

CLUB HISTORY and INFORMATION

At first Bob Morris (1916-1943) of Point Pleasant, NJ had the call sign W2GSA from 1933 until his death October 24, 1943. The PBY Catalina sea plane he was piloting and landing at Naval Air Station Alameda crashed due to adverse winds on Oakland Bay, California; Bob died of his wounds in Oakland Naval Hospital.



Call sign W2GSA lay dormant until 1945 when hams were permitted to resume operating. For Field Day 1947 the Jersey Shore Amateur Radio Association used the call W2GSA, making it heard on the air for the first time in more than the six years since June 26, 1941, the date of Bob's final amateur radio QSO entered his last log book. The club petitioned the FCC to assign the call to the club in memory and honor of JSARA club member Bob Morris. In 1950 Jersey Shore ARA and Monmouth County ARA united to form a new radio club. Using the call letters W2GSA the organizers naturally selected the name Garden State Amateur Radio Association (GSARA), itself preserving Bob's memory. Although a Silent Key, Bob Morris's key is yet alive in the hands and hearts of decades of his radio friends each time they sign on phone Whiskey Two Gulf Sierra Alpha or tap in code W2GSA.