

OBARC Newsletter

THE COVID VIRUS CONTINUES TO RESTRICT HAM RADIO ACTIVITIES

The times we live in since the onset of COVID have really made us change the ways we live our daily lives.. We are limited in what we can do these days since we can't run out and meet together in person, our yearly activities that we have enjoyed doing like the lighthouse events and the decoy duck show all had to be cancelled. It's ashamed that we had to sit home in 2020 and not enjoy the fun of doing these together. Even the little things like the refreshments at our meeting are missed.

With all that said the one thing I have learned about amateur radio operators is that we always manage to find a way to get something done. Although 2020 was limiting to our normal way of life look at all that was still accomplished. Ira refused to give up and found ways to hold our monthly meetings (although he never managed to work out the refreshment delivery) get the students at Southern Regional set up with a working station and help Cheryl get her house on the air.

2020 also brought Old Barney terrific results for field day. I am told that we haven't had as many operators online as we did in 2020 for many years. The results put Old Barney high in the scoring for Southern NJ. Just proof that we won't be stopped.

As we continue into 2021 we don't know for sure what is in store. There are new vaccines out that promise to help control COVID but it is something that isn't going to happen overnight. We will have to wait and see what happens to see if this year we can once again be together at our activities. I'm hoping that before the end of the year we will have in-person meetings again. In the meantime we need to keep using our ingenuity to have successful club events.

FCC BEGINS TO REQUIRE E-MAIL ADDRESSES

The FCC has announced that beginning mid-2021 all license applications will be required to have an email address of the person filing.

The FCC is transitioning to a complete electronics correspondence system. In doing so they will no longer print or provide wireless applications with hard-copy authorizations or registrations by mail.

Failure to provide an email address may result in the application being dismissed as defective by the FCC.

(as reported by the ARRL on their website: www.arrl.org)



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

New Newsletter Look	2
2021 Executive Board	2
VE Corner.....	2
N2HM Awarded for Service	3
President's Message.....	3
Swap & Shop.....	4
Inside Story.....	4
Win \$50 Gift Certificate	4
Old Barney Gear	4
Old Barney Net	5
Remembering Joe Fedock	5
Ocean County Skywarn Hap- penings.....	6
Ocean County ARES New.....	6
Southern NJ Update.....	8
Be A Mentor.....	9



A NEW LOOK FOR OUR NEWSLETTER, BUT...

I decided to try a new look for our newsletter. I am hoping to include more content each month including important information about our hobby, club events, member spotlights, and much more.

So why the "BUT?"

In order to accomplish this I will need your help. The majority of this month's newsletter was written by me but I don't want it to be that way.

I think all of us can contribute. I'm not asking for long involved articles but if everyone can contribute we can all types of articles covering a variety of different

aspects.

I'm looking to have some regular columns also. I open for suggestions. So far I have been thinking of:

- Contest News
- VE Corner
- Membership Spotlight
- Radio Reviews

Please if you have any ideas let me know. Also please consider helping in filling up these pages. This is a project for all of us.

Our next meeting will be on Wednesday, January 6, 2021 via Zoom. Details on how to join the meeting will be emailed to you.

VE CORNER

We have had a limited amount of VE Sessions since the outbreak of the virus. We were able to conduct some sessions at A. Paul King Park in Manahawkin.

Thank you to all the VEs who worked to make all of sessions a great success.

2020 VE Results

Testing Sessions 5

New Technicians 5

New Generals 1

New Extras 2

As we move forward we are now looking at online testing.

2021 EXECUTIVE BOARD

At the December 2020 meeting our new club officers were elected. These officers will join our two trustees whose terms were not up for election this year. Please join me in congratulating the new 2021 Executive Board.

- President—Rick Kennard, N2RPQ
- Vice-President—John Sawina, NA2R
- Secretary—Ross Lambert, W2TT
- Treasurer—Mike Libonati, WA2ACV
- Trustee—Jim Neufiell, K2GMT (3 yr. term)
- Trustee—Frank Piccolo, N2HWL (elected 2019)
- Trustee—Tom Preiser, N2XW (elected 2018)



Plaque awarded to Bob Wick by Ira Hosid—Dec. 2020

BOB WICK, N2HM, AWARDED FOR HIS SERVICE

Just prior to our December monthly meeting OBARC's president Ira Hosid, N2WAA, presented Bob Wick, N2HM, with a certificate honoring his many years of service to our club.

Bob is always there when you need him. Somehow he finds the time to contribute many hours to OBARC and our projects. He was instrumental in working on Cheryl's home antenna project working along side of Ira.

For the last several years alone Bob has been the club secretary and I have had the honor of sitting next to him at the board table during our club meetings.

He also plays a key role in our field days. Bob is always there to setup, operate, and tear down without a word of complaint. In 2019 Bob offered us the use of the WYRS radio station building to be our operations point.

I hope you join me in congratulating Bob on his award and thanking him for all he does for the club.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As we begin our new year I wish for an end to the lifestyle we have been forced into in 2020 and hope to get back to some assemblance of order in all our lives.

I hope that everyone is managing to stay healthy. I look forward to seeing everyone in person and having some fun together.

The good part about our hobby is that we can use it in any type of circumstance. We know how to operate in all conditions and we can do so from our homes and well away. I hope that for those of you stuck home ham radio is keeping your days occupied and helping relieve some of the COVID stress we all feel.

I'm excited to work with all of you as your president. I believe we have great members who all contribute to the years of success this club has enjoyed.

I want to use our talents to help others. One of the things our hobby has always been known for is what we learned as "Elmering." That term is now sort of obsolete as the ARRL has changed it to mentoring but no matter what you call it, it is something we are good at and should embrace.

One of the pleasures I have is to perform VE testing. There is nothing like seeing someone who just passed their test get excited about the hobby. We can help them build on that excitement.

Whether it is a student in the Southern Regional club, a new ham, or a seasoned operator looking for new ideas, you could make their enjoyment even better.

Until next month...

2021 ARRL CONTESTS

Straight Key Night	Jan 1
Kid's Day—Jan	Jan 2
RTTY Roundup	Jan 2-3
Jan VHF Contest	Jan 16-18
School Club Roundup	
	Feb 8-12
DX Contest—CW	Feb 20-21
DX Contest—SSB	Mar 6-7
Rookie Roundup	Apr 11
June VHF Contest	Jun 12-14
Kid's Day—June	Jun 19
Field Day	Jun 26-27
IARU HF World Championship	
	Jul 10-11
222MHz & Up Distance Contest	
	Aug 7-8
10 GHz & Up—Round 1	
	Aug 14-15
Rookie Roundup (RTTY)	
	Aug 15
Sept VHF Contest	Sep 11-1
10 GHz & Up—Round 2	
	Sep 18-19
EME 2.3GHz & Up—Wknd 1	
	TBD
School Club Roundup	
	Oct 18-22
EME 50 to 1296 MHz—Wknd 2	
	TBD
Nov Sweepstakes—CW	
	Nov 6-8
Nov Sweepstakes—Phone	
	Nov 20-21
EME 50 to 1296 MHz—Wknd 3	
	TBD
160 Meter	Dec 3-5
10 Meter	Dec 11-12
Rookie Roundup—CW	
	Dec 19

THANK YOU TO OUR PAST PRESIDENT—IRA HOSID, N2WAA

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Ira, N2WAA for leading us, as our president, during 2019 & 2020.

Under Ira's leadership the club took on several undertakings and once again proved that we are up to the challenge.

Ira's term faced some new challenges like a pandemic that no one saw coming but Ira continued to lead us through new ways of meeting and getting things done even with all the restrictions in place.

During Ira's presidency the club managed to complete several projects:

- Reinstatement of a club holiday dinner.
- Revising the club's constitution

- Build out of the radio station at Southern Regional High School
- Helping members with their own radio shacks to get them on the air.

These are just a few of the highlights. There were many more projects Ira lead during his terms. Please join me in thanking Ira for all of his contributions.—N2RPQ



WIN \$50 GIFT CERTIFICATE TO GIGAPARTS

So we have a new look for the newsletter. How about a new name to go along with it?

Let's name our newsletter with something that is catchy, creative and represents us.

We're going to have a contest to pick the name. Here is how it will work. Email me at n2rpq@arrl.net with your suggestion. At the February meeting all of the suggestions will be voted on. The top three choices will then run off against each other.

I would like to have the new name on top of our March issue so all entries will be due by January 31st. Voting will be by majority vote at the February meeting.

The person who submits the winning name will receive a \$50 gift certificate that was graciously donated by Gigaparts.

OLD BARNEY GEAR

You can find Old Barney Gear at all these places:

Southern Ocean Marine Sportswear (Hats & Jackets Embroidered)

79 South Main Street, Barnegat, NJ 08005

(609) 698-8868

Email: sales@soms4u.com Website: www.soms4u.com

Café Press (All types of logoed items available)

New Logo Items: <https://www.cafepress.com/oldbarneyarcnewlogo>

Old Logo Items: <https://www.cafepress.com/obarc>

Gold Medal Ideas (Personalized Old Barney Items)

1160 Thompson Blvd, Buffalo Grove, IL 60089

https://stores.goldmedalideas.com/ygs/Old_Barney-Products/10000170

OLD BARNEY NET

Join us for our club net. The net is held every Thursday night at 7:30pm (except holidays and special occasions) on the WU2E repeater.

Every week we host a random topic of discussion.

Find us at: 146.835 (-600) PL 127.3

We look forward to sharing time with you!

Old Barney would like to thank the 835 users group for allowing us to use the WU2E repeater to host our club nets.

Also this month I would like to offer a special thanks to Jim Neufell, K2GMT for coordinating our weekly net program.



"Life imposes things on you that you can't control, but you still have the choice of how you're going to live through this." — Celine Dion

REMEMBERING JOE FEDOCK, N3IE

Joe Fedock, N3IE became a silent key on November 23, 2020.

Joe touched many people's lives and will be dearly missed.

" Joe Fedock N3IE. He was member of Ocean County ARES and Ocean County RACES. He was also a member of the Stafford Twp. First Aid Squad. Joe took part in many public service activities. He was involved a few years back in the missing person search that used ARES to assist searchers. He was always friendly to all and always had a kind word. He will be missed by everyone. " - as quoted by Tom Preiser, N2XW, SNJ Section Manager.



2013—Joe Fedock N3IE (left) and Steve McGarry WS2C (right) set up a special event station at the Tuckerton Historical Society's museum in West Tuckerton commemorating the Tuckerton Wireless WSC. The photo shows the actual WSC tower base which is on display in front of the museum. — Photo contributed by Bob Schenck, N200

OCEAN COUNTY SKY- WARN® HAPPENINGS

On Wednesday, December 2nd, I announced to the Ocean County Skywarn Team that I had asked Mike White, K2MDW to take over the coordinator spot for the team. I had been serving as coordinator for approx. 1 1/2 yrs with Mike as my assistant coordinator. Mike happily accepted the position.

In a email to the group I stated "I have asked Mike White, our assistant coordinator, to take on the role of group coordinator and I am pleased to announce he has accepted. I will still be part of the group and will offer my assistance to all of you should you need it. Mike has shown continued commitment to our group since I asked him to be my assistant. His knowledge of weather and weather reporting is constantly increasing. As you all know he has been very important to me in getting announcements and warning out to all of you. I know that Mike will continue in the tradition of making this team on of the best!"

Please join me in congratulating Mike in his new role.



OCEAN COUNTY ARES® NEWS, JAN

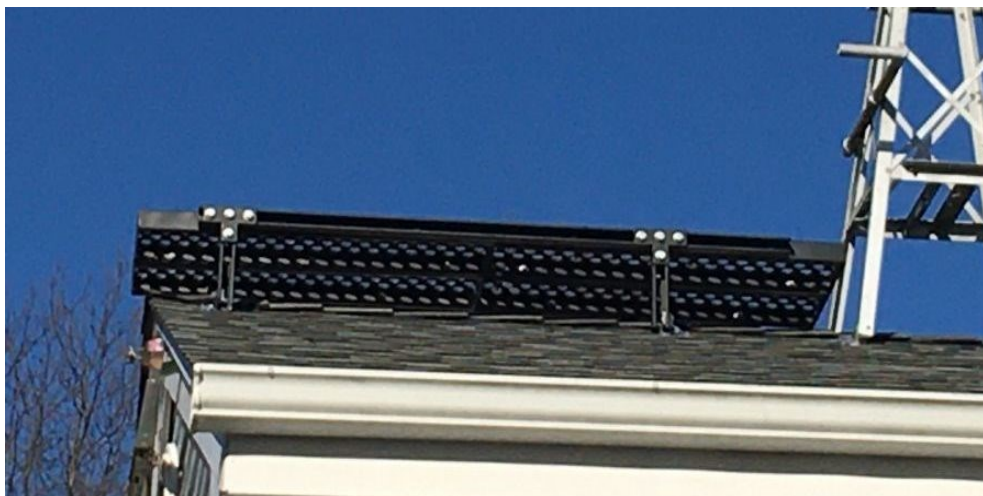
Let me thank the twelve operators who attended the December 16th Ocean County ARES Zoom Meeting on High Reliability Soldering. I opted to conduct the meeting versus celebrate my 71st birthday with my family on Zoom. Hopefully all those who attended left with some valuable information that they may use in the future.

There is a video of the presentation and the link was sent out via Groups.io for Ocean County ARES.

The next scheduled VE Test Session is January 19, 2021 at 7:00 PM. As always, the VE Sessions are by appointment only. If you are interested in taking an exam contact John, N2LD, Lead VE.

Tim, NJ2N, has been conducting Winlink Wednesday training for the last few weeks. Every week Tim will let operators know via Groups.io when to include in each Winlink message. The messages are sent to SNJWW between 0000L and 2359L each Wednesday using Telnet or any other RF Winlink mode obtainable to an operator. Winlink Wednesday is an exercise to allow operators to establish proficiency in using Winlink and its various modes.

Last month I listed an article on a rooftop platform for my garage ham shack. It was successfully installed by the roofing contractor and provided an outstanding surface for me to install my antenna components without have to step a single foot on the garage roof. The picture below shows the contractor installing the unit and the completed platform from the side.



Completed Roof Platform—Photo by WX2NJ

Thanks to K2MDW, who powdercoated the assembly to match the roof shingles and provide years of corrosion protection. I did add an owl to the platform and he has been doing a great job of scaring away the birds from roosting and making a mess.

A very big Thank You to Silke, KC2ENS, for submitting me to the ARRL for a Mentor Award. I walked Silke and KD2FFR through the steps for building a 1:1 Balun to use on their HF NVIS antennas.

(continued page 7)



Contractor Installing Rooftop Platform—Photo by Proven Contracting

73 de WX2NJ

Bob Murdock

Ocean County Amateur Radio Emergency Service® EC



Elmer Award

This award is presented to

Bob Murdock, WX2NJ

*in recognition for providing
unselfish and benevolent assistance
to the novice radio operator.*

*By carrying on the time-honored tradition in
Amateur Radio of
sharing knowledge and providing
guidance and support,
you are ensuring that others may experience
the wonder, excitement and friendship of Amateur Radio.*

This expression of gratitude is presented by

Silke Stutz, KC2ENS

11/15/2020

Date

Award Presented to Bob, WX2NJ

THE OLD BARNEY RADIO CLUB IS ARRL AFFILIATED



Visit the ARRL at www.arrl.org



Southern NJ Section News January 2021

Tom Preiser N2XW SNJ Section Manager

n2xw@arrl.org

Best wishes to everyone for a Happy New Year. I hope to hear about all the new Amateur equipment that came over the holidays.

Recently ARRL CEO David Minster NA2AA did an interview with DX Engineering. <https://youtu.be/5bKv6InXAkq> In the interview he outlined some thing to look forward to in the future. There will be a new membership management center this year to manage members needs. Lifetime learning will have even more opportunities for members to learn about many different topics.

There are big plans for the 100th Anniversary of the ARRL Handbook. In March they will be revealing the Cycle 25 logo and may items to go with that. There will future changes over time to LOTW to have more functionality. Lastly the youth program is being worked on and some big changes are expected here. Looks like 2021 will be a good year for the ARRL.

CWops is accepting award nominations for the 2021 CWops Award for Advancing the Art of CW. The award recognizes individuals, groups, or organizations that have made the greatest contribution toward advancing the art or practice of radio communications by Morse code. More details are on the ARRL website.

During the 3rd Quarter of 2020, ARRL Volunteer Monitor (VM) Program volunteers spent more than 6,100 hours pouring over the amateur bands. The VM Program issued 15 Good Operator Letters. "Volunteers are in the chair monitoring, recognizing exemplary operators and admonishing those who need to pay closer attention to their operating practices," said Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH, the VM Program Coordinator. The VM Program referred two cases to the FCC while accepting two cases from the FCC for investigation. Developed in partnership with the FCC, the VM Program routinely maintains contact with the FCC and took part in three meetings during the 3rd Quarter with FCC Enforcement Bureau personnel.

Please let me know if you have any information you would like to send out the Southern NJ Section. I would be happy to post it and send it out.

WHO IS OLD BARNEY?

The Old Barney Amateur Radio Club (OBARC) was established in 1975 by a diverse group of individuals with a common goal of promoting Amateur Radio.

Today the group continues towards making the amateur radio hobby rewarding through participation in several events throughout the year, training sessions, VE testing and monthly meetings.

Our meetings are held at the [Ocean Acres Community Center](#), 489 Nautilus Blvd, Manahawkin, NJ 08050*, beginning at 7:30pm on the first Wednesday of each month (except holidays). We welcome anyone (licensed or not) to come and meet with us to learn more about amateur radio.

*** DUE TO COVID-19 MEETINGS ARE CURRENTLY BEING HELD VIA ZOOM.**

BE A MENTOR—

As I mentioned in my “President’s Message” I would love to see the many talents of all of our members shared with others. We were all new hams at one time and didn’t know a lot about the hobby. Over our years we learned from others about all the different parts of amateur radio and how to use them. Now I’d like to share that knowledge.

Mentoring is the new term for what many of us knew as “Elmering.” The ARRL has re-branded the name but the concept is still the same. Share your knowledge with others to further them along in the hobby.

We have many opportunities to mentor. We are sponsors of the Southern Regional High School Amateur Radio club, we continually welcome new hams to our group through VE testing, and we meet many other hams who are not aware or skilled in a particular area. All of these are opportunities to make someone’s day by teaching them new things that they desire to learn.

One thing I have learned since I joined Old Barney is how much knowledge we have as a collective of very experienced amateurs.. Let’s take that knowledge and pass it on.

Please take some time to think about how you could help someone else. Whether it is one-on-one mentoring or a demonstration to whole groups or even through a written article that we could post in our new newsletter. I would like to see all of these ways used.

If we put our minds to teaching others like we do for all our club functions we will be a great success in helping new amateurs become great amateurs!

Please let me know your thoughts. Email me at n2rpq@arrl.net. I am open for all suggestions.

Old Barney Amateur Radio Club

PO Box 117
Manahawkin, NJ 08050

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Web Page: www.obarc.org

