and seconded by Lorraine, KC2FDR to close the meeting. The motion was accepted unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 8:41 PM.

MINUTES OF JANUARY 20 MEETING

By Bob Buus, W2OD

President Frank Wroblewski, W2XYZ, called the meeting to order at Red Cross Headquarters at 7:31 PM. After a Pledge to the Flag, each attendee introduced themselves. There were 9 members and five guests present. The guests were our program speaker, Chrissie Reilly from Fort Monmouth,

Gerry Balzer, WB2UYN from Freehold, Bob Roman, N2DR from Red Bank, Mat Bregoff, W2AOJ from Oakhurst, and Dan Autry, KC2WJQ from Matawan.

Announcements

Bob, W2OD reported that the packet station W2GSA is operational on 145.05 as a Flex Node at W2GSA-2 and as a packet bulletin board as W2GSA-4. The antenna was found to resonate above the two meter band and has an SWR of about 3.5:1. Although it works, range is limited. Plans are to replace it in the spring with a two-meter antenna cut for 145.05 MHz.

Bob, W2OD also introduced guest Dan Autry, KC2WJQ who is a newly licensed Tech from Matawan who is active on 2 meters and 440 and is studying for his General.

The Program

Chrissie Reilly, the Staff Historian from Fort Monmouth showed a movie giving the colorful and interesting history of Fort Monmouth. After the movie, she filled us in with additional information not covered by the movie. Booklets were also distributed giving the history of the Fort as well as identifying various landmarks and memorials.

Closing

The door prize was won by Bob, W2OD. A motion was made by Howard, W2HTS and seconded by Joe, W2KQ to close the meeting. With a unanimous vote, the meeting was ended at 9:12 pm.

GEORGE SKIDMORE, KB2JTE - SK

George Bernard Skidmore, KB2JTE died Sunday, Jan. 3, 2010, at Country Meadows Nursing Center, Bethlehem, Pa. at age 88. Mr. Skidmore was born March 23, 1921 in Mt. Vernon, N.Y. to the late George A. Skidmore and the late Bernadine Hake Skidmore. His family relocated to Rahway, where he graduated from high school in 1938. He graduated from the Newark College of Engineering (NJIT) in 1942 with a degree in mechanical engineering. Mr. Skidmore served in the U.S. Army Air Force as a navigator in B-24 bombers, flying 83 missions out of Italy until the end of the European war. He earned the Distinguished Flying Cross, Air Medal, and Unit Citation for his service and was discharged as a lieutenant. He served in

the U.S. Air Force Reserves until 1971, retiring as a Major. After leaving active duty, Mr. Skidmore lived in Cranford until 2000, moving with his wife, Margaret Schoeffler Skidmore to Seabrook Village in Tinton Falls until her death in 2008. They had been married for over 60 years. He owned and managed a mechanical contracting business, Skidmore & Mason, Inc., specializing in the installation of newspaper printing equipment throughout North America and several foreign countries. He operated this business until he retired in 1985. His passion for flying and the nature of his business allowed him to operate his own private plane for many years both for work and pleasure.

His interests also included gardening, amateur radio, sailing, fishing, and writing stories and poetry. He enjoyed rigging and operating his own sailboat in the Raritan Bay. Mr. Skidmore had a lifelong interest in astronomy. He was a member of the Amateur Astronomers, Inc. in Cranford for many years and enjoyed numerous excursions to remote places to view solar eclipses. He was a lifetime member of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, the International Association of Printing House Craftsmen, and the Reserve Officers Association. He volunteered many years of service with the Linden squadron of The Civil Air Patrol. Other affiliations included membership as a Freemason and support of the Shriners charities, Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association, American Navion Society, and the 449th Bombardment Group Association.

He is survived by his sister, Edith Bromm of Winter Haven, Fla.; a son, George K. Skidmore of Allentown, Pa.; daughters, Katherine S. Martin and husband Robert of Canton, Mich., and Robin A. Sielski and husband Christopher of Asbury; and four grandchildren. In addition to his wife, he was predeceased by two sisters, Dorothy Green and Barbara Bucci.

A memorial service will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 13 at the Renaissance Garden Room at Seabrook Village, Tinton Falls. His family requests that in lieu of flowers, donations be made to the Disabled American Veterans, P.O. Box 14301, Cincinnati, OH 45250. Morello Funeral Home, Easton, Pa., was in charge of arrangements.

JOE PATE, N2YMO - SK

Joseph M. Pate, N2YMO of Howell, died of complications related to Parkinson's disease on Monday, Jan. 4, 2010, at age 55. Born in Nashville, Tenn. to Joseph H. Pate and Elizabeth A. Pate, he moved to Westfield in 1969. A talented opera singer and salesman, he was much loved and admired by his family, friends, and every child he met. He was a 32nd degree Mason in the Valley of Trenton Lodge, a Vigil Member of the Order of the Arrow in Monmouth Council, a volunteer blacksmith at Allaire State Park, and a member of the Howell OEM and First Aid/Rescue squads.

He is survived by his wife, Sharon and son, Seth; his father, Joseph; three brothers, John, James, and Jeff; and a sister, Elizabeth Miller.

In lieu of flowers or gifts, Joe wished that donations be sent to Boy Scout Venture Crew 191, c/o Squankum Fire Company, 271 Squankum Road, Farmingdale, NJ 07727. Arrangements by the Clayton & McGirr Funeral Home, Freehold Township. For condolence messages to the family, please visit www.claytonfuneralhome.com.

DAVE INGRAM, K4TWJ - SK

Dave Ingram, K4TWJ, who penned the "World of Ideas" and "How It Works" columns in *CQ Magazine*, passed away Wednesday, January 20, from complications due to a heart attack late last year. He was 67. A writer and columnist at *CQ* since 1981, Ingram -- an ARRL member -- began his career at the magazine writing the amateur television "World of Video" column that later morphed into the "World of Ideas," covering code keys, stealth antennas, building "new vintage" tube gear, mobiling and more. Ingram also served as *CQ's* QRP Editor. "His enthusiasm for whatever caught his interest was contagious and spread widely through his informal, yet educational writing style," recalled *CQ* Managing Editor Rich Moseson, W2VU. Ingram also wrote for *RadCom* -- the Radio Society of Great Britain's member journal -- and other international ham magazines. Funeral arrangements are pending. -- *Information provided by CQ Magazine*

From *The ARRL Letter*, January 21, 2010

NEW LICENSES SURGE IN 2009

NEW FCC LICENSES ISSUED 2005 THROUGH 2009					
Year	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Jan	876	1,274	1,647	1,755	1,960
Feb	1,357	1,605	2,435	2,998	2,263
Mar	1,705	2,531	3,478	2,816	3,463
Apr	1,486	1,728	2,673	3,090	3,430
May	1,651	2,283	2,607	2,562	2,717
Jun	1,493	1,967	2,281	2,402	3,011
Jul	906	1,401	1,786	2,077	2,220
Aug	1,500	1,623	2,183	2,084	2,102
Sep	1,139	1,357	1,462	1,763	2,116
Oct	1,385	1,781	2,109	2,303	2,404
Nov	1,540	1,993	2,132	2,197	2,344
Dec	1,330	1,569	1,935	2,019	2,114
Totals	16,368	21,112	26,728	28,066	30,144

In 2009, the FCC issued more than 30,000 new Amateur Radio licenses -- an almost 3 percent increase in the number of new licenses issued in 2008. At the end of 2009, there were 17,084 Novices, 334,245 Technicians, 150,970 Generals and 119,403 Amateur Extra class licensees.

This past year was a banner year for new Amateur Radio licensees. According to ARRL VEC Manager Maria Somma, AB1FM, the FCC issued more than 30,000 new ham radio licenses. "In 2009, the demand for Amateur Radio exam sessions remained elevated and is still running at a higher rate than before the FCC's restructuring of the license requirements in 2007," Somma said. "This high level of exam session activity has produced an elevated influx of new applications, far outpacing recent years." A total of 30,144 new licenses were granted in 2009 -- an increase of almost 7.5 percent from 2008. In 2005, 16,368 new hams joined Amateur Radio's ranks; just five years later, that number had increased by almost 14,000 -- a whopping 84 percent! Read more [here](#).

From *The ARRL Letter*, January 7, 2010

CONFUCIUS SAY

Man who drive like Hell, bound to get there.

ARRL BESTOWS AWARDS

The ARRL Board of Directors had the pleasure and distinction of bestowing two annual awards at its 2010 Annual Meeting -- the inaugural George Hart Distinguished Service Award and the Bill Leonard, W2SKE, Professional Media Award.

The George Hart Distinguished Service Award

Named for longtime ARRL Communications Manager George Hart, WINJM, this award was established by the Board at its 2009 Second Meeting. Hart was also the chief developer of the National Traffic System (NTS). It is conferred upon an ARRL member whose service to the League's Field Organization is of the most exemplary nature. Selection criteria include the nominee's operating record with the National Traffic System, participation within the Amateur Radio Emergency Service® (ARES®), or station appointments and/or leadership positions held within the ARRL Field Organization.

This year, three radio amateurs were honored by the Board with the George Hart Distinguished Service Award:

- George W. "Bud" Hippisley, W2RU, was first licensed in 1954 as KN2KIR and has been active in the NTS since 1955, serving as Eastern Area Net Manager since 1964 -- including a stint as Chairman of the NTS Eastern Area Staff from 1976-1983. He has also been active in ARES® and RACES since 1955.

- William "Bill" M. Smith, W7GHT, was first licensed in 1937. That year, he started handling traffic on the Idaho GEM Net and has been an active NTS operator since the organization's beginnings back in 1949. In addition, Smith helped to organize the Idaho-Montana CW Traffic Net, of which he currently serves as Manager.

- David Struebel, WB2FTX, founded NJVN/E -- a local VHF net -- in 1986, serving as Net Manager from 1986-1992. In 1988, he received the W2SWE New Jersey Traffic Handler of the Year Award. Struebel currently serves as the NTS Eastern Area Digital Coordinator and as the NTS Digital Second Region, Eastern Area Net Transcontinental Corps Mailbox Operator. He has elmered eight NTS member stations on digital NTS operations. In 2009, he received the Hudson Division Technical Achievement Award. ARRL

field appointments include Erie County (New York) Emergency Coordinator ([EC](#)) and Western New York Section Emergency Coordinator ([SEC](#)). Struebel is currently the Northern New Jersey Section Traffic Manager (STM).

The Bill Leonard, W2SKE, Media Award

The Bill Leonard, W2SKE, Professional Media Award is a national level award given each year to honor three professional journalists whose outstanding coverage best reflect the enjoyment, importance and public service value the Amateur Radio Service. This award -- created as a tribute to the late CBS News President Bill Leonard, W2SKE, an avid Amateur Radio operator -- is divided into three categories, each with its own award: audio, visual and print.

- Audio: Ted Randall, WB8PUM, hosts a weekly show on shortwave radio -- The QSO Radio Show. Randall was the recipient of this award in 2008, as well.

- Video: Kim Byrnes, a reporter for WDAF, a television station in Kansas City, covered the Raytown Amateur Radio Club's 2009 Field Day operation for her station's Sunday morning news magazine. She covered diverse aspects of Amateur Radio, specifically highlighting ham radio as a hobby, as an emergency communications source, as Radiosport and contesting and chronicling the evolution of two-way radio technology with what the Board called "a fascinating video report."

- Print: Vicky Taylor, a reporter for Public Opinion, the local daily newspaper in Chambersburg, Pennsylvania, covering the licensing of 8 year old Victoria Latham, KB3SSM, and her 7 year old sister Veronica, KB3SSN, as a heartwarming story of how these two young ladies convinced their dad Shannon, W3SML, and mom Rachel, KB3RNP, that they were ready to get their ham ticket.

From *The ARRL Letter*, January 21, 2010

CONFUCIUS SAY

Man who run in Front of car get tired.
Man who run behind Car get exhausted.

Man with one Chopstick go hungry.

Man who eat manyPrunes get good run for money.

NEW ARRL WEB SITE COMING SOON

It's almost here! After more than two years of planning, designing and writing, we are eagerly awaiting the launch of the new ARRL Web site. We've been able to make the online experience easier for our members -- from the online store, to registering for a class, to finding a club -- plus we've created a new, enhanced member profile with many more options available. We've made improvements with you in mind, making sure that our members will have the easiest, most enjoyable online experience possible. The new Web site will be available the first week of February.

From *The ARRL Letter*, January 21, 2010

HAM TO HEAD CYBERSECURITY

On December 22, President Barack Obama named Howard A. Schmidt, W7HAS, as the new White House Cybersecurity Coordinator. According to the White House, Schmidt is one of the world's leading authorities on computer security, with some 40 years of experience in government, business and law enforcement and "will have regular access to the President and serve as a key member of his National Security Staff. He will also work closely with his economic team to ensure that our cybersecurity efforts keep the Nation secure and prosperous."

Schmidt said that he credits Amateur Radio with getting him involved with technology: "In high school, one of my friends was a ham and he got me interested in shortwave radio, which in turn got me into building shortwave radios and equipment, many from Heathkit. As I got older, I took courses from NRI and Bell and Howell in electronics and built a number of projects, preparing me for my first ham radio ticket. I love technology, and it was Amateur Radio that caused me to build my first computer -- a Sinclair ZX-80 to use for EME calculations. I studied all about the OSCAR systems and would build equipment to monitor when they would pass within range of Arizona. Building these computers to support my ham radio hobby gave me the technical skills that I needed to start doing computer crime investigations and work on the early stages of computer forensics, in turn enabling me to start working on cybersecurity issues." Read more [here](#).

From *The ARRL Letter*, January 7, 2010

MARS GETS A NEW NAME

On Wednesday, December 23, the Department of Defense (DoD) issued an Instruction giving the three MARS services a new focus on homeland security and a new name: Military Auxiliary Radio System. The Instruction is the first major revision to MARS since January 26, 1988 -- as such, the first revision since the 9/11 attacks and Hurricane Katrina, two major events that changed the way Amateur Radio dealt with emergency communications. In the past, MARS had focused primarily on emergency communications and health and welfare support. The DoD's Instruction now directs the three MARS services to provide "contingency radio communications" to support US government operations, DoD components and "civil authorities at all levels," providing for national security and emergency preparedness events. MARS units will still continue to provide health and welfare communications support "to military members, civilian employees and contractors of DoD Components, and civil agency employees and contractors, when in remote or isolated areas, in contingencies or whenever appropriate." MARS must also be capable of operation in "radio only" modes -- without landlines or the Internet -- and sustainable on emergency power; some MARS stations must be transportable for timely deployment. Read more [here](#).

From *The ARRL Letter*, January 7, 2010

NEW TECH QUESTION POOL RELEASE

The Question Pool Committee (QPC) of the National Conference of Volunteer Examiner Coordinators (NCVEC) released the [new Technician class \(Element 2\) question pool](#) on Monday, January 4. This new question pool will become effective for all examinations administered on or after July 1, 2010; it will remain valid until June 30, 2014. The current Technician question pool will expire June 30, 2010. The new Technician pool contains approximately 400 questions, from which 35 are selected for an Element 2 examination; it will contain graphics and diagrams, something new for this element. The current [General class question pool](#) was effective July 1, 2007 and is valid through June 30, 2011. The current [Amateur Extra class pool](#) was effective July 1, 2008 and is valid until June 30, 2012.

From *The ARRL Letter*, January 7, 2010

LEAGUE PUBLICATIONS ON KINDLE

In December 2009, the ARRL's Tech Q&A debuted on Amazon.com for use with Kindle wireless reading device. Now we are pleased to announce that the ARRL's General Q&A and the ARRL's Extra Q&A are now available directly from the online bookseller for use on the Kindle. Kindle is shaped much like a book with a paper-like screen that displays text and pictures. Those who have the Kindle application installed on their Apple iPhone or iPod touch -- or even on their computer -- can download the book for use on these devices. When you download the Tech Q&A, General Q&A and the Extra Q&A, you get access to these study tools quickly and easily, smoothing the path to your first -- or next! -- ham radio license. Studying on the Kindle is perfect for today's busy lifestyle, whether you're at home, in the office, traveling or just on the go. Each version of the Q&A lets you review questions and answers from that element's entire question pool so you can pass your exam. All three versions are available for purchase from Amazon.com for \$9.99 each.

From *The ARRL Letter*, January 14, 2010

AREA AMATEUR EXAM SESSIONS

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 (February 6, 2010) at 10 AM. Contact Pat Brannick, N2BZD at 732-267-0308 or pbrannick@aol.com.

Middletown, Croyden Hall on Leonardo Road: Exams are on the second Tuesday of every month at 7 PM. Contact Mario Sellitti, N2PVP 732-787-7184 or n2pvp@n2pvp.com.

Toms River, Riverview Park Recreation Building: Exams are held on the third Thursday of every month at 7:30 PM. Contact Ed Genoio, WA2NDA at 609-971-2792 or 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 (February 9, 2010) at 10 AM. Contact 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.

RECORD NUMBER OF ISS CONTACTS

When the Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) program began coordinating ISS-to-school contacts in 2001, only one school -- Luther Burbank Elementary School in Burbank, Illinois -- participated. Ten years later, more than 120 schools participated in the ARISS program in 2009 alone. The number of ARISS-coordinated ISS-to-school contacts has climbed dramatically since that first contact in 2000. In 2001, there were 42 contacts, and in 2002, there were 40 contacts. During the first five years of the program -- 2000-2004 -- there was an average of 31.4 QSOs between the ISS and schools. In 2004, ARISS only conducted 35 contacts -- the lowest in its 10 year history -- but in 2005, 55 schools had contacted the ISS through the program. In 2006, there were 47 QSOs, 75 QSOs in 2007 and 62 in 2008. The 121 QSOs in 2009 show a jump of 95 percent over the 2008 numbers -- setting an ARISS record for the number of contacts. Read more [here](#).

From *The ARRL Letter*, January 14, 2010

NOTES ON CALENDAR (see last page)

Large call letters denote birthdays e.g., N2TQG February 2. All times are EST. Contests are listed in the February QST, p. 90.

February 1 - **Monmouth County ARES Net** meets on 147.045 +600, PL=67.0 at 7:30 PM.

February 2 - **Middletown Pancake House Luncheon** at noon at left rear table. All are welcome.

February 2 - **Old Barney ARC Meeting**, 7:30 PM at Ocean Acres Community Center in Manahawkin, NJ. See <http://www.obarc.org>

February 2 and every following Tuesday - **QCWA News Net** on 147.045 PL=67 at 9:00 PM.

February 3 – **W1AW Qualifying Run** at 7 PM (10-35 wpm). See February QST, pp. 87 or www.arrl.org/w1aw

February 3 – **GSARA Meeting** at 7:30 PM at the Red Cross, West Park Ave. and Shafto Road in Tinton Falls.

February 4 - **Holiday City ARC meeting** at 7 PM at Holiday City South Clubhouse in Toms River.

February 6 – **OMARC VE Test Session** at 10 AM at the Diana Site on Marconi Road in Wall. See Pat Brannick, N2BZD at 732-267-0308 or e-mail to pbrannick@aol.com

February 6 – **North American Sprint, CW** from 7 PM to 11 PM. See www.ncjweb.com/

February 7 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.

February 8 - **Monmouth County RACES Net** meets on 147.045 +600, PL=67.0 at 7:30 PM.

February 9 – **Monmouth Amateur Radio Club meeting** at 7 PM in Union Beach Police Annex (Municipal Building) on Poole Avenue.

February 9 – **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

February 10 – **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

February 11 – **Jersey Shore Amateur Radio Society (JSARS)** meeting in Riverview Park Recreation Building, Rt. 527 and Riverwood Drive in Toms River at 7:30 PM.

February 13 – **OMARC Meeting**, 9:00 AM at the Diana Site on Marconi Road, Wall, NJ.

February 13 – **North American Sprint, SSB** from 7 PM to 11 PM. See www.ncjweb.com/

February 15 - **Monmouth County ARES Net** meets on 147.045 +600, PL=67.0 at 7:30 PM.

February 17 – **GSARA Meeting** at 7:30 at the Red Cross, West Park Ave. and Shafto Road in Tinton Falls. Program is about Marconi’s first transatlantic radio transmission.

February 18 – **W1AW Qualifying Run** at 4 PM (10-35 wpm). See Feb. QST, pp. 87 or www.arrl.org/w1aw

February 18 – **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.

Feb. 19-21 – **ARRL DX Contest, CW** from 7 PM Friday to 7 PM Sunday. See www.arrl.org/contests

February 21 – **FM Simplex Contest**, 50-440 MHz from 2 PM to 4:30 PM. See www.w9rh.org

February 22 – **Monmouth County RACES** on 147.045 +600, PL=67.0 at 7:30 PM.

Feb. 26-28 – **CQ WW 160 Meter SSB** from 5 PM Friday to 5 PM Sunday. See www.CQ160.com

February 27 – **Neptune Amateur Radio Club Meeting** at 9 AM at the American Legion on Gully Road in Neptune.

Feb. 27-28 – **North American QSO Party**, Digital from 1 PM Sat. to 1 AM Sun. See www.ncjweb.com

2010 DUES ARE DUE!

If you have not yet paid your dues for 2010 (see mailing label on last page), now is the time to do it. Please pay our treasurer **Joe Dreifuss, W2KQ**. Regular membership is \$15, family membership is \$25, students are \$7.50 and active Military personnel pay no fee (but submit form to show continued interest in belonging). If you wish to have a paper copy of *The Propagator* mailed to you, add \$5 and check this box:

NAME _____ CALL _____

wishes to continue membership in GSARA for 2009. Payment of \$ _____ is enclosed.

Make checks payable to GSARA and mail or give to:

Joe Dreifuss, W2KQ
6 Fredric Drive
Ocean, NJ 07712

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 ARES/RACES 7:30	2 KG2IK N2TQG Pancake House Old Barney ARC QCWA News 9 PM	3 CW Qual. Run GSARA Mtg	4 Hol. City Mtg.	5 N2ZZP	6 OMARC VE N. A. CW Sprint
7 InfoAge	8 RACES Net 7:30	9 MARC Mtg 7 PM Croyden VE 7 PM QCWA News 9 PM	10 Hol. City VE	11 JSARS Mtg.	12	OMARC Mtg. 13 N.A. SSB Sprint
14 InfoAge	15 ARES/RACES 7:30	16 QCWA News 9 PM	17 GSARA Mtg	18 CW Qual. Run JSARS VE	19 ARRL CW DX	20 ARRL CW DX
21 ARRL CW DX InfoAge FM Simplex	22 RACES Net 7:30	23 QCWA News 9 PM	24	25	26 CW WW 160	Neptune Mtg 27 CW WW 160 N.A. Dig. QSO
28 CW WW 160 InfoAge						



G.S.A.R.A.
8 DONNER STREET
HOLMDEL, NJ 07733

FIRST CLASS