

The SKYHOOK



HOLIDAY CITY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

www.hcarc.us

August 2022

Toms River, NJ

Our President's Message



Fox Hunting, also known as Radio Direction Finding (RDF) is a common activity in amateur radio. The fox, which is a hidden transmitter, sends out a signal so the hunter or hunters can try to detect the direction where the signal is being propagated. The distance from the fox to the hunters can be miles apart at the beginning of the hunt and as the fox sends out additional signals, the hunters will get closer to the location where the fox is hiding. The activity can be competitive by recognizing the first hunter to "capture" the fox. Map reading and compass skills are necessary requirements for having a successful fox hunt. Our meeting this month will reinforce these skills in preparation for the fox hunt the club will have in September.

Doug Poray KC2TZC

Birthdays

Larry Loscalzo WA2VLR

John Perry KD2NDY

James Punderson W2QO

Christine Jackson



Anniversaries

James & Sarah Punderson

Stan & Marjoie Stafiej



Field Day 2022

June 25th was the annual ARRL sponsored Field Day. The Holiday City ARC joined in and operated three stations at the Whispering Pines Park.

The group arrived at the park at 10:00 AM and began erecting the antennas. We erected three antennas two were 40 meter dipoles up at 30 feet, fed with ladder line and the third antenna was an inverted "L" that was 40 feet high and 200 feet long.

Two stations operated SSB while the third was strictly on CW. One of the SSB stations was powered completely by the sun via a solar panel.

The installation was completed by 12:00 noon and the group enjoyed hero sandwiches. At 2:00 PM the real fun began. At 5:00 PM we ordered 5 pizzas and were joined by some of the wives.

The three stations were on the air from 2:00 to 7:15 PM when we began to dismantle the antennas and equipment.

During the day we had two visitors, Mike Signorelli, Councilman from Berkeley Township, and Tom DeVane, ARRL South Jersey Emergency Coordinator.

By the end of the day's operating we had approximately 125 contacts and had worked Florida to the south, California and Washington to the west, Canada to the north, a couple of Caribbean islands, and Croatia to the east.

The day was exhausting for the 13 club members but all agreed we had a great time.

Larry Pucio K2QDY

OUR NEXT REGULAR MEETING:

Thursday, August 4th
at 7:00 PM

Holiday City South Clubhouse A
Santiago Drive at Mule Road
Toms River, NJ

Ocean County ARES® News



August 2022

The next meeting of Ocean County ARES will be on August 17, 2022 at 7:00 PM. It will be a virtual Zoom meeting and not an in-person meeting. Details to connect will be sent a day or two before the meeting via OCARES Groups.io.

For those of you who have used VARA in either the FM or HF mode, you probably noticed that VARA Chat leaves a lot to be desired and is rather wonky. A new program has been developed called VarAC (HF Chat Reinvented). It can be downloaded at:

<https://www.varac-hamradio.com/download>

You will be sent a link by email to get you started using the program. The following is a short summary of how to install and configure the program:

Make sure you installed VARA-HF modem.

Unpack VarAC in a dedicated directory. c:\VarAC can be a good place.

Launch VarAC by double clicking the VarAC.exe file.

You will be asked to enter your callsign in the "My callsign" text box.

On the top menu select: Settings --> RIG control & VARA Configuration

Set your desired PTT and Frequency control modes (CAT/OmniRig/RTS/DTR) and use the TEST buttons to make sure they work.

To allow VarAC to automatically launch your VARA modem, tell VarAC where the VarAHF modem is located under the "VARAHF main file path" section. Point it out to the VARAHF.EXE file you installed on step #1 (or VARAFM.EXE if you use VaraFM)

Make sure you select the right VarAHF port in the "VARAHF main port" section. The default port of VarAHF modem is 8300

Under VARA modem type select VarAHF for HF operation and VaraFM for FM operation. You must

enter the correct file path for your mode. If you change modes you need to ensure you have the right modem and path entered.

Click "SAVE & CLOSE"

See the quick start guide at <https://www.varac-hamradio.com/forum/manuals/varac-quick-start-guide> to make your first QSO. Remember, VarAC uses the regular VARA program as a shell and operates inside of it.

The super part of VarAC on FM is that it passes through digipeaters. Both WA2RES-14 and WA2RES-15 can be used to extend your chat range. To properly configure for use through a digipeater, see:

<https://www.varac-hamradio.com/forum/manuals/varac-varafm>

The following is from John, N2LD in regard to two new DMR repeaters in Ocean County:

"We finally have everything up and running on the KA2DMR and N2MRH DMR repeaters.

Both repeaters are linked through TGIF Area 609 Talk Group. This should be setup for Color Code 1, Time Slot 2.

You can also access the repeaters through your HotSpot using the TGIF Area 609 Talk Group.

Both repeaters also have an independent Local 9 Talk Group for local communications. This should be setup for Color Code 1, Time Slot 1.

I had to change the KA2DMR repeater frequencies to the ARCC coordinated frequencies of 441.1500 Output and 446.1500 Input.

The N2MRH repeater frequencies have also been changed to the ARCC coordinated frequencies of 446.7250 Output and 441.7250 Input.

Please change your code plug accordingly if you want to use the repeaters. Sorry for the inconvenience, but the frequencies were assigned by the ARCC."

Note: The KA2DMR/R was the KB2UNK/R

73 de WX2NJ Bob Murdock

Ocean County Amateur Radio Emergency Service® EC

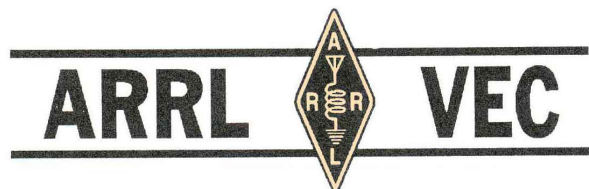
Chinese Buffet Luncheon



Wednesday August 10 at Noon:

Come to the HCARC Chinese Buffet Luncheon, at the FORTUNE BUFFET, 1311 Rt. 37 W, in the mall by St. Catherine Blvd, Toms River NJ.

July 2022 VE Session Report



At our July VE session we had three candidates.

One had passed the Technician test at the last VE session and now was taking the General class test, which he passed.

The two other candidates took the Technician test, and both passed. They indicated they would be coming back for the General class test in a few months. The VEs in attendance were Steve Jackson, Stan Stafiej, John Roberts and Larry Puccio.

Our next VE session is scheduled for August 10th in the Holiday City South Clubhouse building A at 7:00 PM.

See next column for information.

Larry Puccio K2QDY

Our Volunteer Examiner Crew

Larry [K2QDY](#) (Liaison) 732-349-2950,

John [KQ4WR](#), Stan [KB2P](#),

Steve [N2WLH](#), Michael [WA2CWX](#)

License exams are given by appointment at 7:00pm on the first Wednesday after each HCARC meeting at Holiday City South Clubhouse Bldg A, which is at the corner of Mule Rd. and Santiago Dr. Call Larry Puccio, K2QDY, at 732-349-2950 for an appointment.

Directions: From either Route 37 W or Davenport Road, take Mule Road to Santiago Drive. Clubhouse A is the building nearest the street corner.

Holiday City Amateur Radio Club

Toms River, New Jersey

Web Site www.hcsrc.us

President	Doug Poray	KC2TTC	732-928-2316
Vice President	Steve Jackson	N2WLH	732-255-7916
Secretary	John Perry	KD2NDY	732-349-2705
Treasurer	Larry Puccio	K2QDY	732-349-2950
Executive Board (open)			
Executive Board	John Roberts	KQ4WR	732-966 4665
W2HC Trustee	Larry Puccio	K2QDY	732-349-2950

Membership is open to all interested persons. Ham license is not required. Dues are \$25.00 per year, payable Jan 1st. Members joining during the year will have the dues prorated. Family membership \$30.00 per family.

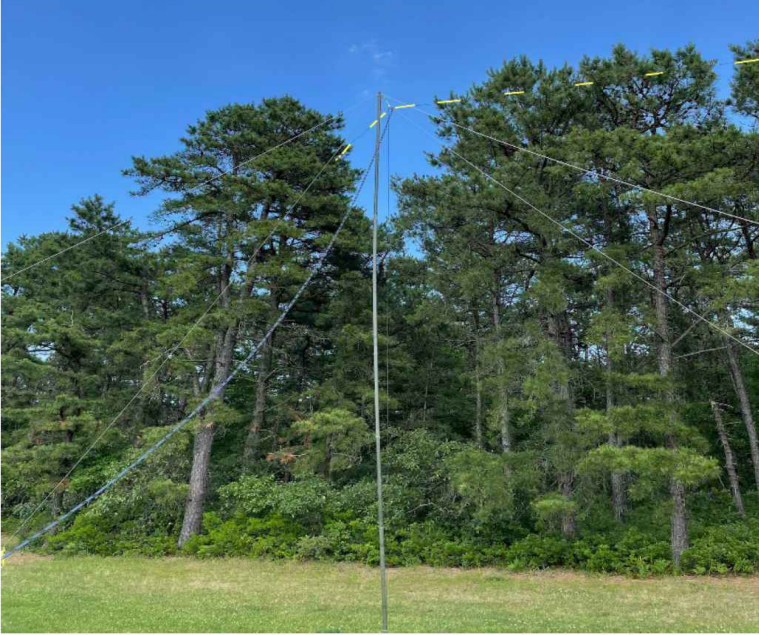
Meetings are held at 7:00 pm on the first Thursday of every month except December.

Location: Meeting Room #1 in Holiday City South Clubhouse.

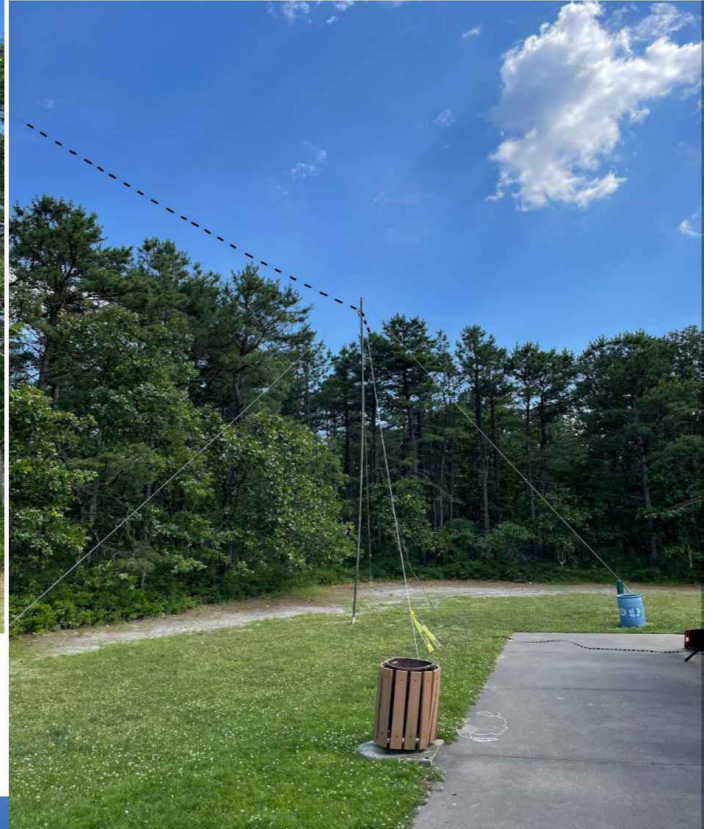
Directions: From either Route 37 W or Davenport Road, take Mule Road to Santiago Drive. Turn into the parking lot from Santiago Drive and park near the pool. Enter Building A (the building nearest the street intersection).

Newsletter: The SKYHOOK is the HCARC's official newsletter, circulation about 75. Original articles and photos are appreciated. Editor is John Roberts, [KQ4WR](#), 732-350-1162.

Our Field Day Antenna Farm



Mini-G5RV, as a colinear array of two end-fed half waves on 20 m



Upper right: 40 m half wave

Inverted L for 80 m

Dashed lines have been added to these photos to show radiating wires that would not be seen without magnification.



Photos by Mike Larkins

More Field Day Photos



Larry and grandson KC2IGE

Photos by Mike Larkins



Carl Lee and Stan Stefiej



*Doug Poray & Steve Jackson
with John Perry*



Some DX Opportunities

Callsigns shown in alphanumeric order

Italics if DX > 6000mi

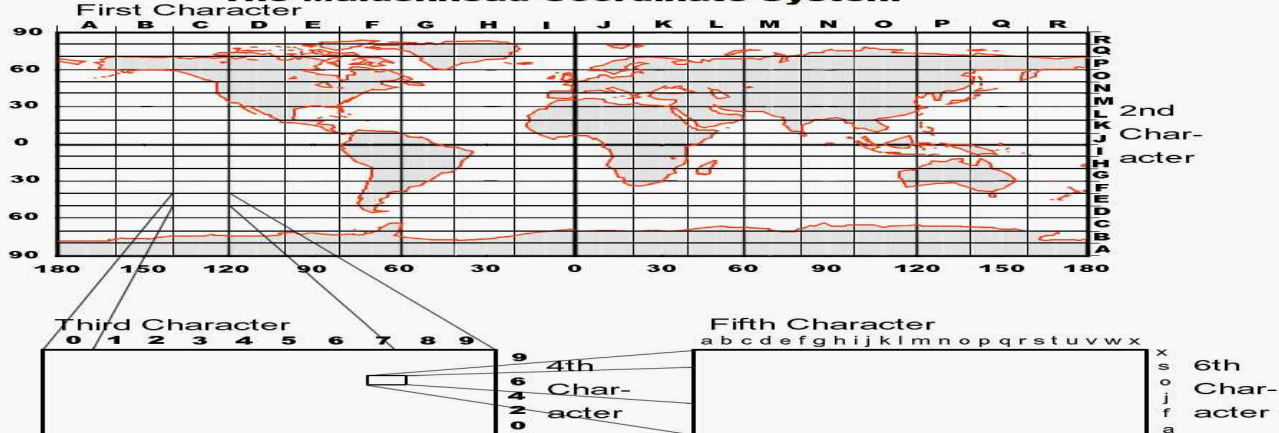
Mode codes: 8 = JT8, C = CW, D = Digital, J = JP4, P = PSK31, R = RTTY, S = SSB, T = SSTV.

Bands: "Low" usually means 160, 80 & 40m.

Many thanks to Bill Feidt NG3K, Wikipedia, Google Maps, the ARRL, the RSGB, DXW, TDDX & QRZ.com for the data.

START	FINISH	ENTITY	PFX	CALLSIGN	IOTA	BANDS	MODES	QSL via	LOC	MILES	DIR	INFO by
08/05/22	08/09/22	Rodrigues I	3B9	3B8BAN	AF-017	80-10m	&satellite	TBA	LG89sw	9294 E		TDDX
08/05/22	08/09/22	Rodrigues I	3B9	3B8CF	AF-017	80-10m	&satellite	TBA	LG89sw	9294 E		TDDX
08/05/22	08/09/22	Rodrigues I	3B9	3B8FA	AF-017	80-10m	&satellite	TBA	LG89sw	9294 E		TDDX
08/05/22	08/09/22	Rodrigues I	3B9	3B8FV	AF-017	80-10m	&satellite	TBA	LG89sw	9294 E		TDDX
08/05/22	08/09/22	Rodrigues I	3B9	3B8GF	AF-017	80-10m	&satellite	TBA	LG89sw	9294 E		TDDX
07/25/22	08/04/22	Timor-Leste	4W	4W/VK1AO		40-12m	S 8 c	LoTW	PI21sk	9954 NW		ARLD029
07/27/22	08/04/22	East Timor	4W	4W/VK2MET	OC-148	40-12m	8 C	LoTW	PG66po	10474 WNW		TDDX
NOW	08/05/22	Algeria	7T60	7T60I				see QRZ.com	JM16ms	4058 ENE		ARLD028
NOW	08/05/22	Algeria	7T60	7U60I				see QRZ.com	JM16ms	4058 ENE		ARLD028
NOW	08/05/22	Algeria	7T60	7V60I				see QRZ.com	JM13kt	4151 ENE		ARLD028
NOW	08/05/22	Algeria	7T60	7V60ID				see QRZ.com	JM19id	3964 ENE		ARLD028
NOW	08/05/22	Algeria	7T60	7W60I				see QRZ.com	JM19id	3964 ENE		ARLD028
NOW	03/31/23	Japan	JA	8J1H90T	AS-117			see QRZ.com	PM95pi	6816 NNW		ARLB022
08/08/22	08/20/22	Maldives	8Q7	8Q7AG	AS-013	80-6m	S D	LoTW	MJ64sc	8775 NE		TDDX
07/25/22	08/02/22	Croatia	9A	9A/S500	EU-016	80-6m	C S 8	S500	JN83bb	4440 NE		ARLD029
07/25/22	08/02/22	Croatia	9A	9A/S50X	EU-016	80-6m	C S 8	S50X	JN83bb	4440 NE		ARLD029
07/25/22	08/02/22	Croatia	9A	9A/S53Z	EU-016	80-6m	C S 8	S53Z	JN83bb	4440 NE		ARLD029
07/25/22	08/02/22	Croatia	9A	9A/S54Z0	EU-016	80-6m	C S 8	S54Z0	JN83bb	4440 NE		ARLD029
07/25/22	08/02/22	Croatia	9A	9A/S58U	EU-016	80-6m	C S 8	S58U	JN83bb	4440 NE		ARLD029
07/25/22	08/02/22	Croatia	9A	9A7YY	EU-016	80-6m	C S 8	9A7YY	JN83bb	4440 NE		ARLD029
08/28/22	09/25/22	Tonga	A35	A35JP	OC-049	80-6m	C S 8	LoTW	AG28jv	7711 W		JA0RQV
08/07/22	08/20/22	Tonga	A35	A35JP/p	OC-123	80-6m	C S 8	LoTW	AG28jv	7711 W		JA0RQV
07/11/22	11/30/22	Taiwan	BV	BX0QSL	AS-020	80-10m	D c s	BM2JCC	PL04nf	7897 NNW		ARLD027
NOW	09/05/22	Azores	CT8	CT8/W6PQL	EU-040	80-10m		W6PQL	HM58rn	2421 ENE		ARLD028
08/12/22	08/16/22	Angola	D2	D2TX		80-10m		PA3CMC	JH87sx	6847 E		TDDX
tba Sep	tba Sep	Cape Verde	D4	D44TW0		160-6m	D c s	M00XO OQRS	HK85fa	3495 ESE		ARLD027
08/01/22	12/31/22	Spratly Is	DX0	DX0NE	AS-051	160-6m	C S 8	I28CCW	OK70os	8885 NNW		ARLD028
07/25/22	08/21/22	United Kingdom	GB22	GB22xx	various			LoTW	IO91vl	3503 NE		ARLD027
NOW	06/01/23	Djibouti	J2	J28HJ		80-10m	S 8	LoTW	LK11mn	7082 ENE		ARLD029
08/13/22	08/18/22	Grenada	J3	J3/N9GB	NA-024	40-10m	C s 8	N9GB	FK92mm	2062 SSE		TDDX
08/10/22	08/16/22	Svalbard	JW	JW/KA1IS	EA-026	80-10m	C S	KA1S	JQ75tf	3566 NNE		TDDX
09/19/22	09/26/22	Svalbard	JW0	JW0A	EU-026	160-6m	C S R 8	see QRZ.com	JQ78tf	3527 NNE		DXNews
07/27/22	07/30/22	Honduras	HR9	K6VHF/HR9	NA-057	80-6m	8 C S	LoTW	DM44aj	2097 W		TDDX
NOW	TBD	Argentina	L95	L95F		80-10m		L95F	FF75qq	5171 S		ARLD028
NOW	08/31/22	Peru	OA	OA9DVK		80-10m	C S	IK6BFH	FI04tx	3121 S		ARLB025
08/09/22	08/23/22	Seychelles	S79	S79/EA3BT	AF-024	hf &satel	S C 8	TBA	LI75uq	8477 ENE		DXW.Net
08/09/22	08/23/22	Seychelles	S79	S79/EA3WL	AF-024	hf &satel	S C 8	TBA	LI75uq	8477 ENE		DXW.Net
NOW	08/31/22	Poland	SN89	SN89LOT		80-10m		SP1PMY	K002mg	4307 NE		ARLD027
NOW	10/31/22	Turkey	TA	TA3J/0	AS-099	80-10m	S C R 8	LoTW	KM38ji	5084 NE		ARLD028
NOW	10/01/22	Turkey	TA	TA3J/0	AS-099	80-10m	S C R 8	LoTW	KM38ji	5084 NE		ARLD029
11/02/22	11/09/22	Austral Is	TX5	TX5XG		160-10m	C S R D	JA1XGI	DX50jh	6512 NNW		ARLD027
08/08/22	08/18/22	St Kitts &Nevis	V4	V4/NT5V	NA-104	80-10m	C S 8	NT5V	FK87pf	1717 SSE		DXNews
08/20/22	08/31/22	St Kitts &Nevis	V47	V47FWX	NA-104	80-10m		M0URX	FK87oi	1707 SSE		DXNews
07/27/22	08/07/22	St Kitts &Nevis	V47	V47JA	NA-104	160-6m	S 8	LoTW	FK87pg	1714 SSE		W5JON
07/15/22	TBD	Macquarie I	VK0	VK0MQ	AN-005	80-10m	S 8	tba VK5HZ	QD95ki	9830 SW		DXW.Net
NOW	10/31/22	Australia	VK	VK75FAA				VK2YVA	QF55jw	9951 W		ARLD029
08/20/22	08/20/22	USA LIGHTHOUSE	W8	W8GNM/8				LoTW	EN81mm	469 WNW		ARLD028
NOW	TBD	Burkina Faso	XT	XT2AW		160-10m	C S	M00XO OQRS	IK92fh	4765 E		ARLB022
07/05/22	08/02/22	Nicaragua	YN	YN2RP		80-10m	C S D	LoTW NN3RP	EK71aw	2065 SSW		425DXN
08/23/22	08/23/22	Albania	ZA	ZA/Z35M	EU-169	40-15m	C S	LoTW	JM99xs	4731 NE		TDDX

The Maidenhead Coordinate System



Larry Puccio K2QDY Worked:

DATE	TIME	FREQ	MODE	CALLSIGN	ENTITY	LOC	MILES	DIR
6/30/2022	23:49	21.025	CW	C08RH	Cuba	EL92et	1261	SSW
7/01/2022	00:15	21.027	CW	KP4JRS	Puerto Rico	FK68vh	1569	SSE
7/01/2022	19:38	10.120	CW	K2J 13	COLONIES NC	FM05tp	374	SW
7/01/2022	22:38	14.035	CW	YU1YV	Serbia	EL92et	1261	SSW
7/14/2022	16:00	14.022	CW	W7QC	SAMMAMISH, WA	CN87xo	2406	WNW
7/14/2022	23:45	10.110	CW	5P8VW	Denmark	J045ge	3760	NE
7/14/2022	23:55	14.021	CW	I1YRL	Italy	JN35sc	3998	NE
7/15/2022	21:36	14.014	CW	LZ540DS	Bulgaria	KN22dq	4797	NE
7/15/2022	21:44	14.014	CW	F4VSR	France	JN12ju	3853	ENE
7/15/2022	21:51	14.013	CW	F8DGY	France	JN18gm	3686	NE
7/15/2022	22:07	14.014	CW	9A/UW1GZ	Croatia	REMOTE CONTROL		
7/15/2022	23:40	14.014	CW	I1ULJ/8	Italy	JN45hr	4026	NE
7/16/2022	00:22	14.019	CW	XQ3SK	Chile	FF46qj	5089	S
7/18/2022	18:13	14.019	CW	4Z21MG	Israel	KM71jd	5752	NE
7/18/2022	18:41	28.008	CW	PY2XL	Brazil	GG66qh	4744	SSE
7/18/2022	19:45	14.016	CW	S52OW	Slovenia	JN75gv	4272	NE
7/18/2022	19:50	14.008	CW	4Z21MG	Israel	KM71jd	5752	NE
7/18/2022	20:00	14.004	CW	A01XPC	Spain	IN52rv	3322	ENE
7/18/2022	20:10	14.033	CW	A01XFM	Spain	IN52rv	3322	ENE
7/20/2022	20:36	14.019	CW	HA72MAV	Hungary	JN97jd	4403	NE
7/20/2022	20:39	14.010	CW	HA8WZ	Hungary	KN06mq	4509	NE
7/20/2022	20:46	14.020	CW	4X21MG	Israel	KM71jd	5752	NE
7/20/2022	20:58	14.020	CW	OK2SK	Czech Republic	JN89lx	4232	NE
7/20/2022	21:14	14.016	CW	RP77PNH	European Russia	NOT IN QRZ.COM		
7/20/2022	21:29	14.010	CW	E73AA	Bosnia-Herzegovina	JN83tj	4491	NE
7/20/2022	22:20	14.008	CW	9A3SMS	Croatia	JN92cp	4544	NE
7/20/2022	22:23	14.009	CW	7X4AN	Algeria	IM94gu	3899	ENE
7/20/2022	22:29	14.169	CW	LZ3FA	Bulgaria	KN22dq	4797	NE
7/20/2022	22:33	14.015	CW	A01XCN	Spain	IN52rv	3322	ENE
7/20/2022	22:38	14.024	CW	PA50PKZ	Netherlands	J022ga	3683	NE

August						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
VE Session Aug 10th by appointment: see page 3	1	2	3 7:30pm ARES digi net 145.170MHz; 8:30pm ARES voice net 449.825MHz	4 7pm HCARC MEETING See Page 3	5	6 North America QSO Party CW ncjweb.com 2PM-1:59AM
7	8	9 Chin. Lunch Tomorrow at Noon Wed. See below	10 7:30pm ARES digi net 449.825MHz; 8:30pm ARES voice net 145.870MHz	11	12	13 KY Parks OTA & MD/DC QSO Parties. See below
14	15	16	17 ARES ZOOM Meeting, See Page 2.	18	19	20 North America QSO Party SSB bcjweb.com 2PM-1:59AM
21	22	23	24 7:30pm ARES digi net 449.825MHz; 8:30pm ARES voice net 145.870MHz	25	26	27 4 QSO Parties: HI, KS, OH & US Islands see below
28 HI QSO Party continues	29	30	31 7:30pm ARES digi net 145.170MHz; 8:30pm ARES voice net 449.825MHz			

Chinese Buffet Luncheon

The Holiday City Amateur Radio Club has scheduled a Buffet Luncheon at the Fortune Buffet for August 10th at noon. These always seem to work out well, and of course, you're invited to join in, and bring your spouse or a friend if you like. But please let Larry Puccio know in advance. The restaurant is next to Ruby Tuesday's in the mall on Route 37W near St Catherine Blvd.