



THE PROPAGATOR

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

JANUARY 2010

UPCOMING GSARA MEETINGS

The next regular meeting of the GSARA will be held on **Wednesday, January 6** at **7:30 PM** at the Fort Monmouth MARS building. This will be our last meeting at Fort Monmouth so please plan to attend.

The second meeting in January will be on **Wednesday, January 20** at **7:30 PM** at the **American Red Cross - Regional Office**, 1540 West Park Avenue, Tinton Falls, New Jersey. Our program will feature a history of Fort Monmouth. Don't miss it! Guests are always welcome.

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 hours of operation and the number of simultaneous transmitters on the air will depend solely on how many volunteer operators we can muster. 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



On December 12, Bob, W2OD, Frank, W2XYZ, Dave, WB2FTX and Ralph, KC2WAD (who took the above picture) installed packet equipment and a computer at the WHTG tower at the UPS site in Tinton Falls. Dave donated the equipment so that W2GSA could serve as a packet node serving central NJ in a state-wide net. Unfortunately, antenna problems have kept the station from being operational at this time. Further details will be provided when the station is operating normally.

NEPTUNE ARC XMAS PARTY

The Neptune Amateur Radio Club held their annual Christmas party on Sunday, December 13 at the American Legion Post in Neptune. Music was provided by Carl Albern Jr, N2SRG. All who9 attended had a very good time.

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

As 2009 comes to a close I would like to wish all of you a Happy and Prosperous New Year! It is also time to renew your membership in GSARA. Dues are only \$15 per year and many exciting activities are planned for 2010. In January we will be operating K2USA as a special event station commemorating the closing of Fort Monmouth. Starting in February, all 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. We plan to have at least one guest speaker every month (usually on the third meeting). We plan to have a first-class radio room at the Red Cross with many antennas and a tower. April brings a white elephant sale and open house. Of course, we'll be active for Field Day in June. It will be a busy year and your participation will enhance the enjoyment of these activities for everyone.

You won't want to miss any of these activities 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 January issue is January 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 DECEMBER 2 MEETING

By Bob Buus, W2OD, Secretary

President Frank Wroblewski, W2XYZ called the meeting to order at the Fort Monmouth MARS building at 7:47 PM. There were 8 members present and after the pledge to the flag, all members introduced themselves.

Health and Welfare

Bob, W2OD reported on three silent keys. They were GSARA member Tom Thompson, KC2FRN from Highlands; John Di Blasi, W2QNR from Manchester; and Jerry Sevick, W2FMI of balun-unun fame. A moment of silence was observed for these three silent keys.

Joe, W2KQ is confined at home with the flu or cold. Laura, N2HGI is recovering from having three stents in her heart. She also had an eye injection on December 2 and is scheduled to finish the stents on December 18. We wish them a speedy recovery.

Secretary's Report

A motion was made by Jeff, N2LXM and seconded by Marty, N2BMK to accept the minutes as published in the December Propagator. The motion was accepted unanimously.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Joe Dreifuss, W2KQ was absent so the report was given by Frank, W2XYZ. A motion was made by Jeff, N2LXM and seconded by Marty, N2BMK to accept the report. The motion was accepted unanimously.

New Member

An application for membership was received from Marty Torbert, N2BMK from Little Silver. Marty has a General class ticket and is interested in DX. A motion was made by Jeff, N2LXM and seconded by Laura, N2HGI to accept the report. The motion was accepted unanimously. Laura, N2HGI noted that her original call was KB2BMK, a coincidence in this small world.

Old Business

Plans are proceeding on operating special event station K2USA during the last weekend in January (January 29-31). Jeff, N2LXM volunteered to prepare certificates for those desiring them for

contacting K2USA. To cover his expenses, a motion was made by Jeff, N2LXM and seconded by Marty, N2BMK to authorize up to \$200 to cover expenses involved in the special event operating activity. The motion was accepted unanimously. Bob, W2OD agreed to bring band pass filters in case they are needed when operating multiple transmitters during the special event.

Dave, WB2FTX should be able to deliver the equipment for the GSARA Flex Node sometime next week. Bob, W2OD has talked to Marv, W2PAT and his son Ralph, KC2WAD about using antennas on the UPS tower for this station. This will be pursued further.

Jeff, N2LXM is not only serving as QSL manager for W2GSA but he will also handle member's cards to be sent into ARRL for foreign distribution. Bob, W2OD agreed to register W2GSA with LoTW.

New Business

GSARA plans to hold a white elephant sale at the Red Cross on Wednesday, March 17. A coordinator is needed. After the meeting, Joe, W2KQ volunteered to be the coordinator.

Announcements

Charles Burke, WA2SLK will be our guest speaker at our December 16 meeting at the Red Cross. He will talk about TV production at SCAN in Monmouth Mall.

Our January 6 meeting will be the last one at Fort Monmouth. Starting in February, all GSARA meetings will be at the Red Cross.

We are looking for a speaker at our January 20 meeting who can give us a history of Fort Monmouth. Please give any suggestions to Frank, W2XYZ.

Laura, N2HGI reminded all about the Neptune ARC holiday party from 2 to 5 PM on Sunday, December 13. All area amateurs and their families are invited. She asked for help in setting up and Jeff, N2LXM and his wife volunteered.

Closing

The door prize of \$8 was won by Bob, W2OD. There being no further business, a motion was made by Jeff, N2LXM and seconded by Marty, N2BMK to close the meeting. The motion was accepted unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 8:55 PM.

MINUTES OF DECEMBER 16 MEETING

By Bob Buus, W2OD

President Frank Wroblewski, W2XYZ, called the meeting to order at Red Cross Headquarters at 7:37 PM. After a Pledge to the Flag, each attendee introduced themselves. There were 11 members and one guest present. The guest was our program speaker, Charles Burke, WA2SLK from Farmingdale.

Old Business

Jeff, N2LXM reported that plans are proceeding smoothly for the special event station at Fort Monmouth commemorating the closing of the Fort. This will be held on January 29, 30 and 31 (Friday through Sunday). Jeff is preparing to have certificates available for \$2 for those who work K2USA during this event. The number of transmitters and the intensity of the operation will depend upon how many operators we can muster.

On a related note, our last GSARA meeting at Fort Monmouth will take place on Wednesday, January 6. All subsequent meetings will be at the Red Cross.

The GSARA White Elephant Sale will be held during our second meeting on April 21 at the Red Cross. This will include an open house of our facilities and refreshments will be available. Bill, NJ2H will publicize this event locally and Jeff, N2LXM will notify the ARRL, QRZ, etc.

Announcements

Packet equipment furnished by Dave, WB2FTX was installed at the WHTG tower at UPS on Saturday, December 12 by Frank, W2XYZ, Howard, W2HTS, Bob, W2OD and Ralph Bernstein, KC2WAD. Unfortunately, there was a problem with the two-meter antenna on the tower so the station is not yet operational.

The amateur radio bill S1755 passed the Senate on December 14 by unanimous vote. The House bill is next.

Jeff, N2LXM announced the fabulous electric train exhibit at the Marconi Hotel on weekends.

Laura, N2HGI announced that the Neptune Amateur Radio Club Christmas Party was successful and all who attended had a good time.

The Program

Charles Burke, WA2SLK gave an interesting talk about the video production facilities at the SCAN Learning Center at the Eatontown Mall. Charles had an article published in June 2009 QST describing a video production showing how Amateur Radio assists in emergencies. In his talk, he emphasized how inexpensive it is to produce a TV show and pointed out various means to get the show broadcast through Public, Education, Government (PEG) access or cable access channels. This is a very powerful means of further publicizing amateur radio.

Closing

The door prize of \$13 was won by Howard, W2HTS. A motion was made by Jeff, N2LXM and seconded by Lorraine, KC2FDR to close the meeting. With a unanimous vote, the meeting was ended at 9:31 pm.

EDWARD BULLWINKEL, K2CVL - SK

Edward C. Bullwinkel II, K2CVL of Eatontown, passed away Saturday, Dec. 26, 2009, at home with his family by his side. Born and raised in Brooklyn, N.Y., he moved to N.J. in the mid 1950's and has lived in Eatontown for over 48 years with his family. He attended Brooklyn Polytechnic Institute and graduated with a degree in Electrical Engineering and worked for the United States Government for 35 years before retiring in 1998. After retirement, he worked for Booz Allen Hamilton, Motorola & C3I as a consultant. Edward served in the U.S. Navy Reserves and was a member of the Eatontown Fire Dept. and First Aid Squads, serving as Captain of the first aid squad and as the Emergency Management Coordinator.

He is survived by his wife of 49 years, Edith Marie Gorenflo Bullwinkel and three sons.

A funeral service was held on December 30 at the funeral home. In lieu of flowers, donations in his memory may be made to: The Eatontown First Aid Squad or St. Barnabas Hospice, 300 Second Ave. Unit CW6, Long Branch, N.J. 07740. For online condolences please visit www.bongarzonefuneralhome.com.

THE ARRL LAB

By ARRL News Editor S. Khrystyne Keane, K1SFA

The hams who work in the ARRL Lab -- Ed Hare, W1RFI; Mike Gruber, W1MG; Zack Lau, W1VT, and Bob Allison, WB1GCM -- receive more than 100 calls each week, requesting assistance. I know that whenever I venture into the Lab, rife with deep, dark secrets of the Amateur Radio world, one, if not all four of these guys are either on the phone or on the computer, answering



Zack Lau, W1VT, Bob Allison, WB1GCM, and Mike Gruber, W1MG, in the ARRL Lab's screen room. [S. Khrystyne Keane, K1SFA, Photo]

questions posed to them by members.

One afternoon, I wandered down to the Lab, and asked Zack, Mike and Bob, "What is the most common question you guys receive from our members?" Zack quickly answered: "They want to know what kind of radio to buy." Now, no one here at League Headquarters can tell you which radio to buy, but Zack explained to me how he walks through a question set with the caller: What do you want to do with the radio? Do you want to get on HF, or are you interested in emergency communications or just ragchewing on your local repeater? How much room do you have to set up a station? How much money is in your budget for a new rig? Once the caller answers these questions, Zack guides them toward certain classes of radios, giving the caller a narrower field to look at. He also suggests that they take a look at the ARRL online publication, *Choosing a Ham Radio*, as well as the Technical Information Service (TIS) section on the ARRL Web site.

The next most popular questions (in order) are:

- What kind of antenna should I get?
- When are the sunspots coming back?
- Why can't I get on HF?

So, even if you're an experienced ham who has seen just about everything, or if you just got your Technician license in the mail (or, like me, you're somewhere in between), and you have a technical question that you just can't seem to figure out the answer to, try calling on the ARRL Lab -- they just might be able to help you figure it out.

From *The ARRL Letter*, November 25, 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 (February 6, 2010) at 10 AM. The contact person is Pat Brannick, N2BZD at 732-267-0308 or e-mail to pbrannick@aol.com.

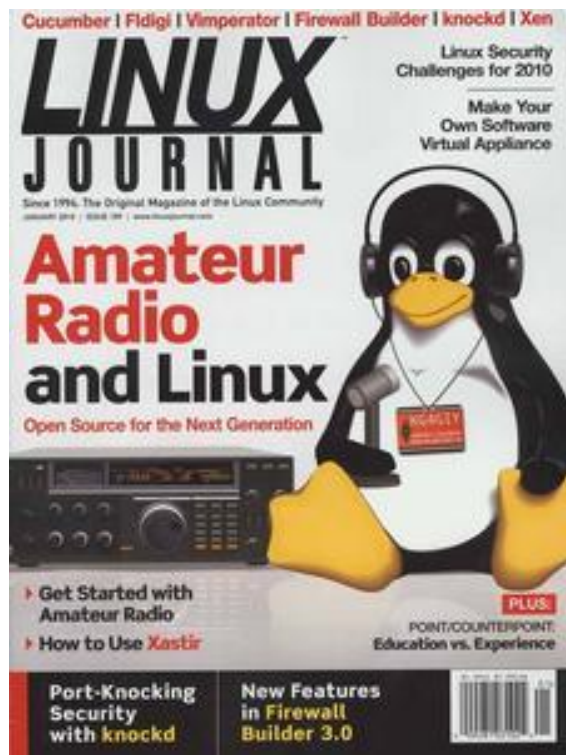
Middletown, Croyden Hall on Leonardo Road: Exams are on the second Tuesday of every month at 7 PM. The contact person is Mario Sellitti, N2PVP 732-787-7184 or e-mail to n2pvp@n2pvp.com.

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 (February 10, 2010) 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.

JOURNAL HILITES AMATEUR RADIO



Emergencies may get all the attention in the press, but lately, the technological side of Amateur Radio has been showing up a lot in places that are read by the people who make *next* year's trends. Hams indeed are technical and creative people, consummate MacGyvers. To kick off the new year, the computer magazine *Linux Journal* has come out with an entire issue dedicated to Amateur Radio and the creative uses of open source computer programs. This 80 page issue features Tux, the Linux mascot on its cover wearing a pair of headphones, holding a microphone -- and even sporting an Emergency Coordinator badge around his neck -- hooked up to an HF transceiver. The issue has headlines on the cover such as "Amateur Radio and Linux -- Open Source for the New Generation," and "Get Started with Amateur Radio," and includes articles like "When All Else Fails -- Amateur Radio, the Original Open-Source Project" by David Lane, KG4GIY. Read more [here](#).

From *The ARRL Letter*, December 10, 2009

What do you call a boomerang that doesn't work?

A stick!

SANTA IS A HAM!

By ARRL News Editor S. Khrystyne Keane, K1SFA

For 37 years, Mickey Hicks, WO6T, played Santa Claus to hundreds of children. These children never sat on Santa's lap to tell him that they had been good boys and girls and what they wanted for Christmas. They did it in a much more simple way -- they picked up a microphone and told Santa on the air. Each year, Hicks, a ham for almost 50 years and a long-time Amateur Radio instructor, would get on the air for 10 days each December as W6S (Whiskers-6-Santa). Hicks became a Silent Key earlier this year.

Hicks said that the first year he operated as W6S was a hit with the operators -- and their children. Most children, he noted, are a bit apprehensive of talking over the radio, let alone to Santa. One of the most challenging parts of operating was when he heard a parent say "This one is shy and won't talk." That was never a problem for Hicks -- after a few warm-up questions, such as "Can you say hello to Rudolph?" -- He said he could strike up a conversation that lasted a few minutes. He had even heard back from parents that they weren't able to get the microphone away from the kids afterward!

Back in 2001, Hicks told the ARRL that his Santa's Workshop was a great ham radio recruiting tool. One of his most memorable experiences was when a young girl he'd once spoken with on the air as Santa came by with her ham ticket in hand to thank him in person for getting her interested in Amateur Radio. "I had tears in my eyes, of course," he said. One of the most enjoyable moments of Hicks' Santa career occurred when he was speaking with a young child and realized he had spoken with their parents and grandparents when they were youngsters!

Mark Slater, WI6J, was Hicks' QSL manager. With the blessing of Hicks' wife, son and daughter-in-law, Slater will carry on the W6S tradition for 2010 and beyond. "Mickey's shoes are so much bigger than I could ever hope to fill," he told the ARRL, "but I know Mickey would have wanted Santa to keep getting on the air and speaking with the children." Santa's favorite frequency is 14.270 MHz. Santa is a ham!

From *The ARRL Letter*, December 17, 2009

A BRIEF HISTORY OF 160 METERS

By ARRL News Editor S. Khrystyne Keane, K1SFA

This year marks the 40th anniversary of the ARRL 160 Meter Contest. In 1970, the ARRL Board of Directors authorized this new event at their meeting in May. According to the announcement that appeared in the October 1970 edition of *QST*, the ARRL Contest Advisory Committee (CAC) and "numerous 'top banders'" provided the guidance for the contest; based on their recommendations, they created its initial format.

Those licensed prior to May 1981 can surely remember the limitations on 160 meters due to the LORAN-A (Long Range Aid to Navigation) stations. These stations -- developed during World War II -- used signals that were transmitted on frequencies in and around our present-day 160 meter band. The LORAN-A stations were responsible for reduced Amateur Radio operations - - including frequency and power limitations -- on 160 meters in the United States.

If you look at license manuals from this time, you will find a chart (Part 97.61, Authorized Frequencies and Emissions) that dictated how much power amateurs could use on topband. This was broken up into band segments of 25 kHz, going from 1800 kHz up to 2000 kHz. In band segments of 25 kHz, it lists each US state and dictated how much power could be used during the day *and* during the night. For example, amateurs in Connecticut on 1844 kHz could use 100 W during the day, but had to go down to 25 W at night; Connecticut hams were not even allowed on during the day *or* night between 1850-1975 kHz! Conversely, Oklahoma hams had daytime topband privileges of 1000 W and could use 200 W at night on 1800-1825 kHz.

On May 21, 1981, US amateurs got some good news when the FCC lifted most of the restrictions on 1800-1900 kHz: For the first time, kilowatt powers were authorized for both daytime and nighttime use as the LORAN-A stations were being phased out. In 1979, the Coast Guard began replacing the LORAN-A stations with LORAN-C stations. These newer stations operate on 100 kHz, enabling the restrictions on 160 meters due to LORAN functions to be dropped.

Most amateur transceivers didn't even begin to include 160 meters until the influx of Japanese imports began in the 1970s. As a result of that -- as well as the elimination of the HF LORAN system -- 160 meters has grown in popularity over the past couple of decades. Now in its 40th year, the ARRL 160 Meter Contest is still growing. From the first running in 1970 with 270 logs submitted, to 2008 with 1280 logs submitted, more amateurs are becoming fascinated with all that topband has to offer. If you've never been on 160 before, try making a few contacts. If you're a topband veteran, this is the chance to strut your stuff. For more information on 160 meters, check out *DXing on the Edge: The Thrill of 160 Meters* by Jeff Briggs K1ZM.

From *The ARRL Letter*, December 3, 2009

NEW ANTENNAS INSTALLED ON ISS

On Saturday, November 21, astronauts Mike Foreman and Randy Bresnik completed the second EVA (extra-vehicular activity) -- NASA's term for a spacewalk -- of their mission. While on the 6 hour, 8 minute EVA, Foreman installed the Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) antennas for 2 meters and 70 cm on the *Columbus* module. NASA ISS Ham Radio Project Engineer Kenneth Ransom, N5VHO, told the ARRL that this new antenna -- along with another VHF antenna -- was developed by ARISS in cooperation with the European Space Agency (ESA) to support an experiment involving the maritime Automatic Identification System (AIS). "Both antennas were installed on the Earth-facing starboard edge of the *Columbus* module," he explained. "The AIS antenna is forward and the ARISS antenna is aft. The ARISS team is planning to migrate some stowed Amateur Radio gear to take advantage of the new antenna." Frequencies available for transmission to and from *Columbus* will be 2 meters, 70 centimeters and 13 cm. To start, two radios for 2 meters and 70 cm that don't see much use on the ISS will be moved and installed in *Columbus*. The space shuttle *Discovery* is expected to return to Earth on Friday, November 27 and will bring Nicole Stott, KE5GJN, back from her stay on the ISS.

From *The ARRL Letter*, November 25, 2009

HAM RADIO BILL PASSES SENATE

On Monday, December 14, S 1755 -- *The Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Enhancement Act of 2009* -- passed the Senate by unanimous consent; the bill now goes to the House of Representatives for consideration. Sponsored by Senator Joe Lieberman (ID-CT), and Senator Susan Collins (R-ME), S 1755, if passed, would direct the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to undertake a study on emergency communications. S 1755 points out that "There is a strong Federal interest in the effective performance of Amateur Radio Service stations, and that performance must be given -- (A) support at all levels of government; and (B) protection against unreasonable regulation and impediments to the provision of the valuable communications provided by such stations." Read more [here](#).

From *The ARRL Letter*, December 17, 2009

FIRST CHINESE AMATEUR SATELLITE

AMSAT China ([CAMSAT](#)) reports that at around 0230 UTC on December 15, China launched its first Amateur Radio satellite -- named XW-1 -- into space. The microsatellite -- a secondary payload aboard the CZ-4C rocket launched from the Taiyuan Satellite Launch Center -- was launched into a Sun-synchronous orbit with an apogee of approximately 1200 kilometers. XW-1 successfully reached orbit at 0253 UTC. Members of the XW-1 launch team reported they received a beacon from the satellite shortly after the satellite deployed. In the first few days, the XW-1 team will work on the satellite's FM and store-forward transponder mode

and its linear transponder mode. Once those tests are complete, they will upload a new flight program to set up the payload schedule. The satellite's communications payload includes a beacon and three crossband transponders operating in FM, SSB/CW and digital modes. Uplink and downlink frequencies can be found on the [CAMSAT Web site](#). For the latest Keplerian elements for XW-1 and other satellites, check out the [W1AW Keplerian Bulletins](#).

From *The ARRL Letter*, December 17, 2009

LoTW REACHES NEW MILESTONES

To date, more than 30,000 hams have entered more than 250 million QSOs into Logbook of The World (LoTW), the ARRL's online logging program. At this time last year, 22,959 hams had made just more than 192 million QSOs, marking an upswing in both users and QSOs of about 24 percent. The LoTW system is a repository of log records submitted by amateurs from around the world. When both participants in a QSO submit matching QSO records to LoTW, the result is a QSL that can be used for ARRL award credit. While US amateurs do not need to be members of the ARRL to use LoTW, only members can use LoTW to apply for ARRL awards, such as DXCC and Worked All States (WAS). Some awards, like the Triple Play Award, only use LoTW credits instead of traditional QSL cards (foreign amateurs do not need to be ARRL members to apply for ARRL awards). Read more [here](#).

From *The ARRL Letter*, December 3, 2009

NOTES ON CALENDAR (see last page)

Large call letters denote birthdays e.g., **KC2HAW** January 6. All times are EST. Contests are listed in the January QST, p. 66.

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

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

Jan. 2-3 – **ARRL RTTY Roundup** from 1 PM Sat. to 7 PM Sunday. See www.arrl.org/contests

January 3 – **Kid's Day**, Phone from 1 to 7 PM. See www.arrl.org/FandES/ead/kd-rules.html

January 3 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.

January 4 - **Monmouth County ARES Net** meets on 147.045 +600, PL=67.0 at 7:30 PM.

January 5 – **Middletown Pancake House Luncheon** at noon at left rear table. All are welcome.

January 5 – **Old Barney ARC Meeting**, 7:30 PM at Ocean Acres Community Center in Manahawkin, NJ. See <http://www.obarc.org>

January 5 and every following Tuesday – **QCWA News Net** on 147.045 PL=67 at 9:00 PM.

January 6 – **GSARA Meeting** at 7:30 PM at the MARS Building at Fort Monmouth.

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

January 8 – **W1AW Qualifying Run** at 10 PM (10-35 wpm). See January QST, pp. 80 and 100 or www.arrl.org/wlaw

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

January 9 – **Holiday City VE Session** at 10 AM in Toms River. Pre-register with Larry Puccio, K2QDY at 732-349-2950 or e-mail at lpuccio1@comcast.net

Jan. 9-10 – **North American QSO Party, CW** from 1 PM Saturday to 1 AM Sunday. See www.ncjweb.com/naqprules.php

January 11 - **Monmouth County RACES Net** meets on 147.045 +600, PL=67.0 at 7:30 PM.

January 12 – **Monmouth Amateur Radio Club meeting** at 7 PM in Union Beach Police Annex (Municipal Building) on Poole Avenue.

January 12 – **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

January 14 – **Jersey Shore Amateur Radio Society (JSARS)** meeting in Riverview Park Recreation Building, Rt. 527 and Riverwood Drive in Toms River at 7:30 PM.

Jan. 16-17 – **North American QSO Party, SSB** from 1 PM Saturday to 1 AM Sunday. See www.ncjweb.com/naqprules.php

January 18 - **Monmouth County ARES Net** meets on 147.045 +600, PL=67.0 at 7:30 PM.

January 20 – **GSARA Meeting** at 7:30 at the Red Cross, West Park Ave. and Shafto Road in Tinton Falls. Program is about the history of Fort Monmouth.

January 21 – **W1AW Qualifying Run** at 9 AM (35-10 wpm). See January QST, pp. 80 and 100 or www.arrl.org/wlaw

January 21 – **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.

January 23 – **Neptune Amateur Radio Club Meeting** at 9 AM at the American Legion on Gully Road in Neptune.

Jan. 23-24 – **ARRL VHF Sweepstakes** from 1 PM Saturday to 11 PM Sunday. See www.arrl.org/contests

January 25 – **Monmouth County RACES** on 147.045 +600, PL=67.0 at 7:30 PM.

Jan. 29-31 – **K2USA Special Event Station** from Fort Monmouth. See p. xx

Jan. 30-31 – **CQ WW 160 Meter Contest**, CW from 5 PM Sat. to 5 PM Sunday. See www.cq160.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 SKN Lighthouse QSO	2 Lighthouse QSO RTTY RndUp
3 RTTY RndUp Lighthouse QSO InfoAge Kid's Day	4 ARES/RACES 7:30	5 Pancake House Old Barney ARC QCWA News 9 PM	6 KC2HAW GSARA Mtg	7 Hol. City Mtg.	8 CW Qual. Run	9 OMARC Mtg. Hol. City VE N.A. QSO Pty
10 KC2TKK N.A. QSO Pty InfoAge	11 KE2DT W2XYZ RACES Net 7:30	12 MARC Mtg 7 PM Croyden VE 7 PM QCWA News 9 PM	13 W2QFQ	14 JSARS Mtg.	15	16 N.A. QSO Pty
17 N.A. QSO Pty InfoAge	18 KA2VXA ARES/RACES 7:30	19 QCWA News 9 PM	20 GSARA Mtg	21 CW Qual. Run JSARS VE	22	23 Neptune Mtg VHF SS
24 VHF SS InfoAge	25 RACES Net 7:30	26 QCWA News 9 PM	27	28	29 K2USA S.E.	30 K2USA S.E. CQ WW 160
31 K2USA S.E. CQ WW 160 InfoAge						



G.S.A.R.A.
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FIRST CLASS