



THE PROPAGATOR

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

MAY 2008

GSARA MEETING WED. MAY 7

The next regular meeting of the GSARA will be held on **Wednesday, May 7 at 8:00 PM** at the MARS building in Fort Monmouth.

You are encouraged to come early to enjoy the refreshments and the informal eyeball conversations. We look forward to seeing YOU at the meeting!

FORT MONMOUTH PASSES

If you have not yet renewed your Fort Monmouth pass, send Frank, W2XYZ the required data which will have to be entered into the Ft. Monmouth computer. It is only after the data is in the computer that you can pick up the pass at the Oceanport visitor center. The passes are good for six months.

THE GSARA WEBSITE NEEDS YOU

Bruce McLeod is getting tired after being the GSARA webmaster for ten years. He says he wants to let someone else have that pleasure. Just think – you can be your own boss and at the same time you can have the freedom to put your own creativity into action. You don't have to know HTML nor do you need sophisticated web page creation software. You can create pages in Microsoft Word and save them as HTML files. We already have an Internet Service Provider who gives us free space for our pages. Then you will need an FTP program to ship the pages off to the site; for this function Bruce uses a shareware program called WS_FTP. If you are interested in grabbing this opportunity or learning more about it, email Bruce at k2qxw@yahoo.com.

GSARA CALENDAR

<http://www.monmouth.com/~gsara/calendr.htm>

2-METER YOUTH NET FORMED

My name is Nick Esposito, KC2ONP, and I am a member of NPARC – The New Providence Amateur Radio Club. I have been a ham for about 4 years now and have done a lot of things in ham radio including ARISS QSOs and attending Dayton but what I plan to do now is something different.

I have begun a kids oriented net on W2LI (147.255 + pl=141.3) which is held on Thursday nights at 8pm. It has been going strong since February and as we reach April I would like to invite the youth community (and YL's) of the Hudson Division to join us. The repeater is located in New Providence, NJ at Bell Laboratories.

Everyone with a decent antenna should be able to access the repeater pretty easily. I would appreciate it if you would spread this message to any kids under the age of 18 who have a ham license or a relative that is a ham, who they can get on the air with. I appreciate your taking the time to read this and thank you.

GREETINGS FROM EMORY, K2YWI

To all my friends in GSARA:

I haven't worked HF recently. The hurricane sort of trashed my radio shack (a.k.a. Junk Shed). I still work 2-meters from the bicycle from time to time (after 85 I slowed up a bit). I hope to get a new roof on said shack and will try some DX-ing again.

Regards to All,
Emory Wall, K2YWI

HUDSON DIVISION HOME PAGE

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

GSARA OFFICERS

President	N2LXM	Jeff Harshman	922-0816
Vice Pres.	W2FA	Kevin Wagner	279-0532
Secretary	W2OD	Bob Buus	946-8615
Treasurer	W2XYZ	Frank Wroblewski	942-7705
Engineer	W2HTS	Howard Suffill	460-1885
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 <k2qxw@yahoo.com>

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://www.monmouth.com/~gsara/prop.pdf>

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

EDITOR'S NOTES

Marv Bernstein, W2PAT and I attended a very interesting talk about quartz crystals given at the Marconi Hotel on Sunday, April 27. I hadn't realized what a critical role these crystals played during World War II. Marv, who is now 92 years old, was in the middle of the action as was Jerry Havel, W2RRX-SK. Both were long-standing GSARA members. This is another impressive example of how effectively our country mobilized for the war.

Field Day is rapidly approaching. Please start thinking about how you are going to participate. We can always use more help in setting up and tearing down. Operators are also needed, especially in the wee hours of Sunday morning. If operating seems a bit intimidating to you, step up and offer to log. It's easy. It's fun. There is also a bit of a challenge (Murphy is always lurking about). I look forward to seeing you there.

It looks like the tide may be turning regarding our problems with BPL and the FCC's obvious bias. See the story on page 7. Unfortunately, if the FCC appeals the decision, it will result in still more legal costs for the ARRL. I doubt if this issue is closed yet but at least it's going in the right direction.

The MS-170 bike-a-thon is a big event that needs lots of amateur radio help with communications. As of this writing, there are still a number of slots to be filled in Monmouth County. If you have a two-meter rig, please consider volunteering to help. See Tom Cosgrove, N2VFK to volunteer or for more information.

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 June issue is May 15.

73 de Bob, w2od@arrl.net

GSARA HOMEPAGE

<http://www.monmouth.com/~gsara>

MINUTES OF APRIL 2 MEETING

By Bob Buus, W2OD, Secretary

The meeting was called to order at Fort Monmouth by President Jeff Harshman, N2LXM, at 8:02 PM. After the pledge to the flag, all members present introduced themselves. There were 20 members present.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Frank Wroblewski, W2XYZ presented his report for March. A motion was made by Nena, N2WAY and seconded by Peggy Struening to accept the report as read. The motion passed unanimously.

Secretary's Report

The minutes of the March 2008 meeting had been published in the April Propagator. A motion was made by Lou, W2HAM and seconded by Lorraine, KC2FDR to accept the minutes as published. The motion passed unanimously.

A very nice certificate of appreciation was received from the organizers of the CROP walk thanking us for our help in providing communications. They also provided two pedometers which were given as door prizes at the end of the meeting.

Silent Keys

Jeff, N2LXM sadly reported that GSARA lost two long-time members. They were Les Hill, W2QHS who died February xx and Tony Colaguori, W2GUM who died March xx. A moment of silence was observed.

Upgrade

New member Randy Kulzer, N2CUG has upgraded to Extra Class. Congratulations!

Field Day

Jeff, N2LXM announced that we plan to operate as 1A for Field Day this year which is on June 28-29. We need a letter of permission to use the ball field (Dean Field) for this event. Donna, KC2GKQ volunteered to take care of this. We plan to use Jim's (K2EI) generator with Jeff, N2LXM providing a backup generator. We will log on a laptop provided by Frank, W2XYZ. A motion was made by Joe, W2KQ and seconded by Bill, WA2DND to approve the expenditure of up to \$500

for Field Day expenses. The motion passed unanimously.

Jeff suggested that part of these funds be used to purchase Field Day pins and t-shirts. If you plan to participate and would like a t-shirt, please give Jeff your size – email to n2lxm@juno.com.

New Business

Kevin, W2FA announced that a special event station will be operating from the battleship New Jersey on June 6 and 7. Lots of pictures and information can be found at www.nj2bb.org and it was suggested that this information be put in the next Propagator. We will plan a trip to the ship sometime after Field Day.

Public Service

Jeff, N2LXM announced that the MS-170 from Monmouth University to Cape May on May 17-18 needs lots of operators so please volunteer as soon as you can.

He also announced the Sheehan Run in Red Bank on June 14. Volunteers are needed for this relatively short event. See Tom, N2VFK to volunteer.

Announcements

Rich Krohn, N2SMV is running for position of ARRL Section Manager for the NNJ section.

The OMARC tailgate Hamfest is coming on Saturday, April 5 at the Diana site on Marconi road in Wall. VE exams are given at 10 AM and a 2-meter HT will be raffled.

April 5 is also the Cherryville Hamfest.

The JSARS Hamfest is coming on Saturday, April 12 in Toms River.

April 12 is also International Maritime Awareness Day and there will be a CW party from 1600Z Saturday to 1600Z Sunday.

Closing

The door prize was won by Steve, N2WLH. A pedometer from the CROP Walk was won by Donna, KC2GKQ. The second pedometer was won by Joe, W2KQ. There being no further business, a motion was made by Peggy Struening and seconded by Nena, N2WAY to close the meeting which was adjourned at 8:53 PM.

TONY COLAGUORI, W2GUM - SK

Anthony J. Colaguori, W2GUM, of Long Branch, died Thursday, March 27, at St. Barnabas Hospice and Palliative Care Center, Long Branch. He was 91 and had been a communications engineer at Fort Monmouth, Eatontown for 30 years, retiring in 1971. He served honorably in the U.S. Army during World War II, achieving the rank of master sergeant. Tony was a parishioner of St. Michael's Roman Catholic Church, West End, and traveled to every state within the continental U.S. with his wife in their Air Stream trailer. Born in Long Branch, he was a life resident.

Tony started in radio at an early age, licensed in 1933 as W2GUM and achieved an early DXCC before World War II. Prior to the war, he worked at Fort Monmouth at the Navesink Twin Lights lighthouse where the first Army radar was being developed, one of which was the radar that detected the Pearl Harbor bombing. When the war broke out, he enlisted in the Army and became a Sergeant, teaching radio and radar. After the war, he returned to Fort Monmouth as a civilian, enjoying a long career in the development of Combat Net Radio and Avionics equipment.

An avid DXer for many years, Tony was a member of the NJ DX Assn. He later did a lot of work at 10 GHZ "dxing". He was very involved in QRP building and operation and an early member of the NJ-QRP Club. He was also a member of the Marconi Chapter 138 of the Quarter Century Wireless Association and the American Radio Relay League.

More recently, he was active in model radio sailboats, and enjoyed turning out machined fittings for many model boats.

He was predeceased by his brother, Victor, W2VC in 2007. Surviving are his wife of 65 years, Clara Bruno Colaguori; a son and daughter-in-law, Louis A. and Linda L. Colaguori of Moorestown; a daughter, Linda Colaguori of Wayside; two brothers, Albert of Long Branch, and Frank of West Long Branch; and a grandchild.

Memorial donations can be made to St. Barnabas Hospice at MMC, 95 Old Short Hills Road, West Orange, NJ 07052. Letters of condolence, memorial candles and memorial donations may be sent to the family via the funeral home's website at www.damianofuneralhome.com.

L. B. CEBIK, W4RNL - SK

L. B. Cebik, W4RNL, ARRL Technical Adviser and antenna authority, has passed away. He was 68. An ARRL Life Member, Cebik was known to many hams for the numerous articles he wrote on antennas and antenna modeling. He had articles published in most of the US ham journals, including QST, QEX, NCJ, CQ, Communications Quarterly, Ham Radio, 73, QRP Quarterly, Radio-Electronics and QRPp. Larry Wolfgang, WR1B, QEX Editor, called Cebik "probably the most widely published and often read author of Amateur Radio antenna articles ever to write on the subject." LB was also a Life Member of QCWA and was elected to the QCWA Hall of Fame in 2003.

Cebik lived in Knoxville, TN and wrote more than a dozen books on antennas for both the beginner and the advanced student. Among his books are a basic tutorial in the use of NEC antenna modeling software and compilations of his many shorter pieces. A teacher for more than 30 years, Cebik was retired, but served as Professor Emeritus of philosophy at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville.

RALPH HASSLINGER, W2CVF - SK

Ralph Hasslinger, W2CVF, died in March, 2008. He was the last living Charter Member of QCWA. May he rest in peace.

HINTS AND KINKS

Do you have an idea or a simple project that has improved your operating? Maybe you've taken something commonly found around the home and developed a ham radio use for it? Why not share your hints with fellow hams in "Hints and Kinks," a monthly column in QST. If we publish your hint, you will receive \$20. Send your hints via e-mail to <h&k@arrl.org> or to ARRL Headquarters, Attn: "Hints and Kinks," 225 Main Street, Newington, CT 06111. Please include your name, call sign, complete mailing address, daytime telephone number and e-mail address. Items in "Hints and Kinks" have not been tested by QST or ARRL unless otherwise stated. Although we can't guarantee that hints published will work for every situation, QST makes every effort to screen for harmful information.

From *The ARRL Letter*, No. 12, March 28, 2008

ARMED FORCES CROSSBAND TEST

The Army, Air Force, Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard are co-sponsoring the annual Military/Amateur Radio communications tests in celebration of the 58th anniversary of Armed Forces Day (AFD). Although the actual Armed Forces Day is celebrated on May 17, the AFD Military/Amateur Crossband Communications Test will be conducted on May 10 to prevent conflict with the Dayton Hamvention, scheduled for May 16-18.

The annual celebration features traditional military to amateur crossband communications SSB voice tests and copying the Secretary of Defense message via digital modes. These tests give Amateur Radio operators and short wave listeners an opportunity to demonstrate their individual technical skills and to receive recognition from the Secretary of Defense and/or the appropriate military radio station for their proven expertise. QSL cards will be provided to those stations making contact with the military stations. Special commemorative certificates will be awarded to anyone who receives and copies the digital Armed Forces Day message from the Secretary of Defense.

Look for schedules and frequencies of participating military stations to be published in May on the Army MARS Web site <<http://www.netcom.army.mil/MARS>>.

From *The ARRL Letter*, No. 13, April 4, 2008

NEW APPAREL FROM ARRL

Show off your ham radio pride with ARRL's new line of HAM apparel. The new shirt, sweatshirt and ball cap feature the very popular oval Euro design with "HAM" emblazoned in the center and the ARRL Web site address centered underneath it. The T shirt is a pre-shrunk black Hanes beefy-T with white contrast stitching. The HAM oval is screenprinted on the left chest. This trendy T shirt comes in unisex sizes from small to 3X for only \$12.95 each. The heavyweight black sweatshirt features a quarter-zip neckline with a brass metal zipper and leather pull. The HAM oval is embroidered on the left chest. This sweatshirt is perfect for the still chilly nights of spring and comes in unisex sizes from small to 3X for only \$34.95 each. The black ballcap features the HAM oval embroidered in the center of the cap. With an

adjustable Velcro tab closure, this cap is sure to fit just about anyone. Get yours for only \$12.95. Receive a free HAM Euro sticker (a \$2 value) <<http://www.arrl.org/catalog/?item=9595>> when you order one of these three HAM items before May 31, 2008. Order your HAM items today <<http://www.arrl.org/catalog/?item=NO-HAM#top>>.

From *The ARRL Letter*, No. 15, April 18, 2008

WILLIAM F. BUCKLEY & HAM RADIO

In a personal essay published in the April 7, 2008 issue of "The National Review," the late William F. Buckley Jr described a fascinating story involving himself, Senator Barry Goldwater, K7UGA (SK), and of course ham radio. It seems that Mr. Buckley was part of a 12 man trip to Russia's Vostok station, a very remote outpost at the magnetic South Pole. In addition to his brother, Senator James Buckley, their old pal Barry Goldwater and his son Barry Jr were also members of this expedition. Buckley described being in a crowded Soviet igloo, entertained with "trays of caviar and tumblers of vodka." After toasting his Russian host, he was suddenly taken aside by Barry Jr. "Dad wants to see you" he said, pointing to the door. Buckley was taken to another igloo, apparently the radio shack. "Thought you might like to talk to your wife," the senior Goldwater said. Buckley describes the prideful look on Goldwater's face, having maneuvered the Soviet radio to contact his wife back home in Arizona! Although he was a man famous for his complete control of the English language, Bill Buckley said he was "speechless" as he heard the telephone ringing and his wife answering the telephone! He said, "It's me darling" and his wife responded, "It's three o'clock in the morning!" Buckley exclaimed, "I'm calling from the South Pole!"

This story reminded me of the many nights back in the late 1970s when I gladly helped with phone patches from the US Navy base at McMurdo, Antarctica. Just as Senator Goldwater did, I awakened many people in the wee hours of the morning with a phone call from their loved ones on the bottom of the world!

-- Bruce Jackson, KA5ELC

From *The ARRL Letter*, No. 14, April 11, 2008

2007 DXCC PROCESSING FINISHED

ARRL DXCC Manager Bill Moore, NC1L, reports that DXCC has completed processing applications for 2007. As such, St Barthelemy (FJ) has been added to the DXCC computer system and Logbook of The World <<http://www.arrl.org/lotw>>. With the addition, this moves the #1 Honor Roll position to 338 current entities; operators now need 329 entities to qualify for Honor Roll. "While DXCC has completed applications for 2007, there are a number of application returns still being mailed, so it may be another 2-3 weeks before applicants receive their 2007 return," Moore said. "LoTW is now accepting certificate requests for St Barthelemy; once those logs are submitted, the matches should occur and applicants can claim DXCC credit." For programmers who use the DXCC entity numbering system, the entity code for St Barthelemy is 516.

From *The ARRL Letter*, No. 13, April 4, 2008

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 except for June (August 2, 2008) at 10 AM. The contact person is Pat Brannick, N2BZD at 732-267-0308 or e-mail to pbrannick@aol.com.

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

Toms River, Riverview Park Recreation Building: Exams are held on the third Thursday of every month at 7:30 PM. The contact person is Ed Genoino, WA2NDA at 609-971-2792 or e-mail to wa2nda@aol.com.

Toms River, Holiday City South Clubhouse, Meeting Room #1, Mule Road at the corner of Santiago Drive on the second Saturday of the odd numbered months (May 10, 2008) at 10:00 AM. Pre-registration is required (no walk ins). The contact person is Bill Haldane, AC2F, 732-240-7064 or 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.

HAMVENTION TRAFFIC UPDATES

With less than 20 days before the 2008 Dayton Hamvention, there is one small hitch, according to Hamvention organizers: road construction, and lots of it. "One of the main surface streets used by attendees of Hamvention every year is Needmore Road since it is almost a straight shot from I-75 (exit 58) to Hara Arena," said Hamvention Talk-In Chairman Rob Lunsford, KB8UEY. "Unfortunately, a rebuild project has begun on this roadway right in the travel path to Hara; it will be down to one lane each way for during Hamvention." There is also construction at the north end of the Downtown Dayton area (about the 53 to 56 mile markers on Interstate 75), Lunsford said. "In this area, the Ohio Department of Transportation has started a multi-year, multi-phase reconstruction of I-75 in which there are lane restrictions, bridge replacements and various other adjacent projects. These projects are much overdue and will, in the long run, drastically improve travel in the area. Unfortunately, for now we are faced with these projects in high volume areas that are already prone to trouble from even the slightest traffic issue. To assist everyone involved we are asking that those attending Hamvention please try to avoid these areas if possible. Our hope is that if we minimize our traffic in the area, and a problem does occur, we do not make it worse with our increased traffic flow." Lunsford said that individuals traveling on I-70 will not need to make any changes from years past. For more information or if you have questions feel free to contact Lunsford via e-mail <talkin@hamvention.org>. Once in the Dayton area and you find you need assistance, Lunsford advises tuning to 146.940- for further assistance. Directions to Hara Arena can be found on the Dayton Hamvention Web site <<http://www.hamvention.org/hv2008/accommodations/directions08.htm>>.

From *The ARRL Letter*, No. 16, April 25, 2008

COURT RULES AGAINST FCC IN BPL

The US Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit today released its decision <<http://pacer.cadc.uscourts.gov/common/opinions/200804/06-1343-1112979.pdf>> on the ARRL's Petition for Review of the FCC's Orders adopting rules governing broadband over power line (BPL) systems. The Court agreed with the ARRL on two major points and remanded the rules to the Commission. Writing for the three-judge panel of Circuit Judges Rogers, Tatel and Kavanaugh, Judge Rogers summarized: "The Commission failed to satisfy the notice and comment requirements of the Administrative Procedure Act ('APA') by redacting studies on which it relied in promulgating the rule and failed to provide a reasoned explanation for its choice of the extrapolation factor for measuring Access BPL emissions."

The Court agreed with the ARRL that the FCC had failed to comply with the APA by not fully disclosing for public comment the staff studies on which it relied. The Court also agreed with the ARRL that the Commission erred in not providing a reasoned justification for its choice of an extrapolation factor of 40 dB per decade for Access BPL systems and in offering "no reasoned explanation for its dismissal of empirical data that was submitted at its invitation." The Court was not persuaded by the ARRL's arguments on two other points, on which it found that the Commission had acted within its discretion.

The conclusion that the FCC violated the APA hinges on case law. "It would appear to be a fairly obvious proposition that studies upon which an agency relies in promulgating a rule must be made available during the rulemaking in order to afford interested persons meaningful notice and an opportunity for comment," the Court said, adding that "there is no APA precedent allowing an agency to cherry-pick a study on which it has chosen to rely in part."

The Court continued, "The League has met its burden to demonstrate prejudice by showing that it 'ha[s] something useful to say' regarding the unredacted studies [citation omitted] that may allow it to 'mount a credible challenge' if given the opportunity to comment." Information withheld by the Commission included material under the headings "New Information Arguing for Caution on HF BPL" and "BPL Spectrum Tradeoffs." The

Court concluded that "no precedent sanctions such a 'hide and seek' application of the APA's notice and comment requirements."

With regard to the extrapolation factor, the Court ordered: "On remand, the Commission shall either provide a reasoned justification for retaining an extrapolation factor of 40 dB per decade for Access BPL systems sufficient to indicate that it has grappled with the 2005 studies, or adopt another factor and provide a reasoned explanation for it." The studies in question were conducted by the Office of Communications, the FCC's counterpart in the United Kingdom, and were submitted by the ARRL, along with the League's own analysis showing that an extrapolation factor closer to 20 dB per decade was more appropriate, as part of the record in its petition for reconsideration of the FCC's BPL Order. The Court said that the FCC "summarily dismissed" this data in a manner that "cannot substitute for a reasoned explanation." The Court also noted that the record in the FCC proceeding included a study by the National Telecommunications and Information Administration that "itself casts doubt on the Commission's decision."

The briefs for the ARRL were prepared by a team of attorneys at WilmerHale, a firm with extensive appellate experience, with assistance from ARRL General Counsel Christopher D. Imlay, W3KD. Oral argument for the ARRL was conducted by Jonathan J. Frankel of WilmerHale. Oral argument was heard on October 23, 2007; the Court's decision was released more than six months later.

After reading the decision, General Counsel Imlay observed, "The decision of the Court of Appeals, though long in coming, was well worth the wait. It is obvious that the FCC was overzealous in its advocacy of BPL, and that resulted in a rather blatant cover-up of the technical facts surrounding its interference potential. Both BPL and Amateur Radio would be better off had the FCC dealt with the interference potential in an honest and forthright manner at the outset. Now there is an opportunity to finally establish some rules that will allow BPL to proceed, if it can in configurations that don't expose licensed radio services to preclusive interference in the HF bands."

ARRL Chief Executive Officer David Sumner, K1ZZ, added: "We are gratified that the Court

decided to hold the FCC's feet to the fire on such a technical issue as the 40 dB per decade extrapolation factor. It is also gratifying to read the Court's strong support for the principles underlying the Administrative Procedure Act. Now that the Commission has been ordered to do what it should have done in the first place, we look forward to participating in the proceedings on remand, and to helping to craft rules that will provide licensed radio services with the interference protection they are entitled to under law."

ARRL President Joel Harrison, W5ZN, concluded: "I am very pleased that the Court saw through the FCC's smoke screen and its withholding of valid engineering data that may contradict their position that the interference potential of BPL to Amateur Radio and public safety communications is minimal. The remand back to the FCC regarding their use of an inappropriate extrapolation factor validates the technical competence of Amateur Radio operators and especially of the ARRL Lab under the direction of Ed Hare, W1RFI. We are grateful for the work of our legal team and especially for the unflagging support of the ARRL membership as we fought the odds in pursuing this appeal."

From *The ARRL Letter*, No. 16, April 25, 2008

HAM TO HIKE PACIFIC CREST TRAIL

Bruce Prior, N7RR, a contributor to QST, has announced plans to hike the Pacific Crest Trail (PCT) later this month. The PCT is 2650 miles long, ranging from the California-Mexico border all the way to the Canadian border and reaching an altitude of 13,153 feet. On April 19, Prior will begin the journey near Campo, California with hopes of reaching Manning Park, British Columbia in late September or early October. Prior will bring along his Elecraft KX1 with the 30 meter/80 meter module, as well as resonant half-wavelength dipole antennas for the 80, 40, 30 and 20 meter bands. While not planning to do any pedestrian-mobile contacts, Prior said he will wait until he has set up camp for the evening before getting on the air: "Occasionally I may decide to operate in the daytime, such as from the summit of Mount Baden-Powell (9399 feet) or at the California-Oregon border on the PCT." For more information on frequencies, times and nets that Prior will be on, please visit his blog <<http://www.n7rr.com/>>.

According to the Pacific Crest Trail Association (PCTA), approximately 300 people attempt to hike the entire trail from end-to-end each year. The trip usually takes between four and six months. Around 180 complete the hike each year. The route is mostly through National Forest and, where possible, protected wilderness areas. The trail avoids civilization in favor of scenic and pristine mountainous terrain with few roads, passing through the Laguna, San Jacinto, San Bernardino, San Gabriel, Liebre, Tehachapi and Sierra Nevada ranges in California, and the Cascade Range in California, Oregon and Washington.

From *The ARRL Letter*, No. 14, April 11, 2008

NEW REPEATER DIRECTORY

With more than 20,000 listings for VHF/UHF repeaters across the US and Canada, "The ARRL Repeater Directory 2008-2009" is a must have. Once again, the ARRL is offering two sizes of the "Repeater Directory" -- pocket size and desktop. This year, not only is the pocket-sized Repeater Directory a half-inch larger than previous editions, it boasts a larger font size, making for easier reading. For the first time ever, this year's editions feature handy indexing tabs on the cover, easier to read listings and a "Key to Repeater Notes" located right up front in the Directory.

Along with these new features, both editions have the features you know and enjoy from prior years: Repeater operating practices, repeater lingo and hints for newly licensed hams; Frequency Coordinator contact information; listings for D-Star and APCO 25 repeaters; a guide to using CTCSS tones and Digital Coded Squelch (DCS); VHF/UHF band plans and a 2 meter channel-spacing map; IRLP (Internet linked) nodes; tips for handling interference; listings for IRLP, WIRES-II and EchoLink (Internet linked) nodes; emergency message handling procedures, and a transceiver memory log.

Order your copy of The ARRL Repeater Directory 2008-2009 at the ARRL Online Store <http://www.arrl.org/catalog/?category=What's%20New>.

From *The ARRL Letter*, No. 13, April 4, 2008

1977: Passing the drivers' test
2007: Passing the vision test

NOTES ON CALENDAR (see reverse side)

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

May 1 – **Holiday City ARC meeting** at 7 PM at Holiday City South Clubhouse in Toms River.

May 2 and every Friday – **Lunch at Blue Swan Diner**, Rt. 35 South, Ocean Township at noon.

May 2-4 – **10-10 Spring CW Contest**, from 8:01 PM Friday to 7:59 PM Sunday. See www.ten-ten.org

May 3 and every Sunday – **InfoAge Marconi Hotel** open from 1 to 4 PM on Marconi Road in Wall. Exhibits by QCWA, OMARC, Antique Radio, Broadcaster's Hall of Fame, etc. \$5 donation requested.

May 3-4 – **Radio Club of American SSB QSO Party** from 1 PM Saturday to 1 AM Sunday. See www.radioclubofamerica.org

May 5 – **W1AW Qualifying Run** at 7 PM (10-35 wpm). See May QST, p. 100 for frequencies.

May 5 - **Monmouth County ARES Net** meets on 147.045 +600 at 7:30 PM.

May 6 – **Middletown Pancake House Luncheon** at noon at left rear table. All are welcome.

May 6 – **Old Barney ARC Meeting**, 7:30 PM at Ocean Acres Community Center in Manahawkin, NJ. See <http://www.obarc.org>

May 6 and every following Tuesday – **QCWA News Net** on 147.045 PL=67 at 9:00 PM.

May 7 – **GSARA Monthly Meeting** at Ft. Monmouth MARS station at 8 PM.

May 8 – **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 10 – **OMARC Meeting**, 9:00 AM at the Diana Site on Marconi Road, Wall, NJ.

May 10 – **Middletown Amateur Radio Club meeting** at 10 AM in Union Beach Police Annex (Municipal Building) on Poole Avenue.

May 10 – **FISTS CW Sprint** from 1 PM to 5 PM. See www.fists.org/sprints.html

May 10-11 – **Armed Forces Crossband Tests** from 8 AM Sat. to 8 PM Sun. See www.netcom.army.mil/mars

May 10 – **50 MHz Sprint** from 7 PM to 11 PM. See www.sysadnet.com/vhfsprintrules.htm

May 12 – **Monmouth County RACES** on 147.045 +600 at 7:30 PM. RACES members only.

May 13 – **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 15 – **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 16-18 – **Dayton Hamvention** at HARA Arena in Ohio. See www.hamvention.org

May 17-18 – **MS-170 Bike-a-thon** from Monmouth College to Cape May. See Tom, N2VFK to volunteer.

May 18 – **QCWA Marconi Chapter 138 Awards Banquet** at Marconi Hotel at 4 PM. \$20 per person.

May 19 - **Monmouth County ARES Net** meets on 147.045 +600 at 7:30 PM.

May 23 – **W1AW Qualifying Run** at 9 AM (10-40 wpm). See May QST, p. 100 for frequencies.

May 23-25 – **CQ WW WPX CW** from 8 PM Friday to 8 PM Sunday. See www.cqwpx.com

May 24 – **Neptune Amateur Radio Club Meeting** at 9 AM at Casey's Restaurant, Sylvania Ave. & Rte. 35, Neptune City.

May 26 – **Monmouth County RACES** on 147.045 +600 at 7:30 PM. RACES members only.

May 31 – **Bergen ARA Hamfest** in Washington, NJ. See www.bara.org

May 31-June 1 – **Kid's Roundup** from 10 AM Sat. to 6 PM Sunday. See www.ki3ds.org

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 Hol. City Mtg.	2 Blue Swan 10-10 CW	3 10-10 CW RCA SSB
4 10-10 CW RCA SSB InfoAge	5 CW Qual. Run ARES/RACES 7:30	6 Pancake House Old Barney ARC QCWA News 9 PM	7 GSARA Mtg	8 JSARS Mtg.	9 Blue Swan	10 OMARC Mtg. MARC Mtg FISTS Sprint Army X-band 50 MHz Sprint
11 Army X-band InfoAge	12 RACES Net 7:30	13 Croyden VE 7 PM QCWA News 9 PM	14	15 JSARS VE	16 Blue Swan Dayton	17 Dayton MS-170
18 Dayton InfoAge MS-170 QCWA Banquet	19 ARES/RACES 7:30	20 QCWA News 9 PM	21	22	23 CW Qual. Run Blue Swan	24 Neptune Mtg
25 InfoAge	26 RACES Net 7:30	27 QCWA News 9 PM	28	29	30 Blue Swan	31 BARA Hamfest Kid's Roundup



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