



# THE PROPAGATOR

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

**MARCH 2006**

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## NEXT MEETING MARCH 1

The next regular meeting of the GSARA will be held on **Wednesday, March 1** at **8:00 PM** at the MARS building in Fort Monmouth. Come early to participate in Field Day planning and enjoy the refreshments. We look forward to seeing YOU at the meeting!

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## FORT MONMOUTH PASSES

Please check the expiration date on your Fort Monmouth badges. Within two or three weeks before they expire, please contact W2XYZ or KB2RIS to get them updated. They CANNOT be renewed at the visitor control center on the spot.

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## BARA AUCTION MARCH 5

The Bergen Amateur Radio Association will be holding its annual auction on Sunday March 5th, 2006 at the Westwood Regional High School at 701 Ridgewood Road, Washington Township, NJ. Auction starts at 1PM in the school cafeteria. (Open for sellers at Noon) Admission is FREE. For auction information contact: Jim Joyce-K2ZO at: k2zo@arrl.net or at: 201-664-6725. Talk-in on 146.19/79 PL 141.3. For more information see the BARA website at: [www.bara.org](http://www.bara.org)

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## GSARA HOMEPAGE

[http://home.comcast.net/~gsara\\_w2gsa](http://home.comcast.net/~gsara_w2gsa)

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## GSARA CALENDAR

[http://home.comcast.net/~gsara\\_w2gsa/calendr.htm](http://home.comcast.net/~gsara_w2gsa/calendr.htm)

## FIELD DAY PLANNING

By **Marty Szumera, WN2DX**

At the February GSARA meeting we briefly discussed Field Day, so for those not present I'll just fill you in real quick.

A starting point idea is to pretty much run the two stations, W2GSA and K2USA, as we did last year. A new approach (brought forward on an e-mail to me) by Jim K2EI, would be to run W2GSA at KW power!! This is quite a contrast to QRP last FD. It sounds exciting and will be discussed at the next meeting prior to the regular GSARA meeting on March 1. Let's meet at the MARS building at 7:00 start to discuss FD.

1. If you haven't been participating in GSARA Field Days, what can we change to get YOU to be a part with us?

2. How do you feel about our level of competition vs. just having fun? I feel we fall in the middle somewhere. Should we get more serious, or back off a notch?

3. If you are not familiar with HF operating, would you attend a workshop at one of our regular meetings, to get used to the gear and fast pace of contest operating?

4. Would you volunteer to be on the Field Day Committee?

My e-mail is wn2dx@arrl.net, or put your ideas in the snail mail to Marty Szumera, P.O. Box 146, Middletown, N.J. 07748.

## GSARA OFFICERS

President	N2LXM	Jeff Harshman	922-0816
Vice Pres.	N2GT	Sterling Rodgers	922-8299
Secretary	W2OD	Bob Buus	946-8615
Treasurer	W2XYZ	Frank Wroblewski	942-7705
Engineer	WN2DX	Marty Szumera	
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 Bruce McLeod, K2QXW and request *The Propagator* electronically. Bruce's e-mail address is <brucekleod@comcast.net>

## BADGES AND PATCHES

All new GSARA members get a name badge. However, you may order additional ones by getting a Badge Order Form from our Secretary, **Bob Buus, W2OD**, filling it out and turning it in to Bob with your \$5.00 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://home.comcast.net/~gsara\\_w2gsa/prop.pdf](http://home.comcast.net/~gsara_w2gsa/prop.pdf)

It is installed on the web about two weeks after the direct mailing to members.

## EDITOR'S NOTES

I apologize for this issue of *The Propagator* being a bit later than usual. I usually get it in the mail (and on the internet) about a week before our meeting but this month I couldn't because I waited for the March QST (so I can update the calendar) and it didn't arrive until Saturday, the 25th.

Field Day planning is underway and Marty, our Chief Engineer is looking for input from YOU. See his article on page 1 and please respond to it. The more participation in Field Day, the more fun it is for all. Please give Marty your input and come early to the March meeting to participate in the planning.

If you know anyone who might be interested in obtaining a ham license, please tell him or her about the upcoming classes on Monday nights at 6:30 PM starting March 27 for 11 weeks culminating in an exam on Wednesday, June 14. This class is sponsored by OMARC and is held at the Diana site off Marconi Road in Wall. Both code and theory will be offered but code is, of course, optional. The classes are free (except for the purchase of the book). What are YOU doing to get more people into this great hobby?

I'm trying something a bit different this time with the Sudoku puzzle on page 6. I first ran across these puzzles last fall when I was in Oregon where they appeared in the daily paper. My sister challenged me to try them and I got hooked. My daughter gave me a whole book of these puzzles at Christmas and I found I got better at them as I did more and more of them. Locally, they have started appearing in the USA Weekend magazine with the Sunday Asbury Park Press. Just to give you an idea of how they work, I have made up a very simple one on page 6 that you might want to try your hand at. I also solicit your opinion as to whether puzzles should be included in the *Propagator* or not. I'd appreciate feedback either way.

Remember if you change your e-mail address, please be sure to inform Bruce McLeod, K2QXW.

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

73 de Bob, w2od@arrrl.net

## MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 1 MEETING

By Bob Buus, W2OD, Secretary

The meeting was called to order at Fort Monmouth by President Jeff Harshman, N2LXM, at 8:02 PM. There were 17 members and one guest in attendance. The guest was Sandra Ottenberg, XYL of Dave, WA2DJN. After the Pledge to the Flag, all members present then introduced themselves.

Treasurer Frank Wroblewski, W2XYZ was not present so there was no treasurer's report.

### Secretary's Report

Secretary Bob Buus, W2OD reported that no correspondence was received in January. A motion was made by Nena, N2WAY and seconded by Peggy Struening to accept the minutes of the January meeting as published in the February Propagator. The motion passed unanimously.

### Old Business

Marty, WN2DX reported on the status of Field Day planning. At this time, it is proposed that we run the K2USA station as 1F the same as last year. It is proposed to run W2GSA at the football stadium with the same antennas as last year. It has been suggested that we run W2GSA at high power so we can make a lot more contacts than the QRP station last year. There will be a planning meeting prior to the March 1 meeting. It is asked that those interested in the planning try to get to the MARS building by 7:00 PM on March 1.

### Announcements

Radio classes run by OMARC at the Diana site will resume on Monday, March 27 at 6:30 PM and run every Monday through June 3 with a VE exam session on June 14.

Jeff, N2LXM wrote up the activities regarding Diana Day on Saturday, January 7, 2006 and submitted it to QST and World Radio. Watch for its publication.

Sweden will be firing up an Alexanderson very low frequency station (17 kHz) on Sunday, February 19 from 0900Z to 1300Z. If you can receive that low in frequency, you might try listening for it.

OMARC is again sponsoring a tailgate party at the Diana site on Saturday, April 29. Buyers are free, sellers are \$10.

Suitsat is due to be launched on Friday, February 3 and should be heard by just about any 2-meter radio. Listen for its signal on 145.990 plus or minus Doppler.

ARRL has filed its bandwidth petition and it is RM-11306 if you wish to comment on it.

### Program

The guest speaker was Howard Suffill, W2HTS who volunteered to help out after hurricane Katrina. He responded to the call for volunteers on Friday, September 2 and was told Saturday morning to report to Montgomery, Alabama. He arrived on Wednesday and was subsequently sent to Mississippi to help out in shelters. Later he was assigned to the Jackson (MS) County Office of Emergency Management. His assignments were all far enough away from the severe destruction so that there was electricity at all times. He also had cell phone service at all times. There were a lot of displaced people in the shelters and there was plenty of confusion. Our hat is off to Howard for going out of his way to help out.

### Closing

The main door prize was won by Sandy Ottenberg, XYL of WA2DJN but she donated it back to the club. There being no further business, a motion was made by Peggy Struening and seconded by Nena, N2WAY to adjourn. The meeting was closed at 9:20 PM.

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## PARSIPPANY HAMFEST MARCH 4

Saturday, March 4th marks the return of the North Jersey Hamfest at the PAL in Parsippany, NJ. Sponsored by the Splitrock Amateur Radio Assn, this is NJ's #1 Hamfest. Admission is \$6. Doors open at 8 AM and there are a very limited number of tables that are still available. There will be tailgating if the weather permits. For more information, see <http://www.splitrockara.org/>

Marc Colton, K2WEB

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## CHERRYVILLE HAMFEST MARCH 11

Saturday, March 11 IS THE Cherryville Hamfest in Clinton, NJ at the North Hunterdon Regional High School. Admission is \$6 and doors open at 8 AM. For more information, see <http://www.qsl.net/w2cra>.

## SUITSAT-1 HAS DIED

SuitSat-1 is now a confirmed "Silent Key." So says its sponsor, the Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) program. In operation for more than two weeks, SuitSat-1--designated AO-54--easily outlasted initial predictions that it would transmit for about one week. ARISS International Chairman Frank Bauer, KA3HDO, says the mission captured imaginations around the world, despite a much-lower-than-expected signal strength.

"The outreach, press requests and visibility of SuitSat were absolutely amazing and appear to be unprecedented for a ham radio event," Bauer said. "While the press requests are just now starting to wane, we expect that you will continue to see SuitSat status reports and pictures in magazines, Web sites and other literature over the next few months." The more than nine million hits at the SuitSat Web site attest to the level of interest in the SuitSat-1 experiment, Bauer noted, calling the tally "quite impressive indeed!"

Bob King, VE6BLD, in Alberta posted the last confirmed reception of SuitSat-1's voice audio, Saturday, February 18, at 0332 UTC. Richard Crow, N2SPI, in New York received the last confirmed telemetry, which indicated the battery voltage dropping precipitously to a low of 18.3 V before the novel satellite ceased to transmit.

Hearing SuitSat-1's puny signal strength generally required gain antennas, but Bauer says he heard SuitSat with a 3-element Arrow antenna and a handheld radio. Bauer's daughter Michelle recorded the English-language voice identification. Another challenge to signal reception, he said, was the very deep fading due to the suit's rotation in orbit.

"One great positive that came from these issues is that it challenged the ham radio community worldwide to improve their station receive capabilities so that they could pull every bit of signal from SuitSat," Bauer remarked.

Bauer says reports that SuitSat-1 was non-operational and that the battery was frozen shortly after deployment are false. "This never occurred," he stressed. "As the telemetry has shown, temperatures within the suit were a somewhat comfortable 12-16 degrees C during the entire mission."

So, he adds, is the tale of SuitSat-1's early demise and resurrection. "It was alive and operated flawlessly, except the signal strength issue, from the time the crew flipped the switches until the battery power was used up," he said.

Bauer says he's also not ready to buy into an AMSAT calculation that the transmitter may have been putting out between 1 and 10 mW. "It is entirely possible that the radio output could have been at 500 mW, and the feed line, connector or the antenna caused the problem," he said, adding that the SuitSat team has only just begun studying what might have caused the weak signal.

The AMSAT/ARISS team already is looking forward to a SuitSat-2. "Correcting the signal strength issue would be a top priority for this flight," Bauer said. "So would be a longer-term power generation device, like solar arrays."

Although no longer transmitting, SuitSat-1 could continue orbiting Earth for another 70 to 120 days, depending on atmospheric drag, Bauer said.

More information on the SuitSat-1 project, including QSL information, is available on the AMSAT Web site <<http://www.amsat.org/>> and on the SuitSat Web site <<http://www.suitsat.org/>>.

From *The ARRL Letter*, No. 08, February 24, 2006

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## 3Y0X LOGS OVER 87,000 CONTACTS

This month's 3Y0X DXpedition to Peter I Island managed to put 87,034 contacts into its logbook during two weeks of operation before it shut down February 19 at 1813 UTC. The lucky last contact was with K8LTG. The 3Y0X DXpedition surpassed the 82,000 QSOs achieved by A52A (Bhutan), but it fell a bit short of the 96,000 contacts logged by K1B (Baker Island). The 22-member 3Y0X team, headed by led by Ralph Fedor, K0IR, and Bob Allphin, K4UEE, now is safely aboard its ship, the DAP Mares and plans a stop in the South Shetlands on the way home. Because of its remote location in the Bellinghausen Sea near Antarctica and the severe weather conditions, Peter I has been activated but rarely and remains one of the most-wanted DXCC entities. For additional information, visit the Peter I DXpedition Web site <<http://www.peterone.com/>>.

From *The ARRL Letter*, No. 08, February 24, 2006



## HOUSE OF REPS. SALUTES HAMS

US Rep Mike Ross, WD5DVR (D-AR), this week offered "A Salute to Ham Radio Operators" on the floor of the US House. Ross, one of two Amateur Radio licensees in the House of Representatives (the other is Rep Greg Walden, W7EQI, R-OR), addressed his colleagues February 8 to recognize the contributions of the Amateur Radio community in the wake of last year's devastating hurricane season.

"Citizens throughout America dedicated to this hobby--a hobby that some people consider old fashioned or obsolete--were true heroes in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina as they were often the only line of communication available into the storm ravaged areas," Ross said.

He noted that while ham radio is often overlooked "in favor of flashier means of communication," Gulf Coast communities learned after the 2005 hurricanes that technology can be "highly vulnerable" to storm damage. "Ham radios, entirely self-contained transmitters, require no cell towers or satellites, simply a battery and a strip of wire as an antenna," Ross explained.

Because of the "critical intervention" of radio amateurs across the US, Ross said, many lives were saved following Hurricane Katrina.

"The dedication displayed by ham radio operators in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina sets a tremendous example for us all," Ross concluded, noting that "now more than ever" he's proud to be an Amateur Radio operator. "The people whose lives were rescued as a result of the tireless dedication of ham radio operators will forever be grateful to these selfless public servants."

From *The ARRL Letter*, No. 06, February 10, 2006

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## FAX NUMBER FOR DXCC DESK

The ARRL DXCC Desk now has a direct FAX number to improve and expedite the receipt and handling of DXCC-related communications. The number is 860-594-0346. There has been no change in policy, and DXCC does not accept DXCC submissions via FAX. The former FAX number, 860-594-0259, remains active for several other ARRL Headquarters departments, but that FAX machine is not in the immediate DXCC area.

From *The ARRL Letter*, No. 07, February 17 2006

## DAYTON ANNOUNCES THEME

"Ham Radio is Public Service" is the theme for Dayton Hamvention 2006--reflecting the renewed awareness by the public of the service Amateur Radio operators provided after the Gulf Coast hurricanes and other disasters. In announcing the theme, Hamvention 2006 General Chairman Jim Nies, WX8F, said that it serves to remind the public and the ham radio community that one of the reasons ham radio exists is to provide communication in emergencies when all else fails. Several forum sessions are expected to deal with emergency communication-related topics, including how Amateur Radio performed after the hurricanes wiped out communications in a wide segment of the south. For more information, visit <http://www.hamvention.org>. More than 25,000 visitors are expected to attend the three-day event Friday through Sunday, May 19-21. The ARRL has announced that it will present ARRL EXPO 2006 during Hamvention.

From *The ARRL Letter*, No. 08, February 24, 2006

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## IRAQ & DESCHEO APPROVED FOR DXCC CREDIT

The ARRL DXCC Desk has approved these operations for DXCC credit: Y19VCQ (Iraq), November 30, 2004 through November 5, 2005. K3LP/KP5 and N3KS/KP5, Desecheo Island, December 16-17, 2005. For more information, visit the DXCC Web page <http://www.arrl.org/awards/dxcc/>. "DXCC Frequently Asked Questions" can answer most questions about the DXCC program. ARRL DX bulletins are available on the WIAW DX Bulletins page <http://www.arrl.org/wlaw/dx/>.

From *The ARRL Letter*, Nos. 05 & 08, Feb. 3 & 24, 2006

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## RECOGNIZING A STROKE

Doctors say anyone can recognize a stroke by asking three simple questions:

1. Ask the individual to **SMILE**.
2. Ask him or her to **RAISE BOTH ARMS**.
3. Ask the person to **SPEAK A SIMPLE SENTENCE** (i.e. "It is sunny out today.")

*If he or she has trouble with any of these tasks, call 9-1-1 immediately and describe the symptoms to the dispatcher.*

## ARRL EXPO RETURNS TO DAYTON

With thanks to Dayton Hamvention and owing to its popularity among 2005 Hamventioners, ARRL EXPO will return to Dayton this year. Hamvention takes place Friday through Sunday, May 19-21, at Hara Arena near Dayton, Ohio.

"Dayton Hamvention has generously agreed to partner again with ARRL to accommodate ARRL EXPO 2006," ARRL Marketing Manager Bob Inderbitzen, NQ1R, announced. "As we did during last year's National Convention, ARRL will organize its primary Hamvention exhibit in the Ballarena, which allows plenty of room to showcase a broad variety of ARRL programs and services. Our hope is to reprise the best elements of last year's very successful event."

Inderbitzen notes that while some details remain in the development stages, current plans call for ARRL EXPO 2006 to feature a huge--and readily accessible--ARRL bookstore and retail products center. Those renewing their League memberships or joining for the first time will receive a gift.

Individual exhibits and booths will highlight the League's various activities or focus on more specialized Amateur Radio interests. Also held over from last year's ARRL National Convention EXPO will be live, on-stage presentations and mini-forums by ARRL staff members and volunteers. DXCC card checking will be available on site.

So will the Internet Café, which last year provided not only free access to Internet-ready computers to catch up on e-mail or surf the Web, but an open-access Wi-Fi "hot spot" for the laptop/notebook crowd.

Also back this year: "ARRL Passport," the ultimate scavenger hunt. Collect ARRL Passport numbers at booths and concessions throughout Dayton Hamvention 2006 and win terrific prizes.

Of course, ARRL EXPO will offer an opportunity for Hamvention visitors to meet ARRL staff members and authors and to learn more about the League's various activities and initiatives--from advocacy and development to technical and regulatory support and operating activities.

Inderbitzen says various ARRL forums will be coordinated with the Dayton Hamvention program. Hamvention sponsor, the Dayton Amateur Radio

Association, will sponsor Amateur Radio license examinations.

Dayton Hamvention itself will offer some 500 indoor exhibit/concession spaces throughout Hara Arena, where visitors can feast their eyes on the latest Amateur Radio gear or touch bases with their favorite ham radio organizations and activity groups.

The outdoor flea market--a huge favorite--will again have more than 2500 spaces available. It's the largest of its kind and a great place to meet old friends or make new ones. And remember: "If you can't find it at Dayton, you'll never find it!"

Watch this space <http://www.arrl.org/announce/nc/2006/> for ARRL EXPO 2006 updates!

From *The ARRL Letter*, No. 06, February 10, 2006

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## HAM RADIO SUDOKU

You've probably seen the highly addictive 9x9 Sudoku puzzles in the newspaper and may have looked at the numbers and thought that they were too mathematical to tackle. Such is not the case. They are based on logic, not math. In the interest of introducing you to the concept, a simple 4x4 puzzle is presented below. Using the call letters of our Vice President, Sterling, N2GT, the object is to fill in each square (cell) with one of the characters of his call such that each is used once and only once in each row, column, and 2x2 block (region bounded by darker lines). To get you started (and make the solution unique), each of the characters has been given in one correct position. Your job is to find the other 3 positions of each character. The solution will be given next month.

<b>N</b>			<b>T</b>
	<b>G</b>		
		<b>2</b>	

## ARRL FIELD DAY RULES AVAILABLE

The 2006 ARRL Field Day package <<http://www.arrl.org/contests/forms/06-fd-packet.pdf>> and rules (HTML version <<http://www.arrl.org/contests/rules/2006/rules-fd-2006.html>>) (PDF version <<http://www.arrl.org/contests/forms/06-fd-rules.pdf>>) now are available on the ARRL Web site.

"The only rule change in 2006 involves the GOTA ('Get On The Air') station bonus-point structure," says ARRL Contest Branch Manager Dan Henderson, N1ND. "An individual operator may earn a 50-point bonus for completing 50 QSOs at the GOTA station. They may earn an additional 50 bonus points when they reach 100 QSOs."

Henderson notes there's a 100-QSO cap for bonus points per individual GOTA operator, but additional GOTA operators may earn the bonuses for the club, up to a maximum of 500 GOTA bonus points.

"Additionally, Field Day operations can double their GOTA bonus points by having a designated GOTA Coach/Mentor supervise the station whenever it's on the air," Henderson notes. "The GOTA Coach/Mentor may talk the participants through the QSOs and serve as control operator, but GOTA participants must make and log all QSOs themselves."

This means that if a Field Day group has a GOTA Coach/Mentor, the 50 and 100-point bonuses GOTA operators earn will double to 100 and 200 points respectively, while the maximum GOTA bonus increases to 1000 points.

ARRL Field Day 2006 will be Saturday and Sunday, June 24-25.

From *The ARRL Letter*, No. 06, February 10, 2006

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## HUDSON DIVISION HOME PAGE

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

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If you don't learn to laugh at trouble, you won't have anything to laugh at when you are old.

## DO NOT CALL WARNING A HOAX

The following do not call reminder circulating on the internet is a hoax. It is debunked at: <http://www.snopes.com/politics/business/cell411.asp>

*"JUST A REMINDER....31 days from today, all cell phone numbers are being released to telemarketing companies and you will start to receive sale calls. YOU WILL BE CHARGED FOR THESE CALLS. To prevent this, call the following number from your cell phone: 888-382-1222. It is the National DO NOT CALL list. It will only take a minute of your time. It blocks your number for five (5) years."*

Thanks to Bruce, K2QXW for pointing this out.

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## REVISED TECH QUESTION POOL RELEASED

The Question Pool Committee (QPC) of the National Conference of Volunteer Examiner Coordinators (NCVEC) has announced the release of a revised and corrected Element 2 (Technician) question pool. The new Element 2 question pool becomes effective for all Technician-class Amateur Radio examinations administered on or after July 1, 2006. Changes from the initial Element 2 question pool include elimination of some questions (T5D06, T6B09 and T7A08) and rewording of others to increase clarity. "We thank those users who reported the errors and made other suggestions for ways to improve the product," the committee said. "The QPC reviewed all submissions and incorporated the changes that were appropriate." The QPC warned that only the Element 2 question pool dated February 6, 2006, is valid. The new Element 2 database is available for download from the NCVEC Web site as a PDF, MS-Word, Rich Text Format (RTF) or ASCII text file <[http://www.ncvec.org/ama\\_news\\_article.php?id=82](http://www.ncvec.org/ama_news_article.php?id=82)>. The QPC says subsequent changes will be handled by deletion of the affected question. The QPC invites additional input via e-mail <[qpcinput@ncvec.org](mailto:qpcinput@ncvec.org)>.

From *The ARRL Letter*, No. 08, February 24, 2006

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I just got lost in thought. It was unfamiliar territory.

## MOST WANTED DX ENTITIES

Scarborough Reef (BS7H) has replaced North Korea (P5) as the most-wanted DXCC entity, according to The DX Magazine's <[http://www.dxpub.com/dx\\_mag.html](http://www.dxpub.com/dx_mag.html)> 2005 survey of DXers. The Daily DX <<http://www.dailydx.com>> (and QST's "How's DX?") Editor Bernie McClenny, W3UR, says several groups are working toward activating Scarborough Reef. "The problem is not obtaining a license or transportation to the rocks," he reported this week. "There must be serious diplomacy between China and the Philippines in order for this one to be pulled off." The second most-wanted is Lakshadweep (VU7). Swapping spots with Scarborough Reef at number three is North Korea (P5), at four is Peter I (3Y/P), and at five is Yemen (7O). The 3Y0X DXpedition to Peter I <<http://www.peterone.com/>>, expected to begin as early as February 6, could move that entity down the list for this year's survey. McClenny notes that the imminent 3Y0X operation, which received a \$7500 ARRL Colvin grant award, will be the most expensive DXpedition ever. Rounding out the top 10 most-wanted DXCC entities on The DX Magazine's 2005 survey were: Navassa (KP1), Desecheo (KP5), South Sandwich (VP8/S), Glorioso (FR/G) and Andaman and Nicobar Islands (VU4). The Andamans, last activated in late 2004 during the VU4RBI/VU4NRO DXpedition cut short by the South Asia tsunami, are scheduled to be on the air again this April.

From *The ARRL Letter*, No. 05, February 3, 2006

## AREA AMATEUR EXAM SESSIONS

Amateur radio exam sessions that are given in the central New Jersey 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: Please note that the exam sessions have been moved from Saturday mornings to Wednesday evenings. They are now held on the second Wednesday of the even numbered months (April 12, 2006) at 6:30 PM. The contact person is Larry Wilkins, KB2RIS at 732-922-6720 or e-mail to kb2ris@wmconnect.com.

**Middletown**, Croyden Hall on Leonardo Road: Exams are on the second Tuesday of every month at 7 PM. The contact person is Rich Evans, KB2MUN at 732-471-0237 (evenings).

**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 (March 11, 2006) at 10:00 AM. The contact person is Bill Haldane AC2F, 732-240-7064 or [ac2f@earthlink.net](mailto:ac2f@earthlink.net)

In all cases, the fee is \$14 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.

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## DUES ARE PAST DUE!

If the label on page 10 does not show you have paid you GSARA dues, this is the last issue of The Propagator that you will receive. Please pay our treasurer **Frank Wroblewski, W2XYZ**. 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 2006. Payment of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ is enclosed.

Make checks payable to GSARA and mail or give to:

**Frank Wroblewski, W2XYZ**  
**28 Lake Drive**  
**Howell, NJ 07731**



## NOTES ON CALENDAR (see reverse side)

Large call letters denote birthdays e.g., **W2FUP** on March 20. All times in EST

March 1 – **GSARA Monthly Meeting** at the MARS Building at Fort Monmouth at 8:00 PM.

March 2 – **Holiday City ARC meeting** at 7 PM at Holiday City South Clubhouse in Toms River.

March 3 and every Friday – **Lunch at Blue Swan Diner**, Rt. 35 South, Ocean Township at noon.

March 3 – **WIAW Qualifying Run** at 10 PM (10-40 WPM). See March QST, pp. 96 and 98.

March 3-5 – **ARRL Int. DX Contest, SSB** from 7 PM Friday to 7 PM Sunday. See Dec. 2005 QST, p. 88 or [www.arrl.org/contests](http://www.arrl.org/contests).

March 4 – **Parsippany Hamfest** from 8 AM. See page 3 or March QST, p. 93 or [www.splitrockara.org](http://www.splitrockara.org).

March 5 – **Bergen ARA Auction** from 1 to 4 PM in Ridgewood, NJ. See March QST, p. 93 or [www.bara.org](http://www.bara.org).

March 6 – **Monmouth County ARES Net** meets on 147.045 +600 at 7:30 PM.

March 6 – **Spartan Sprint, CW QRP** from 9 PM to 11 PM. See March QST, p. 98 or [www.ARSqrp.com](http://www.ARSqrp.com).

March 7 – **Middletown Pancake House Luncheon** at noon in Middletown. Back room on left.

March 7 – **Old Barney ARC Meeting**, 7:30 PM at Ocean Acres Community Center in Manahawkin, NJ. See

March 7 and every following Tuesday – **QCWA News Net** on 147.045 PL=67 at 9:00 PM.

March 9 – **Jersey Shore Amateur Radio Society (JSARS)** meeting in Riverview Park Recreation Building, Rt. 527 and Riverwood Drive in Toms River at 7:30 PM.

March 11 – **Cherryville Hamfest in Clinton, NJ** from 8 AM. See March QST, p. 93 or [www.qsl.net/w2cra](http://www.qsl.net/w2cra).

March 11 – **OMARC Meeting**, 9:00 AM at Seabreeze Deli, 111 State Route 71, Spring Lake, NJ (phone 732-449-8118) which is easily accessible from Routes 34, 35 and 138.

March 11 – **Holiday City VE Test Session** at 10:00 AM in Toms River. The contact person is Bill Haldane AC2F, 732-240-7064 or [ac2f@earthlink.net](mailto:ac2f@earthlink.net)

March 11 – **No. American RTTY Sprint** from 7 PM to 11 PM. See March QST, p. 98 or [www.ncjweb.com](http://www.ncjweb.com).

March 13 – **Monmouth County RACES** on 147.045 +600 at 7:30 PM. RACES members only.

March 14 – **VE Test Session** at Croyden Hall, Leonardo section of Middletown at 7:00 PM. For more information, contact Rich Evans, KB2MUN at 732-471-0237 (evenings). See page 8.

March 16 – **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](mailto:wa2nda@comcast.net).

March 17-18 – **10-10 Mobile Contest** from 7 PM Friday to 6:59 PM Saturday. See March QST, p. 98 or [www.ten-ten.org](http://www.ten-ten.org).

March 20 – **Monmouth County ARES Net** meets on 147.045 +600 at 7:30 PM.

March 21 – **WIAW Qualifying Run** at 7 PM (10-35 WPM). See March QST, pp. 96 and 98.

March 21 – **Middletown Amateur Radio Club meeting** at 8 PM in Croyden Hall off Leonardville Road.

March 24-26 – **CQ WW WPX SSB Contest** from 7 PM Friday to 7 PM Sunday. See March QST, p. 99 or [www.cqwx.com](http://www.cqwx.com).

March 25 – **Neptune ARC Meeting** at American Legion Post #346. 31 Gully Road in Neptune at 9 AM.

March 26 – **QRP Homebrew Sprint CW/PSK31** from 7 PM to 11 PM. See March QST, p. 99 or [www.njqr.org/data/qrphome-brewersprint.html](http://www.njqr.org/data/qrphome-brewersprint.html).

March 27 – **Buttonwood Manor Lunch** at noon. Raritan Bay Amateurs. All are welcome.

March 27 and following 10 Mondays – **Amateur Radio Classes** at 6:30 PM at the Diana site on Marconi Road. Contact Larry Wilkins, KB2RIS at 732-922-6720 or e-mail to [kb2ris@wmconnect.com](mailto:kb2ris@wmconnect.com).

March 27 – **Monmouth County RACES** on 147.045 +600 at 7:30 PM. RACES members only to participate.

March 27 – **JCDXA meeting** at 7:30 PM (6:30 for dining) at the Cobblestone Diner on Rt. 35 in Eatontown.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 GSARA Mtg.	2 Hol. City Mtg.	3 Blue Swan ARRL DX SSB CW Qual. Run	4 Parsip. Hmfst. ARRL DX SSB
5 ARRL DX SSB Bergen Auction	6 CW Sprint ARES/RACES 7:30	7 Mdtltwn Pncke Old Barney ARC QCWA News 9 PM	8	9 JSARS Mtg.	10 Blue Swan	11 OMARC Mtg. Clinton Hmfst. Hol. City VE RTTY Sprint
12	13 RACES Net	14 Perkins Lunch Croyden VE 7 PM QCWA News 9 PM	15	16 JSARS VE	17 Blue Swan 10-10 Mobile	18 10-10 Mobile
19	20 W2FUP ARES/RACES 7:30	21 KW2KGW CW Qual. Run MARC Mtg QCWA News 9 PM	22	23	24 Blue Swan CQ WW SSB	25 Neptune Mtg CQ WW SSB
26 WN2DX CQ WW SSB QRP Sprint	27 Buttonwod Mnr Ham Classes JCDXA Mtg. RACES Net	28 QCWA News 9 PM	29	30	31 Blue Swan	



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

FIRST CLASS