



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

THE PROPAGATOR

SEPTEMBER 2008

GSARA MEETING WED. SEPTEMBER 3

The next regular meeting of the GSARA will be held on **Wednesday, September 3** and will be held at the **American Red Cross** - Regional Office, 1540 West Park Avenue, Tinton Falls, New Jersey. Please note that the meeting time has been moved **up one hour to 7 PM**. Our guest speaker will be Leo Pratte, Chief Disaster and Logistics Officer of the Red Cross.

The Red Cross building is located at the south east corner of West Park Avenue and Shafto Road. From the north, take Wayside road to Shafto Road and proceed south on Shafto for a little over a mile. Turn left at the traffic light and the Red Cross is immediately on your right. From the northeast, take Wyckoff Road south which turns into Shafto Road when you cross Hope Road at the light. Proceed on Shafto for about 2 miles and turn left at the traffic light and the Red Cross is immediately on your right. From the east, take W. Park Avenue to the end. The Red Cross is on your left. From the south east, take Asbury Avenue west to Shafto Road. Turn right at the light and go north on Shafto Road for about a mile. Turn right at the light onto W. Park and the Red Cross is immediately on your right. Once at the Red Cross, park anywhere in the parking lot and enter the building by the center door. After entering, turn right into the hallway and the meeting room is on your left.

Remember that we are starting an hour earlier at 7 PM. Guests are especially welcome without the security of Ft. Monmouth. We look forward to a good turnout.

GSARA HOMEPAGE

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

FORT MONMOUTH PASSES

All members who have had passes up until August have been renewed in the Ft. Monmouth database. To get an updated yellow sheet good for the next 6 months, you must go to the visitor center at the east entrance on Oceanport Ave. Be sure to have your driver's license, car registration and record of insurance. The center is only open weekdays during business hours. If any club member did not have a pass in the past year, but would like to get a pass issued for the coming twelve months, contact Frank Wroblewski, W2XYZ at w2xyz@arrl.net or call him at 732-942-7705. It is only after the data is in the computer that you can pick up the pass at the Oceanport visitor center.

GSARA HAS A NEW WEBMASTER

Our new webmaster is one of our newer members, Josh Gluck, KC2TKK. We welcome the new ideas that Josh will bring to the table and he invites comments and suggestions from the members. Josh can be reached at joshgluck@gmail.com

NJ CELL PHONE LAW

It is now a primary driving offense to talk or text with a handheld cell phone or use other electronic devices, except in specified emergency situations. Hams, however, are permitted to use amateur radio at any time. Since police may not be aware of the exclusion, it is a good idea to carry a copy of the law in your car, and it may help to have ham plates. The secretary has copies of the law available at every meeting.

EDITOR'S NOTES

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
Webmaster	KC2TKK	Josh Gluck	
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.

Don't forget that the next GSARA meeting on September 3 will be at the **Red Cross** instead of at Fort Monmouth and it will start at **7 PM** instead of 8 PM. See page 1 for more information. This is a great opportunity to bring a guest as we are not saddled with the security issues of Fort Monmouth. I look forward to seeing a great turnout.

Please keep Nena, N2WAY in your prayers. She is recovering from serious medical problems.

I was saddened to see three silent keys from this area this month. Although none were GSARA members, they all had been active amateur radio operators over the years. John, W2FNT was a long-time QCWA member and many of us bought or sold amateur radio equipment through him. May they all rest in peace.

I finally switched over to Verizon FiOS for telephone, internet, and TV. So far, I'm happy with the service but the installation left a lot to be desired. My installation was a little unusual insofar as I wanted to use a cable card in my TiVo DVR rather than Verizon's DVR or set top box. The tech showed up for the install with no knowledge of cable cards so he had to call for assistance and a second guy came. This guy informed me that Verizon does not yet support dual-channel cable cards so they had to give me two separate cards at \$3.99 per month (Comcast had the proper card and it was only \$1 per month). Anyway, the two guys spent about 5 hours horsing around with the installation before everything worked OK. Disconnecting from Comcast was no picnic either and I'm still fighting with them over their billing. I don't know why this has to be so complicated but both Verizon and Comcast came out looking bad in their service.

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 October issue is September 15.

73 de Bob, w2od@arrrl.net

GSARA CALENDAR

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

MINUTES OF AUGUST 6 MEETING

By Bob Buus, W2OD, Secretary

President Jeff Harshman, N2LXM called the meeting to order at Fort Monmouth at 8:07 PM. There were 18 members present. After the Pledge to the Flag, all members introduced themselves.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Frank Wroblewski, W2XYZ presented his report for July. A motion was made by Mike, KC2Q and seconded by Margo Struening to accept the report as read. The motion passed unanimously.

Secretary's Report

The minutes of the July 2008 meeting had been published in the August Propagator. A motion was made by Howard, W2HTS and seconded by Tom, N2VFK to accept the minutes as published. The motion passed unanimously.

A notice was received from the Roseland Amateur Radio Club announcing their annual auction on Sunday, September 7.

Health and Welfare

Nena, N2WAY has been in and out of the hospital several times and is now in rehab in Imperial Care on Green Grove Road in Neptune. Recovery is likely to be slow. Please keep her in your prayers.

Lorraine, KC2FDR sent flowers on behalf of GSARA to Nena when she was in the hospital. A motion was made by Tom, N2VFK and seconded by Ray, W2NXG to reimburse Lorraine for expenses incurred.

It was sadly reported that Glen Harris, WA2TPL of Neptune City became a silent key on July 29. He was 89. Also, John Kakstys, W2FNT from Linden became a silent key on August 1. He was also 89. A moment of silence was observed for these two silent keys.

Field Day

Jeff, N2LXM again extended a big Thank You to all members who participated in Field Day. He submitted some pictures and a write-up to the ARRL Field Day Soapbox which can be accessed from the web.

Old Business

Kevin, W2FA asked about a trip to W1AW this fall. Jeff agreed to look into getting a small bus, possibility through N2HGI, Laura's son.

A possible trip to the battleship New Jersey in Camden was also brought up. If there is enough interest, perhaps we can go later this fall.

New Business

In view of the fact that Fort Monmouth will be closing and we will lose our meeting place, several options have been explored. The most promising, found by Howard, W2HTS, is at the Red Cross building in Tinton Falls. Howard, W2HTS, Frank, W2XYZ, and Bob, W2OD had a meeting with the Red Cross at the building on Tuesday, August 5 and it looks very promising. The Red Cross would like our help in selecting and installing amateur radio equipment in their building and they would let us use their first-class facilities for our meetings. It was proposed that our next GSARA meeting on September 3 be at the Red Cross Building so more members could see what facilities are available. We will try to get a Red Cross representative to speak at this meeting.

Frank, W2XYZ reported that GSARA is out of hats. He reported that we can buy 24 hats for \$153.71. A motion was made by Ray, W2NXG and seconded by Samuel, W2SHS to purchase. The motion passed unanimously.

Charles Burke, WA2xxx has offered to make a presentation to GSARA regarding a SCAN class on TV production that might be of interest to our members. It was proposed and agreed that he could talk at our October 1 meeting.

Announcements

OMARC will hold a tailgate-Hamfest on Saturday, October 4 at the Diana site on Marconi Road in Wall. Mark your calendars.

The International Lighthouse/Lightship weekend is August 16-17. The Neptune ARC and CJDXA will be operating from the Sea Girt Lighthouse both days. Guests are always welcome. OMA will be operating that same weekend from Sandy Hook Lighthouse. They asked to borrow our shelters that we use for Field Day. A motion was made by Mike, KC2Q and seconded by Samuel, W2SHS to loan OMARC the shelters. Jeff, N2LXM would take responsibility for them. The motion passed unanimously.

Mike, KC2Q reminded everyone of a drawing on March 25, 2009 for a FREE bus trip to Dayton in 2009 which requires a donation of \$10.

Closing

The main door prize was won by Peggy Struening. Subscriptions to World Radio were won by Samuel, W2SHS; Ray, W2NXG; Frank, W2XYZ; and Jeff, N2LXM. There being no further business, a motion was made by Mike, KC2Q and seconded by Tom, N2VFK to close the meeting which was adjourned at 9:13 PM.

HAM LICENSE PLATES

If you are interested in having your call letters on your vehicle plates (see article in last month's Propagator on page x by Josh, KC2TKK), the secretary has a couple of application forms which are available at all meetings. The fee is only \$15 – much cheaper than vanity plates!

CHARLES SEARLES, K2RXN - SK

Charles Arthur Searles, 68, of Brick, died Tuesday, Aug. 12, at Ocean Medical Center, Brick. He was a computer technician at Freehold Regional High School, Freehold for many years before retiring. Born in Neptune, he lived in Long Branch before moving to Brick 29 years ago. He served in the U.S. Army.

He was a member of the Jersey Shore Amateur Radio Club, as well as the Myrtle Beach Amateur Radio Club. He was a stock car enthusiast, and an Eagle Scout.

He retired to Murrells Inlet, S.C., but returned to New Jersey to be with his family during his battle with cancer. He was also a 1958 graduate of Long Branch high School.

Surviving are his wife, Deborah Searles; three sons, Charles Searles Jr., John Searles, and Robert Searles, all at home; two sisters, Catherine Oashevsky of Tinton Falls, and Nancy Burt of Ocean Township; and many nieces and nephews.

A graveside service will be offered at 11:30 a.m. Friday at Monmouth Memorial Park, Tinton Falls. There are no viewing hours. In lieu of flowers, please make donations to your local American Cancer Society or to The Hackensack Cancer Institute.

GLEN HARRIS, WA2TPL - SK

Glendon A. Harris, 89, of Neptune City died Tuesday, July 29 at Jersey Shore Medical Center, Neptune. He was an auto mechanic for 37 years with Rassas Pontiac, Red Bank, retiring in 1985. He was a World War II Army veteran and a member of the American Legion Post 346, Neptune. He was also a state exempt fireman for Neptune City Fire Co. No. 1. He was a ham radio operator with the call WA2TPL. Born in Asbury Park, he lived in Neptune City and was a lifelong resident of the Jersey Shore.

Surviving are his wife, Elizabeth; a son, Kenneth G. Harris; a daughter, Linda Stevens; six grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren.

Interment was in Brig. Gen. William C. Doyle Veterans Memorial Cemetery, Arneytown. In lieu of flowers, please make donations in his name to the American Legion Post 346, 21 Gully Road, Neptune, NJ 07753.

JOHN KAKSTYS, W2FNT - SK

John A. Kakstys, 89, of Linden passed away on Friday, August 1 in the New Jersey Veterans Home, Menlo Park. He lived in Linden since 1948 and was a World War II Army veteran, serving in Africa. John was employed by Western Electric, Kearny, as a radio technician for 35 years, retiring in 1977. He was a member of the Knights of Columbus Linden Council 2859, and past president and member of the Telephone Pioneers of American. He was a communicant of St. John the Apostle R.C. Church, Clark-Linden, and a past president and member of its Holy Name Society.

John was a ham radio operator for 75 years with the call W2FNT. He was a member of QCWA and the Marconi Chapter 138. He spent many of his retirement years selling and trading used amateur radio gear.

John was predeceased by his wife of 66 years, Mary Prokop Kakstys. Surviving are three daughters, Karen Kane, Susan Kakstys and Joanne Tyne; two sons, Robert and William Kakstys; a sister, Helen Beiswinger; 10 grandchildren and 4 great-grandchildren. In lieu of flowers, donations to the New Jersey Veterans Home at Menlo Park in his memory would be appreciated.

MICROWAVING WATER

A 26-year old man decided to have a cup of coffee. He took a cup of water and put it in the microwave to heat it up (something that he had done numerous times before). I am not sure how long he set the timer for, but he wanted to bring the water to a boil. When the timer shut the oven off, he removed the cup from the oven. As he looked into the cup, he noted that the water was not boiling, but suddenly the water in the cup "blew up" into his face. The cup remained intact until he threw it out of his hand, but all the water had flown out into his face due to the build up of energy. His whole face is blistered and he has 1st and 2nd degree burns to his face which may leave scarring.

He also may have lost partial sight in his left eye. While at the hospital, the doctor who was attending to him stated that this is a fairly common occurrence and water (alone) should never be heated in a microwave oven. If water is heated in this manner, something should be placed in the cup to diffuse the energy such as a wooden stir stick, tea bag, etc., (nothing metal).

It is however a much safer choice to boil the water in a tea kettle.

General Electric's Response:

Thanks for contacting us, I will be happy to assist you. The e-mail that you received is correct. Microwaved water and other liquids do not always bubble when they reach the boiling point. They can actually get superheated and not bubble at all. The superheated liquid will bubble up out of the cup when it is moved or when something like a spoon or tea bag is put into it.

To prevent this from happening and causing injury, do not heat any liquid for more than two minutes per cup. After heating, let the cup stand in the microwave for thirty seconds before moving it or adding anything into it.

A Science Teacher's Response:

Thanks for the microwave warning. I have seen this happen before. It is caused by a phenomenon known as super heating. It can occur anytime water is heated and will particularly occur if the vessel that the water is heated in is new, or when heating a small amount of water (less than half a cup).

What happens is that the water heats faster than the vapor bubbles can form. If the cup is very new

then it is unlikely to have small surface scratches inside it that provide a place for the bubbles to form. As the bubbles cannot form and release some of the heat has built up, the liquid does not boil, and the liquid continues to heat up well past its boiling point.

What then usually happens is that the liquid is bumped or jarred, which is just enough of a shock to cause the bubbles to rapidly form and expel the hot liquid. The rapid formation of bubbles is also why a carbonated beverage spews when opened after having been shaken.

SMITHSONIAN STATION NN3SI QRT

The Amateur Radio station at the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of American History (NMAH) was closed after more than 32 years of operation. According to Hal Wallace, NN3SI Station Manager and Associate Curator for the Museum's electricity collections, there will be no appropriate place to house the station once the Museum reopens this fall after undergoing an extensive renovation.

"NN3SI ceased operating from the National Museum of American History on July 31," Wallace told the ARRL. "As you may know, NMAH has been undergoing a renovation of the building's infrastructure and interior for some time. The renovation forced us to remove the Information Age exhibition -- the station's home since 1990. We placed the station in a temporary location for the duration of the renovation but it cannot remain there when we reopen to the public later this year. The Information Age exhibit will not be reinstalled, and since we have no other appropriate exhibition areas within the Museum, the station had to cease operations at NMAH. Various alternate locations throughout the Smithsonian have been considered but none are viable at this time."

Wallace said that the station's license is valid until 2013 and its equipment will go into storage: "John Johnston, W3BE -- NN3SI's trustee -- assures me that a renewal of the license would not be an issue if we need one. Should a suitable exhibition area elsewhere in the [Smithsonian] Institution be found, we will be able to reactivate the NN3SI activity."

From The ARRL Letter, No. 31, August 8, 2008

DUTCH AMATEUR RADIO SATELLITE

The linear transponder aboard the new Dutch OSCAR 64 satellite <<http://www.arrl.org/news/stories/2008/05/22/10117/?nc=1>> (otherwise known as Delfi-C3 <<http://www.delfic3.nl/>>) is now open for CW and SSB operation.

The spacecraft boots into transponder mode whenever it is in full sunlight. Ground controllers will briefly switch the satellite to either "basic" or "science" configuration once every two weeks; otherwise, the linear transponder will be the default mode. The transponder uplink passband is from 435.530-435.570 MHz with a downlink passband from 145.880-145.930 MHz. The transponder CW beacon can be heard at 145.870 MHz.

Delfi C-3 was successfully launched April 28, 2008 from India aboard a Polar launch vehicle <<http://www.arrl.org/news/stories/2008/04/28/10067/?nc=1>> and was successfully commissioned, currently transmitting telemetry on the 2 meter amateur band. In addition to its 2 meter downlink, Delfi C-3 has an uplink on the 70 cm band.

The satellite was developed by a team of some 60 students and faculty members from various polytechnic schools in The Netherlands. Delfi C-3 carries two experiments -- one involving thin film solar cells developed by Dutch Space, and an autonomous wireless Sun sensor from the Dutch Government Research Institute (TNO). E-mail reports are welcome <info@delfic3.nl>.

From *The ARRL Letter*, No. 30, August 1, 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 (October 4, 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 Genoio, 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 (September 13, 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.

ARRL NEWSLETTERS AND BULLETINS

Did you know the ARRL offers more newsletters than The ARRL Letter? One of the many ARRL membership benefits includes other newsletters, such as the ARRL Contest Update (a bi-weekly contest newsletter), the ARES E-Letter (sent monthly, containing public service and emergency communications news), the ARRL Club News and the ARRL Instructor/Teacher E-Letter.

You can also elect to receive news and information from your Division Director and Section Manager (keep in mind that not all Divisions/Sections send notices), as well as WIAW bulletins that relate to DX, propagation, satellites and Keplerian reports. The ARRL also offers a free notification service to members, letting them know when their membership and license are due to expire.

Sign up for these newsletters, bulletins and notifications on the Member Data page of the ARRL Web site <<http://www.arrl.org/members-only/memdata.html>>.

From *The ARRL Letter*, No. 30, August 1, 2008

HUDSON DIVISION HOME PAGE

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

ARRL RESPONDS TO CA PAVE PAWS

Earlier this week, the ARRL responded to a series of concerns raised by repeater owners regarding the ongoing PAVE PAWS interference mitigation project at Beale Air Force Base near Sacramento, California. In a lengthy e-mail dated August 20, ARRL Regulatory Information Manager Dan Henderson, N1ND, addressed a series of concerns raised by Tom Naso, N6MVT, of Lafayette, California; Naso is owner or trustee to several involved repeaters.

Naso's letter can be found here http://www.arrl.org/news/files/pavepaws_query_2008aug20.pdf.

Henderson's reply can be found here http://www.arrl.org/news/files/pavepaws_response_2008aug20.pdf.

"Tom raised a series of thoughtful, valid concerns," Henderson stated. "The ARRL's response to his queries, though lengthy, attempts to address them in detail. With Tom's permission, we are releasing both his original e-mail and the ARRL's response in order to get the most accurate and full information out to repeater owners and users as possible. It also gives us the opportunity to make sure a couple of other issues relating to the PAVE PAWS situation that have arisen are brought to the public's attention."

Henderson said that the biggest challenge the ARRL -- and through them the affected repeater owners -- continues to face is "the balance between not being able to know full technical details of the interference and the testing techniques and the desire/need to know information. It's a tough challenge. And while there have been a few errors in identifying call signs (because of errors in databases being used by the Air Force), there were actual measurements made of signals identified by the Air Force testing group."

Henderson pointed out that the ARRL continues to pursue valid concerns that can be based on fact and backed up with solid data that are raised by repeater owners. "We will continue to expect the FCC to perform its responsibilities. If a permanent shut-down order comes from the FCC, we expect that the licensee is given their full rights for due process."

From The ARRL Letter, No. 33, August 22, 2008

AMATEUR RADIO IN BANGLADESH

Since 2004, Amateur Radio operators in Bangladesh have not been able to get an Amateur Radio license or sit for an examination. But thanks to the efforts of the Bangladesh Amateur Radio League (BARL) <http://www.barl.org/> -- that country's IARU Member-Society -- the Bangladeshi government will once again issue ham licenses; exams will also be given on a monthly basis beginning August 13, 2008. On July 21, representatives from BARL -- Belayet Robin, S21RB; Zahid Shipon, S21VA, and Saiful Huda, S21SH -- met with members of the Bangladesh Telecommunication Regulatory Commission (BTRC) in what Robin called "a very fruitful meeting" <http://www.btrc.gov.bd/>. BARL had finally been able to make the concerned authorities understand the significance of ham operators in a country with frequent natural disasters like floods and cyclones." The Bangladeshi government has only allowed ham radio operations since 1991, though amateurs have received special permission on a case-by-case basis to set up Emergency Communications infrastructures during natural disasters such as cyclones, tidal waves and flooding. BARL was formed in 1979 as a way to promote Amateur Radio, but on-air operations were banned due to the political climate of the region. BARL will offer a class to prepare for the exam. Exams will be computer based with 35 multiple choice questions. In order to receive an Amateur Radio license, examinees must achieve 18 correct answers. Examinees are given one hour to complete the test.

From The ARRL Letter, No. 33, August 22, 2008

UGANDA, 5X4X APPROVED FOR DXCC

DXCC Desk: Manager Bill Moore, NC1L, reports that the 5X4X operations in Uganda -- from 2007 to present -- have been approved for DXCC credit. "If you had cards rejected for this operation, please send an e-mail to the ARRL DXCC Desk dxcc@arrl.org to have your DXCC record updated," Moore said.

From The ARRL Letter, No. 30, August 1, 2008

LAW OF COMMERCIAL MARKETING

As soon as you find a product that you really like, they will stop making it.

FCC TO RAISE VANITY CALL FEES

On August 11, the FCC announced that the cost of an Amateur Radio vanity call sign will increase 60 cents, from \$11.70 to \$12.30 <http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-08-182A1.pdf>. The fee will increase 30 days after notice of the increase is published in the Federal Register <<http://www.gpoaccess.gov/fr/index.html>>; no date has yet been set for publication. The FCC is authorized by the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, to collect vanity call sign fees to recover the costs associated with that program. The vanity call sign regulatory fee is payable not only when applying for a new vanity call sign, but also upon renewing a vanity call sign for a new 10 year term.

The vanity call sign fee has fluctuated over the 12 years of the current program -- from a low of \$11.70 to a high of \$50. The FCC said it anticipates some 15,000 Amateur Radio vanity call sign "payment units" -- or applications -- during Fiscal Year 2009, collecting \$184,734 in fees from the program.

The vanity call sign regulatory fee is payable not only when applying for a new vanity call sign, but also upon renewing a vanity call sign for a new term. The first vanity call sign licenses issued under the current Amateur Radio vanity call sign program that began in 1996 came up for renewal two years ago.

Those holding "personalized" call signs issued prior to 1996 are exempt from having to pay the vanity call sign regulatory fee at renewal, as Congress did not authorize the FCC to collect regulatory fees until 1993. Such "heritage" vanity call sign holders do not appear as vanity licensees in the FCC Amateur Radio database.

Amateur Radio licensees may file for renewal only within 90 days of their license expiration date. All radio amateurs must have an FCC Registration Number (FRN) before filing any application with the Commission. Applicants can obtain an FRN by going to the ULS and clicking on the "New Users Register" link <<http://wireless.fcc.gov/uls/>>. You must supply your Social Security Number to obtain an FRN.

The ARRL VEC will process license renewals for vanity call sign holders for a modest fee. The service is available to ARRL members and

nonmembers, although League members pay less. Routine, non-vanity renewals continue to be free for ARRL members. Trustees of club stations with vanity call signs may renew either via the ULS or through a Club Station Call Sign Administrator, such as ARRL VEC.

League members should visit <<http://www.arrl.org/fcc/memberlicenseinstructions.html>>, while the "Instructions for License Renewals or Changes" page covers general renewal procedures for nonmembers <<http://www.arrl.org/fcc/licenseinstructions.html>>. There is additional information on the "ARRL VEC's FCC License Renewals and ARRL License Expiration Notices" page <<http://www.arrl.org/arrlvec/renewals.html>>.

License application and renewal information and links to the required forms are available on the "ARRL Amateur Application Filing FAQ" Web page. The FCC's forms page also offers the forms <<http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/regulations/application-filing-faq.html>>.

From *The ARRL Letter*, No. 32, August 15, 2008

ROSELAND ARC AUCTION

The Roseland ARC will conduct an equipment auction on Sunday, Sept. 7, in the multi-purpose room of the Roseland Municipal Building, 19 Harrison Ave., Roseland. Doors open for sellers at 11 AM and the auction will be from noon to 2 PM. Admission is free and the club will charge a 10% premium for all items sold. For further information, contact Dick Denby at AB2SV@arrl.net.

FREE TRIP TO DAYTON 2009

A **\$10 donation** to the North America DX Association, Inc. (NADXA, Inc.) will allow each donating person an opportunity to earn an **all expense paid trip** to the **2009 Annual Bus Trip** to the **Dayton Hamvention** in **Dayton, OH** May 14-17, 2009. Send your donation to **NADXA, Inc., PO Box 357, Bradley Beach, NJ 07720**.

The odds of being selected will be restricted to one in 75 and the numbers will be drawn on March 29, 2009. For further information contact: nadxa@juno.com. Thank you.

NOTES ON CALENDAR (see reverse side)

Large call letters denote birthdays e.g., N2WLH September 7. All times are in EDST. Contests are listed in the September QST, p. 76.

September 1 – **Labor Day CW QRP Sprint** from 7 PM to 11 PM, HF bands plus 6 meters. See www.qsl.net/miqrpclub

September 2 – **Middletown Pancake House Luncheon** at noon at left rear table. All are welcome.

September 2 – **Old Barney ARC Meeting**, 7:30 PM at Ocean Acres Community Center in Manahawkin, NJ. See <http://www.obarc.org>

September 2 and every following Tuesday – **QCWA News Net** on 147.045 PL=67 at 9:00 PM.

September 3 – **GSARA Monthly Meeting** at Red Cross, West Park Ave. and Shafto Road in Tinton Falls.

September 4 – **Holiday City ARC meeting** at 7 PM at Holiday City South Clubhouse in Toms River.

September 5 – **W1AW Qualifying Run** at 10 PM (10-35 wpm). See September QST, pp. 100 and 102.

Sept. 6-7 – **IARU Region 1 Field Day**, SSB on HF bands.

September 6 – **North American CW Sprint** from 8 PM to Midnight. See www.ncjweb.com

September 7 – **Roseland Auction** from noon to 2 PM. For information, e-mail to ab2sv@arrl.net

September 7 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.

September 8 – **Monmouth County RACES** on 147.045 +600 at 7:30 PM. RACES members only.

September 9 – **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

September 11 – **Jersey Shore Amateur Radio Society (JSARS)** meeting in Riverview Park Recreation Building, Rt. 527 and Riverwood Drive in Toms River at 7:30 PM.

September 13 – **OMARC Meeting**, 9:00 AM at the Diana Site on Marconi Road, Wall, NJ.

September 13 – **Middletown Amateur Radio Club meeting** at 10 AM in Union Beach Police Annex (Municipal Building) on Poole Avenue.

Sept. 13-14 – **ARRL VHF QSO Party**, all modes from 2 PM Sat. to 11 PM Sunday. See www.arrl.org/contests

September 13 – **North American SSB Sprint** from 8 PM to Midnight. See www.ncjweb.com

September 15 - **Monmouth County ARES Net** meets on 147.045 +600 at 7:30 PM.

September 17 – **W1AW Qualifying Run** at 7 PM (10-35 wpm). See September QST, pp. 100 and 102.

September 18 – **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.

Sept. 18-19 – **YLRL Howdy Days**, SSB & CW from noon Thursday to 10 PM Friday. See www.ylrl.org/ylcontests.html

Sept. 20-21 – **QCWA QSO Party**, all modes HF & 6 Meters from 2 PM Sat. to 2 PM Sun. See www.qcwa.org/qso-party.htm

September 21 – **Mullica Hill (Gloucester County) Hamfest**, 8 AM to 2 PM. See www.users.tellurian.com/Freddie/w2mmd/

September 22 – **Two-Meter Sprint**, all modes from 7 PM to 11 PM. See www.svhfs.org

September 22 - **Monmouth County ARES Net** meets on 147.045 +600 at 7:30 PM.

September 27 – **Neptune Amateur Radio Club Meeting** at 9 AM at Casey's Restaurant, Sylvania Ave. & Rte. 35, Neptune City.

September 28 – **Pack Rats Hamarama** in Wrightstown, PA starting at 7 AM. See www.packratvhf.com

September 29 – **QRP Homebrewer CW Sprint** from 8 PM to Midnight. See www.njqrp.org

September 29 – **Monmouth County RACES** on 147.045 +600 at 7:30 PM. RACES members only.

September 30 – **222 MHz. Sprint**, all modes from 7 PM to 11 PM. See www.svhfs.org

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Labor Day Sprint ARES/RACES 7:30	2 Pancake House Old Barney ARC QCWA News 9 PM	3 GSARA Mtg	4 Hol. City Mtg.	5 CW Qual. Run	6 N. A. Sprint, CW IARU Reg. 1 FD
N2WLH 7 IARU Reg. 1 FD InfoAge Roseland Auctn	8 RACES Net 7:30	9 Croyden VE 7 PM QCWA News 9 PM	10	11 JSARS Mtg.	12	OMARC Mtg. 13 MARC Mtg VHF QSO Pty N. A. Sprint, SSB
14 VHF QSO Pty InfoAge	15 ARES/RACES 7:30	16 QCWA News 9 PM	17 CW Qual. Run	18 YLRL Howdy JSARS VE	19 YLRL Howdy	20 QCWA QSO Pty
21 Mullica Hmfst QCWA QSO Pty InfoAge	22 W2HH 2 Mtr. Sprint ARES/RACES 7:30	23 QCWA News 9 PM	24	25	26	Neptune Mtg 27 KC2Q
28 KC2FDR PA Hamarama InfoAge	29 RACES Net 7:30 QRP CW Sprint	30 N2VFK 222 Sprint				



G.S.A.R.A.

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