The Propagator

Garden State Amateur Radio Association

HAPPY 70th BIRTHDAY GSARA

By John King, KA2F

Our Garden State Amateur Radio Association W2GSA was founded May 10, 1950 by persons interested in amateur radio "for furthering better cooperation among its members, developing individual efficiency, and furthering the interests of amateur radio in the general community."
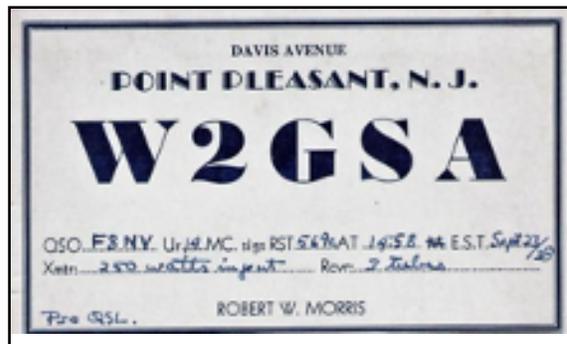
Our GSARA was the result of the merging of two radio clubs, the Jersey Shore Radio Association founded in 1932 and the Monmouth County Radio Association founded in 1945. The two clubs jointly sponsored in 1947 the first ARRL Hudson Division Convention of radio amateurs held for three days at the Asbury Park Convention Hall and the grand Berkeley Carteret Hotel.

The outstanding success of this endeavor led to the merging of the two clubs and the subsequent sponsorship of another convention in 1950.

The original holder of the W2GSA call sign was Bob Morris of Point Pleasant, N.J. Bob was a charter member of the Jersey Shore Amateur Radio Association. He subsequently became a Navy Aviator and Officer who lost his life during World War II. During the merger negotiations, someone on the Constitution Committee suggested petitioning the FCC to officially use Bob Morris's W2GSA to represent Garden State Amateurs and GSARA was born.

FROM THE PRESIDENT
ART OLSON, N2AJO

Hello everyone,

Memorial Day weekend is behind us and as a veteran I want to say thank you to all of the service members and their families for the sacrifices they made and continue to make defending our freedom and way of life that we enjoy.

Additionally, I hope everyone had an opportunity to be with family and celebrate the unofficial start of summer. I am looking forward to the day soon when we will be able to get together at the club meetings and the weekly Blue Swan lunches.

The new jackets along with caps and polo shirts have been delivered to those who purchased them. These items will enable us to raise our club's visibility as we go about our day-to-day activities. I am very happy that even in these tough times our club continues to grow with new memberships coming in every month.

Our June 3, 2020 on-line presentation will feature Jim Millner (WB2REM). Jim is a retired Psychologist, world traveler and author who has visited over 70 countries. He has been a Ham Radio operator for 57 years and was first licensed when he was 11 years old. Jim has operated from many of the countries that he has visited including more recently the Galapagos Islands, Anguilla, Belize and Cuba. In this presentations Jim will talk about his 5 trips to mainland Cuba including operating from Guantanamo Bay. He was recently featured on the cover of April 2020 QST for "Giving back to the Galapagos" and has an upcoming featured article in June 2020 CQ magazine entitled "Coping on Amateur Radio with the Covid-19 Virus and other Natural Disasters". Let's give Jim a great GSARA club welcoming.

Don't forget to check-out the last page of the Propagator for a listing of contests and member birthdays.

Lastly, I would like to hear from the membership on your thoughts and ideas. The leadership team works for you the members and together we can continue to move our hobby forward.

Respectfully,

Art, N2AJO

FROM THE EDITOR
BOB BUUS, W2OD

This Corona Virus Pandemic must be really getting to me. I recently joined Facebook – something I never was interested in doing because I considered it a waste of time! It's not that I have anything to post but reading other people's posts does wile away the idle hours. One that brought a smile to my face: "Lockdown can only go four ways. You'll come out a monk, a hunk, a chunk or a drunk. Choose wisely." Well, if I have a choice, I'll choose "hunk" but the way my life is going, I'll probably end up nearer to "monk."

Hats off to our Chief Engineer Phil, N2EDX to point out capabilities of our Fusion radios that most of us don't know about (Yaesu is not particularly famous for the clarity of their instruction manuals.) His article in this issue points out how we can use the Automatic Mode Select (AMS) on receive while locking our radio into a fixed transmit mode. After reading his article, I now see that it is covered in the manual but it wasn't clear enough for me to understand it without his article guiding me. Thanks Phil!

GSARA celebrated its 70th birthday on May 10. I hope all of you enjoyed John King's write-up which was sent to all members. I particularly enjoyed the look back on what those times were like. It was particularly poignant to me because that was the time when I first got interested in radio and electronics. It brought back many fond memories. Thanks, John.

I'm looking forward to the program at our June 3 meeting on Zoom. I'm sure that Jim, WB2REM will have an interesting talk. He sure has led an interesting life! I anticipate a large turnout for this meeting.

Allowing potential members to join online and pay through PayPal has been a huge success. All five new members voted in at our May Zoom meeting and are listed in this issue of The Propagator came in through this means. Three more applicants have since come in and will be voted in at a June meeting.

This is all good news!

So, how are you coping with the COVID-19 with amateur radio? I'd love to hear from you!

As always, I appreciate feedback or material for The Propagator. The deadline for the July issue is June 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 June 3 program meeting live 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 Wednesday, June 3 program meeting at 7:30 will feature Jim Millner, WB2REM, a retired psychologist, world traveler and author who has visited over 70 countries. He has been a Ham Radio operator for 57 years and was first licensed when he was 11 years old. Jim has operated from many of the countries that he has visited including more recently the Galapagos Islands, Anguilla, Belize and Cuba. In this presentations Jim will talk about his 5 trips to mainland Cuba including operating from Guantanamo Bay. He was recently featured on the cover of April 2020 QST for "Giving back to the Galapagos" and has an upcoming featured article in June 2020 CQ magazine entitled "Coping on Amateur Radio with the Covid-19 Virus and other Natural Disasters"

This is our first attempt at having a program via Zoom. Don't miss this fascinating talk.
GSARA will also have a business meeting on the third Wednesday in June, the 17th at 7:30 pm and this will also be via Zoom. Don't miss it!

VE SESSION

Get your license this month!

If the NJ Social Isolation is still in effect, there will be no June 20 VE session. Otherwise, the GSARA monthly test session will be held at the Red Cross Regional Headquarters in Tinton Falls on Saturday, June 27 at 11 am. 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 732-567-4396 or n3rb@arrl.net.
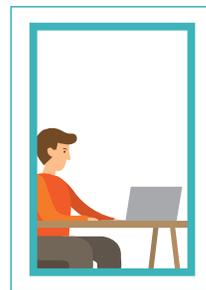
HOW WE MEET - JOIN US

CONGRATULATIONS, DON, KG2NV

If you have been on the GSARA repeater during mid-April, you were kept up to date on Don's new paddle. The post office tried hard to get it to him and promised it for more than 2 weeks. But finally he got the text he had anticipated and it was worth it! Don's new Vibroplex standard has arrived and it is a thing of beauty.. Congratulations, Don, on this new and beautiful addition to your shack!

Have you acquired a new item in your shack? What are you working on during these often-long quarantine days? Let Cy, K2CYS know and be featured in the next Propagator! Share your accomplishments and/or your new super gadget with the rest of the club. What have you built? What have you tried out? Let Cy know your story. Just send him a description and a picture to rabbicy@msn.com and let the world know what you're up to these days in the shack!

STAY HOME STAY SAFE

TUESDAY NIGHT GSARA NET REPORT

In the last session in April and the four sessions in May, we had 105 check-ins for an average of 21.0 per session.

The following 35 members checked into this net (number of check-ins in parenthesis):

N2BCS (5), N2BMK (5), KZ2G (5), KA2IRQ (5), K2MFS (5), W2MJP (5), W2NAZ (5), W2OD (5), KD2OXR (5), WB2RPW (5), KG2CM (4), NA2J (4), KD2NAD (4), K2NPT (4), KD2EPA (3), N2FSB (3), NJ2GL (3), KG2NV (3), KD2ROF (3), KC2YNL (3), K2CYS (2), KA2F (2), KB2FSH (2), AD7I (2), AC2MB (2), KC2NGH (2), N2A-JO (1), W2CET (1), AC2F (1), N2HGI (1), W2IWW (1), WA2JOE (1), KB2MAB (1), N3SIQ (1) and KD2TOU (1).

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

FT4/FT8 FREQUENCY PRIMER

Here's how to pick FT-mode transmit and receive frequencies in crowded contest bands. First, pick an audio offset frequency greater than 500 Hz, but less than the suggested frequency intervals (e.g., 2 kHz). In crowded band conditions, the "base" transmit frequencies for FT4 or FT8 are suggested to be at 2 kHz intervals. For example, some stations may set their radio's frequency to 14.130 MHz, while others are at 14.132 or 14.134 MHz. Under these conditions, it makes sense to choose a transmit frequency offset greater than 500 Hz, but less than 2 kHz.
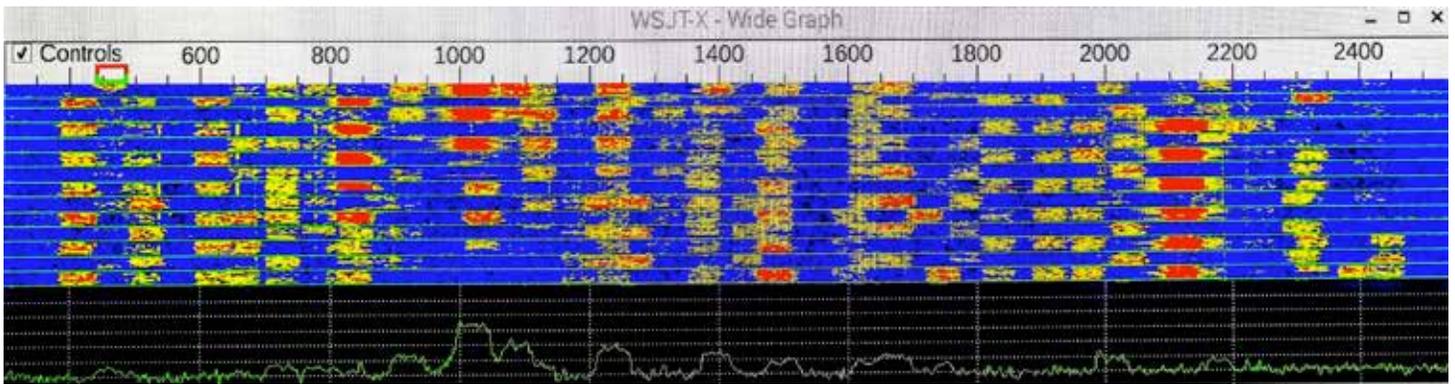
Here's the reasoning: If the CQing station chooses 14.130.0 with an offset of 2.4 kHz, then a listening station's radio tuned to 14.132.0 will "see" that station at 400 Hz. Many radios have audio passbands of between 500 Hz and 3,000 Hz. Frequencies outside that range are not received as well. A reduced sensitivity at 400 Hz can make the difference in decoding successfully.

The station answering the CQ (radio at 14.132.0 MHz) should likely pick a frequency at or near the CQ frequency, since the operator doesn't know whether the CQing station's frequency is at 14.130 or 14.132. If the receiving station chooses, say, 1.5 kHz, this would be at 14.133.5. A CQing station set to 14.130 may not be decoding all the way to 3.5 kHz from the radio's offset frequency.

Thanks to The ARRL Contest Update
From the ARRL Letter, May 14, 2020

NEW BETA WSJT-X UPGRADES FTx

A new beta version of the WSJT-X software suite has been released, which includes the first updates

to the popular FT8 and FT4 protocols since last fall. Co-Developer Joe Taylor, K1JT, said the "candidate release" WSJT-X version 2.2.0-rcl incorporates significant program upgrades to FT8, FT4, and other protocols. The beta version will be valid for a month.

"This candidate release is your first chance to test the new features and provide feedback to the WSJT Development Group," Taylor advised. A list of program changes since WSJT-X 2.1.2 is available in the cumulative Release Notes and in the updates WSJT-X 2.2.0 User Guide.

The latest beta version corrects bugs that prevented AP decoding and/or multi-pass decoding in some circumstances. The algorithm for AP decoding has been improved and extended. FT8 decoding is now spread over three intervals -- starting at 11.8 seconds into a receive sequence -- typically yielding around 85% of the possible decodes for the sequence. "You, therefore, see most decodes much earlier than before," the Release Notes explain. A second processing step starts at 13.5 seconds, and a final step at 14.7 seconds.

"Overall decoding yield on crowded bands is improved by 10% or more," the Release Notes say, although systems with receive latency greater than 0.2 seconds will experience smaller improvements, even while seeing many decodes sooner.

Other changes:
- The "contest mode" FT4 protocol always uses "RR73" for the TX4 message.
- The status bar now displays the number of decodes in the most recent receive sequence.

Release candidate WSJT-X 2.2.0-rcl will be available for 1 month (starting on May 10). A general availability release of WSJT-X 2.2.0 is anticipated for June 1.

Installation packages for Windows, Linux, and Macintosh are available on the WSJT-X Development Group page. Scroll down to "Candidate release: WSJT-X 2.2.0-rc1." The packages are also available from SourceForge.

The WSJT-X Development Group request those using the new beta version of WSJT-X to alert the developers and to report any bugs or improvements they have implemented, using instructions included in the User Guide.

From the ARRL Letter, May 14, 2020

ASSORTED ANNOUNCEMENTS

Greg Lyp, formerly KD2PYO, has changed his call to NJ2GL

Mike Panzio, W2MJP has moved from Middletown to Belford.

These changes are reflected on the official GSARA Roster available on the members portal of the GSARA web site (www.gsara.club).

Set Yourself a Goal

The pandemic is having an interesting effect on ham radio.

The men and women at DXEngineering and HRO are all reporting that they are busier than ever. With everyone hunkered down for the quarantine, there is not much to do other than clean up the house or the shack and operate their radios. If you go on any HF band in the middle of a workday, lo and behold, they are filled with signals. As ham operators, we can take advantage of the time. So, to take advantage of this time, here is a suggestion: set yourself a goal and work to achieve it.

I recently went through my Logbook of the World (LoTW) account to see what countries or states I was missing to achieve whatever self-guided goals I would accomplish. I noticed that there were several WAS and DXCC gaps that I could try to fill. And so when things got quiet at home, I am working to fill those gaps.

To that end, I managed to achieve my DXCC on 30 meters, got myself up to 49 states on PSK-125, added another 10 or so states on 80 meters FT-8 and rounded up a few other goals that I set for myself. I am hoping to finish my goals before this pandemic is over and, as the summer approaches, I see band conditions getting better and better so my goals are now within reach. It is a wonderful feeling and you might want to try it seeing what you can do!

73 Cy, K2CYS

WELCOME NEW GSARA MEMBERS

Welcome!

The following new members were voted into the GSARA at the May 6 Zoom meeting:

Rich Holst, K2RH from Freehold holds an Extra class license and has been licensed since 2000. He is Director of Information Technology and active on all bands on digital and phone modes. An ARRL member, his amateur interests include OEM, Community and Field Day. Other interests include Freemasonry and Barbershop Quartet.

Don Krueger, KB2KBW from Highlands holds an Extra class license and has been licensed since 1990. He is a semi-retired college professor who is not very active but would like to get back to chasing DX on HF and socializing on 2 meters. He is an ARRL member and other interests include music.

Tim Schultheis, WW2WW from Atlantic Highlands holds an Extra class license and has been licensed since 1990. He is an Entrepreneur interested in Broadcast Radio, a Musician, a Handyman, former EMT and a Web builder. He is interested in all of the HF modes and is on FM and SSB on the VHF and UHF frequencies. He loves the new Fusion System. An ARRL member, he has his own web site at www.ww2ww.com.

Greg Tchilinguirian from Manasquan Park is not yet licensed but plans to take his Technician exam on May 23 with social isolation. He is an Instrumentation & Control Engineer and currently has a GMRS license with the call WRFP753. He is interested in Automotive Restoration and Horology and looking forward to DXin, Rag Chewing and Home Brewing.

Dave Zablocki, N2SIQ from Long Branch holds a General class license and has been licensed since 1994. He is the bagel manufacturer of Noshmans Bagels and non-amateur interests include Motorcycles, RC Helicopters, Free Masonry, Meditation and Esoteric work. Amateur radio interests include HF SSB; 2-meter FM, SSB and C4FM; 220 FM; 70 cm FM and C4FM; and working the satellites with a hand held. He also likes Antenna Building and Theory, Hill Topping, Fox Hunts, and Rag Chewing. He is ARES and FEMA certified.

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

Please extend a hearty WELCOME to these newest members of GSARA!

■ ● ■

ARNOLD HALPERN, W2GDS - SK

Arnold Leonard Halpern, W2GDS, a former engineer at Fort Monmouth, died Saturday, May 2, 2020 at Salem Hospital in Salem, MA after a long illness. He was 99.

Mr. Halpern was born and raised in Bronx, NY, and lived in Long Branch for 55 years. In 2004, he and his wife moved to Peabody, MA.

He served in WWII in the 304th Signal Operation Battalion in New Guinea, the Philippines, and Occupied Japan. Following that, he spent his career as an electronics engineer at Fort Monmouth. He was a graduate of Stuyvesant High School and had attended Brooklyn College.

He was an active amateur radio operator, and enjoyed fishing and other activities. For many years, he held leadership roles in Chaverim International, a group of Jewish amateur radio operators, as well as in several other organizations. He was a long-time member of the Garden State Amateur Radio Association. He also helped a number of people earn amateur radio licenses.
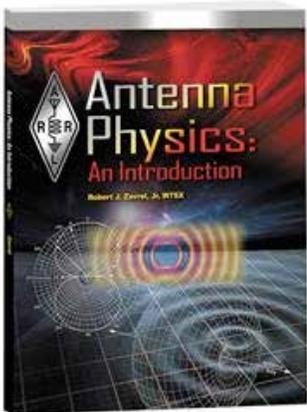
He was predeceased by his wife of almost 68 years, Dorothy Kenigsberg Halpern. He is survived by his three children, Gail Marcus of Cabin John, MD; Barton Halpern of Lititz, PA and Kenneth Halpern of Newton, MA. Also surviving are three grandchildren, and 4 great-grandchildren.

Interment will be at Beth Israel Cemetery in Woodbridge.

Online condolences may be expressed through www.fiorefuneralhomes.com.

BOOK REVIEW
By Bob Buus, W2OD

I just finished reading a new ARRL publication titled "Antenna Physics: An Introduction" by Robert J. Zavrel, Jr, W7SX. I've always been interested in Physics (both in High School and College) because it seems to explain to me how things work. Perhaps with this book, I could at last understand how antennas work! I was intrigued by the description saying that the book "explains many of the underlying principles of antennas and antenna physics and introduces the reader to the mathematics behind these principles." The description further said, "although some competence in mathematics is required to get the most from this book, readers may follow along and understand the concepts without needing to solve the complex equations presented." I especially liked this because, although I took calculus in college, it's been over 60 years since I learned it and almost that long since I last used calculus.

I found the book very interesting to read. In fact, I tried to carefully follow the math as the author introduced Maxwell's equations with the hope that I might finally relate my concept of electromagnetic radiation to the famous Maxwell's equations. Unfortunately, it didn't work for me. The author started with Maxwell's equations in integral form, then using partial differential equations derived the wave equation and lost me in the math! He then presented Maxwell's equations in differential (sometimes called point) form and dumped the 'DELTA X" operator on the reader and called it curl. It left me just scratching my head.

However, even if I skipped most of the math, the book provided me with a lot of additional insight as to how antennas work. The figures were crammed with important and insightful information and I enjoyed reading the book. The book isn't very long (about 100 or so pages) but it is loaded with interesting and useful information. I plan to donate the book to the GSARA library and I encourage you to check it out and not be intimated by the math. You'll get a lot out of it even if you don't understand much of the math.

VENTILATOR DESIGNED BY HAMS

Radio amateurs have succeeded in providing a complete, working ventilator system to University of Florida researchers who are in the process of applying to the Food and Drug Administration for an Emergency Use Authorization (EUA). A successful submission would blaze the way for volunteers and manufacturers around the world to create low-cost, highly functional Intensive Care Unit (ICU) or anesthesia-care ventilators that offer many of the features of modern ventilators at a fraction of the typical cost. Dr. Gordon Gibby, KX4Z, who is associated with the project, said efforts to further improve the device are ongoing.

"We made a stunning improvement in accuracy of the system and measuring volumes last night at about 1 AM," he told ARRL. "Accuracy of that particular alarm measurement went from about 300%, down to about 10%. The FDA submission is being readied, but we keep making engineering improvements."

Gibby credited some of the primary volunteers. "Bob Benedict, KD8CGH, has provided incredible volunteer testing, now exceeding 1.6 million cycles on one crucial valve and 300,000 on another. Jack Purdum, W8TEE, is the main 'code-cleaner' for one of mul-

tiple teams building software, following the initial lead of Marcelo Varanda, VA3MVV. Ashhar Farhan, VU2ESE, not only created the ventilator controller schematic but the printed circuit board layout that will be part of an expected University of Florida submission." Farhan was among the founding code writers of what we now know as Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP).

Other hams worked on mechanical designs for flow measurements and retooled potential manufacturing capabilities otherwise used to produce transceivers. In another example of ham radio ingenuity, Marc

assembled boards provided by LifeMech, a manufacturer working with the project. Farhan crafted an extendable menu structure for the Arduino Nano-based controller, and gas-flow measurements are made every few milliseconds by an I2C-based differential pressure transducer that can measure down to tiny PSI fractions, allowing the design to accurately track patient-induced variations in the volume of delivered gasses.
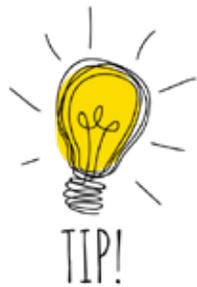
"Using Wenzenried's expiratory valve, electronic on-off control at the rate of 30 Hz allows modulation of the valve to set the continuous airway pressure used to keep the patient's lung alveoli open against virus-induced water-logging of the connective tissue," Gibby explained.

"Perhaps the most surprising development was the addition of the ability to sense patient effort to take a breath and immediately switch to assisting the patient with that breath, known as 'assist-control' ventilation," Gibby said. "This is expected to allow far lighter sedation of patients -- potentially even no sedation."

From the ARRL Letter, April 30, 2020

Winzenried, WA9ZCO, modified a readily available lawn sprinkler to serve as a durable expiratory valve. This development enabled the ventilator to go more than 1 million breaths before significant valve issues developed, and the part can be replaced for less than $15.

The completed prototype in Florida was built using typical tools by a radio amateur, and

FUSION C4FM TIP
By Phil Festa, N2EDX

Have you ever found yourself in a Fusion C4FM QSO on the club repeater when somebody has keyed-up the repeater using FM and thus causing your QSO to switch from C4FM to FM mode by means of your Automatic Mode Select (AMS) feature? If you have had this experience and would like to prevent this from happening to you again, here's what you need to do.

The easiest way to avoid the problem is to set your Fusion radio to digital (V/D) mode instead of AMS. This is what Cy recommends for the Thursday night digital net. However, when your rig is in this digital mode, it will not hear any analog output from the repeater. If a member of the net inadvertently leaves his rig in AMS mode and either transmits after the analog ID or momentarily releases and then quickly

rekeys the PTT, he will send an analog FM signal and not be heard by anyone having their rig in the digital (V/D) mode.

Yaesu allows you to program the AMS mode to operate in several different ways. The default is called TX Manual (or TX M) whereby you transmit in the mode last received. Further-more, if you momentarily release and then press the PTT, you will toggle your transmission be-tween analog FM and Digi-tal. But, you can change this default to one of the following:

1.   TX FM (or TX FMFIX) whereby you hear both digital and analog signals but always transmit in analog FM.
2.   TX DN (or TX DNFIX) whereby you hear both digital and analog signals but always transmit in digital (V/D).
3.   AUTO which is the same as the default but does not switch modes when the PTT is momentarily released.

These instructions tell you how to put your AMS into the TX DN (No. 2) state. Please Note: These instructions are generic in nature as each Yaesu System Fusion (YSF) model may have a different avenue to reach its setup menu. I have tested this tip successfully on my own FTM-400. However, this tip may not be applicable to all YSF radios, especially HT's.

For the FTM-400XDR:
In the setup menu find and select TX/RX, then select the DIGITAL submenu. From the DIGITAL submenu select AMS TX MODE and change the setting from AUTO to TX DN FIXED. See pages 163 and 164 or page 174 of the Operating Manual for details.

For the FT-2DR:
With the rig in AMS mode (DN with a bar above it to the right of the frequency display) and in VFO mode, note the center key on the bottom of the display. Each time you press that bottom center key, its label will cycle through TX M, TXFM, TXDN, TXVW, AUTO and then back to TX M. Set it to TXDN to al-ways transmit digital. See page 40 of the Operating Manual for details.

For the FTM-3200:
Per page 18 of the Operating Manual, press the [D/A(GM)] key to cycle through AMS ("DN" blinks in lower right of display), V/D ("DN" light-ed), and FM (no icon). Leave it on AMS ("DN" blink-ing). Then per page 43 of the operating Manual, go to Menu item 11 and set DIG AMS to "TX DNFIX." Once this change has been implemented, the YSF receiver will continue to function in AMS mode permitting the operator to hear all repeater activity regardless of mode. However, the transmitter will now remain in DN mode preventing any FM repeater activity from interrupting the QSO and yanking the unsuspecting operator from the C4FM QSO and into the undesired mode, FM. The FM transmit mode may be selected manually when required.

The FT-70D and the FT-3D hand held radios permit the mode to be programmed along with the frequency information into memory making any special instructions or steps unnecessary.

Happy operating
73 de Phil, N2EDX

RETRIEVAL OF TITANIC WIRELESS

A US federal judge in Virginia has given permission to retrieve the ill-fated RMS Titanic's Marconi wireless gear, which transmitted distress calls from the sinking ocean liner during its maiden voyage. Judge Rebecca Beach Smith of the US District Court in Norfolk ruled that the radio gear is historically and culturally important and could soon be lost within the rapidly decaying wreck. The Titanic sank in 1912 some 370 miles off the coast of Newfoundland after striking an iceberg.

"The Marconi device has significant historical, educational, scientific, and cultural value as the device used to make distress calls while the Titanic was sinking," Judge Smith wrote in her ruling. She said the company would be permitted "minimally to cut into the wreck" to access the radio room.

David Concannon, a lawyer for R.M.S Titanic Inc., which the court has recognized as the steward of the vessel's artifacts, said the company would try to avoid cutting into the ship, noting that the radio room may be reachable via a skylight that was already open. More legal wrangling may lie ahead. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) contends that the retrieval expedition is still prohibited under US law and under an international agreement between the US and the UK. R.M.S Titanic has said the radio transmitter could unlock some of the secrets about a missed warning message and distress calls sent from the ship.

"It tells an important story," Concannon said. "It tells of the heroism of the operators that saved the lives of 705 people. They worked until water was lapping at their feet."

In an April court filing, NOAA argued against the salvage effort, saying that any benefit to be realized from cutting into the vessel to recover the Marconi equipment would not be "worth the cost to the resource and not in the public interest."

RMS Titanic sought permission to carry out what it called a "surgical removal and retrieval" of the Marconi radio equipment. As might be expected, the deteriorating Marconi equipment is in poor shape after more than a century under water. The undersea retrieval would mark the first time an artifact was collected from within the Titanic, which many believe should remain undisturbed as the final resting place of some 1,500 victims of the maritime disaster. The wreck sits on the ocean floor some 2 1/2 miles beneath the surface, and remained undiscovered until 1985. R.M.S. Titanic said it plans to use a manned submarine to reach the wreck and then deploy a remotely controlled sub to retrieve the radio equipment.

From the ARRL Letter, May 21, 2020

LOOKING BACK

A short stroll through the history of GSARA in the pages of past Propagators

FIVE YEARS AGO

From the June 2015 Propagator: Alan Sherman, W2NIR is home recovering from surgery. Bonnie Griffiths, N2BON, the wife of Jim, K2EI, died after a long illness. The FCC proposed eliminating the Vanity Call Sign fee.

TEN YEARS AGO

From the June 2010 Propagator: For the last time, GSARA will have Field Day at the Baseball fields at Fort Monmouth. A total of 12 tape measure yagi antennas were built at the May 19 meeting. The White Elephant sale on April 21 yeilded over $400 profit to GSARA.

FIFTEEN YEARS AGO

From the June 2005 Propagator: On Friday, May 13, Jay Leno had a speed contest between teens sending a text message and seasoned hams sending the same message by Morse code. Code sent and received at 29 wpm won handily. OH2BR set a Guinness World Record by making 56,239 contacts from VP6BR in 2000.

TWENTY YEARS AGO

From the June 2000 Propagator: A 5 element 6 meter Yagi antenna was donated to GSARA by Dave Lawrence, KC2DJX. Antenna expert Bob Felsenheld, W2BCC became a silent key. Dave Ottenberg, WA2DJN rejoined GSARA. He was a member back in the 50s and 60s. Former Japanese Prime Minister Keizo Obuchi, JI1KIT died of a stroke May 15.

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO

From the June, 1995 Propagator: GSARA spark plug since 1953, Mike Begala, K2CTJ became a silent key on May 27. Marlo Montanaro, KA2IRQ wrote an excellent article on "The Role of Amateur Radio in Hurricane Communications". The Amateur Radio Communication Service Corps of Monmouth County was formed under the leadership of Roy Edwards, KB2LUO. Laurie Korkowski, N2XWA joined GSARA (she later served as a very effective President).

THIRTY YEARS AGO

From the June, 1990 Propagator: A Roster published with The Propagator showed GSARA had 122 members. The "Shack of the Month" picture featured the station of Dom Cafro, KB2CMF (now N2DOM). John Breza, WR2Z (SK) had an article on how to measure the loss of coaxial cable. Dave Kelly, WA2B earned 5 band WAS. Phil Peterson, W2DME (SK) had an article about Bud Waite, W2ZK.

GSARA Swag

GSARA Patches
We have GSARA patches available at all meetings and they are $3. Show your GSARA pride!

GSARA Hats and Shirts
Cost is $21 for Hats and $25 for Shirts, in your choice of Blue or Stone color.
To place your order, send Art artgold@verizon.net an email with your name, call sign, size (for shirts) and color. Payment will be due when hats and shirts are delivered.

Blue Swan Lunches
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 back left corner of the diner.

ARES/RACES Net

Did you know that there is an ARES/RACES net on the W2GSA repeater on the first and third Mondays of each month at 8 PM local time? All are welcome. Check it out!

IF YOU ARE LATE FOR THE MEETINGS

The Red Cross has increased the security for the building so the front door is always locked on meeting nights. Someone is posted at the door prior to the start of our meeting to let in attendees. However, the door-watcher attends the meeting when it starts at 7:30 so no one is at the door after that. If you come in late for the meeting, there is a door bell button on the handle of the door which, when pushed, rings a bell inside the building. Hopefully, someone at the meeting will hear it

---

If anyone is looking for help with getting operational with digital modes (FT-8, PSK-31, Olivia, RTTY, etc.) please feel free to call on Paul, AD7I, if you would like some assistance. The best way to reach Paul is via email, ad7i@ad7i.net

---

and come let you in. If no one comes in a short time, ring the bell again and again until someone comes. Thank you.

Club Perks

W2GSA CLUB NET

The GSARA weekly net meets each Tuesday evening at 8:30 on the GSARA repeater. Everyone is welcome to hear news of upcoming club events and activities, reports of the latest club news and everyone can share what they have been up to. Please join us. The more participation, the more fun!

QSL BUREAU

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). Either John, KA2F or Len, WA1PCY 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?

GSARA.CLUB/W2GSA.ORG

Have you seen the GSARA website lately at https://www.gsara.club? Check it out often for updates, news, announcements and general club information. If you have not yet done so, send us a picture of your shack and a selfie for the Members; Shacks and Our Members page. There is a Members Only Page which will contain important links viewable by GSARA members only including the most current roster and the previous month's minutes from the meeting. Send your selfies to Cy, K2CYS at k2cys@arrl.org. Do you have any other great ideas for the site? Let Cy know.

NOTES ON CALENDAR (see next page)

Large Call letters denote birthdays e.g. **K2ARV** on June 3. All times are EDST. Contests are listed in the June QST, p. 69. 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 June 2020 QST page 82 and www.arrl.org/qualifying-run-schedule

June 1 – **W1AW CW Qualifying Run (CW 4 pm 35)** at 4 pm (10-35 wpm).

June 1 - **Monmouth County ARES/RACES Net** meets on 147.045 +600, PL=67.0 at 8:00 pm

June 2 – **Old Barney VE Test Session** at 6:30 pm in Manahawkin. Contact Urb Le Jeune, W1UL at 609-296-5856 or urb@w2dec.com (probably cancelled).

June 2 – **Old Barney ARC Meeting** at 7:30 pm in Manahawkin, NJ. See http://www.obarc.org (probably cancelled).

June 2 and every following Tuesday – **GSARA Net** on 147.045 PL=67 at 8:30 pm.

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

June 2 - **W1AW CW Qualifying Run** (**CW 7 pm 35R**) at 7 pm (35-10 wpm).

June 3 –**GSARA Meeting** at 7:30 pm via Zoom teleconferencing. This will be a business meeting.

June 4 – **Holiday City ARC Meeting** at 7 pm at Holiday City South Clubhouse in Toms River. (probably cancelled)

June 4 - **W1AW CW Qualifying Run** (**CW 10 pm 40**) at 10 pm (10-40 wpm).

June 5 and every Friday – **Lunch at the Blue Swan Diner** is cancelled until restaurants are again open to the public.

June 10 – **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 (probably cancelled).

June 11 – **JSARS meeting** in Riverwood Park Rec. Building, Rt. 527 and Riverwood Drive at 7:30 pm (probably cancelled).

June 13 – **Asia-Pacific Sprint, SSB** from 7 am to 9 am on 15 and 20 meters. See http://jsfc.org/apsprint/aprule.txt

June 13 – **OMARC Meeting** at 9:00 am at the Firehouse on 600 Sixth Ave. in Spring Lake Heights (probably cancelled).

June 13-14 – **ARRL June VHF Contest,** all modes from 50 MHz and up from 2 pm Saturday to 10:59 pm Sunday. See http://www.arrl.org/june-vhf

June 15 - **Monmouth County ARES/RACES Net** meets on 147.045 +600, PL=67.0 at 8:00 pm

June 17 – **GSARA Meeting** at 7:30 pm via Zoom teleconferencing if held at all.

June 18 – **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 (probably cancelled).

June 19-21 – **All Asian DX Contest, CW** from 8 pm Friday to 7:59 pm Sunday. See http://www.jarl.org/English

June 20 – **ARRL Kids Day, Phone** from 2 pm to 7:59 pm. See http://www.arrl.org/kids-day

June 27– **GSARA VE Test Session** at 11 am at the Red Cross Regional Headquarters in Tinton Falls (probably cancelled).

June 27-28 – **ARRL Field Day, all modes** from 2 pm Saturday to 5 pm Sunday. See http://www.arrl.org/field-day

JUNE 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	K2ARV 1 **KC2RRP** CW 4 pm 35 ARES/RACES 8 pm	**2** CW 7 pm 35R GSARA Net 8:30 QCWA News 9 PM	**3** GSARA Mtg	**4** HCARC Mtg CW 10 pm 40	**5** CW 9 am 35	**6**
7	**8**	**9** CW 4 pm 35 GSARA Net 8:30 QCWA News 9 PM	**10** Hol. City VE CW 7 pm 40	**11** CW 9 am 35R JSARS Mtg	**12** **KD2FHT** **KY2S** CW 10 pm 35	**13** OMARC Mtg. Asia-Pacific SSB VHF Contest
14 VHF Contest	**W2HAM 15** **W2IY** **KA2QEP** ARES/RACES 8 pm	**WA2JZQ 16** CW 9 am 35 GSARA Net 8:30 QCWA News 9 PM5	**17** GSARA Mtg CW 10 pm 35R	**18** **KA2F** CW 7 pm 35 JSARS VE	**19** CW 4 pm 40 Asian DX CW	**20** **N2MN** Asian DX CW Kids Day
21 **WB2KCV** Asian DX CW	**22** CW 10 pm 40	**23** GSARA Net 8:30 QCWA News 9 PM	**24** CW 9am 35R	**25** CW 4 pm 35R	**26** CW 7 pm 35	**27** **W2HTS** GSARA VE Field Day
28 Field Day	**29**	**30**				

GARDEN STATE
AMATEUR RADIO
ASSOCIATION
W2GSA Tinton Falls, NJ

8 DONNER STREET   First Class
HOLMDEL, NJ 07733