



The SKYHOOK



HOLIDAY CITY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

www.hcarc.us

January 2012

Toms River, NJ

January Program

This months program will consist of open discussion and a video presentation. We would love to have one of the club members make a presentation about their adventures in ham radio. Maybe how you got started in radio and who was that Elmer of years ago. Did you get a Novice license first and then go down to the FCC office to take the Technician or General class test? Any subject would be interesting.

Dues are Due

It's that time of year again and our club membership dues are due. This is our largest source of income and we depend on everyone. supporting the club Please see Larry Puccio, K2QDY, club Treasurer with your dues money

Dates to Remember

January 5	Membership Meeting
January 9	Club Luncheon
January 11	VE Session
January 23	Club Luncheon
January 25	Executive Board Meeting

Birthdays and Anniversaries

Happy Birthday to all:

01/13	Barbara Keay
01/17	Murray Goldberg
01/26	Jane Lee
01/18	Ed Picciuti



The President's Corner By Dave WA2DJN



The December meeting was our annual Holiday meeting and we had 18 members and wives in attendance. We started with the salute to the flag and then had a short meeting where Larry told the members that Bill Haldane was recuperating in a nursing home at the present time. Bill had fallen in his home a few weeks ago and required hospitalization. He was then sent to the Holiday City nursing home on Plaza drive just off Mule road. I sent a card from the club and hope that he gets better soon and returns' home.

Dues are due for next year and the money should be sent to our treasurer Larry. The Dues are our main financial income and we depend on everyone's cooperation.

We closed the meeting and proceeded to enjoy the hors d' oeuvres and later Coffee soda and cake. I want to thank the wives and members who brought in the food and to my wife Sandy, who made the sheet cake with the letters Happy Holiday, and the Morse code under them. Thank you Larry for your help in setting up and making the coffee and bringing in soda.

The club is in need of a President and members for our Executive Board. We also need someone for the refreshment committee. Larry and I, Carl Lee, and Norm Smith, have been trying to keep the club together. We need the membership to help out and take over some of the officers positions.

Have a happy and healthy Holiday.

73

Dave Ottenberg

NEXT MEETING January 5, 2012
Meeting Rm. #1 at Holiday City South
Clubhouse
Mule Rd. at Santiago Drive

MEMBERSHIP

Provided by Bill Hellman NA2M

Are you an active member, the kind that would be missed? Or, are you just contented that your name is on the list?

Do you attend the meetings and mingle with the flock? Or, do you just meet in private and criticize and knock?

Do you take an active part to help the work along? Or, are you satisfied to be the kind that just belongs?

Do you work on committees, to this there is no trick; or leave the work to just a few and talk about the clique?

Please come to the meetings often and help with hand and heart.

Don't just be a member, but take an active part. Think this over member's, you know what's right and wrong. Are you an active member, or do you just belong?

The Holiday City ARC

By Larry Puccio

The Holiday City ARC has been in existence for many years with membership drawn from local communities around the Holiday City Senior Communities. The membership was quite numerous at first, however, more recently like many other clubs the membership is dwindling. This has occurred for many reasons illness, moving closer to the children and some who have passed away. Although we run a VE session each month that has not netted any new members. The club can not exist without membership. The other ingredient to running a club is for the present membership to take a proactive role in club operations. At this time we are in need of someone stepping up to become the club President. This position requires that person to run the monthly meetings and to chair the monthly Executive Board meetings. In addition to this vacancy we need three members to step up to take positions on the Executive Board. This Executive Board member participates in monthly Executive Board meetings and to help guide the club officers making various decisions. Usually the Executive Board meetings last only one hour and the demand is not great.

Please consider becoming an officer.

HCARC Official Badge Ordering

The club's official badge maker is the Capital Engraving Co. in Longview, WA. To order a badge, simply call Capital at 1-800-628-4985 after 1PM EST M-F. All that is required is to give your call and first name and your mail address. Use your credit card to pay. Cost is \$12.50 plus \$2 S&H. Al Ross WA7UQE will take care of you and create an official logo and club name on your personal badge.

Our VE Crew

Murray KD2IN, Bill AC2F, John K2JWH, Ed W1EAP, Larry K2QDY, Jamie W2QO, John KQ4WR, Stan KB2PD, Steve N2WLH, Kevin W2FA, Ed WA2NDA, Walter KC2LFD.

CLUB COMMITTEES

Refreshments: Carl W2PTZ

www.hcarc.us Webmaster: Steve N2WLH, Kevin W2FA

Publicity: Ed W1EAP

Programs: Vacant

Sunshine: Dave WA2DJN

Event Food Committee: Vacant

Field Day: Larry K2QDY

VE Sessions: Bill AC2F, Larry K2QDY plus the 'crew'

Skyhook: Larry K2QDY

Funds Raising: Vacant

Membership: Murray KD2IN

HOLIDAY CITY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Toms River, New Jersey

Web Site www.hcarc.us

President	Vacant		
Vice President	Dave Ottenberg	WA2DJN	732 505-5953
Secretary	Carl Lee	W2PTZ	732 237-2421
Treasurer	Larry Puccio	K2QDY	732-349-2950
Executive Board	Don Smith	W2III	732-505-4821
Executive Board	Bill Haldane	AC2F	732-240-7064
Executive Board	John Roberts	KQ4WR	732 350-1162
Executive Board	Vacant		
W2HC Trustee	Don Smith	W2III	732-505-4821

Membership is open to all interested persons. Ham license is not required.

Dues are \$20.00 per year, payable Jan. 1st. Members joining during the year will have the dues prorated. Family membership \$30.00

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: Go to Mule Rd. and to the corner of Santiago Drive. Turn into Santiago Dr., then into the parking lot in front of the pool. Enter bldg. on right.

The SKYHOOK is published monthly.

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Morse Code, Development and History



A typical "straight key."

This U.S. model, known as the J-38, was manufactured in huge quantities during [World War II](#), and remains in widespread use today. In a straight key, the signal is "on" when the knob is pressed, and "off" when it is released. Length and timing of the dots and dashes are entirely controlled by the operator.

Beginning in 1836, [Samuel F. B. Morse](#) and [Alfred Vail](#) developed an [electric telegraph](#), which sent pulses of electrical current to control an electromagnet that was located at the receiving end of the telegraph wire. The technology available at the time made it impossible to print characters in a readable form, so the inventors had to devise an alternate means of communication. In 1837, [William Cooke](#) and [Charles Wheatstone](#) began operating electric telegraphs in England that also had electromagnets in the receivers; however, their systems used needle pointers that rotated to indicate the alphabetic characters being sent.

In contrast, Morse's and Vail's initial telegraph, which first went into operation in 1844, made indentations on a paper tape when an electrical current was transmitted. Morse's original telegraph receiver used a mechanical clockwork to move a paper tape. When an electrical current was received, an electromagnet engaged an armature that pushed a stylus onto the moving paper tape, making an indentation on the tape. When the current was interrupted, the electromagnet retracted the stylus, and that portion of the moving tape remained unmarked.

The Morse code was developed so that operators could translate the indentations marked on the paper tape into text messages. In his earliest code, Morse had planned to only transmit numerals, and use a dictionary to look up each word according to the number which had been sent. However, the code was soon expanded by [Alfred Vail](#) to include letters and special characters, so it could be used more generally. The shorter marks were called "dots", and the longer ones "dashes", and the letters most commonly used in the [English language](#) were assigned the shortest sequences.

In the original Morse telegraphs, the receiver's armature made a clicking noise as it moved into and out of position to mark the tape. Operators soon learned to translate the clicks directly into dots and dashes, making it unnecessary to use the paper tape. When Morse code was adapted to radio, the dots and dashes were sent as short and long pulses. It was later found that people become more proficient at receiving Morse code when it is taught as a language that is heard, instead of one read from a page.^[1]

To reflect the sound of Morse code, practitioners began to vocalise a dot as "dit", and a dash as "dah". Morse code was an integral part of international aviation. Commercial and military pilots were required to be familiar with it, both for use with early communications systems and identification of navigational beacons which transmitted continuous three letter ID's in Morse code. As late as the 1990s, [aeronautical charts](#) listed the three letter ID of each airport in Morse and [sectional charts](#) still show the Morse signals for [Vortac](#) and [NDB](#) used for in flight navigation.

Morse code was also used as an international standard for maritime communication until 1999, when it was replaced by the [Global Maritime Distress Safety System](#).

When the [French navy](#) ceased using Morse code in 1997, the final message transmitted was "Calling all. This is our last cry before our eternal silence." *See also:* [500 kHz](#)

HAMFEST/CONVENTION By Kevin Wagner W2FA

HAMFEST/CONVENTION

01/14/2012 | **SARC January Winterfest 2012**

Location: Marathon, NY

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Skyline Amateur Radio Club

Website: <http://www.skylineradioclub.org>

HAMFEST/CONVENTION

01/14/2012 | **Winter Fest**

Location: Harrisburg, PA

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Harrisburg Radio Amateur Club

Website: <http://www.w3uu.org>

HAMFEST/CONVENTION

01/28/2012 | **Lockport ARA Hamfest**

Location: Lockport, NY

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Lockport Amateur Radio Association

Website: <http://lara.hamgate.net/>

HAMFEST/CONVENTION

01/29/2012 | **2012 Post Holiday Hamfest**

Location: Odenton, MD

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Maryland Mobileers ARC

Website: <http://sites.google.com/site/marylandmobileers/hamfest->

SPECIAL EVENTS:

01/01/2012 | **SKCC 6th Anniversary**

Jan 1-Jan 31, 0000Z-2359Z, K3Y

Erie, PA. Straight Key Century Club. 14.050, 10.120, 7.055, 3.550

QSL. Dan Rhodes, KA3CTQ

618 Seminole Dr, Erie, PA 16505

Celebrating 6 years of steady growth to over 8,500 members on CW

Contact Roger Kepner, W6SQQ, PIO

A Special Thank-You

Our December 1st, meeting was the clubs annual Holiday party. It was attended by 18 members and their wives. At the party we all enjoyed the many Hors d'oeuvres provided by the ladies as well as cookies and soda provided by the single men. We had an 18 foot long double table set up that held all the goodies and everyone had plenty to eat and drink. Sandy Ottenberg made one of her world renown sheet cakes and you

guessed it the inscription on the top "Happy Holidays" was written in Morse Code. The club members talked about the recent increase in Sun Spots and all the DX that is available on the HF bands while ladies enjoyed getting to see each other once again and talk about their families and swap some nifty recipes.

The party was a huge success due to the generosity and culinary prowess of those that brought the food and we thank each one for their contributions.

Time out for Fun. By Murray KD2IN

All of us, including Hams, need a fun break now and then. Here are some places to go on your computer to have a break from more serious activities.

If you enjoy the Marx Brothers movies, here are a few *free* places to enjoy seeing parts of their movies, and more:

<http://www.groucho.com/>

<http://www.marx-brothers.org/>

<http://www.youtube.com/videos> Just type in Marx Brothers in the search box. For more, type in Rodney Dangerfield, or Robin Williams, or just Comedians. Lots of them there to watch and laugh at.

<http://www.imdb.com/features/video/trailers/> Watch trailers of all the current movies.

<http://www.veoh.com/browse/videos/category/comedy/watch/v13614426wN5cB2kh> (Bloopers)

<http://www.nickatnite.com/> Lots of clips of TV shows – funny stuff!

Many people have pets. Dogs, cats, whatever! These sites cover every aspect of care, feeding, breeds, and just fun to look at. If you Google the word *Pets*, you will find 20 sites on the first 2 pages, and many, many, more on following pages. A few worth looking at are:

<http://www.akc.org/>

<http://www.411pets.com/>

<http://www.dooleysdoghouse.com/> (good info re puppies, kittens, and so on.)

Golf anyone? Just try Googling *Golf* for countless sites related to golf. But try these too:

<http://www.golf.com/golf/>

<http://web.tigerwoods.com/index>

<http://www.netgolfgames.com/>

<http://www.cbssports.com/golf>

NOV-DEC 2011 HOW'S DX**Russ, WA2VQV worked:****On 30 Meters CW:** CT9/CT1FFU Madeira.**On 20 Meters RTTY:** YS1JBL El Salvador.**On 17 Meters SSB:** JH0JDV Japan, V51B Namibia, VP5/W5CW Turks & Caicos.**On 15 Meters CW:** D44AC Cape Verde, ZK2V Niue.**On 15 Meters SSB:** C50C The Gambia.**On 12 Meters CW:** 3DA0NW Swaziland, C91NW Mozambique, CT9/CT1FFU Madeira, FS/DL2RUM French St. Martin, PZ5T Suriname.**On 12 Meters SSB:** OV1CDX Denmark.**On 12 Meters RTTY:** KH2L Guam, OE9GHV Austria, T2T Tuvalu, V5/DJ4SO Namibia.**On 10 Meters CW:** EG0FCD Spain, IV3NVN Italy, T2T Tuvalu, ZK2V Niue.**On 10 Meters SSB:** SV5BYR Dodecanese, ZK2V Niue.**ON 10 Meters RTTY:** 9L0W Sierra Leone, KH2L Guam, V5/DJ4SO Namibia.**Warren, KC2SSQ, Worked:****On 10 Meters SSB:** CT3FQ Madeira Island, DL8ZT DL2MM Germany, F5CAC France, IK5YJY I5ZSS IW0SAF Italy, ON5NM ON7USB Belgium, OZ5NJ Denmark, PC3M Netherlands, RA1AI Russia, V25R--- Antigua, VE5AAD Canada, XE3N Mexico YU1AB Serbia, YL2GUV Latvia.**Copy center (kop'e sen'ter), n.,**

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