

# The SKYHOOK



HOLIDAY CITY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

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

June 2021

Toms River, NJ

## President's Corner For June 2021

Welcome to summer! The days are long, the weather is warm, and the air is, I hope, singing from your radios!

I hope everyone was able to access Contest University this year. For those that were unable to, the slide files from this year, and videos from previous years are available at <https://www.contestuniversity.com>.

New RF rules have come into effect. The major change is that the blanket exception to doing the calculation work has now been removed. There are some exceptions still, but they are quite narrow. New or changed stations must do the calculations before they go on the air, while existing stations have a brief grace period. The actual rules haven't changed, it seems. More details are available from Ria Jairam, N2RJ (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kyLDC-H8kb0&t=606s>) and the ARRL (<http://www.arrl.org/rf-exposure>).

Field Day is just around the corner! Due to COVID restrictions, HCARC will be participating virtually again this year. I would encourage the membership to get on the air on the weekend of June 26-27 and participate. More information can be found at the ARRL site (<http://www.arrl.org/field-day>). Personally, I'm hoping to be operating FT8 from my mobile station.

73,

[Mike](#)

## Ocean County ARES® News

June 2021

Hurricane season 2021 officially starts on June 1, 2021. Now is the time to ensure you have a family plan in place to protect your most precious assets and a ham radio plan to be able to help others. Correct any weaknesses now while you have time.

From the May 19, 2021 ARRL Letter:

The WX4NHC Annual Station On-the-Air Test will be held on Saturday, May 29, from 9 AM to 5 PM EDT (1300Z-2100Z). This hurricane season, WX4NHC operators plan to be working remotely again. The National Hurricane Center is planning to maintain all CDC pandemic protocols until the end of 2021. The National Hurricane Center is allowing only the main meteorologists and staff to enter the building.

Julio Ripoll, WD4R, Assistant Coordinator of the National Hurricane Center's amateur radio station WX4NHC, said the event offers an opportunity for radio amateurs worldwide to exercise the sorts of communications available during severe weather. "We will be making brief contacts on many frequencies and modes, exchanging signal reports and basic weather data (sunny, rain, temperature, etc.) with any station in any location," Ripoll said.

Operation will take place on HF, VHF, UHF, APRS, and Winlink. WX4NHC will center its activity on the Hurricane Watch Net frequencies of 14.325 MHz and 7.268 MHz, depending on propagation, but will

### **NEXT REGULAR MEETING:**

**Meetings are held on Zoom the first Thursday of each month. Mike will send members an e-mail with the Zoom address before the meeting.**

operate elsewhere as conditions dictate. WX4NHC will also operate on the VoIP Hurricane Net from 2000 until 2100 UTC. For the upcoming hurricane season, Ripoll reminded radio amateurs -- "Even if you are not directly affected by a hurricane situation, please volunteer to monitor and relay reports; just one report can make a difference and help save a life!"

Ocean County ARES VE Team had a test session on May 18<sup>th</sup> with five candidates total. All were new candidates taking Technician exams. Three of the five successfully passed. Thank you to volunteer examiners WB2ALJ, KD2FFR and KC2SBR along with lead VE N2LD. The next scheduled test session is in July.

The next Ocean County ARES meeting will be June 16<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM. It will be a virtual Zoom meeting. Please try and set aside just an hour of your time to attend.

Ocean County ARES shirts have been ordered and are anticipated to be handed out on May 30<sup>th</sup> at the Ocean County EOC parking lot starting at 9:00 AM. If you ordered a shirt, please try and pick it up at that time. This round of production we offered short and long sleeve T shirts and short sleeve polo shirts in men's and women's styles. All are black with the ARES gold emblem on the front and "OCEAN COUNTY ARES COMMUNICATIONS" on the back. Pricing includes a \$2 donation to Ocean County ARES for each shirt sold.

ARES Resources

- [Download the ARES Manual \[PDF\]](#)
- [ARES Field Resources Manual \[PDF\]](#)

On May 19<sup>th</sup> at approximately 8:30 AM, Oyster Creek Nuclear Generating Station offloaded the last fuel assembly from the wet fuel pool into dry storage casks. This is significant because the wet fuel pool was always the weak link in a nuclear accident and could possibly spread contamination to the general public. The wet fuel pool required electricity and support systems to keep the fuel in the pool cooled and covered within technical specifications of the license. The dry fuel storage casks require no outside support systems and are sealed shut.

For those operators who took RERP training to prepare for possible communications support assignments in an emergency, the site is in an extremely safe mode now, compared to operating nuclear plants.

73 de [WX2NJ](#)

Bob Murdock

Ocean County Amateur Radio Emergency Service® EC

## Ham Radio's Windfall-Finale

by Stan Stafiej [KB2PD](#)

My wife and I arrived in Adelaide after our flight from Auckland, New Zealand on a warm January summer day. We were met at the airport by Malcolm House a friend of our son. The two had endured a tropical typhoon together during a World Boy Scout Jamboree at the base of Mount Fuji a few years earlier. After settling in for the rest of the day and evening and meeting the other members of the House family, we were driven, on the following morning, to meet John, VK5LV, the mastermind of this glorious trip.





It was from John's QTH and radio station (pictured) that I made several QSOs with Murray Halfon W2NSH, a resident of Holiday City.

Later in the week we were driven to Bill's (VK5ASW) QTH and spent a leisurely afternoon at his horse farm discussing ham radio and antennas.

An unexpected and very surprised side trip, completely unrelated to ham radio, was planned by Malcolm for my wife and me. We flew a short flight from Adelaide to Kangaroo Island, the third largest island off the coasts of Australia, landing on a grass strip. We thought that, perhaps here, we would have our first glimpses of kangaroos and perhaps koalas. It was not to be. Instead we saw huge sea lions basking on one of the beaches, completely at ease and unconcerned by

human presence. Wallabees were abundant and used to being fed bread. It was a bit daunting to see one of them hopping toward you at breakneck speed as you waved the slice of bread to attract them.

[Continued on page 4]

## License Exams

Our FCC License Exam team is "back in business" in the Whispering Pines Park here in Holiday City South. Call Larry Puccio (see below) for instructions and an appointment. FCC now requires all applicants to have FRN numbers before the test. If you already have an FCC license, look on your license certificate or <https://wireless2.fcc.gov/UlsApp/UlsSearch/searchLic>.

### Holiday City Amateur Radio Club

Toms River, New Jersey

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

<b>President</b>	<b>Mike Carson</b>	<a href="#">KC2QQF</a>	917-830-4225
<b>Vice President</b>	<b>Carl Lee</b>	<a href="#">W2PTZ</a>	732-575-7558
<b>Secretary</b>	<b>John Perry</b>	<a href="#">KD2NDY</a>	732-349-2705
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Larry Puccio</b>	<a href="#">K2QDY</a>	732-349-2950
<b>Executive Board</b>	<b>Doug Poray</b>	<a href="#">KC2TZC</a>	732-928-2316
<b>Executive Board</b>	<b>John Roberts</b>	<a href="#">KQ4WR</a>	732-350-1162
<b>W2HC Trustee</b>	<b>Larry Puccio</b>	<a href="#">K2QDY</a>	732-349-2950

### CLUB COMMITTEES

<b>Refreshments:</b>	Marge <a href="#">KD2LNT</a>	pearl1122@comcast.net
<b>Webmaster:</b>	Steve <a href="#">N2WLH</a>	N2WLH@yahoo.com
<b>Programs:</b>	(open)	
<b>Sunshine:</b>	(open)	
<b>Field Day:</b>	Larry <a href="#">K2QDY</a>	732-349-2950
<b>VE Sessions:</b>	Larry <a href="#">K2QDY</a>	732-349-2950
<b>Membership:</b>	Doug <a href="#">KC2TZC</a>	732-928-2316

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 normally held on the first Thursday of every month, at 7:00 pm, except in December.

Location: Meeting Room #1 in 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) 732 350-1162

*[Windfall continued]*

After our week in Adelaide, John, VK5LV, drove us to Frank's (VK2DWE) QTH in Cootomundra, New South Wales. He introduced me to his very well equipped ham station and antenna system making my home station look a bit modest by comparison. Two days later, Frank drove us to Canberra, the capital of Australia where we visited the War Museum and a quick tour of the city before driving us to Cal's (VK2ECN) QTH in Sydney. As we approached, there towering over the roof of his home was a three element Yagi to greet us. A highlight of the tour that Cal gave us on the following was the iconic Sydney Opera House which we were able to enter and stroll around. On one evening Cal and his wife Uko, a physician, planned a dinner cruise in Sydney harbor. Seeing the Opera House illuminated at night from the water is mesmerizing, to say the least.

Our odyssey was slowly coming to an end. Almost six weeks had already passed, but it seemed like only two. We flew from Sydney to Fiji (3D2) and spent two days there including an afternoon at one of their pristine beaches. From there it was Hawaii, Chicago and finally Newark.

Webster describes "windfall" as "An unexpected gain or stroke of good luck". My wife and I were beneficiaries of ham radio's windfall.

## Southern NJ Section News



June 2021

Tom Preiser N2XW SNJ Section Manager  
[n2xw@arrl.org](mailto:n2xw@arrl.org)

Field Day is just around the corner. Many clubs will be having Field Day out in the field, which is good to hear. Myself and Tom Devine WB2ALJ SNJ Emergency Coordinator will be visiting those clubs that are

participating. Remember you can get extra points by sending a message to the Section Manager. This can be done via radiogram through a traffic net or try sending an email via Winlink. I am looking forward to hearing from as many of the clubs as possible.

Congratulations to Bob Schenck N2OO who was part of a documentary on PBS. For more than 80 years, investigators have tried to figure out what caused the spark that led to the Hindenburg going up in flames as it prepared to land at Lakehurst Naval Air Station in 1937. "Hindenburg: The New Evidence" will be available for streaming online, according to the network.

The new look at the May 6, 1937, disaster was prompted by a conversation at the 80th anniversary commemoration outside Hangar One of the fires and crash that killed 35 people on board and one person on the ground. Dan Grossman, a renowned expert on airships including Hindenburg, was approached at the commemoration by Robert Schenck, a New Jersey resident whose uncle, Harold N. Schenck, had filmed the disaster. Though Harold Schenck tried to share his amateur film — which shows the disaster from a different angle than the newsreel films — with government investigators at the time, it was largely overlooked, his nephew says in the "Nova" film. The "Nova" documentary not only shares the footage, which provided new clues to re-examine the cause of the explosion, but the scientific experiments that helped investigators come to a fresh understanding of what set off the fire.

*[The Nova episode is available on YouTube -Editor]*

The original investigations into the Hindenburg crash concluded the fire was a result of leaking hydrogen ignited by a spark, but no one had been able to determine what caused the spark.

Eyewitness accounts suggested the fire started near the tail of the airship, but supporting evidence was hard to find until the unseen Schenck footage was examined. Newsreel recordings of the disaster begin after the fire is well underway, and most physical evidence was destroyed immediately in the blaze. Grossman has the footage authenticated as part of the investigation.

"Thanks to this stunning new footage, we were able to revive a cold case investigation surrounding one of the

most iconic disasters of the 20th century," said Gary Tarpinian, the film's executive producer. Definity a story worth watching.

**CONGRATS TO VOLUNTEER DAVE BURGESS WA2TVS ON WINNING THE ANNUAL JASON HALL AWARD**  
The annual Jason Hall Award was awarded to volunteer Dave Burgess WA2TVS during the Battleship's annual Volunteer Lunch on Saturday, May 1. Dave, a Navy veteran, has volunteered with his wife, Margaret, on the Battleship New Jersey Amateur Radio Station (BNJARS) since March 2001. Dave, a founding member of BNJARS and the Chief Engineer with the station, has also coordinated the Museum Ships Weekend for the Battleship, which joins over 100 museum ships in this annual radio event. More recently, Dave coordinated efforts to get the air search radar at the very top of the Battleship to come to life. The radar now continuously spins every day.

The annual Jason Hall Award is presented to an outstanding volunteer who went over and above to help the ship. Jason Hall was the Battleship's Curator, who succumbed to cancer several years ago.

#### HAMFESTS ARE BACK

On July 3, 2021 - Firecracker Hamfest, ARRL Pennsylvania State Convention  
Location: Harrisburg, Sponsor: Harrisburg Radio Amateurs Club  
Website: <http://www.W3uu.org>

Mark your Calendars for the 43rd annual SNJ Section Convention and Hamfest Sunday September 12, 2021 at the Gloucester County 4-H Fairgrounds. <http://www.w2mmd.org>

### Larry Puccio K2QDY Worked:

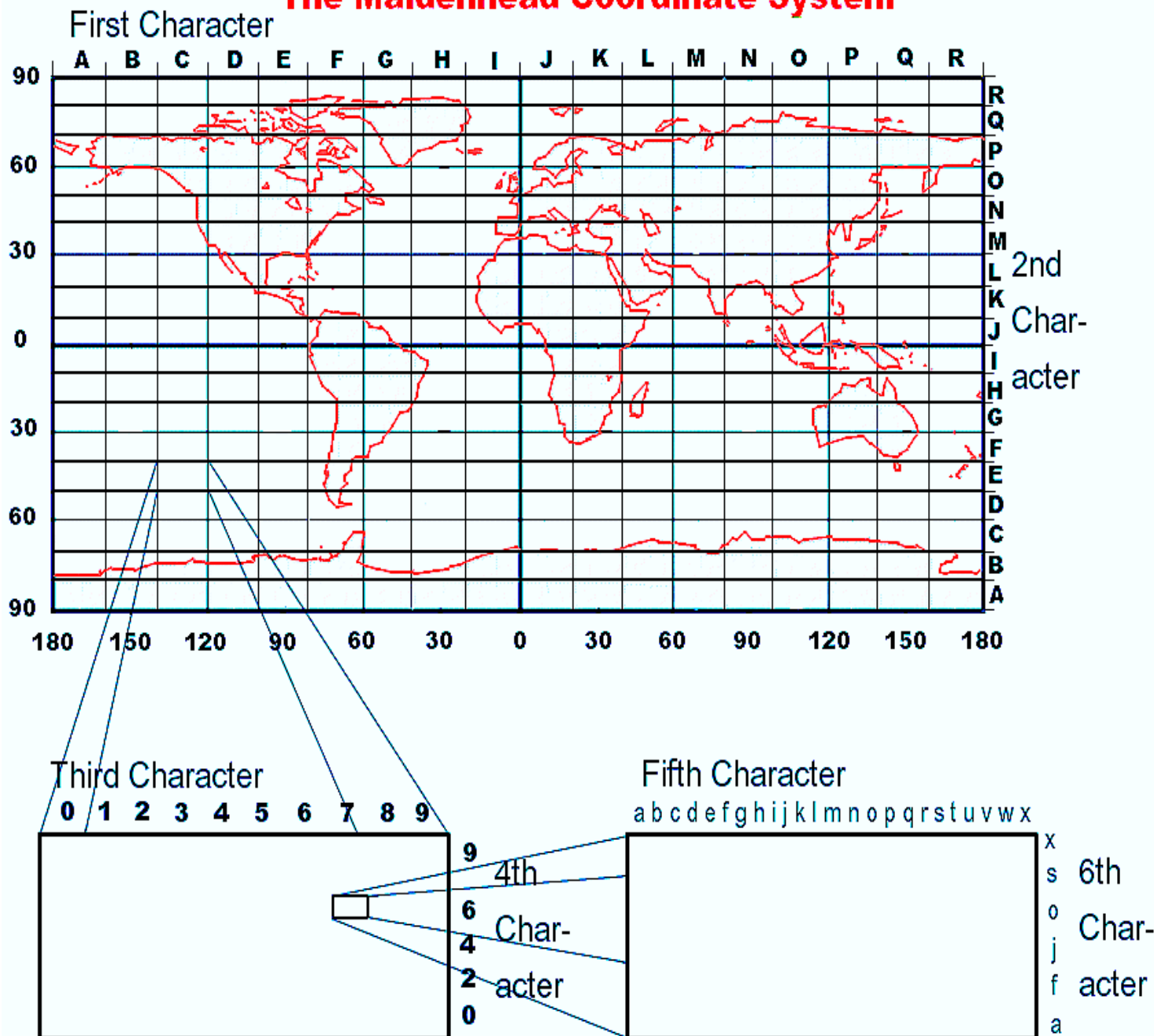
Date	Time	Mode	Callsign	Entity	Miles Dir (estimated)
4/27	17:03	CW	YL2SM	Latvia	4277 NE
4/27	17:16	CW	IZ3NYG	Italy	4343 ENE
4/27	17:22	CW	LZ1612EN	Bulgaria	4757 NE
4/27	23:06	CW	HA230L	Hungary	4403 NE
4/28	20:16	CW	LZ1612EN	Bulgaria	4757 NE
4/28	20:23	CW	S51TA	Slovenia	4269 NE
4/28	20:27	CW	UG1B	Euro Russia	4338 NNE
4/28	20:33	CW	A41CK	Oman	7123 NE
4/28	20:40	CW	IK7XJA	Italy	4343 ENE
4/29	20:48	CW	DC3CC	FR Germany	3768 NE
4/29	20:56	CW	F6IIT	France	3669 NE
4/29	20:59	CW	LZ3FA	Bulgaria	4757 NE
4/29	21:26	CW	F6FJI	France	3669 NE
4/29	21:42	CW	DK7PE	FR Germany	3768 NE
5/1	00:45	CW	HB9IJC	Switzerland	3920 NE
5/1	00:48	CW	XE1XR	Mexico	1764 WSW
5/1	00:55	CW	CX2DK	Uruguay	5240 SSE
5/2	00:14	CW	KL7SB	NIKISKI, AK 99635	3366 NW
5/2	17:29	CW	9K2NO	Kuwait	6406 NE
5/2	20:00	CW	IU0HMB	Italy	4343 ENE
5/2	20:21	CW	RP76UAI	Euro Russia	5365 NE
5/2	20:25	CW	UW1WA	Ukraine	4732 NE
5/2	20:30	CW	CN8WW	Morocco	3631 ENE
5/2	20:35	CW	9A2AJ	Croatia	4341 NE
5/6	18:27	CW	4L8A	Georgia	5646 NE
5/6	22:30	CW	EA4RKM	Spain	3620 ENE
5/6	22:33	CW	7X4AN	Algeria	4061 ENE
5/6	22:35	CW	LZ5DB	Bulgaria	4757 NE
5/6	22:54	CW	YV5IAU	Venezuela	2084 SSE
5/7	00:29	CW	OA1F	Peru	3595 S

### VE News

On Wednesday May 19<sup>th</sup> the Holiday City Volunteer Examiners held their first VE session of the year. We met at the Whispering Pines Park here in Holiday City South at 1:00 PM. The weather was perfect and we had two candidates. Both candidates passed the Technician class test and one of them had also studied for the General Class test. He passed that test also. The one that only took the technician test told us he would be here again next month to take the General Class test.

Larry Puccio K2QDY

## The Maidenhead Coordinate System



### Decoding A Grid Square

Here's how to calculate the latitude and longitude of the center of a 6-character Maidenhead "grid square"

First, the Latitude

Add up 10 times the value of the second character (A=0, B=1, C=2, etc), plus the fourth character, plus 1/24 of the value of the sixth character (a=0, b=1, c=2, etc), then subtract 89.979.

Now the Longitude

Add up 10 times the value of the first character (A=0, B=1, C=2, etc), plus the third character, plus 1/24 the value of the fifth character (a=0, b=1, c=2, etc), subtract 89.979, then multiply that by 2.

The resulting location will be less than 3.2 miles from anywhere in that "grid square".

Try searching for "39.958, -74.243" at Google Maps.

## Some DX Opportunities

In alphanumeric order of Callsign

Mode codes: 8 = JT8, 9 = JT9, A = AM, C = CW, D = Digital, E = EME, J = JP4, P = PSK31, R = RTTY, S = SSB, T = SSTV.

Bands: "Low" usually means 160, 80 &amp; 40m. HF means 3 to 30 MHz (includes 80 to 10 meters).

Many thanks to NG3K, Wikipedia, Google Maps, the ARRL, the RSGB, DXWorld, DXNews &amp; QRZ.com for the data.

FINISH	ENTITY		CALLSIGN	IOTA	BANDS	MODES	QSL via	LOC	Miles	Dir	Info ARLB-
20211231	Antarctica	00	8J1RL	AN-015			bureau	KC90sx	9352	SSE	004
20211231	S. Shetland Is	00	DT8A	AN-010		C S 8	DS5TOS	GC08uc	7098	S	014
20211001	Antarctica	00	KC4USV	AN-011	20m	S 8	K7MT	RB32id	9328	SSW	015
20211101	Antarctica	00	VK0PD	AN-016	40,20m		EB7DX	AA00aa	8985	S	013
20211231	Georgia	4L	4L1PJ		80-10m	S	N4GNR	LN04vp	5376	NE	001
20210901	Nigeria	5N	5N7MSF		20-15m	S	per opr	JJ16mm	5260	E	020
20210615	Niger	5U	5UAIHM		40,20m	C	F4IHM	JK13bm	4910	E	018
20210627	Niger	5U	5UAIHM		40,20m	C S	F4IHM	JK13am	4903	E	020
20211231	Croatia	9A	9A10FF				9A2MF	JN85et	4355	NE	007
20220315	Zambia	9J	9J2BG		20m		HB9EWU	KI40iq	7322	E	010
20210731	Tonga	A3	A35JP	OC-049	80-6m	C S 8	JA0RQV	AG28jv	7703	W	002
20210901	Angola	D2	D2FJZ		80-10m	S	CT1FJZ	JH87sx	6850	E	001
20211231	Germany	DA	D8100AVUS				DO2PZ	J062rk	6019	NE	001
20210630	Germany	DA	DA21WARD				bureau	J040ic	3904	NE	013
20211231	Germany	DA	DL65ESSEN				bureau	J031lj	3798	NE	018
20210805	St Barthelemy	FJ	FJ/K2LIO	NA-146	80-10m		K2LIO	FK88ma	1660	SSE	021
20210605	Martinique	FM	FM/OQ3R	NA-107	160-10m	C	ON4RU	FK94mq	1923	SSE	020
20211231	England	G	GB75ISWL		most hf	most	bureau	J001pu	3560	NE	004
20210731	Switzerland	HB	HB90BERO		all	many	LoTW	JN47ce	3967	NE	017
20240501	Haiti	HH	HH2JA	NA-096	80-6m	C S 8	LoTW	FK38um	1487	S	021
20211017	Rep of Korea	HL	D90EXPO				DS3BBC	PM36ns	6962	NNW	007
20220131	Rep of Korea	HL	DS4DRE/4	AS-060	80--10m	C S	DS4DRE	PM34if	7114	NNW	005
20211130	Panama	HP	HP200I		80-10m	S D	HP1DAV	FJ08fw	2169	S	021
20210630	Italy	I	II6RI				IK6IHU	JN62ma	4343	ENE	020
20210630	Sardinia	IS0	II0QSE	EU-024			IS0AGY	JN62ks	4312	NE	007
20220331	Japan	JA	8J100CB	AS-007			bureau	QM05bo	6781	NNW	014
20220430	Japan	JA	8N0J	AS-007			bureau	PM97cd	6729	NNW	005
20221231	Japan	JA	8N1MORSE	AS-007		C	bureau	PM86tf	6794	NNW	016
20210905	Japan	JA	8NnOLP	AS-007			bureau	PM86tf	6794	NNW	018
20210630	Minami Torishima	JD1	JG8NQJ/JD1	OC-073	40,30,17m		JA8CJY	QL64xg	7025	NW	013
20210630	Mongolia	JT	JU11XDX				JT1CH	ON38ma	6361	N	002
20211231	Argentina	LU	L21RCA				FF75qq	5170	S	004	
20211231	Bulgaria	LZ	LZ190FT				KN22dq	4801	NE	003	
20210607	Austria	OE	OE60VHSC			C s	per opr	JN77nm	4245	NE	019
20220301	Finland	OH	OF60RR				OH8DR	KP20np	4156	NE	010
20211231	Finland	OH	OH100SRAL					KP20np	4156	NE	005
20211231	Czech Republic	OL	OL75KCR				ClubLog	JN79vw	4130	NE	013
20211231	Belgium	ON	OR40NOL					J021pf	3736	NE	018
20210607	Denmark	OZ	OZ60VHSC			C s	OZ1JHM	J055tn	3866	NE	019
20210731	Sweden	SM	SE400G		various	various	LoTW	J099bh	3981	NE	018
20211231	Poland	SP	HF100LEM				SP9PKZ	J090xb	4347	NE	004
20220205	Poland	SP	SN0ZOSP				SP90DM	K002mg	4310	NE	009
20220205	Poland	SP	SN100ZOSP				SP9PJ	K002mg	4310	NE	009
20211231	Greece	SV	SZ200P				LoTW	KM18te	4958	NE	016
20210628	Turkey	TA	TC568FA		all	all	bureau	KN41jc	5051	NE	019
20210531	Benin	TY	ZS6JSI/TY		80,40,20m	S 8	ZS6JSI	JJ18hu	5138	E	007
20210731	Kaliningrad	UA2	RK75AK				UA2FAK	K055ss	4718	NE	016
20210731	Kaliningrad	UA2	RK75FF				UF2F	K085ss	4718	NE	016
20210627	Canada	VE	VX31IGY				VE3NE	FN04jm	405	NW	021
20211231	Australia	VK	VI50SG				bureau	QF56na	9922	W	019
20210831	Australia	VK	VK100AF				M0URX	PG66pa	10489	WNW	007
20210611	Christmas Island	VK9X	VK9XX	OC-002	80-10m	8 s	EB7DX	OH29un	10403	N	021
20210606	Latvia	YL	YK21RI		160-10m	C S R D	LoTW	KM95aa	5703	NE	020
20211231	Serbia	YT	YT165TESLA				YU1MM	KN04gv	4557	NE	005
20211231	Venezuela	YV	YW200BC		80-10m	C S D	YV4KW	FK60ad	2096	SSE	019
20210607	Macedonia	Z3	Z360VHSC			C s	per opr	KN06um	4543	NE	019
20211231	Ascension Island	ZD8	ZD8HZ	AF-003			TA1HZ	II22tb	5048	ESE	012

<b>June</b>						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 8:30PM ARES Net 449.825, -, 131.8	3 <b>HCARC ZOOM Mtg 7:00 PM</b>	4	5 KY QSO Party <a href="http://kysoparty.org">kysoparty.org</a>
6	7	8 License Exams. For (required) appointment, see page 3	9 8:30 ARES Net 145.170, -, 131.8	10	11	12 June VHF Contest <a href="http://www.arrl.org">www.arrl.org</a>
13 VHF Contest continues	14	15	16 7:00PM ARES Meeting	17	18	19 WVA QSO Party <a href="http://www.qsl.net/wvsarc">www.qsl.net/wvsarc</a>
20	21	22	23 8:30 ARES Net 145.170, -, 131.8	24	25	26 <b>FIELD DAY begins at 2:00PM</b>
27 <b>FIELD DAY ENDS at 5:00PM</b>	28	29	30 8:30PM ARES Net 449.825, -, 131.8			

## A Thank You To Our Article Contributors

I, and I presume our readers, appreciate the efforts of those who send articles for the SKYHOOK.

A special "Thank you" this month to Mike Carson, Bob Murdock, Stan Stafiej, Larry Puccio and Tom Preiser for their contributions.

[John Roberts KQ4WR](#)

Editor