



# Propagator



## Garden State Amateur Radio Association

8 Donner St.,  
Holmdel, NJ 07733

Editor: Bob Buus, W2OD

Publisher: Cy Stanway, K2CYS

August 2017



### From the Editor Bob Buus, W2OD

We have two big events coming up in August and they are almost on top of each other. The first is the ILLW event on the weekend of August 19-20. We plan to set up a station and operate from the Sea Girt lighthouse on Saturday from about 7 am to about 5 pm, depending on how many people show up to operate. See the Sea Girt Lighthouse article elsewhere in this issue. This is not a contest in the traditional sense so the operation can be rather casual. We will need a couple of people to go there on Thursday or Friday to set up the antenna(s) since we won't have access to the building (except for the porch) on Saturday.

The other major event is the solar eclipse coming up on Monday, August 21. (continued on

### UPCOMING GSARA MEETINGS & PROGRAMS

The next GSARA meeting will be on Wednesday, August 2 at 7:30 PM at the Red Cross. The program will be presented by Blair, KJD2EPA to test to see if we are collectively smarter than a 5<sup>th</sup> grader. Blair will also discuss the upcoming August 21 solar eclipse. Don't miss it! Light refreshments will be served and guests are welcome.

The second meeting in August will be held on Wednesday, August 16 at 7:30 PM at the Red Cross. This will be a regular business meeting. Refreshments will be served.

### UPCOMING VE SESSION 8/26 11 AM

The GSARA monthly test session will be held at the Red Cross on Saturday, August 26 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 732-972-1397 or [n3rb@arrl.net](mailto:n3rb@arrl.net).

next page)

Although it will be only a partial eclipse in New Jersey, we are all encouraged to get our stations on the air that day for the Solar Eclipse QSO Party (SEQP). See the SEQP article elsewhere in this issue. Points can be earned by getting on the air that day between 10 am and 6 pm and logging contacts with a TRUE RST report and 6-character grid square. Most of us are in FN20 but to get the last two lower case letters of the grid square, you have to accurately know the latitude and longitude of your station. This is most easily obtained with a GPS receiver. There are several programs available for converting latitude-longitude into the 6-character grid square.

Blair, KD2EPA had to postpone his geography quiz program from July 5 to August 2 but you don't want to miss his program which will test if we are smarter than a 5<sup>th</sup> grader in geography. It should be fun and I'm looking forward to it. As a bonus, Blair will also talk about the upcoming solar eclipse and the SEQP. I expect to see a good crowd in attendance.

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

73 de Bob, [w2od@arrl.net](mailto:w2od@arrl.net)

Hams get to know a lot about the world, especially things like names of countries and their locations. I've put together a fun version of the game show with 20 questions that a room-full of hams (and a bright 5th grader who has studied his or her Geog-

raphy book) should be able to answer. But, can 15 or 20 of us do as well as a typical 5th grader?

Come and see at the August 2 meeting. We particularly need our DXers to come to this meeting!

# ARE YOU SMARTER 5<sup>TH</sup> THAN A GRADER

By Blair Hearth, KD2EPA



## WELCOME TO GSARA

Please welcome the following member to GSARA:

Rich Fennessy, K2RLF from Point Pleasant holds a General class license and has been licensed since 2016. He is presently on 2 meters but hopes to get on HF and chase some DX. He is a member of the ARRL. A retired police captain and teacher, he is also interested in cruising.

Please add to your Roster:

Rich Fennessy, K2RLF  
204 Eastham Rd.  
Point Pleasant, NJ 08742  
848-992-0080  
Garda19@aol.com

Welcome to GSARA, Rich!

## Instant GSARA Stat

**95**

The number of members of GSARA as of August 1st, 2017. Interested in becoming a member of the club? [Click here](#)



[WWW.GSARA.CLUB](http://WWW.GSARA.CLUB)

## GSARA Officers

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# MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS

## MINUTES OF JULY 5 MEETING

By Bob Buus, W2OD, Secretary

President Howard Suffill, W2HTS was absent as was Vice President Rem, K2REM so the meeting was called to order by Treasurer John, KA2F at 7:32 pm. There were 16 members present. After the pledge to the flag, all present introduced themselves and summarized their recent amateur radio activities.

Positive comments about Field Day were expressed by Joe, KB2FSH; Mike, W2MJP; Marty, N2BMK; John, KA2F; Jeff, NJ2AL and others. In addition to Field Day comments, Chris, W2NQB inquired about a USB Microscope. Art, N2AJO offered to help him out. Art also shared his experience using the new FT8 digital mode from Joe Taylor. It is 4 times faster than JT65 and should be released soon. Art also is working on a touch screen addition to the BitX40. Paul, AD7I is getting back into the digital modes and working on a cheap replacement for the Signalink USB-Rig interface. Gary, WB2RPW not only worked FD but is working with Comer, WA2EDD on producing a remote base station using the Flex Radio Maestro. Matthew, N2UG just finished digging a 70 foot trench and laying conduit for his antenna cables. Phil, N2EDX is working the FO-29 satellite with a hand-held antenna. Art, W2NAZ delivered the new Yaesu FT-400XDR digital dual-band radio to GSARA. He also got his rig programmed after buying the disc from RT Systems.

Gary, WB2RPW brought a large tray of homemade cookies which were enjoyed by all.

## Program

Blair, KD2EPA was unable to attend the meeting and present his program on "Are We Smarter than a Fifth Grader" so his program has been rescheduled for the August 2 meeting where he will also discuss the upcoming solar eclipse.

In his place, Bob, W2OD discussed the ARRL Official Observer Program. This program was started in 1932 whereby volunteer amateurs listen on the bands for illegal or improper operation and send friendly reminders by postcard to any offenders. Bob received an OO notice many years ago for a chirpy signal on CW and thought his world had ended. John, KA2F said that he had received more than one over his amateur radio career and it's not the end of the world.

W2GSA received an OO report of calling "CQFD" on 14,349 kHz. Although the carrier frequency was still in-band, the upper sideband extended up to 14,352 and was out of band. Bob reminded us to remember that our upper sideband extends up to 3 kHz above the carrier frequency and lower sideband extends up to 3 kHz below the carrier frequency. This must be kept in mind when operating near the band edges.



## Close

The door prize of \$14 was won by Paul, AD7I. There being no further business, a motion was made by Jeff, NJ2AL and seconded by Art, W2NAZ to adjourn the meeting which was closed at 8:46 pm.

## MINUTES OF JULY 19 MEETING

By Bob Buus, W2OD, Secretary

**P**resident Howard Suffill, W2HTS was absent as was Vice President Rem, K2REM so the meeting was called to order by Treasurer John, KA2F at 7:32 pm. There were 9 members and two guests present. The guests were Rich Fennessy, K2RLF from Point Pleasant and Joe Wilkes, WA2SFF from Middletown. After the pledge to the flag, all present introduced themselves and summarized their recent amateur radio activities.

While waiting for his new beam antenna, Denis, N2NPT built a gadget to safely get on his roof for adjusting the antenna. Gary, WA2RPW continues to work with Jack Comer, WA2EDD on a remote base station. Joe, WA2SFF has been building robots at InfoAge but hopes to get back to radios. Rich, K2RLF retired last year and now has gotten his General class license and is anxious to get on the air. Phil, N2EDX has been working on Fusion for OMARC and, with Art, W2NAZ has worked some satellites. Joe, KB2FSH has resurrected an old HF rig and has repaired his R7 vertical. John, KA2F is chasing grid squares on 6 meters. Bob, W2OD is beta testing a rig interface designed by Paul, AD7I.

## Field Day Committee Report



Joe, W2KQ and Jim, K2EI gave a report on our most recent Field Day. We had 28 GSARA members participate. We made 839 phone contacts and 102 CW contacts for a QSO score of 2086 in the 1A category. We also claimed 670 bonus points for a total score of 2756. Our total expenses were \$391.97 with about half of that for renting the port-a-potty. We also incurred a \$40 expense to have a tick removed from Chris, W2NQB. Special thanks were extended to Chris, W2NQB for his repair work on the tents as well as his help in erecting the big loop antenna. Jim, K2EI has written an action report summarizing lessons learned from

this exercise which will be published in the August Propagator.

## New Member Application

An application for membership was received from Rich Fennessy, K2RLF from Point Pleasant. Rich is a retired Police Captain and Teacher and holds a General Class license. He is presently on 2 meters but hope to get into DXing on the HF bands. An ARRL member, he is also interested in cruising. A motion was made by Joe, W2KQ and seconded by Joe, KB2FSH to accept Rich as an

active member of GSARA. The motion passed unanimously.

## Announcements

Our next meeting on August 2 will feature Blair, KD2EPA with his program on "Are We Smarter than a Fifth Grader". Blair will also discuss the upcoming solar eclipse and what we as amateurs can do to further scientific observations during this event.

Saturday, August 19 will have GSARA participating in Lighthouse Weekend at the Sea Girt Lighthouse. Members are encouraged to get there early to secure decent parking. We plan to get on the air by 7 am or so.

John, KA2F and Chris, W2NQB paid a visit to Herb, W2HH to see if they could fix his antenna problems. It will require another trip there. Herb is 90 years old and wants to operate HF for DX.

## Close

The door prize of \$9 was won by Joe, W2KQ. There being no further business, a motion was made by Joe, KB2FSH and seconded by Joe, W2KQ to adjourn the meeting which was closed at 8:29 pm.

## GET WELL, ALAN, W2NIR

By Alan Sherman, W2NIR

As of July 7, I am recovering from an operation on my abdomen June 28th at Monmouth Medical Center. Here I was all set to come to Field Day that Sunday morning and instead being admitted for a bowel obstruction resulting from a prior surgery. Needless to say it has been an ordeal.



Coming home from a dinner that Saturday night I doubled over and finally figured the best place to be was the hospital. I was lucky as they told me as my lower bowel twisted like a toy balloon and the doctors agreed it was necessary to go in on that Wednesday morning. I was told that the surgery saved my life. So W2NIR will have to wait another year to help out in the contest. I am glad to be home and off that hospital food.....bland....liquid....ugh.

Regards, Alan, W2NIR



## GSARA 2017 FIELD DAY SUMMARY

The GSARA 2017 Field Day at the baseball field of the old Ft. Monmouth was successful by many measures. We had an impressive 28 members participate with 23 of them actually operating and/or logging. Operating a single transmitter as 1A, we kept the station on the air for the entire 24 hours and made 839 phone contacts and 102 CW contacts at a power of 100 watts or less. This gave us a QSO score of 2086. Add our claimed bonus points of 670 gives us a total score of 2756 – not bad for a single transmitter. Thanks to the performance of the giant loop antenna designed by Jim, K2EI, we were able to hold our CQ calling frequencies rather well without running more than 100 watts.

In the interest of doing even better next year, please see the Lessons Learned article by Jim, K2EI elsewhere in this issue. Hats off to the Field Day committee of Joe, W2KQ, Arek, K2KP, Jim, K2EI and Chris, W2NQB for a job well done. Also THANKS to the operators who kept us on the air and racked up the QSOs.

## 2017 FIELD DAY LESSONS LEARNED

One well equipped and adequately staffed station with a good antenna system is more efficient than multiple stations competing for RF space, antennas, and staffing. It's all we can do to adequately staff one station – don't even think about a second or third station (except for the free VHF station).

Scheduling operators works well. Every effort should be made to fill the time slots before operating starts. Last minute adjustments will always have to be made, but pre-scheduling is the key to a smooth operation. Good things came from this Field Day: 23 members actively participated, and new folks were heavily involved. Emphasis was on making contacts rather than building a statistical score.

Alternating Phone and CW hourly didn't work well because of the lack of CW operators. A better approach would be to schedule CW every fourth or fifth hour. Consider scheduling at least one hour for Digital operation.

Consider using high power (600W and up) to help make even more contacts – forget the power multiplier, we are more concerned with number of contacts than score.

Operators should familiarize themselves with **basic Field Day rules, and the equipment and logging program** to be used before sitting down to operate.

Two operators working together works well -- one talking, one logging. The logger is very much an operator. He/she keeps the pace up by quickly entering the calling station's call sign into the logging program. This allows the talker to rapidly confirm the call sign of the calling station and initiate the response. Two operators working together lets experienced personnel mentor newer operators. Some teams find it beneficial to switch roles at the half-way mark.

Use of standard FD terminology in exchanges and standard sequence of exchanges is a must. Forget "please copy..., 73s", etc., etc.



Keep the logging current – don't resort to a penciled list thinking someone else will copy the information to the data log at a later time. That doesn't work well and not at all if times are left out. Just do the basic keyboard logging! Band selection is important -- remember we can work the same station on the same mode on each band, 80-10M. Don't stay on one band until it's completely worked out. Don't stay on your favorite band when other bands are open. Check 10 and 15 in the daytime to find band openings. Change bands

when your contact rate falls. Observe the band edge rules. An all-band antenna facilitates band changing.

Rule 1 for making lots of contacts – find a spot and make it yours by calling CQ. Make them come to you. Don't leave much if any silent time. Don't "search and pounce." Don't concern yourself with the US and Canadian sections – sections are meaningless in Field Day. Same for states and provinces.

The VHF station is a "free" station -- use it! Get the antenna as high as possible. Keep the radio(s) on the standard 6 and 2M calling frequencies. Call CQ. Log the contacts. The club repeater channel is superfluous. Repeater contacts don't count in Field Day.

In the true spirit of Field Day "score" is the least important statistic. What counts is the number of members participating and feeling good about making and logging lots of contacts.





## International Lighthouse Lightship Weekend: Sea Girt

The International Lighthouse Lightship Weekend (ILLW) is on August 19 and 20 UTC. For more information, go to <http://www.illw.net>. GSARA plans to participate in this event on Saturday, August 19 at the Sea Girt Lighthouse. To be successful, we need YOUR help. We have permission to operate at the site but the building will not be open on the weekend. That means that if we wish to hang antennas on the building, we have to set them up on Thursday or Friday prior to the weekend. So, we need an antenna raising party during the week. Can you help?

We hope to operate from about 7 am to about 5 pm on Saturday. The more operators, the better. If we have enough operators, we might even consider operating two stations. We can operate phone, digital or CW - whatever the operators prefer. This is not a contest so there is no pressure to see how many QSOs can be racked up. Instead, it is an opportunity to put a lighthouse on the air and provide contacts to those aspiring to collect lighthouse contacts.

Located almost on the beach, this is a fun event that provides the means to show the public an amateur radio activity. So, come for an hour or come for the entire day, whatever you have time for. It's bound to be fun (unless a hurricane hits that day) so we expect a good turnout. Are you in? Contact Howard, W2HTS and let him know what you would like to do.

# SO, NOW YOU KNOW

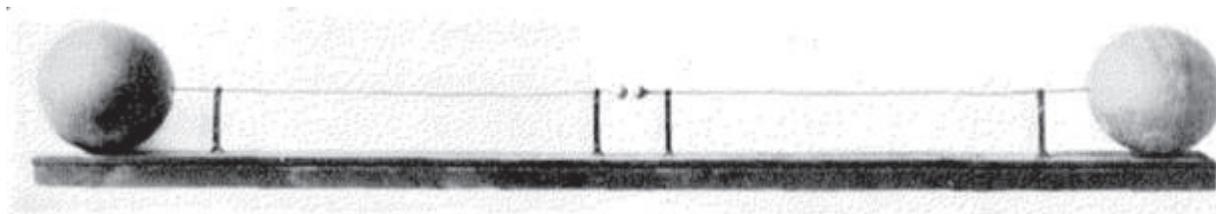
## HEINRICH HERTZ

By Bob Buus, W2OD



Heinrich Hertz was born on February 22, 1857 in Hamburg, Germany to a prosperous and cultured family (his father was barrister and later a senator). After completing his secondary education and serving a year in the military, Hertz enrolled in the University of Munich to study physics. A year later, he transferred to the University of Berlin and studied under Gustav Kirchoff (of Kirchoff's law fame) and Hermann von Helmholtz, a famous scientist known for his work in optics and acoustics. For his PhD, Helmholtz suggested that Hertz test the validity of Maxwell's equations. After some study, Hertz declined the suggestion, finding that it was unknown how to generate and/or detect the electromagnetic waves implied by Maxwell's work. Instead, Hertz received his PhD from the study of electromagnetic induction.

In 1885, Hertz landed the position of full professor at the University of Karlsruhe in Germany. There, he continued thinking about the electromagnetic waves proposed by Maxwell and decided to try to produce and detect such waves. His first "transmitter" consisted of a capacity-loaded



dipole made up of two co-linear cop-

per wires, each one meter long separated by a small air gap at the center and terminated at the far ends with 30 cm zinc spheres for the loading. When driven by a Ruhmkorff coil, the spark between the two elements produced an electromagnetic wave at a frequency of approximately 50 MHz (6 meters). For a receiver, Hertz took a 3-meter length of heavy wire formed into a loop so the two free ends were very close together. In fact, he used a micrometer to adjust the gap between the two ends to a very small value to maximize sensitivity. This is the same method used by Thomas Edison in 1875 to detect "etheric" waves but Edison placed the microscopic gap in a light-tight box and observed the gap with a microscope to gain maximum sensitivity. From this early apparatus, Hertz observed that the electromagnetic waves would pass through insulators but not conductors.

Hertz made subsequent apparatus of smaller dimensions with resonance around 450 MHz (70 cm) and showed that the waves were polarized and were reflected off conducting surfaces like light is from a mirror. He also showed that the electromagnetic waves could be refracted by passing through a dielectric material and that he could produce standing waves and interference patterns with them.. His experiments proved that the electromagnetic waves behaved the same as light waves but at much lower frequencies (and much longer wavelengths) than light.

Hertz did not realize the practical importance of his radio wave experiments. He stated that, "It's of no use whatsoever[...] this is just an experiment that proves Maestro Maxwell was right—we just have these mysterious electromagnetic waves that we cannot see with the naked eye. But they are there."

Asked about the ramifications of his discoveries, Hertz replied, "Nothing, I guess."

At the age of 36, Hertz contracted an infection and although the doctors treated him as best they could, he died on January 1, 1894. By then, his work to confirm the validity of Maxwell's equations was known throughout the scientific world. His obituary was widely published and was read by 20-year old Guglielmo Marconi and inspired Marconi to envision wireless communication.

So now you know.



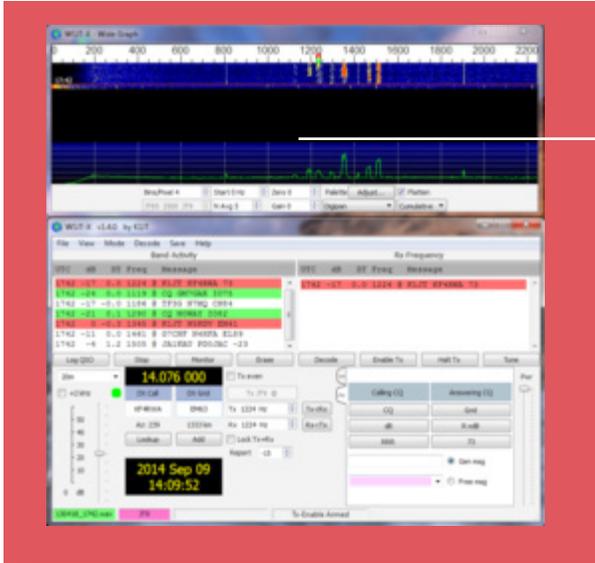
## Canada C3 Expedition Award for Hams, SWLs, Announced

**Radio Amateurs of Canada (RAC)** has announced an award for radio amateurs and shortwave listeners (SWLs) that involves using HF to track the 150-day **Canada C3 voyage of the Polar Prince** from Toronto, Ontario, to Victoria, British Columbia, via the Northwest Passage. Part of Canada's sesquicentennial

celebration, Canada C3 is aimed at raising awareness of Canada's coastline and inspiring a deeper understanding of Canada's land and peoples. The voyage got under way on June 1 and will end on or about October 28. The object of the Canada C3 Award is to track the voyage of the Polar Prince and to study radio propagation in Canada's Arctic regions. As already announced, the vessel is transmitting a WSPR signal on 40, 30, and 20 meters, using the call sign CG3EXP. Stations will listen for WSPR signals from CG3EXP and record the 6-character Maidenhead grid square transmitted and the location of the ship at the time of reception. A logging spreadsheet and more information are available on the [RAC Canada C3 Expedition Award page](#).

# Have you tried the new Digital mode - FT8?

There's a new mode in town and it's name is FT-8



(NOTES from Cy, K2CYS: There is a new digital mode in town. It is called FT8 and it is like JT65 on steroids. Each turn around is 15 seconds and the exchange between both stations is automatic. You call CQ. He responds. Your software answers. His says RRR and yours logs. All you do is press the button the confirm the logging. **It is included with WSJT-X which can be downloaded from here. BE SURE TO DOWNLOAD VERSION 1.8)**

A beta release of [WSJT-X](#), version 1.8.0-rc1, includes a new FT8 mode, featuring a faster turnaround, and it's already showing up on the bands. According to

the [notes](#) for the candidate release, FT8 offers "sensitivity down to -20 dB on the AWGN channel," and contacts four times faster than JT65 or JT9. An auto-sequencing feature offers the option to respond automatically to the first decoded reply to your CQ."

The beta WSJT-X also offers a new mode for accurate frequency calibration of your radio, improved CAT radio control, and enhanced JT65, QRA64, and MSK144 decoder performance.

According to [The Daily DX](#), on July 11, Frank Donovan, W3LPL, reported what he called "lots of semi-rare DX activity" using the new FT8 mode. He mentioned A92AA, OY1DZ, VR2XMT, and YE2IJ on 40 meters, and TR8CA and YI3WHR on 20 meters.

Thanks to [The ARRL Contest Update](#) and [The Daily DX](#) and [ARRL Letter July 13](#)

## GSARA Net

GSARA members meet on the Asbury Park repeater every Tuesday at 8:30 pm. In the 4 sessions in July we had 42 check-ins for an average of 10.5 per session. The following 17 members checked into this net (number of check-ins in parenthesis):

N2HGI (4), W2LAF (4), W2OD (4), KC2YNL (4), N2BMK (3), KA2F (3), AD7I (3), W2MJP (3), K2NPT (3), WB2RPW (3), AC2MB (2), KB2FSH (1), N2JNG (1), W2NAZ (1), W2RLF (1), W2UTR (1) and W2ZIM (1).

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

# Solar Eclipse QSO Party



There will be a solar eclipse across much of the continental United States on Monday, August 21. This will be extensively studied by the scientific community. Radio amateurs can contribute to this effort by getting on the air and operating before, during and after the eclipse. Blair, KD2EPA will discuss this further at the August 2 GSARA meeting.

To get tips on how to look at the Sun during the eclipse, **use this link**

The Solar Eclipse QSO Party (SEQP) will be from 10 am to 6 pm on Monday, August 21. Amateurs are encouraged to get on the air during that time as much as possible. Load up the bands (except the WARC bands) in all modes and log your contacts. The exchange is a TRUE signal report and the 6-character grid square. You get 2 points for each CW or digital contact and 1 point for each phone contact.



You may work the same station on the same band every 10 minutes. Your score is calculated by multiplying your QSO points by the number of different grid squares worked. You also get bonus points for operating outdoors, operating in a public place and for providing detailed station information. You also get points if you are spotted outside your grid square during each hour so just calling CQ can get you points.

SEQP rules and log submission information can be found at <http://www.hamsci.org/seqp>. Let's load up the bands and have some fun during the 8 hours of SEQP. It goes without saying, don't look at the sun directly to avoid serious damage to your eyes.

## **FIVE YEARS AGO**

From the August 2012 Propagator: Joining GSARA were Art Goldberg, KC2CRL (now W2NAZ) from Freehold and Ray Irwin, WA1FFT from Oakhurst. Walt Maxwell, W2DU became a silent key (Walt was our guest speaker 45 years ago in 1972). The 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Telestar satellite was celebrated at Crawford Hill in Holmdel by operating station W2NFA. Nobel Prize winner Bob Wilson visited the site.

## **TEN YEARS AGO**

From the August 2007 Propagator: Larry Wilkins, KB2RIS and Gary Palamara, AF1US became silent keys. NOAA announced that sunspot cycle 23 appears to have bottomed out in July and cycle 24 expected to start soon.

## **FIFTEEN YEARS AGO**

From the August 2002 Propagator: Because of enhanced security at Ft. Monmouth, we moved our meeting place back to Bicentennial Hall in Fair Haven. Speaker at the August 7 meeting was Bob, W2OD talking about Powerpole connectors. The 2002 GSARA Roster shows 95 members in good standing. Burt Fralick, W2DOA became a silent key.

## **TWENTY YEARS AGO**

From the August 1997 Propagator: GSARA is having a picnic/BBQ at the Fireman's field in Oakhurst on Sunday, August 24, 1997. Field Day as 3A at Tatum Park was successful with 6924 QSO points and 900 bonus points for a total of 7824. Frank Wroblewski changed his call from WS2Y to W2XYZ. GSARA received a Thank You from Big Brothers for our help with their Bike-a-thon in June.

## **TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO**

From the August 1992 Propagator: The Dinner-Dance is August 14, 1992 at the Town and Country Inn in Keyport. Speaker for the August 19 meeting will be Joe Dreifuss, WA2GSY (now W2KQ) talking about working the MIR space station. Field Day at Tatum Park was successful with 1913 QSOs and 4844 QSO points. The novice station was manned by John Lackner, KB2NXT and Kevin McCall, KB2OXR.

## **THIRTY YEARS AGO**

From the August 1987 Propagator: Operating field Day as 5A, 40 members of GSARA made 1084 CW contacts and 1631 phone contacts for a claimed contact score of 7598. Food was cooked by Jon Lowing, N2DPC; Ed Piotrowski, WB2KCV; and Trevor Lewis, KA2TGF. The August 19 meeting will feature Dave Trulli, NN2Z talking about Packet BBS operation. New members to GSARA included Don Venberg, W2GEZ (SK) and Dave Kelly, KB2DFR (SK). A GSARA award was announced for working 50 different members of GSARA on the 10 meter band

## Ham's Project Amelia Earhart Flight Nears End

The Amelia Earhart commemorative round-the-world flight by pilot Brian Lloyd, WB6RQN, has begun heading over the Pacific Ocean, landing first on July 23 at Pago Pago in American Samoa, and then in Hawaii via a symbolic flyover of Howland Island. Lloyd has contacted hundreds of other radio amateurs from Spirit, his Mooney M20K 231, with expanded fuel capacity and modern avionics gear. Lloyd's "Project Amelia Earhart" – funded by The Classic Aircraft Aviation Museum and other donations – is retracing the route taken by the famous aviator in June 1937.

Lloyd predicted that the next stage, over the Pacific to the Continental US, would be the most difficult leg of the trip and would "push both the plane and me to the limit of our abilities." He explained that the single-engine propeller-driven Spirit was fully fueled to include 3 hours reserve flying time, since "there are scant alternatives should problems mount up for any reason."

After leaving Pago Pago just before sunrise, with what turned out to be a bit more than 17 hours of flying ahead, was a planned flyover of Howland Island, dropping a floral wreath where Earhart and her navigator Fred Noonan are believed to have tried to land. Lloyd landed on July 25 at Honolulu.

"Yesterday's flight was quite long," Lloyd commented in his log. "I was ready for it to be over and I was barely halfway."

Before heading off to fly over the Pacific Ocean to Oakland California, and then to the Amelia Earhart Museum in Atchison Kansas, Lloyd also made stops at Lihue and Hilo, Hawaii.

The epic flight, which has included stops at some 20 countries, began on June 1. Lloyd is expecting to return to his home airfield, Kestrel Airpark in Texas, on July 30.

## FCC Cracking Down on Pirate Stations in NJ

A recent flurry of FCC Enforcement Bureau correspondence to alleged unlicensed broadcasters has targeted at least one more radio amateur -- this time in the Greater New York City area. It's not the first time Winston A. Tulloch, KC2ALN, of Paterson, New Jersey, has heard from the FCC, which has had Tulloch in its sights for at least several months regarding a pirate FM station on 90.9 MHz. Last November, the Enforcement Bureau sent Tulloch a Notice of Unlicensed Operation after receiving information that he was operating a radio station. FCC agents used direction-finding techniques to zero in on a signal on 90.9 MHz coming from his residence.

"The field strength of the signal on frequency 90.9 MHz was measured at 105,451 microvolts per meter (uV/m) at 101 meters, which exceeded the maximum permitted level of 250 uV/m at 3

meters for non-licensed devices,” the FCC said.

Tulloch was sent a second Notice of Unlicensed Operation on June 8, after Enforcement Bureau agents from the FCC’s New York office on May 2 responded to a complaint of an unlicensed FM station operating on 90.9 MHz in Paterson. This time, the signal, measured at 176,526 uV/m, was determined to be emanating from another residence about 1 mile from Tulloch’s. The FCC said someone at the residence identified Tulloch as the station’s operator.

A third Notice of Unlicensed Operation followed on June 30, after Enforcement Bureau agents following up in the unlicensed FM station investigation in Paterson on June 12 confirmed by direction-finding techniques that the signal on 90.9 MHz was continuing to come from the same residence.



FCC Enforcement Bureau Region 1 Director David C. Dombrowski has advised Tulloch -- three times now -- that the unlicensed radio operation on 90.9 MHz “must be discontinued immediately.”

From July 13 ARRL Letter

## The RTTY Rookie Round Up is Coming!

Are you a newly licensed ham? Want to try something really, really fun? Try the RTTY (Radio Teletype) contest) in August. You already have the computer (more than likely) and the software is free! This is a great first-time contest to get your digital feet wet and have a blast doing it. RTTY is fun and the contests are lots of fun, too. **For all the information, go to this link.**



## NOTES ON CALENDAR (see next page)

Large Call letters denote birthdays e.g. **KD2KOA** August 7. All times are EDST. Contests are listed in the August QST, p. 86.

August 1 – **Old Barney VE Test Session** at 6:30 pm in Manahawkin. Contact Urb Le Jeune, W1UL at 609-296-5856 or [urb@w2dec.com](mailto:urb@w2dec.com)

August 1 – **Old Barney ARC Meeting** at 7:30 pm in Manahawkin, NJ. See <http://www.obarc.org>

August 1 and every following Tuesday – **GSARA Net** on 147.045 PL=67 at 8:30 pm.

August 1 and every following Tuesday – **QCWA News Net** on 147.045 PL=67 at 9:00 pm.

August 2 – **GSARA Program Meeting** at 7:30 pm at the Red Cross. The program by Blair, KD2EPA will test to see if we are smarter than a 5<sup>th</sup> grader. He will also talk about the upcoming solar eclipse. Refreshments will be served.

August 2 - **W1AW Qualifying Run** at 10 pm (10-40 wpm). See August 2017 QST page 103 and [www.arrl.org/qualifying-run-schedule](http://www.arrl.org/qualifying-run-schedule)

August 3 - **HCARC Meeting** 7 pm at Holiday City South Clubhouse in Toms River.

August 4 and every Friday – **Lunch at the Blue Swan Diner** in Ocean at noon. Table at back left.

August. 5-6 – **North American QSO Party, CW** from 2 pm Saturday to 1:59 am Sunday. See <http://www.ncjweb.com/NAQP-Rules.pdf>

August 7 - **Monmouth County ARES/RACES Net** meets on 147.045 +600, PL=67.0 at 8:00 pm

August 9– **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](mailto:lpuccio1@comcast.net)

August 10 – **JSARS meeting** in Riverwood Park Rec. Building, Rt. 527 and Riverwood Drive at 7:30 pm.

August 12 – **OMARC Meeting** at 9:00 am at the Firehouse on 600 Sixth Ave. in Spring Lake Heights. Guests are always welcome.

August 21 - **Monmouth County ARES/RACES Net** meets on 147.045 +600, PL=67.0 at 8:00 pm

August 16 – **GSARA Meeting** at 7:30 pm at the Red Cross in Tinton Falls. Regular business meeting.

August 17 – **JSARS VE Test Session** at 7:00 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).

August 17 – **W1AW Qualifying Run** at 4 pm (10-40 wpm). See August 2017 QST page 103 and <http://www.arrl.org/qualifying-run-schedule>

August 19 – **Lighthouse Weekend**. GSARA will operate at the Sea Girt Lighthouse from 7 am to late afternoon. Arrive early for good parking.

August. 19-20 – **North American QSO Party, SSB** from 2 pm Saturday to 1:59 am Sunday. See <http://www.ncjweb.com/NAQP-Rules.pdf>

August 20 – **Rookie Roundup, RTTY** from 2 pm to 7:59 pm. See <http://www.arrl.org/rookie-roundup>

August 21 – **Solar Eclipse QSO Party**, all modes from 10 am to 6 pm. See <http://www.hamsci.org/seqp>

August 21 - **Monmouth County ARES/RACES Net** meets on 147.045 +600, PL=67.0 at 8:00 pm

August 26 – **W/VE Islands QSO Party**, all modes from 8 am to 10:59 pm. See <http://www.usislands.org/qso-party-rules>

August 26 – **GSARA VE Test Session** at 11 am at the Red Cross in Tinton Falls. See page 1.

# AUGUST 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		<b>1</b> Old Barney ARC GSARA Net 8:30 QCWA News 9 PM	<b>2</b> GSARA Mtg CW Qual. Run	<b>3</b> HCARC Mtg	<b>4</b> Blue Swan lunch	<b>5</b> NA QSO CW
<b>6</b> NA QSO CW	<b>7</b> <b>KD2KOA</b> ARES/RACES 8 pm	<b>8</b> GSARA Net 8:30 QCWA News 9 PM	<b>9</b> <b>WA2DJN</b> <b>KD2MEH</b> Hol. City VE	<b>10</b> JSARS Mtg	<b>11</b> Blue Swan lunch	<b>12</b> OMARC Mtg
<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> <b>N2GT</b>	<b>15</b> <b>WA1FFT</b> GSARA Net 8:30 QCWA News 9 PM	<b>16</b> GSARA Mtg	<b>17</b> <b>K2EI</b> CW Qual. Run JSARS VE.	<b>18</b> Blue Swan lunch	<b>19</b> <b>KD2LPN</b> NA QSO SSB Sea Girt Lthse
<b>20</b> NA QSO SSB Rookie Rndup	<b>21</b> Solar Eclipse ARES/RACES 8 pm	<b>22</b> <b>AC2MB</b> GSARA Net 8:30 QCWA News 9 PM	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> <b>K2CYS</b>	<b>25</b> Blue Swan lunch	<b>26</b> W/VE Islands GSARA VE
<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> GSARA Net 8:30 QCWA News 9 PM	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>		



G.S.A.R.A.  
8 DONNER STREET  
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First Class