



# The SKYHOOK



HOLIDAY CITY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

www.hcarc.us

March 2008

Toms River, NJ

## Program for our March Meeting Elder Law

The March program will be of great interest to our members and also their wives. The meeting is open to wives as the topic affects both people. The presentation, **Elder Law**, will be provided by Diana Anderson an attorney and partner in the law firm of Carluccio, Leone, Doyle and Sacks LLC. This subject is of great importance to all of us since it focuses on legal issues that we or our spouses will face in the future. Each of us should be familiar with issues regarding our finances, wishes for the distribution of finances or our wishes regarding a health surrogate. Additional detail will be found on page three.

*Continued on page 3*

## Dates to Remember

March 6	Regular Membership Meeting
March 8	VE Session
March 10	Members lunch at the diner
March 12	Club Lunch at the Fortune Buffet
March 24	Members lunch at the diner
April 3	Regular Membership Meeting
April 5	Cherryville Hamfest
April 14	Members lunch at the diner
April 28	Members lunch at the diner

## Birthdays & Anniversaries

### Birthdays

3/3	Fred Fanizzo K2KHH
3/11	George Waked KB2OQM
3/13	Larry Housman W2GIS
3/14	Larry Winward N2IFP
3/21	Kevin Wagner KC2NYQ
3/30	Sarah Punderson (W2QO)



### Anniversaries

3/18	Nona and Bill AC2F Haldane
3/19	Steve and Chris N2WLH Jackson



## The President's Corner By Larry K2QDY



This month's presentation will be about Elder Law. It will be provided by Diana L. Anderson who is a certified Elder Law Attorney. Topics being discussed will be Estate Plan: 1) Power of Attorney; 2) Will; and 3) Living Will (also known as an "Advanced Medical Directive") Trusts, and other topics apropos to each of us. This meeting will be open to the members and their wives or significant other. Please tell your spouse about the meeting as it will be very interesting and informative.

Our February club meeting was attended by 26 members and guests. Our presentation was about the NOAA Skywarn program and was presented by Tom Presser. The presentation was both interesting and educational and Tom did an excellent job of describing the program. Tom described the program and the role of the amateur radio community. There are a few members of the Holiday City ARC that are already members of Skywarn but I would urge the other members to join this important function. As described by Tom you don't need expensive weather instruments and when you attend the beginner classes they will teach you how to construct simple but effective rain or snow gauges. Other people have purchased commercial instrumentation but that is not a requirement.

The following are some Skywarn web sites furnished by Tom Presser:  
Ocean County Skywarn page: <http://www.qsl.net/kc2elg/>  
National Weather Service:  
<http://www.erh.noaa.gov/er/phi/>  
Weather Service Skywarn Page:  
<http://www.erh.noaa.gov/er/phi/skywarn/index.html>  
Skywarn Training:  
<http://www.erh.noaa.gov/er/phi/skywarn/training.html>  
Ocean County ARES:  
<http://home.comcast.net/~wx2nj/index.html>  
NJ Climate and Weather Network:  
<http://climate.rutgers.edu/njwxnet/index.php>

*Continued on page 2*

**NEXT MEETING: March 6, 2008**  
**Thursday 7:00PM**  
**Meeting Rm. #1 at Holiday City South**  
**Clubhouse**  
**Mule Rd. at Santiago Drive**

Continued from page 1

We have a few new members that I would urge you to contact and support in their efforts to get licensed or get on the air. Tim Lawlor needs tutoring to get his Technician grade license. Warren Keay, KC2SSQ and Paul Kaicuba, N2IFH, could use some help in getting antennas up and getting on the air.

Don't forget the Thursday evenings, 7:00 PM schedule, on the 146.880 repeater. We have had Lee Kissel, Mike Agostinello and Stan Stafiej come up on the repeater through Echo Link. Those of you that don't have HTs can also access the repeater the same way. Echo Link is a free download off the internet. Additionally, club members access the repeater each day at 10:00 AM for some good rag chew and technical discussion.

Well that's all for this month's column and I am looking forward to seeing you at our March 6<sup>th</sup> 2008 meeting where we will have a presentation about Elder Law. Don't forget your wives are also welcome at this presentation.

73  
Larry  
K2QDY

## How's DX

The following is a compilation of the DX activities for the year 2007 of our club member Russ Young, WA2VQV. Russ has agreed to provide a monthly column that will highlight DX activities. Each of us that make DX contacts on the HF or VHF bands should be sending monthly activity reports to Russ at, wa2vqv@aol.com, so that he can compile these activities and provide the Skyhook news letter with a comprehensive DX column. Thank you for stepping up to this task Russ.

Russ is an avid CW operator and the past year has worked N8S Swains Island, 9U Burundi, 3C7 Equatorial Guinea, P29 Papua New Guinea, 1A0 Sovereign Military Order of Malta, FJ St. Barthelemy, Z2 Zimbabwe and J5 Guinea-Bissau. Most of those are also islands (except for 9U, 1A & Z2), Qualifying for IOTA (Islands OnThe Air) awards, a RSGB awards program.

Russ also operates PSK31 and has added the following countries to his DXCC on that mode: 6W Senegal, CN Morocco, VP2V British Virgin Islands, 9J Zambia, 4J Azerbaijan, 4O Montenegro, VP2E Anguilla, and TU Ivory Coast.

Although his total DX QSOs were less than 2006, which, of course can partially be attributed to the ever declining sunspots, but does not take into account the amount of time spent on the air during each year. Additionally, major contest such as the WPX, IARU, etc QSOs are not included either.

There were 250 DX QSOs of which 183 were CW and 67 PSK31. This total includes 122 unique entities and 30 CQ Zones.

Most of Russ's QSOs were made on 20 Meters with lesser numbers

on 17, 30 and 15 Meters.

Russ says U.S. county hunting was not as good in 2007 compared to previous years. Only 54 New U.S. counties were contacted during the year on CW.

The DX pundits are claiming that the new sunspot cycle has or is about to begin, so who knows what Russ will do in 2008. How about a little competition? This year we will be developing an award likely for the most DX countries worked during the year. Why not give it a shot. Russ has a very modest antenna system and you should be able to work DX from your dipole antennas too.

### Our VE Crew

John W2LKS, Murray KD2IN, Bill AC2F, John K2JWH, Ed W1EAP, Larry K2QDY, Jamie W2QO, John KQ4WR, Jack KC2FS, Stan KB2PD Steve N2WLH, Kevin W2FA.

### 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](http://www.hcarc.us)

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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

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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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The SKYHOOK is published monthly.

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*Continued from page 1*



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Practice Areas

Elder Law

Estate Planning

Whether it's helping an elderly client to receive Medicaid/Medicare benefits or protecting the rights of an incapacitated person, my experience in the field of elder Law provides me with an understanding of our client's needs and the insight to anticipate future needs.

Ms. Anderson is a Certified Elder Law Attorney, also Known as "CELA." This Certification is given to lawyers who have proven they have enhanced knowledge, skills and experience in the specialized area of law dealing with issues affecting the elderly, disabled and their families. It is important to Ms. Anderson to be an advocate on behalf of the elderly or disabled client and gives the clients the information they need to make informed decisions.

She has been committed to the practice of law since December 1991 when she received her Juris Doctorate degree with Tax Honors from Rutgers University School of Law in Camden, New Jersey.

Ms. Anderson is a Registered Guardian with the National Guardianship Association and a member of the National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys. Prior to pursuing her law career, she obtained a Bachelors of Science in Business Administration from Boston University.

Ms. Anderson is admitted to the New Jersey Supreme Court as well as the Supreme Court of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, the United States District Court of Appeals, Third Circuit and the United States Supreme Court.

Diana L. Anderson, partner of the firm Carluccio, Leone, Dimon, Doyle & Sacks, LLC and has over 15-years of experience in the areas of Estate Planning and Elder Law. She believes that her experience, specialized training, background and philosophy fit well with Carluccio, Leone, Dimon, Doyle & Sacks, LLC a firm that is dedicated to pursuing the best interests and goals of our clients.

**Cycle 24**

The following article is published with the permission of the ARRL Letter/American Radio Relay League.

With the appearance of Sunspot 981 -- a high-latitude, reversed polarity sunspot -- on Friday, January 4, experts at NASA and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) said that Cycle 24 is now here. "This sunspot is like the first robin of spring," said solar physicist Douglas Biesecker of the Space Weather Prediction Center (SWPC), part of NOAA. "In this case, it's an early omen of solar storms that will gradually increase over the next few years."

Solar physicist David Hathaway of NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center in Huntsville, Alabama concurred, saying that new solar cycles begin with a "modest knot" of magnetism, like the one that appeared on December 11 on the east limb of the Sun: "That patch of magnetism could be a sign of the next solar cycle. New solar cycles always begin with a high-latitude, reversed polarity sunspot." The region of magnetism that appeared back in December achieved high latitude (24 degrees North) and was magnetically reversed, but no supporting sunspot appeared until 25 days later.

Reversed polarity describes a sunspot with opposite magnetic polarity compared to sunspots from the previous solar cycle. High-latitude refers to the Sun's grid of latitude and longitude. Old-cycle spots congregate near the Sun's equator; new-cycle spots appear higher, around 25 or 30 degrees latitude. Sunspot 981's high-latitude location at 27 degrees North and its negative polarity leading to the right in the Northern Hemisphere are clear-cut signs of a new solar cycle, according to NOAA experts. The first active regions and sunspots of a new solar cycle can emerge at high latitudes while those from the previous cycle continue to form closer to the equator.

While experts vary in their predictions on when the solar cycle will peak and how strong it will be, NOAA, in April 2007, in coordination with an international panel of solar experts, predicted that the next 11-year cycle of solar storms "would start in March 2008, plus or minus six months, and peak in late 2011 or mid-2012." In the cycle forecast issued in April 2007, half of the panel predicted a "moderately strong cycle of 140 sunspots, plus or minus 20, expected to peak in October 2011. The other half predicted a moderately weak cycle of 90 sunspots, plus or minus 10, peaking in August 2012. An average solar cycle ranges from 75 to 155 sunspots. The late decline of Cycle 23

*Continued from page 3*

has helped shift the panel away from its earlier leaning toward a strong Cycle 24. The group is evenly split between a strong and a weak cycle."

NASA's Hathaway, along with colleague Robert Wilson at a meeting of the American Geophysical Union in San Francisco last month, said that Solar Cycle 24 "looks like it's going to be one of the most intense cycles since record-keeping began almost 400 years ago." They believe the next solar maximum should peak around 2010 with a sunspot number of 160, plus or minus 25. "This would make it one of the strongest solar cycles of the past fifty years -- which is to say, one of the strongest in recorded history." Four of the five biggest cycles on record have come in the past 50 years. "Cycle 24 should fit right into that pattern," Hathaway said.

According to Carl Luetzelschwab, K9LA, "As for improvement in propagation on the higher bands, we still have a way to go before that happens, and it depends on the magnitude of Cycle 24.

The Solar Cycle 24 Prediction Panel has published predictions for Cycle 24, but unfortunately the panel did not reach one consensus prediction. If the larger of the two predictions comes true, we should expect consistent F2 propagation on 10 and 12 meters to start toward the end of 2009. If the smaller prediction comes true, this will be delayed about one year."

Luetzelschwab, who writes the column "Propagation" for the National Contest Journal (NCJ), continued: "While we wait for improved high band conditions, don't forget the low bands. Around solar minimum and for the next year or so, the Earth's geomagnetic field is at its quietest. This is good for low band propagation. Thus, right now is the time to start (or add to) your 80 and 160 meter DXCC efforts."

According to NASA's Tony Phillips, many forecasters believe Solar Cycle 24 will be big and intense. "Solar cycles usually take a few years to build to a frenzy and Cycle 24 will be no exception. We still have some quiet times ahead," says Hathaway.

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