



# THE PROPAGATOR

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

**AUGUST 2007**

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## **GSARA MEETING WEDNESDAY AUG. 1**

The next regular meeting of the GSARA will be held on **Wednesday, August 1** at **8:00 PM** at the MARS building in Fort Monmouth. Guest speaker will be Bob Buus, W2OD talking about the history of amateur radio. Come hear about the roles of Hertz, Maxwell, Marconi, Armstrong, Fessenden, DeForest, Sarnoff, and Maxim and many other pioneers. Better yet, come early to enjoy the refreshments. We look forward to seeing YOU at the meeting!

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## **FORT MONMOUTH PASSES**

Please check the expiration date on your Fort Monmouth placard. Within two or three weeks before it expires, notify Frank, W2XYZ. You then must check with visitor control on Oceanport Ave. to get a new placard.

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## **THE GSARA WEBSITE NEEDS YOU**

Bruce McLeod is getting tired after being the GSARA webmaster for ten years. He says he wants to let someone else have that pleasure. Just think – you can be your own boss and at the same time you can have the freedom to put your own creativity into action. You don't have to know HTML nor do you need sophisticated web page creation software. You can create pages in Microsoft Word and save them as HTML files. Then you need a service provider like QSL.net to store the pages and an FTP program to ship them off to the site. If you are interested in grabbing this opportunity or learning more about it, email Bruce at [k2qxw@yahoo.com](mailto:k2qxw@yahoo.com).

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## **GSARA HOMEPAGE**

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

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## **LARRY WILKINS, KB2RIS - SK**

Lawrence "Larry" R. Wilkins, KB2RIS, 57, of Neptune, passed away Thursday, July 19, at Jersey Shore University Medical Center, Neptune. Larry was employed by Fort Monmouth Department of Public Works since 1989. He was an avid amateur radio operator and was active in Garden State R.E.A.C.T., and the following amateur radio clubs: Garden State Amateur Radio Association, Neptune Amateur Radio Club and Ocean Monmouth Amateur Radio Club. Larry volunteered at Allaire State Park and at the InfoAge Science and Learning Center of Wall. He was a lifelong member of St. Andrew United Methodist Church, Spring Lake. A graduate of Manasquan High School, where he was active in the Drama Club. He then attended Dade County Community College of Florida.

Larry was predeceased by his father, Wm. S. Wilkins. Surviving are his wife, Donna Jean Torrance, KC2GKQ; his mother, Carolyn Wilkins of Manasquan; his mother-in-law, Phyllis Torrance; his sisters, Carol Kirkman and Judy Wilkins and their families; and many friends.

A funeral service was held at 10 a.m. Monday, July 23 at the Neary-Quinn Funeral Home, 39 South St., Manasquan. Interment followed in Greenwood Cemetery, Brielle. Memorial contributions may be made to InfoAge Science and Learning Center, 2201 Marconi Road, Wall, NJ 07719.

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## **GSARA CALENDAR**

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

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## **HUDSON DIVISION HOME PAGE**

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

## GSARA OFFICERS

President	N2LXM	Jeff Harshman	922-0816
Vice Pres.	W2FA	Kevin Wagner	279-0532
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

As you probably already know, the InfoAge Learning Center opens the Marconi Hotel in Wall Township (the old Camp Evans area) to the public every Sunday afternoon from 1 to 4 PM. The Marconi Chapter 138 of the QCWA has a room set up demonstrating the history of telegraphy – from Morse's invention to PSK31 and beyond. By the way, there are many other displays available. I particularly like the Antique Radio Club of New Jersey's many displays of various vintage radios as well as the Broadcaster's Hall of Fame, the vintage computer displays, World War II equipment, and many others. It's well worth a trip down there. There is no admission charge although a donation is requested.

One Sunday a few months ago, the president of the Middletown Amateur Radio Club, Barbara, KC2PCP and her family (all recent hams) showed up at the Marconi Hotel while I was on duty and I gave them the spiel about the evolution of the telegraph and wireless. She then asked if I would give a talk to the Middletown club about the history of amateur radio and I agreed, although the subject is slightly different than the history given at the Marconi Hotel. So I reread some of the books I have accumulated over the years and prepared a talk about the history of amateur radio. It went over quite well so now I have the honor to give the same talk to GSARA at the August 1 meeting.

So, if you are curious as to how we got to be called "hams" or when and why we had to be licensed or why the band allocations are the way they are, come to the meeting to find out. We have had a very interesting history over the past 100 years!

The Oceanport Hamfest on July 14 was a bit on the small side but it was a good first start. I managed to pick up a few "goodies" that I really didn't need. Hopefully, it will grow bigger next year.

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 September issue is August 15.

73 de Bob, w2od@arrl.net

## WHO INVENTED THE TRANSISTOR

By Bob Buus, W2OD

Common knowledge has it that the transistor was invented at Bell Labs in 1948 by Bardeen, Brattain, and Shockley. Indeed, they were the first to patent the point contact bipolar transistor and gave it its name. However, way back in 1930, a fellow named Julius Lilienfeld was granted patent number 1,745,175 for an amplifying device that worked very similarly to our modern Field Effect Transistor. He filed further improvements to his amplifying device and was granted patent number 1,877,140 in 1932 and patent number 1,900,018 in 1933.

If you review these patents (go to [www.google.com/patents](http://www.google.com/patents) and search by patent number), you will see that Mr. Lilienfeld indeed understood the concept of the Field Effect Transistor which was re-invented more than 20 years later. Unfortunately, in the 1930s, we weren't capable of the process control needed to refine semiconductor materials to the purities (and controlled impurities) to obtain reproducible results so Lilienfeld never came up with a practical product.

Incidentally, before Phil Petersen, W2DME became a silent key, he insisted that he remembered a QST article in the 1930s that described the amplifying action of the transistor. Was it Lilienfeld's ideas (seems likely) or had someone put two cat whiskers on a galena crystal and observed amplification? Someday when I have some spare time, it might be interesting to search through the 1930s QSTs and see if I can find such an article.

Like the Marconi versus Tesla situation with the tuned circuit (you'll hear more about it at the next meeting), the person who gets credit for a new idea is more likely to be the one who produces a practical product rather than the first person to have the idea.

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### FOR SALE

2-Meter Mag Mount 5/8 wave mobile antenna in good condition and works well. \$15 or BO.

Les Hill, W2QHS  
732-643-8933  
Seabrook Village

## FREE CLASSIC RADIO

Former GSARA member Woody Hendricks, WB2QMP is looking for a home for a classic Meissner Signal Shifter of 1930's vintage and in working condition complete with power supply. For you younger amateurs, this is an early vacuum tube VFO, low-power transmitter with plug-in coils for each band and includes coils for 80, 40 and 20 meters.

If you are interested in this classic, please contact:

Woody Hendricks  
732-741-4672  
Middletown

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### 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 (August 4, 2007) at 10 AM. The contact person is Ron Olender, WA2HZT at 732-367-3179 or e-mail to [wa2hzt@aol.com](mailto:wa2hzt@aol.com).

**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](mailto: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 Genoino, 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 (September 8, 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](mailto: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.

## KEN HOPPER EQUIPMENT ON E-BAY

Former Holmdel amateur Ken Hopper, KD7KH (formerly K2VAM) became a silent key some months ago in Arizona. His son, Chris Hopper has put his ham radio equipment for sale on eBay at <http://stores.ebay.com/ThriftyChris>. This is all high quality equipment as Ken always took very good care of all of his gear. You might want to take a look at it.

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## ART SEDA, W2WUN - SK

Arthur Seda, W2WUN of Forked River and formerly of Jackson died Saturday, July 14 at the age of 77. He was born in New York City and resided in Jackson for 40 years before settling in Forked River 7 years ago.

Mr. Seda worked for Bell Labs, Holmdel as an electronic technician for 40 years before retiring in 1993. He was a U.S. Army veteran serving during the Korean War with the 3<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Division. He was a life member and a past commander of VFW Post 4703, Jackson, and a member of the Jackson Seniors and the Telephone Pioneers of America. He was a graduate from the RCA Institute.

Surviving are his wife of 50 years, Juanita "Jennie" Seda; two sons and their wives; and four grandchildren. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in the memory of Mr. Arthur Seda to the VFW Post 4703, 54 Magnolia Drive, Jackson, NJ 08527.

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## SAL ADELFIGIO, W2VPS - SK

Salvatore "Sal" Adelfio, W2VPS became a silent key on Sunday, July 22, 2007. He was 82. Sal was born in Brooklyn, NY and had lived in Old Bridge and South River before moving to Marlboro three years ago. He co-owned and was also an instructor for the Technical Career Institute in Manhattan for over 40 years before retiring. He was a World War II veteran of the U.S. Navy. Sal was an active member of St. Thomas the Apostle Church in Old Bridge. He was a member of the American Legion and the ARRL and held an Advanced Class license.

Sal is survived by his wife, Anita, four sons, two daughters, and 12 grandchildren. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the American Heart Association or the American Cancer Society.

## GARY PALAMARA, AF1US - SK

Former GSARA member Gary Palamara, AF1US of Howell, NJ became a silent key on July 4, 2007. He was 56. Gary was born in Brooklyn, NY and had lived in Ohio before moving to Howell in 1974. He was an Air Force veteran during the Vietnam War. He owned and operated Morningstar Sound of Howell, a sound installation and recording company, for the past 30 years.

Gary joined GSARA in 1996 when he held the call KB2YTN. He later upgraded to Extra and obtained the vanity call of AF1US in honor of his Air Force service. Amateur Radio Awards included WAC, WAS, and DXCC. He is fondly remembered for his participation in GSARA Field Days.

Surviving are his wife of 36 years, Bonnie Palamara, KB2ZRM (also a past GSARA member), two sons, a daughter and a brother. A memorial service was held at his house on Sunday, July 8 and was attended by about 150 people. For condolence messages to the family, visit [www.claytonfuneralhome.com](http://www.claytonfuneralhome.com).

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## HAROLD CLANTON, WB2CJE VERY ILL

Please pray for Harold Clanton, WB2CJE who is in very serious condition with advanced cancer of the liver. His prognosis is very grim. Please also pray for his XYL, Laura, N2HGI in this trying time for her.

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## DRIVING TICKET FINE INCREASES

Starting on August 15th, the price of a ticket for violation of NJ Law 39:3-29 (failure to show your driver's license, registration, or insurance card at the time you are stopped) INCREASED from \$44.00 to \$173.00.

Please make sure your vehicles have the proper documents in them.

If you jump in the car to run to the store and forget your wallet with your license in it and you are stopped.... Oh well... you just spent \$173. And the fine for not having all three documents is \$519!!!

And be careful, the fine for hand held cell phone use while driving INCREASED to \$180.00

From Joe Dreifuss, W2KQ

## FCC ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS

On July 14, the FCC released information regarding enforcement actions against three radio amateurs: John C. Kimbrough, WR3S, of Murfreesboro, Tennessee; Anthony W. Cranston, WA2HYO, of East Brunswick, New Jersey, and Steve L. Wingate, K6TXH, of Eureka, California.

Kimbrough was issued a Warning Notice and Notification of Removal of Automatic Control Privileges for his repeaters. The FCC said that it sent Kimbrough a letter on April 10 of this year, notifying him that monitoring information showed that on various dates in March 2007 his repeaters operated without proper control and re-broadcast portions of commercial television programming and music. He was also accused of having operators on his system fail to identify properly and using false call signs. The FCC warned Kimbrough that repeaters must be under the supervision of a control operator "and not only expects, but requires, control operators to be responsible for the proper operation of the repeater system."

When Kimbrough replied to the FCC's April letter, he informed the Commission that he is operating 12 repeaters under his call sign using at least 10 control operators. The FCC replied in this Notification that "The rebroadcast of commercial programming, improper identification and lack of identification by end users, and your own transmissions over your repeater that can be reasonably be interpreted as threats to complainants, indicate your inability or unwillingness to control your own repeater stations."

The FCC warned Kimbrough that he would soon be receiving a letter from the FCC removing the automatic control privileges of his repeater systems. "This means that you may not operate ANY repeater stations under your call sign unless you are the control operator and at the control point at all times to make certain that Commission rules are being followed and that no interference is occurring. When you are unable to function as the control operator of the stations identifying with your call sign, they may not transmit."

Finally, the FCC said, "failure to control stations bearing your call sign, or any communications over your repeaters not complying with Commission rules, will result in enforcement action against your

license. That enforcement action may include a forfeiture (fine) or revocation and suspension of your Amateur license, or modification of your Amateur license to remove voice privileges. Any threats, direct or indirect, made to complainants or perceived complainants over your repeaters by your users, will result in revocation proceedings against your Amateur license."

The FCC accused Cranston of operating his repeater without coordination and, as such, causing interference to WA3BXW on 147.345 MHz. Cranston was allegedly notified of this back in 2003 and contacted repeatedly since, but the matter remains "unresolved." The FCC notes that where there is interference between a coordinated and uncoordinated repeater, "the licensee of the uncoordinated repeater has primary responsibility to resolve the interference."

The FCC asked Cranston if his repeater was coordinated for operation at 147.345 MHz, and if it is, asked him to furnish a copy of the coordination document and to "state the circumstances, if any, under which you are operating the repeater in a manner not consistent with the coordination, including changed location or power." If the repeater is not coordinated, the FCC asked Cranston for proof of any action he has undertaken to obtain coordination or to bring the station back into compliance with coordination. The FCC also wanted to know if he had received any complaints, either oral or written, and what steps he has taken to resolve them. The Commission also asked for Cranston to "describe in detail the configuration of the WA2HYO repeater system, including all sites, links and addresses, using diagrams where necessary. Detail any changes in location since the coordination, if any, was issued."

The FCC sent Wingate a letter, letting him know about complaints alleging his "lack of station control and deliberate interference." The Commission said he had 20 days from receipt of his letter to respond to the complaints in detail: "You are directed to support your response with a signed and dated affidavit or declaration under penalty of perjury, verifying the truth and accuracy of the information submitted in your response."

*From The ARRL Letter, No. 29, July 20, 2007*

## STATION ID CHANGES DENIED

On July 10, the FCC dismissed three separate petitions to Section 97.119 of the Commission's Rules. These petitions requested changes to the way amateur stations are identified. Two of the petitions requested that the time interval between required identification announcements be changed, while the third petition requested that certain combinations of letters be reserved for use by current or former members of the armed forces when identifying their amateur service stations.

The FCC said that "[b]ecause the petitioners seek to amend the rules to permit activity that the current rules already permit, or do not present sufficient evidence to justify altering the current rules, we are dismissing all three petitions." Section 97.119(a) of the Commission's Rules provides that an amateur station "must transmit its assigned call sign on its transmitting channel at the end of each communication, and at least every 10 minutes during a communication, for the purpose of clearly making the source of the transmissions from the station known to those receiving the transmissions."

Murray Green, K3BEQ, of Cheverly, Maryland, filed a Petition for Rulemaking (PRM) asking the FCC to amend Section 97.119(a), requesting the FCC to reduce the required frequency of station identification to every 30 minutes, rather than once every 10 minutes.

Green's petition received approximately 100 comments, with the majority of those commenting in opposition to the petition.

The FCC, on finding that the present rule has not been shown to be burdensome or unreasonable, said they were not persuaded by comments that support expanding the interval between required identification to 15 or 20 minutes.

The FCC's response went on to say "that requiring a station receiving another station's transmission to listen for up to 30 minutes to determine the call sign of the transmitting station would compromise the ability of the amateur service to self-police, especially in light of the fact that other methods of identifying the station, such as looking up the station call sign based on the operating frequency, are not available because amateur stations do not operate on specifically assigned frequencies. It therefore is reasonable to

require amateur station identification more frequently than is required of stations in other services."

The Commission noted that "a hallmark of enforcement in the amateur service is 'self-policing,' which depends on an amateur station hearing a message being able to determine the call sign of the transmitting station." The FCC concluded that "proposing to increase the time between required station identification transmissions would not improve or enhance the operation of amateur service stations or otherwise be in the public interest," and dismissed Green's petition.

Glen Zook, K9STH, of Richardson, Texas, filed a separate PRM, requesting that the Commission amend Section 97.119(a) to require that the call sign be transmitted at the beginning and end of each single transmission, as well as at the beginning and end of a series of transmissions between stations having established communications when each transmission is less than three minutes in duration. He also requested that the FCC amend the rule to require that the call sign be preceded by the words "this is" or "from" when voice communication is being transmitted, and require that the call sign be preceded by the prosign "de" when telegraphy is being transmitted.

The FCC agreed with the majority of commenters in the Zook petition, calling the proposed rules change "unnecessary and...burdensome." Saying that identifying before every transmission could "lead to congestion, such as during a contest when many amateur operators are trying to contact a distant station," the petition "does not demonstrate that so revising the station identification requirement would address the primary concern expressed by the petitioner -- that many Amateur Radio operators do not identify their station timely or at all."

The FCC said they agreed with the comments that say, in various ways, "that the problem of station operators not complying with the present rule is better addressed by enforcement of the present rule, rather than a rule change. Finally, we note that while the current rule does not require identification at the beginning of a communication, many amateur stations already routinely begin a transmission with their call sign." As such, the Zook petition was dismissed.

The Quarter Century Wireless Association (QCWA) filed a PRM requesting that Section 97.119(c) be amended to permit an Amateur Radio operator who is a "current or honorably discharged member of the United States military to include a unique indicator with the station's call sign identification announcement." Section 97.119(c) of the Commission's Rules permits the inclusion of indicators with the call sign during station identification, provided that no self-assigned indicator conflicts with any indicator specified by the Commission's rules or with any prefix assigned to another country.

The QCWA, in support of their proposal, noted that "many Amateur Radio operators are serving or have served in the United States military, or became Amateur Radio operators during or following their military training in communications and electronics, and it states that this proposal would afford those individuals the option to advise others of their military service when they identify their amateur stations on the air."

Specifically, QCWA requested that the indicators AF, AA, NA, NM and ACG be reserved for use by current or honorably discharged members of the United States Air Force, Army, Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard, respectively.

The FCC dismissed this petition, saying that "Amateur Radio operators who are current or honorably discharged members of the United States military already are permitted to identify their stations in the way QCWA suggests." The Commission went on to say that the QCWA "seeks to regularize the use of its proposed indicators to increase their recognition, the amateur community may do so without any change to the amateur service rules." As such, the FCC deemed such a rule change unnecessary and dismissed the QCWA's petition.

From *The ARRL Letter*, No. 28, July 13, 2007

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## **QST LISTINGS DELAYED**

The DXCC Honor Roll listing, which normally appears in the August issue, will be in the September 2007 issue of QST. In addition, the ARRL International DX Phone Contest Results that normally appear in the September issue will instead appear in October.

From *The ARRL Letter*, No. 28, July 13, 2007

## **SOLAR FLUX BOTTOMING OUT**

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) Space Environment Center (SEC) released their monthly forecasts of sunspot number and 10.7 cm radio flux, including high and low bounds to their forecasts. The SEC forecasts that the smoothed sunspot number reached its low value of 11.7 in March 2007, and predicts that the solar flux will reach its low of 75.4 this month. This is the fourth month in a row that the SEC predicts the solar flux will bottom out in July. Based on the SEC predictions, this is probably at the bottom of Cycle 23 and extremely close to the beginning of Cycle 24. Two events will mark the beginning of the next sunspot cycle: The observation of the first opposite magnetic polarity sunspots compared to Cycle 23 sunspot polarity, and the observation high solar latitude sunspots -- the Cycle 23 sunspots are now very near the solar equator. The SEC predictions table <<http://www.sec.noaa.gov/ftpd/weekly/Predict.txt>> and sunspot number and solar flux prediction graphs <<http://www.sec.noaa.gov/SolarCycle/>> are available on the SEC's Web site.

From *The ARRL Letter*, No. 27, July 6, 2007

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## **ARRL MEMBERSHIP SERVICES**

Did you know the ARRL offers more newsletters than just *The ARRL Letter*? One of the many ARRL membership benefits includes other newsletters, such as the ARRL Contest Rate Sheet (a bi-weekly contest newsletter), the ARES E-Letter (sent monthly, containing public service and emergency communications news), the ARRL Club News (monthly club news), the ARRL Instructor/Teacher E-Letter and the IARU E-Letter. You can also elect to receive news and information from your Division Director and Section Manager as well as WIAW bulletins that relate to DX, propagation, satellites and Keplerian reports. The ARRL also offers a free notification service to members, letting them know when their membership and license are due to expire. Sign up for these newsletters, bulletins and notifications on the Member Data page of the ARRL Web site <<http://www.arrl.org/members-only/memdata.html>>.

From *The ARRL Letter*, No. 28, July 13, 2007

## **KENWOOD MIGHT MERGE WITH JVC**

A consumer electronic magazine, This Week in Consumer Electronics reports that Kenwood has agreed to merge in 2008 with Victor Company of Japan (JVC) under a holding company. JVC is owned by Matsushita Electric Industrial Company. Japan's Nikkei business newspaper reports that the final details should be worked out by the end of the month, and that under the plan, Kenwood will buy 20 billion yen (\$161,469,466) in JVC shares as early as this summer, raising its stake to 13 percent. Matsushita will also sell part of its 52.7 percent of JVC to Kenwood's top shareholder, the Sparx Group. When JVC and Kenwood integrate operations under the holding company in 2008, Matsushita will sell the rest of its JVC shares to the holding company to complete the transaction. The holding company's stock will be listed instead of Kenwood and JVC, according to Nikkei. Combined, Kenwood's and JVC's sales are \$7.3 billion dollars annually for their fiscal year that ended March 31.

From *The ARRL Letter*, No. 26, June 29, 2007

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## **SIMSAT BALLOON TO LAUNCH**

A high-altitude balloon carrying Amateur Radio is being prepared for launch July 24 and 25 that will offer hams and students in Maryland, Washington DC and a 20 state region a special opportunity to participate in the operations. "Balloon launches are being offered as part of a two-week science camp called 'Reach For The Stars!' at the University of Maryland Eastern Shore," said Pat Kilroy, N8PK, a long time space and near-space experimenter and engineer at the NASA Goddard Space Flight Center in Greenbelt, Maryland. "Within minutes of release from UMES, the balloon's radio footprint will grow to cover all of Maryland, Virginia, Delaware and many adjoining states. At its peak of about 100,000 feet, the signals from the balloon will be heard by all within a 400 mile radius, reaching northward to Maine, westward out to Detroit and Cincinnati, and south to Savannah," he added. Amateur Radio operators are invited to participate. There is a list of tasks that hams can do either on their own or in groups on Kilroy's Web page <<http://www.patkilroy.com/simsat>>.

From *The ARRL Letter*, No. 29, July 20, 2007

## **6 METERS OPENS WIDE TO EUROPE**

On Monday, June 25, there was a big opening to Europe on 6 meters (50 MHz), also known as the "magic band." In most areas, the opening started in the local US mid-morning, lasting until dark. According to QST column author of "The World Above 50 MHz" Gene Zimmerman, W3ZZ, "Many areas of the country that do not normally work Europe, including the Midwestern states, West Texas and Colorado, worked stations in Europe. At one point near the end of the opening, stations on the East Coast of the US were working stations in Hawaii on the Big Island." In this opening, Mike Smith, VE9AA, in New Brunswick was on 50 MHz when he worked Nigel Coleman, G7CNF, on CW cross-band; Coleman was on the 70 MHz band (4 meters) in England. Zimmerman said, "Though a few cross-band contacts were made via F2 propagation during the sunspot maximum period in the 1970s, this is believed to be the first 50/70 transatlantic cross-band contact ever made on multi-hop sporadic-E propagation." RSGB VHF/UHF Manager David Butler, G4ASR, concurred: "It certainly isn't the first United Kingdom-North America 4 meter/6 meter cross-band QSO, but it probably is the first via multi-hop sporadic-E." In North America, 70 MHz is channel 4 on television sets.

From *The ARRL Letter*, No. 26, June 29, 2007

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## **OCEANPORT HAMFEST JULY 14**

The first Oceanport Hamfest was held on Saturday, July 14 at the Oceanport First Aid. Although the weather was just about perfect, attendance could have been better. There were about a dozen vendors with a wide variety of gear. Hopefully, attendance will be better next year.

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## **MIDDLETOWN CLUB MEETING TIME**

The Middletown Amateur Radio Club meets on 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.

## NOTES ON CALENDAR (see reverse side)

Large call letters denote birthdays e.g., **W2QHS** August 1. All times in EDT.

August 1 – **GSARA Monthly Meeting** at Ft. Monmouth MARS station at 8 PM. Guest speaker is W2OD talking about the history of amateur radio.

August 2 – **Holiday City ARC meeting** at 7 PM at Holiday City South Clubhouse in Toms River.

August 3 and every Friday – **Lunch at Blue Swan Diner**, Rt. 35 South, Ocean Township at noon.

August 3-5 – **Ten-Ten International Phone QSO Party** from 8:01 PM Friday to 7:59 PM Sunday. See August QST, p. 96 or [www.ten-ten.org](http://www.ten-ten.org)

August 3-5 – **National Lighthouse-Lightship Weekend** from 8:01 PM Friday to 7:59 PM Sunday. See August QST, p. 96 or [www.arlhs.com](http://www.arlhs.com)

August 4 – **OMARC VE Session** at 10 AM at Diana Site on Marconi Road. See p. 3

August 4-5 – **North American QSO Party, CW** from 2 PM Sat. to 2 AM Sun. See Jan. QST, p. 101 or [www.ncjweb.com](http://www.ncjweb.com)

August 5 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.

August 6 – **Monmouth County ARES Net** meets on 147.045 +600 at 7:30 PM.

August 7 – **Middletown Pancake House Luncheon** at noon in back room to left. All are invited.

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

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

August 8 – **W1AW Qualifying Run** at 10 PM (10-35 wpm). See August QST, pp. 91 and 96.

August 9 – **Jersey Shore Amateur Radio Society (JSARS)** meeting in Riverview Park Recreation Building, Rt. 527 and Riverwood Drive in Toms River at 7:30 PM.

August 11 – **OMARC Meeting**, 9:00 AM at the Diana Site on Marconi Road, Wall, NJ.

August 11 – **Middletown Amateur Radio Club meeting** at 10 AM in Union Beach Police Annex (Municipal Building) on Poole Avenue.

August 13 – **Monmouth County RACES** on 147.045 +600 at 7:30 PM. RACES members only.

August 14 – **Amateur Radio Luncheon** at Perkins in Colts Neck Inn at noon. All amateurs invited.

August 14 – **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)

August 16 – **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).

August 18 – **JSARS Hamfest** in Toms River at Riverwood Recreation Center. Sellers at 6 AM and buyers at 8 AM. See August QST, p. 94 or [www.jsars.org/files/Hamfest2007.pdf](http://www.jsars.org/files/Hamfest2007.pdf)

August 17-19 – **International Lighthouse Weekend** from 8 PM Friday to 7:59 PM Sunday. Many special event stations will be on as listed in August QST, p. 98. Listen particularly for NA2DX at Sea Girt from 9 to 5 PM both days on 14.260 or 7.260. For more information see [www.illw.net/index.html](http://www.illw.net/index.html)

August 18-19 – **New Jersey QSO Party** from 4 PM Saturday to 3 AM Sunday and from 9 AM to 10 PM Sunday. See August QST, p. 96 or [www.qsl.net/w2r](http://www.qsl.net/w2r)

August 18-19 – **North American QSO Party, SSB** from 2 PM Sat. to 2 AM Sun. See Jan. QST, p. 101 or [www.ncjweb.com](http://www.ncjweb.com)

August 20-**Monmouth County ARES Net** meets on 147.045 +600 at 7:30 PM.

August 23 – **W1AW Qualifying Run** at 4 PM (10-35 wpm). See August QST, pp. 91 and 96.

August 25 – **Neptune Amateur Radio Club Meeting** at 9 AM at the Bedrock Café, Avon.

August 27 – **North American DX Association Meeting** at Cobblestone Diner at 7:30 PM (6 PM to eat).

August 27 – **Monmouth County RACES** on 147.045 +600 at 7:30 PM. RACES members only.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 W2QHS GSARA Mtg	2 Hol. City Mtg.	3 Blue Swan Nat. Lighthouse 10-10 SSB	4 OMARC VE Nat. Lighthouse NA QSO CW 10-10 SSB
5 W2ML NA QSO CW Nat. Lighthouse 10-10 SSB InfoAge	6 ARES/RACES 7:30	7 Pancake House Old Barney ARC QCWA News 9 PM	8 CW Qual. Run	9 WA2DJN JSARS Mtg.	10 Blue Swan	11 OMARC Mtg. MARC Mtg
12 InfoAge	13 RACES Net 7:30	14 N2GT Perkins Lunch Croyden VE 7 PM QCWA News 9 PM	15	16 JSARS VE	17 K2EI Blue Swan ILHW	18 ILHW JSARS Hmfst NA QSO NJ QSO
19 ILHW NA QSO NJ QSO InfoAge	20 ARES/RACES 7:30	21 QCWA News 9 PM	22	23 CW Qual. Run	24 Blue Swan	25 Neptune Mtg
26 InfoAge	27 NADXA Mtg. RACES Net 7:30	28 QCWA News 9 PM	29	30	31	



G.S.A.R.A.

8 DONNER STREET

HOLMDEL, NJ 07733

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