



The SKYHOOK



HOLIDAY CITY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

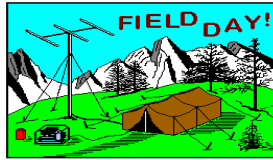
www.hcarc.us

JULY 2007

Toms River, NJ

Program for the July Meeting

By the time we meet, Field Days will be two weeks behind us. Our efforts on that event are still fresh in the memories of those who participated at our event at Toms River Park. For those who couldn't make it to the park that day, all is not lost. We have photos of the event, as well as descriptions of our equipment, tower/support raising, antennas used and so on. Not least are the log results, contacts made, and the various 100 point added bonus points we were able to rack up. Comments from participants and more. Yes, Field Day 2007 brought back for your information and enjoyment.



This is a Pizza meeting, so save some appetite for this great treat. Sponsors for this and future Pizza meetings are: Larry Housman W2GIS, John Hann K2JWH, Ed Picciuti W1EAP, and John S. Smith K2YH.

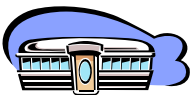
VE Session on July 14th

The next VE Session run by our club, headed up by Larry K2QDY, will be on Saturday, July 14th. As usual we will assemble in Room #1 in Holiday City South's clubhouse area, at 10 am. (Future dates: Sept. 8th, November 10th.)

If you plan to attend, please call Larry at 732-349-2950 and let him know. A call in advance will be necessary. Walk-ins are no longer accepted. Bring originals and copies of all licenses and credits. Also a picture ID or 2 other forms of ID. Test fee is \$14.

Diner Lunch Dates

The dates for the next Holiday City Diner lunch get-togethers are on Mondays at 12 noon on: July 2nd, July 16th and July 30th.



Membership

Kevin Wagner in now W2FA. A great new (old) call! It just goes to show that if you are looking for a great vanity call replacement for your current call—keep checking the FCC database! frequently

The President's Corner

By Larry K2QDY



Field Day has come and gone and once again everyone that participated had a real good time. We started to assemble the antennas and rigs at about 10:00AM at the Toms River Park. We had two 30 foot poles that supported one 135 foot dipole and we also had our ladder tower that supported a six meter quad. The six meter quad was actually constructed by our own Ray Lauterbach. The tower also supported a two meter four element beam and one end of the second dipole that actually was a G5RV design. Both dipoles were fed with open wire feed line and we used two tuners, one for each rig, to make the antennas function on 40 and 20 meters. They could also have worked on 80, 15 and 10 meters if a band opening had occurred. There were 13 club members present and each took part of the work effort which made the work easy. Our roving photographers were John Roberts, Murray Goldberg, and Ed Piccuti. We will see the pictures at the July 5th meeting. At lunch time we enjoyed pizza and sodas and had a bit of a breather before the 2:00 PM contest start time. Before the actual start we verified that both rigs were working and made a number of contacts throughout the country. Wouldn't you know it but Murphy struck just before start time when one of the rigs began displaying and intermittent. Quickly it was diagnosed to a bad solder connection on one of the feed lines. Just before 2:00 PM we cranked up the little generator that could and had the rigs running on the generator for the remainder of the day.

A schedule of operators was used and while one was at the mike another was logging. At the end of the hour the logger would become the control operator and a new person went on to log. This continued throughout the day and everyone had a chance to log and operate the radios.

For the most part the day went well and we began to disassemble the equipment after 6:00 PM. First glance indicates for the four hours of operating time we logged roughly 150 contacts. The furthest station was Alaska but we also contacted Arizona, Utah, and Texas to mention just a few distant places. What will next years Field Day bring??? It is not too soon to think about it!

We also had a very interesting presentation by Bob Murdock this past month. Bob who works at the Cedar Creek Nuclear Power Generating Plant provided us with a discussion and DVD film on the correct usage of voltmeters when measuring AC line voltages. The phenomena of impulse spikes is something I had not given to much consideration to. These transients can reach many thousand volts and can be present on the AC grid

(Continued on page 3)

NEXT MEETING: July 5th

Thursday 7:00PM

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

Mule Rd. at Santiago Drive

Birthdays & Anniversaries

7/5 Stan Stafiej KB2PD
 7/9 Norm Smith W2PXE
 7/12 Carl Lee W2PTZ
 7/14 John Hann K2JWH
 7/21 Lucille Hann (K2JWH)
 7/21 Bob Salisbury W2JSF
 7/30 Jean Young (WA2VQV)



ANNIVERSARIES

7/4 Grace Marie & Larry K2QDY Puccio
 7/10 Doris & Bob W2JSF Salisbury
 7/20 Lucille & John K2JWH Hann



HCARC Badge Ordering Procedure

You can now easily get an official Holiday City ARC badge with your call and name engraved on it. How? Just call Capital Engraving Co. run by Al Ross WA7UQE. 1-800-628-4985. Call 1 PM or later, as he is in the West Coast area.

Cost is \$12 plus \$2 S&H, totaling \$14 postpaid. It will be mailed to your home address.

Use your credit card, or mail a check if preferred. Delivery is usually about a week.

His email address is: capengrave@kalama.com

The badge includes the club logo and name, and is white with black lettering, just like the badges you see on club members at our meetings.

Ladder/Tower raising. Field Day '07



Photo by Murray kd2in

YOUR BUY AND SELL PLACE

For Sale

Six position coaxial switch. Used but in good condition.
\$ 60.00

Navy Flame-proof straight Key. Used but in good condition.
\$ 35.00

Contact Dave Ottenberg. 732-505-5953

E-mail: wa2djn3@verizon.net

Our VE Crew

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

CLUB COMMITTEES

Refreshments: Ray kc2gkn, Carl w2ptz, John k2jwh

www.hcarc.us Webmaster:

Publicity: Ed w1eap

Programs: Robert kc2qmqz

Sunshine: David wa2djn

Event Food Committee: Joe kc2qla

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	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.

The SKYHOOK is published monthly.

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Toms River, NJ 08757-6445

WORDS FROM JIM

by Jim Hepburn, W2IIC

C'mon in, Elmer, pour yourself a cuppa java and you can commiserate with me. I got fewer than 10 picture QSO's the whole month of April. I tried Digipan but for me that is a QSO of last resort.

The sun was spotless for some 18 days and the sunspot numbers were miniscule. Back a few months ago I went out on a limb by saying cycle 24 should show some life in the spring. Well it is spring and I am getting more cautious. As I write this May is here and at least we see a few spots, the latest, spot 955, is of some interest. It is in the center of the sun and it has some at least some characteristics of a new spot. Time will tell.

As spot 955 went around the back of the sun, a new spot, 956, showed up near the solar equator which has a wild magnetic field associated with it. The gurus say it is not the start of a new cycle, but it did kick the sunspot count up to 56 for one day which gave me a couple of picture QSO's. Now, at the end of May we are back to zero sunspots. The gurus were right, cycle 24 hasn't shown up yet.. Oh well, I guess we go back to basics.

"What do you mean basics?" Elmer asked. "I mean CW. When all else fails, CW will still be in there, and if it isn't there is always the TV and baseball!"

73 de Jim, W2IIC

*(Thanks to Old Barney for permission to reprint this article.)***...Public information statement...**

205 PM EDT Thu Jun 21 2007

The WSR-88D (weather surveillance radar 88 doppler) radar located at Fort Dix, New Jersey (identifier kdix) experienced an equipment failure on June 18, at approximately 2:00 am EDT. On Monday, June 18, electronic technicians from the Philadelphia/Mount Holly, New Jersey weather forecast office determined a significant hardware failure had occurred with the antenna equipment. A technical specialist from the radar operations center in Norman, Oklahoma, was immediately dispatched on Tuesday, June 19 and inspected the radar equipment and site. The specialist confirmed the initial assessment developed a timetable for repair of the radar. Given the complex nature of the hardware failure, the radar is expected to be out of service until July 8.

While the radar is out of service, meteorologists at The Mount Holly weather forecast office will use the WSR-88D radar information from the surrounding sites at Dover, Delaware... Sterling, Virginia...State College, Pennsylvania...Binghamton, New York... and Upton, New York... to maintain forecast and warning services.

73, Tom N2XW

Quotes from the Internet

Thought for the day: Remember that a lone amateur built the Ark. A large group of professionals built the Titanic.

You will never find anybody who can give you a clear and compelling reason why we observe Daylight Savings Time.

If you look like your passport picture, you probably need the trip.

(Continued from page 1) Larry

including in your home. Bob's presentation demonstrated that if the voltmeter you are using cannot withstand these transients the damaging results can be disastrous. One important message Bob left us with was to verify the maximum protection the meter can be rated for. Also, although the meter may be rated for 1000 volts, for example, if there is no UL of Canadian Standard or other nationally recognized testing lab standard affixed to the meter you actually don't know what the meter will stand. One of the pictures demonstrates how the meter can burst into flames if exposed to a voltage spike the meter could not withstand. The presentation was both interesting and educational and we thanked Bob for the fine presentation.

Well that's all for now and I look forward to seeing you at our July 5th meeting.

Best 73s, Larry Puccio K2QDQ**The ARRL Newsletter****ARRL E-Mail Usage Going Strong:**

One of the many benefits of ARRL membership is the ARRL e-mail forwarding service, first offered in February 1999. This service allows ARRL members to set up an arrl.net alias e-mail address. When e-mail is sent you at your arrl.net address, it is forwarded to an e-mail address you have designated.

According to ARRL Information Services Manager Don Durand, approximately 45 percent of ARRL members take advantage of the e-mail forwarding service. "Using the figures from Wednesday, June 20, we had 876,993 connection attempts and 148,400 actual e-mail deliveries," Durand said. "The difference of 728,593 represents spam that was trapped and not delivered to our members." Durand said the numbers show the e-mail filters do a "pretty good job eliminating spam. Using a combination of filtering software, as well as holding in-bound messages to the accepted standards of transmittal, we are able to remove approximately 90-95 percent of all spam before it reaches a user's inbox."

ARRL Membership Numbers on the Rise

With now close to 152,000 members, the ARRL is going, and growing, strong. ARRL Customer Service Manager Amy Hurtado, KB1NXO, says the "ARRL is a viable, up-to-date organization that every ham should be a part of."

Hurtado credits the rise in membership in part to the FCC rule changes earlier this year that eliminated Morse code testing for the General and Amateur Extra license classes. "Since more people were upgrading their licenses as a result of there being no Morse code requirement, we were successfully able to show them the benefits of being an ARRL member," she said.

One of the many benefits of ARRL membership, Hurtado said, is the monthly subscription to QST, the official journal of the ARRL. Other benefits of ARRL membership include a QST/

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QEX/NCJ index search on the ARRL Web site; operating awards; outgoing QSL service; access to the Technical Information Service; available ham radio equipment insurance program and more. Members can also get an arrl.net e-mail address through the ARRL e-mail forwarding service.

Hurtado went on to say that new, renewing and lapsed members can join the ARRL in many ways. "About 40-50 percent of membership enrollment is online. We also have people join after taking a licensing exam, by calling us on the phone, by answering a direct mail package or by joining up at their local hamfest."

If you are interested in joining the ARRL or renewing your present membership, please see the ARRL Web site www.arrl.org/join

ARRL Logbook of the World back on line:

The new Logbook of the World server is up and running. The principal benefits of the new server, aside from the value of having newer hardware, are that it provides faster processing and more storage, and it uses upgraded operating-system and relational database (RDMS) software. The speed difference will be quite noticeable, as well. The increase in storage space took LoTW from using about 90 percent of its available storage to about 45 percent. The new software allows for future growth, as the ARRL has upgraded to a system that allows better distributed processing and clustering. LoTW has more than 16,400 users and

over 130 million QSO records.

New General class books are good to go!:

According to ARRL Sales and Marketing Manager Bob Inderbitzen, NQ1R, the new ARRL General Class License Manual is ready for shipping. As of July 1, 2007, a new General Class license exam pool will take effect; the old pool will no longer be valid. The new ARRL General Class License Manual has everything you need to pass the General Class exam.

Also available is the ARRL General Q&A. This book makes upgrading to General Class quick and easy, allowing you to review from the entire question pool with brief explanations following each question.

You can order the new manuals, plus manuals for Technician and Amateur Extra from

www.arrl.org/catalog/lm/.



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