



THE PROPAGATOR

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

DECEMBER 2006

NEXT MEETING DECEMBER 6

The next regular meeting of the GSARA will be held on **Wednesday, December 6** at **8:00 PM** at the MARS building in Fort Monmouth. Come early to enjoy the refreshments. We look forward to seeing YOU at the meeting!

FORT MONMOUTH PASSES

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

HAM STATION ESTATE SALE

Frank Smith, WA2DZU of East Hanover, NJ is a silent key and his widow, Carol and son, Donald would like to find a home for his amateur station. The major pieces are:

Heathkit SB-220 2kw linear amplifier w/manual
Galaxy GT-550 Transceiver w/manual
Galaxy RV-550 Remote VFO w/manual
Galaxy SC-500 Speaker Console
Morse code key
Alliance dual speed antenna controller
Viking phone patch w/manual
Lambda power supply
Midland model 13-500 VHF/FM (2 meter) 15 watts mobile with 2 antennas and manual
Heathkit power meter HM-102 w/manual
Turner Desk Microphone

They would like to sell the whole lot as a package and will accept the best offer they get. For more information, contact Carol or Donald at 973-887-8025

NARC OPEN CHRISTMAS PARTY

The Neptune Amateur Radio Club has extended and invitation to GSARA to attend their annual Christmas Party. There will be Music, Line Dancing, Great Food and a Cash Bar available. If you want to dance bring your favorite CD.

When: Sunday, December, 10, 2006

Time: From 1 pm to 5 pm

Where: American Legion Post 346, 21 Gully Road, Neptune NJ

Admission: NARC Members bring covered dish for 6 people OR \$5 if no covered dish.

Non-Members: Covered dish as above AND \$5 per person or \$10 per person if no covered dish.

Pssst: NARC membership dues are \$10 or \$15 that includes the XYL.

If you would like to help set up and clean up please show up by 11 am.

For food coordination, Call Tracy at 732-556-6036 or cell at 908-489-4495 or you can Email her at Tracyzabellek@aol.com

If you have any questions, contact Joe Dreifuss, W2KQ at (732) 539-5875 or email at jdreifuss@verizon.net.

GSARA HOMEPAGE

http://home.comcast.net/~gsara_w2gsa

GSARA CALENDAR

http://home.comcast.net/~gsara_w2gsa/calendr.htm

HUDSON DIVISION HOME PAGE

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

GSARA OFFICERS

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

PROPAGATOR AVAILABLE BY E-MAIL

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

BADGES AND PATCHES

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

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

OUTGOING QSL CARDS

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

PROPAGATOR NOW ON THE WEB

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

http://home.comcast.net/~gsara_w2gsa/prop.pdf

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

EDITOR'S NOTES

This is a short (6-page) issue of *The Propagator* because I decided it was time to again publish an updated Roster of members. The last one was dated October 26, 2005 so it has been over a year. For those receiving *The Propagator* electronically, it will be a separate file to download. Extra printed copies will be available at all GSARA meetings.

You will also notice that this issue includes an updated ARRL chart showing amateur band allocations effective December 15, 2006 with a substantial expansion of the phone bands on 75, 40, and 15 meters. Although there remain a few issues to be resolved (see article on page 6), most amateurs (except for a few CW types) should be happy with the expansion. You might post the chart at your operating position until you have memorized the band edges for your class of license. Again, extra copies will be available at the December 6 meeting.

Thanks go to the Neptune Amateur Radio Club for again inviting us to their Christmas party on Sunday, December 10. My wife and I attended last year and we had a good time so we're definitely going again this year. See the details on page 1 and make your plans to come to the party. Be sure to notify Tracy of your plans and we look forward to seeing you there.

Finally, check out the items in the estate of WA2DZU on page 1. Although the Galaxy transceiver is quite old, this seems like a nice package. For those looking for a linear amplifier, the Heathkit SB-220 remains popular and operates well. If interested, check it out.

Middletown RACES is again running a one-day amateur radio class on Saturday, January 13. These have successfully produced many new amateurs in the area. If you know anyone interested, pass on the information on the bottom of page 5.

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 January issue is December 15. I hope that you and your family have a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

73 de Bob, w2od@arrl.net

MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 1 MEETING

By Bob Buus, W2OD, Secretary

The meeting was called to order at Fort Monmouth by President Jeff Harshman, N2LXM, at 8:00 PM. After the Pledge to the Flag, all members present introduced themselves. There were 24 members and one guest present. The guest was Russ Frazer from the Civil Air Patrol.

Treasurer's Report

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

Upgrade

Lorraine, KC2FDR has upgraded from Novice to Tech Plus. Congratulations!

Health and Welfare

Bonnie Griffiths, K2BON, the wife of Jim Griffiths, K2EI is not doing well and needs our prayers.

Old Business

Last month, the Nominating Committee head Ray, W2NXG presented the following slate of candidates for office for 2007:

President – Jeff Harshman, N2LXM
Vice President – Tom Cosgrove, N2VFK
Treasurer – Frank Wroblewski, W2XYZ
Secretary – Bob Buus, W2OD
Chief Engineer – Marty Szumera, WN2DX

Jeff, N2LXM asked for any additional nominations from the floor and there were none. Larry, KB2RIS moved to close the nominations, which was seconded by Nena, N2WAY and approved unanimously. There being no contested positions, a motion was made by Howard, W2HTS and seconded by Kevin, KC2NYQ to have the Secretary cast the vote for the entire slate of candidates. The motion passed unanimously.

Marty, WN2DX announced that many QSL cards are coming in for K2USA and he asked for \$30 for stamps and the incoming bureau. A motion was made by Ray, W2NXG and seconded by Howard, W2HTS to approve the \$30 expenditure. The motion passed unanimously.

Ray, W2NXG relinquished his Kid's Day package to Samuel, W2SHS. This includes an amateur radio tape which will remain the property of GSARA.

It was suggested that we have a talk about MARS (Military Affiliate Radio System) on one of our upcoming meetings. Jeff, N2LXM agreed to make the arrangements.

New Business

The Neptune Amateur Radio Club has invited GSARA members to their annual Christmas party. This will be held on Sunday, December 10 from 1 to 5 PM at the American Legion Hall on Gully Road in Neptune. There will be live music and line dancing but no gift exchange this year. Admission is a covered dish plus \$5 per person or \$10 per person with no covered dish. Please coordinate through Tracy on 732-556-6036.

Public Service

Tom, N2VFK reported that both Public Service events for October were successful. The CROP walk raised quite a bit of money. Thanks to all of the hams who donated their time and radios to these worthy events.

The MS Bike Tour last May raised about a million dollars.

Announcements

The Infoage haunted hotel was very successful with 1600 patrons going through. Except for holidays, the Marconi hotel and OMARC station will be open to the public every Sunday afternoon from 1 to 4 PM. A USO-type party/dance is coming up at the Marconi Hotel. Cost if \$35 per person. In January, OMARC will celebrate the 61st anniversary of Project Diana moonbounce at the Diana site.

The OMARC tailgate fest on Saturday, October 7 suffered from bad weather which kept vendors away. There will be another one in the spring.

The FCC Omnibus report and order will substantially expand the phone bands on 75, 40, and 15 meters. Successful experiments are ongoing at 500 kHz (600 meters). The ARRL has asked for expansion of the 60 meter band.

We may be near the solar minimum. A reverse polarity sunspot has appeared which is associated with the next cycle.

Bernie, W2QFQ announced that Pat Bernstein, W2PAT is again actively on the air with MARS and on 2-meters.

The MFJ CW QRP rig is still available to the first young amateur who masters the Morse code.

Closing

A drawing was held for the main door prize which was won by Larry, KB2RIS.

There being no further business, a motion was made by Bernie, W2QFQ and seconded by Nena, N2WAY to close the meeting. The meeting was closed at 9:03 PM.

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 second Wednesday of the even numbered months (Dec. 13, 2006) at 6:30 PM. The contact person is Larry Wilkins, KB2RIS at 732-922-6720 or e-mail to kb2ris@verizon.net.

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

Toms River, Riverview Park Recreation Building: Exams are held on the third Thursday of every month at 7:30 PM. The contact person is Ed Genoino, WA2NDA at 609-971-2792 or e-mail to 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 (January 13, 2007) at 10:00 AM. Pre-registration is required (no walk ins). The contact person is Bill Haldane, AC2F, 732-240-7064 or ac2f@earthlink.net.

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

NEW FCC RULES EFFECTIVE DEC. 15

A little over a month after the Federal Communications Commission released the Report and Order (R&O) in the so-called "Omnibus" Amateur Radio proceeding, WT Docket 04-140 (FCC 06-149) to the public, a revised version appeared November 15 in the Federal Register <<http://a257.g.akamaitech.net/7/257/2422/01jan20061800/edocket.access.gpo.gov/2006/pdf/E6-19189.pdf>>. The changes in the R&O will take effect Friday, December 15, at 12:01 AM EST, 30 days after its publication.

As expected, the Report & Order clarified two items that had raised some concerns when it was first released last month: That the 80/75 meter band split applies to all three IARU Regions, and that FCC licensees in Region 2, which includes North America, can continue to use RTTY/data emissions in the 7.075-7.100 MHz band.

Still to be resolved are three controversial aspects of the Proceeding:

- * Expansion of the 75 meter phone band all the way down to 3600 kHz (thus reducing the privileges of General, Advanced and Amateur Extra class licensees, who had RTTY/data privileges in the 80 meter band, and CW privileges of General and Advanced class licensees)

- * The elimination of J2D emissions, data sent by modulating an SSB transmitter, of more than 500 Hz bandwidth. This will make PACTOR III at full capability illegal. Other digital modes effectively rendered illegal below 30 MHz include Olivia and MT63 (when operated at bandwidths greater than 500 Hz), 1200-baud packet, Q15X25 and Clover 2000.

- * The elimination of access to the automatic control RTTY/data subband at 3620-3635 kHz.

The ARRL Board is discussing the possibility of a petition to reconsider several items in the R&O.

For more information, see the band chart <http://www2.arrl.org/announce/regulatory/wt04-140/Hambands3_color.pdf> and the Frequently Asked Questions on WT Docket No. 04-140 <<http://www2.arrl.org/announce/regulatory/wt04-140/faq.html>>.

From *The ARRL Letter*, No. 46, November 17, 2006

NOTES ON CALENDAR (see reverse side)

Large call letters denote birthdays e.g., N3RB December 1. All times in EST.

December 1 and every Friday – **Lunch at Blue Swan Diner**, Rt. 35 South, Ocean Township at noon.

Dec. 1-3 – **ARRL 160 Meter CW Contest** from 5 PM Friday to 11 AM Sunday. See Nov. QST, p. 105 or www.arrl.org/contests

December 4 – **Monmouth County ARES Net** meets on 147.045 +600 at 7:30 PM.

December 5 – **Middletown Pancake House Luncheon** at noon in back room to left. All are invited.

December 5 – **Old Barney ARC Meeting**, 7:30 PM at Ocean Acres Community Center in Manahawkin, NJ. See <http://www.obarc.org>

December 5 and every following Tuesday – **QCWA News Net** on 147.045 PL=67 at 9:00 PM.

December 6 – **GSARA Monthly Meeting** at the MARS Building at Fort Monmouth at 8:00 PM.

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

December 8 – **W1AW Qualifying Run** at 10 PM (10-40 WPM). See December QST, pp. 77 and 79.

Dec. 8-10 – **ARRL 10 Meter Contest** from 7 PM Friday to 7 PM Sunday. See Nov. QST, p. 105 or www.arrl.org/contests

December 9 – **OMARC Meeting**, 9:00 AM at the Diana Site on Marconi Road, Wall, NJ. Note the change in meeting place.

December 10 – **Neptune ARC Christmas Party** from 1 PM to 5 PM. All GSARA members invited. See p. 1.

December 11 – **Monmouth County RACES** on 147.045 +600 at 7:30 PM. RACES members only.

December 12 – **Amateur Radio Luncheon** at Perkins in Colts Neck Inn at noon. All amateurs invited.

December 12 – **VE Test Session** at Croydon Hall, Leonardo section of Middletown at 7:00 PM. For more information, contact Mario Sellitti, N2PVP at 732-787-7184 or n2pvp@n2pvp.com

December 13 - **OMARC VE Test Session** at 6:30 PM at the Diana site off Marconi Road at Camp Evans. Contact Larry Wilkins, KB2RIS at 732-922-6720 or kb2ris@wmconnect.com. See page 4.

December 14 – **Jersey Shore Amateur Radio Society (JSARS)** meeting in Riverview Park Recreation Building, Rt. 527 and Riverwood Drive in Toms River at 7:30 PM.

Dec. 15-17 – **PSK31 Death March** from 7 PM Friday to 7 PM Sunday. PSK31 and PSK63. See Dec. QST, p. 79 or www.mdxal.org/deathmatch.html

Dec. 15-Jan. 1 – **Lighthouse Christmas Lights QSO Party**, all modes from 7:01 PM Friday to 6:59 PM New Year's Day 2007. See Dec. QST, p. 79.

December 18 – **Monmouth County ARES Net** meets on 147.045 +600 at 7:30 PM.

December 19 – **W1AW Qualifying Run** at 9 AM (10-35 WPM). See December QST, pp. 77 and 79.

December 19 – **Middletown Amateur Radio Club meeting** at 8 PM in Croyden Hall off Leonardville Road.

December 21 – **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.

Dec. 31-Jan. 1 – **ARRL Straight Key Night** from 7 PM Sunday to 6:59 PM New Year's Day 2007. See Dec. QST, p. 98 or www.arrl.org/contests

January 13 – **One Day Amateur Radio Class** (and VE session) sponsored by Middletown RACES. Call OEM at 732-615-2129 (9:30 to 1:30 weekdays) to register or for more information.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 N3RB Blue Swan 160 CW Cntst.	2 160 CW Cntst.
3 160 CW Cntst.	4 ARES/RACES 7:30	5 Pancake House Old Barney ARC QCWA News 9 PM	6 GSARA Mtg.	7 Hol. City Mtg.	8 Blue Swan 10 Mtr Cntst. CW Qual. Run	9 OMARC Mtg. 10 Mtr Cntst.
10 Xmas Pty. 10 Mtr Cntst.	11 RACES Net 7:30	12 Perkins Lunch Croyden VE 7 PM QCWA News 9 PM	13 OMARC VE 6:30	14 JSARS Mtg.	15 Blue Swan PSK-31 / 63	16 PSK-31 / 63
17 PSK-31 / 63	18 ARES/RACES 7:30	19 CW Qual. Run MARC Mtg QCWA News 9 PM	20	21 JSARS VE	22 Blue Swan	23 Neptune Mtg
24	25 Christmas	26	27	28	29	30
31 SKN		QCWA News 9 PM				



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

FIRST CLASS