



# The Jersey Broadcaster

NEWSLETTER OF THE NEW JERSEY ANTIQUE RADIO CLUB

July 2026

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The *Jersey Broadcaster* is distributed to members of the New Jersey Antique Radio Club via email as a PDF file. Back issues of many of our newsletters are available on the club's website:

[www.njarc.org/broadcasterO](http://www.njarc.org/broadcasterO)

## Meeting Notice

Our July meeting will take place on Friday 7/10 at Bowen Hall. At the meeting, Our own Dr. Jonathan Allen will be presenting, "How Vacuum Tubes Created The Age of Electronics." Not to be missed!

Have something to share or sell? Bring it to the meeting. Don't forget: we are just two weeks out from our Summer Hamfest Swap Meet show on the grounds of InfoAge. Make your space reservations **now!** 914-589-3751 (See flyer on last page.)

## Meeting Review

At our June meeting, Matt Reynolds showcased his efforts in working with the club's online presence. Matt discussed our updated website, our Facebook and Instagram outreach and the vast video library of *Tech Talk* meeting presentations he's been putting online via the *Throwback Thursday* program.

We had more than our share of 'technical difficulties' this month. We had to switch rooms in the middle of the meeting as the projector wasn't working in our regular meeting room. A weak Internet connection caused the livestream to fail, but the camera recording was posted online within a few days. We've been working with Princeton IT to help work around this issue, which has plagued us repeatedly throughout the years. Stay tuned for (hopefully!) some good news about upgrades to our live meeting coverage.

## Calendar of Events

**July 10: NJARC monthly meeting, Princeton U.**

July 25: Summer Hamfest/Swapmeet, InfoAge

**August 14: NJARC monthly meeting, Princeton U.**

August 22: NJARC Repair Clinic, InfoAge

**September 11: NJARC monthly meeting, InfoAge**

**October 9: NJARC monthly meeting, InfoAge**

October 24: Fall Repair Clinic, InfoAge

**November 13: NJARC monthly meeting, Princeton**

November 15: Fall Hamfest/Swapmeet, Parsippany

**December 12: NJARC Holiday Party, Jackson**

## From the President's Workbench

Greetings Fellow Enthusiasts!

On the evening of May 21st, our club, for the 4th time, presented our \$1,000 scholarship award to a deserving senior at the Wall Township High School.

This year's recipient is Christian Girardy, who is the Class of 2026's Valedictorian. Christian will be attending Penn State in the fall pursuing a degree in Chemical Engineering.

Christian was an exemplary student in instructor Leonard's Pre-Engineering Academy STEM class and was rightfully chosen to receive our Club's award!

The criteria used to determine the award includes: "Please write an essay on the topic of how old technologies affect the future technologies in the field of STEM you wish to study at University. The essay should reflect your understanding of the relationship between vintage technologies and their impact on modern and future technology"

The essay Christian wrote is reproduced on page three of this issue.

— Richard Lee, President NJARC



The President's Workbench.

(Continued on next page)

## President's Workbench (Continued)

**THE JERSEY BROADCASTER** is the newsletter of the New Jersey Antique Radio Club (NJARC) which is dedicated to preserving the history and enhancing the knowledge of radio and related disciplines. Dues are \$25 per year and meetings are held on the second Friday of each month either at InfoAge or at Princeton University. Neither the editor nor NJARC is liable for any other use of the contents of this publication other than for information.

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President’s Workbench  
(Continued)

Christian’s Scholarship Essay Submission

March 22, 2026  
  
Scholarship Reader  
Scholarship Committee  
Wall High School  
1630 18th Ave.  
Wall Township New Jersey 07762

Subject: Scholarship

Dear Reader,

I am currently a Senior at Wall High School. Ms. Landwehrle, the Administrative Assistant in the guidance office at my school, suggested that I contact you with regard to applying for the New Jersey Antique Radio Club Scholarship.

Throughout high school, I have had a number of leadership roles, volunteer efforts, and my own initiatives. As a result, I have had a positive impact on the communities I am a part of. While pursuing chemical engineering with a focus on environmental engineering, I plan to carry the good values I developed in high school in whatever I do. Overall, I believe I would be a good fit for your scholarship, and I appreciate you giving me the opportunity to apply.

Please review the attached application for my consideration.

Sincerely,

Christian Girardy

Encl.

Write an essay on the topic, "How old technologies affect future technologies in the field you wish to study at the college level." The essay should reflect your understanding of the relationship between vintage technologies and their impact on the modern technological landscape.

Microplastics have only recently been identified as a problem, but debris in water has been an issue that people have been aiming to fix for decades. While in college, I aim to work against the effects of microplastics by utilizing principles of certain filtration techniques from long before microplastics were discovered. Although I know that I'll be working with a topic that not much is known about, I'm confident that I'll be able to build off of previous ideas to create my own solution.

Initially, people would use granular materials to filter out a lot of impurities in water. Surprisingly, running water through sand worked very well for removing debris in water, but it had the downside of potentially leeching other particles back into the water, albeit a smaller amount than what was originally there. For thousands of years, this was the best strategy people had until machining became good enough that extremely fine sieves were able to be produced at a rate which justified using them. While this strategy existed by using things like cloth to filter water, fine mesh strainers allowed water to be cleaned using the same tool repeatedly, while cloth had to be replaced after a few uses. These strainers, while a reliable tool, were still very difficult to manufacture (especially at a high level of precision for smaller particles), so the people cleaning the water had to decide whether to spend money creating microscopic filters or deal with tiny particles in water. Years later, the idea of coagulation-based filtration was invented, which created a way to safely remove microscopic particles from water by utilizing varying densities of different liquids. For example, in a solution of oil and water, the debris would get caught in the oil layer, which would allow the new, clean water to be drained into a separate container. By taking advantage of the different densities of the liquids, scientists are able to use certain denser organic liquids to clean out water. This separation technique has also been done in solid form. A small pack of a specialized granular material is put into water, and the grains cling onto any impurities, sinking to the bottom and leaving a layer of completely clean water on top.

However, while water purification has been continuously improving, there's one aspect of growth that has had a profound impact on all industries: accessibility. The internet (and consequently new technologies such as email and online scientific journals) has exponentially decreased the amount of time it takes to spread ideas. Now, scientists and engineers are able to see more inspiration for research and designs than someone before the internet could have ever possibly seen. Also, collaboration between people is easier than ever. Two people from across the world can work together without troubles (even the language barrier is removed, thanks to translation apps!). Many people didn't believe technology and communication could go any further, but the advent of AI proved them wrong. AI, while not perfect, is still an amazing and constantly evolving tool that allows for anyone to have access to a massive database of information which can be personalized to whatever that person needs. AI is the next major technology, which is built off the internet, which was built off of other, older technologies. The new technologies and the accessibility of information wouldn't exist if it weren't for old technologies. Hopefully, looking back at the present from the future, people will have the same perception of AI as we do for the early stages of the internet.

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## Field Day 2026

By John Ruccolo

On Friday, June 27<sup>th</sup>, the gang arrived at InfoAge around 1 pm to set up the big dipole antenna to be used as our primary antenna during Field Day operations. The crew included Nev Greenough, our FD Captain, Pres. Richard Lee, Walt Heskes, Ben Brezinski, Mario Volpe and Ira Clavner.

A crew of at least four is ideal for setting up the big antenna, which is supported by a large center mast. Walt likened raising the mast to the flag raising on Iwo Jima. The ends of the antenna are tied to two large trees. All went well.



The Main Antenna



The Friday Antenna Erection Crew: Walt, Ira, Mario, Nevell, John, Rich

On Saturday, June 28<sup>th</sup>, the FD event ran from 2 pm Saturday to 2 pm Sunday. We arrived about noon on Saturday to discover that the AC in our room was not working. A bad omen? But no matter; the temperature was moderate and we didn't miss AC. Thank goodness!

Pres. Rich and I had fun troubleshooting the AC. A board inside the air handler was displaying a code that I looked up online. Basically it meant "I've detected a problem." Whatever. What did we do in those bygone days before AC was microprocessor-controlled?

We got off to a very slow start making contacts at 2 pm. It was very difficult to find a clear frequency on which to call CQ. But after a slow start, we began making contacts.

Here's how things played out:

7135 kHz — at one point I was racking up some contacts on this frequency. I was asked politely to please leave that frequency, as Venezuelan hams were using it for emergency communications after the earthquake. Of course, we complied, although I doubt we were heard in Venezuela.

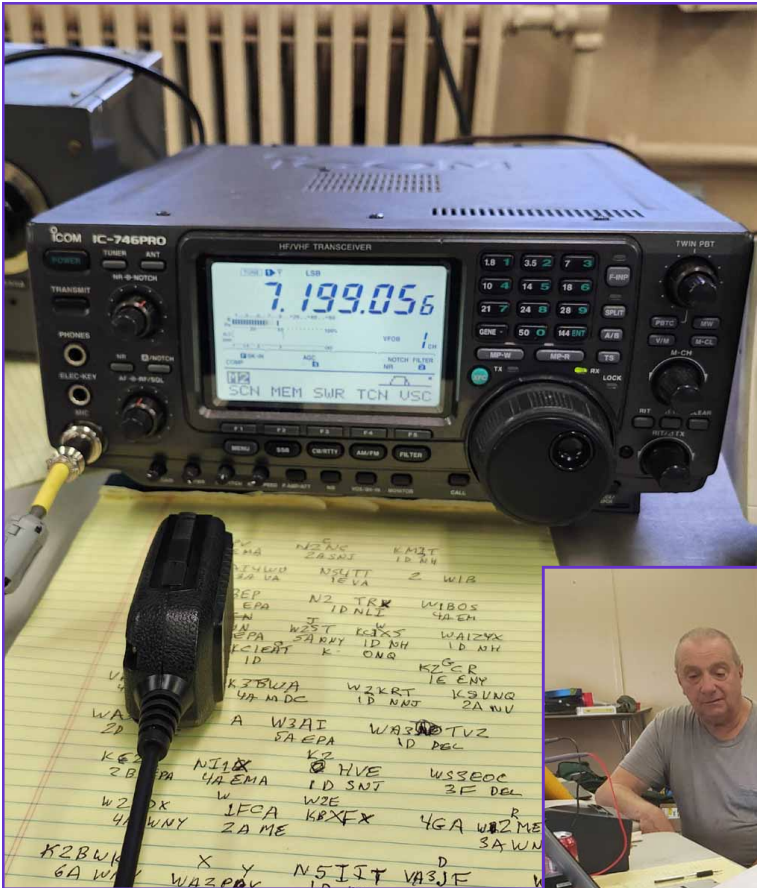
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## Field Day 2026

By John Ruccolo

7200 kHz — I was making contacts on this frequency, and one of the contacts complimented me for restoring order to a frequency that is apparently notorious (unbeknownst to me) for clowning around, funny noises, music, etc. I felt good about that.



K4SEX — at one point we worked a station with this sexy call, and the guy said everyone gets a chuckle out of it. He told us the call goes back to the sixties. I looked into it later and found that it's a club station honoring the original holder of the call.

During setup on Friday, Walt Heskes connected his antenna analyzer to the barb wire fence between InfoAge and the baseball field. It looks like it will work very well at 160 meters. No kidding! Someday I'd like to try to connect a vintage transmitter to it and call CQ.

In the late afternoon and evening, we began making contacts more consistently. Eventually, Nev took a well-deserved break and I went on the air.



Pizza arrived Saturday afternoon, thanks to Dickie's Caps. Much pizza was consumed during the Saturday afternoon and evening operations.



Ed Papson and his crew also arrived Saturday to operate the second station that was set up using FT-8, a digital mode that uses amazingly narrow bandwidth and can be used over great distances at very low power levels. We had set up a second, smaller antenna for this purpose, using the flagpole of the Marconi Hotel as a mast.

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## Field Day 2026

By John Ruccolo

Late Saturday night, Nev took over on CW (Morse code.) It was a pleasure to watch him make contacts the old-fashioned way: copying the code in his head and using a “straight” key to send. No decoders, no keyboards, no electronics making the dots and dashes.



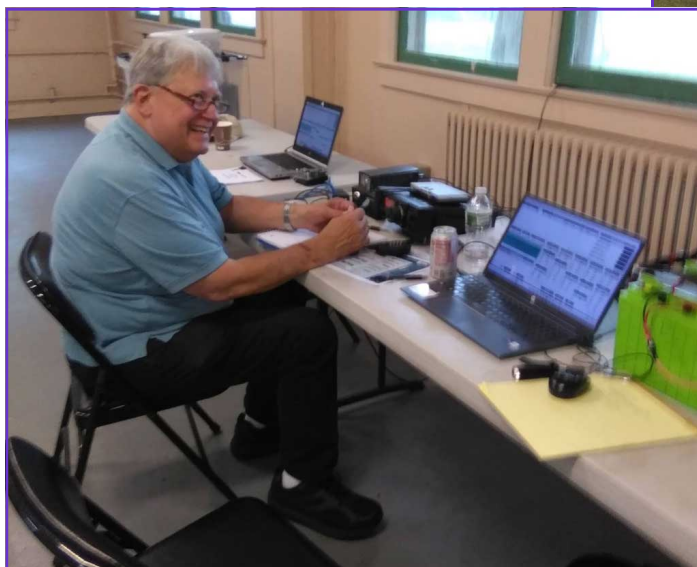
On Sunday, June 29<sup>th</sup>, I retired to the 1940 Room at about 3:30 am. I came back to the operating area at about 9 am. Nev was still at it! He had pulled an all-nighter! Later, he told me that he did take a nap at the station. Nev made over 100 CW contacts.

Later in the morning, we got back on 40 meter phone (voice) and made more contacts. I was determined to get us to 200 phone contacts. I did get there, but it was a bit of a struggle. Even though FD goes until 2 pm, around 11 am the band started to quiet down. I guess most people had “had enough” and started to shut down. I did manage to make our 200th voice contact. I worked two more stations, but they were both duplicates. The rules are that

you can’t contact the same station twice on the same band in the same mode. I was hearing the same stations over and over... The band was getting quieter.



The Friday



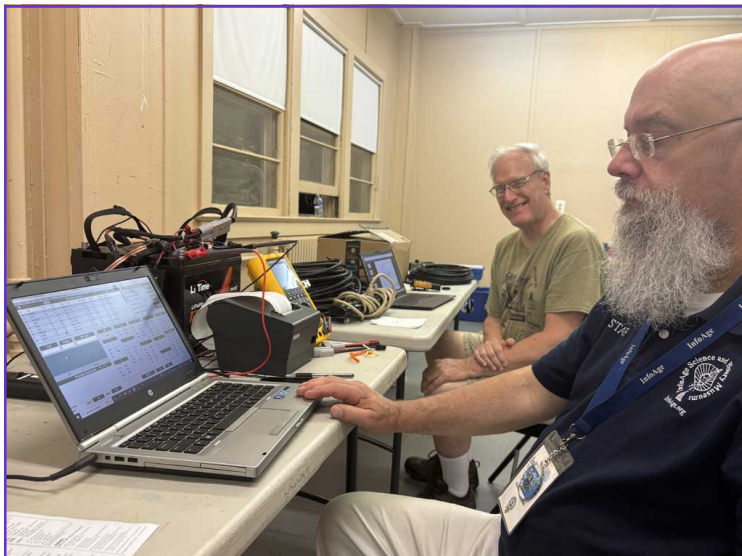
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## Field Day 2026

By John Ruccolo

I think we shut down around 12:30 or 1 pm and started dismantling things. Luckily, we had Mario, Walt and Dave Forlano to help us get the big mast down safely and get the antennas disassembled and put away.



Unfortunately, we never found time to eat the chili dinner that Nev prepared. (Sorry about that, Chief!) Too much pizza, too many snacks and a large blueberry muffin Sunday morning killed my appetite.

We got the antennas, cables and the primary station rig stowed in the 9036 warehouse. Walt and Mario had a great time checking that out. We even saw the enormous RCA BT-250 AM broadcast transmitter that the club rescued from a rundown station near Atlantic City about 15-20 years ago. I wish we had it on display. It looks like large art deco refrigerator.

We exchanged goodbyes and left InfoAge at about 3:15 pm. A great time was had by all, and obviously, we wouldn't have been able to do this without Nev, so we owe a big 'thank you' to him for all his hard work.

Next year, we need to get more guys on the air!







## New Jersey Antique Radio Club's Summer Tailgate Swap Meet and Ham Fest



Infoage Science History  
Learning Center and Museum  
2201 Marconi Road  
Wall, New Jersey 07719



### Saturday July 25th, 2026



Refreshments Available

\$30.00 for members

\$35.00 for non members

Bring your own tables

40 spaces available

For Directions

Visit our website: [www.njarc.org](http://www.njarc.org)

or set your GPS to

2201 Marconi Road, Wall NJ 07719

### Vendors Make Your Reservations Now!

### Contact:

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Richard Lee

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