

# The SKYHOOK



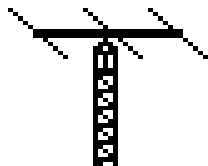
HOLIDAY CITY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

[www.hcarc.us](http://www.hcarc.us)

May 2018

Toms River, NJ

## Workshop Session Planned



For our May meeting, we plan to form groups and build two light-weight hand-held Yagi antennas for our 2-meter fox hunts.

Tools will be available, and all parts will be supplied.

If we have time and it's not raining, Larry Puccio will give us a demonstration in the parking lot.

## The President's Message

As I sit here writing this Spring is trying to arrive.

Its time for doing any antenna repairs or putting up that new antenna you want to try.

I am still planning to get a new antenna up but will wait until after the Dayton Hamvention to see what I may find.

Those who came to the Fortune Buffet on the 11<sup>th</sup> had a good time. The next get together there will be on June 13th, so mark your calendars. The May meeting will be making antennas for the Fox Hunt.

Looking forward to seeing everyone at the meeting.

Carl

W2PTZ

## A Panel Of Elmers

Usually two or three heads are better than one.

Extra manpower may be needed to safely install an antenna.

Some instruction manuals are vague and confusing.

Would you like someone to show you how to get the best use of your equipment?

Do you have a question that's been bothering you?

Are you having trouble finding some special part?

Help is available.

We have some experienced hams who want to be helpful. That's what radio clubs are for.

So starting very soon, we'll set aside some time during each meeting, for our "Panel of Elmers", to tackle whatever questions and problems are posed.

The purpose is not to try to "stump the experts", but rather to be a real benefit to all.

And our panel may even have that item you need, free for the asking!

## Happy Birthday To:

Joe Militano KC2QLA



## Happy Anniversary To:

Charlie & Robin Lamb

John & Nancy Roberts



**NEXT REGULAR MEETING:**  
**Thursday May 3 at 7:00 PM**  
**Bldg A, Meeting Rm. #1**  
**Holiday City South Clubhouse**  
**Santiago Drive at Mule Road**  
**Toms River, NJ**

## Ocean County ARES® News

May, 2018

We are looking for ham operators for the New Jersey Marathon Sunday, April 29, 2018 (one week from this Sunday). The Marathon coordinators are looking for ham radio volunteers to man water and EMS stations that day along the route. You can choose to volunteer for a couple hours at one stop or relay to multiple stops if you'd like to stay.

The first position at the start is at 7:30am at Monmouth Park and the race ends around 2pm at the Ocean Promenade on the Long Branch boardwalk. The race encompasses many towns which include Oceanport, West Long Branch, Monmouth Beach, Long Branch, Deal, Asbury and Ocean Grove, in land then all along the boardwalk. You will need at least an HT and make sure you have a good antenna for it on the VHF side. You should be self-sufficient and bring any items you may need including cold weather gear, water, food etc.

It's an easy event and you really just watch the race and look for any issues that may arise and report them to the net control station. It's a very professionally run event as well with around thousands of runners.

We need volunteers since this race is only a week away! If you'd like to volunteer, contact Holger (K2HES) at: [holger@k2hes.com](mailto:holger@k2hes.com)

Marathon website is here:

<https://www.thenewjerseymarathon.com/half-and-full-marathon/> and we are only doing the Sunday marathon.

The National Weather Service in Mt. Holly did a new thing year. The NWS held Skywarn training via webinars. Many people took the training including two from Ocean County. NWS says they would like to do this in the future as well, which is good for Skywarn since people sometimes cannot travel to the in person classes. We will be trying to set up a Skywarn in person class for Ocean County if there is enough interest in that as well.

Thunderstorm season is coming up so expect to get active again spotters! More on that later....

Remember, if you have a scanner, you can report lightning, wind and flooding damage confirmed by public safety personnel like FD, PD and EMS as well.

If you are already a Skywarn Spotter in Ocean County and you would like to become active again in our group please don't hesitate to contact me to get you up to speed and in our private contact list and group board. We would love to have you back and active!!

Contact Keith, KC2OON at [kc2oon@yahoo.com](mailto:kc2oon@yahoo.com)

Keith, KC2OON

SNJ ARES ASEC, Severe Weather Coordinator

Ocean County ARES Asst. EC

Ocean County Skywarn Coordinator



On Wednesday, April 18th, a meeting of Ocean County ARES was held at the Ocean County EOC. Participation and organization of communication support of the 2018 MS-170 Bike Tour was discussed. Holger, K2HES will be coordinating operators for the event and not MS directly as previously announced via email. If you are interested in providing support, please contact Holger AFTER the NJ Marathon on April 29th. The 2018 MS-170 is on May 19th and 20th. Support is needed for both days in Monmouth and Ocean counties.

One important issue raised at the meeting was to remind all comm operators to utilize the Time Out Timer (TOT) of their radio. Nothing is more disruptive during a drill or actual emergency than having an operator accidentally sit on a mic button and time out the repeater, making it inoperable for all involved. Most repeaters are set to time out at 180 seconds in accordance with FCC Part 97. Your radio should be set to time out less than 180 seconds. As you finish reading this, break out your gear and get it done!

See some interesting reading about a 2000 foot

television tower collapse, where one worker from Washington State died. There were seven workers on the tower near the 150 foot level when it fell.

See story and pictures at:

<http://www.ky3.com/content/news/TV-tower-collapses-in-Fordland-480261283.html>

73 de WX2NJ

Bob Murdock

Ocean County Amateur Radio Emergency Service® EC

## Radio Matters



By Urb LeJeune W1UL

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## The North Jersey DX Association's Secret Weapon

### Background

September 1957 witnessed the introduction of The North Jersey DX Association (NJDXA).

This event encountered broadly based yawns.

Little did they know.

The DXCC Mixed Honor Roll in the September 1957 issue of QST contained only 21 calls and the Phone Honor Roll contained only 13 calls.

There were no W2s on either list although NJDXA member W2AGW was one country off the honor roll

and NJDXA member W2BXA led the second call area on phone.

By 1966 the mixed DXCC honor roll swelled to 149 of which 28 (19%) were NJDXA members.

There were only two W2s non-NJDXA-members who

were on the Honor Roll.

How could the NJDXA become a DX force of nature in such a short period of time?

The answer is simple; we had a secret weapon, semi-private 2 meter channels.

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### Our VE Crew

Larry [K2QDY](#) (Liaison) 732-349-2950,  
Urb [W1UL](#), John [KQ4WR](#), Stan [KB2PD](#), Steve [N2WLH](#),  
Murray [KD2IN](#), Paul [N2QXB](#), Larry [WA2VLR](#), Tony [KD2GSO](#).  
*License exams are given by appointment at 6:30pm 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 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.*

### CLUB COMMITTEES

*Refreshments:* Tony [KD2GSO](#) 732-930-5779  
*Webmaster:* Steve [N2WLH](#) N2WLH@yahoo.com  
*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.hcarc.us](http://www.hcarc.us)

|                        |              |                        |              |
|------------------------|--------------|------------------------|--------------|
| <b>President</b>       | Carl Lee     | <a href="#">W2PTZ</a>  | 732-575-7558 |
| <b>Vice President</b>  | Billy Locke  | <a href="#">KD2MHA</a> | 732 281-0151 |
| <b>Treasurer</b>       | Larry Puccio | <a href="#">K2QDY</a>  | 732-349-2950 |
| <b>Secretary</b>       | Marge Penn   | <a href="#">KD2LNT</a> | 732-736-0115 |
| <b>Executive Board</b> | Doug Poray   | <a href="#">KC2TZC</a> | 732-928-2316 |
| <b>Executive Board</b> | John Roberts | <a href="#">KQ4WR</a>  | 732-966 4665 |
| <b>W2HC Trustee</b>    | Larry Puccio | <a href="#">K2QDY</a>  | 732-349-2950 |

*Membership* is open to all interested persons. Ham license is not required. Dues are \$25.00 per year, payable Jan 1<sup>st</sup>. 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, except December.

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

*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.  
Editor and Publisher:

John Roberts [KQ4WR](#) 7 Lincoln Ct. Whiting, NJ 08759-1505  
e-mail [KQ4WR@arrl.net](mailto:KQ4WR@arrl.net) 732 966 4665

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## Two Meters

Shortly after the end of WWII the pre-war 2.5 meter band was assigned to broadcast TV. Hams were assigned the current 2 meter band obsoleting all pre-WWII VHF equipment.

At the time huge amounts of surplus military electronic equipment became available in various "Radio Rows" around the country.

However, that's a story for another time. If you're interested check out Wikipedia;

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Radio\\_Row](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Radio_Row)

The SCR522 quickly became one of the more popular VHF transceivers. It was designed as an air-to-ground 125 to 150 MHz transceiver and its 832 final tube delivered about six watts of AM. Four switchable crystals provided the ability to move around the band.

Another popular "Radio Row" item was barrels of crystals, typically 25 cents each or 5 for a buck.



*WWII Surplus J38 Key*

Another very popular item was brand spanking new J38 keys in a box for 50 cents.

Most of the general 2 meter activity was in the lower MHz of the band. The early pre-NJDXA operators set up shop at the very high end of the band where they were essentially undetected.

There were two frequencies used; channel A for general DX chatting, and channel D for serious DX-related communications. Channel D was barely inside the band and channel A occupied a spot slightly lower.

In late 1950, Gonset introduced the famous "gooney bird." In the early 60s CD organizations were purchasing CD colored [yellow] Gonset Communicators and routinely "loaned" the rigs to local hams for CD drills.

All the 2 meter operation was simplex because repeaters were still in the future.

## The NJDXA Secret Weapon

Simplicity was the keynote of the NJDXA channels. On channel A one might ask, "What's happening on 40 meters."

### *The "secret" operation was a bit more complex.*

Every member of the NJDXA received a current DXCC wish list from Ted Marks, W2FG, at the club's monthly meeting. It was an ARRL DXCC county list embellished with a letter designation and a telephone numbers for each member.

To illustrate, my letter identification was "D" (I was W2DEC at the time.)

Next to KAO (That's KA zero, the prefix for Iwo Jima), Ted would place "D" and the letter designation of any other members needing KAO.

Another list contained the phone number for "D."

Our alert protocol was a "single jingle." ["Let the telephone number ring once and hang up", so the call was toll free]

If you heard some rare DX while in your normal listening phase, you checked the wish list. If someone needed that country, you called them on the "twisted pair." You let it ring once. Phone calls outside your immediate area were expensive back then.

### *Here is an example of what typically happened.*

Bob, K2GMO hears KA0IJ and calls W2DEC on the phone, letting it ring once.

W2DEC then goes to channel "D" and simply says, "W2DEC."

Bob would say KA0IJ 14035.

That was it.

Any additional communications shifted to channel "A".

If a member was out of 2 meter range the "single jingle" the "meeting" took place on 14.295 MHz. Twenty meter phone ended at 14.300 back then and all the DX activity took place at the low end of the phone band so 14.295 was a good hiding place.

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*[Continued from page 4]*

## Epilogue

Hindsight is required for full appreciation of the effectiveness of our clandestine operation.

There was no internet, not spotting networks, no bulletins and propagation forecasting was in its infancy.

The DX columns in QST and CQ were only sources of public DX information.

By the time you received the magazines the information in it was three months old.

In the 1950/1960 era any DXer worthy of the name spent at least 20 hours listening for every hour of transmitting.

***The leveraging effect of 30 sets of ears listening for you was dramatic.***

Contrast that with a good friend of mine who has various spotting networks running all the time. When he sees a country he needs, he turn on the rig, works the DX, and goes back to whatever he was doing. After years of this operational mode honor roll status is within sight.

I'm not proclaiming "search and pounce" as the preferred method of DXing; however, the old way provided a fantastic sense of accomplishment because Our VE team gives exams for Technician, General and Extra Class licenses at 7:00pm on the 2nd Wednesday of each month, unless there are no applicants.

Call Larry Puccio at 732-349-2950 for an appointment. honor roll status required years of concentrated individual activity.

It has been my experience that the greater the challenge, the greater the feeling of accomplishment when the task was finally completed.



When not writing articles for newsletter Urb can typically be found working on his website ham-cram.com.

The W1UL Ham Cram method had three distinguishing characteristics:

1. We don't study incorrect answers.
2. We only study the questions most likely on the test.
3. It's FREE

73 Urb W1UL urb@ham-cram.com 68 Years a ham.

## A Single Pulse Into A Cable?

I wanted to see what happens to a single pulse in a coaxial cable.

I had fine equipment available:

- a fast 50 ohm pulse generator,
- a 6.5 foot 50 ohm coaxial cable,
- a 50 ohm UHF dummy load, and
- a fast digital oscilloscope.

First, I put a 50 ohm dummy load at the "far" end of a 6.5 foot 50 ohm cable, and sent a single one-volt 2 nanosecond pulse into the "near" end.

As expected, the pulse going in drew 20 milliamps, and it appeared 10 nanoseconds later at the dummy load, apparently unchanged.

For the second experiment, I disconnected the dummy load and did it again.

As before, the pulse going in drew 20 milliamps, and appeared at the "far" end 10 nanoseconds later. In another 10 nanoseconds, it re-appeared at the "near" end, where it was absorbed by the pulse generator.

For the third experiment, I shorted the "far" end.

This time, the pulse entered the cable, drawing 20 milliamps as before, but appeared 20 nanoseconds later at the "near" end as a negative one-volt pulse, where it was absorbed by the pulse generator.

After thinking it over, I realized that at the start of each case, the cable had completely accepted the pulse as if it were a 50 ohm load, (because it had no energy still in it).

In the first case, the voltage-to-current ratio was correct for the load to completely absorb it.

In the second case, no output current could flow, so the energy reflected back to the "near" end.

In the third case, there could be no voltage at the shorted end, so again the energy was reflected. The DC part of the voltage at the "near" end had to be zero, so the pulse was negative.

This principle, called Time Domain Reflectometry, is used to find the locations of opens and shorts in underground power lines, telephone cables, and even PC boards.

## Some Selected Contests



- + 10-10 Int. Spring Contest, CW 0001Z, May 5 to 2359Z, May 6
- + 7th Call Area QSO Party 1300Z, May 5 to 0700Z, May 6
- + FISTS Spring Slow Speed Sprint 1700Z-2100Z, May 5
- + Delaware QSO Party 1700Z, May 5 to 2359Z, May 6
- + New England QSO Party 2000Z, May 5 to 0500Z, May 6 and 1300Z-2400Z, May 6
- + 50 MHz Spring Sprint 2300Z, May 12 to 0300Z, May 13
- + Portuguese Navy Day Contest 0900Z, May 18 to 1700Z, May 20
- + RSGB 80m Club Championship, CW 1900Z-2030Z, May 24

*. . and the big one for May is:*

CQ WW WPX Contest, CW 0000Z, May 26 to 2359Z, May 27 (<http://www.cqwp.com/rules.htm>)

## That Huge Hamfest In Ohio



*A very little bit of the flea market*

The Hamvention is usually referred to as "Dayton", but it's now actually in Xenia, Ohio, which is several miles east of Dayton. Xenia was virtually destroyed by the great tornado outbreak of 1974.

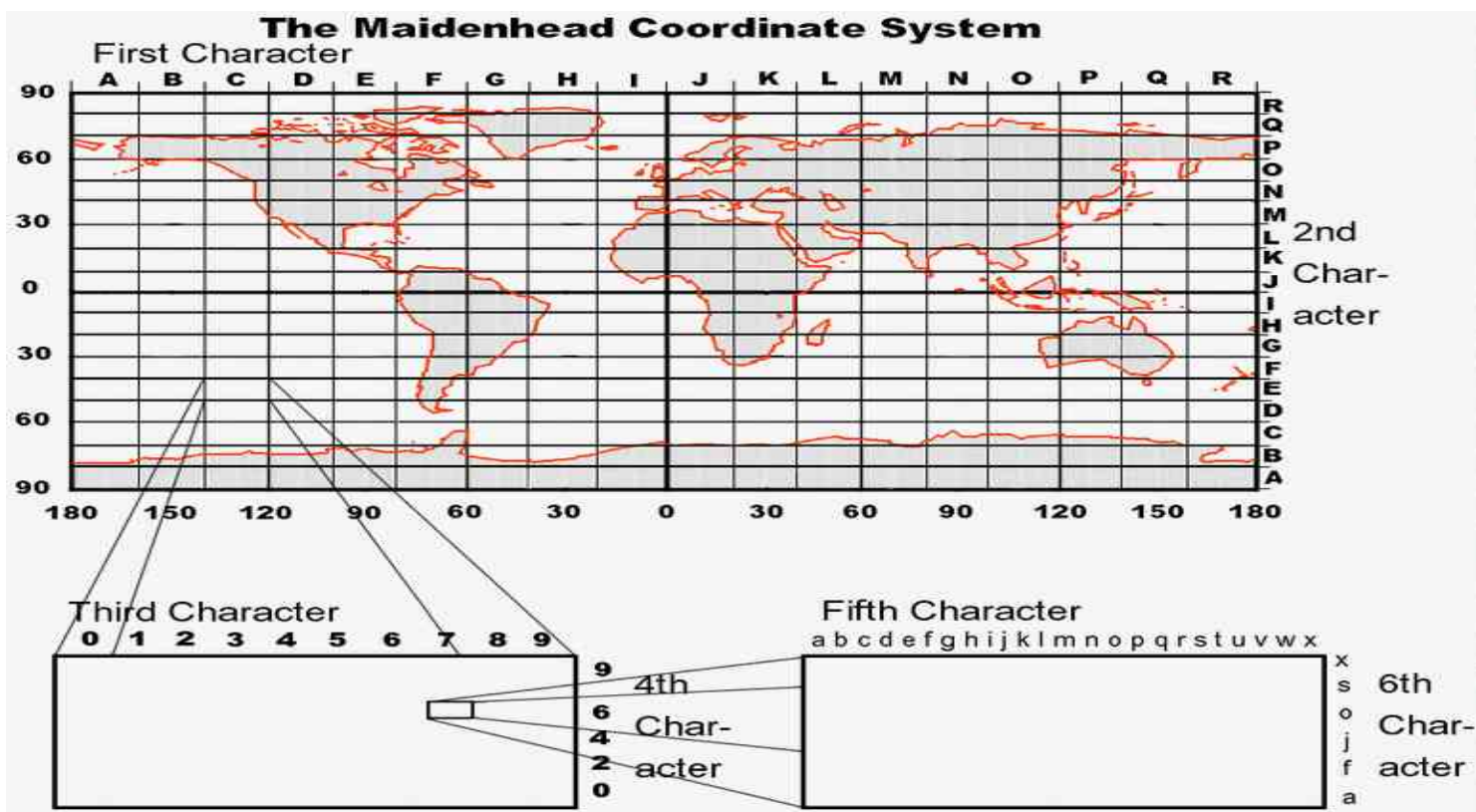
The hamfest is by far the largest in America, attracting hams from many countries. Parking is several block away, so they provide free bus transportation to and from the parking areas.

There will be all sorts of technical seminars, license exams, a large dealer show in which most of the major ham equipment makers will show off their latest and greatest.

There will probably be someone embroidering call signs on hats or shirts. Small dealers like The Wire Man and big ones like Ham Radio Outlet will be very busy selling. Outdoors, there will be acres of flea market.

Tom Medlin, W5KUB will most likely be there interviewing some hams, like Martin Jue W5FLU of MFJ, both live and for his Tuesday 8:00PM international broadcast/webcast on WBCQ (5130kHz) / <http://W5KUB.com>.

Carl Lee W2PTZ, our HCARC President, plans to attend again this year, and tell us about it at our June meeting.



**Announced DX Opportunities for May, from NG3K [www.ng3k.com](http://www.ng3k.com)**

| BEGIN | END   | ENTITY           | CALL   | QSL       | VIA | BAND & MODE*    | IOTA   | GRID   | DX   | DIR |
|-------|-------|------------------|--------|-----------|-----|-----------------|--------|--------|------|-----|
| May11 | May16 | Rodrigues I      | 3B9RUN | EA7FTR    | Dir | 80-10m S F      | AF-017 | MH10qg | 9580 | ENE |
| May04 | May06 | Panama           | 3F6IC  | HP1AVS    |     | 80-10 S D       | NA-071 | FJ09ga | 2163 | S   |
| Apr29 | May07 | Jamaica          | 6Y5IDX | LotW      |     | 80-10m C S F    | NA-097 | EK92dm | 1951 | SSW |
| May05 | May12 | Malta            | 9H3JI  | Auto Buro |     | 80-6m C         | EU-023 | JM75ex | 4625 | ENE |
| May24 | May31 | Malta            | 9H3SV  | SV2CLJ    | Dir | 80-2 C S P F    | EU-023 | JM75gv | 4636 | ENE |
| Apr29 | May05 | Bhutan           | A52AEF | JH3AEF    |     | 80-6m S C D     |        | NL58aa | 7637 | NNE |
| Apr29 | May05 | Bhutan           | A52IVU | JA3IVU    |     | 80-6m S C D     |        | NL58aa | 7637 | NNE |
| Apr29 | May05 | Bhutan           | A52YL  | WA0WOF    |     | 80-6m S C D     |        | NL58aa | 7637 | NNE |
| May02 | May15 | Mozambique       | C8T    | ON1DX     |     | 160-6m C S D    |        | KH80aa | 8156 | E   |
| Apr29 | May03 | Mozambique       | C96RRC | R7AL      |     | 40-10m C S D    | AF-088 | KG631x | 8230 | E   |
| May05 | May09 | Mozambique       | C98RRC | R7AL      |     | 40-10m C S D    | AF-088 | KG631x | 8230 | E   |
| May08 | May11 | South Cook Is    | E51KMR | LotW      |     |                 | OC-013 | BG08ct | 6925 | WSW |
| Apr29 | May03 | Temotu           | H40D   | See Web   |     |                 | OC-179 | RI30ne | 8166 | WNW |
| May12 | May13 | Liechtenstein    | HB0    | PD7YY     |     | 80-2m C S       |        | JN47sa | 4026 | NE  |
| May02 | May04 | Ogasawara        | JD1BLY | J15RPT    |     | 630-6m C S      | AS-031 | QL07mm | 7256 | NNW |
| Apr29 | May04 | Ogasawara        | JD1BMH | JD1BMH    | Bur | 40-10m C S R    | AS-031 | QL07mm | 7256 | NNW |
| May26 | May29 | Svalbard         | JW8DW  | LotW      |     | 80-10m C S      | EU-026 | JQ75tf | 3566 | NNE |
| May02 | Jun01 | Hawaii           | KH6    | N2HX      |     | S R             | OC-019 | BL10pw | 4917 | WNW |
| May01 | May03 | Wake I           | KH9    | WW6RG     | Dir | 20m S           | OC-053 | RK39hh | 6777 | WNW |
| May06 | May11 | Aland Is         | OH0KA  | LotW      |     | 80-10 & 60m C F | EU-002 | KP00ae | 4015 | NE  |
| Apr27 | May04 | Market Reef      | OJ0W   | OH3WS     |     | C s             | EU-053 | JP90mh | 3980 | NE  |
| May08 | May13 | Aruba            | P4     | DF5AU     |     | C S             | SA-036 | FK52am | 1915 | S   |
| May10 | May15 | Curacao          | PJ2    | LotW      |     | 80-10m          | SA-099 | FK52jf | 1941 | S   |
| Apr25 | May02 | Crete            | SV9    | OH1VR     | Dir | 80-10m          | EU-015 | KM25hj | 5116 | ENE |
| May07 | May11 | Turkey           | TC0AX  | LotW      |     | 80-2m           |        | KM69kv | 5267 | NE  |
| Apr23 | May05 | St Kitts & Nevis | V47CDC | W1CDC     |     | 80-10m C        | NA-104 | FK87pf | 1717 | SSE |
| May11 | May18 | Lord Howe I      | VK9LI  | LotW      |     | 160-17m C S F   | OC-004 | QF98mm | 9441 | W   |
| Apr23 | May04 | Laos             | XW4XR  | LotW      |     | 40,60-6m C R F  |        | OK18ga | 8430 | N   |
| May17 | May21 | Gibraltar        | ZB     | DF8AN     |     | 6m-70cm S C D   |        | IM76ga | 3663 | ENE |

\*Modes: C=CW, D="Digital", F=FT8, R=RTTY, S=SSB

| May   |   |                                      |   |                                 |   |                               |
|---|---|--------------------------------------|---|---------------------------------|---|-------------------------------|
| Sunday  | Monday                                    | Tuesday                              | Wednesday                               | Thursday                        | Friday  | Saturday                      |
|   |   | 1<br>HCARC Net<br>146.655<br>7:00pm  | 2                                       | 3<br>HCARC<br>MEETING<br>7:00PM | 4   | 5                             |
| 6<br>Warminster<br>Hamfest on<br>Rt 413 Bristol<br>PA | 7<br>9:00 AM<br>Breakfast at<br>HC Diner  | 8<br>HCARC Net<br>146.655<br>7:00pm  | 9<br>License<br>exams by<br>appointment | 10                              | 11  | 12                            |
| 13  | 14<br>Noon lunch at<br>HC Diner           | 15<br>HCARC Net<br>146.655<br>7:00pm | 16                                      | 17                              | 18<br>Hamvention<br>May 18-20   | 19<br>Hamvention<br>continues |
| 20<br>Hamvention<br>continues                         | 21<br>9:00 AM<br>Breakfast at<br>HC Diner | 22<br>HCARC Net<br>146.655<br>7:00pm | 23                                      | 24                              | 25  | 26<br>CQ WPX CW<br>Contest *  |
| 27<br>CQ WPX CW<br>contest<br>continues               | 28<br><u>Noon lunch at<br/>Lisa's</u>     | 29<br>HCARC Net<br>146.655<br>7:00pm | 30                                      | 31                              | * <a href="http://www.cqwpix.com.rules.htm">http://www.cqwpix.com.rules.htm</a> |                               |

### License Exams

Our VE team gives exams for Technician, General and Extra Class licenses, at 6:30 or 7:00pm on the 2nd Wednesday of each month, unless there are no applicants. Application fee is still only \$15:00. You will need to bring two forms of identification, one of which must be a photo ID, such as a driver's license. You will not need to give your Social Security number if you already have an FRN number, which may be on your existing FCC license.

Call Larry Puccio at 732-349-2950 for an appointment.

### Alexanderson Alternator May 1

May 1, 2018 at 1000Z, they'll again try to get the 50 ton Alexanderson Alternator in Grimeton, Sweden back on the air. The motor start-up procedure is scheduled to begin at 5:30 AM EDT. If that goes well, they will attempt CW transmission at 6:00 AM, using the callsign SAQ, running approx 80KW output power.

Most of us will have to be content with hearing it via the internet, as it will be on 17,200 Hz, and the antenna despite it's enormous size, is only about 10% effective at such a low frequency.

For interesting information on the alternator and its inventor, see:

[grimeton.org/?lang=en](http://grimeton.org/?lang=en)