



The SKYHOOK



HOLIDAY CITY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

www.hcarc.us

July 2011

Toms River, NJ

Program for our July Meeting

Well field day is over and there will be many tall and short stories to tell about out Field day. This months discussion will revolve around what we did right and what we should change. Bring your thoughts and lets discuss them to make next year even better. How did that rig perform or what about that new antenna you tried at Field day. How was the food and how about the weather. Was the park all accommodating and what can we improve at the park. These are some of the topics we can discuss.

Dates to Remember

July 7	Regular Membership Meeting
July 10	Sussex HamFest
July 11	Club Luncheon
July 13	VE Evening Session
July 25	Club Luncheon
July 27	Executive Board Meeting

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Birthdays

Stan Stafiej 07/05
 Norm Smith 07/09
 Paul Kaciuba 07/10
 Carl Lee 07/12
 John Hann 07/14
 Lucille Hann 07/21
 Jean Young 07/30



Anniversaries

Larry and Grace Puccio 07/04
 John and Lucille Hann 07/20



The President's Corner By Steve N2WLH



Hello Everyone,

At the time of this writing I'm knee deep in preparation for the June Field Day event. As you know this is probably the largest amateur radio operating event of the year. Our club is setting up 2 operating stations and I've invited the members to bring whatever they've been working on at home to try out during this event. A while back Kevin W2FA had considered setting up a vertical antenna at his home QTH using several of the aluminum stackable poles you see sold at Hamfests all over the area. This idea was shelved with the purchase of a commercially available antenna. I'm currently building the antenna he was considering and planning on giving it a try at Field Day. I'll keep you posted on how it performs.

I also have a set of headphones and individual amplifiers (the type used in the past to give CW exams during VE sessions) that we are trying to get working with the microphone mixer system we already have. This is to provide assistance for our members that have a difficult time hearing during club meetings.

If you've been having difficulty hearing anyone on the air when you turn on your favorite rig you're not alone; several people have commented about this. All the static and high background noise levels are due to a huge solar flare and you can watch a video of this event at <http://spaceweather.com>. They stated on the website "It looks like someone kicked a clod of dirt in the air," says solar physicist C. Alex Young of NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center in a Youtube video. "I've never seen material released in this way before--an amazing, amazing event." In other material I received they stated "magnetic fields above sunspot complex 1226-1227 became unstable and erupted. The blast produced an M2-class solar flare, an S1-class radiation storm, and a massive CME.

Continued on page 2

NEXT MEETING: July 7, 2011
Thursday 7:00PM
Meeting Rm. #1 at Holiday City South
Clubhouse
Mule Rd. at Santiago Drive

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A recording of the blast from NASA's Solar Dynamics Observatory ranks as one of the most beautiful and dramatic movies of the SDO era. Much of the plasma thrown up by the blast simply fell back to the sun-- indeed, that's what makes the footage so dramatic. In the movies you can see blobs of hot gas as large as Earth making bright splashes where they hit the stellar surface. Some plasma, however, reached escape velocity and left the sun in the form of a coronal mass ejection.

Until next month, keep an ear on the radio; you just may hear some of your friends out there.

The very best 73,
Steve Jackson N2WLH

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CW Copy

By Murray Goldberg KD2IN

This information was sent to me by Urb LeJune W2DEC. It is text from CNN off the news wires, and some ARRL code test runs. All at various speeds, so you chose what speed you want to copy, from slow to fast. Just click on the blue arrow at the left side of each panel's heading, and away you go. The web site is:

<http://cw.dimebank.com:8080/>

Just click on it and it will take you to the website for the code. If it doesn't open automatically (as it didn't for me) just retype it into the web browser address line and GO.

I tried the slow speed CNN and to my amazement was copying stuff about the Japanese nuclear reactors. And about 50 to 60 percent good copy. And that is after a few years of no Morse copy for me. I guess you never forget it altogether. Hi Hi.

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 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 WA2IQE, Carl W2PTZ

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

Publicity: Ed W1EAP

Programs: Dave WA2DJN

Sunshine: Vacant

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	Steve Jackson	N2WLH	732 255-7916
Vice President	Ed Picciuti	W1EAP	732 736-0955
Secretary	Carl Lee	W2PTZ	732 237-2421
Treasurer	Larry Puccio	K2QDY	732-349-2950
Executive Board	Don Smith	W2III	732-505-4821
Executive Board	Joe Militano	KC2QLA	732-657-7092
Executive Board	Bill Haldane	AC2F	732-240-7064
Executive Board	Carl Lee	W2PTZ	732-237-2421
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 \$10.00

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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Antennas For Restricted Communities By Russ WA2VQV

It's an old story that deed restrictions and covenants, so called, prevent some of us from having outdoor antennas. When I lived in Atlantic Hills on route 72 in Manahawkin, NJ, I had 10, 15 and 20 Meters dipoles in the attic which served me well not only on those bands, but also on the three WARC bands. There was also a 40 Meters dipole in the garage which worked very well.

When I moved to Milford, DE in 2005 I faced a different problem. My second floor condo had an attic which did not lend itself to hanging dipoles as there was very little space to move around. There was no plywood flooring and the space was cluttered with 2" X 4" roofing trusses which had to be climbed over to move around. In addition, the furnace and ducting took up a lot of space.

I had seen a product review in QST magazine about the MFJ 1786 Super Hi-Q Loop

which gave the loop a good review compared to a dipole. I sent for the loop and installed it in the attic. It sits on a 2' x 3' piece of plywood just inside the hatch in a bedroom ceiling. It is fed with 75 feet of RG-58 50 Ohm coaxial cable. The loop operates on six bands, 30, 20, 17, 15, 12 and 10 Meters.

It is constructed of one inch heavy wall aluminum pipe and is three feet in diameter. It can be mounted outdoors on a mast or indoors and either horizontally or vertically polarized. It is recommended that it be vertically mounted if installed under 21 feet above ground. My installation is exactly 21 feet above ground (I measured it) and it is mounted vertically. I think my monthly input to How's DX speaks for how well it works vertically mounted at that height.

The loop is tuned to resonant frequency with a tuning unit that sit on top of the rig. The tuning unit has cross needles for forward and reverse power. Push buttons on the unit send DC through the co-ax to a small motor which operates a butterfly capacitor in the loop to tune it to resonance on the desired frequency. A tone sounds when it is near resonant frequency and another push-button brings it home. Tuning to any frequency takes only a minute or two.

The loop has enabled me to work a lot of DX on CW, Phone, PSK31 and RTTY as well as worked all states on CW, Phone and digital.



The loop tuning unit sits on top of the OMNI VI rig on the left side.



MFJ 1786 Super HI-Q Loop in attic.

HAMFEST/CONVENTION By Kevin Wagner W2FA

07/02/2011 |

Eastern Pennsylvania Section Convention (Firecracker Hamfest)

Location: Marysville, PA

Type: ARRL Convention

Sponsor: Harrisburg Radio Amateurs Club

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

Learn More

07/03/2011

Murgas ARC Hamfest and Computerfest

Location: Dallas, PA

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Murgas ARC (K3YTL)

Website: <http://qsl.net/k3ytl>

Learn More

HAMFEST/CONVENTION

07/09/2011

NW PA Hamfest

Location: Erie, PA

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Union City & Wattsburg Wireless Associations

Website: <http://www.wattsburg-wireless.us/hamfest.htm>

Learn More

HAMFEST/CONVENTION

07/10/2011

26th Annual Hamfest

Location: Pittsburgh, PA

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: North Hills Amateur Radio Club

Website: <http://nharc.org>

Learn More

HAMFEST/CONVENTION

07/16/2011

RADIOCOMM-2011

Location: Frankfort, NY

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Utica ARC

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

Learn More

HAMFEST/CONVENTION

07/17/2011

Valley Forge Hamfest & Computer Fair

Location: Kimberton, PA

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Mid-Atlantic ARC

Website: <http://www.marc-radio.org>

Learn More

HAMFEST/CONVENTION

07/17/2011

Somerset County ARC Hamfest

Location: Somerset, PA

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Somerset County ARC (K3SMT)

Website: <http://k3smt.org>

Learn More

HAMFEST/CONVENTION

07/17/2011

BRATS Maryland Hamfest

Location: West Friendship, MD

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Baltimore Radio Amateur Television Society

Website: <http://bratsatv.org>

Learn More

HAMFEST/CONVENTION

07/23/2011

Jersey Shore Hamfest 2011

Location: Egg Harbor Township, NJ

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Southern Counties Amateur Radio Assoc. (SCARA)

Website: <http://mysite.verizon.net/kb2mn/>

Learn More

How's DX

From MAY 15th through JUNE 14th, 2011:

Russ, WA2VQV worked:

On 30 Meters CW: VP5/W5CW Turks & Caicos.

On 20 Meters CW: E711AMRS Bosnia-Herzegovina, OK6DJ Czech Republic.

On 20 Meters SSB: A41OO Oman, IG9E EU-019 Italy, YS1JBL El Salvador.

On 20 Meters PSK31: PD9FJ/P Netherlands.

On 20 Meters RTTY: IW8DCS Italy, PJ4E Bonaire, SX3B Greece.

On 17 Meters CW: KL7J Alaska, UT8LG Ukraine, VP5/W9RN Turks & Caicos.

On 17 Meters SSB: EU1A Belarus, FM5BH Martinique, HC1HC Ecuador, J6/VE3CZF St. Lucia, OM3SEM, OM3TWM Slovakia, VP5/W5CW Turks & Caicos.

On 17 Meters RTTY: CO8LY Cuba, YW200T Venezuela.

On 15 Meters CW: 5B4AIA Cyprus, PY7CW Brazil, YU7JDE Serbia

On 15 Meters SSB: 4X4FR Israel.

On 12 Meters CW: PJ4/K4BAI Bonaire, ZL1BYZ New Zealand.

On 12 Meters SSB: FY8DK French Guiana

On 12 Meters RTTY: FJ/OS1T St. Barthelemy.

On 10 Meters SSB: FJ/OS1T St. Barthelemy.

Joe, KC2QLA, Worked

On 15 Meters SSB: IK4GO ITALY,

On 17 Meters SSB: OT4A Belgium, VP5/W5C2 Turks & Caicos Is., CO8LY Cuba

On 20Meters SSB: OK1CF Czech Rep.

On 40Meters SSB: I2VRN Italy

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