

# The Bulletin

Official Publication of Chapter #138 Quarter Century Wireless Association



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AUGUST

2007

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## Annual Picnic September 9

The Marconi Chapter 138 will hold a picnic on Sunday, September 9 at the Oakhurst Pavilion in the Oakhurst section of Ocean Township from noon to 5 PM. See page 9 for directions.

The Chapter will furnish soft drinks and charcoal for the grill. Each attendee is asked to bring food that can be shared with about six others. If you prefer something to drink other than soft drinks, bring your own (there is no prohibition of alcoholic drinks.).

This is the same location where we had our picnic last year. The Oakhurst Pavilion has an open shelter so light rain won't bother us too much. Plan now to attend this picnic and feel free to bring guests. For more details, see page 9. We look forward to seeing you there!

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## Harold Clanton, WB2CJE Very Ill

Please pray for Chapter 138 Diamond Jubilee member 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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## 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 at the Burger King on Highway 35 just south of King's Highway. Guests are always welcome.

## 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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## InfoAge Home Page

Check out the InfoAge Learning Center at

[www.infoage.org](http://www.infoage.org)

This site points you to lots of interesting material.

### Chapter Officers

|                   |                  |        |
|-------------------|------------------|--------|
| <b>President</b>  | Ron Olender      | WA2HZZ |
| <b>Vice Pres.</b> | Bernie Ricciardi | WB2EJT |
| <b>Treasurer</b>  | Matt Bregoff     | W2AOJ  |
| <b>Secretary</b>  | Bob Buus         | W2OD   |

### Trustees

|                 |        |
|-----------------|--------|
| Walter Prang    | KZ5WP  |
| Robert McKinley | W2OMR  |
| Dave Ottenberg  | WA2DJN |

### Committees

|                      |                  |        |
|----------------------|------------------|--------|
| <b>Executive</b>     | Ron Olender      | WA2HZZ |
| <b>Past Pres.</b>    | Bernie Ricciardi | WB2EJT |
| <b>Activities</b>    | Open             |        |
| <b>Webmaster</b>     | Ed Roswell       | K2MGM  |
| <b>Parliamentary</b> | Bob Buus         | W2OD   |
| <b>H &amp; W</b>     | Walter Prang     | KZ5WP  |
| <b>Bulletin</b>      | Bob Buus         | W2OD   |
| <b>Elmer</b>         | Walter Prang     | KZ5WP  |

### Chapter Net

Tuesdays 147.045/.645 9:00 PM

This net meets every Tuesday at 2100 local time. In the 21 sessions between April 3 and August 21 we had 216 check-ins of which 140 were Chapter 138 members. Check in and keep this net active!

Check-ins (number of times): W2OD (21), AB2N (19), WA2MNV (17), W2EXQ (14), W2PAT (14), W2AOJ (13), WA2HZZ (11), N2GT (8), W2AJG (6), WB2EJT (6), W2QFQ (5), K2MGM (3), NR2N (2), and KC2Q (1).

Special thanks to Bernie, WB2EJT, and Ron, WA2HZZ for helping with Net Control duties.

If your call isn't listed, please check into the net so it will be here next time.

### Marconi Chapter 138 Home Page

Please check out our Home Page at:

<http://www.monmouth.com/~eroswell/qcwa138.htm>

National QCWA Home Page is at:

<http://www.qcwa.org>

### Awards Dinner Successful

Marconi Chapter 138 held its annual awards dinner at the Spring Meadows Golf and Country Club in Wall, NJ on April 22, 2007. Service anniversary awards were presented to Marv Bernstein, W2PAT (75 years); Bill Wadsworth, W2ZKE (60 years), Harold Clanton, WB2CJE (55 years), Al Schnabolk, W2OIB (55 years), Joe Bailis, K2AJG (50 years), Mike Reason, W2EXQ (50 years), and John Krieg, K2ZGF (50 years). Diamond Jubilee Awards (50 years continuously licensed and 75 years old) were presented to John Krieg, K2ZGF and Bill Wadsworth, W2ZKE. Congratulations to all!

New officers to serve Chapter 138 for 2007-2008 were installed. They were: President, Ron Olender, WA2HZZ; Vice President, Bernie Ricciardi, WB2EJT; Treasurer, Matt Bergoff, W2AOJ; and Secretary, Bob Buus, W2OD.



President Ron Olender, WA2HZZ (right) presents the 75-year Anniversary Award to Marv Bernstein, W2PAT (left).

### Bus Trip to ARRL Sept. 12

Jeff, N2LXM has extended an invitation to any of us that wish to attend their ARRL Headquarters tour. The tour is scheduled for Wednesday, September 12, 2007. Pick up/meeting location will be at the Monmouth Mall. Time will be forthcoming. RSVP to [N2LXM@verizon.net](mailto:N2LXM@verizon.net) if you are interested. The cost is \$35.00 per person, due by no later than 8/31/07.

### **Ed O'Brien, W2EO - SK**

Edmond F. O'Brien, W2EO formerly from Toms River died with ALS at the age of 88. Licensed in 1946 with the call W2SZY, Ed held an Extra Class license. In 1998 he changed his call to the vanity call W2EO (his initials). In 2005, he moved from Toms River to Paramus.

Ed was a long time ham who was among the first troops to be shipped to the Pacific Theater during WWII. Ed was in India in early 1942 as a radio operator with the Army Air Corps which was flying the "Hump" into China. Until his illness, Ed could be found on 75 meter phone most mornings. He was a long-time member of Marconi Chapter 138 of the QCWA. May he rest in peace.

### **Paul Johnson, W2GMB - SK**

QCWA member Paul K. Johnson, W2GMB 97, of Wanamassa, Ocean Township, died Thursday, May 3, at home. He was 97. Born in Springfield, Mass., he came to the Shore area in the 1940s, moving to Wanamassa in 1950. Paul graduated from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Troy, N.Y. He was an engineer for many years at Fort Monmouth, Eatontown, retiring in 1969. Paul was a communicant of St. Mary's Church, Deal, and for many years was a ham radio operator. He was a Diamond Jubilee member of the Marconi Chapter 138 of the QCWA and a former member of the GSARA. He was a member of the National Association Retired Federal Employees.

He was predeceased by his wife, Stephanie Puzio Johnson, who died in 1993. Paul is survived by a niece, Geraldine Azzolino of Clifton, several more nieces and nephews; and a cousin, Velma Ide of Bath, N.H.

### **Al Blasucci, W2KOG – SK,**

Diamond Jubilee Chapter 138 member Al Blasucci, W2KOG from Scotch Plains died on Sunday May 6, 2007. He was 91. First licensed in 1937, Al held an Extra Class license and remained very active throughout his life. He was one of the first amateurs in the area to make a contact on the 60 meter band when it was first opened to amateurs. Al regularly came down to the Colts Neck Inn luncheons when they were held monthly. May he rest in peace.

### **XYL of W2QFQ Passes Away**

Grace Schreibman, XYL of QCWA member Bernie Schreibman, W2QFQ died Sunday, May 27 at Renaissance Gardens, Tinton Falls. She was 85.

Grace was born in the Bronx and moved to Eatontown, where she resided for the last 55 years. She and Bernie spent winters in Port St. Lucie, FL and summers in Seaside Heights. She was a homemaker for most of her life but for two years worked as a file clerk for the U.S. Army at Fort Monmouth. She traveled worldwide and enjoyed camping with her motor home. She was very active in Hadassah and the Jewish War Veterans of Post 125, Asbury Park. She was excellent at crocheting and knitting and used her talent to knit afghans for disabled veterans. She was a member of Temple Beth El in New Jersey and Temple Beth El Israel in Florida.

Surviving are her husband of 61 years, Bernard Schreibman; her two daughters, Marion Schaal of Staten Island, and Linda Cahill of Tennessee; her son Steven and Gail Schreibman of Eatontown; two grandsons and three great-grandchildren.

### **OMARC Tech Class this Fall**

OMARC will again be conducting Free Technician Classes at the Diana Site on Marconi Road in Wall. All classes will be on Saturday mornings starting September 15 with the following schedule:

Sept 15, 22, 29 - 9:00 am to 10:15 am

Oct 13th – 10:30 am to 11:30 am due to OMARC meeting.

Oct 20, 27 - 9:00 am to 10:15 am

November 3 - 9:00 am to 10:15 am

November 10 - 10:30 am to 11:30 am due to OMARC meeting.

November 17 - 9:00 am to 10:15 with whole course review 10:30 - 11:30

If you know anyone interested in this class, please have them contact Pat Brannick, N2BZD at 732-267-0308 or e-mail to [pbrannick@aol.com](mailto:pbrannick@aol.com).

Ah, being young is beautiful,  
But being old is comfortable.

## InfoAge Open on Sundays

The Marconi Hotel and the Diana Site are both open to visitors every Sunday afternoon from 1 to 4 PM. The easiest way to get there is by Route 18. From the north, take exit 7A to Brighton Avenue East for about a half mile to a stop sign. Turn right onto Marconi Road. The Marconi Hotel is about a quarter mile down on the right. From the south, take exit 7 onto Marconi Road and the Marconi Hotel is about a half mile down on the right.

The Marconi Hotel rooms have displays by QCWA (telegraphy and amateur radio); Garden State Central Model Railroad Club (electric trains); NJ Historical Divers Association (shipwreck artifacts from the Jersey coast), Vintage Computer Club (early computers), NJ Antique Radio Club (early broadcast receivers); and the National Broadcasters Hall of Fame (vintage broadcast curios). There are also displays of World War II military equipment and vehicles. Admission is free although a \$5 donation is solicited.

The Diana site on the east side of Marconi Road about ½ mile south of the Marconi Hotel has artifacts and the story of the first moon bounce on January 10, 1946. Operated by OMARC, this site also includes a complete amateur radio station.

For more information, visit the Infoage web site at [www.infoage.org](http://www.infoage.org)

## Driving Ticket Fine Increases in NJ

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

## New Chief for Air Force MARS

Allen Eiermann, K3LSR, has been named the new acting chief of Air Force MARS. Eiermann takes over for Don Poquette who recently retired from the Air Force. Eiermann holds a General class Amateur Radio license and is a former Navy/Marine Corps MARS member. "I am looking forward to serving the MARS community and will work closely with the Army and Navy-Marine Corps MARS Chiefs to bring the tri-service MARS programs closer to being just MARS. I fully support interoperability between the three services and the efforts to provide communications services to other federal agencies and civilian communities during times of need," Eiermann said.

From *The ARRL Letter*, No. 32, August 10, 2007

## Area Amateur Radio Exam Sessions

Please contact the responsible person to be sure that the time and date are accurate.

**Wall Township**, Camp Evans Area Diana site on Marconi Road. The first Saturday of the even numbered months (October 6) at 10 AM. The contact person is Pat Brannick, N2BZD at 732-267-0308 or e-mail to [pbrannick@aol.com](mailto:pbrannick@aol.com).

**Middletown**, Croyden Hall on Leonardo Road: The second Tuesday of every month at 7 PM. The contact person is Mario Sellitti, N2PVP at 732-787-7184 or [n2pvp@n2pvp.com](mailto:n2pvp@n2pvp.com)

**Toms River**, Riverview Park Recreation Building: 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) at 10 AM. 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 and/or birth certificate.

## QCWA QSO Parties

The Quarter Century Wireless Association Spring 2007 QSO Party started on March 31 at 2 PM and lasted for 24 hours. Three Logs were received from Chapter 138 members as follows:

Ed Moxon, K1GGI – 9504 points CW  
 Arnold Peterson, AB2N – 5544 points CW  
 Pat Brannick, N2BZD – 1638 points Mixed

Congratulations to these three participants.

The Fall QSO party starts on Saturday, September 15 and runs for 24 hours. Why not plan on participating? After the party send your logs to w2od@aol.com or 8 Donner Street, Holmdel, NJ 07733.

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## QCWA, Newsline Join to Mentor

The Quarter Century Wireless Association (QCWA) <<http://www.qcwa.org>> and Amateur Radio Newsline (ARNewsline) <<http://www.arnewsline.org>> have joined forces in cosponsoring the Roy Neal, K6DUE, Amateur Radio Mentoring Program. ARNewsline launched the post-licensing educational service in 2004. It's designed to pair newcomers with veteran radio amateurs who can share their skill and experience. "Amateur Radio is a tremendously complex arena", says Newsline Executive Producer Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF. "We have hams who are truly experts in numerous fields [and] we want to take advantage of that talent pool to help educate the next generation of operators and generations to follow." The collaboration with QCWA makes thousands of veteran radio amateurs available as potential mentors -- each with at least 25 years of experience in the hobby. QCWA President John B. Johnston, W3BE, called the arrangement "a good deal for all of Amateur Radio." A retired FCC employee and Dayton Radio Amateur of the Year, Johnston says he believes that it is important to keep ham radio traditions alive. ARNewsline and the QCWA are now seeking both new radio amateurs and potential QCWA mentors -- or Elmers. E-mail <[mentor@arnewsline.org](mailto:mentor@arnewsline.org)> your name, call sign, address with ZIP code, telephone number and a convenient time to call.

From *The ARRL Letter*, No. 20, May 18, 2007

## 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, 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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## Syria to Celebrate 60 Years

The Technical Institute of Radio, the IARU member-society in Syria, will celebrate 60 years of Amateur Radio in that country from October 15-November 15. In honor of this important milestone, TIR members will be using special prefix 6C60 on all HF bands during the month.

From *The ARRL Letter*, No. 30, July 27, 2007

## Canadian Special Event for September

A demonstration of cooperation in emergency communications preparedness between Canadian radio amateurs and those in the United States is planned for September 29-30 with special event station VO1ARES

<<http://www.rac.ca/fieldorg/aresjointevent.htm>>. It will be located at the Marconi memorial station on historic Signal Hill, St John's, Newfoundland, where reception of the first transatlantic wireless transmission occurred in 1901. Sponsored by Foreign Affairs and International Trade Canada (DFAIT) and Radio Amateurs of Canada (RAC), the facilities are provided by Parks Canada and coordinated by the Society of Newfoundland Radio Amateurs (SONRA).

The objectives of the special event are threefold: To highlight the capabilities of Amateur Radio in providing emergency communications in times of crisis, to illustrate the cooperation between Canada and the United States on emergency preparedness within the context of the Security and Prosperity Partnership signed by the President of the United States and the Prime Minister of Canada in 2005, and to create a database of communications "first responders" that the Government of Canada could contact for emergency communications assistance in times of crisis.

Radio amateurs from across Canada and the US are being invited to participate in this first-time official activity, with opening festivities scheduled September 29 from 1430-1730 UTC. In particular, ARES units in both countries are encouraged to take part and to "talk up" the value of Amateur Radio as a community resource. Officials from the Canadian government have been invited, and ARRL Joel Harrison, W5ZN, has confirmed his intention to attend. Operations will feature virtually all transmission modes on most HF bands over the two-day period. Times and frequencies are yet to be determined.

A commemorative QSL card will be issued. QSLs may be sent direct to VO1ARES via VE9GLF, G. L. Friars, 35 Upper Quaco Rd, Baxters Corner, NB E25 2S2, Canada. All replies from VO1ARES will be via the bureau. Those wishing a direct reply, including Short Wave Listeners, must include an envelope and sufficient postage. Within Canada, please send a self-addressed stamped envelope. If outside of Canada, please include sufficient International Reply Coupons (IRCs) to cover the cost of a letter from

Canada to your country. This is imperative in order to receive a card directly; otherwise it will go via the bureau.

Listen for VO1ARES both before and after the special event. The call sign will be active September 27-October 1.

Upcoming issues of RAC's The Canadian Amateur (TCA) magazine and the RAC Web site <<http://www.rac.ca/>> contain further details of the event. -- Information provided by Bob Cooke, VE3BDB

From *The ARRL Letter*, No. 33, August 17, 2007

## QCWA Celebrates 60 Years

On November 14, 1947, during a 10-meter roundtable QSO, the suggestion was made to form an association of ham radio operators that had been licensed for twenty-five years or more. The very next month, with that thought in mind, a group of hams met on Friday evening, December 5, 1947, in New York City. That evening, the Quarter Century Wireless Association (QCWA) was born.

In order to celebrate the Sixtieth Anniversary in grand style, the QCWA is pleased to announce a new, limited availability, operating Award known as the QCWA Sixty-Sixty Award.

The basic requirements are simple: Make 60 two-way contacts with 60 different QCWA members. The final day for contacts is no later than 2400 UTC, June 30, 2008. All applications for the Award should be post marked no later than September 1, 2008.

Two-way contacts may be made utilizing any RF mode of operation on any frequency authorized for amateur use and includes the use of VHF/UHF repeaters.

Submitted log information should include the time (UTC), date of contact, callsign, QCWA Member's name and Membership number.

To cover the cost of printing and mailing the certificate, a fee of \$2.00 USD is requested.

Applicants should send the required information to:

Bob Buus, W2OD  
8 Donner Street  
Holmdel, NJ 07733

## Field Day Logs are Posted

All 2007 Field Day logs have been received and posted to the Claimed Scores page on the ARRL Web site <<http://www.arrl.org/contests/claimed/>>. They reflect all applications sent from the b4h Web applet, as well as those received via the US postal service and usable electronic submissions sent via regular e-mail (non-Web applet submissions). According to Field Day Manager Dan Henderson, N1ND, "In some cases we did not receive sufficient information, and those entries are not allowed to be used at this time. A follow-up e-mail was sent to those concerned that included a blank summary sheet and a request to please complete the form and resubmit. In cases where we have not heard back from those requests, the entries are currently not on the list and can't be included until complete information is received back by the ARRL." Those with missing entries, who have questions or who find errors in their listing should contact Henderson via e-mail <n1nd@arrl.org> or by phone at 860-594-0236 after Tuesday, August 28 when he returns from vacation. If you call before that date, Henderson asks that you "please leave a message and please be patient. I will work with you to resolve any problems."

From *The ARRL Letter*, No. 33, August 17, 2007

## Jersey Club Donates Scholarship

ARRL Chief Development Officer Mary Hobart, K1MMH, attended the Sussex Hamfest in July where the Morris Radio Club (New Jersey) donated more than \$31,000 to the ARRL Foundation. This money is earmarked for an annual Morris Radio Club Scholarship to go to a deserving area high school senior who is an Amateur Radio operator. Ron Levy, K2CO, former W2 QSL Manager, long time New Jersey DX Association (NJDXA) officer and MRC trustee, led the club contingent in presenting the check. Also on hand at the ceremony were ARRL Hudson Division Director Frank Fallon, N2FF, and Vice Director Joyce Birmingham, KA2ANF. If you or your club is interested in doing something of a similar nature, contact Mary Hobart, K1MMH <k1mmh@arrl.org>, at the ARRL Development Office <<http://www.arrl.org/development/>>.

From *The ARRL Letter*, No. 31, August 3, 2007

## Morse Code Study in Pennsylvania

A psychology professor at the University of Pittsburgh is conducting a study involving short-term memory and how it correlates to Morse code. Julie Fiez, the study's principal investigator, said she got the idea of using Morse code in her studies from a family member who is an Amateur Radio operator. She said she liked the idea of using CW in her experiments to see how people process audio tones. "Our interest is in verbal working memory," she said, "which is the ability to keep 'on-line' for a short time, information you can access later." Part 1 of the experiment is an assessment of the participant's Morse proficiency. First, participants will be asked to accurately copy sentences as they are presented in Morse at three different rates (16, 19, and 25 words per minute). Then they will be asked to listen to the entire Morse sentence and recall the sentence from memory. Part two asks participants to recall lists of letters from memory. The letters will either be in English or in Morse. Participants will either hear the letters through headphones or see them on a computer screen. The study will look for differences in memory performance between Morse lists and English lists. The research study is expected to continue through the fall. If you would like to participate, please contact the research team via e-mail <morsestudy@hotmail.com>. Thanks to Tom Mitchell, WY3H, and the Leader Times, part of the Pittsburgh Tribune-Review family of newspapers, for some information

From *The ARRL Letter*, No. 31, August 3, 2007

## Pocono Area Hamfest September 8

The Eastern Pennsylvania Amateur Radio Association has announced a Hamfest on September 8, 2007 at the Stroudsburg Jr. High School, Chipperfield Dr., Stroudsburg, PA starting at 8 AM. Admission is \$5 but spouse and kids are free. Besides Ham Radio gear, electronics and computers for sale, there will be VE Testing, Food and Drink and lots of door prizes.

Directions: Take I-80 West to Exit 302 and then 611 South for 3 miles, follow signs. For complete directions and more information, go to:

<http://www.poconohamfestplus.com>

Talk In is on 147.045, PL 131.8.

## **QCWA Petition Denied by FCC**

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 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 present rule permits a control operator to include an indicator with the call sign, subject only to the limitation that a self-assigned indicator not conflict with any other indicators specified by the Commission's rules or with any prefix assigned to another country. We note that the indicators QCWA suggests do not conflict with other indicator specified by the rules or with another country's prefix. They therefore may be included as an indicator with a presently-assigned amateur station call sign."

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.

## **ARRL On-line Auction Coming**

Planning for the ARRL On-line auction, scheduled for October 24-November 2, is already in high gear, according to ARRL Business Services Manager Debra Jahnke, K1DAJ. "We have a head start this year, as many of the items used in QST's product review articles will be part of the Auction." In past years, product review items were auctioned off throughout the year via announcements in QST and written bids. QST "Old Radio" columnist John Dilks, K2TQN, started off the donation process when he dropped by ARRL HQ with a Hallicrafters SX-25 Super Defiant receiver and matching speaker. Jahnke commented: "During and after the conclusion of the first ARRL On-Line Auction last year, we were bowled over with the level of interest and the extremely positive feedback from both bidders and our generous donors. We anticipate another terrific turnout and will have even more items to bid on--a large selection of new and vintage equipment, Amateur Radio-related products and services--and a few surprises, too! Our goal is to make this an exciting, fun event for everyone."

*From The ARRL Letter, No. 31, August 3, 2007*

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## **National Preparedness in September**

September is National Preparedness Month and Amateur Radio operators are joining a wide variety of national, state and local organizations, including the US Department of Homeland Security, in educating the public about preparing for emergencies. When unexpected natural or man-made emergencies occur, our greatest individual defense is preparedness. Getting an emergency supply kit, making an emergency plan, and identifying preparedness and response resources within our communities are several things we can do to prepare ourselves. This nationwide effort is to encourage individuals and families to take simple steps to prepare for emergencies in their homes, businesses and schools. Free preparedness resources are just a click away in English <<http://www.ready.gov>> and Spanish <<http://www.listo.gov>>.

*From The ARRL Letter, No. 31, August 3, 2007*

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Long ago when men cursed and beat the ground with sticks, it was called witchcraft.

Today, it's called golf.

**MARCONI CHAPTER 138 INVITES**

**Members and Guests to Our**

**QCWA PICNIC**

**Sunday, September 9, 2007**

**At the Oakhurst Pavilion (Fireman's Park), Oakhurst, N.J.**

Corner of Beecroft Pl. (West off Monmouth Rd.) and Larkin Pl. (So. off W. Park Ave.).

**From Noon to 5:00 PM**

***Bring your wife and friends for a great time!***

***Chapter 138 will furnish Soft Drinks***

Each attendee is asked to bring a covered dish adequate for 6 people

Suggested dishes include:

Potato Salad, Tossed Salad, Pasta Salad, Ziti, Meatballs, Sausages,  
Hamburgers, Hot Dogs, Cake, Brownies, Cookies, etc.

Children and Grandchildren are welcome but please bring age-appropriate games for them

To assure adequate food but to avoid duplication, please notify by September 1 one of the following people as to how many are coming and what food you are bringing:

**Matt Bregoff**, W2AOJ, Oakhurst, mbregoff@verizon.net or **732-660-0203** – or:  
Bernie Ricciardi, WB2EJT, Manasquan, wb2ejt@arrl.net or 732-528-9259  
Ron Olender, WA2HZT, Howell, wa2hzt@aol.com or 732-367-3179

**Directions to the Oakhurst Pavilion** (Call-in Frequency 147.045 +.600, PL=67):

**G. S. Parkway from the North:** Take exit 105 and keep right. Turn right at light and after underpass, turn right for Route 18 south. Then follow instructions for Highway 18 southbound (below).

**From Highway 18 southbound,** take exit 12A for W. Park Avenue East and proceed about 3 miles (cross Hwy 35 and Whalepond Road) to Larkin Place on the right about 0.5 mile beyond Whalepond Road. Turn south on Larkin Pl and the pavilion entrance is off Memorial Way on the right just past the firehouse. If you miss the turn at Larkin Place, proceed to the traffic light at Monmouth Road and turn right on Monmouth. The next right is Beecroft Pl. where you turn right. At the end of Beecroft, turn left and the Pavilion is the next right (Memorial Way).

**G.S. Parkway from the South:** Take exit 100 to Route 66 east for about 2.5 miles to Route 18 north. Then follow instructions for Highway 18 northbound (below).

**From Highway 18 northbound,** take exit 11A for Deal Road East and proceed about 2.5 miles to the end. Turn left (north) on Monmouth road and proceed about 1.4 miles to Beecroft Pl. on the left. Turn left onto Beecroft Pl. and proceed to the end. Turn left and the Pavilion entrance is the next right (Memorial Way). If you miss the left turn onto Beecroft Pl., proceed north on Monmouth to the next traffic light which is W. Park Avenue. Turn left (west) onto W. Park and proceed about 0.2 miles to Larkin Pl. on the left. Going south on Larkin Pl., the Pavilion entrance is Memorial Way on the right just past the firehouse.

### **Fall Picnic Sunday, September 9**

The Marconi Chapter 138 will hold a picnic on Sunday, September 9 at the Oakhurst Pavilion in the Oakhurst section of Ocean Township from noon to 5 PM. See page 9 for directions.

The Chapter will furnish soft drinks and charcoal for the grill. Each attendee is asked to bring food that can be shared with a few others. If you prefer something to drink other than soft drinks, bring your own (there is no prohibition of alcoholic drinks.).

This is the same location where we had our picnic last year. The Oakhurst Pavilion has an open shelter so light rain won't bother us too much. If it rains heavily, we will call off the picnic.

Plan now to attend this picnic and feel free to bring guests. For more details, see page 9. We look forward to seeing you there!

### **Dues Status on Label**

Membership in Chapter 138 is on a calendar year basis. Your status is on the top line of the mailing label below. Dues are \$5 for one year, \$9 for two years, \$11 for three years, \$15 for five years and \$45 for life (providing you're a life member of national QCWA). If you have only paid through 2006, your dues for 2007 are past due! Please mail your payment to the address below. A SASE would be appreciated for mailing your membership card back to you. Thanks.

Matt Bregoff, W2AOJ  
403 Berger Avenue.  
Oakhurst, NJ 07755

It should be noted that the dues have been held this low in spite of rising costs primarily because of generous donations by several of our members.