



# The SKYHOOK



HOLIDAY CITY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

www.hcarc.us

August 2009

Toms River, NJ

## Program for our August Meeting

Since our hobby started we have seen many changes in transmission methods. Early on we were heavily involved with CW and then Amplitude Modulation known as AM phone. Into the 1950's the introduction of Single Side Band occurred. Many of us thought it was Donald Duck and would never catch on. Weren't we wrong. Frequency Modulation FM came along too. Very popular on the VHF bands. Today digital modes are very popular. Our program for August will be a demonstration of PSK31. I am sure you will enjoy this presentation by Murray Goldberg KD2IN.

## Dates to Remember

August 6	Membership Meeting
August 10	Club Luncheon
August 12	Evening V.E. Session 7:00 PM
August 24	Club Luncheon
August 26	Executive Board meeting

## Birthdays & Anniversaries

### Birthdays

Chris Jackson 08/03  
Dave Ottenberg 08/09  
Jamie Punderson 08/27



### Anniversaries

Carl and Jane Lee 08/31  
Jamie and Sarah Punderson 08/08  
Norm and Dolores Smith 08/04  
Stan and Marjorie Stafiej 08/29



## The President's Corner By Dave WA2DJN



On June 20<sup>th</sup> we went to the Piscataway Hamfest with eight members from the Holiday City Radio Club. We sold many items of Ham equipment which were donated to the club and made about one hundred and forty two dollars. The weather did not cooperate too much as it rained about an hour after we set up and sold the equipment. It was quite an experience as the buyers came all of a sudden like locust, but we sold most of the larger equipment and came out ok.

We left Piscataway a while later, and drove up and spend time with Vince Genzardi for his 104<sup>th</sup> birthday, which turned out to be a great time for him, as well as the eight club members who attended. We hope to repeat the day next year for his 105<sup>th</sup> birthday.

At our July 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting we discussed the June 27<sup>th</sup> field day and what we could do next year, to make field day work out better. We will try moving our equipment around out of the sun and more into the shade, as well as installing ground rods to get rid of the RF problem. We also discussed the idea of trying the PSK 31 mode. I would like to thank the members who helped set up, operate, and take down the antennas, and various equipment. We were fortunate that the rain came near the end of our operating about Seven PM on Saturday.

Thank you also for all the pictures of field day, and the video presentation shown at the meeting. Thank you Steve Jackson for the great pictures on the club web site.

Hope to see you at the August 4<sup>th</sup> meeting.

73

Dave WA2DJN

**NEXT MEETING: August 6, 2009**

**Thursday 7:00PM**

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

**Mule Rd. at Santiago Drive**

## Sussex Hamfest

Our annual pilgrimage to Augusta NJ took place on June 29th with a caravan en-route from the Holiday City South Clubhouse to the Sussex County Fairgrounds. The group of eight club members left the parking lot at 6:00 AM and journeyed up the Garden State Parkway to Route 280 and then onto Route 80 where we connected with Route 15 ending at the Sussex County Fairgrounds. The trip was a two hour journey and the two vehicles we in continuous communications through handy talkies on simplex. The group consisted of Ed Picciuti, Don Pye, John Hann, Bill Haldane, Dave Ottenberg, Larry Puccio, Steve Jackson and Kevin Wagner. We arrived just before 8:00 AM and everyone was anxious to start hunting for those gems hidden somewhere among all the sellers box's and bins. As I recall there were seven rows of sellers outdoors and a huge building where the indoor sellers had their goods. I walked the entire hamfest looking for old friends and articles that I probably could not do without. I found both. I bought a VHF slug for my Bird watt meter, a 150 VAC panel meter to replace a defective one, a few connectors for a friend and some more fiberglass poles to support an antenna. Some of the other fellows purchased individual component parts, coax cable, open-wire feed-line and many other gems for construction projects or just to have in case they maybe needed in the future. There was one member who purchased a digital camera at the hamfest. Of course the camera was in pieces and needed to be rebuilt, which adds to the fun. Can you guess who that club member is???

There was a covered pavilion where you could purchase coffee, tea, water and buns or eggs, hamburgers and hotdogs. Some of the group met there to discuss their purchases or where they saw items that someone else needed.

The group meet at 11:00 AM and the caravan formed up once again for the journey home. However, we did not go directly home but stopped off at Yettters Diner. There the group was to large for a single table so they set up two tables back to back. Four at one table and the other four at the next table. We enjoyed some breakfast and lunch cuisine and a lot of good discussion about the hamfest and the digital camera.

The Sussex hamfest is likely that largest in New Jersey and may compare to Timonium. We were very lucky that the weather held out, not to hot and sunny most of the day.

**A new hamfest, sponsored by the Jersey Coast Chapter of the North American DX Association**, will be held Sunday, September 12th at Luigi's Restaurant Parking lot, corner of Asbury Ave. and Shafto/Wycoff Rd. Tinton Falls. This hamfest is free to buyers. Let us know who is interested in going.

## 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.

### 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 K2JWH, Carl W2PTZ

Webmaster(s) [www.hcarc.us](http://www.hcarc.us): Steve N2WLH, Kevin W2FA

Publicity: Ed W1EAP

Programs: Murray KD2IN

Sunshine: John W2JWH

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

## HOLIDAY CITY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Toms River, New Jersey

Web Site [www.hcarc.us](http://www.hcarc.us)

President	Dave Ottenberg	WA2DJN	732 505-5953
Vice President	Ed Picciuti	W1EAP	732 736-0955
Secretary	Norm Smith	W2PXE	732 920-5423
Treasurer	Joe Militano	KC2QLA	732 657-7092
Executive Board	Don Smith	W2III	732 505-4821
Executive Board	Larry Puccio	K2QDY	732 349-2950
Executive Board	Bill Haldane	AC2F	732 240-7064
Executive Board	John Hann	W2JWH	609 660-0985
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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## Field Day

For those of you that were not able to participate in this years Field Day I will try to describe the day. This year Field Day took place on the weekend of June 27-28. Field Day preparations actually start the week or so before the actual event when those people who are going to bring equipment start to look for and assemble the equipment to be brought to the Field Day location. Additionally, non ham related items are also planned for well before the actual event takes place. For example, cooler chests, ice, soda, water, the coffee pot and coffee, milk, sugar etc., buns for those who come to set up and pizza for the lunch time are a sampling of those items that need to be planned for and assigned well before the actual day.

Equipment needs are similarly planned and assigned. The generator for power, the antennas, the antenna supports, guy ropes the radios that will be used, the laptops for the logging, the filters and many other pieces that need to be coordinated for a successful operation.

This year we had two HF transmitters operating on 80, 40 and 20 meters. In order not to interfere with other transmitter band pass filters are installed in the transmission line to each radio. The radio operating on 40 meters will have a filter for that band and those will be the only frequencies that will pass while the other transmitter would be equipped with a filter for 20 meters and those frequencies would be the only ones to pass into that radio. If the filters were not used each transmitter would overload the other transmitters and no one would be able to hear incoming signals.

The set-up group met at around 9:30 AM and three groups of people were assigned various tasks. One group of fellows had the assignment to place the three antenna supports, set the support stakes and then erect the mast pipes and place the guy ropes that held the mast vertical. The second group set up the transmitters, filters and the tuners and the third group set up the generator. By 12:noon the installation was complete and the pizza had been ordered including the cold soda. The group sat and talked about the morning achievements while munching the pizza and discussing the 2:00 PM start time. A few fellows made test contacts to verify the equipment was in working order.

The start of Field Day is a 2:00 PM and the scheduled operators were in position and ready to begin calling "CQ Field Day this is Whiskey 2 Hotel Charlie." Most of the operators prefer to use SSB however there are a few people that operate CW.

At this Field Day my two grandsons participated and both

helped with setting up the equipment, logging and transmitting. My grandson George, age 12 yrs, was very excited about getting on the mike and actually made quite a number of contacts. My Grandson Matt is very proficient in CW and some of the club members marveled at his ability to send with his left hand, type into the laptop with his right hand and carry on a conversation with a third party. Oh to be young again!

As the day progressed we had a schedule of operators and loggers. Each person had a half hour time slot to either log or operate. I think everyone had a chance at either rig to make a few contacts. At a point in time the generator quit. We had to go off emergency power and plug into the pole outlets provided by the parks department. We opened the back plate of the generator to expose the problem which turned out to be a warped plastic assembly that housed armature wiring connections and also the brush holder assembly. It was beyond repair and so that ended our emergency power operation. As it was late in the day we continued with commercial power and only made a few more contacts. The park department permit is only good until 8:00 PM however it began to rain and so it was decided to quit operating around 6:00 PM The group began to disassemble the portable stations. One group of fellows took down the three antenna supports and the two 102 foot long G5RV antennas. Another group disassembled the operating positions. The transmitters were shut down and the cabling to the filters, tuners and antennas disconnected. Everything was boxed up and placed back in the cars for delivery to the homes of the owners by 7:00 PM.

We did not do as well this year as last year, however, we did have some trouble with the equipment, the rain and also there was a lot of static crashes which plagued the 40 meters operation. Well wait until next year.

## H.R. 2160

If you have not checked out H.R. 2160, Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Enhancement Act of 2009, please do so at <http://www.arrl.org/?artid=8989>. Review this bill and write your Congressman to express your request for support. THIS IS IMPORTANT! This bill has outstanding support for ARES organizations. There are links on the ARRL web site for sample letters. The easiest way to direct your letters is to fax them to Chwat & Co. at 703-684-7594. They can then be handed to your representatives and not be held up with US Mail searches for anthrax.

## How's DX

Russ, WA2VQV worked the following DX:

**On 20 Meters SSB:** 4O3A Montenegro, 6W/PD9DX Senegal, EA6TS Balearic Islands, IT9AST Sicily, LZ18HR Bulgaria, OE8SKQ Austria, OM3RM Slovakia, ON7CD Belgium, RN3QN, RW3DD, UA6GP European Russia, UR5ZVP Ukraine, ZL4IV New Zealand.

**On 20 Meters PSK31:** PA2GP Netherlands.

Also 117 QSO's (63 CW/54 SSB) in the 2009 IARU HF Contest.

Larry K2QDY worked the following DX:

**On 20 Meters CW:** KH6MB Hawaii, 4Z5AD Israel, DL7NJ Germany, RK9AWN Russia.

**On 10 Meters CW:** 4O3A Yugoslavia, F5NTV F5PPO F6KSV France, E70R Bosnia.

**On 10 Meters SSB:** XE1KK Mexico, IZ5GST IZ5DKJ Italy, CU2CR Azores, M1WDK England.

Warren KC2SSB worked the following DX:

**On 20 Meters SSB:** F4FHT France, RZ4FA RA3GD Russia.

73 & Good Hunting !  
Russ, WA2VQV

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