

The SKYHOOK

HOLIDAY CITY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB



www.hcarc.us

May 2025

Toms River, NJ

President's Message



Amateur radio “nets” are groups of amateur operators who meet on the air on a regular basis. They come together, usually, on a specific day, at a specified time, and at a particular frequency. “Nets” are organized for a particular purpose such as relaying messages, discussing a common topic of interest, or simply as a regular gathering of friends for conversation.

Another purpose for participating in a “net” is to evaluate the condition of your equipment. Your transceiver and your antenna system can be judged by other participants of the “net”. Conversely, you can assess the quality of the other attendees’ equipment.

The Holiday City Amateur Radio Club conducts a 10 meter “net” on Sunday evenings at 8 PM on 28.350. Club members and guests (licensed) are welcome to join us.

Our May presentation will feature a non-radio related topic. A seamster will demonstrate

making industrial/ commercial cloth products. This could be related to amateur radio since some of the items could be used to protect radio equipment either in the shack or on portable excursions.

We Say Happy Birthday



to Jeffrey Pennell KA2DHE

The Fox Is Back



See Page 8.

OUR NEXT REGULAR MEETING:
Thursday May First
at 7:00 PM
Holiday City South Clubhouse A
Santiago Drive at Mule Road

Ocean County ARES® News

May 2025

At the April 16th Ocean County ARES meeting, WX2NJ presented two Certificates of Merit to Ocean County members.

First, to Glen – KD2FFR:

“Glen Ramsay, KD2FFR, is recognized for outstanding achievement in conducting Amateur Radio Technician Training classes for Ocean County CERT members. Glen has prepared and executed various training plans to present Technician level material to CERT members each Monday evening for two months. He is hereby recognized by the Amateur Radio community to have achieved a level of training and cooperation far beyond the call of an ARES volunteer.

Congratulations!”



WX2NJ and KD2FFR Photo by K2MDW

Second, to John – N2LD:

“John DePoto, N2LD, is recognized for outstanding service as lead Volunteer Examiner for Ocean County ARES since October 2019. John has maintained an exam database in his home and has been present at every VE Exam Session as administrator. COVID conditions have made the sessions even more difficult to administer, but John has always maintained a positive attitude and flawless record keeping. This assignment involves many hours of work and dedication far beyond what meets the eye. Congratulations!”



WX2NJ and N2LD Photo by K2MDW

Also at the meeting was SNJ ARES Section Manager Ron Fish – KX1W and SNJ ARES Section Emergency Coordinator Rick Kennard – N2RPQ. Both gave a brief introduction to the group and fielded several questions from members. It was the first time at the EOC for KX1W and he was given a tour by the Ocean County Radio Officer, K2PSG.

WX2NJ gave a brief presentation regarding construction of an 80/40 meter NVIS antenna, which a detailed document can be found on the Ocean County ARES web page under “Links”.

One ARES member suggested holding the Wednesday evening nets earlier than 8:30 PM, which may attract more operators to participate. Starting with the April 23rd nets, the ARES Voice net will be held at 7:30 PM versus 8:30 PM and the digital net will be held at 8:00 PM versus 7:30 PM. Once a month a Skywarn net is held on the second Wednesday and it will be held at 7:00 PM versus 8:00 PM. We will try the new time lineup and see how it works out.

I would like to congratulate a new Ocean County ARES member, Ray – K2RWB.

73 de WX2NJ

Bob Murdock

Ocean County Amateur Radio Emergency Service® EC

Ocean County ARES Training Nets And Meetings

Training Nets are suspended during emergencies, disaster relief efforts, and some holidays.

TENTATIVE REVISED SCHEDULE

Wednesdays every month except on meeting days (see "Meetings", below):

Skywarn Net (only on each month's 2nd Wednesday)
7:00 pm instead of 8:00 pm.

Voice Net 7:30 pm instead of 8:30 pm 449.825MHz

Digital Net 8:00 pm instead of 7:30 pm 145.170 MHz

Meetings:

7:00 am on 3rd Wednesdays of even-numbered months (Feb, Apr, Jun, Aug, Oct, & Dec).

Don't be out of sorts



To be "out of sorts" is to run out of needed letters in the hand-setting of type.

I operated a Linotype in the late '70s, setting hot lead slugs of type. My coworker, Harry, would set up the Heidelberg windmills, get them both running, and then stand in front of the cases setting type by deftly choosing sorts (individual pieces of metal foundry type) from the California Job Cases with his free hand and placing them in the composing stick in his other. Harry was deaf, so the noise of the shop (we also had two offset duplicators running much of the time), or the jarring crash of a metal galley dropped on the concrete floor never bothered him.

When we'd throw in, that is dump galleys of type onto the granite counter to be replaced into the cases, he had no trouble distinguishing sorts. I was befuddled by the p, d, b, and q's (they look like quadruplets), but they didn't seem to slow Harry in the least.

"If I were to be sat down at a computer and told, 'here, you can do whatever you want,' I wouldn't know what to do. There would be too many choices," says John Kristensen, of Firefly Press in [this gorgeous short film](#). No garish bitmap filter or clever vector technique can replace the artistry and craftsmanship in what Firefly Press in Somerville Massachusetts produces every day.

—Joel Mielke

Our Volunteer Examiner Crew

Larry [K2QDY](#) (Liaison) 732-349-2950,
John [KQ4WR](#), Steve [N2WLH](#), Michael [WA2CWX](#),
Larry [WA2VLR](#), Ed [WB2QWC](#)

License exams are given by appointment at 6:45pm 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.hcArc.us

President	Doug Poray	KC2TZC	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
Program Chair	Carl Lee	W2PTZ	732-575-7558
W2HC Trustee	Larry Puccio	K2QDY	732-349-2950

Membership is open to all interested persons. Ham license is not required. Dues are \$40.00 per year, payable Jan 1st.

Members joining during the year will have the dues prorated. Family membership \$50.00 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.

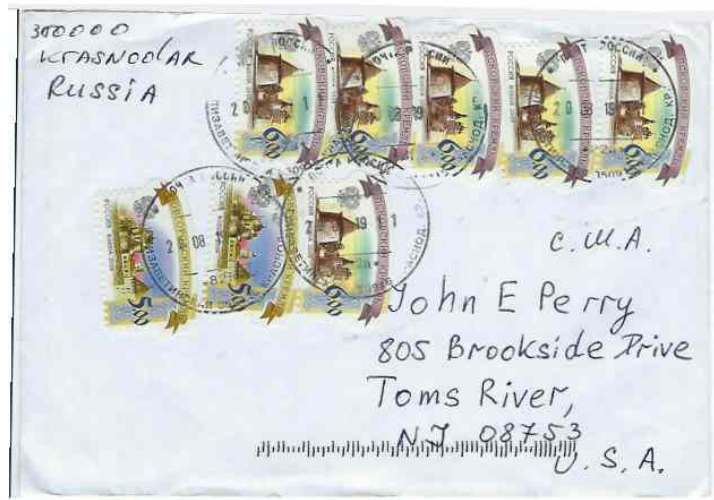
Directions: From either Route 37 W or Davenport Road, take Mule Road to Santiago Drive. Turn into the parking lot from Santiago Drive, park near the pool. Enter Building A (the building nearest the street intersection).

Newsletter: The SKYHOOK is the HCARC's official newsletter, circulation about 75. Original articles and photos are appreciated. Editor is John Roberts
<mailto:johnkq4wr@gmail.com>

TWO MEMORABLE QSOs

With all the hams we have occasion to talk to whether by code or phone, for various reasons, one or two seem to have a lasting effect. A situation such as this happened to me in 2019 when I was searching the amateur radio bands. During that time, I was using Morse code exclusively and did not even consider operating on SSB.

On July 6, 2019, at 8:20 p.m. I received a short QSO from a ham named Alex in Novorossiysk, Russia which is 5,232 miles from my shack. As with many a contact, the fading band did not allow for any lengthy conversation and since I do not talk to many Russian hams, this in a way, was special. Having Alex's call sign, I looked up his mailing address and sent my QSL card. I was hoping for a returning QSL card to confirm my short conversation with Alex. About a month passed before his QSL card was received with five colorful postage stamps glued to the envelope.



About two months after the Alex encounter, I made a QSO with a ham named Yakov in Greensboro North Carolina. During our long chat I learned Yakov was originally from Russia. Hoping to learn more about my Russian occurrence, I relayed the information that I received from my contact with Alex on July 6th. I acquired some insight from Yakov about the city of Novorossiysk: Here is where a Russian naval base is situated on the Black Sea.

Yakov informed me that in 1974 he visited the naval base, much like we can take tours of our military bases. Now, as world events change, I wonder if it would be difficult to make a contact to a ham in Novorossiysk due to the Ukraine – Russia war.

This is one of my memories that linger because of the coincidence of contacting two Russian hams in different countries with a common background.

John Perry, KD2NDY

Arduino Project Class Report

Kieran Pillion wrote via his iphone about his participation in an Arduino construction class:

The class had us write 3 simple programs that commanded the device to activate the on/off push switch, illuminate the LED red light, and have the speaker produce a tone at a certain frequency.

Each of the steps built upon the prior one to provide a fundamental understanding.

These programs were written, compiled and uploaded to the Arduino micro-controller chip. The final program was downloaded from a Library of previously written Arduino programs and was the one that turned the device into a practice keyer for iambic code keying.

Each of the steps built upon the prior ones to give a fundamental understanding of the hardware and software being added to the breadboard and Arduino micro-controller chip.

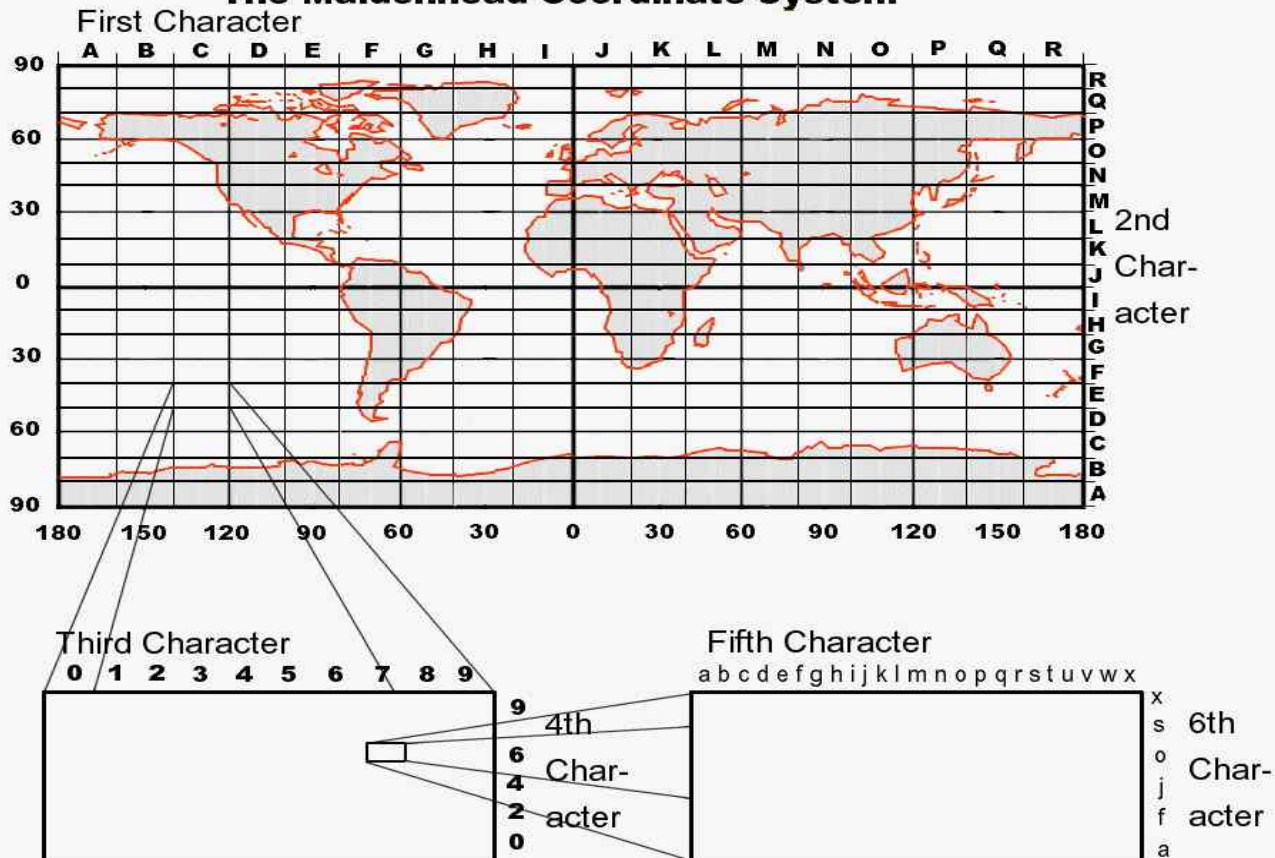
That's the best explanation I can provide given my very beginner status.

Kieran. [4 photos of the keyer were included]

Mike Larkins WA2CWX DX Report

Band m	Call sign	Country (entity)	CQ zone	Date / Time UTC / UTC	Frequency MHz	ITU zone	Mode
10	VP2VI	British Virgin Is.	8	2025/04/15 18:16	28.41	11	SSB
15	EA7JZ	Spain	14	2025/04/15 17:43	21.31	37	SSB
15	OM7M	Slovak Republic	15	2025/03/30 19:59	21.334	28	SSB
15	II4M	Italy	15	2025/03/30 19:58	21.329	28	SSB
10	IO9A	Italy	15	2025/03/30 19:20	28.395	28	SSB
10	CO2GG	Cuba	8	2025/03/30 19:18	28.416	11	SSB
10	CR6P	Portugal	14	2025/03/30 19:16	28.434	37	SSB
10	F4GGQ	France	14	2025/03/30 17:45	28.49	27	SSB
10	CN3A	Morocco	33	2025/03/30 17:44	28.495	37	SSB
10	IP8R	Italy	15	2025/03/30 17:43	28.523	28	SSB
10	DP9A	Federal Republic of Germany	14	2025/03/30 17:42	28.517	28	SSB
10	CR3DX	Madeira Is.	33	2025/03/30 17:37	28.48	36	SSB
10	TM6M	France	14	2025/03/30 17:35	28.475	27	SSB
10	TM0T	France	14	2025/03/30 17:33	28.422	27	SSB
10	OT7Q	Belgium	14	2025/03/30 17:31	28.412	27	SSB
10	LZ9W	Bulgaria	20	2025/03/30 17:28	28.404	28	SSB
10	CQ9A	Madeira Is.	33	2025/03/30 17:16	28.35	36	SSB
10	IP4M	Italy	15	2025/03/29 17:57	28.395	28	SSB

The Maidenhead Coordinate System



Some DX Opportunities

Opportunities shown in alphanumeric order of callsigns.

Mode codes: 3 = PSK31, 4 = JP4, 8 = JT8, C = CW, D = "digital", F = FM, O = Olivia, R = RTTY, S = SSB, T = Image (SSTV)

Many thanks to Bill Feidt NG3K for ADX0. Also to Wikipedia, the ARRL, the RSGB, DX World, The Daily DX & QRZ.com.

START	FINISH	ENTITY	PFX	CALLSIGN	IOTA	BANDS	MODES	QSL via	LOC	MILES	DIR	INFO by
2025 Apr15	2025 Jun30	Monaco	3A	3A100A		80-10m	C S D	LoTW	JN33rr	4033	ENE	ARLD015
2025 Apr22	2025 May01	Tanzania	5H	5H1KB	AF-032	80-6m		DL2SBY LoTW	KI73pm	7533	E	DXW.Net
2025 Apr16	2025 OCT13	Japan	JA	8K3EXP0	AS-007	"all"		per opr	PM74qp	6943	NNW	ARLD016
2025 Apr19	2025 May02	Gambia	C5	C5LT		80-10m	C S 8	LoTW	IK13uj	3937	E	DXW.Net
2025 Apr19	2025 May02	Gambia	C5	C5R		80-10m	C S 8	LoTW	IK13pk	3913	E	DXW.Net
2025 May04	2025 May26	Cape Verde Is	D4	D44TWO	AF-005	160-10m	S C 8 4	M00XO	HK85fa	3491	ESE	TDDX
2025 May04	2025 May26	Cape Verde Is	D4	D44ZZI	AF-005	160-10m	S C 8 4	M00XO	HK85gb	3493	ESE	TDDX
2025 May27	2025 Jun02	NIUE	E6	E6RS	OC-040	10-6m	8	LoTW	AH50ax	7343	WSW	DXW.Net
2025 Apr22	2025 May01	MAYOTTE	FH	FH/F4LJA	AF-027	80-20M	8 T	F4LJA	LH27ne	8327	E	DXW.Net
2025 May27	2025 Jun02	St Barthelemy	FJ	FJ/NP4G	NA-146	80-10m		LoTW	FK87ov	1670	SSE	DXW.Net
2025 May02	2025 May04	Isle of Man	GD	GD3JIM	EU-116			LoTW	I074qb	3274	NE	OPDX
2025 May02	2025 May04	Isle of Man	GD	GD6DX	EU-116			LoTW	I074qb	3274	NE	OPDX
2025 May07	2025 May14	Guernsey	GU	GU6EFW	EU-114	80-10m	S C D	ON6EF	IN89rl	3443	NE	ON6EF
2025 May09	2025 May11	Guernsey	GU	GU80LIB	EU-114	80-10m		LoTW OQRS	IN89rl	3443	NE	425DXN
2025 May13	2025 May18	Honduras	HR	HR4/PY8WW	NA-060	40-10m	C S D	PY8WW	EK63eg	2014	SSW	OPDX
2025 Apr26	2025 May05	Ogasawara	JD1	JD1BQP	AS-031	160-6m	C S R 8	LoTW	QL17cb	7242	NNW	DXW.Net
2025 Apr16	2025 Jun20	MINAMI TORISHIMA	JD1	JG8NQJ/JD1	OC-073	80-10m	C 8	LoTW	QL64xg	7018	NW	ARLD016
2025 Apr16	2025 Dec31	Czech Republic	OK	OL100IARU		"all"	"all"	LoTW	J070ec	4127	NE	ARLD016
2025 Apr05	2025 May01	Papua New Guinea	P2	P29XZ	OC-034	80-10m		EA5GL	QI30om	9132	WNW	ARLD015
2025 Apr05	2025 Jun30	Netherlands	PA	PD80FREE		40,20&10m	C S D	Buro	J022ga	3679	NE	ARLD015
	2025 May18	Curacao	PJ2	PJ2/PD1DRE	AF-005				FK52nc	1951	S	DXW.Net
2025 May16	2025 May29	Bonaire	PJ4	PJ4M	SA-006	89-10m	8 s	LoTW	FK52uf	1949	SSE	DXW.Net
2025 May22	2025 Jun01	Palau	T8	T88FG	OC-009	160-6m	S 8	LoTW	PJ77gl	8674	NW	OPDX
2025 May22	2025 Jun01	Palau	T8	T88SG	OC-009	160-6m	S 8	JK1SZX	PJ77fi	8684	NW	OPDX
2025 Jan10	2025 Oct16	Palau	T8	T88SM	OC-009	160-6m	C S D	JA6EGL	PJ77fi	8684	NW	OPDX
2025 Jan10	2025 Oct16	Palau	T8	T88XK	OC-009	160-6m	C S D	JE6KFN	PJ77gl	8674	NW	OPDX
2025 May20	2025 May27	Martinique	FM	T03E	NA-107	160-12m	C r 8	LoTW AB2E	FK94mq	1921	SSE	DX News
2025 Apr05	2025 Jun15	Gabon	TR	TR8CR		80-10m	C	F6AJA	JJ40rj	5864	E	ARLD015
2025 May26	2025 Jun08	French Polynesia	F0	TX5U	OC-066	40-6m	C S	LoTW	BH54uv	6072	WSW	DXW.Net
2025 Apr25	2025 May07	AUSTRAL IS	F0/A	TX9A	OC-152	80-10m		DK8ZZ	BG56fp	6515	WSW	DXW.Net
2025 Apr29	2025 Jun15	Namibia	V51	V51/HB9SHD		40-6M	S D	LoTW	JG87mi	7268	ESE	TDDX
2025 Apr01	2027 Apr01	Marshall Is	V7	V73HW	OC-028	80-10m	S 8	KX4QD	RJ38ur	7250	WNW	ARLD014
2025 Apr01	2025 Jun29	India	VU	VU1IARU				VU2ZH	MK82su	8357	NNE	ARLD013
2025 Apr16	2025 May20	Chile	CE	XR100IARU		80-10m		CE3AA	FF46ra	5111	S	ARLD016
2025 May08	2025 May15	El Salvador	YS3	YS3/PY8WW	NA-190	80-6m	S C D	OQRS	EK63ch	2015	SSW	DXW.Net
2025 APR01	2025 May18	North Macedonia	Z3	Z3100IARU				LoTW	KN01rx	4702	NE	ARLD014
2025 May20	2025 May30	Kosovo	Z6	Z68OM		160-10m	C S 8	OH2YL	KN02ni	4674	NE	DXW.Net
2025 May20	2025 May30	Kosovo	Z6	Z68YL		160-10m	C S 8	OH2YL	KN02mj	4668	NE	DXW.Net
2025 Apr21	2025 May16	PRN ED & MARION	ZS8	ZS8W	AF-021	160-6m	C S 8	ClubLog	KE83wc	9098	ESE	ARLD016

May

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		ARES nets 7:30 & 8:00 PM; See page 3 for new net schedule		1 HCARC MEETING 7:00 PM	2	3 Many QSO Parties; see article below
4 QSO parties continue	5	6	7 ARES see page 3; FCC exams see page 3.	8	9	10 FOX HUNT*; Canadian Prairies QSO Party
11 QSO party continues	12	13	14 Skywarn 7:00; ARES Nets 7:30 & 8:00	15	16	17 Arkansas QSO Party
18 QSO party continues	19	20	21 ARES nets	22	23	24
25	26	27	28 HCARC Board Noon Lunch; ARES nets	29	30	31
					Updated on	4/24/2025

May QSO Parties

Arizona, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Oregon, Utah,
Washington and Wyoming:

7th Call Area QSO Party
1300Z, May 3 to 0700Z, May 4, 2025

Indiana

Indiana QSO Party
1500Z, May 3 to 0300Z, May 4, 2025

Delaware

Delaware QSO Party
1700Z, May 3 to 2359Z, May 4, 2025

Connecticut, Maine, New Hampshire, Massachusetts,
Rhode Island and Vermont:

New England QSO Party
2000Z, May 3 to 0500Z, May 4, 2025
and 1300Z-2400Z, May 4, 2025

Alberta, Manitoba and Saskatchewan:
Canadian Prairies QSO Party
1700Z, May 10 to 0300Z, May 11, 2025

Arkansas

Arkansas QSO Party
1400Z, May 17 to 0200Z, May 18, 2025

From [WA7BNM Contest Calendar: State QSO Parties](#)

*Fox Hunt May 10

Our "fox" will be Steve N2WLH, on a 2-meter frequency to be announced at 9:00am at Mule Rd & Santiago Dr..

Thank You All

Many thanks to Doug Poray KC2TZC, Larry Puccio K2QDY, Bob Murdock WX2NJ, John Perry KD2NDY, Bill Feidt NG3K, Bruce Horn WA7BNM, QRZ.com, and the ARRL.