



# THE PROPAGATOR

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

**APRIL 2007**

---

## **NEXT MEETING APRIL 4**

The next regular meeting of the GSARA will be held on **Wednesday, April 4 at 8:00 PM** at the MARS building in Fort Monmouth. Come early to enjoy the refreshments. We look forward to seeing YOU at the meeting!

---

## **FORT MONMOUTH PASSES**

Please check the expiration date on your Fort Monmouth badges. Within two or three weeks before they expire, notify Larry, KB2RIS or Frank, W2XYZ. You then must check with visitor control on Oceanport Ave. to retire your old badges and get a new placard. Your old badges **CANNOT** be renewed.

---

## **LOGGING PROGRAM**

Here is the web address for the logging program discussed at the last GSARA meeting:

<http://www.dxlabsuite.com/download.htm>

73, Howard, W2HTS

---

## **GSARA CALENDAR**

[http://home.comcast.net/~gsara\\_w2gsa/calendr.htm](http://home.comcast.net/~gsara_w2gsa/calendr.htm)

---

## **MIDDLETOWN CLUB MEETING TIME**

The Middletown Amateur Radio Club has changed their meeting time and place to the second Saturday of each month at 10 AM at the Union Beach Police Department Annex (Municipal Building) on Poole Avenue. Many also meet for lunch at noon on Saturdays on Highway 35 at either Wendy's (just south of Sears) or Burger King (south of King's Highway) in Middletown. Check the Middletown repeater on Saturday morning to verify which location.

---

## **QCWA AWARDS BANQUET**

The annual QCWA Marconi Chapter 138 will hold their annual awards banquet on Sunday, April 22 at the Spring Meadow Golf and Country Club on Rt. 524 in Wall (next to Allaire State Park) from 2 to 6 PM. The buffet is \$27 per person and includes salad, chicken, salmon, pasta, potato, vegetables, rolls, dessert, coffee and tea. You need not be a QCWA member to attend. Advance reservations are required to Bernie Ricciardi, WB2EJT at 732-528-9259 or [wb2ejt@arrl.net](mailto:wb2ejt@arrl.net). Special recognition will be given to Marv Bernstein, W2PAT who is celebrating 75 years as a ham.

---

## **GLOBALSTAR SATELLITE PROBLEMS**

The American Radio Relay League recently distributed a warning that "Our served agencies are increasingly relying on satellite phones for back up communications and some think it has lessened the need for HF and the other services provided by amateur radio. You should refer your emergency management contacts to a recent SEC filing made by Globalstar. The performance of the S-band power amplifiers in the company's satellites is degrading, likely to due radiation exposure. ... there is apparently a significant chance that the new satellites won't be up in time and that sometime in 2008 substantially all of the Company's currently in-orbit satellites will cease to be able to support two-way communications services!"

From the April issue of Monitoring Times magazine

---

## **GSARA HOMEPAGE**

[http://home.comcast.net/~gsara\\_w2gsa](http://home.comcast.net/~gsara_w2gsa)

---

## **HUDSON DIVISION HOME PAGE**

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

## GSARA OFFICERS

President	N2LXM	Jeff Harshman	922-0816
Vice Pres.	N2VFK	Tom Cosgrove	747-8896
Secretary	W2OD	Bob Buus	946-8615
Treasurer	W2XYZ	Frank Wroblewski	942-7705
Engineer	WN2DX	Marty Szumera	
Trustees	KG2NV	Don Pingitore	229-2925
	W2OD	Bob Buus	946-8615
	WA2FVL	Jack Keating	264-7670

## PROPAGATOR AVAILABLE BY E-MAIL

Would you like to help the finances of GSARA and at the same time get your issue of *The Propagator* a few days earlier? You can get every issue e-mailed to your computer every month by simply giving your e-mail address to Bruce McLeod, K2QXW and request *The Propagator* electronically. Bruce's e-mail address is <brucekleod@comcast.net>

## BADGES AND PATCHES

All new GSARA members get a name badge. However, you may order additional ones by getting a Badge Order Form from our Secretary, **Bob Buus, W2OD**, filling it out and turning it in to Bob with your \$5.00 payment.

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

## OUTGOING QSL CARDS

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

## PROPAGATOR NOW ON THE WEB

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

[http://home.comcast.net/~gsara\\_w2gsa/prop.pdf](http://home.comcast.net/~gsara_w2gsa/prop.pdf)

It is installed on the web about two weeks after the direct mailing to members.

## EDITOR'S NOTES

The Infoage open house every Sunday at the Marconi Hotel on Marconi Road in Wall is drawing an increasing number of people. Many of the displays are of interest to radio amateurs. Our QCWA room shows the evolution of Morse code from early telegraph lines, through spark, CW, and now the digital "warbling" modes. In the building behind the hotel, the Antique Radio Association and the Broadcaster's Hall Of Fame have some very impressive displays of early radio equipment. Further down the road at the Diana site, OMARC has an operating amateur station as well as an impressive display about the first moonbounce, Project Diana. I encourage you to visit the site any Sunday afternoon between 1 and 4 PM. It's well worth the trip.

The officers of QCWA Marconi Chapter 138 have been busy preparing for their annual awards banquet. There are several 50, 55, and 60-year awards but the most prestigious one is being awarded to former GSARA member, Marv Bernstein, W2PAT for being licensed for 75 years! It should be a very nice event at the Spring Meadow Golf and Country Club near Allaire Park.

I just got chosen to serve on jury duty at the Federal District Court in Trenton for 6 weeks starting April 4. It's over an hour each way and I have to be there every day by 8:30 AM so I get to experience some heavy traffic in Trenton. Ugh!! It sure will take a big chunk out of my free time so I'm not looking forward to it at all. The judge says that the case is an interesting one. We'll have to see about that. It took three trips just for jury selection. 420 of us were called for the original panel. After questions from lawyers on both sides, this was cut to 82 people. Finally, 18 of us were chosen to serve. How could I have been so "lucky" to make it through these cuts?

Remember if you change your e-mail address, please be sure to inform Bruce McLeod, K2QXW.

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

73 de Bob, w2od@arrl.net

## MINUTES OF MARCH 7 MEETING

By Bob Buus, W2OD, Secretary

The meeting was called to order at Fort Monmouth by President Jeff Harshman, N2LXM, at 8:08 PM. After the Pledge to the Flag, all members present introduced themselves. There were 14 members present.

### Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Frank Wroblewski, W2XYZ made a report for February. A motion was made by Joe, W2KQ and seconded by Nena, N2WAY to accept the report. The report was unanimously accepted.

### Secretary's Report

A motion was made by Peggy Struening and seconded by Nena, N2WAY to accept the minutes of the last meeting as published in the March Propagator. The motion was unanimously accepted.

A letter was received from the Northern California DX Foundation (NCDXF) offering GSARA a free DVD telling the NCDXF story. The members asked that we obtain this video for presentation at an upcoming meeting.

### New Business

The new rule changes opening up the HF bands to Technicians and eliminating the Morse code requirement came up for discussion. Kudos were given to the new pull-out section in the March QST. In fact, praises were made for the entire issue. Interest in CW is very much alive and OMARC is running CW classes on Thursday nights in March at the Diana site on Marconi Road in Wall. Jeff, N2LXM pointed out that there are many good freeware and shareware programs supporting digital modes such as PSK-31. Many also include good logging programs and the members are encouraged to try them out.

### Public Service

Tom, N2VFK announced that the MS Bike Tour to Cape May will be on May 19-20. As last year, it will start at Monmouth University but just go south from there. We are looking for volunteers, especially those willing to ride in a vehicle.

The Sheehan run in the Red Bank area is scheduled for June 16 and a few volunteers are needed. If interested, see Tom, N2VFK.

### Hamfests

The Cherryville Hamfest is coming up on Saturday, March 24. This is usually a good one.

The Timonium Hamfest (north of Baltimore) is Saturday, March 31 and Sunday, April 1. This is the biggest Hamfest closer than Dayton and is well worth the trip.

OMARC will be holding their tailgate/Hamfest on April 21 at the Diana site on Marconi Road in Wall.

### Announcements

The Fort Monmouth visitor center (which issues Ft. Monmouth passes) is reducing its hours and will only be open weekdays from 0700 to 1600. You are advised to get there before 1500 if renewing your pass.

There are 4 female students taking the amateur radio class on the Post on Thursday nights. Jeff, N2LXM could use help on some nights.

Nena, N2WAY is looking for an antenna suitable for a apartment. If anyone has any information or experience, please contact her.

The new Verizon fiber optic system was discussed. Although the ads make it look very attractive, Howard, W2HTS recently signed up for it and by the time all of the extras were considered, he only saved about \$10/month over Comcast.

### Closing

A drawing was held for the main door prize which was won by Peggy Struening.

There being no further business, a motion was made by Peggy Struening and seconded by Ray, W2NXG to close the meeting. The meeting was closed at 9:10 PM.

---

## OMARC TAILGATE HAMFEST

The Ocean Monmouth Amateur Radio Club is holding as tailgate Hamfest on Saturday, April 21 at the Diana Site on Marconi Road in Wall Township. Vendors can setup at 6:30 AM and buyers are admitted at 7:30 AM. Tables are \$10 and admission and parking is \$3 per car. There will be a VE test session at 10 AM. Talk-in is on the OMARC repeater on 145.11 (127.3 Hz). The contact person is Jeff Harshman, N2LXM on 732-922-0816 or n2lxm@arrl.net. More information is at [www.omarc.org](http://www.omarc.org)

## ARRL REVISES BANDWIDTH PROP.

In the wake of recent changes in the Part 97 Amateur Radio rules, the ARRL has revised its "regulation by bandwidth" proposals to match the new reality, avoid some unintended consequences and temper some of the controversy the original petition had aroused. In a November 2005 Petition for Rule Making, the League asked the FCC to establish a regulatory regime that would segment bands by necessary bandwidths ranging from 200 Hz to 100 kHz rather than by emission mode. The ARRL now is urging the FCC to adopt a "subset" <<http://www.arrl.org/announce/regulatory/rm-11306/appendixA.html>> of the rules contained in its original petition that largely affects only the amateur bands at 28 MHz and above.

"Because the proposals affecting the bands above 28 MHz had not aroused much controversy, they were retained in the shortened list," ARRL CEO David Sumner, K1ZZ, explained this week. "Regulation by bandwidth rather than by mode of emission remains controversial below 28 MHz because of its perceived potential impact on established operating patterns, so these proposals were removed from the list with one exception."

That exception addresses the fact that current rules impose no effective bandwidth limit on HF digital operation. "Digital emissions using multiple carriers, such as OFDM [orthogonal frequency division multiplexing], can be designed for any bandwidth while staying within the existing rules," Sumner points out, "so, the subset of proposed rule changes includes a bandwidth limit of 3 kHz on RTTY and data emissions below 28 MHz."

The proposed 3 kHz RTTY/data bandwidth limit aims to avoid the possibility existing under the present rules that a single digital station could monopolize large MF and HF band segments. In an Erratum this week the ARRL also asked the FCC to retain the existing 500 Hz bandwidth limit that applies to certain automatically controlled RTTY/data stations under §97.221.

The ARRL proposal would amend the definition of "bandwidth" in §97.3(a)(8) to read: "For a given class of emission, the width of the frequency band which is sufficient to ensure the transmission of information at the rate and with the quality required under specified conditions." The rule references the

definition of "necessary bandwidth" appearing in Parts 2 and 97 of the FCC rules.

If the FCC adopts the League's revised proposals, the 10, 6 and 2 meter amateur bands would be segmented into subbands allowing maximum emission bandwidths of 200 Hz, 500 Hz, 3.0 kHz (with an exception for double-sideband, full-carrier AM phone), 16 kHz or 100 kHz. Above 222 MHz, the entire emission must be within the allocated Amateur Radio band to comply with §97.307(d).

Sumner concedes that the subset of proposed rule changes in RM-11306 would provide less protection to CW, RTTY and other narrowband modes than the League's original proposals afforded, but not less than the existing rules provide. "In fact, protection against interference from wideband digital modes would be increased, not decreased, even by adoption of the subset," he contended.

Some confusion arose because of an inadvertent omission in the initial notice of a meeting on this subject between ARRL officials and FCC staff. This week's Erratum addressed that issue.

Additional consternation followed in the wake of a widely circulated, but erroneous, comment alleging "the complete absence of CW as a mode in the table of HF modes" the ARRL submitted. The ARRL has proposed no change to §97.305(a) of the rules, which authorizes CW on all amateur frequencies except on 60 meters.

The League has petitioned the FCC to permit CW and other modes on 60 meters, in addition to the presently permitted upper-sideband SSB.

After studying the topic several years, the ARRL Board of Directors continues to support the principles of regulation by bandwidth contained in the original RM-11306 petition.

"Regulation by bandwidth provides a better regulatory framework, not only for the introduction of future digital emissions but for the protection of traditional narrowband modes as well," Sumner asserted this week. He expressed the hope that the subset of RM-11306 modifications offers an alternative that "will make it easier for the FCC to move at least part of the way in that direction."

From *The ARRL Letter*, No. 12, March 23, 2007

## CONFUSION OVER NEW RULES

Some Technician licensees who gained new privileges February 23 remain unaware or uninformed as to what they may and may not do on the HF bands, says ARRL Regulatory Information Specialist Dan Henderson, N1ND. In addition to all Amateur Radio operating privileges above 50 MHz, Technicians who never passed a Morse code test now have CW privileges on certain segments of 80, 40 and 15 meters plus CW, RTTY, data and SSB privileges on certain segments of 10 meters. And that's it. "Know your privileges <<http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/regulations/bands.html>>," Henderson advises all Amateur Radio licensees. He says some Technicians apparently believe their new HF phone privileges go far beyond what they really have.

"Technicians have no phone privileges on any HF band other than 10 meters, period!" Henderson emphasizes. "That's the bottom line. If you want to operate phone on the other HF bands, you'll have to upgrade to General or Amateur Extra class."

A lot of Technician licensees appear to have done just that, according to statistics compiled by Joe Speroni, AH0A <<http://ah0a.org/FCC/Licenses.html>>. So far in March, the number of General class licensees is up by more than 2700 over the February figure to 134,173, after hitting a 5-year low of just under 131,000 in January. The number of Technicians dropped by 4655 in the same period to 318,838. Speroni notes, however, that his mid-month figures tend to underestimate actual totals.

Most Technician license holders face a learning curve to take advantage of their new CW privileges on HF, but they no longer have to pass a Morse code examination. Technicians also may use their new HF privileges without having to apply for them first. No other license class automatically acquired additional privileges February 23. The "omnibus" rule changes effective last December 15 did not give Technician licensees without Morse code credit any additional privileges either.

Henderson further warns new Techs not to extrapolate additional phone privileges by misconstruing the FCC Part 97 rules to mean something they don't.

"Calls I've been getting lately indicate that some misinformed individuals believe Technicians may

operate 'digital voice' on 80, 40 and 15, where they have only CW privileges," he says. "Not true. Digital voice is really digitized voice, and it's not permitted in non-phone band segments."

Henderson reiterates that Technicians do not have FM voice privileges on 10 meters -- or on any other HF band, for that matter.

The HF privileges all Technicians now have are equivalent to those that Novice licensees enjoy, Henderson notes. "This also means the 200 W maximum power limit still applies, regardless of where you operate in the HF bands," he says. Technicians may operate at up to the legal limit on VHF and UHF, however.

On 10 meters, Technician and Novice licensees have CW, RTTY and data privileges from 28.000 to 28.300 MHz, and CW and SSB privileges from 28.300 to 28.500 MHz. "We're sorry that the sunspots aren't favoring 10 meters at this point in the sunspot cycle, but they will in a few years," Henderson allowed.

In addition, Technicians and Novices have CW - and only CW -- privileges on from 3.525 to 3.600 MHz on 80 meters, from 7.025 to 7.125 MHz on 40 meters and 21.025 to 21.200 MHz on 15 meters.

Henderson believes at least some of the confusion may have originated with a few brand-new or inexperienced Technician licensees who heard that the FCC deleted the Morse code requirement to obtain an Amateur Radio license, but paid little attention to the fine print.

"And we all know the devil's in the details," Henderson says. "Remember, the FCC requires you to know where you may and may not operate and with what modes. Stick to the privileges your license allows or risk hearing from the FCC."

From *The ARRL Letter*, No. 12, March 23, 2007

---

## COMMENTS MADE IN THE YEAR 1955

"I'll tell you one thing, if things keep going the way they are, it's going to be impossible to buy a week's groceries for \$20."

"Have you seen the new cars coming out next year? It won't be long before \$2000 will only buy a used one."

"If cigarettes keep going up in price, I'm going to quit. A quarter a pack is ridiculous."

## IRAQ AMATEUR RADIO SHUT DOWN

Iraq Amateur Radio Society (IARS) President Diya Sayah, YI1DZ, has informed ARRL that all Amateur Radio activity in Iraq has been suspended until the security situation there improves. The ham radio blackout began this week.

Sayah says the suspension affects both Iraqi citizens as well as any foreigners, including military personnel and contractors -- who have been on the air from Iraq identifying with YI9-prefix call signs. It does not affect the operation of Military Affiliate Radio System (MARS) stations, however, since they operate on military frequencies, not amateur frequencies. The IARS is informing its members to stay off the air, although some Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) modes like IRLP and EchoLink still are okay to use, as long as they don't involve transmitting a signal over the air.

The request to halt all ham radio activity and the issuance of licenses in Iraq originated with a letter from the Iraqi Ministry of Defense to Iraqi Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki as part of the new Baghdad security plan, Sayah said. He received subsequent confirmation via the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research to shut down ham radio activity, although he allows for a possible misunderstanding on the part of government officials as to the nature and purpose of Amateur Radio.

"I'm waiting an answer from the Office of Prime Minister, because I requested a meeting with him through e-mail," Sayah told the League. He said the government expressed concerns over the difficulty of identifying "enemy" as opposed to "friendly" radio traffic, the potential for revealing military movements via radio and eavesdropping.

Sayah said the government also wanted radio amateurs in Iraq to send all ham radio equipment to the IARS until the security situation improved, but he's advising hams in Iraq to hang onto their gear. "Because we had the security plan going, no one can carry his equipment, and all checkpoints belong to the Ministry of Defense," he said. "Besides, the location of our Society is not safe to keep members' equipment in one place."

Sayah also has reached out to the worldwide Amateur Radio community to use its influence to reverse the Iraqi government policy.

*From The ARRL Letter, No. 11, March 16, 2007*

## HAMS LOCATE MISSING MAN

Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) volunteers in Stanislaus County, California, were able to locate an 82-year-old man suffering from senile dementia who walked away from a residential care facility March 14. Police in Modesto organized a search for the elderly man, and members of the Stanislaus Amateur Radio Association (SARA) -- an ARRL Special Service Club -- volunteered to help (the club meets at the Modesto Police Department's Northeast Area Substation). One volunteer who had helped locate victims of Hurricane Katrina brought along her search dog. The searchers found the missing man sitting in the driver's seat of a pick-up truck. Modesto police say that while he appeared disoriented, he was in good spirits and shook hands with the volunteers who found him. "We are very thankful for the help our local volunteers provide us in times like these," said Modesto Police Lt Gary Watts, who headed the search. "They are all very dedicated, and we couldn't do it without them." -- Modesto Police Department

*From The ARRL Letter, No. 12, March 23, 2007*

---

## CUBESAT LAUNCH SCHEDULED

Four CubeSats operating on Amateur Radio frequencies will be among seven CubeSats set to head into space on a Dnepr launcher Tuesday, March 27, from the Baikonur Cosmodrome in Kazakhstan. CubeSats carrying Amateur Radio payloads are CalPoly's PolySats CP3 and CP4, which will transmit 1200 bps FM AFSK (AX.25) on 436.845 MHz and 437.325 MHz, respectively, under an FCC Part 5 experimental license; University of Louisiana's CAPE-1, which will transmit 9600 bps FM FSK (AX.25) and CW telemetry during opposite 30-second intervals on 435.245 MHz using the call sign K5USL (forward telemetry reports via e-mail <jd.harrist@gmail.com>), and the Universidad Sergio Arboleda's Libertad-1, which will transmit 1200 bps FM AFSK (AX.25) on 437.405 MHz. CubeSat separation is scheduled to occur March 27 at 0702 UTC with first acquisition of signal over South Africa at 0708 UTC.

*From The ARRL Letter, No. 12, March 23, 2007*

## FIELD DAY 2007 PLANNING

Although Field Day 2007 is still more than three months away, many ham radio clubs and groups already have begun making plans for this year's event, Saturday and Sunday, June 23-24. Field Day has always been an ideal time for new hams to become more proficient operators and for prospective licensees to get "bitten by the Amateur Radio bug." That may be even more the case during Field Day 2007, as many radio amateurs gain new HF operating privileges because of the rule changes that went into effect February 23.

"This is an opportunity to get new or upgraded licensees on the air for some active mentoring and active learning," says ARRL Regulatory Information Specialist Dan Henderson, N1ND. "Field Day 2007 will be a chance to learn and grow, but above all, it will be a lot of fun -- and for many there is perhaps nothing more fun in ham radio than ARRL Field Day."

The numbers support that claim. Last June, more than 32,500 operators took part in ARRL Field Day -- some as individuals but many more as part of a club or group. The League saw some 2200 Field Day log submissions for the 2006 event, during which nearly 1.24 million completed contacts went into the log -- not a record but up a little from the previous year.

While no longer a licensing requirement, Morse code (CW) remains a very popular Field Day operating mode, perhaps because CW QSOs are worth twice as much as phone contacts. Last year some 56 percent of Field Day contacts took place on SSB, while nearly 42 percent were on CW (the rest were digital contacts).

Henderson points out two small changes in the Field Day rules starting this year. First, participating stations may only complete one satellite contact for bonus points via a single-channel FM-mode spacecraft (Rule 7.3.7.1), and it must be an Earth-satellite-Earth contact. "This will allow more stations to access this very limited resource," he says.

Second, an individual Get-On-The-Air (GOTA) station operators will earn 20 points for each 20 contacts, up to a maximum of 100 per GOTA operator. Henderson notes that no partial point credit is available, and GOTA operators may not

"pool" contacts toward any 20-QSO GOTA station bonus.

"Amateur Radio stands at a juncture where we can embrace both the old and new," Henderson says. He notes, too, that the variety of available operating modes -- traditional and experimental -- contributes toward Field Day's status as the most popular annual operating event.

"Field Day is truly the time where we bring Amateur Radio to Main Street USA -- a great time for 'the Bug' to bite as many people as it can," Henderson says. "Use Field Day 2007 to open up Amateur Radio to the next generation of radio amateurs on your Main Street! It's up to us to make it happen."

Complete information on Field Day 2007 packet is available on the ARRL Web site <<http://www.arrl.org/contests/announcements/fd/>>.

From *The ARRL Letter*, No. 11, March 16, 2007

---

## FAR SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE

The non-profit Foundation for Amateur Radio (FAR) now is accepting applications for 56 academic year 2007-2008 scholarships to assist radio amateurs pursuing higher education. The deadline to apply is April 30, 2007.

FAR fully funds three of scholarships and administers 42 others without cost on behalf of various club and individual donors; grant income funds the remaining 11 awards. Amateur Radio licensees pursuing a full-time course of study beyond high school and accepted by or enrolled in an accredited university, college or technical school are eligible to apply.

Scholarship grants range from \$500 to \$3000, and preference in some cases goes to applicants living in particular geographical areas or pursuing certain studies. Non-US residents are eligible to apply for some of the scholarships.

Request more information and an application form via e-mail <[scholarships@farweb.org](mailto:scholarships@farweb.org)> or by sending a QSL card by April 30 to FAR Scholarships, PO Box 831, Riverdale, MD 20738.

From *The ARRL Letter*, No. 04, January 26, 2007

## USE YOUR FCC FRN

ARRL Volunteer Examiner Coordinator (ARRL VEC) urges all Amateur Radio license and upgrade applicants to use their FCC Registration Number <<https://svartifoss2.fcc.gov/coresWeb/publicHome.do>>, if they have one, when completing Form 605, not their Social Security number. The FCC asks applicants to register via the FCC's COmmission REgistration System (CORES), to obtain an FRN, and it requires applicants to use their FRNs when filing Form 605. The FRN uniquely identifies an applicant in all transactions with the FCC and avoids the need to provide a Social Security number on the application form. ARRL VEC Manager Maria Somma, AB1FM, says that if her department submits license data to the FCC using a Social Security number when the applicant already has an FRN, the FCC rejects the data because an FRN already exists. Somma also reminds applicants and Volunteer Examiner teams to attach any Certificate of Successful Completion of Examination (CSCE) for element credit to upgrade applications. Using your FRN and attaching any needed CSCE to your Amateur Radio application in Form 605 will eliminate delays in obtaining your license or upgrade.

From *The ARRL Letter*, No. 10, March 9, 2007

---

## NEW HF OPERATOR SURVIVAL GUIDE

In response to recent changes in licensing rules and operating privileges for all hams, the editors of CQ Amateur Radio magazine have prepared an HF Operator's Survival Guide, a 16-page getting-started guide for newcomers to high-frequency (shortwave) Amateur Radio communications. Written by CQ Contesting Editor John Dorr, K1AR, Contributing Editor Gordon West, WB6NOA, and CQ Editor Rich Moseson, W2VU, the booklet is a practical, hands-on guide to success in HF ham radio.

"Starting out on HF can be pretty intimidating, especially now, at the bottom of the sunspot cycle, when DX opportunities are harder to find," said Moseson, who also oversaw the guide's overall production. "This practical guide will help the new HF operator, regardless of license class, hit the air running." Among other topics, the book discusses

the characteristics of each HF ham band and explains which is best and when, basic HF operating practices, choosing your first HF transceiver, antenna basics, and various HF modes and operating activities. There's also an HF band chart.

The HF Operator's Survival Guide is \$2 (plus shipping), with discounts available for bulk purchases. To order, or for more information, contact CQ Communications Inc, 800-853-9797 (toll-free) weekdays 9 AM to 5 PM Eastern Time.

From *The ARRL Letter*, No. 11, March 16, 2007

---

## AREA AMATEUR EXAM SESSIONS

Amateur radio exam sessions that are given in the central New Jersey area are as follows but please contact the responsible person to be sure that the time and date are accurate.

**Wall Township**, Camp Evans Area on Marconi Road: Exams are held on the first Saturday of the even numbered months (April 7, 2007) at 10 AM. The contact person is Larry Wilkins, KB2RIS at 732-922-6720 or e-mail to kb2ris@verizon.net.

**Middletown**, Croyden Hall on Leonardo Road: Exams are on the second Tuesday of every month at 7 PM. The contact person is Mario Sellitti, N2PVP 732-787-7184 or e-mail to n2pvp@n2pvp.com.

**Toms River**, Riverview Park Recreation Building: Exams are held on the third Thursday of every month at 7:30 PM. The contact person is Ed Genoio, WA2NDA at 609-971-2792 or e-mail to [wa2nda@aol.com](mailto:wa2nda@aol.com).

**Toms River**, Holiday City South Clubhouse, Meeting Room #1, Mule Road at the corner of Santiago Drive on the second Saturday of the odd numbered months (May 12, 2007) at 10:00 AM. Pre-registration is required (no walk ins). The contact person is Bill Haldane, AC2F, 732-240-7064 or ac2f@earthlink.net.

In all cases, the fee is \$14 and you should bring the original and a copy of any amateur license presently held and original and one copy of any credit (CSCE) forms you have. Also bring 2 forms of ID with one being a picture ID.

## NOTES ON CALENDAR (see reverse side)

Large call letters denote birthdays e.g., **KC2NYQ** April 21. All times in EDT.

April 1 and every Sunday – **InfoAge Marconi Hotel** open from 1 to 4 PM on Marconi Road in Wall. Exhibits by QCWA, OMARC, Antique Radio, Broadcaster's Hall of Fame, etc. \$5 donation requested.

April 2 – **Monmouth County ARES Net** meets on 147.045 +600 at 7:30 PM.

April 3 – **Middletown Pancake House Luncheon** at noon in back room to left. All are invited.

April 3 – **Old Barney ARC Meeting**, 7:30 PM at Ocean Acres Community Center in Manahawkin, NJ. See <http://www.obarc.org>

April 3 and every following Tuesday – **QCWA News Net** on 147.045 PL=67 at 9:00 PM.

April 4 – **GSARA Monthly Meeting** at the MARS Building at Fort Monmouth at 8:00 PM.

April 5 – **W1AW Qualifying Run** at 9 AM (35-10 WPM). See April QST, pp. 93 and 97.

April 5 – **Holiday City ARC meeting** at 7 PM at Holiday City South Clubhouse in Toms River.

April 6 and every Friday – **Lunch at Blue Swan Diner**, Rt. 35 South, Ocean Township at noon.

April 7 – **OMARC VE Session** at 10 AM at Diana Site on Marconi Road. See p. 8.

April 8 – **Happy Easter**

April 9 – **144 MHz Spring Sprint**, CW/SSB from 7 to 11 PM. See April QST, p.97 or [www.sysadnet.com/vhfsprintrules.htm](http://www.sysadnet.com/vhfsprintrules.htm)

April 9 – **Monmouth County RACES** on 147.045 +600 at 7:30 PM. RACES members only.

April 10 – **Amateur Radio Luncheon** at Perkins in Colts Neck Inn at noon. All amateurs invited.

April 10 – **VE Test Session** at Croyden Hall, Leonardo section of Middletown at 7:00 PM. For more information, contact Mario Sellitti, N2PVP at 732-787-7184 or [n2pvp@n2pvp.com](mailto:n2pvp@n2pvp.com)

April 12 – **Jersey Shore Amateur Radio Society (JSARS)** meeting in Riverview Park Recreation Building, Rt. 527 and Riverwood Drive in Toms River at 7:30 PM.

April 14 – **OMARC Meeting**, 9:00 AM at the Diana Site on Marconi Road, Wall, NJ.

April 14 – **Middletown Amateur Radio Club meeting** at 10 AM in Union Beach Police Annex (Municipal Building) on Poole Avenue.

April 15 – **Delaware Valley Hamfest** in W. Windsor at 8 AM. See April QST, p. 95 or [www.w2zq.com](http://www.w2zq.com)

April 16 – **Monmouth County ARES Net** meets on 147.045 +600 at 7:30 PM.

April 17 – **222 MHz Spring Sprint**, CW/SSB from 7 to 11 PM. See April QST, p.97 or [www.sysadnet.com/vhfsprintrules.htm](http://www.sysadnet.com/vhfsprintrules.htm)

April 19 – **W1AW Qualifying Run** at 4 PM (10-35 WPM). See April QST, pp. 93 and 97.

April 19 – **JSARS VE Test Session** at 7:30 PM Riverview Park Recreation Bldg., Rt. 527 and Riverwood Drive in Toms River. Contact Ed Genoio, WA2NDA at 609-971-2792 or [wa2nda@comcast.net](mailto:wa2nda@comcast.net).

April 21 – **OMARC Tailgate Hamfest** at the Diana Site on Marconi Road in Wall, 7:30 AM. VE session at 10 AM. See April QST, p. 95 or [www.omarc.org](http://www.omarc.org)

April 22 – **QCWA Marconi Chapter Awards Banquet** at Spring Meadow Inn from 2 to 6 PM. Advance reservations required. See Bernie, WB2EJT at 732-528-9259.

April 23 – **Monmouth County ARES Net** meets on 147.045 +600 at 7:30 PM.

April 25 – **432 MHz Spring Sprint**, CW/SSB from 7 to 11 PM. See April QST, p.97 or [www.sysadnet.com/vhfsprintrules.htm](http://www.sysadnet.com/vhfsprintrules.htm)

April 27-29 – **OOTC QSO Party** from 8 PM Friday to 7:59 PM Sunday, CW/SSB. See April QST, p. 98 or [www.ootc.us/party](http://www.ootc.us/party)

April 28 – **Neptune Amateur Radio Club Meeting** at 9 AM at the Bedrock Café, Avon.

April 30 – **Monmouth County RACES** on 147.045 +600 at 7:30 PM. RACES members only.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>1</b> Timonium Hmfst InfoAge	<b>2</b> ARES/RACES 7:30	<b>3</b> Pancake House Old Barney ARC QCWA News 9 PM	<b>4</b> GSARA Mtg	<b>5</b> CW Qual. Run Hol. City Mtg.	<b>6</b> KB2BCL Blue Swan	<b>7</b> OMARC VE
<b>8</b> K2CPE Easter	<b>9</b> 144 Sprint RACES Net 7:30	<b>10</b> Perkins Lunch Croyden VE 7 PM QCWA News 9 PM	<b>11</b> .	<b>12</b> JSARS Mtg.	<b>13</b> Blue Swan	OMARC Mtg. <b>14</b> MARC Mtg
<b>15</b> DVRA Hmfst InfoAge	<b>16</b> ARES/RACES 7:30	<b>17</b> 222 Sprint QCWA News 9 PM	<b>18</b> WB2GBF	<b>19</b> CW Qual. Run JSARS VE	<b>20</b> Blue Swan 10-10 Sprint	<b>21</b> W2SHS OMARC Tailgat
<b>22</b> N2HGI QCWA Banq.	<b>23</b> ARES/RACES 7:30	<b>24</b> QCWA News 9 PM	<b>25</b> W2OD 432 Sprint	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> Blue Swan OOTC QSO Pty	Neptune Mtg <b>28</b> OOTC QSO Pty
<b>29</b> InfoAge OOTC QSO Pty	<b>30</b> RACES Net 7:30					



G.S.A.R.A.  
8 DONNER STREET  
HOLMDEL, NJ 07733

FIRST CLASS