



THE PROPAGATOR

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

MAY 2011

UPCOMING GSARA MEETINGS

The next regular meeting of the GSARA will be held on **Wednesday, May 4 at 7:30 PM** at the **American Red Cross** in Tinton Falls. This will be a regular business meeting. Guests are welcome and refreshments will be served. Please try to attend.

The second meeting in May will be held on **Wednesday, May 18 at 7:30 PM** at the Red Cross. Bob, W2OD will talk about fox hunting. He will plant a hidden transmitter somewhere on the premises and show various techniques used to find it. Members are encouraged to bring their HTs and portable antennas and get first hand experience at finding a hidden transmitter. As always, guests are welcome and refreshments will be served.

PUBLIC SERVICE EVENTS

The MS-170 bike-a-thon is coming up on the weekend of May 21-22. A radio operator is still needed at Belmar at the Huisman Gazebo (Rest Stop #1 – 170, 85, 50, 25). The Gazebo is located on Ocean Avenue between 5th and 6th Avenues in Belmar. It will open at 8:15 am Saturday and is expected to close by about 2:00 pm.

The Sheehan Classic Run in Red Bank will take place on Saturday morning, June 18. This should be over with by noon or before.

The Red Bank Area CROP Walk takes place on Sunday, October 16. Registration begins at 12:30 and the walk begins at 1:30 PM.

If you can volunteer to help out with any of these events, please contact Tom Cosgrove, N2VFK at 732-842-6020 or n2vfk@verizon.net

HUDSON DIVISION HOME PAGE

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

POSTAGE PRICE INCREASES

On Sunday, April 17, the US Postal Service increased the price to mail certain items within the US and abroad, affecting the price of sending a QSL card within the US. While the cost to mail a 1 ounce piece of first class mail within the US stays at 44 cents, the cost of mailing a postcard increased one penny, from 28 cents to 29 cents. Click here for more information on all the postal increases.

From The ARRL Letter, April 21, 2011

W2GSA STATION OPEN SATURDAYS

The GSARA radio room at the Red Cross will be open Saturday afternoons for those wishing to operate or just “hang out”. Go around the building to the back door for entrance. If you want to check to be sure that someone is there, call 732-493-9100 ext. 1252 which is the phone in the radio room.

GSARA HAMFEST MAY 7

The annual GSARA/JCDXA Hamfest will be held this year on Saturday, May 7 in the parking lot of the MAECOM Adult Education Facility, 100 Tornillo Way, Tinton Falls (same location as the past two years). Hours are 8 am until noon (sellers 7 am). Admission is \$5 (tailgate spot is \$15).

The biggest dealer expected is KJI Electronics. AMSAT will also be represented. Plan now to attend this event and pick up many bargains and “goodies”.

For more information, go to <http://www.gardenstateara.org> or contact Frank Wroblewski, W2XYZ at w2xyz@arrl.net or 732-942-7705. We could use some help at this so please consider volunteering some of your time.

GSARA HOMEPAGE

<http://www.gardenstateara.org>

GSARA OFFICERS

President	W2XYZ	Frank Wroblewski	942-7705
Vice Pres.	W2HTS	Howard Suffill	460-1885
Secretary	W2OD	Bob Buus	946-8615
Treasurer	W2KQ	Joe Dreifuss	493-4236
Engineer	N2LXM	Jeff Harshman	922-0816
Webmaster	KC2TKK	Josh Gluck	
Publicity	NJ2H	Bill Shockley	207-4466
Trustees	KG2NV	Don Pingitore	229-2925
	W2OD	Bob Buus	946-8615
	W2HAM	Lou Russo	842-6431

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

Our annual Hamfest is coming up on Saturday, May 7 at the same location as last year. Please seriously consider volunteering some of your time to help out. The more volunteers we have, the more fun everyone has. Also, it would be a good idea to pray for some nice weather although last year's Hamfest was successful even with the rain. I look forward to seeing a lot of you there.

Tom, N2VFK is still looking for someone to man the first rest stop in Belmar for the MS-170 bike-a-thon on May 21. Contact him if you can help.

As my little article on page 5 shows, I have been having fun playing with radio direction finding or fox hunting. I just had to find a practical use for the tape measure antennas we built last year and this certainly does it. I also blew the dust off an old Doppler direction finder that I haven't used for years. If you'd like to see how these things work and try your hand at fox hunting, be sure to come to the May 18 meeting where we'll have it all set up for you to try out. If there is enough interest, we might plan a fox hunt/picnic sometime this summer. There is also the potential for club projects of building attenuators or Doppler direction finders.

Dayton is coming up fast and Mike, KC2Q still has a few rooms available at Dayton (see page 7). His bus trip is an easy (and fun) way to get to Dayton.

Then, after Dayton comes Field Day – always a lot of fun. I presume that we will be setting up on the Red Cross grounds and will run at least one transmitter for the full 24 hours. I'm looking forward to it.

If you are interested in obtaining a [gardenstateara.org](mailto:gc2tkk@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 June issue is May 15.

73 de Bob, w2od@arrl.net

MINUTES OF APRIL 6 MEETING

By Bob Buus, W2OD, Secretary

President Frank Wroblewski, W2XYZ called the meeting to order at the Red Cross at 7:41 PM. There were 13 members and three guests present. The guests were Jeff Lambert, KC2ZDK from Brick, ARRL NNJ Section Manager Rich Krohn, N2SMV from Manalapan, and Phil O'Donnell, W2LNB from Oakhurst. All present introduced themselves.

Health and Welfare

Bill, NJ2H is home with pneumonia. We wish him a speedy recovery.

Secretary's Report

A motion was made by Jeff, N2LXM and seconded by Lou, W2HAM to accept the minutes of the March meetings as published in the April Propagator. The motion was accepted unanimously.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Joe, W2KQ presented the treasurer's report. A motion was made by Howard, W2HTS and seconded by Jeff, N2LXM to accept the report. It was accepted unanimously.

Old Business

Joe, W2KQ reported on our white elephant sale. Although it was successful, club participation was poorer than expected. In spite of that, we plan to do it again next year.

The Skywarn class held at the Cherryville Hamfest was attended by GSARA members Joe, W2KQ; Ray, W2NXG; Ralph, KC2YNL; Frank, W2XYZ; and Bill, NJ2H. We now have a key set of individuals who are current with Skywarn.

If you haven't already done so, members are encouraged to get their letters to their representatives regarding opposition to HR-607 which threatens our 440 MHz band.

Beam antennas we had leaning against the back of the Red Cross building were severely damaged by the winter ice storms. A damage claim has been made to the Red Cross but chances are slim that we will receive any compensation. Tony, KA2ZSI has agreed to donate an A3S to the club.

The opening of the club radio room on Saturdays is suspended until April 30. At that time,

the weather should be decent enough so that we can start work on restoring the tower from W2EXQ's estate.

New Members

An application for membership was received from John Dilks, K2TQN from Egg Harbor. John holds an Extra class license and has been licensed since 1956. He is active on all bands from 160 to 10 as well as 2 meters. He is a life member of ARRL and is interested in early radio. John writes the Old Radio column each month in QST. By unanimous vote, John was accepted as a member of GSARA.

An application for membership was received from Sagar Gupta, KC2VSG from Holmdel. Licensed since 2009, he holds an Extra class license and is a 16 year-old high school student. He is currently active on two meters and is interested in ARES, building electronic gadgets and computer science. By unanimous vote, Sagar was accepted as a member of GSARA.

New Business

Marine Reservists have requested a one-day technician class with a VE exam. We will look into conducting such a session, probably in July.

We have found that it is legal to run a 50-50 at our meetings without a NJ gaming permit providing the amount is less than \$400 and tickets are not sold outside the premises.

The GSARA/NJDXA Hamfest is coming up on Saturday, May 7. Joe, W2KQ is chairing a committee to plan for this event. On the committee is Howard, W2HTS, Jeff, N2LXM, and Don, KG2NV. Members volunteering to work at the Hamfest include the committee members as well as Frank, W2XYZ; Matt, W2AOJ; Ted, N2KPS; and Bob, W2OD. A motion was made by Howard, W2HTS and seconded by Jeff, N2LXM to purchase a Wouxan dual-band HT at a cost not to exceed \$125 to offer as a door prize at the Hamfest. The motion passes unanimously. Another motion was made by Joe, W2KQ and seconded by Ted, N2KPS to authorize up to \$250 for Hamfest food, flyers, and any other expense. That motion passed unanimously. It is hoped that KJI Electronics will be at this Hamfest.

There is a desire to arrange a club trip to either the Battleship New Jersey, the Thomas Edison laboratory, or ARRL headquarters.

Announcements

JSARS is having a Hamfest on Sunday, April 10 at the Riverwood Recreation Center in Toms River.

The OMARC tailgate Hamfest is coming up Saturday, April 16 at the Diana site in Wall, NJ.

Our April 20 program will have Gale McNamera talk about undersea cables. It should be quite interesting and we hope to see a good turnout.

Public Service

The MS170 is coming up on May 21-22 and Tom, N2VFK needs more volunteers. If you can help either or both days, please contact Tom.

The Sheehan run is coming on June 18 in Red Bank. Contact Tom if you can help with the communications.

Program

ARRL NNJ Section Manager, Rich Krohn, N2SMV talked about his support to new member Sagar Gupta, KC2VSG applying for the Hiram Maxim Award. He asked if anyone from GSARA could write some biographical information about Sagar and Bob, W2OD offered.

Rich also mentioned his talk about Winlink at the NJ State convention. He then demonstrated a cleaver was to make a serial cable adapter using connectors with RJ45 jacks on them. Then he showed a TNC to radio cable made by splicing existing cords.

Closing

The 50-50 of \$11 was won by Jeff, N2LXM. A second prize of a GSARA cap was won by Don, KG2NV. There being no further business, a motion was made by Ted, N2KPS and seconded by Joe, W2KQ to close the meeting. The motion was accepted unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 8:47 PM.

LEO MEYERSON, W0GFQ - SK

Leo Meyerson, W0GFQ, of Omaha, Nebraska, passed away on April 13. He was 100. In 1935, Meyerson, an ARRL Life Member, founded Wholesale Radio Laboratories -- the forerunner to World Radio Labs -- in Council Bluffs, Iowa. For his contributions to Amateur Radio, Meyerson was named the 1997 Ham of the Year at the Dayton Hamvention. Read more here.

From *The ARRL Letter*, April 21, 2011

EQUIPMENT INSURANCE CO. CHANGE

On May 1, 2011, the ARRL will begin a new partnership to provide its ARRL-sponsored Equipment Insurance and Club Liability Insurance plans. The League has signed an agreement with Hays Affinity Group to serve as the program administrator to provide equipment insurance to its members who choose to elect coverage. In addition, Hays will also provide club liability insurance to ARRL Affiliated Clubs for those clubs that wish to take advantage of that program. Hays will be replacing Marsh Affinity Group Services as the program's administrator and will be introducing new policies for both plans, underwritten by the Hanover Insurance Company. Read more here.

From *The ARRL Letter*, April 14, 2011

PROVIDING ISS COMMUNICATION

In America and around the world, students use Amateur Radio to talk to astronauts on the International Space Station, orbiting high above the Earth -- and it's the students at an all-girls school in Honolulu, Hawaii who help make the connection. Sacred Hearts Academy is a telebridge station for the Amateur Radio on the International Space Station program (ARISS). ARISS is a NASA-sponsored education activity where astronauts and cosmonauts use Amateur Radio equipment aboard the ISS to talk with students around the world. Telebridge stations, like the one at Sacred Hearts, connect schools, museums and others without their own Amateur Radio equipment to astronauts in space. Read more here.

From *The ARRL Letter*, April 14, 2011

TRANSATLANTIC BALLOON LAUNCH

The Project Blue Horizon 5 high-altitude transatlantic balloon is scheduled for launch, weather permitting, on Wednesday, April 27, from Oswego, New York. The Project Blue Horizon team is attempting to break current Amateur Radio high-altitude balloon records for distance (3361.81 miles) and duration (49 hours, 45 minutes). The payload will be carried beneath a 54,000 cubic foot capacity helium-filled balloon cruising between 85,000 and 100,000 feet. Read more here.

From *The ARRL Letter*, April 21, 2011

FOX HUNTING

By Bob Buus, W2OD

I recently build a fox controller from a kit sold by Byonics. This permits control of any HT so it can be used as a hidden transmitter (sometimes called a "fox" or "bunny"). Control functions include modulating with special tones and sending a CW id periodically. It works very well and I have coupled it with a spare 2 meter HT to make a "fox" which I plan to hide at the Red Cross premises prior to the May 18 meeting.

I have also constructed a couple of different attenuators that can be used with the "tape measure" antenna that we constructed as a club project about a year ago which will permit us to sniff out the fox using an HT.

I also dug up an old club project for a Doppler direction finder (it was in the May, 1993 QST) that I built a long time ago and will show how that can also be used to find a hidden transmitter.

All of these items will be available at the May 18 meeting for attendees to practice finding a hidden transmitter. Although I have a few extra antennas, I only have one HT (besides the fox) so if you could bring a 2-meter HT with a BNC antenna jack (or appropriate adapter), it would give you an opportunity to practice with your own receiver. Also, if you have a tape measure antenna or a Doppler direction finder, please bring these items also and get practice in using them to find a hidden transmitter.

ARRL SURVEY FOR CLUB MEMBERS

The ARRL Programs and Services Committee is studying current benefits of ARRL Club Affiliation. We are interested in learning which benefits are important to affiliated clubs and what potential benefits affiliated clubs would like to see in the future. To that end, we've put together a survey to learn what benefits are being used; their importance and to get an idea of potential future benefits. The survey is open to all current club officers, past officers and club members.

The survey is located at: <http://www.bestvote.org/phpQ/fillsurvey.php?sid=31> and is open to May 20th. Thank you,

ARRL Programs and Services Committee

ARRL VIDEO CONTEST WINNERS



The winner of the ARRL video contest was the father/daughter team of Frank Callaghan, AC2EE, and Becky Callaghan, KC2YZI, of Cresskill, New Jersey for their video *No Communication, No Problem!*

With more than 30 videos submitted from all corners of the Earth, the ARRL's production and editorial team had a tough job ahead of them as they sat down to pick the best one. But in the end, these ARRL HQ staff members picked a clear and decisive winner. In December, the ARRL announced that it was looking for ARRL members to shoot and submit videos that showcase how fun and electrifying our hobby can be. Extra points were awarded for videos showing someone -- young or old, licensed or not -- making their first contacts. Videos were judged on their creativity, overall quality and composition, and how well each communicated enthusiasm for Amateur Radio. All videos had to be less than five minutes long. Read more [here](#).

From *The ARRL Letter*, April 7, 2011

DXCC APPROVES ZD9AH AND ZD9T

ARRL DXCC Manager Bill Moore, NC1L, reports that two operations on Tristan Da Cunha and Gough -- the 2010 ZD9AH operation and the 2010-2011 ZD9T operation -- have been approved for DXCC credit. "If you had these operations rejected in a recent application, please send an e-mail to the ARRL DXCC Desk," Moore said. "Please note that due to heavy e-mail volume, you may not receive a reply. Results will appear in Logbook of The World (LoTW) accounts, as well as online on the daily listings."

From *The ARRL Letter*, April 21, 2011

CONDENSER MICROPHONE REDUX

Frank, W2XYZ has checked into "Why is a condenser mic still called a condenser mic?" He checked his Whackopedia and got the following information:

Condenser microphones are usually held anywhere from 2 inches to 2 feet from the user (depending on preference). The users of the microphones are generally Hams and politicians. We know that both categories of these users expel large amounts of hot air (particularly the latter user). As the rapidly vibrating (hot) air molecules strike the cool microphone (room temperature), the scientific principle of condensation takes place, and thus the name for the microphone.

The more hot air, the more condensation; until a point of equilibrium is reached. At equilibrium, the sound waves are still converted to electrical impulses in the microphone, but those hot air molecules that are not condensed flow past the microphone and into the surrounding auditorium. The excess molecules raise the ambient temperature of the room and lower the available oxygen content of the facility; thereby causing the listeners to fall asleep. Opening a window in the room might help keep the audience awake, but the escaping hot air will contribute to the overall "Greenhouse Effect." Within the Amateur Radio community, the phenomenon is also noted, but with different effects as the audience is almost always at a considerable distance. The condenser microphone continues to function with the hot air exactly the same, but since the electrical pulses are used to modulate a transmitter of varying frequencies; the effect is also frequency dependent. Conditions in the ether cause ordinary conversation modulated at a wavelength of 75 meters to be highly distorted where the listener thinks he hears the speaker using vulgar and profane language. At higher frequencies like those of 15 or 20 meters in wavelength, all accurate signal reports sound like 5/9 to the listener (particularly within the DX windows), regardless of quality of conversation and degradation of the ether. Contribution to the "Greenhouse Effect" was not noted when Hams used the condenser mics, probably due to the cancellation effect of the molecules due to the back and forth nature of the conversations between the local Ham and the distant Ham.

Note: A group of citizens organized, "Citizens for the Waves" (CW); a grassroots organization that promotes use of telegraph keys instead of condenser microphones. They feel their efforts will improve conditions overall; although opponents says they contribute to the "Ozone Effect."

Thanks to Frank, W2XYZ

CB ANTENNA PUZZLE SOLUTION

The CBers indeed paid \$57 for the antenna but then the wording mislead by adding the \$2 "tip" that the bag boy took. Instead, the \$2 "tip" should be subtracted from the \$57 to get back to the \$55 actual price of the antenna.

Several readers spotted the flaw in the logic and correctly explained the purchase. They included Frank, W2XYZ; Matt, W2AOJ; and Bill, NJ2H.

PUZZLE #7 – BRAZILIAN HAMFEST

Three PY2 hams, "Skip", "Sparky", and "Bugsy" are hiking through the Amazon jungle to go to the annual Hamfest. They come to a piranha-infested river with no bridge that they have to cross to get to the Hamfest. They know better than to try to swim across. There is a rowboat with oars at the river bank which is marked "300 pounds maximum capacity". "Skip" weighs 125 pounds, "Sparky" weighs 150 pounds, and "Bugsy" weighs 225 pounds. How can they get across this river to go to the Hamfest?

Assuming that you have figured out how to get them across the river, our three ham friends go to the Hamfest and each finds a great bargain. Skip found a linear power supply weighing 50 pounds. Sparky bought a Collins receiver weighing 60 pounds and Bugsy got a good deal on a Viking transmitter weighing 75 pounds. As our three friends lug their "goodies" home, they again come to the river with the boat with 300-pound capacity. Based on their experience in going to the Hamfest, they decide that they don't want to load the boat with more than 275 pounds because the wind has come up and the water is a bit choppy. They also don't want to leave any of their "goodies" unattended at either shore for fear of thieves stealing it. How can you get them and their "goodies" across the river and on home?

Send your answers to w2od@aol.com

DAYTON BUS TRIP

Hi All,

Just a friendly reminder and up-date for the 2011 Bus Trip leaving NJ on Thurs. morning May 19, 2011 for four days.

I do have four (4) rooms available for someone you may know and may want to join us. Have them get in touch with me via email or phone as soon as possible and before they send in their money.

Frank, W2XYZ will be handling the loading of the bus at the various pick-up points. I will be joining you from Florida that evening and returning to NJ with you.

73, Michael DiPersio, KC2Q

FCC OVERHAULS WEBSITE

The Federal Communications Commission announced on April 6 that it has launched a complete overhaul of its website. According to an April 6 press release from the FCC, the new website is "architected with a more intuitive user experience and the addition of Web 2.0 technologies, and improves and simplifies the FCC.gov experience for consumers, government, public safety agencies and the business community." This is the first major update to the Commission's website in 10 years. Read more here.

From *The ARRL Letter*, February 24, 2011

"SKIP" TELLER WINS COVER PLAQUE

The winner of the *QST* Cover Plaque Award for March is Howard "Skip" Teller, KH6TY, for his article "Digital VOX Sound Card Interface." *Congratulations Skip!* The *QST* Cover Plaque award -- given to the author or authors of the best article in each issue -- is determined by a vote of ARRL members on the *QST* Cover Plaque Poll Web page. Cast a ballot for your favorite article in the May issue today.

From *The ARRL Letter*, April 7, 2011

PREDICTIONS FOR 2030

Castro finally dies at age 112; Cuban cigars can now be imported legally, but President Chelsea Clinton has banned all smoking.

Spotted Owl plague threatens northwestern United States crops and livestock.

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 (June 4) 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 Wednesday of every month at 7 PM. The contact person is Larry Puccio, K2QDY, 732-349-2950 or lpuccio1@comcast.net. See the HCARC website www.hcArc.us for directions to the site.

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.

FIFTEEN YEARS AGO

From the May 1996 Propagator: GSARA member John Mulhern, N2GOF became a silent key. He was first licensed in 1920 as 2OP. Hams operating in Georgia were permitted to use special prefixes for the 1996 Olympics. Rich Rohloff, KG2CN had a two-page write-up of our special event operation at Sandy Hook in January, 1996. The solar flux was at the bottom prior to the start of the next cycle.

PREDICTIONS FOR 2030

Postal Service raises price of first class stamp to \$17.89 and reduces mail delivery to Wednesdays only.

Average weight of Americans drops to 250 lbs.

TWENTY FIVE YEARS AGO

From the May 1986 Propagator edited by John King, KA2F: Featured speaker for the May 7, 1986 meeting was ARRL Hudson Division Vice-Director Steve Mendelsohn, WA2DHF (now W2ML) giving an update of ARRL activities. Pete Becker, N2PB became a silent key. Channel 5, WNEW-TV changed its call to WNYW-TV. This pioneer TV station was founded by Dr. Allen DuMont in 1944.

THE OLDER GENERATION

No matter what our kids and the new generation think about us, WE ARE AWESOME! OUR LIFE IS LIVING PROOF!

To Those of Us Born 1930 – 1979:

First, we survived being born to mothers who smoked and/or drank while they were pregnant.

They took aspirin, ate blue cheese dressing, tuna from a can and didn't get tested for diabetes.

Then after that trauma, we were put to sleep on our tummies in baby cribs covered with bright colored lead-base paints.

We had no childproof lids on medicine bottles, locks on doors or cabinets and when we rode our bikes, we had baseball caps not helmets on our heads.

As infants & children, we would ride in cars with no car seats, no booster seats, no seat belts, no air bags, bald tires and sometimes no brakes.

Riding in the back of a pick-up truck on a warm day was always a special treat.

We drank water from the garden hose and not from a bottle.

We shared one soft drink with four friends, from one bottle and no one actually died from this.

We ate cupcakes, white bread, real butter and bacon. We drank Kool-Aid made with real white sugar. And, we weren't overweight. WHY? Because we were always outside playing...that's why!

We would leave home in the morning and play all day, as long as we were back when the streetlights came on. No one was able to reach us all day. And, we were OKAY.

We would spend hours building our go-carts out of scraps and then ride them down the hill; only to find out we forgot the brakes. After running into the bushes a few times, we learned to solve the problem.

We did not have Play stations, Nintendo's and X-boxes. There were no video games, no 150 channels on cable, no video movies or DVD's, no surround-sound or CD's, no cell phones, no personal computers, no Internet and no chat rooms.

WE HAD FRIENDS and we went outside and found them!

We fell out of trees, got cut, broke bones and teeth and there were no lawsuits from these accidents.

We would get spankings with wooden spoons, switches, ping pong paddles, or just a bare hand and no one would call child services to report abuse.

We ate worms and mud pies made from dirt, and the worms did not live in us forever.

We were given BB guns for our 10th birthdays, made up games with sticks and tennis balls and, although we were told it would happen, we did not poke out very many eyes.

We rode bikes or walked to a friend's house and knocked on the door or rang the bell, or just walked in and talked to them.

Little League had tryouts and not everyone made the team. Those who didn't had to learn to deal with disappointment.

Imagine that!! The idea of a parent bailing us out if we broke the law was unheard of. They actually sided with the law!

These generations have produced some of the best risk-takers, problem solvers and inventors ever.

The past 50 years have been an explosion of innovation and new ideas. We had freedom, failure, success and responsibility, and we learned how to deal with it all.

If YOU are one of them,
CONGRATULATIONS!

You might want to share this with others who have had the luck to grow up as kids, before the lawyers and the government regulated so much of our lives for our own good.

NOTES ON CALENDAR (see last page)

All times are EDST. Contests are listed in the May QST, p. 80.

May 1 and every Sunday – **InfoAge Marconi Hotel** open from 1 to 5 pm on Marconi Road in Wall. Exhibits by QCWA, OMARC, Antique Radio, Broadcaster's Hall of Fame, etc. \$5 donation requested.

May 2 - **W1AW Qualifying Run** at 7 pm (10-35 wpm). See May QST, p. 79 or www.arrl.org/w1aw

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

May 3 – **Middletown Pancake House Luncheon** at noon at left rear table. All are welcome.

May 3 – **Monmouth Amateur Radio Club meeting** at 7 pm in Union Beach Police Annex (Municipal Building) on Poole Avenue.

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

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

May 4 – **GSARA Meeting** at 7:30 PM at the Red Cross, West Park Ave. and Shafto Road in Tinton Falls.

May 5 - **Holiday City ARC meeting** at 7 pm at Holiday City South Clubhouse in Toms River.

May 7 – **GSARA/NADXA Hamfest** from 8 am at MAECOM parking lot in Tinton Falls. See page 1.

May 7-8 – **Radio Club of America QSO Party, SSB** from 1 pm Sat. to 12:59 am Sun. See www.radio-club-of-america.org

May 7 – **50 MHz Sprint from 7 pm to 11 pm, all modes**. See sites.google.com/site/springvhfupsprints

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

May 10 – **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

May 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

May 12 – **Jersey Shore Amateur Radio Society (JSARS)** meeting in Riverview Park Recreation Building, Rt. 527 and Riverwood Drive in Toms River at 7:30 pm.

May 14 – **OMARC Meeting**, 9:00 am at the Diana Site on Marconi Road, Wall, NJ. Guests are welcome.

May 14-15 – **Armed Forces Comm. Test, SSB & Digital** from 8 am Sat. to 8 pm Sunday. See www.netcom.army.mil/mars

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

May 18 – **GSARA Meeting** at 7:30 pm at the Red Cross in Tinton Falls. W2OD will talk about finding hidden transmitters (fox hunting).

May 19 – **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.

May 20 – **W1AW Qualifying Run** at 9 am (10-40 wpm). See May QST, p. 79 or www.arrl.org/w1aw

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

May 27-29 – **CQ WW WPX, CW** from 8 pm Fri. to 8 pm Sun. See www.cqwp.com

May 28 – **Neptune Amateur Radio Club Meeting** at 9 am at the American Legion on Gully Road.

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

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 InfoAge	2 CW Qual. Run ARES/RACES 7:30	3 Pancake House MARC Mtg 7 PM Old Barney ARC QCWA News 9 PM	4 GSARA Mtg	5 Hol. City Mtg.	6	7 Hamfest RCA QSO
8 RCA QSO InfoAge 50 MHz Sprint	9 RACES Net 7:30	10 Croyden VE 7 PM QCWA News 9 PM	11 Hol. City VE	12 JSARS Mtg.	13	14 OMARC Mtg Armed Forces
15 Armed Forces InfoAge	16 ARES/RACES 7:30	17 QCWA News 9 PM	18 GSARA Mtg.	19 JSARS VE	20 CW Qual. Run	21
22 InfoAge	23 RACES Net 7:30	24 QCWA News 9 PM	25	26	27 CQ WW WPX CW	28 Neptune Mtg CQ WW WPX CW
29 CQ WW WPX CW InfoAge	30	31				



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FIRST CLASS