



The SKYHOOK



HOLIDAY CITY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

www.hcarc.us

November 2016

Toms River, NJ

Our November 3rd Meeting: RFinder

Our November meeting features a presentation by Urb LeJeune W1UL about programming hand-held transceivers (HT's).



HCARC Member Urb W1UL is presenting a program on RFinder at the November meeting.

Finding repeater information is a problem for many hams. RFinder solves the repeater location problem with ease and when combined with CHIRP radio programming software, users can activate their radios in minutes instead of hours. No spinning dials or key presses.

Repeater Finder is a program that, given a location, provides a list of repeaters within range of the entered location.

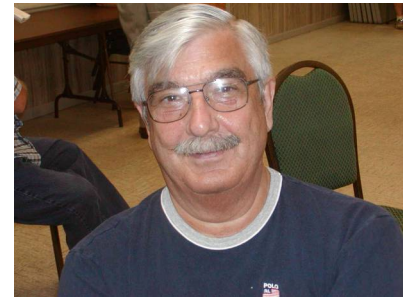
CHIRP is a tool for programming radios from a large number of manufacturers and models.

Individually, these programs are great. Harnessing the two programs together produces the greatest ham radio application since the invention of computer logging.

Programming a hand-held has always been a daunting task with a steep learning curve. Finding repeater information has been a time-consuming activity.

Bring your hand held (with instruction manual) and Urb will try and flash-program your HT's memory.

The President's Corner



It seems like yesterday (actually April 2014) when I first phoned Larry K2QDY to inquire about membership in the club and getting my tech license. Larry gave me all the information and when I went to the first meeting he introduced himself and told me what websites would help me prepare for my exam.

I now have a hobby that I enjoy and have met new friends that share my enthusiasm for ham radio. When I joined the club there were over 30 members and today we have 23 members, so my main goal for the club is to increase membership. There are many new and exciting technologies in ham radio that I don't seem to have enough time to explore. With your help we can explore them together.

Please feel free to suggest subjects for club meetings. I have received a great deal of help from Murray KD2IN about subjects for club presentations and I am grateful for his help as well as his friendship. I would like to close by thanking John KQ4WR for serving as President and remaining as an officer for the coming year, as well as the other officers that contribute their time to make this club a success. 73 Tony Kuzinski

NEXT MEETING:

Thursday November 3rd At 7:00 PM

Bldg A, Meeting Rm. #1

Holiday City South Clubhouse A

Santiago Drive at Mule Road

Toms River, NJ

Club Officer Election Results

The following slate was presented to the club membership at the October meeting. Marge Penn asked for any further nominations from the floor, and there were no new nominations. The following officers were approved by the members at the meeting.

Tony Kuzinski	KD2GSO	President
Paul Hansen	N2QXB	Vice President
Larry Puccio	K2QDY	Treasurer
John Rogers	KD2HWR	Secretary
John Roberts	KQ4WR	Executive Board
Doug Poray	KC2TZC	Executive Board

Our New Tuesday Evening 2-meter Net

Our club now hosts a net on the 2-meter band.

Lee Kissel WA2JWR has kindly allowed us to use the local 146.655 FM repeater for a net from 7:00 to 7:30 on Tuesday evenings. Input frequency is 0.6 MHz lower, and "PL" tone is not required.

Paul Hansen N2QXB will be the net control.

For anyone not familiar with a net, just listen in and you will get the hang of it.

Join in and help make this a weekly occurrence.

Info WA2JWR 146.6550 input 146.0550 no PL needed.

The repeater is also linked to 146.880 in brick (-0.6 MHz offset PL94.8), and 445.575 (-5 MHz offset, PL94.8).

EchoLink access is also possible; the link is 330923.

On October 18, the Holiday City Amateur Radio Club held an information net on the WA2JWR repeater system at 7:00 pm. Paul Hansen N2QXB was the net control and with 12 check ins, shows that there is interest in this type of activity. Thank you to all the members that took time out of their schedule to help make this a success.

For those of you that don't have your radios programmed, bring your radio and manual to the November meeting, as Urb W1UL will be doing a

program on RF Finder, as well as programming Boefang radio's. If you have another brand of radio, bring it in along with the manual and there should be someone there to help you.

What's A Ham Radio Elevator Pitch?

Do you have a ham radio definition ready to be delivered on a moments notice? You're walking toward your car in the company of someone you just met. You casually mention you're a ham radio operator. Your companion asked, "What is ham radio all about?" Enter the elevator pitch.

An elevator pitch is a short summary used to quickly and simply define a process, product, service, organization, or event, and its value proposition. Wikipedia defines 'elevator pitch' as "...the idea that it should be possible to deliver the summary in the time span of an elevator ride or approximately thirty seconds to two minutes. The term itself comes from a scenario of an accidental meeting with someone important in the elevator. If the conversation inside the elevator in those few seconds is interesting and value adding, the conversation will either continue after the elevator ride or end in exchange of business cards or a scheduled meeting. A variety of people, project managers, salespeople, evangelists and policy-makers commonly rehearse and use elevator pitches to get their points across quickly."

Why does ham radio exist? Your answer to this question might elicit, "hams frequently provide communications when all forms of commercial communications are unavailable, such as in natural or man-made disasters. "

Getting to the crux of the ham radio mystique you continue, ham radio is many things to many people, which is a great starting line in your pitch.

Don't try to be all things to all people, stick with the aspects of ham radio you enjoy and have passion and expertise. If you're a DXer, tell the story of why you're a DXer, do not try and explain the allure of VHFing, contesting, or moon bounce.

W1UL's Elevator Pitch

Ham radio primarily exists because hams frequently provide emergency communications when commercial forms of communications are unavailable, such as in natural or man-made disasters.

The great thing about ham radio is that it is many different things to many different people. My favorite ham radio activity is what we call DXing. DX was originally meant contacting distant stations. Now DXing is the pursuit of contacts with countries you haven't previously worked.

I first became interested in DX when I was about 15 years old when I was asked by a marine in Guantanamo Bay Cuba to relay a message to his family in New York City. His wife had just presented them with a brand new daughter. This was my first contact outside the United States other than Canada.

A few weeks later I woke up one night about 3 AM with a painful toothache, I turned on my equipment to see if anyone was on the air at this hour. At this point, I had never contacted a station west of the Mississippi River. Without touching any of the dials there was a station in Arizona calling CQ which meant he was seeking a contact with anyone. With trepidation, I called him and back he came. After our contact, I was tuning around and there was a station in Washington state. A contact with him was followed by a contact with California. I was so excited I totally forgot my toothache.

On that glorious night I learned that long distance communications, on the band I was using, was only possible when both ends of the communications path are in darkness, much like the AM broadcast band. Once I absorbed that propagation reality, I started getting up a three AM to get on the air. Within a short time, I had added six new states as well as Hawaii, Venezuela, New Zealand, and Australia. I was hooked and I've been a DXer ever since.

Over the ensuing decades, I have now contacted every country in the world except North Korea and they

don't allow ham radio.

When developing your elevator pitch be yourself, it will help you memorize your pitch. Then, practice practice, and practice. When you think you have it down pat, practice a little more. Remembering back to the definition of an elevator pitch, it should be deliverable in between 30 seconds and two minutes total time. Practice your pitch at various intervals. Learn what can be taken out and what must remain. The goal is to

Our VE Crew

Larry [K2QDY](#) (Liaison) 732-349-2950,
Urb [W1UL](#), John [KQ4WR](#), Stan [KB2PD](#), Steve [N2WLH](#),
Paul [N2QXB](#), Larry [WA2VLR](#), Tony [KD2GSO](#).

License exams are given by appointment at 7pm on the second Wednesday of each month 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 information.

Directions: From either Route 37 W or Davenport Road, take Mule Road to Santiago Drive. Turn into the parking lot from Santiago Drive, and park near the pool. Enter the building

CLUB COMMITTEES

Refreshments: John Rogers & Tony Kuzinski
Webmaster: Steve [N2WLH](#) N2WLH@yahoo.com
Publicity: Paul [N2QXB](#) 732-279-3911
Programs: Tony [KD2GSO](#) 732-930-5779
Sunshine: Dave [WA2DJN](#) WA2DJN3@verizon.net
Field Day: Larry [K2QDY](#) 732-349-2950
VE Sessions: Larry [K2QDY](#) 732-349-2950
Membership: Doug [KC2TZC](#) 732-928-2316

Holiday City Amateur Radio Club Toms River, New Jersey

Web Site www.hcsrc.us

President	Tony Kuzinski	KD2GSO	732-930-5779
Vice President	Paul Hansen	N2QXB	732-279-3911
Treasurer	Larry Puccio	K2QDY	732-349-2950
Secretary	John Rogers	KD2HWR	732-269-5717
Alt. Secretary	Marge Penn	KD2LNT	732-736-5953
Executive Board	John Roberts	KQ4WR	732-350-1162 ext 33
Executive Board	Doug Poray	KC2TZC	732-928-2316
W2HC Trustee	Larry Puccio	K2QDY	732-349-2950

Membership is open to all interested persons. Ham license is not required. Dues are \$25.00 per year, payable Jan 1st. Members joining during the year will have the dues prorated. Family membership \$30.00 per family.

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

Location: Meeting Room #1 in the 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 and park near the pool. Enter the building nearest the street corner.

The SKYHOOK is published monthly as the HCARC's official newsletter.
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make it sound completely spontaneous and not rehearsed. It reminds me of a sign that was hanging in a financial research department that I managed, "Sincerity is very important around here; once you learn how to fake it, you have it made."

- Urb LeJeune W1UL

Ocean County ARES® News



– November, 2016

On October 19th, 2016, there was a general meeting of Ocean County ARES at the Ocean County EOC. Emergency Coordinator WX2NJ presented a time line from 1998 until present on how Ocean County ARES has changed through the years including repeaters and technology roll-outs. Pete, K2PSG then took new members on a tour of the EOC radio room. Several of the new members expressed an interest in NBEMS (Narrow Bandwidth Emergency Message System) technology, so FLMSG and FLDIGI will be presented again at a future meeting. I would also like to welcome a new member, Tim W2TET.

Believe it or not, the first year we had a holiday party at the Ocean County EOC was 2004, so the holiday party this December 21st will be number 12!

Several have asked about the Harvey Cedars D-Star gateway tie-in and all I can tell you is that Harvey Cedars Public Works is still working on installing the conduit to enclose the new Internet lines. As soon as they are installed, our technical team will work on the finishing touches to tie-in the D-Star repeater into the SCERN (Southern Counties Emergency Repeater Network) via D-Star reflectors. The Harvey Cedars D-Star repeater is still available as a stand-alone digital repeater on 445.36875 MHz.

After 22 months of waiting for a 70 cm coordinated frequency pair for the Toms River WA2RES repeater, we finally heard from ARCC. They lost our application at the first stage of review and it was recently found hidden under junk mail of the ARCC Vice President's hard drive. Despite numerous requests for a status update from Ocean County ARES, the application was not looked for until Friday, October 14th. So now the long process of trying to get a coordinated frequency pair assigned begins again and will most likely take several more years. One should note that ARCC is located in PA and it takes applications from PA operators an average of about 3 months to be processed. I guess Ocean County is too far from PA to be of any concern of urgency. In the interim, the output frequency of 449.825 MHz will continue to be used until we hear otherwise. ARCC has been advised that 449.825 MHz has worked flawlessly for us for the past 7 months with no noted interference and I'm sure they will ignore that fact and waste more time trying to find an open pair.

There will be a quarterly MARS COMEX starting on 10/30 and finishing on 11/1. As always they would like county status reports from all counties including the 9 SNJ counties. Ocean County ARES Leadership will be providing status reports to SNJ Leadership for these three days. If you have 60 meter capability, you may be able to monitor this MARS COMEX.

73 de WX2NJ

Bob Murdock

Ocean County Amateur Radio Emergency Service® EC

A December Hamfest In Florida

If you're going to be in Florida, you might like this hamfest:

Tampa Bay Hamfest

December 9 & 10, 2016

Plant City, FL

<http://www.tampabayhamfest.org>

Time Conversion Table

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

Shaded area indicates date change. For example, if it's 9:37PM Eastern Daylight Time, it's already 0137 tomorrow morning, UTC time.

Meet Larry Puccio, K2QDY



This month we feature a most valuable and hard working member of our club. Larry Puccio serves as our club treasurer and is involved in most club activities. His career was focused in areas of

mechanical and electrical engineering. After retiring, Larry is still called upon for consultation and training purposes. This responsibility takes him to Alaska on many occasions.

He was first licensed in 1955, uses the call sign K2QDY, and holds an Extra Class License. Larry operates an Elecraft K3 transceiver and only uses dipoles for antennas. He has great success using this basic form of aerial. With his dipoles, Larry works the 10- 80 meter bands (these bands are his favorites) and also the WARC (12, 17, and 30 meter) bands.

He used to engage in "home brewing" when projects were wired as opposed to printed circuit construction. Larry built many antennas including "Quads" and "Yagis".

He became interested in amateur radio while working with his Uncle Frank W1WY who was the chief engineer at radio station WNEW in New York. A neighbor, Ed O'Brien W2LJF, was also helpful in introducing Larry to amateur radio.

His most memorable amateur experience was providing phone patches to military men stationed in the Middle East. This is just one example of Larry's willingness to help people. He is also an "Elmer" in radio amateur circles by providing other hams assistance with ideas or problems.

Astronomy is another hobby Larry pursues. About noteworthy trips, Larry states "My work life took me to many countries and all the states in the USA but never to Hawaii".

The HCARC appreciates the work Larry does and counts on him to continue with his efforts.

-Doug Poray KC2TZC

December Party To Be At Villa Amalfi



We're doing something a bit different. This year's Holiday Party is scheduled for December First **at 2pm** at the Villa Amalfi restaurant (1006 Route 166) in Toms River, www.villaamalfitr.com

Some details are still being worked out, but you can mark your calendar now:

Dec 1 Villa Amalfi T.R. 2:00pm.

How's DX?

It's not good, but 15 & 20 still come alive for sun-lit paths. The dark routes, as usual, favor lower HF bands like 80 and 40, which work best with lots of antenna and power. But check out www.reversebeacon.net

And of course, there are the Sweepstakes and CQ contests on the weekends (see calendar below), as well as many other special events.

(Local HF nets aren't DX, but can be interesting, and good practice . -Elmer)

November

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 HCARC Net 7pm 146.655	2 ARES nets	3 HCARC Meeting 7pm	4	5 Sw eepstakes CW contest
6 Sw eepstakes CW contest cont'd	7 Noon get- together at the HC Diner	8 ELECTION DAY	9 License exams- Call Larry for appointment; ARES nets	10	11	12
13	14	15 HCARC Net 7pm 146.655	16 ARES nets	17	18	19 Sw eepstakes Phone contest
20 Sw eepstakes Phone contest cont'd	21 Noon get- together at the HC Diner	22 HCARC Net 7pm 146.655	23 Board Meeting; ARES nets	24 Thanksgiving Day	25	26 CQ CW Contest
27 CQ CW Contest cont'd	28	29 HCARC Net 7pm 146.655	30 ARES nets	Dec 1 HCARC PARTY 2:00PM and HCARC MEETING 7PM		