

The SKYHOOK



HOLIDAY CITY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

www.hcarc.us

March 2026

Toms River, NJ

Amateur Radio As A Hobby



propagation information is one means of making a contact successful. Another technique is to look at logs and use “spotting” information. This method will provide the time and location of operators currently on the air and their location. One more approach to assist in making a QSO is to use the Reverse Beacon Network or RBN. This method will be discussed at our March meeting.

Doug Poray KC2TZC

HCARC's Thursday Night Net 8:00pm

Join us on the HCARC Thursday Night Net each week at 8:00pm. The exceptions are the 1st Thursday of the month.

Frequency Info:

145.170 MHz PL of 131.8, Offset -600

Also Available using your mobile phone via EchoLink App: WA2RES-R Lacey

Amateur Radio is like many other hobbies. For example, when one takes up fishing; a fisherman must gather equipment, select a suitable location on the body of water and then wait for a curious or hungry fish. If there are no “interested customers” after a certain period, the fisherman must choose a different location or move to a different body of water. All of this takes time and patience on the part of the fisherman. Keep in mind all this effort could result in a successful experience or a complete failure.

The Amateur Radio operator faces similar challenges as the fisherman. Equipment must be selected, other operators on the air identified and attempts to catch the operator and make a QSO accomplished. If the radio operator is unsuccessful in connecting with another operator after a certain span of time, other options must be explored. As with the case of the fisherman this could be a good or a bad experience.

Fortunately, the amateur radio operator has some of the following choices to assist in the success of completing a contact. Looking at websites which provide

OUR NEXT REGULAR MEETING:

Thursday March 5th
at 7:00 PM

Holiday City South Clubhouse A
Santiago Drive at Mule Road

We Say Happy Birthday To:



Raymond Kozakiewicz

John Roberts

Kevin Wagner

Vickie Freidman

Sarah Punderson

And Happy Anniversary To:



Christine & Steve Jackson

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).

circulation about 75. Original articles and photos are appreciated. Editor is Richard "Wolf" Wallace KC2ZIW 732-575-6429 kd2ziw@comcast.net

Bunkers On The Air (BOTA)

Sent to Jeff Pennel by Mike Daly - KC2SBR

I came across this link tonight and sharing. Seems more Euro centric but gradually coming to the US.

If your already familiar with Parks on the Air (POTA) or Summits on the Air (SOTA) then you already understand the concept.

For the rest of us, this involves looking at a map of registered locations and the goal is to either travel to one of the registered locations your self and activate to make contacts with other HAMs who are "hunting" activations, or you yourself can be a Hunter and seek activations to make contacts. The theme here is historical bunkers and from the looks of the map it can involve old Civil Defense bunkers and even old coastal Artillery bunkers (one of my other hobbies is the study of old coastal artillery so its a perfect match for me). Both operators log the contact and submit and when validated and cross referenced each get credit.

I've done a couple of Parks On the Air activations and had a blast. I will probably sign up and register for this as well. I can imagine with the Euro presence a lot of long haul HF can be leveraged.

<https://wwbota.net/map/>

QSO Parties

An easy and friendly way to "work" a US state to achieve Worked All States is to "work" the state's QSO Party. The best guide on the internet to upcoming QSO Parties is WA7BNM Contest Calendar.

The US State QSO Parties listed for March are:

South Carolina (SC-QSO-PARTY) Feb 28-Mar 1,
North Carolina (NC-QSO-PARTY) Mar 1&2,
Oklahoma (OK-QSO-PARTY) Mar 14&15,
Idaho (ID-QSO-PARTY) Mar 14-16,
Wisconsin (WI-QSO-PARTY) Mar 15&16, and
Virginia (VA-QSO-PARTY) Mar 21&22.

The Nova Scotia QSO party by NSARA on March 1st is also listed.

At WA7BNM Contest Calendar, just "Click" on the ones that interest you to get more information.

Fox Hunting Weather Balloons

Submitted for consideration by Eugene Bunt

There was an article recently about Ham Radio and Weather balloons. They used a captured weather balloon to perform a fox hunt. I have recently acquired equipment to receive and track weather balloons. In New Jersey in the past month, most have been going out to sea. The next one which comes near the Jersey Shore I plan to chase and capture. I am using a LilyGo LoRa32 with MySondy software. There is also a smartphone app to read and set the frequency. I have been able to use my Baofang portable radio to track but with the MySondy software I can access the GPS Lat and Long info which gives increased ability to find the Radiosonde(weather balloon). The frequency is normally around 404MHz but it can be changed to the 70CM ham band for a Fox Hunt. The website to view the balloons is WWW.sondehub.org.

This is just one of the fun things which we can do with our Radios.

Thanks

Gene

“Classified Section”

1. NAME: Jeff Pennel KA2DHE
 - a) Contact Info: 609-668-3070
 - b) **Equipment wanted:** Heath Kit Model # HD1410 Double Paddle-keyer, or similar combo unit.
2. NAME: Wolf (aka Richard) Wallace, KD2ZIW
 - a) Contact Info: 732-575-6429
 - b) **Equipment wanted:** Bandpass Filters (10, 15, 20, 40 meters, etc.). **Also**, Morse Code Practice Oscillator that works with Paddles.
 - c) **Equipment for Sale:** 6800kw Generator converted to use Natural Gas. Also, have a transfer switch, 10ft hose to hook Generator to Gas line, Connector, etc.
3. NAME: John Roberts KQ4WR
 - a) Contact Info: 732-350-1162
 - b) Equipment: Lots of metal-working tools such as drills, taps and dies, connector tools, Allen wrenches, socket & open-end wrenches, parts cabinets, and work bench with vise
 - c) Condition: Used, Good
 - d) **For sale**



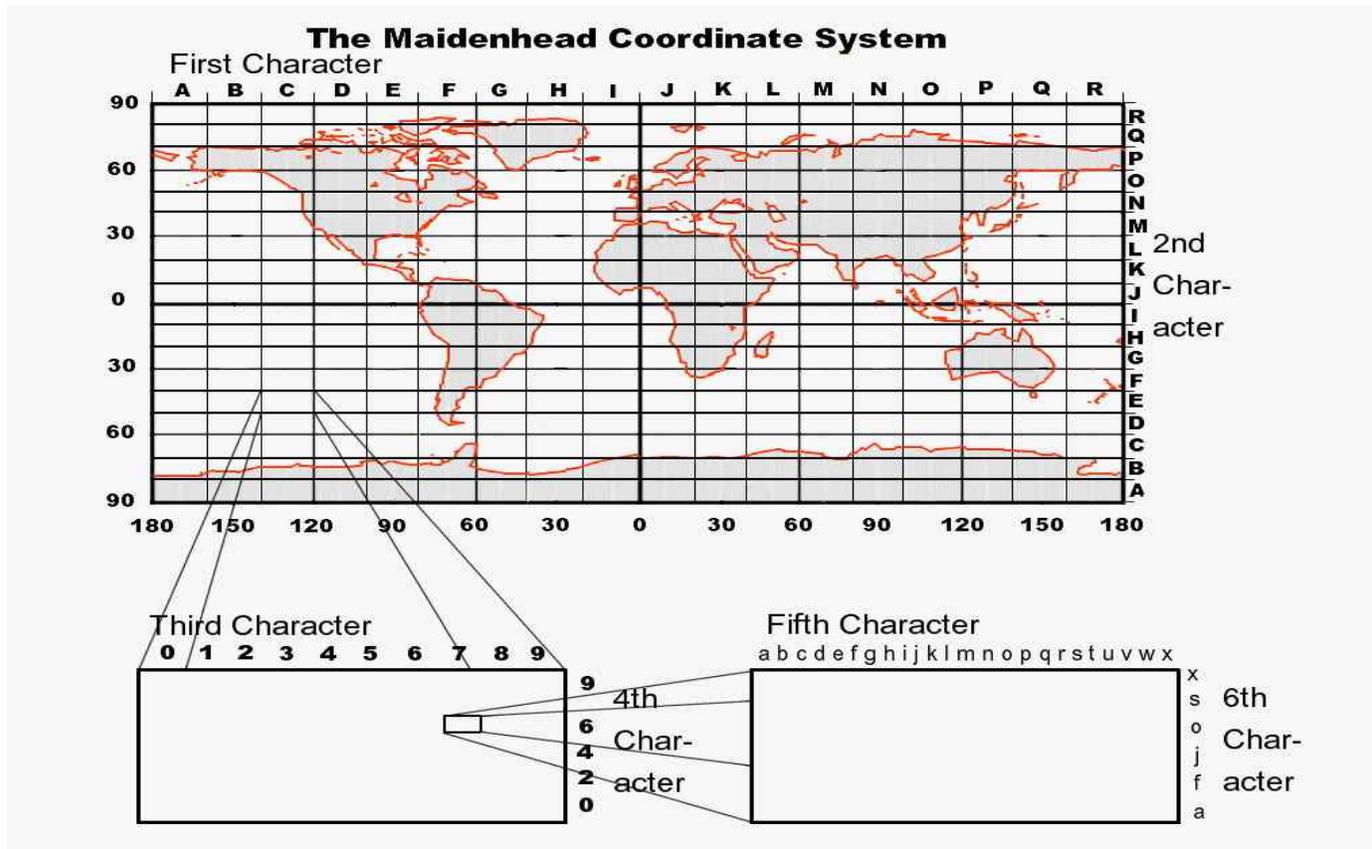
Some DX Opportunities

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 = Pix
 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
2026 Feb17	2026 Mar30	Mauritius	3B	3B8G	AF-049	20-10m	C	VU3OPT	LG89tx	9291	ENE	OPDX
2026 Mar03	2026 Mar28	BOUVET I (maybe)	3Y/B	3Y0K	AN-002			M00XO	JD15qn	7964	SE	DXW.Net
2026 Mar22	2026 Apr11	Samoa	5W	5W0AF	OC-097	40-10m	S	LoTW	AH46de	7219	W	OPDX
2026 Feb28	2026 Mar12	Maldives	8Q	8Q7ZW	AS-013	160-10m	C S 8	LoTW	MJ63oe	8813	NE	OPDX
2026 Feb19	2026 Feb27	Guyana	8R	8R1WA		160-6m	S 8	LoTW	GJ16bn	2521	SSE	OPDX
2026 Feb19	2026 Mar03	Senegal	9G	9G5ZZ		80-6m	C r	LoTW	IJ95jc	5095	E	OPDX
2026 Mar24	2026 Mar31	Bahamas	C6	C6AFD	NA-001	40-10m	S 8	LoTW	FL14wu	1049	S	OPDX
2026 Mar19	2026 Mar31	Sable I	CY0S	CY0S	NA-063	80-10m		LoTW	FN93xw	779	ENE	425DXN
2026 Mar18	2026 Mar25	Cape Verde Is	D44	D440A	AF-086	40-6m	S C 8 R	LoTW	HK86no	3458	ESE	TDDX
2026 Mar04	2026 Mar12	Philippines	DU6	DU6/N9YU	OC-125*	80-10m	C S 8 4	YT1AD	PK04mo	8541	NNW	OPDX
2026 Mar04	2026 Mar12	Philippines	DU6	DU6/NS3A	OC-125*	80-10m	C S 8 4	YU3AA	PK04mo	8541	NNW	OPDX
2026 Mar30	2026 Apr06	Canary Is	EA8	EA8/DA2DX	AF-004	80-10m	C S R D	LoTW	IL28ub	3465	E	OPDX
2026 Mar07	2026 Mar12	Guadeloupe	FG	FG/HB9JAB	NA-107	20-10m	S 8	LoTW	FK96gh	1805	SSE	OPDX
2026 Mar20	2026 Mar27	Guadeloupe	FG	FG/HB9JAB	NA-107	20-10m	S 8	LoTW	FK95dx	1820	SSE	OPDX
2026 Mar25	2026 Apr02	Martinique	FM	FM/EA1BP	NA-107	80-10m	S c	LoTW	FK94mq	1922	SSE	EA1BP
2026 Jan12	2026 Mar23	Martinique	FM	FM/F6BWJ	NA-107	12-10m	C	LoTW	FK941l	1933	SSE	TDDX
2026 Feb22	2026 Mar15	Guinea Bissau	J5	J51A	AF-020	80-10m	S C 8	LoTW	IK11wb	4051	ESE	OPDX
2026 Mar13	2026 Mar20	Dominica	J7	J79C	NA-101	20-10m	S 8	LoTW	FK95hm	1858	SSE	OPDX
2026 Mar13	2026 Mar16	Ogasawara	JD1	JA0RQV/JD1	AS-031	80-6m	8 4 C S	LoTW	QL07mm	7252	NNW	OPDX
2026 Feb26	2026 Apr15	Minami Torishima	JD1	JG8NQJ/JD1	OC-073	17-12m	C 8	JA8CJY	QL64xg	7023	NW	OPDX
2026 Mar13	2026 Mar15	Svalbard	JW8	JW8EKA	EU-026	20-10m	S R 3 8	LA8EKA	JQ78wo	3524	NNE	OPDX
2026 Mar18	2026 Mar24	Jamaica	6Y	K3QJ/6Y	NA-097	20-10m	C S 8 4	LoTW	EK92dm	1949	SSW	OPDX
2026 Mar17	2026 Mar23	Mariana Is	KH0	KH0/N9YU	OC-086	80-10m	C S 8 4	YT1AD	QK25vf	7837	NW	OPDX
2026 Mar17	2026 Mar23	Mariana Is	KH0	KH0/NS3A	OC-086	80-10m	C S 8 4	YU3AA	QK25vf	7837	NW	OPDX
2026 Mar13	2026 Mar17	Guam	KH2	KH2/N9YU	OC-026	80-10m	C S 8 4	YT1AD	QK23ij	7983	NW	OPDX
2026 Mar13	2026 Mar17	Guam	KH2	KH2/NS3A	OC-026	80-10m	C S 8 4	YU3AA	QK23ij	7983	NW	OPDX
2026 Jan26	2026 Mar04	Curacao	PJ2	PJ2/PD1DRE	AS-011	40-10m	S 8 4	eQSL	FK52nc	1952	S	OPDX
2026 Jan22	2026 Mar31	Curacao	PJ2	PJ2/W2APF	SA-099	80-10m	C S 8	LoTW	FK52kg	1938	S	OPDX
2026 Feb27	2026 Mar09	Bonaire	PJ4	PJ4/WD8R	SA-006	40-15m	C S 8	LoTW	FK52vd	1957	SSE	TDDX
2026 Mar08	2026 Apr04	Sint Maarten	PJ7	PJ7AA	NA-105	40-6m	C s	OQRS	FK88ka	1655	SSE	AA9A
2026 Mar18	2026 Mar31	Bangladesh	S2	S21WD	AS-140	160-10m	C S R 8	LoTW	NL51aa	8104	NNE	TDDX
2026 Mar03	2026 Mar19	Palau	T8	T80K	OC-009	80-10m		OQRS	PJ77gl	8680	NW	OPDX
2026 Mar26	2026 Mar30	Palau	T8	T88KH	OC-009	80-6m	S 8	OQRS	PJ77fi	8690	NW	OPDX
2026 Mar13	2026 Mar25	Austral Is	TX5	TX5EU	OC-114	80-10m	C S R 8	LoTW	BG66ed	6453	WSW	DXW.Net
2026 Mar04	2026 Apr05	Benin	TY	TY5FR		80-10m	C S	LoTW	JJ16fr	5217	E	OPDX
2026 Jan06	2026 Apr06	Benin	TY	TY5GG		80-10m		LoTW	JJ16ei	5229	E	OPDX
2026 Feb10	2026 Mar01	Mali	TZ	TZ1CE		160-6m	S 8	LoTW	IK52xo	4406	E	OPDX
2026 Mar16	2026 Mar27	Belize	V3	V31ZY	NA-073	160-6m		VE2XB	EK68aa	1723	SSW	TDDX
2026 Feb04	2026 Mar09	St Kitts & Nevis	V4	V4/K0YA	NA-104	160-6m	C S 8 4	LoTW	FK87pg	1713	SSE	K0YA
2026 Feb04	2026 Mar09	St Kitts & Nevis	V4	V4/W5RCP	NA-104	160-6m	C S 8 4	LoTW	FK87pg	1713	SSE	K0YA
2026 Feb21	2026 Mar07	St Kitts & Nevis	V4	V4/WA7RAR	NA-104	20-10m	S C	LoTW	FK87qf	1718	SSE	DXW.Net
2025 Nov20	2026 Mar24	Namibia	V5	V51WH		160-6m	S c	DK2WH	JG88ap	7167	ESE	OPDX
2025 Apr01	2027 Apr01	Marshall Is	V7	V73HW	OC-028	80-10m	S 8	KX4QD	RJ39re	7244	WNW	ARLD014
2026 Mar03	2026 Mar20	Anguilla	VP2E	VP2EAD	NA-022	160-6m	C S 8	LoTW	FK881f	1643	SSE	OPDX
2026 Mar14	2026 Mar22	Anguilla	VP2E	VP2EYO	NA-022	40-10m	S 8 C	LoTW K5AYO	FK881f	1643	SSE	OPDX
2026 Mar18	2026 Mar31	Macao	XX9	XX9W		160-6m	C S D	M00XO	OL62sd	8117	N	OPDX
2026 Mar15	2026 Apr03	Vanuatu	YJ1	YJ1JXZ	OC-035	80-6m		LoTW	RH42dg	8441	W	OPDX

*Some LOC data shown is approximated



March

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5 HCARC MEETING 7:00 pm see page 2	6	7
8	9	10	11 VE Session? 6:30pm	12 HCARC Net 8:00 PM	13	14
15	16	17	18	19 HCARC Net 8:00 PM	20	21
22	23	24	25 Board lunch meeting	26 HCARC Net 8:00 PM	27	28
29	30	31				
					Updated on	2/26/2026

Thank You All

Many thanks to Doug Poray KC2TZC, Larry Puccio K2QDY, John Roberts KQ4WR, Steve Jackson N2WLH, Jeff Pennel, Eugene Bunt, and QRZ.com.