



# THE PROPAGATOR

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

SEPTEMBER 2009

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## UPCOMING GSARA MEETINGS

The next regular meeting of the GSARA will be held on **Wednesday, September 2** at **7:30 PM** at the Fort Monmouth MARS building. Please plan to attend.

The second meeting in September will be on **Wednesday, September 16** at **7:30 PM** at the **American Red Cross - Regional Office**, 1540 West Park Avenue, Tinton Falls, New Jersey. Our program will be on CPR training. Leo Pratte, the Disaster Services Director at the Red Cross will give us a lesson in administering CPR. The goal will be teaching us about CPR, how it is administered and to provide us enough training to where we just might make a difference in someone's life. Don't miss it! Guests are always welcome.

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## RENEWING FT. MONMOUTH PASSES

To renew your pass for Fort Monmouth when it is ready to expire, simply give the information to Frank, W2XYZ and he will take care of the details.

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## HAMFEST SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 13

The North American DX Association will be holding their first annual Tailgate swap meet on Sunday, September 13, 2009 at Luigi's Restaurant Parking lot on the corner of Asbury Ave. and Shafto Road in Tinton Falls. This is about a mile south of the Red Cross on Shafto Road.

Buyers are admitted FREE after 8 AM. Seller's spaces are available at 7 AM for \$10 for the first space and \$5 for each additional space. Breakfast and coffee will be available. Talk in is on the W2NJR linked system.

For more information: e-mail nadxa@juno.com or phone Mike, KC2Q at 908-415-6162.

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## WORLD RADIO BARBADOS ARTICLE

Frank, W2XYZ wrote up the Barbados DX-pedition that Joe, W2KQ, Mike, KC2Q and he went on last February. It has been published in the September issue of World Radio Online as its lead article and includes a cover picture of Frank operating in Barbados. The magazine is free and can be downloaded at: <http://www.cq-amateur-radio.com/WorldRadio.html>

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## ARES/RACES NET MOVED

The ARES/RACES net which meets every Monday evening at 7:30 PM has moved from the Asbury Park Repeater (147.045) to the Belmar repeater on 146.775, -600, PL=103.5. Please reprogram your radio and check in when you can.

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## BATTLESHIP NEW JERSEY TALK

Dave Burgess, WA2TVS and his wife Margaret, KB2BRR gave a fascinating talk at the August 19 meeting about the battleship New Jersey which is now a floating museum in Camden, NJ. The size of the ship is simply awesome! I was particularly impressed by all of the work put in by volunteers (about 60,000 hours).

Plans are underway for GSARA to visit the ship to Friday, September 25. The time and location of departure will depend on how many people will be going on the trip. Specific details will be announced (via email/phone) to participants when more definite plans are known.

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## NEW GSARA HOMEPAGE

<http://www.gardenstateara.org>

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## HUDSON DIVISION HOME PAGE

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

## GSARA OFFICERS

President	W2XYZ	Frank Wroblewski	942-7705
Vice Pres.	W2HTS	Howard Suffill	460-1885
Secretary	W2OD	Bob Buus	946-8615
Treasurer	W2KQ	Joe Dreifuss	493-4236
Engineer	N2LXM	Jeff Harshman	922-0816
Webmaster	KC2TKK	Josh Gluck	
Publicity	NJ2H	Bill Shockley	207-4466
Trustees	KG2NV	Don Pingitore	229-2925
	W2OD	Bob Buus	946-8615
	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 Josh Gluck, KC2TKK and request *The Propagator* electronically. Josh's e-mail address is <kc2tkk@gardenstateara.org>.

## BADGES AND PATCHES

If you would like a GSARA name badge, you may order one by getting a Badge Order Form from our Secretary, **Bob Buus, W2OD**, filling it out and turning it in to Bob with your \$7.00 payment.

We also now have patches available at all meetings and they cost \$3.

## OUTGOING QSL CARDS

If any GSARA members wish to combine their QSL cards that are going through the outgoing ARRL Bureau, please bring them to the next GSARA meeting along with the label from a recent QST Magazine (you must be an ARRL member to participate in this program). We then send them as a group at no charge to GSARA members. It couldn't be much easier than that to QSL. You are registered at the W2 incoming bureau, aren't you?

## PROPAGATOR NOW ON THE WEB

The *Propagator* is available as a PDF file at:

<http://www.gardenstateara.org>

Click on "The Propagator" and then select the month you want.

## EDITOR'S NOTES

It's sad to see that we lost three area hams this past month – two of whom were past GSARA members. I remember John Steiner, WA2VWB and his late wife Alice, WA2VVV attending our meetings at Bicentennial Hall in the mid-1990s. More recently, Jim Hughes, W2TCS attended our meetings during this century. May they all rest in peace.

September will be a busy month for amateur radio activities. First there is the Maxim birthday memorial from the 2<sup>nd</sup> to the 9<sup>th</sup> (see p. 6). Look for stations signing /140 or sign it yourself if you are an ARRL appointee or life member. Then on the 13<sup>th</sup> is the NADXA tailgate swap fest at Luigi's restaurant in Tinton Falls (see p.1). The 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> is the fall QCWA QSO party. Friday, the 25<sup>th</sup> finds us visiting the battleship New Jersey in Camden (see p. 1). Saturday, the 26<sup>th</sup> is the Monmouth county CERT drill and SET as well as the CAP technician class and exam (see p. 3). All in all, it will be a busy month.

There are still lots of goodies available at the MARS building free to members. When you are at the September 2 meeting, look things over and take what looks interesting to you. Even if you're only mildly interested in something, take it home for your junk box and thus rescue it from the Fort Monmouth garbage.

Frank, W2XYZ is planning programs for upcoming meetings. Let him know if you would be interested in giving a talk.

If you are interested in obtaining a [gardenstateara.org](http://www.gardenstateara.org) email address which will give you webmail and POP3/SMTP access, please send an email to Josh at [kc2tkk@gardenstateara.org](mailto:kc2tkk@gardenstateara.org) with your First Name, Last Name, and Call Sign. Your email address [call\\_sign@gardenstateara.org](mailto:call_sign@gardenstateara.org) will be created and the login information sent back to the email address your request came from.

Remember if you change your e-mail address; please be sure to inform Josh Gluck, KC2TKK.

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

73 de Bob, w2od@arrrl.net

## MINUTES OF AUGUST 5 MEETING

There was no quorum of members present so no business was conducted.

## MINUTES OF AUGUST 19 MEETING

By Bob Buus, W2OD

President Frank Wroblewski, W2XYZ, called the meeting to order at Red Cross Headquarters at 7:30 PM. After a Pledge to the Flag, each attendee introduced themselves. There were 12 members and three guests present. The guests were Joe Basket, KC2LFF from Highlands and our guest speakers Dave Burgess, WA2TVS and Margaret Burgess, KB2BRR.

### Health and Welfare

Bob, W2OD sadly reported a new silent key. He was John Steiner, WA2VWB from Hazlet who died Sunday, August 16 at the age of 80. A moment of silence was observed for John.

### Secretary's Report

Due to lack of quorum, there was no official meeting on August 5. A notice was received announcing the Mid-Atlantic States VHF Conference on Saturday, September 26 at Plymouth Meeting, PA. A notice was also received announcing the Pack Rats Hamarama and Flea Market on Sunday, September 27 in Wrightstown, PA (south of New Hope).

Bob, W2OD acquired a DVD of the movie "Frequency" which was donated to the club. Anyone wishing to borrow it, see Frank, W2XYZ.

### Treasurer-s Report

Joe, W2KQ gave the July Treasurer's Report. The report was accepted unanimously.

### Old Business

Frank, W2XYZ announced that Elmer Palkowetz, W2LSR has donated a 40-foot tower to the Red Cross so we will have a tower for the Red Cross station.

### New Business

Both the Civil Air Patrol and the Red Cross have asked for additional one-day classes this fall. These will be run by Jeff, N2LXM with Joe, W2KQ and Frank, W2XYZ assisting and being VEs for the

exam. The first session is planned for Saturday, September 26. The second will be in October.

It is proposed that GSARA operate a special event station from the Ft. Monmouth MARS station commemorating our farewell to Ft. Monmouth. This will be run for the entire weekend of January 29-31, 2010. Jeff has offered to produce a special certificate for those who work K2USA during this event.

A notice was received from eQSL that GSARA has 350 eQSLs on file. Frank, W2XYZ offered to register W2GSA with eQSL so that these contacts can be confirmed.

### Closing

The door prize of \$11 was won by Laura Clanton, N2HGI. A motion was made by Joe, W2KQ and seconded by Tom, N2VFK to adjourn the meeting. With a unanimous vote, the meeting was ended at 7:50 pm.

### The Program

Dave Burgess, WA2TVS and his wife Margaret, KB2BRR gave a fascinating presentation about the battleship New Jersey berthed in Camden. Through tens of thousands volunteer hours, the radio rooms and antennas have again been made operational and amateur station NJ2BB is on the air. If GSARA would like to visit as a group, we simply have to notify Dave in advance and he has offered to accommodate us.

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## CERT DRILL SEPTEMBER 26

Monmouth and Ocean counties will be having a CERT drill on Saturday September 26. GSARA members are invited to participate in various capacities around the county, including staffing the radio room at the Red Cross for communications.

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## ONE-DAY LICENSING CLASS SEPT. 26

Jeff, N2LXM will be conducting a licensing class to approximately 30 CAP cadets on Saturday September 26. A VE license testing session will be held at the conclusion of the class in the afternoon. Anyone wishing to take an FCC exam may come to the Red Cross that afternoon for testing. Please let Jeff know if you're planning to take the test to ensure that adequate testing material is available.

## **JOHN STEINER, WA2VWB - SK**

Past GSARA member John M. Steiner, 80, of Hazlet, passed away Sunday, Aug. 16, 2009, at home. Born in Staten Island, he resided in the West Brighton section of Staten Island before moving to Hazlet in 1964. He worked as a driver with the Department of Sanitation, City of New York, Manhattan for 21 years, retiring in 1978. After his retirement, he worked as a bus driver for Helfrich Bus Company; and as a crossing guard in Hazlet. John was a member of St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Keansburg; a member of the North Centerville Fire Department for over 40 years; a Ham Radio Operator WA2VWB; and a member of the North American Fishing and Hunting Club. He served in the National Guard for 19 years.

John was predeceased by his wife, Alice Dugan, WA2VVV (also a past GSARA member) in 2001; a son, Edward Steiner, in 2002; and his two brothers, James and Martin Steiner. He is survived by two sons and their wives, John and Lori Steiner of Virginia, and William and Jacqueline Steiner of Miami, Fla.; three daughters and their husbands, Mariellen and David Voorhees of Virginia, Carolyn Newman of Matawan, and Dawn and Timothy Carter of Vermont; a daughter-in-law, Charlene Steiner of Hazlet; and 15 grandchildren.

Interment was at Cedarwood Cemetery, Hazlet. For online condolences to the family, visit [www.dayfuneralhome.com](http://www.dayfuneralhome.com).

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## **ED BRAGER, K2SDC - SK**

Edward "Ed" Brager, 90, passed away Friday, the 21st of August 2009, at Riverview Medical Center surrounded by his loving family, and an extremely kind and caring medical staff. He was born in Bloomfield, NJ, and lived for more than 70 years in the Red Bank area. The Bragers have lived in Shadow Lake Village, since 1975 where he had many friends. Mr. Brager was a veteran of World War II, serving in the Navy as a PBY Catalina radioman holding the rank of Chief Petty Officer. Mr. Brager was an electronics engineer, as branch chief of the quality operations division, product assurance directorate at Fort Monmouth, New Jersey for 30 years retiring in 1978. In 1976, he received the prestigious Department of the Army's Decoration for Meritorious Civilian Service. After he retired, he did consulting work and wintered in Florida. He was an amateur radio operator, K2SDC

and in the early 1960's volunteered as a Director of Civil Defense, in Red Bank. Pop was an avid swimmer and biker, enjoyed boating on the Navesink River and most importantly enjoyed spending time with his family.

Mr. Brager is predeceased by his granddaughter, Alicia Brager, who died in 1993. He is survived by his wife, Cari Brager; daughter, Ali Ross-Wilharm; son Jerry Brager and four grandchildren.

Mr. Brager, a quiet man, will be buried at a simple graveside ceremony at 12:00 noon, Sunday, August 23rd, 2009, at Fairview Cemetery, Middletown, NJ. The service will be followed by a celebration of his life at his son's home in Red Bank.

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## **JIM HUGHES, W2TCS - SK**

Former GSARA member James J. Hughes Jr., 91, of Shrewsbury Twp., passed away Friday, Aug. 21, 2009. James was born in Trenton, NJ and lived in Shrewsbury Township since 1952. He worked at Fort Monmouth for 35 years as an instructor and budget analyst at the Signal School before retiring in 1985. James served as a Lieutenant in the United States Army during World War II in Europe where he fought in the Battle of the Bulge. He was a communicant of St. Dorothea's Catholic Church in Eatontown. Jim was a loyal member of the United States Army's 112th Field Artillery Division, in Trenton, NJ. His love of communications was a thread throughout his life: as the civil defense coordinator and court reporter in his township, life-long ham radio operator, W2TCS, homing pigeon enthusiast, great storyteller and jokester. Family and friends meant everything to Jim. He was a loving husband, devoted father, playful and attentive grandfather and great-grandfather.

Jim is predeceased by his brother, John T. Hughes of Annandale, Virginia. He is survived by Irene Hughes, his wife of 61 years; a son; two daughters; nine grandchildren; six adorable great-grandchildren and many wonderful nieces, nephews, and cousins. He was a friend to all.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the USO, [www.uso.org](http://www.uso.org).

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A schoolteacher is a disillusioned woman who used to think she liked children.

## SOLAR ENERGY COMING TO NJ

Are you one of those drivers who slow down when passing a solar panel on a home or business and say to your kids, "Someday you will see those everywhere."

Well, that someday is just around the corner.

Last month, PSE&G received approval to mount solar units on 200,000 utility poles in New Jersey's six largest cities and roughly 300 other suburban and rural communities where the utility supplies electric service. That's about one out of every four poles. In three short years, you will not be able to go for a ride in your car without passing a few – or several dozen – of these solar units.

The panels will not be powering lights mounted on the poles, but will feed electricity directly into the grid, providing clean, emissions-free energy to all PSE&G customers.

An important added benefit is they will be creating green jobs. Some 100 people will be needed to install the units over the next three years, and another 100 will be employed by Petra Solar, a South Plainfield company that will produce the units for PSE&G right here in New Jersey.

Under the program recently approved by the Board of Public Utilities, aptly named Solar 4 All, PSE&G will install 80 megawatts of solar generation by 2013. That is enough to power about 64,000 homes. Half of the energy will come from the pole-mounted solar installations and the other half from Solar Gardens, land-based solar installations that can power several hundred to a few thousand homes.

Utility businesses in New Jersey no longer own power plants, but it makes sense for them to be the owners of solar facilities. The sun is free, but turning its rays into electricity is not. Solar power is still more expensive than traditional generation and requires tax credits and state subsidies to spur development.

If a home or business owner invests in solar, we all benefit from cleaner air and less dependency on foreign oil, while the owner receives the tax and state subsidies, which are paid for by all taxpayers and ratepayers. However, if the utility owns solar facilities, the benefits – tax credits, the sale of solar credits and the value of generated electricity – flow back to the customer.

Utility-owned solar is a win all around – for the environment, our customers and for New Jersey.

What's your view? Please let us know at [Opinion@PSEG.com](mailto:Opinion@PSEG.com).

*Note: The DC output of the panels must be converted into AC via an inverter of some sort. That means a lot of DC->AC inverters, and thus a lot of RF (both conducted and radiated) emissions. The potential for RFI to radio amateurs should be watched carefully. After BPL, I don't trust the power companies to worry enough about RFI. - Editor*

From the Internet

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## FCC BLOGS AND TWITTERS

On Tuesday, August 18, the Federal Communication jumped on the technological bandwagon and began "Twittering." Twitter <<http://twitter.com/>> allows text-based posts of up to 140 characters displayed on the author's profile page and delivered to the author's subscribers; to date, the FCC's Twitter page has almost 1900 followers. The FCC has also started a blog called Blogband <<http://blog.broadband.gov/>>. According to Chairman Julius Genachowski (who made the first post), "Blogband is part of the FCC's commitment to an open and participatory process. Blogband will keep people up-to-date about the work the FCC is doing and the progress we're making. But we want it to be a two-way conversation." Readers may leave comments after each post, but comments will be monitored during normal business hours and will be reviewed as "speedily as possible" before posting. "As this blog demonstrates, the Internet is changing and expanding the way Americans communicate, providing them with unparalleled access to information." Genachowski wrote. "So visit Blogband often to keep up with the latest news and -- more importantly -- get involved." The FCC pointed out that commenting in the blog "is not a substitute for submitting a formal comment in the record of a specific Commission proceeding." Find the FCC's Twitter page at <<http://twitter.com/fccdotgov>>.

From *The ARRL Letter*, No. 33, August 21, 2009

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A psychologist is a man who watches everyone else when a beautiful girl enters the room.

## MAXIM 140 BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

The Hiram Percy Maxim Birthday celebration is back! This year, the ARRL is honoring the 140th anniversary of the birth of the League's first president and cofounder. Hiram Percy Maxim, W1AW, was born September 2, 1869 and died February 17, 1936, in a Colorado hospital of complications stemming from a throat infection; his widow died just nine days later.

The operating event is open to all amateurs, and the goal is straightforward: Find the stations adding /140 to their call signs, and contact as many as possible during the event period, September 2-9. Who is eligible to sign /140? ARRL members who hold ARRL appointments, ARRL elected volunteers (such as ARRL Directors and Section Managers), ARRL Life Members, ARRL Headquarters staff and VEs, AECs, QSL bureau workers and awards managers (who are ARRL members). The complete list of eligible positions can be found on page 20 of the September 2009 issue of QST. If you work at least 25 /140 stations, an attractive certificate can be yours! The certificate can be endorsed in increments of 25 QSOs, up to 100.

Time Period: 0000 UTC September 2 until 2400 UTC September 9.

Exchange: All stations signing /140 send RS(T), their appointment and their name; others send RS(T) and their name.

Eligibility: All amateur stations may participate. ARRL Life Members, and those persons holding ARRL appointments, elected positions or ARRL HQ staff, may add /140 to their call signs for the duration of the celebration. Volunteer Examiners, Assistant Emergency Coordinators, QSL Bureau workers, Registered Instructors and Awards Managers who are ARRL members are also invited to participate.

Miscellaneous: /140 stations may be contacted on any band or mode for credit. You can work a station once per band and mode. Repeater contacts are valid for credit, but please be considerate of the users during a repeater's busy periods. All /140 stations are encouraged to be as active as possible on local repeaters and nets. The certificate is available for making at least 25 contacts with /140 stations, with endorsement increments of 25, and a maximum endorsement of 100. To receive the

award, send in a log extract with the date, time, band, call sign worked and exchange for each /140 contact. Include your name, call sign and address, and tell us how many /140 stations you worked. Mail everything to HPM/140 Celebration, c/o W1AW, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111-1494. You can also send in your entry on a disk or CD in regular text format. All entries must be accompanied by a check or money order for \$5 (US) payable to ARRL. Please make sure your entry is postmarked by October 9, 2009.

From *The ARRL Letter*, No. 33, August 21, 2009

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## MFJ ACQUIRES CUSHCRAFT

On August 7, MFJ Enterprises <<http://www.mfjenterprises.com/>> announced they had purchased the Cushcraft Amateur Radio antennas product line from Missouri-based Laird Technologies <<http://www.lairdtech.com/>> effective July 31. According to MFJ, Cushcraft -- makers of HF/VHF/UHF vertical, beam and Yagi antennas for the Amateur Radio community -- will continue to be manufactured in Manchester, New Hampshire. "We are excited to have the Cushcraft Amateur Radio Antennas product line alongside our other five companies," said Martin F. Jue, President and founder of MFJ Enterprises, Inc. "This product line increases our ability to offer our customers a wide range of antenna options at different prices. Customers will be able to choose from Cushcraft Amateur Radio antennas, Hy-gain and MFJ antennas through one source." MFJ purchased Hy-gain in 2000. The company also owns Ameritron, Mirage and Vecronics. Jue said that the Cushcraft line will bring more than 50 new products to MFJ's Amateur Radio product line. "We will add more new products to this antenna line and will continue the Cushcraft Amateur Radio antennas name long into the future. Cushcraft Amateur Radio antenna product customers will appreciate the continued and expected top-quality manufacturing of this product in New Hampshire and the MFJ commitment to superb after-the-sale service and tech support in Mississippi," said Jue. The 120 page 2010 MFJ catalog will include the entire Cushcraft Amateur Radio antennas product line. MFJ has set up a special customer support line -- 662-323-5803 -- to handle Cushcraft antenna product technical support, parts requests and customer services.

From *The ARRL Letter*, No. 31, August 7, 2009

## 7O1YGF APPROVED FOR DXCC

On August 12, ARRL DXCC Manager Bill Moore, NC1L, announced that after more than eight years, the 7O1YGF operation in 2000 from Yemen has been approved for DXCC credit. Moore cited a review of "recently received information," as well as "additional dialogue" with the leader of the 7O1YGF DXpedition, as reasons for the approval. The logs of 7O1YGF have been uploaded to Logbook of The World (LoTW).

\* As with paper applications, if you submitted 7O1YGF in the past to LoTW and had it rejected, we will accept an e-application via LoTW; you will not be charged a submission fee for the 7O1YGF submission only.

\* Make sure you have uploaded your QSOs to LoTW. DXCC cannot open and search the logs for your QSO, since doing this will not show the match that is required for an LoTW confirmation.

\* Applicants may include their 7O1YGF QSL card with their next QSL card submission and it will be handled as usual.

\* If you achieve Honor Roll or Top of the Honor Roll from this submission and you would like to order the wall plaque, send Moore an e-mail <dxcc@arrl.org>, or you can fax your order or send the order form by regular mail.

"Remember, the cutoff date for the 2009 DXCC Annual listing and Honor Roll list is December 31, 2009," Moore reminded DXers. "We encourage applicants to handle this sooner, rather than waiting until the last minute."

From *The ARRL Letter*, No. 32 & 33, August 14 & 21, 2009

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## 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 3, 2009) 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](mailto: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 12, 2009) at 10 AM and on the second Wednesday of the even numbered months (October 14, 2009) at 7 PM. The contact person is Larry Puccio, K2QDY, 732-349-2950 or lpuccio1@comcast.net.

In all cases, the fee is \$15 and you should bring the original and a copy of any amateur license presently held and original and one copy of any credit (CSCE) forms you have. Also bring 2 forms of ID with one being a picture ID.

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## VANITY FEES INCREASE SEPT. 10

On August 11, the FCC announced that the cost of an Amateur Radio vanity call sign will increase \$1.10, from \$12.30 to \$13.40. Now that notice of the increase has been published in the "Federal Register", the increase will take effect in 30 days, September 10, 2009. 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 notice in the August 11, 2009 Federal Register, entitled "Assessment and Collection of Regulatory Fees for Fiscal Year 2009," includes regulatory fees; these fees are expected to recover a total of \$341,875,000 during FY2009, encompassing all the Services the FCC regulates. For more information, see the recent ARRLWeb article, "FCC Looks to Raise Vanity Call Sign Fees for Second Consecutive Year".

From *The ARRL Letter*, No. 32, August 14, 2009

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Carl Truman, 19, of Los Angeles, California won \$74,000 plus medical expenses when his neighbor ran over his hand with a Honda Accord. Truman apparently didn't notice there was someone at the wheel of the car when he was trying to steal his neighbor's hubcaps.

## NEVADA HAMS TO ROADSIDE RESCUE

On the afternoon of July 16, ARRL Elko County (Nevada) Emergency Coordinator Greg Barker, K7CWL, was making his way home on Nevada Highway 278 when a van sped past him. About 60 miles later into his trip, he saw the van slow down and pull over to the side of the road. Barker, a physical therapist, pulled over and asked if he could assist. An elderly couple, their daughter and granddaughter were on the way to the hospital in Elko -- another 60 miles -- as the grandmother was experiencing what they believed was a series of mini-strokes.

The daughter told Barker that their van kept losing power and wouldn't run. Barker assessed the grandmother and tried to call 911 on his cell phone, but there was no coverage in that area. "I put out a call on my mobile radio, requesting immediate assistance, using the 146.850 repeater located about 55 miles away, part of a wide-area linked repeater system maintained by the Elko Amateur Radio Club," he told the ARRL. "Kent LeBart, K6IN, club president and a radio technician for the Nevada State Highway Patrol, was monitoring the system and responded immediately, asking how he could be of assistance."

Using the crossband repeat mode on his mobile radio, Barker was able to stay with the family at the van. He also used his handheld transceiver to tell LeBart that the grandmother needed to get to the emergency room. "Kent contacted central dispatch and relayed the information I gave him and asked me questions from the dispatch about the patient's situation and condition," he said. "Based on that information, they sent a medivac helicopter from Elko and an ambulance from Carlin."

Barker said that Highway 278 has no mile markers: "I relayed information to dispatch about the location using the closest ranch name and mountain pass turn-off as landmarks. With this information, volunteer fire fighters and first responders were on scene in about 20 minutes and the helicopter was on scene in about 30 minutes, followed by the ambulance at about 35 minutes."

Another local ham, Joe Sasgen, AD7OO, was able to offer useful information about approximate arrival times of the helicopter and ambulance. "Joe was monitoring central dispatch out of Elko," Barker said. "This information was reassuring to the family."

Flight paramedics assessed the grandmother and determined that a flight was justified based on her condition, Barker told the ARRL. "I was able to take her husband into the hospital in Elko to meet his wife. This is another testament to the value and utility of Amateur Radio, particularly on the lonely highways of rural Northern Nevada."

From *The ARRL Letter*, No. 30, July 31, 2009

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## FCC EXPANDS 500 KHZ LICENSE

On July 28, the FCC approved a modification that expands the ARRL's 500 kHz experimental license WD2XSH  
<[https://fjallfoss.fcc.gov/els/GetAtt.html?id=100140&x=.](https://fjallfoss.fcc.gov/els/GetAtt.html?id=100140&x=;)>. According to Experiment Coordinator Fritz Raab, W1FR, the expansion allows for more frequencies, more stations and portable operations. "We can now operate between 495-510 kHz," Raab said. "We were previously limited to 505-510 kHz. We will not be using 500 kHz itself so as to ensure that there is no conflict with the heritage stations on that frequency. The expansion also gives us the opportunity to expand the number of participating stations. We can now have 42 stations, where before we were limited to 23." Raab said that the expansion will now let participants operate within 50 km of their designated stations. This was not allowed under the previous terms of the experimental license. "Some stations have reduced operating bands to ensure that they do not interfere with nearby non-directional beacons (NDB). The FCC's Office of Engineering and Technology granted the WD2XSH experimental license to the ARRL in September 2006. Find out more information on the ARRL's 500 kHz Experiment in the July/August 2007 issue of QEX <<http://www.arrl.org/qex>>."

From *The ARRL Letter*, No. 30, July 31, 2009

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## RADIOSHACK REBRANDING ITSELF

In early August, a RadioShack Corporation news release touted its new branding: THE SHACK. The stated purpose: THE SHACK is friendlier-sounding and less "corporate" than RadioShack.

From *The ARRL Letter*, No. 32, August 14, 2009

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A professor is one who talks  
in someone else's sleep.

## NOTES ON CALENDAR (see last page)

Large call letters denote birthdays e.g., **KC2Q** September 27. All times are EDST. Contests are listed in the September QST, p. 78.

Sept. 1 – **Middletown Pancake House Luncheon** at noon at left rear table. All are welcome.

Sept. 1 – **Old Barney ARC Meeting**, 7:30 PM at Ocean Acres Community Center in Manahawkin, NJ. See <http://www.obarc.org>

Sept. 1 and every following Tuesday – **QCWA News Net** on 147.045 PL=67 at 9:00 PM.

Sept. 2 – **GSARA Meeting** at 7:30 PM at the MARS Building at Fort Monmouth.

Sept. 3 - **Holiday City ARC meeting** at 7 PM at Holiday City South Clubhouse in Toms River.

Sept. 4 – **WIAW Qualifying Run** at 10 PM (10-40 wpm). See Sept. QST, pp. 78 or [www.arrl.org/wlaw](http://www.arrl.org/wlaw)

Sept. 6 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.

Sept. 7 – **Labor Day**, No ARES Net.

Sept. 8 – **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](mailto:n2pvp@n2pvp.com)

Sept. 10 – **Jersey Shore Amateur Radio Society (JSARS)** meeting in Riverview Park Recreation Building, Rt. 527 and Riverwood Drive in Toms River at 7:30 PM.

Sept. 12 – **Holiday City VE Session** at 7:00 PM in Toms River. Pre-register with Larry Puccio, K2QDY at 732-349-2950 or e-mail at [lpuccio1@comcast.net](mailto:lpuccio1@comcast.net)

Sept. 12 – **OMARC Meeting**, 9:00 AM at the Diana Site on Marconi Road, Wall, NJ.

Sept. 12 – **Monmouth Amateur Radio Club meeting** at 10 AM in Union Beach Police Annex (Municipal Building) on Poole Avenue.

Sept. 12-13 – **ARRL VHF QSO Party**, all modes from 2 PM Saturday to 11 PM Sunday. See [www.arrl.org/contests](http://www.arrl.org/contests)

Sept. 12 – **North American Sprint**, CW from 8 PM to midnight. See [www.ncjweb.com](http://www.ncjweb.com)

Sept. 13 – Tinton Falls Tailgate Swap meet at 8 AM at corner of Asbury Ave. and Shafto Road (Luigi's Restaurant). Buyers are FREE and breakfast and coffee will be available.

Sept. 14 - **Monmouth County RACES Net** meets on 146.775 -600, PL=103.5 at 7:30 PM.

Sept. 16 – **WIAW Qualifying Run** at 7 PM (10-35 wpm). See Sept. QST, pp. 78 or [www.arrl.org/wlaw](http://www.arrl.org/wlaw)

Sept. 16 – **GSARA Meeting** at 7:30 at the Red Cross, West Park Ave. and Shafto Road in Tinton Falls. Program is about CPR use in an emergency.

Sept. 17 – **JSARS VE Test Session** at 7:30 PM Riverview Park Recreation Bldg., Rt. 527 and Riverwood Drive in Toms River. Contact Ed Genoino, WA2NDA at 609-971-2792 or [wa2nda@comcast.net](mailto:wa2nda@comcast.net).

Sept. 19-20 – **QCWA QSO Party**, all modes from 2 PM Sat. to 2 PM Sunday. See [www.qcwa.org/qso-party.htm](http://www.qcwa.org/qso-party.htm)

Sept. 19 - **North American Sprint**, SSB from 8 PM to midnight. See [www.ncjweb.com](http://www.ncjweb.com)

Sept. 21 - **Monmouth County ARES Net** meets on 146.775 -600, PL=103.5 at 7:30 PM.

Sept. 25-27 – **CQ WW RTTY Contest** from 8 PM Friday to 8 PM Sunday. See [www.cqwwrtty.com](http://www.cqwwrtty.com)

Sept. 26 – **Neptune Amateur Radio Club Meeting** at 9 AM at the American Legion on Gully Road in Neptune.

Sept. 26 – **Mid-Atlantic VHF Conference** in Plymouth Meeting, PA from 8 AM to 5 PM. See [www.packratvhf.com](http://www.packratvhf.com)

Sept. 27 – **Hamarama Flea Market** in Wrightstown, PA from 7 AM. \$5 admission. See [www.packratvhf.com](http://www.packratvhf.com)

Sept. 28 – **Monmouth County RACES** on 146.775 -600, PL=103.5 at 7:30 PM. RACES members only.

Sept. 28 – **QRP Homebrew Sprint**, CW from 8 PM to midnight. See [www.njqr.org](http://www.njqr.org)

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 Pancake House Old Barney ARC QCWA News 9 PM	2 GSARA Mtg	3 Hol. City Mtg.	4 CW Qual. Run	5
6 InfoAge	7 Labor Day	8 Croyden VE 7 PM QCWA News 9 PM	9	10 JSARS Mtg.	11	OMARC Mtg. 12 MARC Mtg VHF QSO CW Sprint
13 Wall Tailgate VHF QSO InfoAge	14 I RACES Net 7:30	15 QCWA News 9 PM	16 CW Qual. Run GSARA Mtg	17 JSARS VE	18	19 QCWA QSO SSB Sprint
20 QCWA QSO InfoAge	21 ARES/RACES 7:30	22 QCWA News 9 PM	23	24	25 CQ WW RTTY	Neptune Mtg 26 CQ WW RTTY PA VHF Conf.
Hamarama 27 KC2Q CQ WW RTTY InfoAge	28 KC2FDR RACES Net 7:30 QRP Sprint	29 QCWA News 9 PM	30 N2VFK			



G.S.A.R.A.

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FIRST CLASS