



THE PROPAGATOR

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

OCTOBER 2016

UPCOMING GSARA MEETINGS

The next GSARA meeting will be on **Wednesday, October 5 at 7:30 PM** at the Red Cross. The program will feature Bob, W2OD making a Power Point presentation about proper phone operation. Light refreshments will be served and guests are welcome.

The second meeting in October will be held on **Wednesday, October 19 at 7:30 PM** at the Red Cross. This will be a regular business meeting. Refreshments will be served.

GSARA NET 8:30 PM TUESDAYS

GSARA members meet on the Asbury Park repeater every Tuesday at 8:30 pm. In the 4 sessions in September we had 28 check-ins for an average of 7 per session. The following 13 members checked into this net (number of check-ins in parenthesis):

N2HGI (4), W2OD (4), K2ARK (3), N2BMK (3), KD2LLJ (3), KA2F (2), W2LAF (2), KC2YNL (2), KD2EPA (1), W2HAM (1), KD2KOA (1), K2REM (1), and WB2RPW (1).

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

VE TEST SESSION OCTOBER 22

The GSARA monthly test session will be held at the Red Cross on Saturday, October 22 at 11 am. 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.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Please welcome the following members:

John Karpus, W2IWW from Long Branch. Licensed since 1999, he holds a General class license. As a Pharmacist in Pharmaceutical Biotechnology, John is active in amateur radio on VHF/UHF and HF digital and CW. Add to your Roster:

John Karpus, W2IWW
476 Brighton Ave.
Long Branch, NJ 07740
732-768-3768
jkarpus@gmail.com

Doug Smith, KD2GZH from East Windsor is a technology teacher. Licensed since 2014, he holds a General Class license. His amateur interests include SOTA, DX, Contests and learning CW. He is also interested in Programming, hiking and computer use. Add to your Roster:

Doug Smith, KD2GZH
F12 Avon Dr.
East Windsor, NJ 08520
609-721-4252
kd2gzh@gmail.com

Jim Fogarty, N2JNG from Toms River is an Accounting Clerk. Licensed since 2014, he holds a Technician Class license. Jim is on VHF/UHF and has DMR capability. He is interested in upgrading to General so he can work contests. An ARRL member, he is also interested in photography. Add to your Roster:

Jim Fogarty, N2JNG
640 Vaughn Ave.
Toms River, NJ 08753
848-667-1640
n2jng@yahoo.com

A warm welcome to these 3 newest members.

GSARA OFFICERS

President	W2HTS	Howard Suffill	460-1885
Vice Pres.	K2REM	Rem Hunnewell	889-6692
Secretary	W2OD	Bob Buus	946-8615
Treasurer	KA2F	John King	942-7705
Engineer	W2EPD	George Graulich	255-7916
Webmaster	K2CYS	Cy Stanway	768-7773
Publicity	Open		
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 back left corner 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

Howard, W2HTS asked GSARA to provide volunteers to staff the rest stops for the Twin Lights Bike Tour on Sunday, September 18. This is a big event with over 2000 bicyclists participating and 6 rest stops to be staffed by amateur radio operators on 2 meters. In past years, the organizers have contributed several hundred dollars each year for our help. I found it disappointing that only 4 out of our 89 members volunteered to help. So Len, WA1PCY was at rest stop #1, John, KC2YWL was at rest stop #2, Rem, N2REM was at rest stop #3 and later moved to rest stop #5, and I was at rest stop #6. Rest stop #4 was unstaffed and rest stop #5 was only staffed during the latter part of the day. The weather was beautiful and I really enjoyed watching the thousands of bicycles coming through the rest stop. I can't help but feel that GSARA could have done a lot better. Why didn't YOU volunteer?

At least we had adequate volunteers to staff the Hamfest (see page 4) and we did reasonably well. I'm sure that we'll do even better in the spring.

There are only two more Public Service events this year in October (see page 5). The Juvenile Diabetes walk in Avon only needs a few operators on Sunday morning, October 9. The CROP walk needs more operators on the afternoon of October 16. All you need to help is a Technician license and a 2-meter rig. Contact Tom, N2VFK to volunteer.

Please welcome our new NNJ Section Manager, Steve Ostrove, K2SO (see page 6). He is scheduled to talk at our November 2 program meeting which will be an opportunity to get to know him better. I wish to extend a big THANK YOU to outgoing NNJ SM Rich Krohn, N2SMV. Rich will continue to be heavily involved in ARES/RACES.

Finally, I would like to thank the 3 GSARA members who participated in the New Jersey QSO Party on September 17-18 (see page 7). Although it conflicted with our Hamfest, the 3 participants racked up an impressive number of contacts. I wish to thank them for their participation and hope we do even better next year.

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

73 de Bob, w2od@arrl.net

MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 7 MEETING

By Bob Buus, W2OD

President Howard Suffill, W2HTS called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm. There were 19 members and 1 guest present. The guest was John Karpus, W2IWW from Long Branch. After the pledge to the flag, all present introduced themselves.

New Member

An application for membership was received from John Karpus, W2IWW from Long Branch. John has been licensed since 1999 and holds his General class license. A Pharmacist, he is active on VHF/UHF and HF digital and CW. He is in Pharmaceutical/Biotechnology. A motion was made by Bruce, K2QXW and seconded by Rem, K2REM to make John an active member of GSARA. The motion passed unanimously.

Announcements

Congratulations to Joe Dreifuss, W2KQ for being named Grand Ole Ham in the Hudson Division. The award will be formally presented at the Hudson Division Awards Luncheon to be held in Newburgh, NY on Saturday, November 5.

The GSARA Fall Hamfest is coming on Sunday, September 18 at our usual location. Rem, K2REM circulated a signup sheet for volunteers to help make this a success. Volunteers get a free admission ticket including the door prize stub. All other GSARA members must pay the \$5 admission price. To sign up to help, contact Rem, K2REM at rh@thetraindoctor.com or 732-889-6692.

The Twin Lights Bike Tour is Sunday, September 25 with staffing requests at various rest stops in Monmouth County. To volunteer, see Howard, W2HTS at w2hts@arrl.net or 732-460-1885.

The OMARC Hamfest is also on Sunday, September 25 at the Diana site on Marconi Road in Wall.

The Walk for Juvenile Diabetes is Sunday, October 9 in Avon. Only 3 or 4 operators are needed to staff the rest stops. See Tom, N2VFK at n2vfk@verizon.com or 732-842-6020.

The CROP Walk in Red Bank is Sunday, October 16 in the afternoon. About 8 operators are needed for the rest stops and sag wagons. See

Tom, N2VFK at n2vfk@verizon.com or 732-842-6020.

John, KB2MAB located a 6 meter repeater in northern New York State in excellent condition. He asked if anyone might be interested in it. There was no response.

Bob, W2OD had printed copies of the latest Roster and Propagator for anyone interested. He also had recent issues of National Geographic, Discover, and Popular Science magazines free for the taking. No one was interested.

Program

Blair Hearth, KD2EPA gave a very interesting presentation showing film clips from 16 different movies that featured Morse code. About 6 were authentic but the rest were dahdididit dididit. The presentation was very well done and enjoyed by all present (even those who didn't copy Morse code).

Close

The door prize of \$15 was won by Len, WA1PCY. There being no further business, a motion was made to adjourn the meeting which was closed at 8:35 pm.

MINUTES OF SEPT. 21 MEETING

By Bob Buus, W2OD, Secretary

President Howard Suffill, W2HTS called the meeting to order at 7:33 PM at the Red Cross. There were 11 members and one guest present. The guest was Jim Fogarty, N2JNG from Toms River, NJ. After the pledge to the flag, all present introduced themselves and briefly described their recent amateur radio activities.

John, KA2F reported that he finally got WAS on his HW-16 by working North Dakota. He also reported that 3 GSARA members participated in the NJ QSO Party and racked up over 7000 points.

Art, W2NAZ is working on a small TNC to be incorporated in his APRS station.

Bob, W2OD finished reading the children's book "Today I am a Ham" that he picked up at the Hamfest and is donating it to the GSARA library. He checked on the call signs used in the book and found that two of them were nephews of the author. He worked one of them in 1955 on 80 meter CW and has the card to show it.

Health and Welfare

Bob, W2OD reported that Bert Pickover, WA2ZIP became a silent key on September 17 at the age of 86. His obituary was read and a moment of silence observed in his memory. We do not think that he was ever a member of GSARA.

New Members

An application for membership with payment of \$15 was received from Doug Smith, KD2GZH from East Windsor, NJ. Licensed since 2014, Doug recently upgraded to General. He is a technology teacher and is interested in SOTA, DX, Contests and learning CW. Other interests include Programming, Hiking and computer use.

An applications for membership with payment of \$9.50 was received from Jim Fogarty, N2JNG from Toms River, NJ. He has held a Technician license since 2014 and is on 2 meters and 440 with DMR. He hopes to upgrade to General so he can participate in contests. An ARRL member, he is an accounting clerk also interested in photography.

A motion was made by Bob, W2OD and seconded by Ralph, KC2YNL to accept these two members into the GSARA. The motion passed unanimously.

Secretary's Report

A motion was made by Rem, K2REM and seconded by Ralph, KC2YNL to accept the minutes of the September 7 meeting as they will be published in the October Propagator. The motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer John King, KA2F gave the Treasurer's report. A motion was made by Rem, K2REM and seconded by Hunter to accept the report. It was accepted unanimously.

Hamfest Report

Rem, K2REM gave a detailed financial report regarding the Hamfest. We did quite well with a net profit of \$492.40. If we subtract the \$200 profit from the Club table, we still did better than we have done in the Fall Hamfests for the last several years.

A raffle was held for 100 feet of RG-8X cable with connectors donated by KJI Electronics. This

was open to all volunteers who worked at the Hamfest and was won by Howard, W2HTS. A second raffle was held for only those who had signed up in advanced and was for a \$50 gift certificate donated by Cheap Ham. This was won by Andy Bodnar, KA2VXA.

New Business

Since GSARA member Joe Dreifuss, W2KQ is being awarded "Grand Ole Ham" at the Hudson Division Awards Luncheon on November 5, it was proposed by John, KA2F that GSARA take out a half page add in the Program Booklet as we did last year. A motion was made by Rem, K2REM and seconded by Ralph, KC2YNL to authorize the expenditure of \$50 for a half page ad. The motion passed unanimously.

A motion was also made by Rem, K2REM and seconded by Ralph, KC2YNL to authorize up to \$100 to pay for the luncheon tickets for Joe, W2KQ and his XYL Fran, WB2SZB and some of their transportation costs. The motion passed unanimously.

Howard, W2HTS appointed a nominating committee to come up with a slate of candidates for GSARA officers for 2017. They are: Jeff, N2LXM; Hunter Suffill; and Joe, W2KQ. They will present a slate at the October 19 meeting.

Announcements

The Twin Lights Bike-a-thon is coming up Saturday, September 25. Howard, W2HTS still needs 3 or 4 volunteers to staff the rest stops.

The OMARC Hamfest is also on September 25 at the Diana site in Wall Township.

Close

The door prize of \$11.50 was won by Len, WA1PCY. There being no further business, a motion was made by Ralph, KC2YNL to close the meeting which was adjourned at 8:34 pm.

FALL HAMFEST SUCCESSFUL

The GSARA Fall Hamfest was again successful. Although we didn't do as well as the Spring Hamfest (the springs are generally better than the falls) we had a net profit of \$492.40. Thanks to all the GSARA volunteers who helped, especially Rem, N2REM who coordinated the entire effort. Great job!

M. BERT PICKOVER, WA2ZIP - SK

M. Bert Pickover, WA2ZIP of Tinton Falls, NJ (Seabrook Village) became a silent key on Saturday, September 17 at the age of 86.

Born in Bronx, NY he lived in Wayside, NJ before moving to the Seabrook Community in 2012. He was a graduate of CCNY with a Bachelor's Degree. He was an Electrical Engineer at Fort Monmouth for 30 years, retiring in 1988. After retiring he worked as a consultant for EPS and Raytheon. He was a member of Seabrook Jewish Community, an Amateur Radio Operator (WA2ZIP) and a member of the Seabrook Amateur Radio Club. He was also a German Shepherd Club member and Trainer, and an associate member of Hadassah.

He taught Computer and Bridge at SCAN and was a Stamp Collector, an avid Chess and Bridge Player.

He is survived by his beloved wife: Regina, his two sons and their spouses. He is also survived by his three adored grandchildren.

Donations may be made to the Seabrook Jewish Community.

FOR SALE

I have had both of these radios for a while and used them regularly. I just purchased another radio so need to clear out my shack.

1a. Yaesu 450d, with hand mic, power cable (new \$729.00). Transmit frequency coverage includes 160 to 6 meters. Power output is 100 watts on HF and 6 meters. Operating modes include USB, LSB, CW, AM and FM. An antenna tuning system is built in.

1b. Signalink USB with cable (new \$119.00) – data interface configured for the Yaesu 450d.

Both 1a and 1b asking \$550.

Second Item:

ICOM 718 Radio, with mic and power cable (new \$664.00). The Icom IC-718 covers 160-10 meters. This radio is very easy to operate.

Asking \$400.00

Interested buyers can contact me at 848-459-5590 or olson339@comcast.net.

Art, N2AJ0

BOOK REVIEW

By Bob Buus, W2OD

At the GSARA Hamfest, I picked up the book "Today I am a Ham" by Ethelyn M. Parkinson, Abingdon Press, 1968. The award-winning author has written several children's books and lived in northern Wisconsin. She died in 1999. I found this out of print children's book interesting and very easy to read. It tells the story of a young boy and his friends getting on the air with their Novice license and upgrading to General. Although short on technical details (the book is written for ages 10 and up), the story is a good one and anyone who came into the hobby in the 50s through the 70s as a teen with a Novice license will be able to relate to it.

I found it interesting that the dedication of the book was: "With love to Catherine who knows that there's absolutely nothing like having a ham in the house – unless it's having two!" With a little digging, I found that Catherine is the sister-in-law of the author. Catherine had two boys, James Parkinson, W9JEF and Wayne Parkinson, W9JDG who are still licensed and started as Novices in 1954. Their calls were used in the book but the story is pure fiction. Digging through my old QSL cards, I found that I worked Jim, W9JEF on January 10, 1955 on 80 meter CW. It's a small world! I wrote to Jim and enclosed a copy of his QSL card but have not yet heard back.

The book has been donated to the GSARA Library. Although written for children, I think many of the adult members of GSARA would find it an interesting story. It's pure fiction, of course, but a quick read.

OCTOBER PUBLIC SERVICE EVENTS

The last two events are upon us.

JDRF in Avon the morning of October 9th (check in's start at 0830 and walk starts at 1000 hours). We probably need three stations.

CROP walk in the afternoon of Oct 16th (registration starts at 1300, walk at 1400), six stations and two SAGs.

Tom Cosgrove, N2VFK
732-842-6020
n2vfk@verizon.net

NEW NNJ SECTION MANAGER K2SO

Steve Ostrove, K2SO, of Elizabeth, New Jersey, has been appointed as ARRL Northern New Jersey Section Manager, effective September 16. He takes the reins of the Northern New Jersey Field Organization after Richard Krohn, N2SMV, announced that he was stepping down. Rich has served as the Northern New Jersey Section Manager since July 2008.

ARRL Field Services and Radiosport Manager Dave Patton, NN1N, received Rich's resignation and recommendation for his replacement. He then consulted with me before making the appointment.

Steve will complete the current term of office that extends until June 30, 2017.

Steve has served as Assistant Section Manager in Northern New Jersey since 2009, and was the Section Emergency Coordinator from 2001 through 2008. He is currently a District Emergency Coordinator, Official Emergency Station, and Official Relay Station.

I'd like to thank Rich for his many years of dedicated service to the ARRL and the NNJ section. He will still be around as he will now be serving as both as Assistant Section Manager and as ARES DEC for Monmouth County.

I wish Steve the best of luck as he moves up from ASM to Section Manager. I look forward to working with him, as I am sure that you will too.

Thank you, Rich!

73 de Mike N2YBB

AN E-MAIL FROM STEVE, K2SO

Hello NNJ;

This is my first email to all of you, I certainly don't expect it to be my last. I am writing to all of you to introduce myself as the Section Manager for NNJ. As of this past Friday I assumed the SM position, after Rich Krohn (N2SMV) stepped down. I certainly want to thank Rich for his service as SM over the last several years. I have known and worked with Rich as the ASM and know that he has always worked hard for NNJ and will continue to do so as ASM. Thank you Rich!

I look forward to working with and meeting all of you as we work to grow and continue to

improve the NNJ Section. Please feel free to contact me with any ideas or concerns at any time.

Vy 73, Steve, K2SO
SM NNJ

Editor's Note: Steve is scheduled to speak at the November 2, 2016 GSARA meeting.

URGENT TO WRITE TO SENATORS

We have an opportunity to positively affect Amateur Radio for years to come. H.R. 1301, the Amateur Radio Parity Act, has unanimously passed the House of Representatives and moved on to the Senate for consideration. All you need to do is spend two minutes of your time to send an email to your two Senators supporting the Bill. By doing so, you will have helped the future of Amateur Radio by guaranteeing our ability to have an effective outdoor antenna in a deed-restricted community.

The number of people living in such communities grows exponentially each year. Often, a ham homeowner has no choice but to live in a community restricted by covenants. There are nearly 3/4 of a million licensed hams in the United States, more than ever before. But that may change if we are forced to live in a community that refuses to allow an antenna.

Help yourself and help your fellow hams. Go to: <https://arrrl.rallycongress.net/ctas/urge-senate-to-support-amateur-radio-parity-act>

Enter your zip code and follow the prompts. The letters are there. All you need to do is fill in the blanks, hit save, then send. That's it. Under 2 minutes and you're done.

If you haven't yet done so, please do so today. Your voice counts!

Thank you and very 73 de Mike N2YBB

FOR SALE

From the estate of Harry Polhemus, KN2B:

Icom IC-27H 2 meter mobile rig.
Yaesu VX 170 2 meter HT, with charger.

Best offer.

Please contact Ed Piotrowski, WB2KCV
732-946-3474
edward322@verizon.net

HENRY & THE ELECTROMAGNET

By Bob Buus, W2OD

Andre Ampere discovered in 1823 that a wire wound in a solenoid would maximize the magnetic field along the center axis due to current flow in the wire (see June 2016 Propagator). Experimenters then attempted to increase the magnetic field by putting an iron rod in the center of the solenoid. Although the magnetic effect was enhanced, it still was relatively weak. The next enhancement was to varnish the iron rod and then wind the solenoid directly on the insulated rod. This strengthened the magnet but not significantly. The problem was that the number of turns on the rod was limited because the bare copper wire used had to have the turns spaced to keep from shorting them out. In the late 1820s, a teacher at the Albany (NY) Institute by the name of Joseph Henry came up with the idea of insulating the wire used in an electromagnet and thus was able to wind the turns close together and in several layers to obtain a rather powerful electromagnet.

Henry found that by bending the bar magnet into a horseshoe shape resulted in even stronger attraction. He then wound several separate coils on the horseshoe-shaped bar and found that if the windings were wired in parallel, the magnetic strength was increased using a single galvanic cell. In fact, the more windings he connected in parallel, the stronger the magnet providing that the plates for the galvanic cell were increased in size. He called such a device a magnitude electromagnet. Similarly, if he wired the windings in series, he could get maximum magnetic attraction by powering with a voltaic pile (what we would call a higher voltage battery). He called such a device an intensity electromagnet.

Joseph Henry's next invention consisted of a bar magnet on a pivot with an electromagnet near one end. When he energized the electromagnet, the bar magnet would be attracted to it so would pivot and the other end of the bar magnet would strike a bell. He found that if the bell were placed a long distance from the voltaic pile, best results were obtained by using an intensity electromagnet for the bell. By this means, he wired his house in 1830 so that by connecting the circuit in one room, he could ring the bell in a different room. This has come to be accepted as the first electric

telegraph. A few years later, to extend the range of his bell "telegraph", Henry invented the relay which is an electromagnet that, upon energizing, would close a contact to put a fresh voltaic pile on the line thus extending the range of his telegraph. Like Ben Franklin, Henry never patented any of his inventions but instead put his ideas in the public domain so that others could improve on his findings.

Henry went on in 1831 to invent a "motor" using a rocking electromagnet powered through a commutator that reversed the electromagnet to cause it to rock back and forth.

Joseph Henry's inventions were soon put to practical use. The powerful electromagnets were used to separate iron particles from ore. Electromagnets played a key role in the development of the telegraph which we'll get to next month. Electric motors and even Bell's telephone all depended on Henry's electromagnet. So now you know.

NJ QSO PARTY PARTICIPATION

Three GSARA members participated in the NJ QSO Party on September 17-18: Art Olson, N2AJ0, Arnold Peterson, AB2N, and John King, KA2F.

QSOs made: 130

States contacted: 24

NJ Counties contacted: 9

Canadian Provinces: 1

Jersey Devil k2td contacted: 2 times

CW contacts: 97

Phone contacts: 33

Total score: approximate and unofficial 7,064

Fun: Lots of radio fun

The next NJ QSO Party will be in September 2017, giving all members plenty of time to get prepared.

Regards, John KA2F

LOOKING FOR SPINNER KNOB

I am looking for a "spinner" knob for use in a roller-inductor antenna tuner that I want to build. A turns counter would be a bonus.

Thanks, Vince. KE2V

732-483-4029

v.rosati@ieee.org

SMALLER SOLAR CYCLES AHEAD

Propagation guru Carl Luetzelschwab, K9LA, says that, while conditions on 12 and 10 meters will pick up as they always do in the fall, F₂ propagation on those bands will decline thereafter, with only sporadic E during the summer months as a possible saving grace. On the other hand, the lower bands -- 160, 80, and 40 meters -- should be good going forward, and 20 and 17 meters will be the mainstays of daylight HF propagation. Luetzelschwab offered these observations during an August 23 World Wide Radio Operators Foundation (WWROF)-sponsored [webinar](#) "Solar Topics -- Where We're Headed." He said data suggest that Solar Cycle 24, the current solar cycle, will bottom out in 2020, and he advised that radio amateurs may need to lower their expectations on the higher bands (and 6 meters) looking beyond that.

"There seems to be a good correlation between how long a solar minimum is and the next solar cycle," said Luetzelschwab. "The longer you spend at solar minimum, the smaller the next cycle. He observed that hams active since the 1950s and 1960s have experienced short inter-cycle solar minimums of approximately 2 years, until the one between Solar Cycle 23 and Solar Cycle 24, which lasted about 4 years.

On the other hand, he said, it looks like the downward trend of disappearing sunspots has leveled off, suggesting that Solar Cycle 25 may see a lower smoothed sunspot number as opposed to zero or near-zero sunspots.

Luetzelschwab's article "The New Sunspot Numbers," appearing in the October issue of *QST*, discusses the new sunspot numbers.

Luetzelschwab cited historical sunspot cycle data going back centuries -- including the "Maunder Minimum" of zero and near-zero sunspots between the years 1645 and 1715 and a later, less-drastring "Dalton Minimum." He pointed out that over the last 11,000 years, 19 notable grand maximums -- including Solar Cycle 19 and the cycles around it -- and 27 notable grand minimums were recorded. "We're likely to have more of both grand maximums and grand minimums in the future," he predicted. The current system of numbering sunspot cycles begins with Solar Cycle 1 in the mid-18th century.

From *The ARRL Letter*, September 15, 2016

TEN YEARS AGO

From the October 2006 Propagator: OMARC has a tailgate hamfest on October 7. Buyers are admitted free. Samuel Suffill KC2QBL joined GSARA. He then changed his call to W2SHS. The SuitSat-1 (AO-54) satellite re-entered the atmosphere and burned up on September 7. Clandestine "Sound of Hope" stations are operating on 20 and 18 meters around China. China has responded with a powerful "Firedragon" jammer causing worldwide interference. An experimental license has been granted to WD2XSH to operate between 505 and 510 kHz. 21 amateurs are participating.

FIFTEEN YEARS AGO

From the October 2001 Propagator: Most of the news was related to the 9/11 attack on the World Trade Center. Access to Ft. Monmouth was restricted so our meetings moved back to Bicentennial Hall in Fair Haven. VE exams moved to Croyden Hall. Several hams were lost in the World Trade Center. Many hams helped with communications after the disaster. George Jacobs, W3ASK stepped down as Propagation editor for CQ after over 50 years of service.

TWENTY YEARS AGO

From the October, 1996 Propagator: John Hampton, WB2QWK became a silent key at 58. Herb Holzberg, KU2B (now W2HH) joined GSARA. Hudson Director Paul Vydareny, WB2VUK resigns and is replaced by Rich Sandell, WK6R. ARRL membership sets a record at 173,491.

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO

From the Oct.-Nov. 1991 Propagator: Al Allen, K2LG (SK) has been nominated for President so will relinquish his duties as editor of the Propagator. Volunteers? Bob, W2OD had an article about using standard Molex connectors for all 12-volt equipment (this was before PowerPoles).

THIRTY YEARS AGO

I do not have a Propagator for October or November 1986.

NOTES ON CALENDAR (see next page)

Large Call letters denote birthdays e.g. **KC1FAK** October 10. All times are EDST. Contests are listed in the October QST, p. 95.

Oct. 1-2 – **Oceania DX Contest, Phone** from 4 am Saturday to 4 am Sunday. See <http://www.oceaniadxcontest.com/rules.pdf>

October 2 – **RSGB International DX Contest, Phone and CW** from 3 am to 3 pm Sunday. See <http://www.rsgbcc.org/hf>

October 2 and every Saturday, Sunday and Wednesday – **InfoAge Marconi Hotel** open from 1 to 5 pm on Marconi Road in Wall.

October 3 - **Monmouth County ARES Net** meets on 147.045 +600, PL=67.0 at 7:30 pm

October 3 - **W1AW Qualifying Run** at 10 pm (40-10 wpm). See October 2016 QST page 102 and www.arrl.org/qualifying-run-schedule

October 4 – **Old Barney VE Session** at 6:30 pm in Manahawkin. Contact Urb Le Jeune, W1UL at 609-296-5856 or urb@w2dec.com

October 4 – **Old Barney ARC Meeting** at 7:30 pm in Manahawkin, NJ. See <http://www.obarc.org>

October 4 and every following Tuesday – **GSARA Net** on 147.045 PL=67 at 8:30 pm.

October 4 and every following Tuesday – **QCWA News Net** on 147.045 PL=67 at 9:00 pm.

October 5 – **GSARA Program Meeting** at 7:30 pm at the Red Cross. Program features Bob, W2OD talking about proper phone operating procedures. Light refreshments will be served.

October 6 - **HCARC meeting** at 7 pm at Holiday City South Clubhouse in Toms River.

October 7 and every Friday – **Lunch at the Blue Swan Diner** in Ocean at noon. Table at back left.

October 8 – **OMARC Meeting** at 9:00 am at the Diana Site on Marconi Road in Wall. Guests welcome.

Oct. 8-9 – **Oceania DX Contest, CW** from 4 am Saturday to 4 am Sunday. See <http://www.oceaniadxcontest.com/rules.pdf>

October 9 – **Juvenile Diabetes Walk** in Avon from 8:30 am to 1 pm. See page 5 or contact N2VFK to volunteer.

October 10 -. **Monmouth County RACES Net** meets on 147.045 +600, PL=67.0 at 7:30 pm.

October 12– **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

October 13 – **JSARS meeting** in Riverwood Park Rec. Building, Rt. 527 and Riverwood Drive at 7:30 pm.

October 16 – **CROP Walk** in Red Bank from 2 to 5 pm. See page 5 or contact N2VFK to volunteer.

Oct. 17-21 – **ARRL School Club Roundup, CW and Phone** from 9 am Monday to 7:59 pm Friday. See <http://www.arrl.org/school-club-roundup>

October 17 – **Telephone Pioneers QSO Party, all modes** from 3 pm to 11 pm. See <http://www.tpqso.com>

October 17 - **Monmouth County ARES Net** meets on 147.045 +600, PL=67.0 at 7:30 pm

October 19– **W1AW Qualifying Run** at 4 pm (40-10 wpm). See October 2016 QST page 102 and <http://www.arrl.org/qualifying-run-schedule>

October 19 – **GSARA Meeting** at 7:30 pm at the Red Cross in Tinton Falls. Regular business meeting.

October 20– **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.

October 22 – **GSARA VE Test Session** at 11 am at the Red Cross in Tinton Falls. See page 1.

October 24 - **Monmouth County ARES Net** meets on 147.045 +600, PL=67.0 at 7:30 pm

Oct. 28-30 – **CQ Worldwide DX Contest, SSB** from 8 pm Friday to 7:59 pm Sunday. See <http://www.cqww.com/rules.htm>

October 31 – **Monmouth County RACES Net** meets on 147.045 +600, PL=67.0 at 7:30 pm.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 Oceania DX SSB
2 Oceania DX SSB RSGB DX InfoAge	3 ARES/RACES 7:30 CW Qual. Run	4 OBARC GSARA Net 8:30 QCWA News 9 PM	5 GSARA Mtg	6 HCARC Mtg.	7 Blue Swan lunch	8 OMARC Mtg Oceania DX CW
9 JDRF Walk InfoAge	10 KC1FAK RACES Net 7:30	11 GSARA Net 8:30 QCWA News 9 PM	12 Hol. City VE	13 JSARS Mtg	14 W2NAC Blue Swan lunch	15
16 CROP Walk InfoAge	17 School Roundup Tel. Pioneer QSO ARES/RACES 7:30	18 Ronan Downie GSARA Net 8:30 QCWA News 9 PM	19 W2NIR School Roundup CW Qual. Run GSARA Mtg.	20 School Roundup JSARS VE.	21 School Roundup Blue Swan lunch	22 GSARA VE
23 W2NAZ InfoAge	24 ARES/RACES 7:30	25 GSARA Net 8:30 QCWA News 9 PM	26 KD2KEO	27	28 Blue Swan lunch CQ WW DX SSB	29 CQ WW DX SSB
30 CQ WW DX SSB	31 RACES Net 7:30					



G.S.A.R.A.

8 DONNER STREET

HOLMDEL, NJ 07733

FIRST CLASS