



The SKYHOOK



HOLIDAY CITY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

www.hcarc.us

February 2008

Toms River, NJ

Program for the February Meeting

Some of our club members are also members of the ARES group that meets every Wednesday evening using various repeaters located in Wall 145.110, Lakewood 146.955 and Manahawkin 146.835 KHZ. You do not need to be a member of ARES to join the net. The net starts at 8:30 PM. Some of the members also participate in another program called Skywarn. This Skywarn group is organized under the NOAA and the groups mission is to report unusual weather conditions such as high winds, snow, ice flooding, tornados, hurricane etc. Our February presentation will be about SKYWARN and will be provided by Tom Preiser. This will be a good overview of the volunteer system and hopefully will move you to join. I am sure this will be an educational and interesting program

Pizza Meeting

Our February will be a pizza meeting. Please save some room after dinner for this delicious treat.



Birthdays & Anniversaries

Birthdays

02/07 Ed Genoino WA2NDA
02/13 Irv Gietter N2BHS



Anniversaries

02/03 Shirley & Murray KD2IN Goldberg
02/03 Sally & Ed WA2NDA Genoino
02/10 Caroline & Ray KC2GKN Lauterbach
02/17 Rose & Fred K2KHH Fanizzo
02/25 Marie & Dan NT1C Repetti



The President's Corner By Larry K2QDY

Wow the way the weather has been lately I guess we can start to think about putting up antennas and going to hamfests soon.



Our January club meeting was attended by 29 members and guests and the presentation by our Lee Kissel, WA2JWR, was excellent. Lee had his laptop computer set up and demonstrated CQ100 and Echo Link. Both systems are interesting and many of the members that can't put up antennas were really impressed and told me that this will be a way for them to get active on the air again. Thanks to Lee for the fine presentation.

I would like to welcome our new members Tim Lawlor who is looking forward to getting a license and going on the air, Warren Key, KB2ICL, who also says he has a renewed interest in ham radio and Paul Kaicuba, N2IFH, who is looking forward to getting back on the air again too. Welcome to each one.

Our VE session was held on January 12 and Warren Key took the Technician test and passed. He was asked if he would like to take the General class test which he did. Warren also passed this test and will now be receiving a general class license. Warren had a license when he lived up north in Saddle River, NJ; however, that license expired in 2005. His call letters were KC2ICL. These call letters are still available but for him to get those letters again would require that he apply for a vanity call sign. Maybe the assigned new call sign will be as good as or better than the old call sign. In any event we all congratulated Warren and have expressed to him our hopes that we will hear him on the air shortly. Warren has a Kenwood radio an external tuner and the community where he lives has approved an outdoor dipole. Maybe he could put up a dipole fed with open wire and operate all bands.

Our Bob Salisbury, W2JSF, has been diagnosed with kidney failure and requires dialysis. The treatments are three days per week, Monday, Wednesday and Fridays. We have organized a team of club members to transport him from home to the treatment center and back home again. The group consists of Bill Haldane, John Hann, Joe Mili-

NEXT MEETING: February 7, 2008

Thursday 7:00PM

**Meeting Rm. #1 at Holiday City South
Clubhouse**

Mule Rd. at Santiago Drive

tano, Dave Ottenberg, Ed Picciuti, Don Smith and myself. Each one drives one way and usually once every two weeks. If you can help please let me know. He needs to be picked up at 3:15 PM from home and then from the center, here off Mule Road, at 8:00 PM and returned home. The family is working on getting him on an earlier schedule and at that time other transportation may become available. Ocean Ride does not drive after 3:15 PM and they have a waiting list of over 50 applicants at this time. If you can help or know of a charitable or volunteer organization that might provide transportation PLEASE contact the Salisbury's (732) 240-4318 with that information. Some of our will team be vacationing out of state in the next few months and we may need additional drivers.

I opened with a comment about the warm weather but as I write this column the new predictions look like winter is about to come back.

We had a good turn out last Thursday evening on the 146.880 repeater with many club members participating. Both Lee Kissel and Mike Agostinello connected through Echo Link. The rest of the group accessed the repeater by using HTs or a station 2 meter radio. The repeater coverage is superb and everyone enjoyed the one hour rag chew. Try to get on Thursday evenings at 7:00 PM. You will find us to be a very homogeneous group with various topics of discussion.

Well that's all for this month's column and I am looking forward to seeing you at our February 7th 2008 meeting.

73

Larry
K2QDY

A Visit with John Hann K2JWH By Murray KD2IN



John first became interested in Ham Radio while a student at Upsala College at East Orange, NJ, where he joined the college's Amateur Radio Club. His interest lay dormant for years while making a living, but re-awakened later after retirement. After taking a license study class in 2002, he got his Tech. license that year. By 2004 he had upgraded all the way to Extra. He also qualified as a VE, and helps with the club's VE sessions regularly. When he found an old call available on the FCC site with his initials, he couldn't resist. Hence his current call K2JWH.

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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 John K2WJH, Carl W2PTZ

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

Publicity: Ed W1EAP

Programs: Bob KC2QMZ

Sunshine: David WA2DJN

Event Food Committee: Grace-Marie (K2QDY)

Field Day: Larry K2QDY

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

Skyhook: Larry K2QDY

Funds Raising: Irv N2BHS

Membership: Bill AC2F

HOLIDAY CITY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Toms River, New Jersey

Web Site www.hcarc.us

President	Larry Puccio	K2QDY	732 349-2950
Vice President	Ed Picciuti	W1EAP	732 736-0955
Secretary	Norm Smith	W2PXE	732 920-5423
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Executive Board	Don Smith	W2III	732 505-4821
Executive Board	Lee Kissel	WA2JWR	732 244-6074
Executive Board	Bill Haldane	AC2F	732 240-7064
Executive Board	Ray Lauterbach	KC2GKN	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

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.

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Retiring in 1992, after a business career in real estate and transportation related activities, he moved from South Plainfield, NJ, to his present home, in the Heritage Bay retirement community in Barnegat, NJ. As is typical in such communities, he could not erect an outside antenna. Instead he installed a G5RV dipole in his attic. Running out of space to squeeze it all in, he ran the last 20 feet of it out a hole in the attic over to a tree near by! With the aid of his built in antenna tuners he works all the Low bands okay. For 2M he has a Discone antenna in the attic.

John initially had a TenTec Jupiter xcvr. Later he added a Kenwood 940TS to his ham shack rig setup. He also has a 2M rig in the shack and another one in his pickup truck.

John currently operates SSB and 2M FM. He is also working on his Morse speed, with the intention of eventually operating on CW bands, when he feels he is ready and able. On 40 meters he has made some DX contacts. However he prefers to mostly listen and learn.

John's long time hobby has been classic car restoration. Still in his garage is a Ford 1929 Model A four door car beautifully restored. That is the last of several earlier Fords he has restored. Now that he is into Ham Radio, he says that that activity is all behind him. No time left for it he says. He also enjoys woodworking as well as a little gardening.

Lucille, John's wife, has traveled with him to several Dayton Hamfests in recent years. Obviously she does support his activities in Ham radio. Lucille also entertained us at the December 2007 Holiday Party with her quizzes and mystery antique objects, to the delight of the entire audience.

John joined our club in 2005 and is already an active presence at all club activities.

Noise Generation by Ed Picciuti

Some hams experience noise generated by defective street lighting. You may see street lights coming on and off. These lights can be generating noise in your receiver. Some lights may appear to be in good condition but may still be generating noise. When you suspect a defective light or one that is completely out call the repair number 1 (888) LIGHTSS 1 (888) 5444877.

Repeater Operation Lee Kissel WA2JWR

A repeater is basically a receiver and a transmitter. Well you say our transceivers receive and transmit too. Well that's true but they receive and transmit one at a time. The repeater has to receive and transmit at the same time. When you send your signal to the repeater it receives that input signal and simultaneously re-transmits the signal but amplified. If the received signal was on the same frequency as the transmit signal the repeater would get itself into a looped condition and go into oscillation. Consequentially we retransmit the input signal on another frequency so this oscillation does not happen. This is called the offset frequency. Repeaters can be placed in operation on many of the amateur bands; however, for this article we will confine our discussion to the two meter band. On this band most repeaters will use a 600 KHZ split between the input and output frequencies. Now that split is not cast in concrete and some repeaters use a 1MHZ split. Depending on the portion of the band that the output frequency is located in will determine whether the offset is negative or positive. Still another consideration is whether the repeater requires a PL tone to unlock the system. The PL tone is a sub-audible tone in the range from 67.0 Hz to 250.3 Hz. A repeater using PL tones will require a tone detector set to the PL tone frequency to unlock the repeater. Sometime you may hear someone trying to access a repeater and they can't keep the repeater on line except for a few seconds. This is usually caused by the operator not having the correct PL tone programmed into the HT for that repeater. Another problem that needs to be taken into consideration is the use of a single antenna for the repeater. Since we will be transmitting and receiving at the same time we will require the use of a duplexer. This electronic device will allow the repeater transmitter to send a signal on the transmit frequency and also allow the receiver to receive off the same antenna at the same time. These devices are very expensive and must be tuned accurately for the repeater system to operate correctly.

Our local repeater here in Holiday City is very unique in a few different ways. First it is the only open repeater in Ocean County, as it has no PL tone required for access. Also it is the only repeater in Ocean County that operates on a split site. This means the transmitter is located 1 1/2 miles from the receiver. This plan was implemented because when the repeater first went on the air it was just two cross-band mobile radios with no duplexer. As time went by I upgraded the repeater with all commercial Motorola components but decided to keep the split site as it worked well and did not require the use of a duplexer. When you press your PTT button on 146.280 a signal goes

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into the receiver then out on a 430 UHF transmitter, on a 7 element UHF beam pointing towards the transmit site, this then travels from the receive site on UHF the 1 ½ miles to the transmit site. At the transmit site a UHF yagi picks up the signal on UHF and turns on the 146.880 transmitter. The antenna on the output is a Hustler G7-144 with 7.5 db of gain. The echolink input along with the link transceiver are all installed with an Arcom RC210 controller. But not to worry, if anything should happen to this equipment I have a backup Icom repeater with a duplexer all ready to go on a single antenna, The backup even has a 12 volt ATV battery on a trickle charger in case of a power failure. So that is how it works and I am very happy for the club members to utilize this system, so 73 and see you on 88!!!
Lee Kissel WA2JWR.

Repeater frequencies for the new Ham Murray Goldberg KD2IN

I've become aware recently that licensees of recent 'vintage' who acquire HTs, may be unsure of what repeaters there are in the Toms River general area of Ocean Co. Repeater that are accessible with 5 watts and only a

'rubber duck' are the following:

	freq.	offset	subtone
Toms River	146.910	-.600	127.3
Toms River	146.880	-.600	none
Lakewood	146.955	-.600	103.5
Manchester	145.170	-.600	131.8
Toms River	146.445	+1.0 Mhz.	131.8

For HTs and base radios that feed an elevated 2 M antenna (15ft. or more.) additional repeaters can be reached.

For south of Toms River:

Manahawkin	146.835	-.600	127.3
Chatsworth	145.470	-.600	127.3
Waterf'd Wks.	147.345	+.600	127.3

For locations to the north of Toms River:

Farmingdale	145.110	-.600	127.3
Middletown	145.485	-.600	151.4
Ocean Twp.	147.045	-.600	67.0
Belmar	145.110	-.600	127.3
Brick	146.490	+1.0 Mhz	127.3

With more power and a higher antenna it is possible to reach repeaters all over the State of NJ and even nearby PA.

20 East Water Street, Toms River, NJ 08753 Phone: (732) 286-2200 Fax: (732) 286-0012

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