



# THE PROPAGATOR

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

**MAY 2015**

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## UPCOMING GSARA MEETINGS

The next GSARA meeting will be on **Wednesday, May 6 at 7:30 PM** at the Red Cross. The program will be a presentation on N3FJP logging software and the free N3FJP CW Teacher. Newer hams might find the CW Teacher a good way to learn Morse code. Don't miss it! Bring a guest and enjoy the light refreshments that will be available.

The second meeting in May will be held on **Wednesday, May 20 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 five sessions since March 24, we had 26 check-ins for an average of 5.2 per session. The following 8 members checked into this net at least once (number of check-ins in parenthesis):

N2HGI (5), W2OD (5), N2BMK (4), KD2IEC (4), KA2F (3), KC2YNL (3), N2JFL (1), and K2REM (1).

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

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## VE TEST SESSION MAY 23

The GSARA monthly test session will be held on Saturday, May 23 at 11 am at the GSARA Hamfest. 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).

## GSARA HAMFEST MAY 23

The GSARA Hamfest is on Saturday, May 23, Memorial Day Weekend, at the MOESC parking lot on 100 Tornillo Rd. in Tinton Falls. This is the same location as previous GSARA Hamfests. Admission is \$5 per person and vendors get the first tailgate space free with additional spaces for \$10. Vendors arrive at 7 am and buyers at 8 am.

Food and beverages will be available for purchase. A VE Session will be held at 11 am. DXCC card checking will be available and there will be 50/50s and door prizes. KJI Electronics will be there with a wide assortment of amateur radio equipment. Talk-in is on the W2GSA repeater: 147.045 + PL 67. Please plan to attend, or better yet, to volunteer to work at the Hamfest. All of us working together will make this a success!

For more information, contact Rem Hunnewell, K2REM at 732-889-6692 or [hamfest@gardenstateara.org](mailto:hamfest@gardenstateara.org)

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## TWO MORE HAMS JOIN ISS CREW

The ISS ham radio population expanded to three, following the arrival of NASA astronaut Scott Kelly and Russian cosmonauts Mikhail Kornienko, RN3BF, and Gennady Padalka, RN3DT, on March 28 (UTC). Kelly, 51, and Kornienko, 54, will remain aboard the ISS for 1 year -- the longest space mission ever assigned to a NASA astronaut.

European Space Agency Astronaut Samantha Cristoforetti, IZ0UDF, will head back to Earth in May, after Kjell Lindgren, KO5MOS; Oleg Kononenko, RN3DX, and Kimiya Yui arrive at the ISS as part of a scheduled crew rotation. Cristoforetti has conducted several Amateur Radio on the International Space Station school contacts during her ISS duty tour.

From *The ARRL Letter*, April 2, 2015

## 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

The GSARA Hamfest on May 23 is coming up fast (see page 1). We'll likely have a lot more small vendors since they get a tailgate space free with their \$5 admission so we may need extra help in managing that. With KJI and all of the sellers, there should be no shortage of great bargains. To volunteer or if you have any questions, e-mail [hamfest@gardenstateara.org](mailto:hamfest@gardenstateara.org). I look forward to seeing YOU there.

Then in June, we will again participate in Field Day (see page 5). The indoor/outdoor combination worked well last year so should be every bit as fun again this year. With enough operators, we should improve our score from last year. To sign up to operate or if you have any questions, e-mail [FD@gardenstateara.org](mailto:FD@gardenstateara.org).

I was saddened to hear from Arnold, AB2N of the passing of Elmer Palkowetz, W2LSR (see page 4). It turns out that Arnold grew up with Elmer in Maplewood in the 1930s. Both got their amateur licenses in 1938 (Arnold a little earlier with W2LKH) and have remained friends over these many years. Arnold continues to be active and participates in all of the QCWA QSO parties – usually placing in the top three positions on CW. These guys truly were the greatest generation!

It's good to see members continue to donate books to the GSARA library (see page 4). This latest addition looks interesting to me since GDMSS is the system that replaced the nearly 100-year old 500 kHz CW (previously spark) distress system at sea. If you haven't yet checked out the GSARA library in the radio room at the Red Cross, you should. Chances are good that you would find something of interest to read.

The article on page 7 about switching power supplies caught my attention. Wall warts are no longer transformer-based linear power supplies which were unlikely to radiate interference. The smaller and cheaper switchers have taken over and the potential for interference is high as manufacturers cut costs to the bone. This is something to check out if you are experiencing noise or interference on the hf bands.

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 1, 2015 MEETING

By John King, KA2F, Acting Secretary

President Howard Suffill, W2HTS called the meeting to order at 7:35 PM at the Red Cross. There were 21 members and one guest present. The guest was John Armata, KB2VNV from Howell. After the pledge to the flag, all present introduced themselves. Secretary Bob, W2OD was absent so Treasurer John, KA2F offered to take the minutes.

### Secretary's Report

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

### Hamfest Committee Report

The Hamfest is Saturday, May 23 at the usual MAECOM parking lot. Rem, K2REM reported that there will be no commercial food vendor available because of the Memorial Day weekend.

### Field Day Committee Report

Field Day will be on June 27-28 at the Red Cross. Cy, K2CYS reported that we are tentatively planning on setting up four station with commercial power. Two will be outside operating 40 meters on one and 15/80 meters at the other. Two stations will be inside operating 20 meters on one and 10/15 meters on the other. The inside stations will use a triplexer so all can use the beam antenna. An appeal was made for operators to staff these four stations as well as teams to set-up and take down the stations.

### Program

The program was HF-101, a slide presentation review and introduction to all the aspects of HF operations. This was presented by Bruce, K2QXW with commentary on each slide. The program lasted about 35 minutes.

### Close

The 50/50 of \$16.50 was won by Alan, W2NIR who donated \$10 to the GSARA Treasury. There being no further business, a motion was made by Marty, N2BMK and seconded by Hunter Suffill to adjourn the meeting.

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## HAMFEST E-MAIL

hamfest@gardenstateara.org

## MINUTES OF APRIL 15, 2015 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 14 members present. After the pledge to the flag, all present introduced themselves.

### Secretary's Report

A motion was made by Len, WA1PCY and seconded by Art, KC2CRI to accept the minutes of the April 1 meeting as they will be published in the May Propagator. The motion passed unanimously.

### Treasurer's Report

Treasurer John King, KA2F gave the treasurer's report. A motion was made by George, K2EPD and seconded by Ray, WA1FFT to accept the report as read. The motion passed unanimously.

### Old Business

The March 28 VE test session had no candidates show up for exams. The next session will be on April 25 and Rich, N3RB is looking for volunteers to help out. The May session will be at the Hamfest on May 23. There will be no session on May 30.

HR-1301 continues to attract additional co-sponsors. Chris Smith is signed on but so far, Frank Pallone has not. Are there any GSARA members in his district who could request that he sign on?

### Hamfest Committee

A motion was made by George, K2EPD and seconded by Art, KC2CRI to authorize up to \$400 to be available to Rem, K2REM for Hamfest expenses. The motion passed unanimously. Potential prizes for the Hamfest were discussed. We will try to get a \$100 gift certificate from KJI Electronics at a discount for the main prize. We expect some ARRL gift certificates for other prizes. Howard, W2HTS contacted the Red Cross and they will let us use their tables for the Hamfest.

### Field Day Committee

Howard, W2HTS received permission from the Red Cross to put tents and temporary antennas outside for Field Day. Ray, WA1FFT plans to be there but will be unable to engage in any

strenuous activity. We will be using the N3FJP logging program as we have done in past years. Since we have no program scheduled for the May 6 meeting, Bob, W2OD volunteered to look into obtaining a tutorial on using the N3FJP logging program.

#### New Business

Howard, W2HTS would like to order another batch of GSARA yellow shirts so we have them in time for Field Day. The shirts with no pocket run \$24 to \$27 depending on size. A motions was made by Bruce, K2QXW and seconded by Len, WA1PCY to charge members \$20 per shirt with GSARA absorbing the difference. The motion passed unanimously.

#### Announcements

The MS-170 bike-a-thon is coming May 16-17 from Monmouth U. to Cape May. Volunteers are needs for either or both days. If interested, contact Tom, N2VFK.

If you have outgoing QSL cards for the ARRL, bring them to the radio room on Saturday and Ray, WA1FFT will pick them up to send in.

John, KA2F attended the Split Rock Hamfest in Succasunna and handed out about 95 GSARA Hamfest Flyers. He helped Steve from Hopatcong with card checking.

John also announced several interesting HF activities this coming weekend. There are 4 state QSO parties with North Dakota being one of them. There is also a Rookie Roundup (licensed no earlier than 2014), a Holyland DX contest (all modes) and a worked all China Provinces contest.

Bruce, K2QXW attended a meeting sponsored by the Monmouth County OEM. After filling out a booklet of critical information, each participant received a bucket of neat goodies for use in an emergency.

#### Close

The door prize of \$14.00 was won by Bob, W2OD. There being no further business, a motion was made by George, K2EPA and seconded by Rem, K2REM to close the meeting which was adjourned at 8:30 pm.

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### **FIELD DAY E-MAIL**

FD@gardenstateara.org

### **ELMER PALKOWETZ, W2LSR - SK**

Elmer Palkowetz, W2LSR of Brick, NJ died on April 22. He was 93. Elmer was born on February 8, 1922. While attending Columbia High School in Maplewood, NJ, he received his first amateur license in 1938 when he was issued the call, W2LSR which he held to his death.

A member of the Greatest Generation, Elmer served in the Army Air Corps during World War II. He trained at the Army Air Force Technical Training School at Sioux Falls, SD and was graduated as an honor student with an army proficiency award for copying code at 30 words a minute. In August 1943 he sailed from California to India via Tasmania and Australia as a member of the 99<sup>th</sup> Airdrome Squadron. He served at an airstrip in Sookerating, India where planes flew the hump into and out of China. In September 1944, Elmer transferred to a base at Gaya, India. When the war ended, while tuning around the short wave bands, Elmer heard amateur stations on the air operated by GIs in China, Burma and many Pacific isles. He quickly retuned an aircraft transmitter to the 20 meter band and joined in on the fun until an order came through a week later prohibiting such activities until authorized.

Elmer left Gaya, India in October 1945 and sailed through the Suez Canal and eventually across the Atlantic to New York. He had completely circled the world while in the service. He was discharged as a staff sergeant after 38 months of service, with not one visit home. His parents had never seen him in uniform until after he left the Army.

Elmer retired from Bendix as a Technician. He was predeceased by his wife and son. Surviving is his daughter. Funeral arrangements were private.

Elmer was a long time member of QCWA and strongly supported the Marconi Chapter 138 until his death. May Elmer rest in peace.

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### **GSARA LIBRARY ADDITION**

Here's a new addition to our ever useful club library.

*GMDSS: Understanding the Global Maritime Distress and Safety System*

Kindly donated by Mike Hemeon K1MH. Thank you Mike.

## QRZ FIELD DAY! THIS IS W2GSA!

Field Day is coming up fast. This is ham radio's premier event in North America and the Garden State Amateur Radio Association is going to have 4 Field Day Stations this year. The contest is June 27-28 (Saturday and Sunday). The antennas are planned. The stations are planned. John is going to be our chef extraordinaire again this year. The two outside tents are ready and the 2 stations indoors are warming up! We plan to operate a 40 M CW station outside, an 80/15 M station outside and 20 and 10 M inside. This is going to be an even more extensive set-up than last year when we broke the 2500 point mark! We should easily break 3K points this year and be the envy of all the other radio clubs in New Jersey! But we need your help.

We need three things and all three are vital.

First, we need help with set-up on Friday afternoon (probably) and Saturday morning. We have to put up the poles for the antennas and the tents.

Second, and this is super important, we need OPERATORS! Field Day can't work if there are insufficient numbers of operators. Therefore, if you would like to operate, please get back to Howard, W2HTS at [howards@lssons.com](mailto:howards@lssons.com) and let him know that you will be there. We are in great need of both CW and Phone operators. Make a commitment of a few hours or all day and all night, if you like. All four stations need to be humming all day long.

Third, we need help taking apart the stations at 2 PM on Sunday. Try to carve out some time if you can. Your help would be greatly appreciated.

In other Field Day news: *on June 3* at the regular GSARA meeting, we will be outlining Field Day, demonstrating the use of the computer interfaced with the radio for logging purposes and giving an overview of what we will be doing. *On June 17* we will have the regular business meeting and then go over the Field Day operations. You won't want to miss any of it.

No matter what your level of experience or expertise, Field Day is an awesome experience. You will have the chance to improve your skills or use your skills to make as many contacts as possible.

GSARA is committed to putting on a terrific Field Day again this year to be even better than last year (which was awesome). Please support the club and make our Field Day effort the best ever.

73 OM and YLs and see you in the contest!

*Cy Starway, K2C4S*

**Temple Beth Miriam**

[www.bethmiriam.org](http://www.bethmiriam.org)

732-222-3754 (office)

732-222-1238 (fax)

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## WWV STILL ON 25 MHZ

Time and frequency standard station [WWV](#) silenced its 25 MHz signal in 1977, but it returned to the air on an "experimental basis" a year ago, and it's still up and running. Resurrecting the long-dormant standard time outlet operated by the National Institute of Standards and Technology ([NIST](#)) was Matt Deutch, NØRGT, WWV's Lead Electrical Engineer.

"We have been at 1 kW for the past year," Deutch told ARRL. "We have had a few hiccups, but nothing serious." Deutch said he was pleased to see the 25 MHz signal included in a recent *QST* article, "just like the good ol' days" (see "Measuring Frequencies at VE3GSO," in the April 2015 issue of *QST*, p 37).

The return of WWV's 25 MHz outlet came about after Dean Lewis, W9WGV, lamented its loss last year in an e-mail to Deutch, who surprised him by putting the signal back on the air, initially temporarily. The 25 MHz signal not only provides another option to check your frequency calibration or the exact time, it also can serve to indicate the state of propagation on 12 and 10 meters. Deutch said the WWV 25 MHz signal still gets signal reports from across the Atlantic.

WWV has [invited](#) listeners' comments and signal reports. Read [more](#).

From *The ARRL Letter*, April 9, 2015

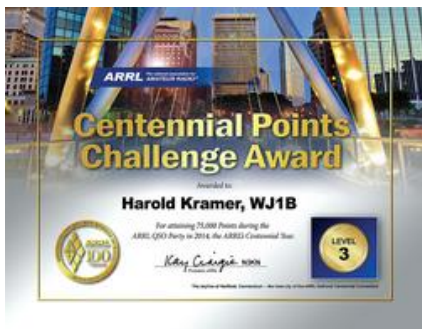
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Why is lemon juice made with artificial flavor,  
and dishwashing liquid made with real lemons?

Why don't sheep shrink when it rains?

## APPLY NOW FOR W1AW WAS

The [window](#) to apply for ARRL Centennial Points Challenge and W1AW Worked All States [awards](#) has been open for a month now, and the initial rush of applications has been processed. Participants' Centennial Points Challenge logs must already have been submitted via Logbook of The World ([LoTW](#)) -- the cut-off date was January 22 -- but the League will continue to



accept award applications indefinitely. With little to no backlog in the queue, it's anticipated that processing will be prompt.

The ARRL Centennial QSO Party and W1AW/portable activities in 2014 represented the biggest on-the-air operation in the history of Amateur Radio, with more than 3.5 million Centennial event contacts recorded in LoTW. W100AW operation accounted for some 70,000 contacts.

Most applicants will find the process simple and largely automated. The form will auto-populate, if ARRL has the applicant's information on file. The form may be edited to update name and address information only. The system will select the awards for which the applicant qualifies. Certificates will be printed daily. Plaques will be shipped directly from the supplier.

Certificates will be available for the Centennial Points Challenge Award, while W1AW WAS Award participants can order a certificate, a plaque, or both -- ordered separately on the website. Certificates are \$16, and plaques are \$60.

Qualifying for the Top Level Centennial Points Challenge Award requires 15,000 points. The Third Level Award requires 7500 points, while the Second and First Level awards require 3000 and 1000 points, respectively. Point totals will be printed on certificates.

From *The ARRL Letter*, April 23, 2015

## HAM BALLOON CIRCLES GLOBE

A foil, party-type balloon carrying a ham radio payload has circumnavigated the globe. Launched on April 6 by Australian radio amateur Andy Nguyen, VK3YT, of Kensington, Victoria, Australia, the balloon, designated [PS-41](#), completed its round-the-world journey on April 16. It remained aloft until April 22, when Nguyen reported that it had gone down near South America. Along the way, it has been tracked by a network of Amateur Radio operators. Nguyen has been trying since early last year to have one of his launches go full circle.

"PS-41 crossed the starting longitude of 144.903 at 11:20 AM AEST (0120 UTC) this morning, completing the first PicoSpace around-the-world trip," Nguyen posted on April 16. "Thanks to everyone for assistance with tracking and providing encouragement for the project; the trip would not have been possible without you."

The solar-powered, helium-filled PS-41 balloon carried an HF payload, sending *WSPR* spots and *JT9* telemetry on 30 and 20 meters from a 25 mW transmitter. The high-altitude PS-41 took a path over Tasmania, then south of New Zealand, the southern tip of South America, directly over the South Georgia and South Sandwich islands, well south of Africa, and back across to Australia.

The balloons were extensively tracked via *JT9* by a network in Australia, New Zealand, South America, South Africa, and Ireland. *WSPR* spots were received from all over the world. -- *Thanks to Jim Linton, VK3PC*

From *The ARRL Letter*, April 23, 2015

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## TRANSCEIVER FOR SALE

1. Astron 20 Amp Power supply
2. Yaesu FT-2400 2 meter transceiver (50w output)

Both in good condition and roughly 12 years old. They may be inspected at the club radio room any Saturday Noon to 2pm.

Offers will be considered by

Richard Bilon N3RB  
[4332lee@gmail.com](mailto:4332lee@gmail.com)

## iOS APP FOR REPEATER DIRECTORY

*The ARRL Repeater Directory*<sup>®</sup> -- introduced this week for 2015-2016 -- has a newly launched companion app for Apple<sup>®</sup> iOS<sup>®</sup> devices. iPhone<sup>®</sup>, iPad<sup>®</sup> and iPod touch<sup>®</sup> users can download the app at no cost from Apple's [App Store](#), which requires a unique code found in each printed edition of the 2015-2016 directory to activate. Once activated, the app provides details for thousands of Amateur Radio repeaters found in *The ARRL Repeater Directory* database.

The app's database includes the current directory of frequencies included with the new 2015-2016 print editions of *The ARRL Repeater Directory* and in the *TravelPlus for Repeaters*<sup>™</sup> software. The database covers repeaters from 28 MHz to 1240 MHz, and includes ATV, D-STAR, APCO-25, Digital Mobile Radio (DMR), *EchoLink*, and IRLP machines.

The activation code permits single users to activate the app for 12 months. The activation codes support the iOS and Android apps found in the Apple [App Store](#) and in [Google Play](#)<sup>™</sup>.

ARRL produced the app with DHF Systems, LLC, the developer of ARRL's *TravelPlus for Repeaters* software. There are plans to introduce a pay-and-go version of *The ARRL Repeater Directory* iOS app in the future.

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*Repeater Directory*<sup>®</sup> is a registered trademark of The American Radio Relay League, Inc. Apple<sup>®</sup>, iPhone<sup>®</sup>, iPad<sup>®</sup>, and iPod<sup>®</sup> are registered trademarks of Apple Inc. App Store is a service mark of Apple Inc. iOS is a trademark or registered trademark of Cisco in the US and other countries and is used under license. *TravelPlus for Repeaters* is a trademark of DHF Systems, LLC.

From *The ARRL Letter*, April 16, 2015

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## HELP NEEDED FOR MS-170

Hi Guys,

We're still pretty desperate for Tail End Charlies for both 50 (MU to MU) & 170 (MU to Tuckerton) on Saturday and 170 (Tuckerton to Cape May) on Sunday.

Day one is getting pretty well jelled together, Sunday still has some holes.

Tom Cosgrove, N2VFK  
Captain RBVFA Squad, EMT-B  
SKYWARN Spotter LME002

## SWITCHING POWER SUPPLIES NOISY

ARRL Laboratory Manager and EMI Expert Ed Hare, W1RFI, [told the HamRadioNow](#) webcast recently that switching-mode power supplies are a more common noise source for radio amateurs than electrical power lines. *HamRadioNow* host Gary Pearce, KN4AQ, interviewed Hare on April 4 at the Raleigh, North Carolina, [RARSfest](#), where Hare also presented a forum, "Tall Tales from the ARRL Lab." Hare told Pearce that switching-mode power supplies are in -- or provide power for -- many home electronics these days.

"The old days of those iron transformers are gone," Hare said. "Every single one of these is a switcher. We're also seeing noise from pulse-width control motors." Hare said the big culprits are "little wall warts," not switching supplies designed to power Amateur Radio gear. "Every TV you own has a built-in switcher, almost every device has a wall wart, and a lot of these are imported, not necessarily meeting the FCC rules, so we're seeing more reports involving those," he said.

Hare also told *HamRadioNow* that a few LED-type lightbulbs that are becoming more common also can be noise-generators, as are "grow lights" used for cultivating plants indoors. He said that the ARRL Lab can work with manufacturers to correct these problems, but the Lab needs model numbers and "specific information about the problems amateurs are having, so that we can put some of our resources toward helping."

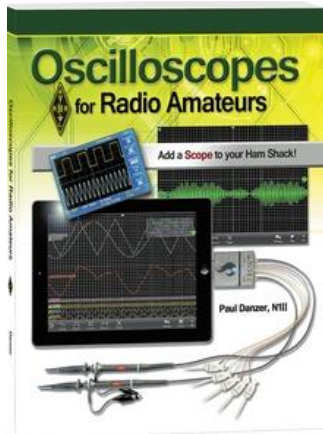
Many interference issues can be resolved without FCC intervention, Hare said, noting that Commission enforcement is the last step, if other efforts fail. "We've been told by Laura Smith [of the FCC Enforcement Bureau] that she's going to continue to be engaged in this," he said, "so we're going to continue to send problems [in] that direction."

Hams experiencing RF interference problems can contact the ARRL Laboratory by contacting [Ed Hare](#) or ARRL Lab EMC Specialist [Mike Gruber](#), W1MG. The complete interview with Hare is in Episode 196 at [www.hamradionow.tv](#). - *Thanks to Gary Pearce, KN4AQ/HamRadioNow*

From *The ARRL Letter*, April 16, 2015

## OSCILLOSCOPE BOOK FROM ARRL

Oscilloscopes are useful tools in the world of electronics, allowing radio amateurs to "see" the signals inside their equipment. Through personal computers and today's technologies, a variety of analog, digital, or hybrid scopes is available to hams for problem solving and testing new ideas in your workshop.



*Oscilloscopes for Radio Amateurs* by Paul Danzer, N1II, is filled with practical information you'll need for using a 'scope. It begins with an overview of the oscilloscope and goes on to discuss characteristics, applications, probes, controls, and input

modes. If you're considering adding a 'scope to your ham shack or workbench, the book includes an explanation of scope specifications and features to help you select the one that's right for you.

*Oscilloscopes for Radio Amateurs* is available from the [ARRL Store](#) (ARRL Item No 0976) or your [ARRL Dealer](#) at \$22.95 retail, \$19.95 for ARRL members. For more information, contact [ARRL Publication Sales](#), 860-594-0355 or (US toll free) 888-277-5289. See what's new in the [ARRL Store](#).

From *The ARRL Letter*, April 9, 2015

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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.

## TEN YEARS AGO

From the May 2005 Propagator: Plans are to operate Field Day with one transmitter as K2USA operating from the MARS station and a QRP station operating as W2GSA from the Fort Monmouth football stadium. Tom, N2VFK made a plea for operators to help with the MS bike-a-thon from Sandy Hook to Cape May.

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## FIFTEEN YEARS AGO

From the May 2000 Propagator: Mike DiPersio, KC2Q was forming a Central New Jersey DX Association. Phil Petersen, W2DME became a silent key on April 14 at the age of 84. The MARS station participated in International Marconi Day and made 624 contacts. Don Pingitore, KG2NV was "top gun" with 227 contacts. Sterling Rodgers, N2GT and Lorraine Heine, KC2FDR (SK) joined GSARA. Doug Cuomo, WA2EWK became a silent key on April 16 at the age of 45. The movie "Frequency" was reviewed.

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## TWENTY YEARS AGO

From the May, 1995 Propagator: GSARA is planning a tour of the Edison Museum on July 8. We received a thank-you letter from the Monmouth County Library for our donation of 24 amateur radio books. Bob, W2OD became a grandfather with the birth of his grandson on April 23.

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## TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO

From the May, 1990 Propagator: Elena Worrall, N2ITL reported on her and Dave's first trip to Dayton that year. Phil Petersen, W2DME (SK) had an article about Tommy Thomas, W2UK. John Breza, WR2Z (SK) had an article about the decibel. Al Rauch, W2EYW finally got his Extra ticket after 57 years.

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## THIRTY YEARS AGO

From the May 1985 Propagator: This was the first Propagator of 1985 and consisted of a single page announcing the intent to again have monthly publication of The Propagator.



## NOTES ON CALENDAR (see next page)

Large Call letters denote birthdays e.g. **N2JFL** on May 5. All times EDST. Contests are listed in the May QST, p. 82.

May 2-3 – **Radio Club of America QSO Party**, Phone from 1 pm Saturday to 0:59 am Sunday. See <http://www.radioclubofamerica.org>

May 3 and every Saturday, Sunday and Wednesday – **InfoAge Marconi Hotel** open from 1 to 5 pm on Marconi Road in Wall.

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

May 5 – **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)

May 5 – **Old Barney ARC Meeting** at 7:30 pm in Manahawkin, NJ. See <http://www.obarc.org>

May 5 and every following Tuesday – **GSARA Net** on 147.045 PL=67 at 8:30 pm.

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

May 6 – **GSARA Meeting** at 7:30 pm. Program is an overview of the N3FJP logging programs and CW Teacher by Bob, W2OD.

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

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

/May 9-10 – **Armed Forces Communications Test**, Phone and Digital, from 8 am Saturday to 8 pm Sunday. See <http://www.netcom.army.mil/mars>

May 10 – **Mother's Day**.

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

May 12 - **W1AW Qualifying Run** at 7 pm (10-40 wpm). See [www.arrl.org/qualifying-run-schedule](http://www.arrl.org/qualifying-run-schedule)

May 13– **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)

May 14 – **JSARS meeting** in Riverwood Park Rec. Building, Rt. 527 and Riverwood Drive at 7:30 pm.

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

May 20 – **GSARA Meeting** at 7:30 pm at the Red Cross in Tinton Falls. Regular business meeting.

May 21 – **JSARS VE Test Session** at 7:00 pm Riverview Park Recreation Bldg., Rt. 527 and Riverwood Drive in Toms River. Contact Ed Genoino, WA2NDA at 609-971-2792 or [wa2nda@comcast.net](mailto:wa2nda@comcast.net).

May 23 – **GSARA Hamfest** at the MOESC parking lot at 100 Tornillo Rd in Tinton Falls. Admission is \$5 per person. Vendors at 7 am get free tailgate space with purchase of admission. Buyers at 8 am. Talk-in on W2GSA Repeater on 147.045 + PL 67. See <http://www.gardenstateara.org/hamfest>

May 23 – **VE Test Session** at 11 am at the GSARA Hamfest in Tinton Falls. Contact Rich Bilon, N3RB at 732-972-1397 or e-mail at [n3rb@arrl.net](mailto:n3rb@arrl.net)

May 25 - **Monmouth County RACES Net** meets on 147.045 +600, PL=67.0 at 7:30 pm.

May 29 – **W1AW Qualifying Run** at 9 am (10-40 wpm). See <http://www.arrl.org/qualifying-run-schedule>

May 29-31 – **CQ WW WPX Contest**, CW from 8 pm Friday to 7:59 pm Sunday. See <http://www.cqwp.com>

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2 RCA QSO Pty.
3 RCA QSO Pty. InfoAge	4 ARES/RACES 7:30	5 N2UG N2JFL OBARC GSARA Net 8:30 QCWA News 9 PM	6 GSARA Mtg.	7 HCARC Mtg.	8	9 OMARC Mtg Mil. Comm. Test
10 Mother's Day Mil. Comm. Test InfoAge	11 RACES Net 7:30	12 CW Qual. Run GSARA Net 8:30 QCWA News 9 PM	13 Hol. City VE	14 JSARS Mtg.	15	16 K2KDC K2REM
17 InfoAge	18 ARES/RACES 7:30	19 GSARA Net 8:30 QCWA News 9 PM	20 GSARA Mtg.	21 JSARS VE	22 N2BMK	23 Hamfest GSARA VE 11am
24 InfoAge	25 RACES Net 7:30	26 GSARA Net 8:30 QCWA News 9 PM	27	28	29 CW Qual. Run CQ WW WPX	30 CQ WW WPX
31 KG2CM CQ WW WPX						



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