# The SKYHOOK

## HOLIDAY CITY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

## Program for our April Meeting

Today we hear a lot about financial problems that older retired people have. Some have lived without a spouse's pension and only have a social security that is 20 years old and barely pay for essentials. A new twist on the mortgage has occurred called the reverse mortgage. This months speaker is attorney Theresa M Simonson Esq. an expert in Reverse Mortgages who will explain the in's and out's of the reverse mortgage. You will learn about the benefits and pitfalls of the reverse mortgage and be able to make an intelligent decision whether or not you should enter into this contract.

## Dates to Remember

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| April 2 | Regular Membership Meeting |
| April 6 | Club Luncheon |
| April 8 | Evening VE Session |
| April 18 | OMARC Hamfest |
| April 18 | OBARC Ham Cram and Test |
| April 20 | Club Luncheon |
| April 29 | Executive Board Meeting |

## Birthdays & Anniversaries

### Birthdays

Joe Cuff 04/02
Audrey Murin 04/13
GraceMarie Puccio 04/08
Doris Salisbury 04/25
Joe Savarese 04/29
Marjorie Stafiej 04/01

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**NEXT MEETING: April 2, 2009
Thursday 7:00PM
Meeting Rm. #1 at Holiday City South
Clubhouse
Mule Rd. at Santiago Drive**

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## The President's Corner
### By Dave WA2DJN

Our March Program was a big hit as our Section Manager George Strayline N3GZ came to our meeting and talking to us about his plans for the Southern New Jersey (SNJ) ARRL section. George told us about some of the initiatives he will be starting and that he would be back to see us in the future. He told the group that he is very interested in clubs and what they are doing. He talked to us about getting together with the Atlantic and Hudson Divisions regarding a combined effort to get PRB1 into local law. George was interested in hearing about our Field Day activities and plans to visit us during on that day.

Our second visitor was John Grove, KE2OI, who is the Director, Head-End Engineer for Comcast. John had an excellent Power Point Presentation that he talked to. The presentation described the various facets of Comcast's head-end office and the equipment contained there. He had pictures showing the Internet Routers, Telephone Equipment and Digital Video Equipment. Everyone agreed the presentation was both educational and informative.

Well we had our quarterly club luncheon with the wives in attendance. There were 23 people in total and we were at the Fortune Buffet from 11:30 AM until 2:00 PM. Everyone delighted to the various soups and all the different Chinese delights. If you did not want Chinese food there was roast beef and pork and many different vegetables. After the main meal you could delight to the many different deserts including make your own ice cream with chocolate syrup. I don't believe anyone came away hungry and it is likely they didn't eat any dinner that night either. I know I didn't. The group was very talkative and some of the ladies talked about starting a Ladies Auxiliary for the club. This sounds exciting and I hope they succeed.

As you could see I have had a steady recovery from my heart surgery and am feeling good. I have started Physical Therapy and will be back to my job for the April meeting
73
Dave WA2DJN

## QSL Information Via E-Mail

Using email it is possible to quickly get full information on a call without using an Internet browser and a site to get the information.

Start an E-Mail letter
Using the email address below in the To: space.
lookup@qrz.com
You type the word *lookup* in the Subject space.
In the body of the message just type lookup w2zzz (as an example). (Leave a space between lookup and the call).
That's all! Then send it. In a few minutes you will receive a message from QRZ.com with the information requested. Simplicity itself!
73, Murray KD2IN

## WHO IS THIS???

At a previous club meeting, we had a few members tell the attendees about their experiences in the military in relationship to radio. All were quite interesting and good laughs were abundant. In light of a period group photo that Carl WA2IQE passed around asking if anyone could guess which one in the group was him, Ed W1EAP suggested that we publish some photos and let our members try guessing who the members are. With this in mind I'm asking any member who wishes to participate to send me a photo they wish to have posted in this article. I'll post one photo per Skyhook. Your guesses can be submitted to me through either the clubs website at http://www.hcarc.us/comments.html or through the club Yahoo Group at http://www.hcarc.us/Yahoo%20Group%20Page.html . The first member to guess the mystery person shown in the photo will have their name posted in the following months Skyhook.
        Steve N2WLH



## 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. Please see Joe Militano club Treasurer with your dues money. There are still some club members that have inadvertently forgotten to pay their membership. Your club needs you. Please support us.

### Our VE Crew
Murray KD2IN, Bill AC2F, John K2JWH, Ed W1EAP, Larry K2QDY, Jamie W2QO, John KQ4WR, Jack KC2FS, Stan KB2PD Steve N2WLH, Kevin W2FA Ed WA2NDA.

### CLUB COMMITTEES
*Refreshments:* John K2WJH, Carl W2PTZ
*www.hcarc.us Webmaster*: Steve N2WLH, Kevin W2FA
*Publicity:* Ed W1EAP
*Programs*: Murray KD2IN
*Sunshine*: John WA2JWH
*Event Food Committee*: Grace-Marie (K2QDY)
*Field Day*: Larry K2QDY
*VE Sessions*: Bill AC2F, Larry K2QDY plus the 'crew'
*Skyhook*: Larry K2QDY
*Funds Raising*: Open
*Membership*: Bill AC2F

## Those Funny Symbols On Your Keyboard. What Are They For?
## Part Two
### By Murray Goldberg KD2IN

The symbol keys on the first typewriters were there because they were an essential part of the English language, in everyday use, for hundreds of years. The first electronic keyboards simply copied the typewriter keys as is, letters, symbols and all.

UNIX, one of the earliest 'languages' used to control a business computer, used what was available on the keyboard. The letters and symbols were used to 'tell' the internal workings of the machine to perform what the operator told it to do.

When IBM asked Bill Gates to supply a command language for their first *personal* computer, or PC, he gave them a 'Disk Operating System', or DOS, using lots of the symbols.

At first there were the large desktop computers. As more components were squeezed into less space, they were followed by 'portables', then 'laptops' and then the smallest, the 'notebooks'. Now it's handhelds, such as the 'Blackberries'. Incidentally, the PC's and 'WindowsÓ' eventually made Gates one of the richest men in the world.

Not only did DOS use the keyboard symbols as commands but so did other computer 'languages'. Among them were BASIC, C, C++, JAVA, PERL, FORTRAN, COBOL and others followed. Out of the 32 symbols on the keyboard, these used 27. Some of the remaining 5 may have been used also, but I haven't found where, so far.

Of all the symbols available on the keyboard the most important, by far, is the simple '*period*'. It is also called the *dot*, or *point*. It was invented by a Greek librarian, Aristophanes, 2,194 years ago in Alexandria, Egypt. The writing on scrolls, at that time, had the words and ideas running together continuously. He saw the need for an indicator to separate those ideas, and if read aloud, a place to stop and take a breath. The uses of the dot have expanded over the centuries. It now has 'relatives' such as the ; semi-colon, the : colon, the ! exclamation, the question ? mark and using two dots in a row .. the ellipsis.

The dot has become so much a part of our normal speech that we say things like—

Sign on the dotted line.., He arrived on the dot.., Tear on the dotted line.., Connect the dots.., What's the point.., Point taken.. and so on.

Could we do without the dot in Morse Code? Would there be a touch alphabet for the sight-impaired without Braille's raised dots? Is it possible to even think of the Internet without it's dots? No dot.com? Even the command line begins http:// with a colon (two dots) and a slash. Even the command line begins http:// with a colon (two dots) and a slash.

Seems the dot has permeated our spoken language and the computer worlds as well.

So, in retrospect, those 'strange' and ordinary symbols on the keyboard are essential to our world in all kinds of ways.

73, Murray kd2in
murrgold@comcast.net

## How's DX
### By Russ Young

Russ Young WA2VQV Worked:

On 40 Meters CW: K5D Desecheo.

On 20 Meters CW: 9A48IFATCA Croatia, K5D Desecheo, EM50KFF Ukraine, HK0/EA7HEJ San Andres, .

On 20 Meters SSB: 6Y5/WE9V Jamaica, CO4LS Cuba, CU2JT, CU2KG Azores, EA1ABT, EA7DX Spain, EA8OB EA8TH, Canary Islands, EI9JU Ireland, F6AJH, F6HKA France, GI0AQD Northern Ireland, K5D Desecheo, LZ1ANA Bulgaria, MM0BSM Scotland, OH8SR Finland, OZ4Z Denmark, PA1WLB Netherlands, RK3DXW European Russia, SQ9JKS Poland, T77M San Marino, TO2T Guadeloupe, V31UH Belize, YR1C Romania, YT2T Serbia, YV5MSG Venezuela.

On 20 Meters PSK31: C56YK The Gambia, CU7AM Azores, EA3HBG Spain, EA8BLU Canary Islands, F5LMW France. IK8HJG Italy, XE3DX Mexico.

On 17 Meters CW: P49V, P4/WA2NHA Aruba.

On 17 Meters SSB: K5D Desecheo.

On 15 meters CW: K5D Desecheo.
Also took part in the ARRL DX CW (145 Qs) and Phone (67 Qs) Contests, too many to list here.

Murray Goldberg, KD2IN Worked:
On 20 Meters PSK31: DL3APM Germany, IN3GNV Italy, RW3DQC European Russia, UA2FCC Kaliningrad, YL2AZ Latvia.

Joe Militano KC2QLA Worked:
On 80 Meters SSB: KP3VA Puerto Rico

On 80 Meters CW: CO8LY Cuba

On 40 Meters SSB: I2VRN Italy, 6YTV Jamaica, OM3PC Slovak Rep., TM6M France, KH7XS Hawaii, OK1W Czech Rep., WP4U Puerto Rico, S53F Slovenia, PY2MTV Brazil, AM7M Spain, GW7X Wales, YN2NB Nicaragua.

On 40 Meters CW: VE2PID Canada

On 20 Meters PSK31: IN3GNV Italy.

On 20 Meters SSB: F5UTN France, OH8SR Finland, HI3FVA Dominican Republic, LY2ZZ Lithuania, TF3CW Iceland, DL2DX Germany, CU2A Azores, VP5H Turks & Caicos Is.,

DL2DX Germany, CU2A Azores, VP5H Turks & Caicos Is., KP2M Virgin Is., IR4M Italy, PI4TUE Netherlands, WP4EDD Puerto Rico, EA4KD Spain, 9A1A Croatia, P49Y Aruba, CT7A Portugal, PS5KA St Martin, PJ2T Bonaire Curacao, PS0F Fernando De Noronha, CT9L Madeira Is., YV1JGT Venezuela, C6ANM Bahamas, J7Y Dominica, V26F Antigua Barbuda.

On 17 Meters SSB: 6Y5/WE9V Jamaica,

On 15 Meters SSB: 4B2S Mexico, P49Y Aruba, PJ2T Bonaire Curacao, TO5A Martinique, J88DR St. Vincent.

Larry K2QDY Worked:

On 160 Meters CW: HI3/LY3UM Dominican Republic

On 80 Meters SSB: Kp4/AJ1M Puerto Rico

On 80 Meters CW: Rk3PA Russia, FM5LD Martinique

On 40 Meters CW: EM50KFF Ukraine Russia, EA8CAC Canary Islands, E7/9A7XX, D44TXS Cape Verdi

On 30 Meters: CW: Z30U Macedonia, V25WY Antigua, CO8LY Cuba

On 20 Meters CW: 6Y5/WE9V Jamaica, 5X1NH Uganda

73 and Good Hunting !
Russ, WA2VQV

## 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.

HOLIDAY CITY AMATEUR
RADIO CLUB
c/o Larry Puccio
22 Sabinas St.
Toms River, NJ 08757-6445