



Holmdel, NJ 07733  
Editor: Bob Buus, W2OD

# THE PROPAGATOR

**DECEMBER 2011**

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## **W2GSA IN PHONE SWEEPSTAKES**

W2GSA was on the air from the Red Cross for the 2011 SSB Sweepstakes on November 19 and 20. Thanks to the efforts of Jim, K2EI; Frank, W2XYZ, Howard, W2HTS; Ted, N2KPS; and Ralph, KC2YNL the station was on the air from 4 to 10 pm Saturday and 8:45 to 4 pm Sunday. A total of 169 contacts were made with 61 different sections giving us a final score of 20,618. Nice work fellows and congratulations for the outstanding performance!

## **UPCOMING GSARA MEETINGS**

The next regular meeting of the GSARA will be held on **Wednesday, December 7 at 7:30 PM** at the **American Red Cross** in Tinton Falls. This will be our covered dish Christmas Party (see below). Plan to attend and enjoy the company of other GSARA members and their families.

The second meeting in December will be held on **Wednesday, December 21 at 7:30 PM** at the Red Cross. This meeting will feature a year-end review of the many GSARA activities over the past year. As always, guests are welcome and refreshments will be served.

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## **GSARA CHRISTMAS PARTY DEC. 7**

The December 7 (Wednesday) GSARA meeting will be our covered dish Christmas party (BYOB). We'll be meeting at the Red Cross in the big room at 7:30 pm. Family and guests are welcome and the price of admission is simply a covered dish that can be shared with others.

For those who can't cook or prefer not to bring a dish, we'll ask for \$10 per person (or \$20 per family), with which we'll use to purchase food and drink. The club will be providing coffee, soda, and water plus paper plates, napkins and such. Those planning to attend should send an email to [w2gsa@gardenstateara.org](mailto:w2gsa@gardenstateara.org) with the appropriate information.

We are looking forward to a good turn-out and lots of socializing.

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## **W2GSA STATION OPEN SATURDAYS**

The GSARA radio room at the Red Cross will be open Saturday afternoons for those wishing to operate or just "hang out". Go around the building to the back door for entrance. If you want to check to be sure that someone is there, call 732-493-9100 ext. 1252 which is the phone in the radio room.

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## **DX MEETING EACH LAST MONDAY**

For those interested in DX or learning about how to chase DX, there is a meeting of DXers on the last Monday of each month at 7:30 PM at the Red Cross. The last Monday of December is on the 26<sup>th</sup>, the day after Christmas so you might check with Frank, W2XYZ or Don, KG2NV to be sure a meeting will be held in December.

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## **AMATEUR RADIO ON FOX NEWS**

In a story published on the Fox News website on November 22, reporter Michelle Macaluso called Amateur Radio the "newest trend in American communication." Macaluso cited numbers provided by the FCC that proclaimed that in October 2011, there were more than 700,000 radio amateurs in the US. Read the story [here](#) on the Fox News website.

From *The ARRL Letter*, November 23, 2011

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## **GSARA HOMEPAGE**

<http://www.gardenstateara.org>

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## **HUDSON DIVISION HOME PAGE**

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

## GSARA OFFICERS

President	W2XYZ	Frank Wroblewski	942-7705
Vice Pres.	W2HTS	Howard Suffill	460-1885
Secretary	W2OD	Bob Buus	946-8615
Treasurer	W2KQ	Joe Dreifuss	493-4236
Engineerr	N2LXM	Jeff Harshman	922-0816
Webmaster	KC2TKK	Josh Gluck	
Publicity	NJ2H	Bill Shockley	207-4466
Trustees	KG2NV	Don Pingitore	229-2925
	W2OD	Bob Buus	946-8615
	W2HAM	Lou Russo	842-6431

## 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 Josh Gluck, KC2TKK and request *The Propagator* electronically. Josh's e-mail address is <kc2tkk@gardenatateara.org>.

## BADGES AND PATCHES

If you would like a GSARA name badge, you may order one by getting a Badge Order Form from our Secretary, **Bob Buus, W2OD**, filling it out and turning it in to Bob with your \$7.00 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://www.gardenstateara.org>

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

## EDITOR'S NOTES

The Christmas party on Wednesday, December 7 should be a lot of fun. What could be better than good company, delicious food, and a wee drink or two? Please plan to attend and bring the family!

This year has been the most active one in many years for GSARA with two hamfests, a white elephant sale and many interesting programs. The club stations are operational with a pretty impressive antenna farm. We will have a review of all of the GSARA activities at our December 21 meeting and all will have an opportunity to propose suggestions for making 2012 even better. I look forward to seeing a good turnout.

The DX prefixes puzzle last month had only one person (Vince, KE2V) submitting a solution so I guess DX-related puzzles are not very popular with the members. We'll see how visualizing an ant crawling along the edges of a cube goes over this month (see page 8). Send your answer to me at w2od@arrl.net.

Since the Catholic Church has patron saints for just about everything, I shouldn't have been surprised to learn that there is a patron saint of amateur radio operators. But, in my 58 years as an amateur, I didn't know we had a saint until John, KA2F pointed it out to me. I checked it out on the internet and thus got the story on page 7. I had previously heard the story of Saint Maximilian Kolbe but hadn't known that he held a license for SP3RN prior to WW II.

If you are interested in obtaining a [gardenstateara.org](http://www.gardenstateara.org) email address which will give you webmail and POP3/SMTP access, please send an email to Josh at [kc2tkk@gardenstateara.org](mailto:kc2tkk@gardenstateara.org) with your First Name, Last Name, and Call Sign. Your email address [call\\_sign@gardenstateara.org](mailto:call_sign@gardenstateara.org) will be created and the login information sent back to the email address your request came from.

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

If I don't see you at the December meetings, I would like to take this opportunity to wish you and yours a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

73 de Bob, w2od@arrl.net

## MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 2 MEETING

By Bob Buus, W2OD, Secretary

President Frank Wroblewski, W2XYZ called the meeting to order at the Red Cross at 7:35 PM. There were 14 members present. After the pledge to the flag, all members introduced themselves.

### Secretary's Report

A motion was made by Tom, N2VFK and seconded by Howard, W2HTS to accept the minutes of the October meetings as published in the November Propagator. The motion was accepted unanimously.

### Treasurer's Report

Since Treasurer Joe, W2KQ was not present; the treasurer's report was presented by Frank, W2XYZ. A motion was made by Lou, W2HAM and seconded by Tom, N2VFK to accept the report. It was accepted unanimously.

### Silent Key

A moment of silence was observed for silent key Phil O'Donnell, W2LNB who died on October 20.

### Election of Officers

Lou, W2HAM presented the following list of candidates to serve as officers of GSARA for 2012:

Frank Wroblewski, W2XYZ – President  
Howard Suffill, W2HTS – Vice President  
Bob Buus, W2OD - Secretary  
Bruce McLeod, K2QXW – Treasurer  
Jeff Harshman, N2LXM – Chief Engineer

Frank, W2XYZ asked for any additional nominations from the floor. Rich, N3RB nominated himself to serve as treasurer. Since there were now two candidates to serve as treasurer, Frank asked both candidates to leave the room and a vote was taken among the members. Bruce, K2QXW won the vote. A motion was made and seconded to have the Secretary cast the vote for the above slate of officers. They will be installed at the December 7 meeting.

### Christmas Party

President Frank, W2XYZ announced that we will have a covered dish Christmas party at our December 7 meeting. He asked members present whether they would attend and whether they would bring a covered dish or donate money. Eleven members planned to attend with 3 additional guests.

Seven would contribute money and three covered dishes. Any others wishing to attend should notify Frank, W2XYZ by e-mail.

### Old Business

President Frank, W2XYZ reported that progress has been made on the tower. It now has verticals for 2 meters and 440, a yagi for 2 meters, a yagi for 440, a G5RV inverted vee and a tri-band beam going up the next day. Jim, K2EI is going to install a double Zepp in the trees for the low bands. This should give us a respectable antenna farm at the Red Cross.

### Announcements

At 2 PM on November 9 there will be a nationwide test of the emergency alert system.

At the OMARC meeting of November 12, guest speaker will be Rebecca, who is a computer forensic scientist.

### Program

A video was shown of the Treasure Island operation in October 1986 and it brought back memories to many of the old-timers. This was provided by Ed, WA2KCV.

### Closing

The 50-50 drawing for \$13.50 was won by Ray, W2NXG and he donated it back to the club. A second drawing for an ARRL Antenna book was won by Jeff, N2LXM. There being no further business, a motion was made by Tom, N2VFK and seconded by Jeff, N2LXM to close the meeting. The motion was accepted unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 8:40 PM.

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## MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 16 MEETING

By Bob Buus, W2OD, Secretary

President Frank Wroblewski, W2XYZ called the meeting to order at the Red Cross at 7:30 PM. There were 16 members and 1 guest present. The guest was Drew Anderson from South Amboy. Drew is unlicensed and was curious about amateur radio. After the pledge to the flag, all members introduced themselves.

### Old Business

Our next meeting will be the Christmas party on Wednesday, December 7. Frank, W2XYZ reviewed the list of those planning to attend and added some more to the list.

### New Business

GSARA would like to put a tri-band (144/222/440) vertical antenna on the tower. A motion was made by Ted, N2KPS and seconded by Annie, N2LAL to purchase a Comet antenna for \$170 and a triplexer for \$70. The motion passed unanimously.

### Announcement

The ARRL Sweepstakes for SSB is coming up this weekend and runs from 4 pm Saturday, November 19 to 10 pm Sunday, November 20. W2GSA will be on the air for some of this time and if anyone can stop by to operate, it would be appreciated.

### Program

An interesting video was shown of the South Orkney Island VP8ORK DXpedition. South Orkney is a small island near Antarctica which is difficult to get to and has a harsh climate. The operators did a great job of putting this rare one on the air.

### Closing

The 50-50 drawing for \$16.00 was won by Lou, W2HAM. A second drawing for an FM radio built into a key and sounder was won by Frank, W2XYZ.

There being no further business, a motion was made by Lou, W2HAM and seconded by Ralph, KC2YNL to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 8:53 PM.

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## **FCC HAS NEW RULES FOR 60 METERS**

On November 18, the FCC released a Report and Order (R&O), defining new rules for the 60 meter (5 MHz) band. The new rules will not go into effect until 30 days after being published in the Federal Register, which has not yet happened. These rules are in response to a Petition for Rulemaking filed by the ARRL more than five years ago and a June 2010 Notice of Proposed Rulemaking. In the R&O, the FCC replaced one of the channels, increased the maximum authorized power amateur stations may transmit and authorized amateur stations to use three additional emission designators. Read more [here](#).

From *The ARRL Letter*, November 23, 2011

**BILL THIEROLF, KA2WKM - SK**

William R. Thierolf, KA2WKM, of Middletown, NJ, died Thursday, October 20, 2011 in Red Bank, NJ. He was 83. Bill was born in Riverside, NJ and lived in Middletown for most of his life. Bill worked as an accountant for the NJ Turnpike Authority and later established Lin-Bill Business Services with his wife Linda. Bill enjoyed hunting and boating. He boated frequently at Lake Wallenpaupack in PA. He was also involved in CB and Ham radio operations for many years. In his later years he enjoyed model building. He loved spending time with his family, especially with his grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Bill was preceded in death by his wife, Linda W. Thierolf. Surviving are his 3 daughters, 6 grandchildren, 2 great-granddaughters, a brother and a sister.

A Memorial Gathering was held at the John F. Pflieger Funeral Home. Funeral services were the following day at the Funeral Home with burial at Shoreland Memorial Park, Hazlet.

In lieu of flowers contributions may be made to the Westminster Presbyterian Church, 94 Tindall Road, Middletown, New Jersey 07748.

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## **NEW MEXICO FOX HUNT SUCCESSFUL**

Results of the USA's 11th national championships of Amateur Radio Direction Finding (ARDF) are in the record books. Members of Albuquerque Amateur Radio Club went all out to provide a top-notch experience for fans of on-foot transmitter hunting, also called radio-orienteeing and foxtailing. They came from 10 states and four other nations to see who would win medals by finding transmitters in the forests of central and northern New Mexico. From September 14-18, competitors took to the woods with directional antennas and receivers. They navigated not with GPS sets, but with maps and compasses. Their goal was to find all of their required transmitters and to get to the finish line in the shortest elapsed time. For fairness, the organizers didn't disclose the exact sites of the competition in advance. That kept anyone from doing advance reconnaissance in person or via Google Earth. Competitors boarded buses on Saturday and Sunday mornings, not knowing where there were going. Read more [here](#).

From *The ARRL Letter*, October 27, 2011

## THE NATIONAL TRAFFIC SYSTEM

The American Radio Relay League was founded in 1914 because Hiram Percy Maxim could not get a message via wireless from Hartford, Connecticut to Springfield, Massachusetts -- a distance of only about 30 miles. He had to rely on another wireless operator in Agawam, Massachusetts to relay his message to its intended recipient. This was the very beginning of what is now the National Traffic System (NTS). But what is the NTS?

The [Public Service Communications Manual](#) defines the NTS as "a structure that allows for rapid movement of message traffic from origin to destination and training amateur operators to handle written traffic and participate in directed nets. These two objectives are the underlying foundations of the NTS. It's a system that operates daily, even continuously, with advanced digital links."

The NTS consists of operators who usually participate for one or two periods a week and some who are active daily. The National Traffic System is an organized effort to handle traffic in accordance with a plan that is easily understood, and employs modern methods of network traffic handling. The NTS is not intended as a deterrent or competition for the many independently organized traffic networks. When necessitated by overload or lack of outlet for traffic, the facilities of such networks can function as alternate traffic routings where this is indicated in the best interest of efficient message relay and/or delivery.

One of the most important features of NTS is the system concept. No NTS net is an independent entity that can conduct its activities without concern for or consideration of other NTS nets. Each net performs its function and only its function in the overall organization. If nets fail to perform their functions or perform functions intended for other nets, the overall system may be adversely affected. Nets may sometimes adopt temporary measures to ensure the movement of traffic.

According to [ARES® E-Letter](#) Editor Rick Palm, K1CE, the best way to get to know the National Traffic System is to hook up with a local NTS traffic net in your area where messages (Radiograms) are entered and others are accepted for delivery by mail or phone. Local clubs, repeater groups and ARES operators are all good sources for local info on NTS activity.

From *The ARRL Letter*, October 27, 2011

## LOTW BACKLOG IS CLEARING

Logbook of The World (LoTW) is continuing to accept and process logs, including logs from this weekend's ARRL November Phone Sweepstakes Contest. Currently, the processing delay is at 30 hours, down from 45 hours last week. As of November 23, there are approximately 857,000 QSOs in 3335 logs still waiting to be processed. If you have already uploaded a log, please do not upload it again; by doing so, you will only add to the queue. Do not send entire logs that contain previously uploaded QSOs; use the date range option when signing logs, selecting only those QSOs in a specific date range to upload to LoTW. By following these guidelines, you'll help LoTW process the backlog at a faster pace. Thanks again for your patience.

From *The ARRL Letter*, November 23, 2011

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## USA GOLD AT CW CHAMPIONSHIP

Back in September 1936, Eugene A. Hubbell, W9ERU, took home the silver trophy at what the October 1936 issue of QST called the first official "Amateur Code Speed Contest." Only making one error, Hubbell won first prize with his winning speed of receiving 52.2 words per minute. Held at the ARRL Central Division Convention that year, the contest required operators to decipher plain language text at two minute intervals that ranged in speed from 25 to 52.7 words per minute. But things have changed since Hubbell made history. Today, individuals all over the world compete in High Speed Telegraphy (HST) events where they are challenged to correctly receive and copy Morse code transmissions sent at very high speeds, upwards of 300 characters a minute.

According to Barry Kutner, W2UP, HST has long been considered a sport in Europe, especially Eastern Europe, similar to chess or an Olympic sport. This year, Team USA -- consisting of Kutner, Kennan Low, KE3X, and Kody Low, K3ODY - placed 10th at the Ninth High Speed Telegraphy IARU World Championship in Bielefeld, Germany this past October. Kutner won a gold medal -- the first in HST history to a non-European -- in the pileup competition, and a bronze medal in the RUFZ competition. Read more [here](#).

From *The ARRL Letter*, November 10, 2011



## BPL RULES TIGHTENED SOME

On October 24, 2011, the FCC released the Second Report and Order in its proceeding -- now in its 9th year -- to adopt rules for Access Broadband over Power Line (BPL) systems. The Second Report and Order is the final step in the Commission's effort to comply with the directives of the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit, which in April 2008 ordered the FCC to correct errors it had committed in the course of adopting rules in 2004. The Court acted in response to a Petition for Review filed by the ARRL.

In July 2009, the FCC issued a Request for Further Comment and Further Notice of Proposed Rule Making in which it proposed slight modification of measurement standards for determining whether a BPL system is in compliance with the maximum allowable levels of radiated emissions. In response, the ARRL argued that coupled with a scientifically valid extrapolation factor for determining those levels, mandatory notching of the amateur bands to a level 35 dB below the general emission limit would reduce the likelihood of harmful interference to amateur stations to a level that would permit any remaining harmful interference to be remedied on a case-by-case basis. The ARRL noted that its request for mandatory notching simply reflected the best practices of the BPL industry.

In the Second Report and Order, the Commission decided not to adopt its own proposal and also declined to adopt the ARRL's request for mandatory notching. Instead, the Commission has increased the requirement for BPL systems to be able to notch frequency bands to at least 25 dB, an increase of 5 dB from the existing requirement of 20 dB. The Commission also made technical adjustments to its rules for determining the distance between a power line and a measurement antenna and for determining site-specific extrapolation factors. Read more [here](#).

From *The ARRL Letter*, October 27, 2011

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## SKYWARN RECOGNITION DAY DEC. 3

The 13th Annual SKYWARN Recognition Day (SRD) Special Event will take place Saturday, December 3, 2011. SRD is co-sponsored by the

ARRL and the National Weather Service (NWS) as a way to recognize the commitment made by Amateur Radio operators in helping to keep their communities safe. According to SRD Coordinator David Floyd, N5DBZ, Amateur Radio operators can visit their local participating NWS offices, working as teams to contact other hams across the world throughout the 24 hour event. Read more [here](#).

From *The ARRL Letter*, November 23, 2011

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## ARISSAT-1 MAY DE-ORBIT IN APRIL

According to [predictions](#) from Mineo Wakita, JE9PEL, the [ARISSat-1](#) satellite is due to re-enter Earth's atmosphere in early April 2012. Launched



ARISSat1-1 was deployed from the ISS on August 3, 2011. [Screenshot courtesy of NASA TV]

from the International Space Station on August 8, the satellite is traveling in a low orbit and is steadily losing altitude. The rate of orbital decay may be accelerated by increasing atmospheric density caused by increased solar activity. With that factor in mind, some ARISSat-1 decay predictions suggest re-entry as early as February 1. ARISSat-1 remains quite active, sending voice messages, digital telemetry and Slow Scan TV images. Amateurs have also been able to enjoy contacts through ARISSat-1's linear transponder despite the fact that the UHF antenna was apparently damaged prior to (or during) deployment. Last month, AMSAT-NA announced a [competition](#) to see who can record the last bits of telemetry as ARISSat-1 makes its final plunge. To decode the CW or BPSK telemetry you must use the [ARISSATTLM software](#) for Windows or Mac OS. The CW signal is transmitted at 145.919 MHz and the BPSK signal appears at 145.920 MHz, plus or minus Doppler.

From *The ARRL Letter*, November 17, 2011

## PATRON SAINT OF AMATEURS

Did you know that the Catholic Church has named a Patron Saint of amateur radio operators? He is none other than Saint Maximilian Kolbe, SP3RN-SK from Poland.

Raymond (Rajmund) Kolbe was born on January 8, 1894 in Zduńska Wola, which was then part of the Russian Empire. As a young boy, he prayed to Our Lady of Czestochowa and received a vision which he later described: "That night, I asked the Mother of God what was to become of me. Then she came to me holding two crowns, one white, and the other red. She asked me if I was willing to accept either of these crowns. The white one meant that I should persevere in purity and the red that I should become a martyr. I said that I would accept them both."

In 1907, Kolbe and his elder brother Francis entered the Conventual Franciscan junior seminary in Lwów. In 1910 he entered the novitiate and professed his first vows in 1911, adopting the name Maximilian (Maksymilian). He was sent to Kraków in 1912 and then to Rome where he studied philosophy, theology, mathematics and physics. He professed his final vows in 1914 adopting the names Maximilian Maria to show his veneration of the Blessed Virgin Mary. While in Rome, he earned a doctorate in philosophy in 1915 at the Pontifical Gregorian University and a doctorate in theology in 1919 at the Pontifical University of St. Bonaventure.

In 1918 Kolbe was ordained a priest and in 1919 he returned to newly independent Poland. In 1927 he founded and supervised the friary of Niepokalanów (the "City of the Immaculate") near Warsaw. Between 1930 and 1936, Fr. Kolbe took a series of missions to Japan where he founded a monastery at the outskirts of Nagasaki which remains to this day a prominent Roman Catholic monastery in Japan. The monastery was located on a mountainside that, according to Shinto beliefs, was not the side best suited to be in harmony with nature. When the atomic bomb was dropped on Nagasaki, Kolbe's monastery was saved because the other side of the mountain took the main force of the blast.

In 1936, Fr. Kolbe returned to Poland and became the superior of the friary of Niepokalanów. On October 28, 1938 a radio license for test broadcasting was issued with the call SP3RN (Radio Niepokalanów) and a station constructed at

the friary. The first broadcast took place on December 8, 1938. The exact type of radio station is unclear. It was a shortwave station but whether it was amateur or a test broadcast station is unclear. Fr. Kolbe used his amateur radio skills to vilify Nazi activities through his reports.

Shortly after the Germans invaded Poland in 1939, Fr. Kolbe was arrested and imprisoned at Amtitz. He was released only to be arrested again on February 17, 1941 and imprisoned in the Pawiak prison. On May 28, he was transferred to Auschwitz as prisoner #16670.

At the end of July, a prisoner disappeared from the camp, prompting the camp commander to pick 10 men to be starved to death in an underground bunker in order to deter further escape attempts. (The man who had disappeared was later found drowned in the camp latrine.) When one of the selected men, Franciszek Gajowniczek cried out, "My wife! My children!" Fr. Kolbe volunteered to take his place.

After two weeks in the starvation cell, Fr. Kolbe was the only prisoner still alive. The guards wanted the bunker emptied so Kolbe was given a lethal injection of carbolic acid and died on August 14. His remains were cremated the next day, August 15, the feast of the Assumption of Mary.

Father Kolbe was beautified as a confessor by Pope Paul VI in 1971 and canonized as a Martyr of Charity by Pope John Paul II on October 10, 1982. Franciszek Gajowniczek, the condemned man who St. Kolbe replaced, was in attendance for the canonization (he died in 1995, aged 94.) St. Maximilian Maria Kolbe is the Patron Saint of Amateur Radio Operators.



Thanks to John King, KA2F for much of this information

## SOLUTION TO DX QSL CARD PUZZLE

The correct countries and continents are as follows:

HB9MBX – Switzerland, Europe  
JG1ILF – Japan, Asia  
OZ9CR – Denmark, Europe  
PZ1DR – Suriname, South America  
RW4NN – Russia, Europe  
TG9HW – Guatemala, North America  
VK3ACR – Australia, Oceania  
VO2GB – Laborador, North America  
YV1ACX – Venezuela, South America  
ZS5JL – South Africa, Africa

Since all six continents are represented, these cards would be eligible for the WAC award. Congratulations to Vince, KE2V as the only one to submit a solution to this puzzle.

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## PUZZLE #14 – ANT ON CUBE EDGES

To practice his soldering skills, a ham friend made up a cube using 12 pieces of wire, each 3 inches long. This made the frame of a cube, 3 inches on each side. An ant on one corner of the cube proceeded to crawl along the wire edge spreading a pheromone along the wire so it would not crawl along that wire again. When it came to a corner, the ant defecated and proceeded along another edge. Because of the defecation, it would not come back to any corner visited. What is the maximum distance that the ant can crawl and get back to its starting corner without visiting any corner (except the starting corner) more than once and without crawling along any edge more than once?.

Send you answer to w2od@aol.com.

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## TWENTY YEARS AGO

From the December 1991 Propagator: New officers for 1992 were Al Allen, K2LG-SK, President; Elena Worrall, N2ITL, Vice President; Bob Buus, W2OD, Secretary; Rich Cardwell, AA2BY, Treasurer; and Joe Dreifuss, WA2GSY (now W2KQ), Chief Engineer. There will be a covered dish Christmas party at Bicentennial Hall on December 18, 1991. Bob Buus, W2OD will be taking over as editor of The Propagator.

## NEW ADMINISTRATOR FOR A-1 OP

The ARRL relies on a number of volunteers who give their time to help make the organization run smoothly. From Division Directors to Section



Managers to Emergency Coordinators to tour guides at Headquarters and everyone in between, volunteers play an important part in carrying out the ARRL's mission: To promote and advance the art, science and enjoyment of Amateur Radio. Dave Kaplan, WA1OUI, is one of the volunteer tour guides at ARRL Headquarters. Recently, he agreed to take on the role of administrator for the ARRL A-1 Operator Club. First organized in May 1933, the ARRL A-1 Operator Club has a proud history and occupies an important place in Amateur Radio tradition. Read more [here](#).

From *The ARRL Letter*, November 10, 2011

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## FIFTEEN YEARS AGO

From the December 1996 Propagator: A covered dish holiday party is scheduled for December 4 at Bicentennial Hall. New officers for 1997 are Laurie Korkowski, N2XWA, President; Jack Keating, WA2FVL, Vice President; Frank Wroblewski, WS2Y (now W2XYZ), Secretary; Lou Russo, AB2BQ (now W2HAM), Treasurer; and Rich Rohloff, KG2CN, Chief Engineer. The ARRL test fee was set at \$6.25 for 1987. An updated roster was included with the Propagator and showed 152 members of GSARA!

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## TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO

From the December 1986 Propagator: New officers for 1987 are Jerry Havel, W2RRX-SK, President; Jon Lowing, N2DPC, Vice President; Kathy Finch, WD0AQH (updated to KD2VX), Secretary; Clarence Kastner, KA2OZA-SK, Treasurer; and Vince Rosati, KE2V, Chief Engineer. A covered dish holiday party is scheduled for December 17 at Bicentennial Hall. Harry Pohemus, KN2B, was the new editor of The Propagator.



## NOTES ON CALENDAR (see last page)

Large Call letters denote birthdays e.g. N3RB on December 1. All times are EST. Contests are listed in the December QST, p. 71.

December 1 - **Holiday City ARC meeting** at 7 pm at Holiday City South Clubhouse in Toms River.

Dec. 2-4 – **ARRL 160 Meter Contest**, CW from 5 pm Friday to 11 am Sunday. See <http://www.arrl.org/contests>

December 2 - **WIAW Qualifying Run** at 10 pm (10-40 wpm). See December QST, p. 96 or [www.arrl.org/w1aw](http://www.arrl.org/w1aw)

December 4 and every Sunday – **InfoAge Marconi Hotel** open from 1 to 5 pm on Marconi Road in Wall.

December 5 - **Monmouth County ARES Net** meets on 147.045 +600, PL=67.0 at 7:30 pm.

December 6 – **Middletown Pancake House Luncheon** at noon at left rear table. All are welcome.

December 6 – **Old Barney VE Session** at 6:30 pm in Manahawkin. Contact Kevin Wagner, W2FA at 732-279-0532 or [w2fa.kgw@gmail.com](mailto:w2fa.kgw@gmail.com)

December 6 – **Monmouth Amateur Radio Club meeting** at 7 pm in Union Beach Police Annex (Municipal Building) on Poole Avenue.

December 6 – **Old Barney ARC Meeting** at 7:30 pm at Ocean Acres Community Center in Manahawkin, NJ. See <http://www.obarc.org>

December 6 and every following Tuesday – **QCWA News Net** on 147.045 PL=67 at 9:00 pm.

December 7 – **GSARA Meeting** at 7:30 PM at the Red Cross, West Park Ave. & Shafto Road, Tinton Falls. Covered dish Christmas party and installation of officers for 2012.

December 8 – **JSARS meeting** in Riverwood Park Recreation Building, Rt. 527 and Riverwood Drive in Toms River at 7:30 pm.

Dec. 9-11 – **ARRL 10 Meter Contest**, CW and SSB from 7 pm Friday to 7 pm Sunday. See <http://www.arrl.org/contests>

December 10 – **OMARC Meeting**, 9:00 am at the Diana Site on Marconi Road, Wall, NJ. Guests are welcome.

December 12 -. **Monmouth County RACES Net** meets on 147.045 +600, PL=67.0 at 7:30 pm.

December 13 – **WIAW Qualifying Run** at 9 am (10-35 wpm). See December QST, p. 96 or [www.arrl.org/w1aw](http://www.arrl.org/w1aw)

December 13 – **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)

December 14 – **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)

December 15 – **JSARS VE Test Session** at 7:30 pm Riverview Park Recreation Bldg., Rt. 527 and Riverwood Drive in Toms River. Contact Ed Genoino, WA2NDA at 609-971-2792 or [wa2nda@comcast.net](mailto:wa2nda@comcast.net).

Dec. 16-17 – **RAC Winter Contest**, CW and SSB from 7 pm Friday to 6:59 pm Saturday. See <http://www.rac.ca/en/rac/programmes/contests>

December 18 – **ARRL Rookie Roundup**, CW from 1 pm to 6:59 pm. See <http://www.arrl.org/contests>

December 19 - **Monmouth County ARES Net** meets on 147.045 +600, PL=67.0 at 7:30 pm.

December 21 – **GSARA Meeting** at 7:30 pm at the Red Cross in Tinton Falls. Review of the past year's activities.

December 24 – **Neptune Amateur Radio Club Meeting** at 9 am at the American Legion on Gully Road.

December 26 -. **Monmouth County RACES Net** meets on 147.045 +600, PL=67.0 at 7:30 pm.

Dec. 31-Jan. 1 – **ARRL Straight Key Night**, CW from 7 pm Sat. to 7 pm Sun. See <http://www.arrl.org/straight-key-night>

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 N3RB Hol. City Mtg.	2 160 CW CW Qual. Run	3 160 CW
4 160 CW InfoAge	5 ARES/RACES 7:30	6 Pancake House MARC Mtg 7 PM Old Barney ARC QCWA News 9 PM	7 GSARA Mtg	8 JSARS Mtg.	9 10 CW & SSB	10 OMARC Mtg 10 CW & SSB
11 10 CW & SSB InfoAge	12 RACES Net 7:30	13 CW Qual. Run Croyden VE 7 PM QCWA News 9 PM	14 Hol. City VE	15 JSARS VE	16 KC2YNL RAC CW & SSB	17 RAC CW & SSB
18 Rookie Rndup InfoAge	19 ARES/RACES 7:30	20 QCWA News 9 PM	21 GSARA Mtg.	22	23	24 Neptune Mtg
25 Christmas	26 RACES Net 7:30	27 QCWA News 9 PM	28	29 K2DST	30	31 SKN



G.S.A.R.A.

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