



Field Day is in the bag (yes, we did very well as a club!). We are back to getting together live and

in person (for now, anyway!). And it seems like the bands are starting to pick up. On top of all this good news, the weather is getting a bit cooler and that can only mean one thing for ham operators: getting the antennas up in the air, maintained, and ready for the winter! If you have your antennas still up after this summer's storms, you are in good shape. Too many of us have had our wires and beams bent, broken or pulled down by the storms. But the time is coming to spend a weekend and get them up back up in the air!

I recently lamented that I could not get on 6 meters since my 6 meter antenna was not part of the grand antenna plan. But I totally forgot that my new beam also has 6 meters built in! I was so focussed on HF that I totally forgot the VHF component of the antenna. So I have been experimenting with 6 meters CW and FT8. While the range is not nearly as good as HF, of course, it is still a lot of fun watching the contacts roll in and chalking up new States. Of course,

Hawaii and Alaska are going to be really hard but I am making progress on the Lower Forty Eight. That must count for something, I guess.

What is your ham radio goal this Fall and Winter? Have you found a mode you want to experiment with or maybe get to that you have wanted to work on? Now is the time to plan it out and get everything ready so that when you have the time to work on your goal, you will be ready to hit the ionosphere or the workbench running. There is nothing more satisfying than setting your ham radio goal and achieving it step-by-step.

As part of the Propagator, why not share your goal(s) with the club? Include pictures of what you are hoping to do, shots of your progress, and a description of your project. The club is interested in what you are doing and you may inspire someone else to try something that they never thought of.

The GSARA is welcoming new members almost every month now. And the reason isn't hard to see. We have a very professional VE staff, friendly and helpful members, and an outstanding repeater. People are watching and listening: share with them and invite them in! Submit your stuff to k2cys@arrl.net and let your projects shine on the pages of the Propagator!

Cy Stanway, K2CYS

August
2021

The Propagator

From the Editor



Bob Buus, W2OD

By all counts, our 2021 Field Day was an unqualified success. We kept our two transmitters both on the air almost continuously for the full 24 hours.

Set up went well in spite of some rain and the food was excellent thanks to Diana and Pat Noble. We had good operator coverage and the take-down went smoothly with adequate volunteers. In addition, we had three operators operating from their home stations and they accumulated an additional 1270 points for us. Hats off to all of the GSARA volunteers who made this year's Field Day such a success!

August is lighthouse month and, as in past years, we have two lighthouse weekends. The United States has declared August 7 as "Lighthouse Day" so many lighthouses in America have special events on that day. The Amateur Radio Lighthouse Society has declared the August 7-8 weekend to be the US National Lighthouse Weekend and US amateurs are encouraged to set up stations at your favorite lighthouse and put it on the air on the August 7-8 weekend.

The rest of the world observes the third weekend in August (August 21-22) to be International Lighthouse/Lightship Weekend and lighthouses throughout the world will be activated on that weekend by radio amateurs.

So, both weekends in August should have lots of amateur stations operating from various lighthouses. Listen for them and work them. You might even pick up some new states or countries. Because there was so little response last month, I am again running the list of equipment from Lou Russo, W2HAM who is trying to find a home for much of his gear. This time, I have included what I think is an attractive price. Although the

TS-530S transceiver is a bit on the old side and has 6146 finals, it does put out a respectable 220 Watts PEP on SSB (3 dB more than modern solid state rigs). Although it won't operate on 13 volts dc, the built-in 120 VAC supply saves having to find a power supply for it. If you are interested in something but think the asking price is too high, make an offer. If it's reasonable, it will probably be accepted. A good home is more important than top price.



Also listed this month is a linear amplifier and high-power antenna tuner from the estate of Bob Boule, W2OKM. His son (also named Bob) is not licensed but is using his father's rig for SWLing. He realizes that

he has no use for the amplifier and tuner and hopes to convert these items to cash. I think he knows what his father paid for these items so he's not going to give them away at a bargain price but will not be unreasonable. If interested, make him an offer.

The program at the August 5 Zoom meeting will feature me describing some of Marconi's accomplishments in the early days of radio. One of his contemporaries was Father Joseph Murgas from Pennsylvania whose story I have included in a long article in this edition of the Propagator.

The Friday luncheons have resumed at noon each Friday and are now back at the Blue Swan Diner on Highway 35 south in Ocean Township. We meet in the back left corner a little before noon. If you're available, come join us.

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

73 de Bob, w2od@arrl.net

MEETINGS

In lieu of the current NJ proclamations with regard to the Corona Virus, the regularly scheduled meetings of the GSARA at the Red Cross have been canceled until further notice. We will conduct the August 5 program meeting via video conferencing using the Zoom App.

Simply go to <https://zoom.us/download> and download the Zoom App. Prior to the meeting, you will get an e-mail invitation to the meeting. When you wish to join the meeting, simply double click on the location link in the e-mail and when the Launch Application shows, click on "open link" and you should be in the meeting room.

The Thursday, August 5 program meeting at 7:30 will have a program devoted to the early radio activities of Guglielmo Marconi presented by Bob Buus, W2OD. Come learn more about one of the most significant pioneers of radio. The presentation will be via Zoom. We look for a good turnout.

GSARA will also have a business meeting on the third Thursday in August, the 15th at 7:30 pm at Temple Beth Miriam at 180 S. Lincoln Ave in

the Elberon section of Long Branch. There is no parking at the Temple so you must park at the Elberon train station nearby. Refreshments will be served. Come meet your fellow GSARA members in person.

The next VE Test Session sponsored by GSARA will be held on Saturday, August 28, 2021. Applicants are asked to meet in front of the Red Cross on West Park Avenue at 10 am and will **AUGUST VE SESSION** then proceed as a caravan to the Pavillion at Fireman's Park in Oakhurst (straight down W. Park Ave.).

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. A new ruling, the FCC requires all applicants to have previously obtained an FRN number from them as no applications will have Social Security numbers recorded. For more information, contact Marlo Montanaro at ka2irq@comcast.net or 732-207-7343.

Tuesday Night Net

2WOZ (5), KC2YNL (5), N2BCS (4), KA2IRQ (4), K2MFS (4), W2NAZ (4), KD2ROF (4), N2BMK (3), AC2MB (3), KD-2NAD (3), KD2OXR (3), KC2WAN (3), KA2F (2), KZ2G (2), N2MEP (2), KD2VZT (2) W2CET (1), N2FSB (1), NJ2GL (1), W2IWW (1), WA2JOE (1), W2KQ (1), W2NIR (1), KG2NV (1), K2RLF (1), WA2SFF (1) N3SIQ (1), and K2SMM.

In the last session in June and the four sessions in July, we had 90 check-ins for an average of 18.0 per session. The following 33 members checked into this net this period (number of check-ins in parenthesis):

N2AJO (5), K2NPT (5), W2OD (5), WB2RPW (5), KD2SFF (5), KD-

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

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Layout & Publishing: Cy Stanway, K2CYS
Adobe Publish/Flip PDF Professional



You are invited to submit articles and ideas

The Propagator is the official newsletter of the Garden State Amateur Radio Association. For questions about the Propagator, please contact k2cys@arrl.net

Welcome to GSARA

The following new members were voted into the GSARA at the July 1 GSARA Zoom meeting:

Ed Christensen, KD2WOZ from Little Silver was first licensed this year and has his General class license. He is presently on VHF/UHF with his HT but is planning to move to the HF bands in the near future. He is an ARRL member and is also interested in Fishing, Coin Collecting and a volunteer EMT. His occupation is as a Administrator/Professor.

Phil Gilhaus, KC2WAN from Marlboro holds a General class license and was first licensed in 2009. He hopes to soon be active on the digital modes such as APRS and JS8, chasing DX on HF, and SOTA. His occupation is in IT and he also enjoys Hiking and Geocaching.

Details of these new members (address, phone number, e-mail address, etc.) are available on the official Roster on the member's portal of the GSARA website (www.gsara.club).

Please extend a hearty WELCOME to all these new members of the GSARA!



FIELD DAY RESULTS!

GSARA FIELD DAY 2021 RESULTS

The submitted results for the club station at Palaia Park:

QSOs

Band	CW	Dig.	SSB	Total
80	45	0	101	146
40	550	0	120	670
20	25	15	34	74
Total	620	15	34	74

QSO Mult.	1240	30	255	1525
Pwr. Mult. = 2				3050
Bonus Pts.				650
Club Score				3700

In addition, KA2F, W2KQ and N2MN operated from home and submitted individual scores that totaled 1270. That brought the total overall score for GSARA up to 4970. Not Bad!



GARDEN STATE AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION



HAMFEST

**Saturday September 25, 2021
8 a.m. to 12 p.m.**

**MOESC Parking Lot
100 Tornillo Way (off Shafto Road)
Tinton Falls, NJ 07712**

ADMISSION:

VENDORS 7 a.m.

\$5 admission fee

**first parking space FREE with admission
\$10.00 each additional space**

BUYERS 8 a.m.

\$5.00 admission fee per person



- VE session starts at 11:00AM
- QSL card checking
- Food and hot and cold beverages
- Door prizes
- Talk-in—W2GSA REPEATER: 147.045 + PL 67

GSARA HamFest Sponsors:



Email to: HAMFEST@GardenStateARA.Org
[http:// www.gsara.club](http://www.gsara.club)

Mark your calendar now to reserve Saturday, September 25 to attend the 2021 GSARA Hamfest at the MOESC Parking Lot in Tinton Falls. It will feature QSL Card Checking, door prizes, food, hot and cold beverages with a VE test session to start at 11 am. Vendors can come at 7 am and buyers at 8 am. Admission fee is \$5 per person. Please volunteer to make this Hamfest successful by signing up at our web site, www.gsara.club. We're looking forward to nice weather and a big turnout.

RADIO PIONEER FATHER JOSEPH MURGAS

A man with a broad range of interests and talents, Father Joseph Murgas is perhaps best known for developing and patenting the "Tone Method", a system of wireless communication capable of transmitting voice and sound over great land distance, an achievement amateur radio operators recognize today as ground-breaking in the development of radio technology.

Father Joseph Murgas was born in Tajov (Jabrikova), Zvolen County, Slovakia on February 17, 1864. When he was eighteen years old, he entered the catholic seminary at Bratislava to study for the priesthood. Since he had an inclination for the sciences, Murgas studied electricity, astronomy, and advanced physics at various seminaries. He also began experiments with wireless telegraphy and took classes in painting and sketching. On November 10, 1888, Father Murgas was ordained as a priest in the diocese of Banska Bystrica. Since he showed talent in art, Father Murgas was sent to the Academy of Art in Munich Germany in 1889. After the completion of his art study, Murgas was still interested in science and he enrolled as an advanced student in the Electrical College of Vienna, Austria. There he continued pioneering experiments in wireless telegraphy.

Because of his knowledge of art, Father Murgas was selected to pass judgment on a painting in the Hungarian House of Parliament. The painting portrayed the Hungarians conquering the Slavs in a battle in the year 907 AD. A Slav by birth, Father Murgas took exception to the painting and stated that it represented a "pathetic fallacy of history". This judgment led to charges of disloyalty against him. As a consequence, Father Murgas felt it would be best to leave Hungary. (At this time Slovakia was a part of Hunga-

ry.) A Slovak friend of Father Murgas was a priest in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania. This priest urged Murgas to come to Wilkes-Barre, where "he could serve God to better advantage".

Arriving in America on April 6, 1896, Father Murgas traveled to Northeastern Pennsylvania and was assigned to a parish in Pittston. A few months later, Murgas was appointed Pastor of Sacred Heart Church at 601 North Main Street, Wilkes-Barre. His predecessor and friend, Father Matthew Jankola, had almost finished building a wooden Church on the site. Father Murgas took over and finished the project. The following year, he oversaw the construction of a residence for himself and a school for the children of the parish. In 1908 Father Murgas dedicated a stone and brick church for the parish. Murgas was very involved in all aspects of the construction. He used his artistic ability to create a painting over the main altar and another above one of the side altars in the church.



Even though Father Murgas was responsible for all the priestly duties of a large parish, he was still fascinated by electrical theories and ideas. Murgas wrote and published articles in scientific periodicals. To demonstrate that he was aware of the possibilities in this area, in 1896 Father Murgas wrote an article which closed with the words: "The field of electrical wonders has just opened and it is difficult to predict the great things it has in store for us." What a prognostication!

Father Murgas started to conduct electrical experiments relating to wireless communication in 1898 and used the basement of the rectory as his workshop. He had to do it the hard way. With little money, he made the various parts for his ex-

periments. There were no "Heath Kits" in those days. Murgas really was a "home brew expert". Some parts took months to build. He dedicated himself to making a wireless system that would overcome the problems of both physical and atmospheric interference. After four years of experimenting, he felt that he had perfected a system for wireless transmission, not only of electrical impulses but also voice modulation.

The Boston Herald on September 18, 1902, printed the following statement in its paper: "Wireless telegraphy experiments between Washington and Annapolis are over. They demonstrated that wireless telegraphy in its present stage of development is absolutely useless for land purposes. Whether it is worth adopting the Marconi system by the U.S. Navy remains to be seen." Marconi had conducted and limited his experiments over water, where he did not have to deal with interference problems that were present in land communication.

Father Murgas knew from his experiments that he could transmit messages over land. Transmission by wireless in those days was by the "Spark Gap Method". On September 14, 1903, Father Murgas applied for, and later received, a patent for a system of wireless communication known as the "Tone Method". Under this system, electrical energy was emitted at two tones each of a different pitch. The tone method could produce combinations of tones to represent different letters similar to Morse code. High pitch sounds represented a "dit" or dot, and low-pitched sounds a "dah" or dash. It was demonstrated that messages sent by the tone method could be transmitted faster than using a system of successive impulses. This method was faster because a dedicated break between each character was not needed.

The New York Herald on March 13, 1903, published an article which read: "Father Joseph Murgas, Pastor of Sacred Heart Church, Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania, has just perfected a new wireless telegraph system, which he believes is superior to the Marconi method. It is far more simpler, and messages can be sent twice as fast. In his exhaustive experiments, Father Murgas found he can send messages seventy (70) miles on land by earth circuit and seven hundred miles (700) miles over sea."

Philadelphia capitalists formed the Universal Aether Telegraph Company on July 2, 1904. Later it was found that some Washington lawyers were also involved as silent partners. An agreement between the Universal Aether Telegraph Company and Father Murgas brought much needed money to assist in his work. In the company's budget they had plans to erect a station with an antenna in Wilkes-Barre and also one in Scranton. The antennas were each to cost around \$4,200, and a small building or shack at the base of the antennas were each to cost around \$1,500. The antenna towers were 200 feet high and of wood construction.

President Theodore Roosevelt was in the area visiting Father John J. Curran on April 27, 1905. The President had heard about Father Murgas' experiments and asked to meet him and see his wireless system. After spending time with Murgas and seeing his equipment, the President said he had never seen such a phenomenon and promised government support. On November 23, 1905, there was a large public demonstration of Father Murgas' wireless system. Public officials present included the Mayors of Wilkes-Barre and Scranton at their respective city stations, agents of the Universal Aether Telegraph Company, newspaper reporters, and many others. The Navy Department was represented by Lieutenant Commander Samuel S. Robison. The Scranton Mayor sent a message, "Scranton sends healthy congratulations to Father Murgas, our Mother City's foremost inventor." The public test of the "Tone Method" was a big success. Lieutenant Commander Robinson reported the tests "most satisfactory" and he thought that Murgas had the best system of wireless transmission.

In this same time period, Father Murgas conducted public communications by voice between his Wilkes-Barre and Scranton stations. By modifying his "Tone System" he was able to transmit speech. It seems quite clear that these transmissions of continuous wave and audio were the first transmissions ever made over land at such a great distance (20 miles). Father Murgas demonstrated that communication by wireless or radio over great land distances was possible. This had not been achieved prior to these public demonstrations. His experiments gave the impetus to all land transmissions by radio that followed. Around

this time, Marconi visited Father Murgas and later developed the "Sonorous Method", quite apparently based on Father Murgas' "Tone Method". Professor Reginald A. Fessenden, another early inventor, introduced the "Sound Method", also it seems based on Father Murgas' "Tone Method".

Unfortunately, even with all this success, there was not a storybook ending. Disaster struck quickly and with heavy blows. A few months after the November test, there was a big storm which knocked



150th birth anniversary of the inventor,
artist and priest

Jozef Murgas



down the antenna tower in Scranton and also ruined the station. The storm destroyed one of the towers at Wilkes-Barre location. A prominent person in the company backing Father Murgas died and the Universal Aether Telegraph Company decided it could not afford to rebuild the stations. Also, there was a big disappointment when the U.S. Navy did not accept the "Tone Method". The US government and other countries had previously entered into contracts with Marconi and purchased millions of dollars' worth of his equipment. Money already spent on the equipment would be wasted if the government changed to the Murgas system. Wireless was becoming more established and, in a few years, there were about ten new companies in the field. Father Murgas' Company could not compete financially.

Professor Reginald A. Fessenden, an early inventor in radio, brought suit in New York City in 1916 for a patent infringement against Marconi. Fessenden claimed he was the inventor of the "Sound Method" of communication. Marconi's defense was that Fessenden was not the inventor of the "Sound Method" of communication, but rather Father Murgas of Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania. Murgas invented the "Tone Method" and Fessenden's "Sound Method" was a similar method of communication. The Court ruled in favor of Mar-

coni and said: "Based on the Murgas inventions and testified to in written and oral memos by witnesses and as explained in the Electrical Review of October 25, 1902 and of December 2, 1905, it has been proven to me conclusively that Fessenden was not the inventor of what was claimed to have been infringed upon in this notable contribution of the art."

Father Murgas personally continued experimenting on his own until 1912 and secured several more

patents in radio. It is thought that Father Murgas stopped experimenting with wireless at this time, but his friends say that he continued his interest in radio until 1922. Because Murgas was a recognized authority on wireless and radio, President Calvin Coolidge appointed him Chairman of the first United States Radio Communication Commission in 1929. Unfortunately, Father Murgas was not able to accept.

Later in his life, Father Murgas turned to his naturalist interests. He continued to collect butterflies until his collection had grown to thousands of items. King's College of Wilkes-Barre was given what remained of his butterfly collection. In the last few years of his life, Murgas confined his leisure time to fishing. He particularly liked to fish at Lake Silkworth and Harvey's Lake. With his engineering abilities and knowledge of fishing, Father Murgas received a patent for a fishing rod.

In addition to his extra-curricular activities, Father Murgas ran a big parish, built a new Church and Rectory, founded a Slovak Beneficial Insurance Association, and assisted in founding an order of Sisters of Saint Cyril and Methodius. During World War I Murgas took a great interest in the freedom of Slovakia, which became a free country after the war. Father Murgas helped raise one million dol-

lars to aid in Slovakia's freedom.

On May 11, 1929, after saying Mass in the morning, Father Murgas told his housekeeper he felt a little weak and went to his room to rest. When he did not appear for lunch, his staff investigated and found he had died. His physician believed Murgas died of a heart attack. A large funeral was held for Father Murgas in the Church he helped to build. He received acclamation of his fellow citizens of all faiths for his many accomplishments in the field of religion, art, and science. Father Murgas was buried in the Sacred Heart Parish Cemetery in Dallas.

Many honors followed even after Murgas' death. On the tenth anniversary of his death in 1939, Father Murgas' beloved Slovakia named its only radio station after him. In October of 1944, a U.S.S. Liberty Ship was named "The Father Joseph Murgas". Pennsylvania Governor Edward Martin set aside November 12, 1944, as Reverend Joseph Murgas Day. In the Governor's Declaration he said in part: "...In a life devoted to his Church and to the betterment of others, Joseph Murgas gave much to his fellow men. He had many patents in the field of wireless communication and is largely responsible for the development of the transmission of voice by radio."



On the lawn in front of the church where Father Murgas served as Pastor, is a small monument with a facial figure of Father Murgas. The inscription is as follows:

February 17, 1884 - May 1, 1929

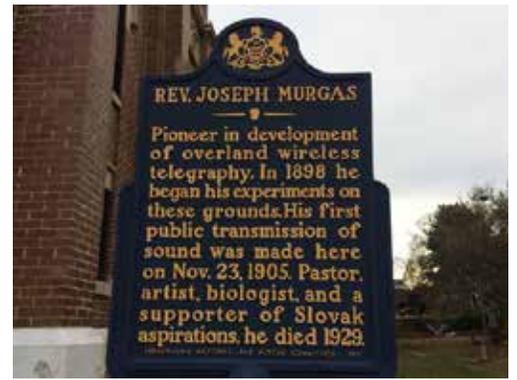
In memory of Rev. Joseph

Murgas

Here in the early days of radio communications, he created and developed to practical use, a major advancement in the art that opened the way to improved and dependable radio transmission over great distances.

Presented by the Order of Alhambra, May 12, 1965
A local amateur radio club adopted the name

the "Murgas Amateur Radio Club" in 1975 as a tribute to Father Joseph Murgas. Fellow amateur radio operators recognized him as a pioneer who was successful in experimental work of wireless telegraphy, communicating by electrical impulses and voice in what has become known as radio.



The Murgas Club has presented several reenactments of the November 1905 public demonstrations. They have also hosted special event stations to educate other amateurs about Father Murgas and his inventions. In 1979 a monument in honor of Father Murgas was presented by the Murgas Club to the Sacred Heart Parish. The monument is a scale size replica of Murgas' twin towers and was placed at the original site of his towers.

In 1994 a Joseph Murgas stamp was issued by the Slovakia Republic on the 130th anniversary of his birth.

Kings College in Wilkes-Barre established the "Father Murgas Room" on its campus in 2015. It contains paintings by Father Murgas, part of his butterfly collection, and displays explaining his radio inventions. An anonymously endowed scholarship has been created in Father Murgas' name at this school.

References

- Palickar, Stephen J., Rev. Joseph Murgas Priest-Scientist, Sunland California: Cecil L. Anderson Publishing, 1950. Public domain access granted through Penn State University Library.
- Brannigan, Alice, Popular Communications, Father Murgas: Radio's Forgotten Genius, June 1985.
- Article originally researched and written by J. Campbell Collins, Esq., K3YTL in 1975 to support his recommendation that a newly formed radio club in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania be named "Murgas Amateur Radio Club". Upon his death, the Murgas Amateur Radio Club honored J. Campbell Collins by adopting his call sign, K3YTL, as the club call sign.

KC2YNL LOOKING FOR COINS

GSARA member Ralph Ciappa, KC2YNL is also a coin collector. If you have any coins (or access to coins), he might be interested in buying some from you. He lives in Freehold and can be reached at 732-414-1111.

INTERNATIONAL LIGHTHOUSE WEEKEND

Set for August 21 - 22, the 24th annual International Lighthouse



Lightship Weekend (ILLW) will be back, despite the disruption of the global COVID-19 pandemic. Each year, typically on the third weekend of August, participants set up portable stations at or near lighthouses and lightships around the world. Last year, prospects for the event were looking dim, but "regular supporters wanted the event to be a beacon of hope," the event's sponsor said. More than 360 registrations from 43 countries backed up their belief. As of July 8, this year's registration tally had already topped 200, with 25 participants signed up to activate lighthouses or lightships in the US.

The ILLW typically attracts entries for some 500 lighthouses in more than 40 countries. The event has few rules and is not a typical contest-type event. The ILLW will begin at 0001 UTC on August 21 and continue through 2400 UTC on August 22.

Each station's operators decide how they will operate their station with respect to modes and bands. There are no power restrictions or entry classes and no scores.

"We wish operators to enjoy themselves and have fun while making contact with as many amateur radio stations as possible," ILLW said in the event announcement. "We request that stations take time to work other lighthouses or lightships, as well as the slow operators or newly licensed or QRP stations." Participants contact the relevant authorities to obtain permission to operate. It is within the guidelines of the event to move operations from a lighthouse to a museum for historic reasons. In any case, the lighthouse should be visible to, and visited by, the public wherever possible.

Visit the ILLW website for more detailed information.

From the ARRL Letter, July 8, 2021

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QSO TODAY VIRTUAL HAM EXPO

The third QSO Today Virtual Ham Expo is less than a month away. The live event takes place over the August 14 - 15 weekend, and presentations will remain available on demand for 30 days. Sponsors predict that the event will be "a great experience" for those wanting to improve their knowledge of amateur radio as well as of cutting-edge ham radio technology and practical techniques. ARRL is a QSO Today Virtual Ham Expo partner.

"At the Expo, you can listen and engage with almost 100 internationally recognized ham radio luminaries on approximately 18 different topic areas -- there is something for everyone," the sponsors say. "Topics include antennas and transmission lines; build-a-thons; contesting/DX; controllers; digital voice mode; emergency communications; filters and tuned circuits; the future of amateur radio; ham history; HF digital modes; new licenses; power amplifiers; propagation; radio astronomy; software and services; space and satellites; test and measurement, and youth in amateur radio."

A complete list of speakers at the QSO Today Virtual Ham Expo is posted on the event's website. These are some examples:

- In the "Antennas and Transmission Lines" presentation, August Hansen, KB0YH, will focus on such topics as small transmitting loop design

and STLcalc, an open-source design aid for STL and magnetic loop antennas that can respond to user's changing needs and design goals.

- Geoffrey Mendenhall, W8GNM, will address the topic, "Compromise Beverage Antennas Hear Better Than You Think." The presentation focuses on overcoming non-ideal terrain and space limitations.

- "Fun with HF QRP Pedestrian Mobile," with Peter Parker, VK3YE, will offer a look at two antennas for HF pedestrian mobile, and the results possible with such an operation.

- Ham radio author Don Keith, N4KC, will present "Top 5 Get-On-The-Air-Quick Antennas," which offers recommendations for the simplest, most effective antennas to consider.

- Within the "New License -- Now What" track, the presentation "HF Noise Mitigation" will describe various noise sources and how to mitigate noise using a variety of techniques.

- Anthony Luscre, K8ZT, will discuss "Technician Licensees, Life Beyond Local Repeaters." Participants will explore

the world of activities, modes, and bands available outside of repeater operation.

There's no limit on the number of topics and tracks that QSO Today Virtual Ham Expo visitors may view. Return any time within 30 days to (re)view any presentation, as well as to explore exhibitor offerings.

"Early bird" tickets are \$10 (\$12.50 "at the door"). Access to only the exhibitor area is



From the ARRL Letter, July 15, 2021

QSO TODAY PLATFORM PREVIEW

The next QSO Today Virtual Ham Expo, on August 14 - 15, is offering a platform preview of the show. From 1500 UTC on August 1 through 2400 UTC on August 3, 2021, anyone can preview the expo platform at no charge. The fully functioning preview will allow prospective participants to gain comfort with the platform layout and navigation, including the virtual lobby, auditorium, exhibit hall, and meeting lounges.

In addition, five speaker pre-

sentations from the last expo will be available, as well as a small exhibit area featuring full

ly functional booths from Flex-Radio and QSO Today.

Early-bird tickets for the third QSO Today Expo are \$10 until August 8 and \$12.50 after that. Register on the QSO Today Virtual Ham Expo website.

ARRL is a QSO Today Virtual Ham Expo partner.

From the ARRL Letter, July 29, 2021

PROPAGATOR NOW ON THE WEB

***The Propagator is available as a PDF file at:
<http://www.gsara.club>***

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

***GSARA HOMEPAGE
<http://www.GSARA.club>***

***HUDSON DIVISION HOME PAGE
<http://www.hudson.arrl.org>***

POWER AMP AND TUNER FOR SALE

By Bob Boulle

I would like to sell the Linear Amplifier and Antenna Tuner that belonged to my father, Bob Boulle, W2OKM-SK:

Ameritron AL-811H Linear Amplifier with modification to operate on 10 meters. Purchased shortly before his death so little used.

MFJ-989D Versa Tuner V high-power antenna tuner.

They can be picked up in Middletown. If interested, contact: Bob Boulle 732-241-7469

EQUIPMENT FOR SALE

By Bob Buus, W2OD

GSARA member Lou Russo, W2HAM has moved to an assisted living facility in Marlboro and is selling his amateur equipment. This was listed last month without prices: Prices have been added this time.

Kenwood TS-530S HF Transceiver (with WARC bands), built-in power supply, 220 W. PEP SSB and 180 W CW. With instruction manual and service manu-

al. \$200

Kenwood MC-50 Desk Mic. \$25
Astatic D-104 Mic on UG8 desk stand with Kenwood connector. \$30

MFJ-949E Deluxe Versa Antenna Tuner II with Manual. \$100

Radio Shack HTX-202 2-Meter FM Handheld with Manual, extra Ni-Cad battery pack, speaker mic, and wall wart charger. \$20
Radio Shack 13.6 volt, 2.5 amp Power Supply. \$10

MFJ-407C Deluxe Electronic Keyer with Manual. \$40

Straight Key on wooden base. \$10

Veritas V372 Stereo Headset with cord. \$10

Optimus XTS 25 Speaker in finished case. \$10

AT&T white telephone and answering machine. \$10

Sears 5-inch Analog portable B&W TV with Manual. \$20

Interested? Call Bob, W2OD at 732-946-8615 for more information. All reasonable offers will be accepted.



Looking Back on GSARA

FIVE YEARS AGO

From the August 2016 Propagator: Several pictures of Field Day operations were included thanks to Chris, W2NQB (now SK). The Two River Times had a nice article about GSARA participation on Field Day. Ralph, KC2YNL as made an Honorary Life Member of GSARA. John Krieg, K2ZGF from Atlantic Highlands became a silent key at age 87.

TEN YEARS AGO

From the August 2011 Propagator: New members to GSARA were Jeff Lambert, KC2ZDK (now KZ2G) from Brick and Alan Sherman, W2NIR from West Long Branch. Ralph, KC2YNL; Ted, N2KPC; and Frank, W2XYZ have been working on the trailer-tower and it is now ready for painting. ARRL is now on Facebook, Twitter, You Tube and the ARRL audio news is on iTunes.

FIFTEEN YEARS AGO

From the August 2006 Propagator: Field Day final results were published with a final score of 2782. We made 192 CW contacts and 582 phone contacts. A thank you letter was received from Kathy Finch, KD2VX thanking us for publishing her father's obit (Rogers Finch, KA2HSU). Montenegro became a new DXCC entity.

TWENTY YEARS AGO

From the August 2001 Propagator: Ed Kracum, WB2COP became a silent key on July 11 at the age of 72. Several Field Day pictures at Tatum Park were included. An extensive list of VHS video tapes available for loan to members was published. Mike, KC2Q published a list of interesting DX to watch for.

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO

From the August, 1996 Propagator: Field Day at Tatum Park scored 4558 points. Marconi's daughter Gioia Marconi died at age 80. GSARA will be operating a special event station from Fort Hancock on August 10-11. We are having a BBQ picnic at Fireman's field in Oakhurst on August 17. Lou Russo upgraded to Extra class and changed his call from KB2RIO to AB2BQ (and later W2HAM).

THIRTY YEARS AGO

From the August-September 1991 Propagator: Field Day at Tatum Park was successful as 4A and we ran up 4065 points. GSARA sent \$50 to the ARRL Scholarship Fund in memory of Bill Saker, KG2U.

W2GSA NETS

- Tuesdays at 8:00 pm: SSB on ten meters on 28.390 MHz
- Tuesdays at 8:30 pm: Analog FM, 147.045+ PL 67
- Monthly on a Wednesday at 7:00 pm: C4FM Digital Narrow (DN) 145.045+ (check club website for dates)
- Sundays at 9:00 pm: 6-Meter AM phone on 50.405 MHz.

NOTES ON CALENDAR (see next page)

Large Call letters denote birthdays e.g. **KD2KOA** on August 7. All times are EDST. Contests are listed in the August QST, p. 71. The W1AW CW Qualifying runs are shown each day as “CW” followed by the time and followed by either “35” for 10-35 WPM or “40” for 10-40 WPM and the optional letter “R” at the end denoting that the speed decreases rather than increases. For complete Qualifying Run information, see August 2021 QST page 83 and www.arrl.org/qualifying-run-schedule

August 2 – **W1AW CW Qualifying Run (CW 4 pm 35)** at 4 pm (10-35 wpm).

August 3 and every following Tuesday – **GSARA 10 Meter Net** on 28.390 at 8 pm, SSB

August 3 and every following Tuesday – **GSARA Net** on 147.045 PL=67 at 8:30 pm.

August 3 - **W1AW CW Qualifying Run (CW 7 pm 35R)** at 7 pm (35-10 wpm).

August 5 – **Holiday City ARC Meeting** at 7 pm at Holiday City South Clubhouse in Toms River on Zoom.

August 5 –**GSARA Meeting** at 7:30 pm via Zoom teleconferencing. This will be a program meeting that will feature Bob Buus, W2OD who will talk about Marconi’s early radio achievements. Don’t miss it!

August 5 - **W1AW CW Qualifying Run (CW 10 pm 40)** at 10 pm (10-40 wpm).

August 6 – **W1AW CW Qualifying Run (CW 9 am 35)** at 9 am (10-35 wpm).

August 7-8 – **US National Lighthouse Weekend** sponsored by Amateur Radio Lighthouse Society (ARLHS). See <https://arlhs.com>

August 7-8 – **North American CW QSO Party** from 2 pm Saturday to 1:59 am Sunday. See <http://www.ncjweb.com>

August 7-8 – **ARRL 222 and Up Distance Contest** from 2 pm Saturday to 2 pm Sunday, all modes. See <http://www.arrl.org/222-mhz-and-up-distance-contest>

August 11 – **Holiday City VE Session** at 7 pm in Toms River. Contact Larry Puccio, K2QDY at 732-349-2950 or e-mail to lpuccio@comcast.net

August 14 – **OMARC Meeting** at 9:00 am at the Firehouse on 600 Sixth Ave. in Spring Lake Heights. This meeting may be on Zoom.

August 18 – **GSARA Digital Fusion Net** on 147.045 DN at 7:00 pm. Note that time has been moved from 8 pm to 7 pm. Also, this net is now only once per month instead of weekly.

August 19 – **GSARA Meeting** at 7:30 pm at Temple Beth-Miriam Reform in Elberon (park at train station). This will be a business meeting.

August 20-22 – **International Lighthouse and Lightship Weekend** from 8:01 pm Friday to 8 pm Sunday. See <https://illw.net>

August 21-22 – **North American SSB QSO Party** from 2 pm Saturday to 1:59 am Sunday. See <http://www.ncjweb.com>

August 22 – **ARRL RTTY Rookie Roundup** from 2 pm to 7:59 pm, all digital modes. See <http://www.arrl.org/rookie-roundup>

August 28-29 – **Hawaii QSO Party**, HF all modes from 0 am Saturday to midnight Sunday. See <http://www.hawaiiqsoparty.org>

August 28 – **W/VE Islands QSO Party**, 160 through 6 meters, all modes from 8 am to 11 pm. See <http://www.usislands.org/qso-party-rules>

AUGUST 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 CW 4pm 35	3 CW 7 pm 35R GSARA 10 Mtr GSARA Net 8:30	4	5 HCARC Mtg GSARA Mtg CW 10 pm 40	6 CW 9 am 35	7 KD2KOA US NLW N. A. CW QSO 222 and up
8 NJ2H US NLW N. A. CW QSO 222 and up	9 WA2DJN WA2JOE	10 CW 4 pm 35 GSARA 10 Mtr GSARA Net 8:30	11 CW 7 pm 40 Hol. City VE	12 CW 9 am 35R	13 CW 10 pm 35	14 OMARC Mtg
15	16	17 K2EI CW 9 am 35 GSARA 10 Mtr GSARA Net 8:30	18 GSARA Dig. Net CW 10 pm 35R	19 CW 7 PM 35 GSARA Mtg	20 CW 4 pm 40 ILLW	21 ILLW N.A. SSB QSO
22 AC2MB ILLW N.A. SSB QSO Rookie Dig.	23 NA2J CW 10 pm 40	24 K2CYS GSARA 10 Mtr GSARA Net 8:30	25 CW 9 am 35R	26 W2PSK CW 4 PM 35R	27 CW 7 pm 35	28 Hawaii QSO W/VE Islands
29 KD2EW Hawaii QSO	30 K2RH KC2SSU	31 GSARA 10 Mtr GSARA Net 8:30				



First Class

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