



The SKYHOOK



HOLIDAY CITY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

www.hcarc.us

February 2007

Toms River, NJ

Program for the February Meeting

We will have another look at Peter Island as seen in this video program of the 1994 Dxpedition. We will see the many hazards in setting up the stations. There were many exciting and even thrilling moments in landing on this glacier-covered island in the Antarctic. Come and see the work some adventurous hams did so we 'at home Hams', could make a contact with one more rare DX 'entity'.

Refreshment Sponsors are: Mike kc2mtt, Vince w2gra, and Marty N2mrc. p.s. We need some new sponsors for the rest of 2007. We invite you to make a Refreshment Sponsor donation.

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Belated birthday wishes to John Calese W2LKS on his Jan. 17th birthday. And also to Dan Repetti NT1C whose birthday was on Jan. 18th. They were inadvertently omitted from the January listings.

- 02/02 Carlton Lee W2PTZ
- 02/07 Ed Genoio WA2NDA
- 02/13 Irv Gietter N2BHS
- 02/15 Ed O'Brien W2EO

Anniversaries

- 02/03 Shirley & Murray KD2IN Goldberg 65th
- 02/03 Sally & Ed WA2NDA Genoio
- 02/10 Caroline & Ray KC2GKN Lauterbach
- 02/17 Rose & Fred Fanizzo
- 02/25 Marie & Dan NT1C Repetti

Membership Update

Let's welcome another new member to our ranks. He is: Robert Forshee KC2QMZ. He is a Tech, and lives in Lanoka Harbor. Robert is building his own transceiver from a kit. Not daunted by it, he says he is enjoying it very much.

Somehow he also found time to take the General test and passed. He is without the code test, so he will take his CSCE to the next VE session after the code test is eliminated by the FCC, (soon) and will upgrade then to an actual General license.

Joe Militano also passed his General test and is now upgraded. Congratulations to you both.

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

The President's Corner

By Larry K2QDY



Well our first meeting of 2007 was a huge success with the business section followed by the Pizza party and then a video. As is past, we are anticipating this year will be another educational and informative meeting year for our club members. Murray provided the video depicting the DX world and the various aspects of making contacts and QSLing. DXing is just one of the many aspects of ham radio and one that I enjoy. A rare station is on the air these days emanates comes from Burkina Faso. A French group has made a Dxpedition to that location. The call sign is XT2C and I was able to work them on 30, 40 and 80 meters. All on CW but other friends of mine have worked the station on SSB and RTTY. This is a rare station and for those of you who don't recognize the country name it had previously been known as The Republic of Upper Volta and is located in north central Africa.

We welcomed Robert Forshee, KC2QMZ, to the club. Robert took the Technician test at one of our VE sessions, and is preparing to take the General class test soon. We wish him well in his ham activities and look forward to his participation in future club meetings. As with him and any other club members or hams in general, Robert can count on our help in getting started in the construction of his station and getting on the air. Robert has suggested he is interested in participation in the ARES and RACES programs.

I would also like to thank Joe Milintano, KC2QLA, for volunteering to accept the position of club Treasurer. This is a key position and is responsible for the financial well being of the clubs funds. You will notice the close proximity of Joe's call to Roberts, and you guessed it, both took their test at the same time. Joe was a Navy man and was a radio operator trained in Morse code. After many years of inactivity with Morse code he studied and passed the five words per minute test first time. We look forward to another CW operator for Field Day.

We are all looking forward to Field Day which occurs on Saturday, June 23, 2007 and will be held at the Toms Park River park where we held last years event. This year we will attempt to beat last years score and surely to have just as much fun. We will be setting up at 10:00 AM, testing the equipment, and will be ready to start calling CQ Field Day by the 2:00 PM start time. It is likely we will again have two transmitters on the air for HF contacts and a GOTA station for public participation as well.

We are still looking for someone to volunteer for the clubs Program Chairperson's position. This position is responsible for determining and obtaining program material for each meeting.

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We won't abandon the person who accepts this position but will assist in the location of programs. Our club has in the past provided interesting and educational material that has made our meetings very interesting and informative. Most material is relating to ham radio but we have also had public officials speak as well. Please consider this important position to lighten the burden on the officers.

I want to thank the many of our club members for paying their yearly dues already. The dues are our primary source of income and we need all the members to support our efforts. The dues pay for club insurance, coffee and cake and the pizza we have from time to time.

It seems that maybe someone might have picked up the club plaque, a wood plaque that had the club call letters on it, from field day. Take a look at home you may have the plaque at your house and forgot it was there. If you find it please bring it to the next meeting so we can display it at meetings and functions.

We are continually on the look-out for new club members. If you know someone that has recently moved into your section of the community please let one of the club officers know about that person so that we might contact them.

Well that's all for now and I look forward to seeing you at the February 1st meeting.

Best 73s

Larry Puccio K2QDY

Dues are due—Dues are due

Dues were due as of January 1st. If you can't come to a meeting in person to pay your dues you can mail it in. Dues are \$20 per year. Make the check out to HCARC. Send it to:

Joseph Milatano
735B Chatam La.
Manchester, NJ 08759

Diner Lunch Dates for February

Next dates are for Mondays on the 12th and the 26th. Be there between 11:45 am and 12 noon. Location is the Holiday City Diner at the corner of Mule Rd. and Davenport Rd. in Plaza 3. Lots of great Ham and 'Hambone' conversation around the table. Come join us for lunch. You'll enjoy it.



The ARRL Newsletter

CODELESS AMATEUR RADIO TESTING TENTATIVELY SET TO BEGIN FEBRUARY 23

The ARRL has learned that the FCC's Report and Order (R&O) in the "Morse code proceeding," WT Docket 05-235

http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-06-178A1.pdf, is scheduled to appear in the Federal Register Wednesday, January 24. Assuming that occurs, the new Part 97 rules deleting any Morse code examination requirement for Amateur Radio license applicants would go into effect Friday,

(Continued on page 4)

CONGRATULATIONS TO THESE MEMBERS ON THEIR HAM RADIO ANNIVERSARIES

85 years licensed: Vince W2GRA

65 years licensed: Norm W2PXE

50 years licensed: Carl W2PTZ

50 years licensed: Don W2III

40 years licensed: Joe WB2FXE

35 years licensed: Ed WA2NDA

15 years licensed: Marty N2MRC



Our VE Crew

John W2LKS, Murray KD2IN, Bill AC2F, John K2JWH,
Ed W1EAP, Larry K2QDY, Jamie W2QO, John KQ4WR,
Jack KC2FS, Stan KB2PD.

CLUB COMMITTEES

Refreshments: Ray kc2gkn, Carl w2ptz, John k2jwh

www.hcarc.us Webmaster:

Publicity: Ed w1eap

Programs:

Sunshine: David wa2djn

Event Food Committee: Grace-Marie (k2qdy)

Field Day: Larry k2qdy

VE Sessions: Bill ac2f, Larry k2qdy plus the 'crew'

Skyhook: Murray kd2in

Funds Raising: Irv n2bhs

Membership: Don w2iii

HOLIDAY CITY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Toms River, New Jersey

Web Site www.hcarc.us

President	Larry Puccio	
K2QDY	732-349-2950	
Vice President	Murray Goldberg	
KD2IN	732-505-6860	
Secretary	Ed Picciuti	
W1EAP	732-736-0955	
Treasurer	Joe Militano	
KC2QLA	732-657-7092	
Executive Board	Don Smith	
W2III	732-505-4821	
Executive Board	Bob Salisbury	
W2JSF	732-240-4318	
Executive Board	Bill Haldane	
AC2F	732-240-7064	
Executive Board	Ray Lauterbach	K C 2 G K N
	732-244-8176	
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 (at the same address.)

Meetings are held on the first Thursday of every month, at 7:00 pm. Location: Meeting Room #1 in the Holiday City South Clubhouse.

The Tuckerton Tower

Early Wireless, Germany and WWI

By Murray Goldberg KD2IN

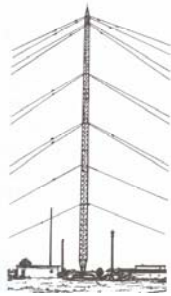
I have a small library of books about New Jersey and one of them is "The People of Ocean County—A History of Ocean County, New Jersey" published in 1992. While re-reading this interesting story of the County, I was surprised to come across an item about the 'Tuckerton Tower'.

I called John Dilks K2TQN who has the Old Radio Museum and lives in Egg Harbor township, NJ. I asked him if he knew anything about this 'Tuckerton Tower'. He not only was familiar with it, but so were many other local Hams in the area. He told me that the Tuckerton Historical Museum had a lot of history on the tower and even parts of the tower and other memorabilia.

I did visit the museum and learned much more about the tower and the history of the German station that it was part of. Some of what I learned is related further in this article.

The Story in the Book

The Tuckerton Tower, 680 feet tall and one of the tallest structures ever built to that date, was erected just before the war (WW 1) by the German government on Hickory Island, now Mystic Island. It dominated the landscape and maintained the highest voltage of any such tower in the world. Kaiser Wilhelm, German Emperor, in speaking over the tower wireless, said the station "would become a new link between our countries".



The tower was taken over by the United States Navy on orders from President Wilson in September 1914, but the German station manager and his staff continued to handle maintenance duties. Dr. F. Lee Terry, who as a boy lived in Tuckerton, has given evidence that the Germans may have continued to use the station and to send coded messages. The station continued to operate until 1917 when the United States entered World War One.

The German nationals were removed and were held as prisoners of war. The tower was never used again and was dismantled in 1950. However the huge cement foundations still remain today amidst housing developments on Mystic Island.

It was the antenna of a powerful early Morse code station built by the German Government in 1911. Operating with the call WGG and was presumably owned by Telefunken, a German company.

The tower, in the story above, was described as 680 feet tall. Other stories and newspaper articles state that the tower was 860 feet tall or 850 feet or 820 feet. Take your pick.

What was really unusual about the tower and the advanced technology of the station was that it was a vertical antenna. This made it unlike the many Marconi stations that used 'flat-top' antennas, strung between supporting towers.

In addition to the ungrounded tower, it was surrounded by 35 steel lines, stretching from the top of the tower, to insulated anchors near the ground. This created a 'hat' or umbrella array. This presumably affected the tower resonance by it's capacitance, but also affected it's radiation pattern. The location was especially chosen because of the salty, marshy, ground which was essential for low ground resistance and as a reflector for the vertical array.

The tower itself was supported at it's base by an array of large glass discs arranged like pie plates in a circle, two deep, on which the bottom of the tower rested. The actual bottom ball-shaped point of the tower is located in the front of the museum on a pedestal with an explanatory plaque. Some of the glass insulating discs are in the museum too.

Only the power house of the station remains along with a stump of the original chimney. And also there are the three enormous concrete anchors for the tower guy lines still in place around the site of the tower. So huge, that it has been impossible to remove them by any practical means. More on my visit to the anchor blocks and the museum in a following article.

Research into the actual station equipment has shown me that it was well in advance of any other station of it's kind anywhere in this country at that time. Not only that, but it was sent here from Germany, piece by piece, and reconstructed on arrival at Tuckerton.

In early June the museum has an event they call 'Tuckerton Wireless Day'. In past years the Old Barney club has set up a 'special event' station at the museum and John Dilks brought his Old Radio Museum bus there for the event. The museum people invited the Holiday City Club, via me, to come on down and participate in the next one in June 2007. Let's give it some thought. Might be fun.

73, Murray KD2IN



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February 23, 2007. The League cautions that this date is *tentative*, pending official confirmation and publication.

"This change eliminates an unnecessary regulatory burden that may discourage current Amateur Radio operators from advancing their skills and participating more fully in the benefits of Amateur Radio," the FCC remarked in the Morse code R&O.

Publication of the R&O in the Federal Register starts a 30-day countdown for the new rules to go on the books. Rules and regulations that appear in the Federal Register constitute their official version.

Deletion of the Morse requirement is a landmark in Amateur Radio history. Until 1991, when a code examination was dropped from the requirements to obtain a Technician ticket, all prospective radio amateurs had to pass a Morse test. Once the new rules are in place, Amateur Radio license applicants no longer will have to demonstrate Morse code proficiency at any level to gain access to the HF bands.

On or after the effective date of the new rules, an applicant holding a valid Certificate of Successful Completion of Examination (CSCE) for a higher license class will be able to redeem it for an upgrade. For example, a Technician licensee holding a valid CSCE for Element 3 (General) could apply at a VEC exam session, pay the application fee -- which most VECs charge -- and receive an instant upgrade. A CSCE is good only

Sophie Genzardi

Our Condolences go out to Vince Genzardi W2GRA.

After a long illness, his wife of 65 years, Sophie, passed away on December 10th, 2007.

May she now rest in peace.

for 365 days from the date of issuance. Candidates for General or Amateur Extra between now and the effective date of the new rules still must have Element 1 (5 WPM Morse code) credit to obtain new privileges, however.

The new rules also mean that all Technician licensees, whether or not they've passed a Morse code examination, will gain HF privileges identical to those of current Novice and Tech Plus (or Technician with Element 1 credit) licensees without having to apply for an upgrade. Novices and Technicians with Element 1 credit have CW privileges on 80, 40, 15 meters and CW, RTTY, data and SSB privileges on 10 meters. Technician licensees who have not passed a Morse code test should *not* operate on any HF bands until the Morse requirement is officially deleted.

From the ARRL newsletter of Jan. 19th, 2007.

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RADIO CLUB

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