



# THE PROPAGATOR

Holmdel, NJ 07733  
Editor: Bob Buus, W2OD

**MARCH 2015**

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## UPCOMING GSARA MEETINGS

The next GSARA meeting will be on **Wednesday, March 4 at 7:30 PM** at the Red Cross. The program will feature Len, WA1PCY describing the various propagation tools (see page 8). Don't miss this interesting program. Bring a guest and enjoy the light refreshments that will be available.

The second meeting in March will be held on **Wednesday, March 18 at 7:30 PM** at the Red Cross. This will be a regular business meeting. Light refreshments will be served and guests are always welcome.

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## GSARA NET 8:30 PM TUESDAYS

GSARA members meet on the Asbury Park repeater every Tuesday at 8:30 pm. In the four sessions in February, we had 20 check-ins for an average of 5 per session. The following 9 members checked into this net at least once (number of check-ins in parenthesis):

N2HGI (4), W2OD (4), KA2F (3), N2LXM (3), W2UTR (2), KG2CM (1), K2EPD (1), K2QXW (1) and KC2YNL (1).

Mark your calendar so you remember to participate. The more participation, the more fun!

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## VE TEST SESSION MARCH 28

The GSARA monthly test session will be held on Saturday, March 28 at 11 am at the Red Cross in Tinton Falls. The fee is \$15 and you should bring the original and a copy of any amateur license presently held and the original and one copy of any credit (CSCE) forms that you have (copies will be sent in with your test results). Also bring 2 forms of ID with one being a photo ID. For more information, contact Rich Bilon, N3RB at 732-972-1397 or [n3rb@arrl.net](mailto:n3rb@arrl.net).

## UPDATE ON W2GSA REPEATER

After some tweaking of the programming, the repeater was working well up until Thursday, January 29 when I tried to access it from northern New Jersey and could not hear it from the normal places I usually hear it. As I was getting off the GSP @ exit 105, I realized there was a problem. Upon further investigation I found the power amplifier to be bad. So I disconnected it and ran the machine on just exciter power, about 1 1/2 watts out which by the time it goes through the duplexer system is very weak. But some of you who are close to the repeater could hear it.

Fast forward to Friday night when I went to the Red Cross building where there were some spare amplifiers. I took the only MSR amp back to the site to try it. Well that one must have been in the repeater at one time and it too was bad. I wish it would have been marked and dated because I could have saved some time. So here I am on Saturday morning having to go to work but still thinking that I have to get this fixed. I remembered seeing some Micor amplifiers at the Red Cross, so I bring them to my home and start testing them. And guess what, they too were bad and not marked. Well I figured with three amps in front of me I should be able to make one good working amplifier which I did. And so we have a good working amp after a few hours.

My only concern now is that it's a Micor amp and not a MSR2000 amp so a way to make it work had to be devised because the MSR amps work in conjunction with the exciter. I solved that issue with some fast thinking. And the second concern is it is only a 60 watt model but it is rated continuous duty. So all in all, it's not too bad. The machine is up and running and it is putting out about 40 watts to the antenna. And that my friends is what's going on in the world of the W2GSA repeater.

George, K2EPD

## GSARA OFFICERS

President	W2HTS	Howard Suffill	460-1885
Vice Pres.	NJ2H	Bill Shockley	207-4466
Secretary	W2OD	Bob Buus	946-8615
Treasurer	K2QXW	John King	942-7705
Engineer	W2EPD	George Graulich	255-7916
Webmaster	K2CYS	Cy Stanway	768-7773
Publicity	NJ2H	Bill Shockley	207-4466
Repeater	N2LXM	Jeff Harshman	922-0816
Radio Room Phone		732-493-9100, X1252	
Trustees	W2KQ	Joe Dreifuss	493-4236
	W2OD	Bob Buus	946-8615
	W2HAM	Lou Russo	842-6431

## FRIDAY BLUE SWAN LUNCHEONS

A number of local radio amateurs meet each Friday at the Blue Swan Diner on Highway 35 south in Ocean Township at noon. Anyone interested in amateur radio is welcome to join us in the sun room at the north end of the diner.

## PATCHES

We have GSARA 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). Ray, WA1FFT will then send them on to ARRL 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.

## GSARA HOMEPAGE

<http://www.gardenstateara.org>

## HUDSON DIVISION HOME PAGE

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

## EDITOR'S NOTES

Hats off to George, K2EPD for his timely fix of the power amplifier at the W2GSA repeater. We thought we had a lot of spare amps but they all had problems. Thanks to George's efforts, we have one fixed and working (see George's article on page 1). Now if we could only locate the cause of the intermittent crackling noise, but that's a project for another time.

I find that the experimental license granted to Mitre Corporation disturbing (see p. 6). Being a broadband signal with the modulation unknown, this is going to be a tough type of interference to identify. It will likely be detectable but not identifiable. I'm sure Mitre knows exactly what the effect will be in our HF bands but I doubt if they'll tell us. Like the BPL fiasco of a few years ago, the FCC seems to not care about subtle interference to the amateur spectrum. Fortunately, the ARRL is on top of this and if you encounter any suspicious interference on any HF band, you might check with ARRL to see if it might be due to this Mitre experiment.

The ARRL Centennial celebration in 2014 was a big success (see p. 7) and many GSARA members participated with W1AW/portable contacts with many of the states, W100AW contacts and contacts with various ARRL officials and appointees. John, KA2F is interested in GSARA participation. Please send him a summary of your 2014 operations and any awards you might receive. John is at [ka2fwb2hdj@gmail.com](mailto:ka2fwb2hdj@gmail.com).

Have you been learning/improving your Morse code abilities? For guidance on what to do and where to start, see Cy, K2CYS at [rabbicy@comcast.net](mailto:rabbicy@comcast.net).

Finally, I'd like to remind you that dues for 2015 are past due. Unless you pay in March, this is the last issue of *The Propagator* you will receive. You may mail in your payment with the coupon on page 9 or pay at either March meeting. Dues are \$15 for electronic *Propagator* or \$20 if you want paper copies mailed to you.

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

73 de Bob, w2od@arrl.net

## MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 4 MEETING

By **Bob Buus, W2OD, Secretary**

President Howard Suffill, W2HTS had to leave early so the meeting was called to order by vice president Bill Shockley, NJ2H at 7:36 PM at the Red Cross. There were 11 members and one guest present. The guest was Matthew Capozzoli, N2UG from Asbury Park. After the pledge to the flag, all present introduced themselves.

### Secretary's Report

Being a program meeting, there were no Secretary nor Treasurer reports.

### New Member Application

An application for membership with proper payment was received from John Cardillo, KB2MAB from Hazlet. Licensed since 1989, John holds a General class license and is a senior electric technician. He was previously a member of GSARA in the 1990s and is active on HF, VHF, and UHF amateur bands with his Ten Tec Eagle, Ten Tec Omni V, Icom 720A and UHF-VHF FM radios. Other interests include kayaking, biking, hiking, computers and botany.

A motion was made and seconded to admit John Cardillo, KB2MAB as an active member of GSARA. The motion passed unanimously.

### Health and Welfare

Upon returning from a Caribbean cruise, Bruce, K2QXW came down with the flu and could not attend the meeting. We all wish him a speedy recovery.

### Old Business

George, K2EPD and Rem, K2REM have replaced the controller for our repeater and programmed it for the W2GSA call sign. The new controller has a second port which could be used to link to George's UHF repeater in Tinton Falls or to echolink.

Shortly after installing the new controller, the power amplifier of the repeater failed. George, K2EPD found that it was due to a faulty BNC to VHF adaptor. He got one of our spare power amps to work and replaced the faulty unit. Our output power is down a little with the replacement amplifier but the repeater seems to be working well.

### Announcements

John Malaska, KD2HUE upgraded to General at the January GSARA VE session.

Rem, K2REM has produced flyers for the May 23 GSARA Hamfest and offered copies to anyone who wished to have them. He encouraged us to get them posted and distributed widely.

The next GSARA meeting will be a business meeting on Wednesday, February 18.

GSARA dues for 2015 are due now. Please pay John, KA2F.

### Program

Blair Hearsh, KD2EPA gave a fascinating Power Point presentation on using SDR (Software Defined Radio) for amateur radio astronomy. Everyone present was impressed with the depth of his knowledge and his early success in dabbling with this.

### Close

The door prize of \$10 was won by Tom, N2VFK. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:05 pm.

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## MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 18 MEETING

By **Bob Buus, W2OD, Secretary**

President Howard Suffill, W2HTS called the meeting to order at 7:34 PM at the Red Cross. There were 13 members present. After the pledge to the flag, all present introduced themselves.

### Silent Keys

We just learned that Lorraine Heine, KC2FDR died on Friday, December 19, 2014. She was 83 and a member of GSARA since 2000 when she retired from Bell Labs. Prior to that, she worked in New York on the Larry Storch Show, the Jackie Gleason Show, at CBS news with Walter Cronkite and Eric Sevareid, Radio Free Europe and the Museum of Natural History. She is survived by her daughter Marjorie Heine Berger, son-in-law Robert Berger and grandchildren Rachel and Josh Berger.

Abe Cohen, KD2RQ from Ocean Township became a silent key on January 29, 2015 at the age of 88. Dan Tonner, KO2V from Neptune died on February 5, 2015 at the age of 68. Obits for both will be in the March Propagator.

### Secretary's Report

A motion was made by Joe, W2KQ and seconded by Ray, WA1FFT to accept the minutes of the February 4 meeting as they will be published in the March Propagator. The motion passed unanimously. A letter was received from Paul Roman requesting the participation of GSARA in providing communications for the Twin Lights bike tour in September, 2015. Howard, W2HTS volunteered to tell Paul that GSARA will participate.

### Treasurer's Report

Treasurer John King, KA2F reported that 36 members have paid their dues for 2015 but 24 are in arrears. He then gave his Treasurer's report. A motion was made by Matt, W2AOJ and seconded by Syd, KG2CM to accept the report as read. The motion passed unanimously.

### Old Business

John Chunga, KC2YWL was intrigued by how Marty, N2BMK got interested in amateur radio as a result of a story in Boys Life. He got on the internet and obtained a copy of the January 1959 Boy's Life magazine which he brought to the meeting. The story and ads were very interesting. John plans to make copies of the appropriate pages so they can be shared by GSARA members.

### Hamfest Committee

A motion was made by Joe, W2KQ and seconded by Ralph, KC2YNL to approve \$200 for the printing and mailing of Hamfest flyers. The motion was approved unanimously.

We need our liability insurance certificate by March to submit to MOESC as proof of insurance. A motion was made by Joe, W2KQ and seconded by Ray, WA1FFT to approve an estimated expense of \$450 for liability and equipment insurance. The motion passed unanimously.

### Field Day Committee

We would like to have Cy, K2CYS conduct a training session on the first meeting in June on how to use the logging program for Field Day.

### DX Committee

John, KA2F commended GSARA members on so many working K1N on Navassa Island. At his suggestion, a motion was made by Joe, W2KQ and seconded by Ray, WA1FFT to donate \$100 to

the Navassa DX-pedition. The motion passed unanimously.

The W1AW activity throughout 2014 was wildly successful with many GSARA member participating. Members are asked to summarize their activity with W1AW in 2014 and submit it to John, KA2F.

### New Business

The FCC has granted an experimental license to Mitre Corporation to experiment with very broadband signals in the HF spectrum. This has serious potential to cause interference to our HF amateur bands. Members are asked to note any interference they might experience from these operations.

### Future Programs

Members were asked for ideas about future programs. Joe, W2KQ offered to talk about heliograph communications. Ray, WA1FFT offered to talk about a manpack direction finding system developed for the Army. One of these will be at the April meeting and the other at the May meeting.

Blair, KD2EPA suggested asking K2SDR to talk about Software Defined Radio. He also knows the grandson of Carl Jansky who might be able to talk about his grandfather's work in detecting radio noise from the Milky Way. Blair will see if arrangements can be made for these programs.

### Announcements

On a recent 'Last Man Standing' show, Tim Allen had a copy of QST magazine in his hand. Many staff members of this show have amateur radio licenses.

The FCC is adopting paperless licensing. If you want a paper copy of your amateur license in the future, you will have to request it from the FCC.

Ray, KA1FFT recommends joining EQSL. It is only \$10 per year and well worth it.

### Close

The door prize of \$15.00 was won by Ray, WA1FFT. There being no further business, a motion was made by Jeff, N2JFL and seconded by Matt, W2AOJ to close the meeting so the meeting was adjourned at 8:24 pm.

## **LORRAINE HEINE, KC2FDR - SK**

GSARA member Lorraine Littman Heine, KC2FDR, of Matawan, N.J., passed away on Friday, Dec. 19, 2014, at her daughter's home, surrounded by her loving family. She was 83. A memorial service celebrating her life was held on Dec. 21, 2014, at Bernheim-Apter-Kreitzman in Livingston, N.J. Born in East Orange, N.J., Ms. Heine grew up in Livingston, N.J., and then lived in New York City for 17 years. She was a resident of Matawan, N.J., for the past 40 years.

Ms. Heine retired from AT&T in Holmdel, N.J., in 2000. Prior to that, she worked on the Larry Storch Show, The Jackie Gleason Show, at CBS News under Walter Cronkite and Eric Sevareid, Radio Free Europe and The Museum of Natural History. She loved sailing, country dancing, the GSARA, The Tim Gillis Band, seeing Broadway shows and volunteering for diabetes walk fundraisers. She loved to meet new people and became life-long friends with everyone she met!

Ms. Heine was the beloved mother of Marjorie Heine Berger; cherished mother-in-law of Robert Berger; and adored grandmother of Rachel and Josh Berger. She also leaves behind her devoted longtime companion, George Fox, of Holmdel, N.J., as well as many cousins and countless friends. Donations may be made to The [Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation](http://www.info-komen.org), [www.info-komen.org](http://www.info-komen.org).

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## **ABE COHEN, KD2RQ - SK**

Abraham E. Cohen, KD2RQ of Ocean, died Thursday, Jan. 29, 2015, at home at the age of 88.636. He served two years active duty during [World War II](#) with the U.S. [Army](#) as a cryptographic technician, and spent most of his active reserve duty as an instructor in communication electronics and system engineering related to U.S. Army Signal Corps activities. He was a Distinguished Military Graduate from CCNY in 1948 upon completing both his degree and ROTC with honors. He was hired by Fort Monmouth in 1948 as an electronic engineer, and though he retired in 1981, he continued as a full time consultant until 1997. He taught at the New York Institute of Technology, Monmouth College, and Rider College both as an adjunct professor and full time assistant professor in engineering and mathematics. He was a life

member of the IEEE and AFCEA, and a member of the JWV, Bnai Brith, FAAM, and licensed radio amateur. He was born in Coney Island, moved to Asbury Park in 1948 and subsequently moved to Ocean Township in 1953.

Surviving are his wife of 65 years, Janet; 3 daughters; 2 brothers; 4 grandchildren; and a great-granddaughter.

In the months to come, a memorial service will be held at the BG Doyle Veterans Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the UMDNJ - RWJMS Anatomical Association.

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## **DAN TONNER, K02V - SK**

Daniel Joseph Tonner, K02V of Neptune, died at home on Thursday, Feb. 5, 2015. He was 68. Born in Jersey City the first son of the late Catherine and Peter Tonner Sr., he was a resident of Neptune for the past 43 years. While serving as a radioman in the [U.S. Navy](#), Dan met and married his devoted wife, Arlene in 1967. He cherished traveling adventures with his wife, captaining the sailing vessel 'Trinity', Monday night football, Ham radio and home cooked meals. Prior to his retirement in 2008, he was employed as a Network Administrator at Princeton Consultants.

He is survived by his loving wife, Arlene; a daughter; 2 sisters; and 2 brothers.

A memorial service was held on Feb. 14 at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church in Manasquan. Donations to the Holy Trinity Lutheran Church Pastor's Discretionary Fund would be appreciated in lieu of flowers. Please visit Daniel's memorial website available at [www.braunfuneral.com](http://www.braunfuneral.com).

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## **.RADIO ROOM OPEN SATURDAYS**

The GSARA radio room in the back of the Red Cross is open most Saturday afternoons. Simply drive all the way around to the back, where the antennas are located, to the RED DOOR. Pick up the telephone to the right of the RED DOOR and if someone is inside the radio room, they will answer and come to the door to let you in.

You can also call W2GSA on the 147.045 repeater or call 732-493-9100 ext. 1252 from your cell phone. Have patience. Do not get discouraged and leave. It sometimes gets pretty busy and noisy in the radio room so keep trying.

## K1N NAVASSA ISLAND FINISHED

The [K1N Navassa Island](#) DXpedition is now a part of ham radio history. The 15-member team wrapped up operations on schedule early on February 15. While some seekers went away empty-handed -- even after hours of trying to break the massive pileups (and some intentional interference) -- thousands were more fortunate.

Going into the DXpedition, Navassa Island (KP1) was the second most-wanted DXCC entity (after North Korea) on [ClubLog's Most Wanted List](#).

From startup in the waning hours of February 1 until shutdown on February 15 at 1130 UTC, K1N logged 138,409 contacts with 35,702 unique call signs. A helicopter took the last three members of the DXpedition off the island on February 15 at 1500 UTC. They had remained behind to keep K1N active "until the last possible moment," said team member Glenn Johnson, W0GJ.

Johnson thanked DXers who stood by while K1N worked areas of the world into which it had short propagation windows.

A log search engine and detailed contact statistics are on the [K1N Navassa Island](#) website.

From *The ARRL Letter*, February 19, 2015

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## GSARA OPERATORS AND K1N

Congratulations GSARA operators! Fifteen members made 63 QSOs with Navassa Island, K1N, which made 138,409 contacts in two weeks.

The following stations made contacts: W2OKM (5 ssb 9 cw); K2CYS (2 ssb 2 rtty 6 cw); KA2F (8 cw); AC2FC (4 ssb 3 cw); WA2ILB (5 ssb 2 cw); W2KQ (5 cw); KG2NV (3 ssb); W2OD (2 ssb); WA1FFT (1 ssb); WA1PCY (1 ssb); N2JFL (1 ssb); K2QXW (1 cw); KD2HUE (1 ssb); W2GSA (1 ssb); W2XYZ (1 cw).

Congratulations to all who got this rare one in their log. 73, John, KA2F

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## POTENTIAL INTERFERENCE ON HF

The ARRL has asked a Massachusetts company that plans to conduct experimental transmissions over wide portions of the HF spectrum either to avoid Amateur Radio

allocations or to announce the times and frequencies of their transmissions in advance. The FCC last fall granted MITRE Corporation of Bedford, Massachusetts, a 2-year Part 5 Experimental License, [WH2XCI](#), to operate 21 transmitters at 10 fixed New York and Massachusetts sites. MITRE plans to test wideband HF communication techniques on a variety of bands between 2.5 MHz and 16 MHz.

The WH2XCI Experimental License authorizes maximum bandwidths of 5 kHz, 500 kHz, and 1 MHz at effective radiated power levels of 6 W, 24 W, or 122 W. MITRE has indicated that most bandwidths would be between 100 and 300 kHz.

"[I]t will not be possible for MITRE to operate these transmitters within the Amateur Radio Service allocations...without causing harmful interference to a large number of Amateur Radio operators on an ongoing basis," ARRL Chief Counsel Chris Imlay, W3KD, said in a February 12 letter to MITRE.

Imlay said that when interference from MITRE's wide-bandwidth transmitters "inevitably occurs in the narrow-bandwidth, sensitive receivers" hams use, amateur licensees will have no way to determine the source of the interference or know to whom they might complain. "Thus, your assurance of operation on a 'non-interference basis' is meaningless under the circumstances, and yet that is both a special condition of operation" of the WH2XCI license and under FCC Part 5 regulations, Imlay told MITRE.

From *The ARRL Letter*, February 19, 2015

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## RADIO SHACK IN BANKRUPTCY

Electronics retailer [RadioShack](#), which once supplied Amateur Radio equipment and has continued to maintain an inventory of electronics components, has reached an asset purchase agreement with General Wireless Inc, an affiliate of RadioShack creditor Standard General, to acquire up to 2400 of RadioShack's more than 4000 company-owned stores.

Many, but not all, RadioShack stores will close, as the Fort Worth, Texas-based company attempts to restructure under Chapter 11 bankruptcy following 11 quarterly losses. -- *RadioShack news release, media accounts*

From *The ARRL Letter*, February 12, 2015

## ARRL CENTENNIAL SUCCESSFUL

Attendance at the ARRL's on-the-air Centennial celebration in 2014 was through the roof! Approximately 3.5 million contacts were recorded for W1AW portable operations and the Centennial Points Challenge during the [Centennial QSO Party](#) last year.



"The Centennial QSO Party was a huge success, and participation was way greater than anyone anticipated it would be when we were in the planning stages," said Norm Fusaro, W3IZ, Assistant Manager, Field Services and Radiosport Department. As a result, the window for operators to apply and pay fees for [awards](#) they earned in the Centennial QSO Party is not expected to open until mid-March.

Fusaro said that while award certificates have been printed, the task of checking and double-checking the electronic logs and resolving any anomalies has put an unexpected burden on staff resources.

To compete in the Centennial Points Challenge, logs must have been submitted through Logbook of The World ([LoTW](#)). The system will automatically look for points-qualifying QSOs from submitted logs and apply them to each participant's Centennial QSO Points total. ARRL Headquarters has been recalculating all submitted scores to come up with final tallies.

Enhancements to LoTW -- which served as the repository for Centennial QSO Party contacts -- also contributed to the delay. And a few operators logged on paper; those logs were keyed into the system manually.

The deadline to submit logs for 2014 via LoTW was January 22, but participants may apply for Centennial awards indefinitely, once the application process is up and running. Operators do not have to use LoTW to apply for Points Challenge certificates or W1AW WAS awards. Point totals will be printed on certificates.

QSL cards for W1AW portable and W100AW operations are not yet back from the printer. "We did not plan to have as many W1AW/p operators,

which contributed to the bonanza of Centennial QSO Party contacts," Fusaro said. US stations that worked W1AW/p and W100AW during the Centennial may use the Centennial QSO Party web page to request QSL cards via the domestic [Incoming QSL Service](#).

Fusaro explained that this is a one-time only use of the QSL Bureau for this purpose, and those who want to receive cards via the Bureau should ensure that their accounts are sufficiently funded, because cards will not be held. Cards destined for stations outside the US will be sent via the QSL Bureau. Participants may also request cards directly, providing one SASE for up to six cards per envelope.

W1AW/p and W100AW will not confirm every contact with traditional paper QSL cards, but will verify QSOs for each mode and on most bands on a single card for each weekly operation.

*From The ARRL Letter, February 5, 2015*

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## FCC GOES TO PAPERLESS LICENSE

Effective February 17, the FCC no longer routinely issues paper license documents to Amateur Radio applicants and licensees. The FCC will continue to provide paper license documents to all licensees who notify the Commission that they prefer to receive one, but what arrives in the mail now will be printed on plain white recycled paper, instead of the more distinctive stock the FCC had been using until recently. All of this is part of the FCC's efforts to streamline procedures and save money.

The Commission has maintained for some time now that the official Amateur Radio license authorization is the electronic Universal Licensing System ([ULS](#)) record, although the FCC had routinely continued to print and mail hard copy licenses until this week.

Under the new procedures, licensees will access their current official authorization ("Active" status only) via the ULS License Manager. Licensees can also print an official license authorization -- as well as an unofficial "reference copy" -- from the ULS License Manager.

The ULS License Manager now permits licensees to change the default setting, so that the Bureau will print and mail a license document.  
*From The ARRL Letter, February 19, 2015*

## A GUIDE TO PROPAGATION TOOLS

By Len Kline, WA1PCY

### Presentation at March 4 GSARA Meeting

- The poor man's guide to propagation forecasts and observations.
- A description and discussion of propagation terminology.
- What you need to know about the A Index, the K index, the SSN and the SFI. What they mean, where to find them.
- When we are done, you will know how to apply the KISS method for their practical implementation.
- Forecasting: What's a MUF and a LUF and why do I care and tools to assist those that feel the need.
- A summary of available tools and aids covering everything from Government publications, ARRL sources, on-line links, useful web sites and smart phone apps.
- Sources for further serious study and understanding for those that want to do their own analysis and forecasting (Keplerian data, anyone?)
- A bibliography of texts, apps and websites available for further erudition.
- All of this will be available in a file for those requesting it.

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### TEN YEARS AGO

From the March 2005 Propagator: GSARA welcomed new member Howard Suffill, W2HTS. Sid Weisberger, W2JFV became a silent key. Most wanted DXCC entities for 2005 were 1. North Korea; 2. Andaman and Nicobar Islands; 3. Scarborough Reef; 4. Lakshadweep; 5. Yemen; 6. Peter Island; 7. Navassa Island; 8. Descheo Island; 9. Bouvet and 10. Kure Island.

## FIFTEEN YEARS AGO

From the March 2000 Propagator: GSARA member Ted Malinowski, W2GLF became a silent key. New members joining GSARA included Mike Tottorella, W2IY; Bob Busch, WD4BKD; and Rich Ardolino, KB2CPE. The FCC is replacing Form 610 with ULS forms 605 and 606. The March QST featured a picture on page 57 of Lou Russo, W2HAM; Bob Curci, N2XR and Mario Selitti, N2PVP presenting a \$1000 donation to the ARRL Spectrum Defense Fund. The ARRL-VEC will start charging \$6.65 to take the Element 1 (5 WPM code test) which previously was free.

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## TWENTY YEARS AGO

From the March, 1995 Propagator: Marge Ferry, KA2YWQ (companion of Ed Kracum, WB2COP) became a silent key on January 26. Marv Bernstein, W2PAT has established a packet node on 145.54 MHz on the UPS tower in Tinton Falls. Fort Monmouth is celebrating the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of their amateur radio station. It was established in March, 1925 as 2XBB. It received K2USA in 1950. The FCC released the Report and Order regarding vanity call signs which will be opened through four "starting gates." The fee will be \$70 for the first 10 years.

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## TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO

From the March, 1990 Propagator: The GSARA Constitution is being modified to require the Secretary to be an active member and to take on the duties of Agent for the club (the Agent was previously an appointed Trustee). The number of appointed Trustees was increased from two to three. Hudson Division Director Steve Mendelsohn, WA2DHF (SK) will speak at the March 21 meeting. Al Allen, K2LG (SK) had a 2-page article about open wire feed lines.

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## NOTES ON CALENDAR (see last page)

Large Call letters denote birthdays e.g. **KC2RSE** on March 3. All times through March 7 are EST and EDST after March 7. Contests are listed in the March QST, p. 89.

Feb. 28-Mar. 1 – NA QSO Pty. RTTY, all HF bands. See <http://www.ncjweb.com>



March 1 and every Saturday, Sunday and Wednesday – **InfoAge Marconi Hotel** open from 1 to 5 pm on Marconi Road in Wall.

March 2 - **Monmouth County ARES Net** meets on 147.045 +600, PL=67.0 at 7:30 pm

March 3 – **Old Barney VE Session** at 6:30 pm in Manahawkin. Contact Urb Le Jeune, W1UL at 609-296-5856 or [urb@w2dec.com](mailto:urb@w2dec.com)

March 3 – **Old Barney ARC Meeting** at 7:30 pm in Manahawkin, NJ. See <http://www.obarc.org>

March 3 and every following Tuesday – **GSARA Net** on 147.045 PL=67 at 8:30 pm.

March 3 and every following Tuesday – **QCWA News Net** on 147.045 PL=67 at 9:00 pm.

March 4 – **GSARA Meeting** at 7:30 pm. Program is Propagation for Dummies by Len, WA1PCY

March 5 - **HCARC meeting** at 7 pm at Holiday City South Clubhouse in Toms River.

March 6-8 – **ARRL DX Phone Contest** from 7 pm Fri. to 7:59 pm Sun. See <http://www.arrl.org/contests>

March 6 - **WIAW Qualifying Run** at 10 pm (10-35 wpm). See [www.arrl.org/qualifying-run-schedule](http://www.arrl.org/qualifying-run-schedule)

March 7 - **Daylight Saving Time** starts 2 am Sunday. Set your clocks one hour ahead when you go to bed.

March 9 - **Monmouth County RACES Net** meets on 147.045 +600, PL=67.0 at 7:30 pm.

March 11 – **Holiday City VE Session** at 7 pm in Toms River. Contact is Larry Puccio, K2QDY at 732-349-2950 or e-mail at [lpuccio1@comcast.net](mailto:lpuccio1@comcast.net)

March 12 – **JSARS meeting** in Riverwood Park Rec. Building, Rt. 527 and Riverwood Drive at 7:30 pm.

March 14 – **OMARC Meeting** at 9:00 am at the Diana Site on Marconi Road in Wall. Guests welcome.

March 14-15 – **QCWA QSO Party**, all modes from 2 pm Saturday to 2 pm Sunday. See <http://www.qcwa.org/qso-party.htm>

March 16 - **Monmouth County ARES Net** meets on 147.045 +600, PL=67.0 at 7:30 pm

March 18 – **WIAW Qualifying Run** at 7 pm (10-35 wpm). See <http://www.arrl.org/qualifying-run-schedule>

March 18 – **GSARA Meeting** at 7:30 pm at the Red Cross in Tinton Falls. Regular business meeting.

March 19 – **JSARS VE Test Session** at 7:00 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](mailto:wa2nda@comcast.net).

March 23 - **Monmouth County ARES Net** meets on 147.045 +600, PL=67.0 at 7:30 pm

March 27-29 – **CQ WPX SSB Contest** from 8 pm Friday to 7:59 pm Sunday. See <http://www.cqwp.com>

March 28 – **VE Test Session** at 11 am at the Red Cross in Tinton Falls. Contact Rich Bilon, N3RB at 732-972-1397 or e-mail at [n3rb@arrl.net](mailto:n3rb@arrl.net)

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

### 2015 DUES ARE PAST DUE

If you haven't already paid, your dues for 2015 are past due and this is the last issue of *The Propagator* that you will receive unless your dues are paid. You may pay at any meeting or mail this coupon with payment to our treasurer **John King, KA2F**. Regular membership is \$15. 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 2015. Payment of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ is enclosed.

Make checks payable to GSARA and mail or give to:

**John King, KA2F**  
**18 Carmel Way**  
**Eatontown, NJ 07724**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 NA RTTY QSO InfoAge	2 ARES/RACES 7:30	3 KC2RSE OBARC GSARA Net 8:30 QCWA News 9 PM	4 GSARA Mtg.	5 HCARC Mtg.	6 ARRL DX SSB CW Qual. Run	7 ARRL DX SSB DST set clocks
8 ARRL DX SSB InfoAge	9 RACES Net 7:30	10 GSARA Net 8:30 QCWA News 9 PM	11 Hol. City VE	12 JSARS Mtg.	13	14 OMARC Mtg  QCWA QSO
15 QCWA QSO InfoAge	16 ARES/RACES 7:30	17 GSARA Net 8:30 QCWA News 9 PM	18 CW Qual. Run GSARA Mtg.	19 JSARS VE	20	21
22 InfoAge	23 ARES/RACES 7:30	24 AC2PD GSARA Net 8:30 QCWA News 9 PM	25	26 AB2N	27 N2VEH CQ WPX SSB	28 GSARA VE 11am CQ WPX SSB
29 CQ WPX SSB	30 RACES Net 7:30	31				



G.S.A.R.A.

8 DONNER STREET

HOLMDEL, NJ 07733

FIRST CLASS