



# SHARK NEWS

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF CAPE MAY COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

## JUNE 2021

### **From The Desk of the President:**

Field Day set up on June 25 at 09:00 HRS in the OEM. Field Day, June 26 - 27, 2021 Teamwork is a big part of this weekend. Please sign up and help where you can. Joel N3HRK is the Team Leader please call him if you would like to help on the Field Day

The Van, Bus, Book Mobile or as the County calls it Field Com. 24-1 has all the radios in it for Field Day.

Well as I said last month the June 16. 2021 meeting looks very good for being in the Cape May County, OEM, Training. The OEM is starting to open for meetings or classes. I will get the word out as soon as I can about the meeting.

HOPE to see all of you some time on the Field Day weekend.



**Southern NJ Section News June 2021**  
**Tom Preiser N2XW SNJ Section Manager**  
**n2xw@arri.org**

Field Day is just around the corner. Many clubs will be having Field Day out in the field, which is good to hear. Myself and Tom Devine WB2ALJ SNJ Emergency Coordinator will be visiting those clubs that are participating. Remember you can get extra points by sending a message to the Section Manager. This can be done via radiogram through a traffic net or try sending an email via Winlink. I am looking forward to hearing from as many of the clubs as possible.

Congratulations to Bob Schenck N2OO who was part of a documentary on PBS. For more than 80 years, investigators have tried to figure out what caused the spark that led to the Hindenburg going up in flames as it prepared to land at Lakehurst Naval Air Station in 1937. "Hindenburg: The New Evidence" will be available for streaming online, according to the network.

The new look at the May 6, 1937, disaster was prompted by a conversation at the 80th anniversary commemoration outside Hangar One of the fires and crash that killed 35 people on board and one person on the ground. Dan Grossman, a renowned expert on airships including Hindenburg, was approached at the commemoration by Robert Schenck, a New Jersey resident whose uncle, Harold N. Schenck, had filmed the disaster.

Though Harold Schenck tried to share his amateur film — which shows the disaster from a different angle than the newsreel films — with government investigators at the time, it was largely overlooked, his nephew says in the "Nova" film.

The "Nova" documentary not only shares the footage, which provided new clues to re-examine the cause of the explosion, but the scientific experiments that helped investigators come to a fresh understanding of what set off the fire.

The original investigations into the Hindenburg crash concluded the fire was a result of leaking hydrogen ignited by a spark, but no one had been able to determine what caused the spark. Eyewitness accounts suggested the fire started near the tail of the airship, but supporting evidence was hard to find until the unseen Schenck footage was examined. Newsreel recordings of the disaster begin after the fire is well underway, and most physical evidence was destroyed immediately in the blaze.

Grossman has the footage authenticated as part of the investigation.

"Thanks to this stunning new footage, we were able to revive a cold case investigation surrounding one of the most iconic disasters of the 20th century," said Gary Tarpinian, the film's executive producer. Definitely a story worth watching.

#### CONGRATS TO VOLUNTEER DAVE BURGESS WA2TVS ON WINNING THE ANNUAL JASON HALL AWARD

The annual Jason Hall Award was awarded to volunteer Dave Burgess WA2TVS during the Battleship's annual Volunteer Lunch on Saturday, May 1. Dave, a Navy veteran, has volunteered with his wife, Margaret, on the Battleship New Jersey Amateur Radio Station (BNJARS) since March 2001. Dave, a founding member of BNJARS and the Chief Engineer with the station, has also coordinated the Museum Ships Weekend for the Battleship, which joins over 100 museum ships in this annual radio event.

More recently, Dave coordinated efforts to get the air search radar at the very top of the Battleship to come to life. The radar now continuously spins every day.

The annual Jason Hall Award is presented to an outstanding volunteer who went over and above to help the ship. Jason Hall was the Battleship's Curator, who succumbed to cancer several years ago.

#### HAMFESTS ARE BACK

On July 3, 2021 - Firecracker Hamfest, ARRL Pennsylvania State Convention

Location: Harrisburg, Sponsor: Harrisburg Radio Amateurs Club

Website: <http://www.W3uu.org>

Mark your Calendars for the 43<sup>rd</sup> annual SNJ Section Convention and Hamfest Sunday September 12, 2021 at the Gloucester County 4-H Fairgrounds. <http://www.w2mmd.org>

- Tech Corner - - -

## ***Tracking Satellites***

Last month we mentioned QO-100 the first Amateur Radio Geostationary Satellite. I thought it might be good to reinforce and mention that the LEO (low earth orbit) satellites that we do have are fun to receive and listen to even if not able to work (i.e. send through it). First it is good just to browse around the AMSAT web site.

<http://amsat.org>

There is so much to see, learn and do from this wonderful website. So let's take a real quick look at some of the really neat stuff.

When the home page comes up, click on the center "Satellite Info". Then on its pull down select "Pass Predictions"

You will then see / get the "AMSAT Online Pass Predictions" page. The default is for the "ISS" (international space station) however if you click on its down arrow pull down you will get a list of the satellites that AMSAT is and can track and provide pass prediction on. So, for now, just leave it on "ISS"

Where it has an entry for: "Calculate Latitude and Longitude" ENTER "FM29oc" and click on "Calculate Position". It will nominally locate you in middle of Cape May County. Give is a second or two, then click on "Predict". That will bring up a wonderful table of the next 10 passes of the ISS.

Now, click on " [View the current location of ISS](#) " at the top of the table. Wow, you will now see the current position of the "ISS" or other satellite you may have selected. It will show its path for the next two passes.

This has just been a quick "wet you appetite" in satellite location and tracking.

We can cover much more in detail should that be a requested interest.

As usual, enjoy Amateur Radio.

Lou  
WA2GKH

// SOMETHING YOU FOLKS MIGHT NOT KNOW! ///

THIS MONTH MORSE CODE CELEBRATES 177 YEARS!

On 24 May 1844, 177 years ago, the first message was sent from Washington, DC, to Baltimore using Morse code's dots and dashes.

It was the first time in human history a message containing complex thoughts was transmitted over a long distance and was received instantaneously.

Prior to the message, people sent coded messages using smoke signals, drums, or printed words.

During this period in time, communication, as it was known, was changing rapidly thanks to Samuel F.B. Morse.

He invented the electric telegraph in 1832, and in 1843 Congress provided Morse \$30,000 to string wires between Washington and Baltimore.

When the line was completed, the first Morse code message was sent.

One of the most notable uses of Morse code in modern history came during the Vietnam War by Navy pilot Commander aka Cdr. Jeremiah Denton.

In 1966, Cdr. Denton was a prisoner of war, and his captors forced him to participate in propaganda videos. During the interview, which was broadcasted in the United States, Cdr. Denton blinked the Morse code symbols "T-O-R-T-U-R-E."

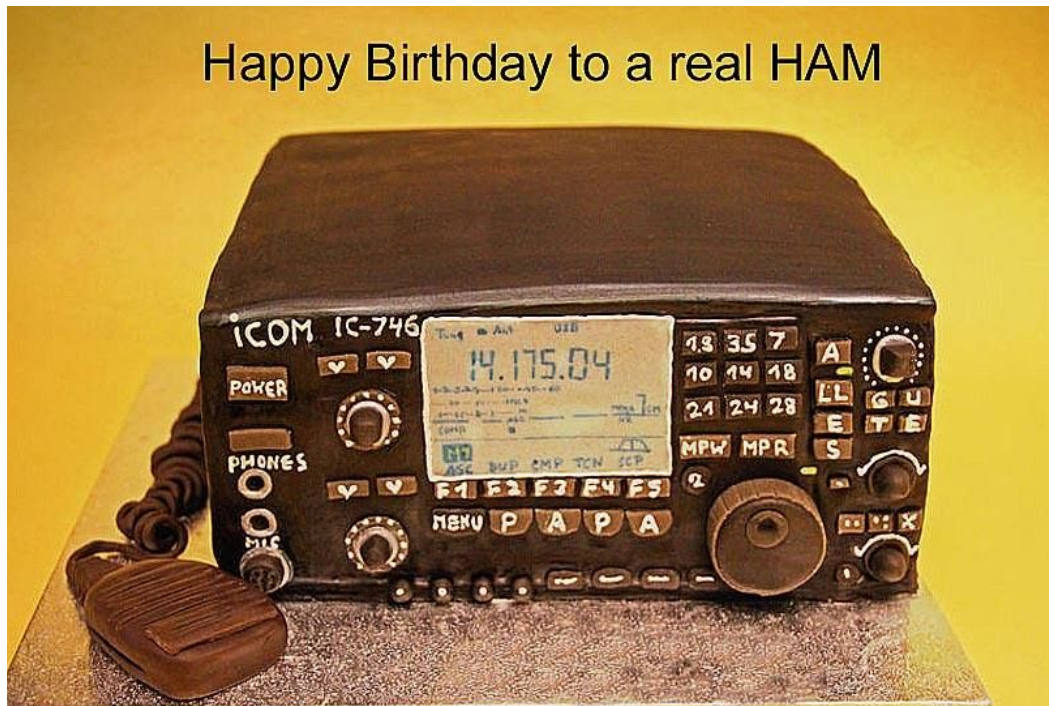
The message confirmed for the first time the mistreatment of US Service members by the North Vietnamese.

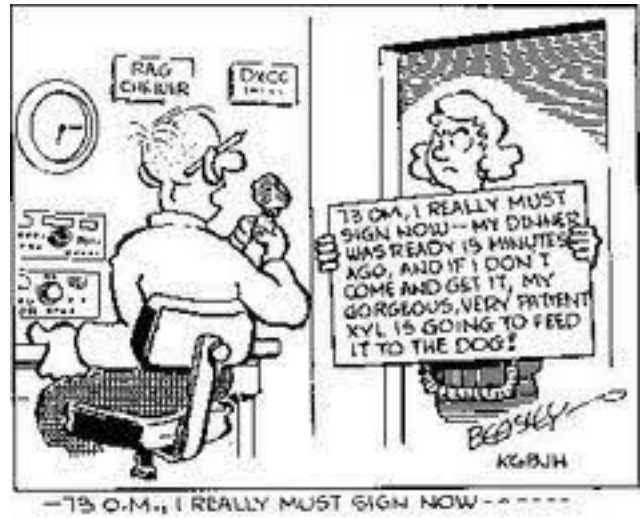
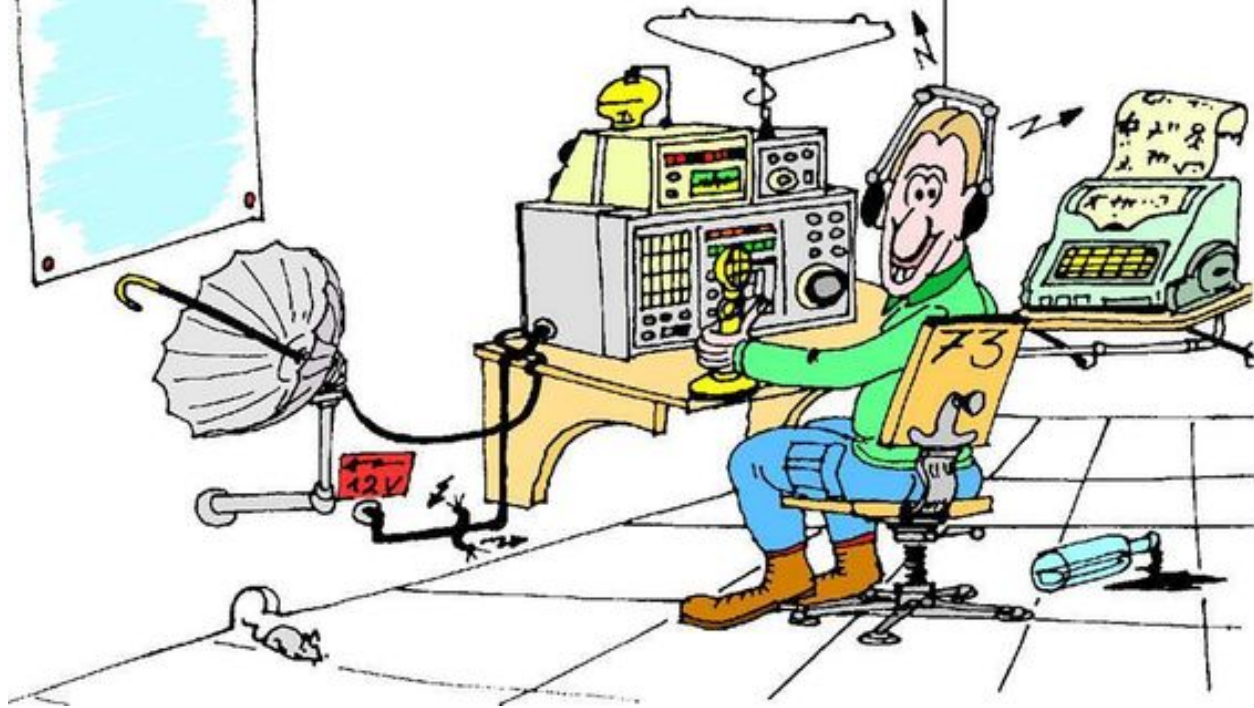
R/S N2BSA

## Hams Helping Other Hams

I've been trying to connect to the Williamstown repeater on 145.390 mhz. My vertical antenna was just not getting there. I borrowed a 3-element dual band beam from Lou WA2GKH and installed it in my attic. I pointed it north, and made good contact with the repeater. The antenna was tested for a few weeks, trying different directions. Happy with the results, I purchased a 6-element 2-meter beam from MFJ. It was easy to assemble (in the attic) and mounted it in the vertical plane. The coax was the type 400 low loss cable from DX Engineering. I can report the system is working well. I'm getting good signal reports from various users of the Williamstown repeater.

Tom Poussart WA2CJF





-73 O.M., I REALLY MUST SIGN NOW--

## THIS SPACE FOR "RENT" (aka Call For Articles)

For "Rent"? Sort of... Rather, do you have any news of interest to the SHARK readers. Have you run across Some amateur radio related news items? How about links to homebrew projects or new equipment?

Have you worked or played with a new technology.

Or maybe you're one of the more experienced operators in our community.

You don't have to be a Pulitzer Prize winner to submit an article. I'll take anything, but would love to get articles that are at least two pages in length (single-spaced).

Photos are great, too! Please remember, any submissions

need to be free of copyrights. Creative Commons are okay, but I will need references to be able publish them with attribution.

Thanks & 73 DE KB2YJD, Editor