

The SKYHOOK



HOLIDAY CITY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

www.hcarc.us

March 2025

Toms River, NJ

Operating Portable



As I sit and write this message on a cold and windy February morning, I can't help but look outside at all the tasks and opportunities that await me in the amateur radio hobby. Repairs to antennas and feedlines, checking the efficiency and the propagation of the antennas after the repairs are completed are just a couple of the tasks which come to mind. There is, however, another facet of the hobby which is worth exploring. Portable operations in the outdoors can be challenging and exciting. Typical outdoor activities could include participating in POTA (Parks on the Air), operating from a picnic table at a park, sitting near the ocean and making QSO'S, or just operating in your own back yard. If you select a public venue for your experience, make sure to obtain permission from the proper authorities.

Our March presentation will discuss portable operations using a vertical antenna. The discussion will include items that should be considered for this experience and the expected results.

Doug Poray KC2TZC

March Birthdays

Raymond Kozakiewicz KC2TPK

John Roberts KQ4WR

Kevin Wagner W2FA

Vickie Freidman

Sarah Punderson



March Anniversary

Christine & Steve Jackson



OUR NEXT REGULAR MEETING:

Thursday March 6th

at 7:00 PM

**Holiday City South Clubhouse A
Santiago Drive at Mule Road**

Ocean County ARES® News

March 2025

On Saturday, February 15th, Ocean County ARES assisted the Girl Scouts of the Jersey Shore with 2025 Thinking Day on the Air. WX2NJ and N2AWW were positioned at Toms River and KD2FFR was at Farmingdale. The two sites shared conversations between scouts via the Toms River UHF repeater, 449.825 MHz (WA2RES/R). Additionally, the scouts used FRS radios to “break the ice” of talking on the air before moving over to an active amateur repeater.

Ocean County ARES operators acted as control operators during the exercise.

The Toms River site utilized a simple ground mounted J-Pole outside the facility in the parking lot while Farmingdale used a mobile dual band mount on a gutter. Luckily the event was over by 2:00 PM because the snow was really coming down in Farmingdale.

Please support your Girl Scouts by purchasing cookies during their annual cookie fund drive.

[Continued on next page]



TOMS RIVER SITE. N2AWW ON RIGHT Photos by WX2NJ



FARMINGDALE SITE. Photo by KD2FFR



TOMS RIVER ANTENNA

I would like to congratulate several new members of Ocean County ARES:

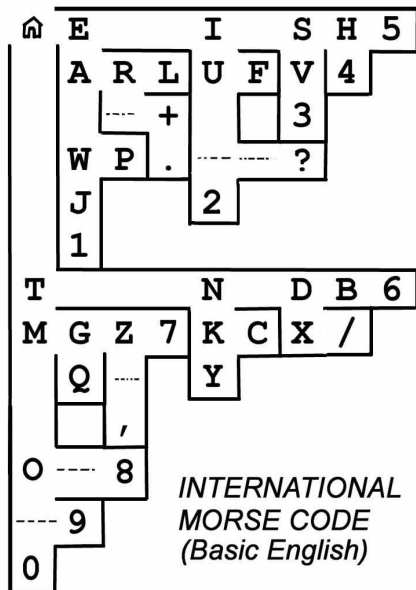
KX1W Ron and KC2KDG – Paul.

73 de WX2NJ Bob Murdock. Ocean County Amateur Radio Emergency Service® EC

Basic Morse Code

Start each character at the “Home” mark. For a dit, move to the right one character; for a dah, move down one character. For example, the letter C is “dah di-dah dit”, and the question mark is “di-di-dah dah di-dit”.

The dots and dashes in chart represent non-English characters.



Our Volunteer Examiner Crew

Larry [K2QDY](#) (Liaison) 732-349-2950,
 John [KQ4WR](#), Steve [N2WLH](#), Michael [WA2CWX](#),
 Larry [WA2VLR](#), Ed [WB2QWC](#)

License exams are given by appointment at 6:45pm on the first Wednesday after each HCARC meeting at Holiday City South Clubhouse Bldg A, which is at the corner of Mule Rd. and Santiago Dr. Call Larry Puccio, [K2QDY](#), at 732-349-2950 for an appointment.

Directions: From either Route 37 W or Davenport Road, take Mule Road to Santiago Drive. Clubhouse A is the building nearest the street corner.

Holiday City Amateur Radio Club

Toms River, New Jersey

Web Site www.hcarc.us

President	Doug Poray	KC2TZC	732-928-2316
Vice President	Steve Jackson	N2WLH	732-255-7916
Secretary	John Perry	KD2NDY	732-349-2705
Treasurer	Larry Puccio	K2QDY	732-349-2950
Program Chair	Carl Lee	W2PTZ	732-575-7558
W2HC Trustee	Larry Puccio	K2QDY	732-349-2950

Membership is open to all interested persons. Ham license is not required. Dues are \$40.00 per year, payable Jan 1st. Members joining during the year will have the dues prorated. Family membership \$50.00 per family.

Meetings are held at 7:00 pm on the first Thursday of every month except December.

Location: Meeting Room #1 in Holiday City South Clubhouse.

Directions: From either Route 37 W or Davenport Road, take Mule Road to Santiago Drive. Turn into the parking lot from Santiago Drive, park near the pool. Enter Building A (the building nearest the street intersection).

Newsletter: The SKYHOOK is the HCARC's official newsletter, circulation about 75. Original articles and photos are appreciated. Editor is John Roberts
<mailto:johnkq4wr@gmail.com>

2025 February Luncheon

Every other month the HCARC Radio Club hosts their luncheon. The members and XYL's enjoy good food and diverse conversations!

The ladies enjoy catching up with each other. Chris Jackson always brings us up to date on her travel plans! I wonder how often she has to buy new luggage! Her favorite song is "On the Road Again".

Today Jeanie Poray told us she and Doug will be in NYC for an overnight. They have theater tickets and plan a museum visit! Enjoy the Big Apple and its fine cuisine. There are many wonderful restaurants to choose for a good meal.

Jeanie and Doug have also planned a trip to Texas to celebrate a grandson's confirmation.

Vickie Friedman is in the money!! She won big at Bingo! I don't know if Jeff is aware of how her assets have grown.

I met Joanne Wallace for the first time today; she and I enjoyed a good conversation! I hope she will be with us at our next get together.

We XYL's enjoy the inclusion at the luncheon. The time goes by quickly when you are enjoying yourself!

Grace Puccio,
XYL of K2QDY

It's About Time

The duration of one second is internationally defined as 9,192,631,770 cycles of the resonant frequency of Cesium 133, which is therefore exactly 9192. 631,770 MHz. (That's a wavelength of roughly 32.6mm.)

That therefore sets the primary standard for frequencies and time durations.

The speed of light is internationally defined as exactly 299,792,458 metres per second.

So, the international prime standard metre (meter) equals exactly 9,192,631,770 cycles divided by exactly 299,792,458 wavelengths of the resonant frequency of cesium 133.

That's about 30.66332 wavelengths of about 32.6mm each.

The metre, as so defined, is the standard for all lengths, including inch (25.4mm). So it's about 39.37007874015748031496062992126 inches.

A year is astrologically equal to about 365.243 days. That's why we have a leap year every four years, except that the first year of a century is not a leap year unless its year number is an even multiple of 400.

When the astrological length of a year differs from the calendar year by more than a half second, we need a Leap Second for the correction.

Time Conversion Chart

Shaded area indicates day after UTC day.

UTC "Zulu"	AST EDT	EST CDT	CST MDT
00nn Z	8:nn PM	7:nn PM	6:nn PM
01nn Z	9:nn PM	8:nn PM	7:nn PM
02nn Z	10:nn PM	9:nn PM	8:nn PM
03nn Z	11:nn PM	10:nn PM	9:nn PM
04nn Z	12:nn AM	11:nn PM	10:nn PM
05nn Z	1:nn AM	12:nn AM	11:nn PM
06nn Z	2:nn AM	1:nn AM	12:nn AM
07nn Z	3:nn AM	2:nn AM	1:nn AM
08nn Z	4:nn AM	3:nn AM	2:nn AM
09nn Z	5:nn AM	4:nn AM	3:nn AM
10nn Z	6:nn AM	5:nn AM	4:nn AM
11nn Z	7:nn AM	6:nn AM	5:nn AM
12nn Z	8:nn AM	7:nn AM	6:nn AM
13nn Z	9:nn AM	8:nn AM	7:nn AM
14nn Z	10:nn AM	9:nn AM	8:nn AM
15nn Z	11:nn AM	10:nn AM	9:nn AM
16nn Z	12:nn PM	11:nn AM	10:nn AM
17nn Z	1:nn PM	12:nn PM	11:nn AM
18nn Z	2:nn PM	1:nn PM	12:nn PM
19nn Z	3:nn PM	2:nn PM	1:nn PM
20nn Z	4:nn PM	3:nn PM	2:nn PM
21nn Z	5:nn PM	4:nn PM	3:nn PM
22nn Z	6:nn PM	5:nn PM	4:nn PM
23nn Z	7:nn PM	6:nn PM	5:nn PM

Where Am I?

Your "QTH" can mean your mailing address or your Latitude & Longitude, or some combination of the following.

For contest credit, the station you contact may want to know where your station is located.

Assuming you're in Ocean County, NJ, the answer is:

IARU Region= 2 (The Americas)

ITU Zone= 08 (Eastern continental US, for most DX contests)

CQ Zone= 05 (Eastern continental US, for CQWW contests)

FCC Callsign district= 2 (NY & NJ)

ARRL Division= Atlantic

ARRL Section= SNJ (For Field Day, etc.)

New Jersey County= OCEAN (for WANJ Contest)

"Grid Square", or "Grid Code", or sometimes "LOC" in CW, usually refers to the Maidenhead Co-ordinate System code (needed for many other contests):

To find your own station's grid code, enter your callsign at QRZ.com. Click "Detail".

Then, below the map, click "Explore".

If your location is on that map, your grid code is the 6 characters such as "FM29vw".

If your location is not on the map displayed, QRZ.com could not find the exact address given, so the grid code given is incorrect, and you may need to correct an error in the FCC's database.

Our local "Whispering Pines Park" is within Maidenhead grid zone FM29vw ("Foxtrot Mike Two Niner Victor Whiskey")

Ocean County ARES Training Nets And Meetings

Training Nets are suspended during emergencies and disaster relief efforts

Net Schedule A: 1st, 3rd, and 5th (if needed) Wednesday every month except during meetings (see "Meetings", below):

7:30pm 145.170 MHz, 8:30pm 449.825MHz

Net Schedule B: 2nd and 4th Wednesday of every month:

7:30pm 449.825 MHz, 8:30pm 145.170 MHz

Meetings:

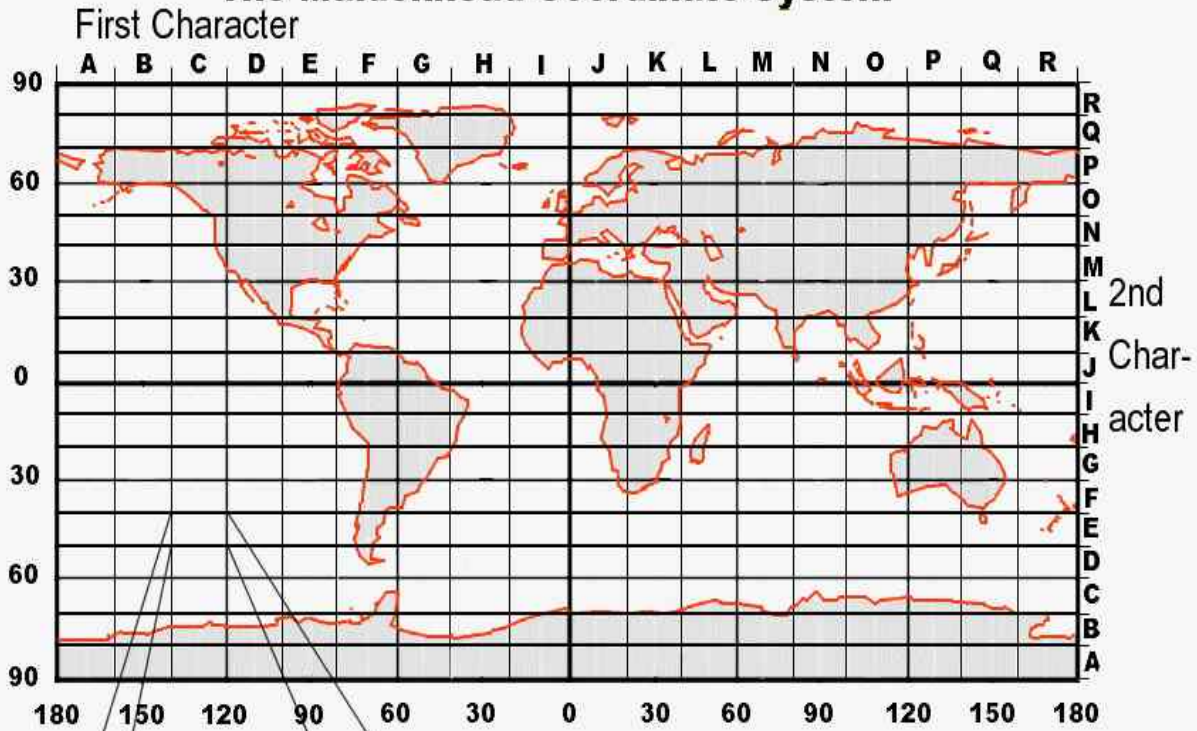
7:00 am on 3rd Wednesdays of even-numbered months (Feb, Apr, Jun, Aug, Oct, & Dec).

Our April Buffet Luncheon



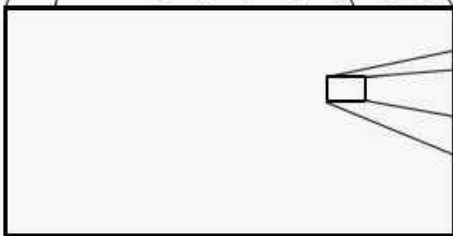
The next HCARC Chinese Buffet will probably start at noon on Wednesday, April 9, so mark your calendar.

The Maidenhead Coordinate System



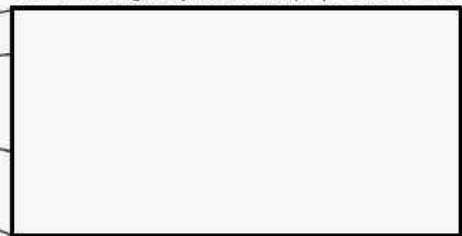
Third Character

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9



Fifth Character

a b c d e f g h i j k l m n o p q r s t u v w x



9
6
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x
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o
j
f
a
6th
Char-
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Some DX Opportunities

Opportunities shown in alphanumeric order of callsigns.

Mode codes: 3 = PSK31, 4 = JP4, 8 = JT8, C = CW, D = "digital", F = FM, O = Olivia, R = RTTY, S = SSB, T = Image (SSTV)

Many thanks to Bill Feidt NG3K for ADXO. Also to Wikipedia, the ARRL, the RSGB, DX World, The Daily DX & QRZ.com.

START	FINISH	ENTITY	PFX	CALLSIGN	IOTA	BANDS	MODES	QSL via	LOC	MILES	DIR	INFO by
2025 Mar24	2025 Apr05	Rodrigues I	3B	3B9DJ	AF-017	160-10m	C S 8	LoTW OK6DJ	MH10rg	9572	ENE	DXW.Net
2025 Feb26	2025 Mar03	Panama	3F	3F3RRC		80-10m	all	LoTW OQRS	EJ88vr	2211	SSW	OPDX
2025 Feb16	2025 Mar01	Sri Lanka	4S	4S7SPG	AS-003	80-10m	C S 8 R	SP6CIK	NJ07ah	8776	NNE	SP9FIH
2025 Feb20	2025 Mar06	Tanzania	5H3	5H3DX		80-10m		LoTW	KI931l	7726	E	TDDX
2025 Feb20	2025 Mar06	Tanzania	5H	5H3DX		80-10m		LoTW NK80	KJ71gc	7150	ENE	TDDX
2025 Feb17	2025 Mar03	Nigeria	5N	5N9DTG		160-6m	4 8 c s	LoTW	JJ39pd	5363	E	DXW.Net
2025 Feb22	2025 Mar03	Samoa	5W	5W0UO	OC-097	80-10m	C	LoTW	AH36sg	7250	W	DXW.Net
2025 Feb02	2025 Apr10	Senegal	6W	6W7/ON4AVT		80-10m	S D	ON4AVT	IK14mi	3860	E	DXW.Net
2025 Mar12	2025 Mar24	Jamaica	6Y	6Y7EI	NA-097	160-6m		M0OXO	EK92dm	1948	SSW	TDDX
2025 Mar05	2025 Mar16	Barbados	8P	8P9CB	NA-021	20-10m	S C	WA7RAR	GK03gc	2060	SSE	LNDX
2025 Feb26	2025 Mar06	Maldives	8Q	8Q7FL	AS-013	40-6m	8	LoTW JH3QFL	MJ63oe	8807	NE	DXW.Net
2025 Mar11	2025 Apr26	Guyana	8R	8R1TM		89-10m	C S D	LoTW	GJ06vs	2938	SSE	DXW.Net
2025 Feb22	2025 Mar07	SIERRA LEONE	9L	9L/VK3HEX		10m	S	VK3HEX	IJ48bl	4384	ESE	DXW.Net
2025 Feb28	2025 Mar18	Comoros Is	D6	D68Z	AF-007	80-10m	C S 8 4	LoTW IK2WW	LH18pg	7647	ENE	DXW.Net
2025 Mar10	2025 Mar11	St Martin	FS	FS/DF8AN	NA-105	80-6m	C D s	DF8AN	FK881b	1653	SSE	TDDX
2025 Feb16	2025 Mar04	St Martin	FS	FS/VA3QSL	NA-105	40-6m	S C D	LoTW	FK881b	1654	SSE	DXW.Net
2025 Mar01	2025 Mar30	Jamaica	6Y	G4SGX/6Y	NA-097	80-10m	C 8	LoTW	FK18oh	1502	S	TDDX
2025 Feb09	2025 May07	SOLOMON ISLANDS	H4	H44MS	OC-047	80-6m	S 8	DL2GAC	RI01hp	7834	NW	DXW.Net
2025 Mar09	2025 Mar19	San Andres & Pro	HK0S	HK0A	NA-033	20-10m	S C R 8	LoTW K6VHF	EK92dn	1945	SSW	DXW.Net
2025 Mar17	2025 Mar31	Grenada	J3	J38XB	NA-024	160-10m	S c	VE2XB Dir	FK92mm	2060	SSE	DXW.Net
2025 Jan26	2025 Mar01	Guinea Bissau	J5	J52EC		20-10m	S D	IZ3BUR Dir	IK21dt	4036	ESE	TDDX
2025 Mar26	2025 Mar31	St Lucia	J6	J62K	NA-108			LoTW K9HZ	FK93lu	1972	SSE	W0CN
2025 Mar16	2025 Mar30	St Vincent	J8	J87PE	NA-109	20-10m		8P6PE	FK93jd	2879	SSE	OPDX
2025 Mar30	2025 Apr06	Honduras	HR	K6VHF/HR9	NA-057	80-6m	S C R 8	LoTW K6VHF	EK66rh	1792	SSW	OPDX
2025 Feb25	2025 Mar14	Greenland	OX	OX3LX	NA-018	80-10m		LoTW OZ03	GP44de	1904	NNE	OPDX
2025 Feb07	2025 Mar11	Aruba	P4	P4/KE4TT	SA-036	80-10m	8 R C S	KE4TT LoTW	FK42xn	1909	S	KE4TT
2025 Feb16	2025 Mar04	Sint Maarten	PJ7	PJ7/VA3QSL	NA-105	40-6m	S C D	LoTW	FK881b	1654	SSE	DXW.Net
2025 Mar09	2025 Apr05	Sint Maarten	PJ7	PJ7AA	NA-105	40-6m	C 8 4	LoTW	FK88ka	1654	SSE	TDDX
2025 Mar26	2025 Apr05	Sint Maarten	PJ7	PJ7EE	#	12-6m		LoTW KC9EE	FK881b	2848	SSE	DXW.Net
2025 Feb28	2025 Mar03	EASTERN KIRIBATI	T32	T32AZ	OC-024	80m	C	KH6QJ	BJ12ga	5766	W	TDDX
2025 Jan10	2025 Oct16	Palau	T8	T88SM	OC-109	160-6m	C S D	JA6EGL	PJ77fi	8684	NW	OPDX
2025 Jan10	2025 Oct16	Palau	T8	T88XK	OC-109	160-6m	C S D	JE6KFN	PJ77gl	8674	NW	OPDX
2025 Mar24	2025 Apr04	St Barthelemy	FJ	T01P	NA-146	80-10m	S 8 R	OQRS	FK87nw	1666	SSE	SP9FIH
2025 Mar01	2025 Mar01	Antigua & Barbu	V2	V26MN	NA-100	80-6m	C D s	DF8AN	FK97cc	1740	SSE	TDDX
2025 Mar09	2025 Mar10	Antigua & Barbu	V2	V26MN	NA-100	80-6m	C D s	DF8AN	FK97cc	1745	SSE	TDDX
2025 Mar08	2025 Mar29	St Kitts & Nev	V4	V4/G4XWM	NA-104	80-10m	S C	LoTW OQRS	FK87pg	2912	SSE	LNDX
2025 Mar18	2025 Apr01	MICRONESIA	V6	V6WG	OC-059	80-6m	8 4 s c	LoTW	RJ15mi	7639	WNW	TDDX
2025 Feb22	2025 Mar01	Norfolk I	VK9N	VK9AB	OC-005	80-10m			RG30xw	8882	W	425DXN
2025 Mar04	2025 Mar12	COCOS (KEELING) IS	VK9C	VK9CU	OC-003	80-10m	C S 8 R	LoTW	NH87ku	10433	NNE	DL2AWG
2025 Feb22	2025 Mar01	Norfolk I	VK9N	VK9QD	OC-005	80-10m			RG30xw	8882	W	425DXN
2025 Feb18	2025 Mar04	CHRISTMAS ISLAND	VK9X	VK9XU	OC-002	80-10m	C S 8 R	LoTW DL4AWG	OH29tm	2989	SSW	DL2AWG
2025 Feb22	2025 Mar01	Norfolk I	VK9N	VK9YB	OC-005	80-10m			RG30xw	8882	W	425DXN
2025 Mar01	2025 Mar09	Montserrat	VP2M	VP2MMN	NA-103	80-6m	C D s	DF8AN	FK86vq	1761	SSE	TDDX
2025 Mar14	2025 Mar24	Turks & Caicos	VP5	VP5/KI5GTR	NA-002?	80-6m	C S 8	KI5GTR	FL41ct	1261	S	TDDX
2025 Mar03	2025 Apr01	Turks & Caicos	VP5	VP5/W1DED	NA-002	80-10m	S	VP5E LoTW	FL31vs	1261	S	OPDX
2025 Mar08	2025 Mar15	Turks & Caicos	VP5	VP5/WW1X	NA-002	80-10m	S 8	LoTW	FL31ws	1262	S	DXW.Net
2025 Mar10	2025 Mar25	ANDAMAN & NICOB	VU4	VU4X	AS-001	80-10m	C S D	M0URX	NK62jm	8711	NNE	DXW.Net
2025 Mar24	2025 Mar31	Cyprus SBA	ZC4	ZC4MK	AS-004	80-6m	S C	G0KOM	KM64lo	5506	NE	DXW.Net

March

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 Nova Scotia ARA Contest	3	4	5 ARES A nets	6 HCARC MEETING 7 PM	7	8 IDAHO, OKLA QSO Parties
9 DST Begins, QSO Parties continue	10 WISCONSIN QSO Party concludes	11	12 VE tests see page 3; ARES B nets	13	14	15 VIRGINIA QSO PARTY
16 VIRGINIA QSO Party Continues	17	18	19 ARES A nets	20	21	22
23	24	25	26 HCARC Board Noon Lunch ARES B nets	27	28	29
30	31					
					Updated on	2/20/2025

QSO Parties

Idaho

<https://www.idahoqsoparty.org/rules.htm>

Oklahoma

<https://k5eok.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/02/okqp2025rules.pdf>

Wisconsin

https://mail.warac.org/wqp/wiqp_rules.htm

Virginia

https://www.qsl.net/sterling/VA_QSO_Party/2025_VQ_P/2025_VAQP_Rules.pdf

Thank You All

Many thanks to:

Doug Poray KC2TZC, Larry Puccio K2QDY, Bob Murdock WX2NJ, Grace Puccio, Bill Feidt NG3K, QRZ.com, and the ARRL.