



THE PROPAGATOR

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

JULY 2015

UPCOMING GSARA MEETINGS

The next GSARA meeting will be on **Wednesday, July 1 at 7:30 PM** at the Red Cross. The program will be a recording made by Pat Moran, W2EM (SK) about early telegraphy at Sandy Hook and Twin Lights. A recording of a message from Thomas Edison will also be played. Don't miss this historic program! Bring a guest and enjoy the light refreshments that will be available.

The second meeting in July will be held on **Wednesday, July 15 at 7:30 PM** at the Red Cross. This will be a regular business meeting with final wrap-up of Field Day results. Light refreshments will be served and guests are always welcome.

GSARA NET 8:30 PM TUESDAYS

GSARA members meet on the Asbury Park repeater every Tuesday at 8:30 pm. In the first four sessions in June, we had 19 check-ins for an average of 4.75 per session. The following 9 members checked into this net at least once (number of check-ins in parenthesis):

N2HGI (4), W2OD (4), N2BMK (2), KD2IEC (2), KA2F (2), KC2YNL (2), K2CYS (1), KD2EPA (1) and K2QXW (1).

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

VE TEST SESSION JULY 25

The GSARA monthly test session will be held on Saturday, July 25 at 11 am at the Red Cross. The fee is \$15 and you should bring the original and a copy of any amateur license presently held and the original and one copy of any credit (CSCE) forms that you have (copies will be sent

in with your test results). Also bring 2 forms of ID with one being a photo ID. For more information, contact Rich Bilon, N3RB at 732-972-1397 or n3rb@arrl.net.

W2GSA AWARDED DXCC

By John King, KA2F

While the W2GSA DXCC award is recent (April 10, 2015), the work to achieve it goes back many years in club history with dedicated operators in SSB and CW earning a large number QSL cards through the DX Bureau, when there were no eQSL or LOTW, when no one had a beam antenna atop a tall tower or a KW amplifier, and when there were no DX spotting nets. They did it all the hard way.

The certificate is framed and hung in the radio room on the wall of honor. It represents 126 countries with 51 on CW and 75 on SSB.

WAS APPLICATION FOR W2GSA

By John King, KA2F

Filing with ARRL for WAS for W2GSA was fairly easy. We had 49 QSLs in LOTW with only Delaware missing. I found a single DE QSL card after searching again through all the cards I had gone through some two years ago!

The award should arrive sometime within THREE months! They are very S L O W in handling WAS. Well even the recent DXCC award arrived about three months after the application. It does no good to complain. I have done so more than once for my own DXCCs.

Again some QSOs go back to 1982 from Treasure Island days, 1987 for 200 years as a nation, and various Twin Lights operations.

GSARA OFFICERS

President	W2HTS	Howard Suffill	460-1885
Vice Pres.	NJ2H	Bill Shockley	207-4466
Secretary	W2OD	Bob Buus	946-8615
Treasurer	KA2F	John King	942-7705
Engineer	W2EPD	George Graulich	255-7916
Webmaster	K2CYS	Cy Stanway	768-7773
Publicity	NJ2H	Bill Shockley	207-4466
Repeater	N2LXM	Jeff Harshman	922-0816
Radio Room Phone		732-493-9100, X1252	
Trustees	W2KQ	Joe Dreifuss	493-4236
	W2OD	Bob Buus	946-8615
	W2HAM	Lou Russo	842-6431

FRIDAY BLUE SWAN LUNCHEONS

A number of local radio amateurs meet each Friday at the Blue Swan Diner on Highway 35 south in Ocean Township at noon. Anyone interested in amateur radio is welcome to join us in the sun room at the north end of the diner.

PATCHES

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

OUTGOING QSL CARDS

If any GSARA members wish to combine their QSL cards that are going through the outgoing ARRL Bureau, please bring them to the next GSARA meeting along with the label from a recent QST Magazine (you must be an ARRL member to participate in this program). Ray, WA1FFT will then send them on to ARRL at no charge to GSARA members. It couldn't be much easier than that to QSL. You are registered at the W2 incoming bureau, aren't you?

PROPAGATOR NOW ON THE WEB

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

<http://www.gardenstateara.org>

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

GSARA HOMEPAGE

<http://www.gardenstateara.org>

HUDSON DIVISION HOME PAGE

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

EDITOR'S NOTES

As I prepare this edition of *The Propagator*, Field Day is fast arriving in only a few days. Although rain is predicted, let's hope it is not too bad. Rain, of course, has no serious effect on our stations operating in the radio room.

I thought of delaying this issue until after Field Day but with our first July meeting only 3 days after Field Day, delaying *The Propagator* would have missed announcing the meeting and program for the July 1 meeting.

The GSARA can be rightfully proud of the DXCC certificate hanging on the wall of the radio room (see page 1). Soon a WAS award will join it. Thanks to John, KA2F for digging up the necessary QSL cards and submitting the applications. This was a significant undertaking and we should all thank John for his effort.

When I read the GMDSS book from the GSARA library (see page 5), I was struck by the similarities of that system to the amateur radio service. I doubt if that is a coincidence. Amateurs have been providing emergency communications service for about 100 years.

Speaking of emergency communications, I found the mountain rescue of a ham described on page 6 rather interesting. I wonder if he would have survived if he had not had his ham radio equipment with him.

It's interesting to see that the ARRL is continuing to offer many of their publications in e-book format so they can be read on Kindles and I-pads (see page 7). Although I do a lot of reading on these devices, I still prefer to read a paper copy of a book. Maybe I'm getting too old to adopt to this electronic media after reading from paper for over 70 years.

Finally, it is nice to see our antenna farm repaired and offering enhanced antenna opportunities to our station (see page 8). The new 40/80 meter inverted vee dipole should work quite well on those bands. Hats off to John, KA2F for being the push behind getting all of this accomplished.

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

73 de Bob, w2od@arrl.net

MINUTES OF JUNE 3 MEETING

By Bob Buus, W2OD, Secretary

President Howard Suffill, W2HTS called the meeting to order at 7:34 PM at the Red Cross. There were 18 members present. After the pledge to the flag, all present introduced themselves.

Secretary's Report

Being a program meeting, there were no Secretary nor Treasurer reports.

Antenna Tower Work

On Saturday, May 30 Holger arrived as requested with his bucket truck to work on our antenna tower. The tri-band beam and the 2-meter beam were realigned, ropes were replaced on the pulleys at the top of the tower, and the tangled feedlines going up the tower were somewhat unscrambled. The 8-conductor Rotator control cable caught in the winch and was damaged but repaired successfully. GSARA members helping out included John, KA2F, Cy, K2CYS, Jeff, N2JFL, Bob, W2OD and Len, WA1PCY.

Field Day

Chief Engineer George, K2EPD was absent but we still had a lively discussion about the upcoming Field Day. We may need an 80-meter dipole to temporarily erect in the front of the Red Cross. A motion was made by Jeff, N2LXM and seconded by Blair, KD2EPA to authorize up to \$150 to purchase an 80-meter Field Day antenna if necessary. The motion passed unanimously.

We need publicity and people to help set-up and take down. Set-up will start Friday night at 7 PM. Take down will start Sunday at 2 PM. The more who show up, the faster this will go.

John, KA2F will be taking care of the food for Field Day.

Program

The program was a presentation by Cy, K2CYS demonstrating the N3FJP logging program interfaced to a transceiver and the use of the Function Keys to send various CW messages.

Cy also pointed out that we plan to run two transmitters in tents in front of the Red Cross with temporary antennas and two transmitters inside using the antenna farm in the back. We will also have a GOTA station for the newer hams. One of

the outside tents will be for 80-meter phone and CW with the capability to switch to 15 during the day if warranted. The other outside tent will be for 40-meter phone and CW. The inside stations will be for 10 and 20 meters, phone and CW. We would like to operate as much CW as we can, limited only by the number of CW operators.

Cy also suggested that we have 2-meter handhelds at each operating position to coordinate band and mode operations.

Close

The 50/50 of \$18 was won by Bruce McLeod, K2QXW. There being no further business, a motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting which was closed at 8:45 pm.

MINUTES OF JUNE 17 MEETING

By Bob Buus, W2OD, Secretary

President Howard Suffill, W2HTS was absent as was Vice President Bill Shockley, NJ2H so the meeting was called to order by Secretary Bob Buus, W2OD at 7:43 PM at the Red Cross. There were 15 members and one guest present. The guest was former GSARA member Gary Metzger, WB2RPW from Eatontown. After the pledge to the flag, all present introduced themselves.

Health and Welfare

Laura Clanton, N2HGI fell and suffered a minor concussion. She is home recovering but has a nagging headache.

Secretary's Report

A motion was made by Joe, W2KQ and seconded by Ralph, KC2YNL to accept the minutes of the June 3 meeting as they will be published in the July Propagator. The motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer John King, KA2F gave his report. A motion was made by Bruce, K2QXW and seconded by Art, KC2CRI to accept the report as read. The motion passed unanimously.

Hamfest Committee

Rem, K2REM reported the final financial results of the May 23 Hamfest and compared it with previous Hamfest. Our net profit was \$278.50 compared to \$307.74 a year ago.

Rem also suggested that the Fall Hamfest be on September 12 as that Saturday has no other Hamfest scheduled in this area. Although MOESC can't officially approve that date until August, it was felt that there is little risk in scheduling for that date. There was discussion about moving the venue to a different location but it was felt that we have established a location for the past several years so should remain at MOESC.

Since we only take in about \$300 at each Hamfest, Cy, K2CYS asked why we need to have two Hamfest per year. It's a lot of work for such a small return. After some discussion, it was proposed that we table this suggestion and proceed with the September Hamfest for this year at least.

Field Day Committee

Cy, K2CYS reported that we will be operating 4F with a 40 meter station in one tent out front and 80 and 15 meters in the other tent out front. One station in the radio room will operate 20 meters and the other radio room station will be on 10 meters. We will also have a GOTA station in the radio room. We will operate on commercial power with power provided to the outdoor tents by George, K2EPD.

John, KA2F has volunteered to provide food and distributed a menu at the meeting. Lunch will be available at noon on both Saturday and Sunday. Dinner Saturday will be at 5 PM and breakfast on Sunday will be between 8 and 9 AM. A variety of snacks and beverages will be available throughout Field Day.

Volunteers are needed at 7 PM Friday to help set up the portable masts in front of the Red Cross. Setup will continue on Saturday morning starting at 7 AM to set up the tents and erect 40, 80 and 15 meter dipoles.

Needed is someone to be responsible for the GOTA station and someone else to set up a hospitality table. A bow and arrow or an air gun would be desirable for erecting the antennas in front of the Red Cross.

Finally, we need operators, both phone and CW. The need is especially acute late Saturday night and early Sunday morning. Please notify Cy as to when you expect to be there to operate.

Close

The door prize of \$14 was won by John, KA2F. A second prize of a \$50 ARRL gift certificate for Hamfest volunteers was won by Syd, KG2CM. There being no further business, a motion was made to close the meeting which was adjourned at 8:43 pm.

JOHN GREEN, KC2ZTI - SK

John P. Green, KC2ZTI of Ocean Twp., died Tuesday, May 26, 2015 at Jersey Shore University Medical Center in Neptune at the age of 41. Born in Long Branch, he was a life resident of Ocean Twp. John was a Sgt. Detective for the Ocean Twp. Police Department for 15 years, an advisor for the Ocean Twp. Police Explorers and was an Investigator for the Monmouth County Serious Collision Accident Reconstruction Team. He was Fire Chief of the Wanamassa Fire Company in 2006 and a member of the Oakhurst Fire Department and PBA Local 57.

He was predeceased by his father John W. in 2004. Surviving are his wife, Amie Green; 2 daughters, Ariana and Jenna MacMillian; his mother, Angelina Green; his brother and sister in law, Aaron and Stefanie Green, his niece Rebecca and nephew Jack.

Visitation was on May 29 at the Damiano Funeral Home in Long Branch. Funeral was the next day at the funeral home followed by a 1 pm Service at St. George Greek Orthodox Church in Ocean Twp. In lieu of flowers memorial donations can be made to the John P. Green Children's Educational Fund, P.O. Box 567, Long Branch, NJ 07740. Letters of condolence can be sent through the web at www.damianofuneralhome.com.

40/80 METER DIPOLE INSTALLED

By John King, KA2F

Our station now has a 40/80 meter Alpha Delta inverted V in place of the wire V that was damaged during antenna/tower service a couple of weeks ago. It has been tested, thanks to Bob W2OD's analyzer, and tuner settings for various parts of the 40 and 80 meter bands are posted on the tuner itself.

The antenna was donated. It was installed by Bob AC2PD, Bob W2OD and John KA2F.

GMDSS – A TUTORIAL

By Bob Buus, W2OD

I noted in the May Propagator that Mike Hemeon, K1MH had donated a book to the GSARA library about understanding GMDSS (Global Maritime Distress and Safety System). I remembered that this is the system that replaced Morse code on 500 kHz with a satellite system for ships in distress but I knew little more than that about GMDSS. Therefore, I thought reading this book would help me better understand the new system so I borrowed the book and gained a better understanding on how maritime emergency communications work.

While attempting to write a review of this book, I found myself instead writing a short tutorial about GMDSS. Hence this article. For more information, I recommend that you read “GMDSS – Understanding the Global Maritime Distress and Safety System” by John Campbell that is in the GSARA library.

The GMDSS is much more than a satellite communications system. It consists of 4 basic radio systems.

1. A short-range (up to 20 or 30 miles) VHF FM system with channels spaced between 156.050 and 162.025 MHz. This is similar to our 2-meter band with many of the channels simplex and some of the channels split with shore transmit 4.6 MHz higher than the ship transmit frequency on that channel.
2. A medium range (up to 100 miles) MF system around 2.1 MHz that uses SSB for voice and FSK for RTTY (called Telex in the Maritime service). This is similar to our 160 meter band except there is no CW.
3. A long-range (covering all oceans) HF system using bands around 4, 6, 8, 12, 16, 18, 22 and 25 MHz. SSB is used for voice and FSK for RTTY (Telex). Again, this is similar to the amateur HF bands except no CW is used.
4. A satellite system using a series of Inmarsat (International Maritime Satellite) satellites in stationary positions over the equator. Four satellites cover the earth

between 70 degrees north latitude and 70 degrees south latitude. If you are outside this range (in the Arctic or Antarctic regions) you must use HF radio instead of satellites. The satellite uplink frequencies are 1.5 to 1.6 GHz (L-band) and downlink is between 4 and 6 GHz (C-band). There are 34 ground stations or Land Earth Stations to provide the link to the terrestrial telecommunications network. These are sometimes called Coast Earth Stations because they play the same role as the HF or VHF Coast Stations but they need not be near a coast.

A key difference with GDMSS compared to the previous communication system is the use of Digital Selective Calling or DSC. A digital calling channel is assigned each of the radio systems. For VHF, it is Channel 70. MF is on 2187.5 kHz and HF uses 4207.5, 6312, 8414.5, 12577 and 16804.5 kHz. Each ship has a digital DSC receiver that scans these frequencies. A DSC alert can be sent to any specific vessel, Coast Station, a specific group of vessels or all vessels (for distress signals). The alerting message includes priority, position and requested working frequency and mode of transmission. Note that DSC is only used to set up the call. The actual communication is conducted on another radio channel and may be either voice or telex as directed in the alerting message.

There are four different types of alerts; Distress (Mayday), Urgency (Pan Pan), Safety (Securitay) and Routine. A distress call is made only when a vessel or person is in grave *and* imminent danger. An urgency call is for serious situations where the danger is grave but not imminent. A safety call is to warn other vessels of potential danger such as an urgent weather warning. Routine, as the name implies is for all other communications.

Navtex is an international system for the standardized broadcast of Marine Safety Information that has been adopted by the International Maritime Organization. These

messages are transmitted by Simplex Telex Over Radio (SITOR). English transmissions are on 518 kHz with some limited service at HF on 4209.5 kHz.

Emergency Position Indicating Radio Beacons (EPIRBs) are used for transmitting a distress alert and then for guiding the rescuers to the site. They are designed to break free of a sinking ship or crashed aircraft and send a beacon signal on 121.5 MHz (243 MHz for military). If they are fitted to aircraft, they are called Emergency Location Transponders or ELTs. A series of satellites monitor 121.5 MHz and can use Doppler to determine the EPIRBs position to about 9 miles. Newer EPIRBs also transmit on 406 MHz and satellites monitoring that frequency can fix the transponders location to within 2.5 miles.

Search And Rescue Transponders (SART) are electronic units which react to the emissions of X-band radars. A SART can help a rescuer locate a life raft. All GMDSS vessels must carry at least one SART and those over 500 tons must carry at least two. A SART receiver scans between 9.2 and 9.5 GHz (the X-band) and if it detects a pulse signal it immediately sends a series of 12 pulses on the same frequency. This permits the radar to detect the lifeboat and get its azimuth even though it is low in the water and several miles away.

I hope that this brief tutorial has whetted your interest in the use of radio communication for safety and rescue. If you would like more information, take the book "GMDSS – Understanding the Global Maritime Distress and Safety System" by John Campbell out of the GSARA library.

RADIO CALL SAVES CLIMBER

A Littleton, Colorado, radio amateur and mountaineer was happy to have his handheld transceiver along on May 17 after he slipped and fell from an icy ledge in Berthoud Pass while snowshoeing. Summits On The Air (SOTA) enthusiast Brad Byland, WA6MM, said he's been climbing and mountaineering for many years now

and never before came this close to what he called "a possible life-ending disaster."

"I'm doing fine," Byland told ARRL. "I didn't get hurt...only bad wind and sunburn on my face! My daughter says my geeky hobby -- ham radio -- saved me from my dangerous hobby -- climbing and mountaineering!"

Byland said that while this was his first climb in the Berthoud Pass area, he was never "lost," as some media accounts reported. He had prepared to climb Mount Flora -- which would have been his 29th SOTA peak -- by studying maps and others' trip reports, plus he had his iPhone with GPS, a compass, and his radio along.

"[T]hings went smoothly until about 12,700 feet," Byland said, at which point, with visibility deteriorating, he decided to turn back. "It wasn't long before I was in a total whiteout," he [recounted](#). "The ground is white, the air around me is white, and I had no perception of direction and elevation. My iPhone GPS was of no use, as I couldn't read the display. I pulled out my compass for navigation." Byland said he knew the basic heading he should follow along the ridge, and he proceeded.

"A short time later I had a strange feeling I was floating in air. I didn't realize I was falling until I landed on my back on a snow-filled ledge about 20 feet below a cornice," Byland continued. "I was quite surprised and amazed that I suffered no injuries." But he was essentially "stuck," and, while his snowshoes remained on, he was unable to climb back up, due to the overhanging nature of the cornice.

Byland said he'd programmed his radio to a few local mountain repeaters, he was able to quickly contact another ham, "and the rest of the story unfolded with my eventual rescue."

While well equipped for his situation, he remained on the ledge for 4 or 5 hours. "I was in good spirits," he said, "and I can't tell you enough about how comforting it is to have another person on the radio keeping me informed of the rescue process. I didn't feel so alone on that ledge."

In retrospect, Byland said, he should have taken another route or hunkered down and waited for better visibility before descending.

From The ARRL Letter, June 4, 2015

W2GSA LOG UPDATE

By John King, KA2F

Len, WA1PCY and John, KA2F have set up the computer at "Radio2" (password "Disaster2") with ALog (N3FPJ) which is a much simpler program to use for general logging and uploading files to LOTW.

When we down loaded all contacts from LOTW we found some 3,000 QSOs, most of which appear to have come from past FD logs. Another few hundred logs, many with rare DX, were taken from ALog from the computer at Radio5. All logs were then uploaded to LOTW.

Note that Computer5 does not have a TQSL certificate (shown as a Gold Ribbon) on it, so that logs need to be transported on a memory stick to the computer at Radio2 and the ALog there.

DXKeeper is still on the Radio2 computer and its files have been moved to ALog. Sometime later DXKeeper may be deleted.

EXTRA CLASS MANUAL ON KINDLE

The ARRL has just released a [digital edition](#) of *The ARRL Extra Class License Manual* in Kindle format, in addition to the print manual. The Kindle edition from [Amazon](#) completes the suite of ARRL license manuals available in e-book format.

As the leading publisher of Amateur Radio licensing and training materials, ARRL is expanding beyond traditional printed books to meet the increasing demand from readers who prefer digital publications.

The ARRL also offers Kindle editions of *The ARRL Ham Radio License Manual*, *The ARRL General Class License Manual* and its question-and-answer study guides, *ARRL's Tech Q&A*, *ARRL's General Q&A*, and *ARRL's Extra Q&A*.

The ARRL Extra Class License Manual is also available in [softcover](#) (ARRL Item No 5170, retail \$29.95) from the [ARRL Store](#) or from your [ARRL Publication Dealer](#), or call 860-594-0355 (toll free in the US, 888-277-5289) to order.

From *The ARRL Letter*, June 11, 2015

RADIO PARITY ACT

ARRL President Kay Craigie, N3KN, has told Section Managers that, while promotion and positive publicity about the Amateur Radio Parity Act (H.R. 1301) are always helpful, the most useful action radio amateurs can take is to contact their members of Congress, urging them to sign on as cosponsors. As of June 9, [72 members](#) of the US House in both parties were listed as cosponsors of the proposed legislation, which would direct the FCC to extend its rules relating to reasonable accommodation of Amateur Service communications to private land-use restrictions. Craigie told the SMs that the grassroots campaign supporting H.R. 1301 needs more letters.

"We have been told quite bluntly by some congressional offices that they want letters from constituents -- that they will be interested in what the ARRL has to say only if they know that voters care about this issue," Craigie said in urging Section Managers to rally the troops. "Why should the congressman care, they ask, if the voters don't? There are tens of thousands of ARRL members who have not written yet. You Section Managers can do a lot to persuade them to write, because they know you."

Members are encouraged to contact their member of Congress by writing personalized, signed letters on paper, based on the sample letter, available on the [ARRL H.R. 1301](#) web page. Letters should go to ARRL Headquarters for hand delivery to the appropriate House members. Send letters to ARRL, ATTN H.R. 1301 Grassroots Campaign, 225 Main St, Newington CT 06111.

Sending these letters via ARRL allows Headquarters staff to keep track of how many communications are going to which congressional districts. But more important, Craigie pointed out, when letters are delivered to the Hill in person, there's an opportunity to speak with congressional staffers. "The stack of letters is proof that voters care about the bill," she said. "We have to convince the staff people, so they'll advise the Member of Congress to cosponsor. That's how it works on Capitol Hill."

The League is working on having a US Senate version of H.R. 1301 introduced.

From *The ARRL Letter*, June 11, 2015

PORTABLE OPERATIONS BOOKLET

The WIAW Portable Operations commemorative booklet, which chronicles the central activity of the year-long ARRL Centennial QSO Party, is now available. The Centennial celebration may be over, but the memories can live on with this keepsake publication, which features 40 pages of stats, stories, and photos from the hams who put WIAW/p on the air, bringing enjoyment to many thousands of hams.

The WIAW Portable Operations is available from the [ARRL Store](#) (ARRL Item No 0383; \$9.95 retail), or call 860-594-0355 (toll-free in the US, 888-277-5289). E-mail [ARRL Publication Sales](#) for more information.

From *The ARRL Letter*, June 18, 2015

ANTENNA REPAIR WORK FINISHED

By John King, KA2F

Thanks to K2HES Holger Skurbe, K2HES and crew of Jeff, N2JFL; Cy, K2CYS; Len, WA1PCY; Bob, W2OD and John, KA2F all the necessary service was successfully made on the tri-band beam, the VHF beam atop the tower, and the ropes and pulleys on each side of the top of the tower. All the coax cables were freed from the tower cables and each other and pulled off to the side. The guy wires were tightened.

The cost to the club, thanks to Holger's generosity, was only \$250, after 3 1/2 hours work. **If you or a friend need antenna or tower work be sure to call on Holger who brings lots of safe experience and a bucket truck at a reasonable cost for hams.**

RADIO ROOM OPEN SATURDAYS

The GSARA radio room in the back of the Red Cross is open most Saturday afternoons. Simply drive all the way around to the back, where the antennas are located, to the RED DOOR. Pick up the telephone to the right of the RED DOOR and if someone is inside the radio room, they will answer and come to the door to let you in.

You can also call W2GSA on the 147.045 repeater or call 732-493-9100 ext. 1252 from your cell phone. Have patience. Do not get discouraged and leave. It sometimes gets pretty busy and noisy in the radio room so keep trying.

TEN YEARS AGO

From the July 2005 Propagator: GSARA operated two different Field Days. K2USA was operated at the MARS station as 1F and W2GSA was operated at the Fort Monmouth football stadium as 1AB (QRP and battery power). Fifteen GSARA members participated to make this a success. Jim, K2EI erected a giant horizontal loop at the football stadium which worked exceptionally well.

FIFTEEN YEARS AGO

From the July 2000 Propagator: Field Day at Tatum Park in Middletown was a success with about 35 GSARA participants. The preliminary score is about 8200 with 1000 CW contacts and 1600 Phone contacts. A Roster was included and showed 131 members. Mike, KC2Q formed the Jersey Coast DX Association.

TWENTY YEARS AGO

From the July, 1995 Propagator: It rained for the entire Field Day weekend at Tatum Park. Nevertheless, W2GSA made over 1800 contacts with 29 members participating. Tony Colaguori, W2GUM (SK) and his brother Vic, W2VC (SK) tried a QRP Field Day at the Deal Test Site in Ocean Township but quit early due to the rain. An application to join the Amateur Radio Communications Service (ARCS) Corps was included with the Propagator.

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO

From the July, 1990 Propagator: Field Day at Tatum Park was successful with 5 transmitters operating on emergency power (5A). An aerial view of the site was taken by Wayne, KD2EV from the plane of Tom, N2CUI (SK). Ken Proctor, N2DQD warned that new metallic films embedded in car windows for defoggers can attenuate radio signals and affect garage door openers and radar detectors.

THIRTY YEARS AGO

From the July 1985 Propagator: 25 members participated in Field Day and made over 4000 contacts. Wayne Green, W2NSD resigned as editor of 73 magazine.

NOTES ON CALENDAR (see next page)

Large Call letters denote birthdays e.g. **K2QXW** on July 8. All times EDST. Contests are listed in the July QST, p. 81

June 30-July 1 – **RAC Canada Day Contest**, CW from 8 pm Tuesday to 7:59 pm Wednesday. See <http://www.rac.ca/en/rac/programmes/contests>

July 1 – **GSARA Meeting** at 7:30 pm. Program is tape by Pat Moran, W2EM (SK) about early telegraphy.

July 2 - **HCARC meeting** at 7 pm at Holiday City South Clubhouse in Toms River.

July 4 – **Independence Day Holiday**

July 4-5 – **Marconi Memorial HF Contest**, CW from 10 am Saturday to 10 am Sunday. See http://www.arifano.it/contest_marconi.html

July 4 – **FISTS Summer Slow Speed Sprint**, CW from 1 pm to 5 pm. See <http://www.fistsna.org/operating.html#sprints>

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

July 6 - **Monmouth County ARES Net** meets on 147.045 +600, PL=67.0 at 7:30 pm

July 7 – **Old Barney VE Session** at 6:30 pm in Manahawkin. Contact Urb Le Jeune, W1UL at 609-296-5856 or urb@w2dec.com

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

July 7 and every following Tuesday – **GSARA Net** on 147.045 PL=67 at 8:30 pm.

July 7 and every following Tuesday – **QCWA News Net** on 147.045 PL=67 at 9:00 pm.

July 8– **Holiday City VE Session** at 7 pm in Toms River. Contact is Larry Puccio, K2QDY at 732-349-2950 or e-mail at lpuccio1@comcast.net

July 8 - **W1AW Qualifying Run** at 10 pm (10-35 wpm). See July 2015 QST page 97 and www.arrl.org/qualifying-run-schedule

July 9 – **JSARS meeting** in Riverwood Park Rec. Building, Rt. 527 and Riverwood Drive at 7:30 pm.

July 11 – **OMARC Meeting** at 9:00 am at the Diana Site on Marconi Road in Wall. Guests welcome.

July 11-12 – **IARU HF World Championship**, CW & Phone from 8 am Saturday to 11 am Sunday. See <http://www.arrl.org/iaru-hf-championship>

July 13 -. **Monmouth County RACES Net** meets on 147.045 +600, PL=67.0 at 7:30 pm.

July 15 – **GSARA Meeting** at 7:30 pm at the Red Cross in Tinton Falls. Regular business meeting.

July 16 – **JSARS VE Test Session** at 7:00 pm Riverview Park Recreation Bldg., Rt. 527 and Riverwood Drive in Toms River. Contact Ed Genoino, WA2NDA at 609-971-2792 or wa2nda@comcast.net.

July 18-19 – **North American QSO Party**, RTTY from 2 pm Saturday to 1:59 am Sunday. See <http://www.ncjweb.com/NAQP-rules.pdf>

July 18-19 – **CQ Worldwide VHF Contest**, 6 and 2 meters all modes from 2 pm Saturday to 5 pm Sunday. See <http://www.cqww-vhf.com>

July 20 - **Monmouth County ARES Net** meets on 147.045 +600, PL=67.0 at 7:30 pm

July 24 – **W1AW Qualifying Run** at 7 pm (10-35 wpm). See July 2014 QST page 97 and <http://www.arrl.org/qualifying-run-schedule>

July 25 – **VE Test Session** at 11 am at the Red Cross in Tinton Falls. Contact Rich Bilon, N3RB at 732-972-1397 or e-mail at n3rb@arrl.net

July 27 - **Monmouth County RACES Net** meets on 147.045 +600, PL=67.0 at 7:30 pm.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 RAC CW GSARA Mtg.	2 HCARC Mtg.	3	4 Independence Day Marconi CW
5 Marconi CW InfoAge	6 ARES/RACES 7:30	7 OBARC GSARA Net 8:30 QCWA News 9 PM	8 K2QXW Hol. City VE CW Qual. Run	9 JSARS Mtg.	10	11 OMARC Mtg IARU Champ.
12 IARU Champ. InfoAge	13 RACES Net 7:30	14 GSARA Net 8:30 QCWA News 9 PM	15 GSARA Mtg.	16 JSARS VE	17	18 NAQP RTTY CQ WW VHF
19 AC2FC NAQP RTTY CQ WW VHF InfoAge	20 ARES/RACES 7:30	21 GSARA Net 8:30 QCWA News 9 PM	22	23	24 CW Qual. Run	25 GSARA VE 11am
26 AC2MV InfoAge	27 RACES Net 7:30	28 GSARA Net 8:30 QCWA News 9 PM	29	30	31	



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FIRST CLASS