

The SKYHOOK



HOLIDAY CITY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

www.hcarc.us

November 2020

Toms River, NJ

Our President's Message

Wed, Oct 28 at 11:34 AM

As the month of October is drawing to a close, I hope everyone is well and has completed all planned antenna work.

We will be holding a Zoom meeting in November. It is an important meeting as we will be having our annual election for next years' officers, so please try to attend.

I will put out the Zoom meeting information closer to the meeting date, which is Nov 5th.

I want to thank those who have supported me in the last couple of years.

Please do not forget to turn your clocks back this coming weekend.

73,

Carl

w2ptz

License Exams

2020 October VE Session

The Holiday City ARC held its October VE testing session on Wednesday October 14th 2020 at the Whispering Pines Park located here in Berkeley Township, New Jersey. The park has a pavilion with picnic tables. There was only one candidate and three VE's. The candidate sat at his own table and the VE's sat across from the candidate.

As a result of the Covid19 virus we have not been able to provide testing at the Holiday City South Club house and have been using the park. As the winter progresses it will be too cold to administer the test's in the park and we are looking for an indoor location. If anyone knows of a location we could hold the test at

please let me know.

The candidate was:

Anthony Terrill

Anthony took the Tech test and passed. He was issued the call sign KD2UWC and expects to take the General class test soon. Anthony would also like to join our club.

The session lasted approximately one hour.

The VE's were

John Roberts KQ4WR Extra class license

Steve Jackson N2WLH Extra class license

Larry Puccio K2QDY Extra class license

Larry Puccio

K2QDY

For information about taking an exam for a new ham license, or to upgrade an existing one, call Larry Puccio at 732 349 2950.

Notice Of Proposed Rule Making

The FCC intends to charge radio amateurs for their licenses, despite the fact that a great deal of the work is done by volunteers.

Back in the 1950's, the FCC did all the license exam testing and grading, and a lot more enforcement.

Starting in 1960, they tried charging fees. The result was not good, so eventually fees were discontinued and the present system evolved.

Now the FCC is proposing to go back to fees that didn't work in the 1960's. See page 4 for details.

Our Next ZOOM Meeting:
Thursday November 5th at 7:00 PM
Because of the Coronavirus, our November "meeting" will be another ZOOM one. Contact Carl Lee W2PTZ (see page 3) for information.

Ocean County ARES® News

November, 2020

I was notified last week that the Ocean County EOC would be open once again for meetings as long as everyone was to wear masks. I have decided to retain Zoom meetings for Ocean County ARES at least until 2021 with the unknown variables of Covid-19. The October meeting is already scheduled for Zoom and the December meeting is always the holiday party. That just does not seem practical at all during Covid.

We will continue to have VE Sessions at the EOC since it involves a minimal amount of people.

The next scheduled VE Session is November 17th by appointment only. Contact Lead VE, N2LD if interested in taking an exam.

In 2001 I wrote an Eham product review for a Diamond X510 antenna. It broke less than 2 years in service. It was located on top of my garage rooftop. Since it had a 1 year warranty, Diamond would not offer any allowance or repair. The base was sealed so I cut open the fiberglass radome shell and found a broken capacitor lead. The gain on this antenna was excellent but I learned an important lesson – tall antennas do not survive well in wind. Even the exterior metal was corroded to the point where it looked like it was in service for a long time.

The Diamond was replaced with a Hustler G6-270R omni. Much shorter than the X510 and lower gain, but it seemed to be built much stronger.

I'm happy to announce that after 19 years of service the Hustler G6-270R was taken down because my garage needs a new roof and the antenna was in very good shape (much better shape than my roof). A little wire brushing and a coat of fiberglass resin on the outside of the radome and I put it back into service at another location.

Hustler is an American product and in my opinion, still very well made and well worth the money especially in an area where you don't have easy access. I'm sure many will argue this point, but I just wanted to pass on

my experience.

I just wanted to pass on a well deserved Thank You to all the Ocean County ARES operators who participated in this years Simulated Emergency Test (SET). The drill only occupied a couple of hours on Saturday morning of October 3rd, but demonstrated skills and abilities that we had been working on and practicing for months.

Just in case you are wondering what the view is like from the top of Hanger One at Lakehurst, the picture below is from the Comm Shack on top looking West towards the air fields and Hangers 5 and 6. I took this picture back in 2001 during a climb to work on the JSARS 70 cm repeater, which was located in the shack. It's quite a climb to the top of the hanger and a bit of history is captured at almost every step landing if you read the graffiti.



Hanger One from top of Hanger One. Photo by WX2NJ

The Hindenburg filled Hanger One from end to end with only a few inches to spare. The May 6, 1937 disaster was right next door to Hanger One.

Speaking of the Hindenburg, after the fire, the metal scrap was trucked to Perth Amboy to be melted into ingots at the American Smelting and Refining Company. Pieces of the twisted wreckage were highly sought after by souvenir hunters and I was fortunate that my father was a foreman at the plant. The photo below is a piece of the wreckage that I still have in my possession.



Piece of Hindenburg structure. Photo by WX2NJ

73 de WX2NJ
Bob Murdock
Ocean County Amateur Radio Emergency Service® EC

Southern NJ Section News

November 2020

HAM SHACK HOTLINE

About a month ago Rick N2RPQ and I investigated a system that he came across on the Internet called Ham Shack Hotline. It is a group who host a cloud-based VoIP phone system. They provide this service free of charge to any ham anywhere in several countries. They have different hosted systems that are tied together to make a network.

The purpose of Ham Shack Hotline is NOT to replace ham radio in any way. It is there to supplement operations in times when things could be busy or need background coordination. Like all the tools we use, it would depend on circumstances to determine what is available during a particular situation.

Rick and I started out testing the system and now have several operators on the system. It works very well and doesn't tie up your home phone or use your cellular minutes. The system also provides for conference bridges to accommodate larger meetings. We used the system during the SET to help coordinate some background procedures/administrative tasks while still

conducting the entire SET over the various radio bands. It proved to be a valuable tool.

We are looking to expand the use of the system in the Southern NJ section. We would love to have some more operators join the system.

If you are interested, please feel free to investigate the system. Contact Rick N2RPQ at n2rpq@arrl.net for more information.

NEW ARRL HANDBOOK

It's here! The ARRL Handbook for Radio Communications for 2021 - Your complete guide to radio experimentation, discovery, and innovation - now is available. The Handbook is written by radio amateurs for everyone who has a desire to advance

CLUB COMMITTEES

<u>Webmaster:</u>	Steve N2WLH	N2WLH@yahoo.com
<u>Sunshine:</u>	Dave WA2DJN	WA2DJN3@verizon.net
<u>Membership:</u>	Doug KC2TZC	732-928-2316
<u>Field Day:</u>	Larry K2QDY	732-349-2950
<u>VE Sessions:</u>	Larry K2QDY	732-349-2950

Holiday City Amateur Radio Club

Toms River, New Jersey

Web Site www.hcsrc.us

President	Carl Lee	W2PTZ	732 575-7558
Vice President	Billy Locke	KD2MHA	732 281 0151
Secretary	John Perry	KD2NDY	732-349-2705
Treasurer	Larry Puccio	K2QDY	732-349-2950
Executive Board	Doug Poray	KC2TZC	732-928-2316
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 on the first Thursday of every month, at 7:00 pm, except December.

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

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 the building nearest the street corner.

The SKYHOOK is published monthly as the HCARC's official newsletter.
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the pursuit of wireless technology. It's available in three formats: Traditional softcover, a six-volume, shrink-wrapped book set (box not included), and eBook digital editions.

The Handbook is a Six-Volume Book Set. Order from the ARRL Store.

ARRL LEARNING NETWORK

ARRL members may visit the Learning Network website to register for upcoming sessions and to view previously recorded sessions. The schedule is subject to change. The next upcoming sessions are

“How to Get Started in Amateur Radio Contesting”:
Anthony Luscre, K8ZT

“Learn and have Fun with Morse Code”:
Howard Bernstein, WB2UZE, and Jim Crites, W6JIM

-[Tom Preiser \(N2XW\)](mailto:tjpreiser@gmail.com) <tjpreiser@gmail.com>
ARRL Southern New Jersey Section Manager

ARRL Urges Members to Join in Strongly Opposing FCC's Application Fees Proposal

ARRL will file comments in firm opposition to an FCC proposal to impose a \$50 fee on amateur radio license and application fees. With the November 16 comment deadline fast approaching, ARRL urges members to add their voices to ARRL's by filing opposition comments of their own. The FCC *Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM)* MD Docket 20-270 appeared in the October 15 edition of *The Federal Register* and sets deadlines of November 16 to comment and November 30 to post reply comments, which are comments on comments already filed. ARRL has prepared a [Guide to Filing Comments with the FCC](#) which includes tips for preparing comments and step-by-step filing instructions. File comments on MD Docket 20-270 using the FCC's Electronic Comment Filing System ([ECFS](#)).

Under the proposal, amateur radio licensees would pay a \$50 fee for each amateur radio application for new licenses, license renewals, upgrades to existing licenses, and vanity call sign requests. The FCC also has

proposed a \$50 fee to obtain a printed copy of a license. Excluded are applications for administrative updates, such as changes of address, and annual regulatory fees. Amateur Service licensees have been exempt from application fees for several years.

The FCC proposal is contained in a *Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM)* in MD Docket 20-270, which was adopted to implement portions of the “Repack Airwaves Yielding Better Access for Users of Modern Services Act” of 2018 — the so-called “[Ray Baum's Act](#).” The Act requires that the FCC switch from a Congressionally-mandated fee structure to a cost-based system of assessment. In its *NPRM*, the FCC proposed application fees for a broad range of services that use the FCC's Universal Licensing System (ULS), including the Amateur Radio Service. The 2018 statute excludes the Amateur Service from annual regulatory fees, but not from application fees. The FCC proposal affects all FCC services and does not single out amateur radio.

ARRL is encouraging members to file comments that stress amateur radio's contributions to the country and communities. ARRL's [Guide to Filing Comments](#) includes “talking points” that may be helpful in preparing comments. These stress amateur radio's role in volunteering communication support during disasters and emergencies, and inspiring students to pursue education and careers in engineering, radio technology, and communications.

As the FCC explained in its *NPRM*, Congress, through the Ray Baum's Act, is compelling regulatory agencies such as the FCC to recover from applicants the costs involved in filing and handling applications.

In its *NPRM* the FCC encouraged licensees to update their own information online without charge. Many, if not most, Amateur Service applications may be handled via the largely automated Universal License Service (ULS). The Ray Baum's Act does not exempt filing fees in the Amateur Radio Service, and the FCC stopped assessing fees for vanity call signs several years ago.

See also “[FCC Proposes to Reinstate Amateur Radio Service Fees](#),” reported by ARRL in August, and a summary page of the proceeding at www.arrl.org/FCC-Fees-Proposal.

Happy Birthday To:

Margaret Penn KD2LNT

Doug Poray KC2TZC

Sandy Ottenberg



My Attempt At CW

My story about becoming a Ham is very similar to many of those involved in amateur radio. When I was a pre teen I went to the school library and borrowed a book on radios and one chapter was devoted to building a crystal radio using mostly home made parts. Except for the germanium diode and copper wire, all components were hand built. Being from Perth Amboy there was no problem receiving many radio stations. Soon the teen years arrived, interest in radio waned, schooling for a career and you know the rest - life got in the way of pursuing a Ham license. Fast forward to retirement and a major operation to force a slow-down of activities, I studied and received my Technician and General licenses.



The one phase of amateur radio I always wanted to become proficient in was Morse code or CW. Getting all the dahs and dits in the proper order was a chore for me but, persistence paid off. The next part of CW was my desire to use a straight key. Well, desire and knowledge of code is one part. The nerve to communicate with a complete stranger on the air is something else. Taking a deep breath and mustering the strength to tap out my first CQ, while deep down hoping no one would answer, I was rewarded by an understanding Ham that, as it turned out, was near my age. When I started sending code I was told by several

Hams that it was more important to send clear code than fast code. They mentioned the speed would come later. Having a good fist is important for the Ham receiving the message. I found out that most Hams my age have a similar background story or were inactive for the last 25 yrs and wanted to get back into amateur radio. Many hams have switched from phone to CW for various reasons. All seemed to have joined the Straight Key Century Club (SKCC) and for that I am grateful, for most stay within the 10-15 wpm range or, if faster, will accommodate slower Hams like me.

I am 77 years old and have been a ham for three years and on CW for that length of time. I know I will never get to be tapping out and receiving 20-25 wpm. You know what? I don't care, for I have had many QSOs in my speed range with Hams that are of the same mind set as me. I am here to enjoy the hobby and not fret over my short comings. Do I know all the science behind radio? No, but I am not an auto mechanic nor an auto technician, however, I still drive a car. Do I want to learn more about amateur radio? Of course I do. Am I increasing my knowledge of the science of radio transmission and receiving? Mostly by reading, doing, listening to experienced Hams and attending the monthly meetings of the Holiday City amateur Radio Club. (HCARC) The club officers really try to bring new ideas to the meetings, discuss modern innovations, tap the insight of knowledgeable Hams and alert the membership to on-going activities pertaining to amateur radio. The HCARC meetings are really a valuable asset and are most worth-while to attend.

I know there are many facets to amateur radio but, I also know my limitations in absorbing or understanding how they function. I have enough on my plate trying to improve my CW skills and learning what bands, times and frequencies to tune into. I'm having an enjoyable time with my little piece of what is just one part of a large and complex system.

CQ anyone?

John Perry, KD2NDY

Some DX Opportunities

In alphanumeric order of Callsign

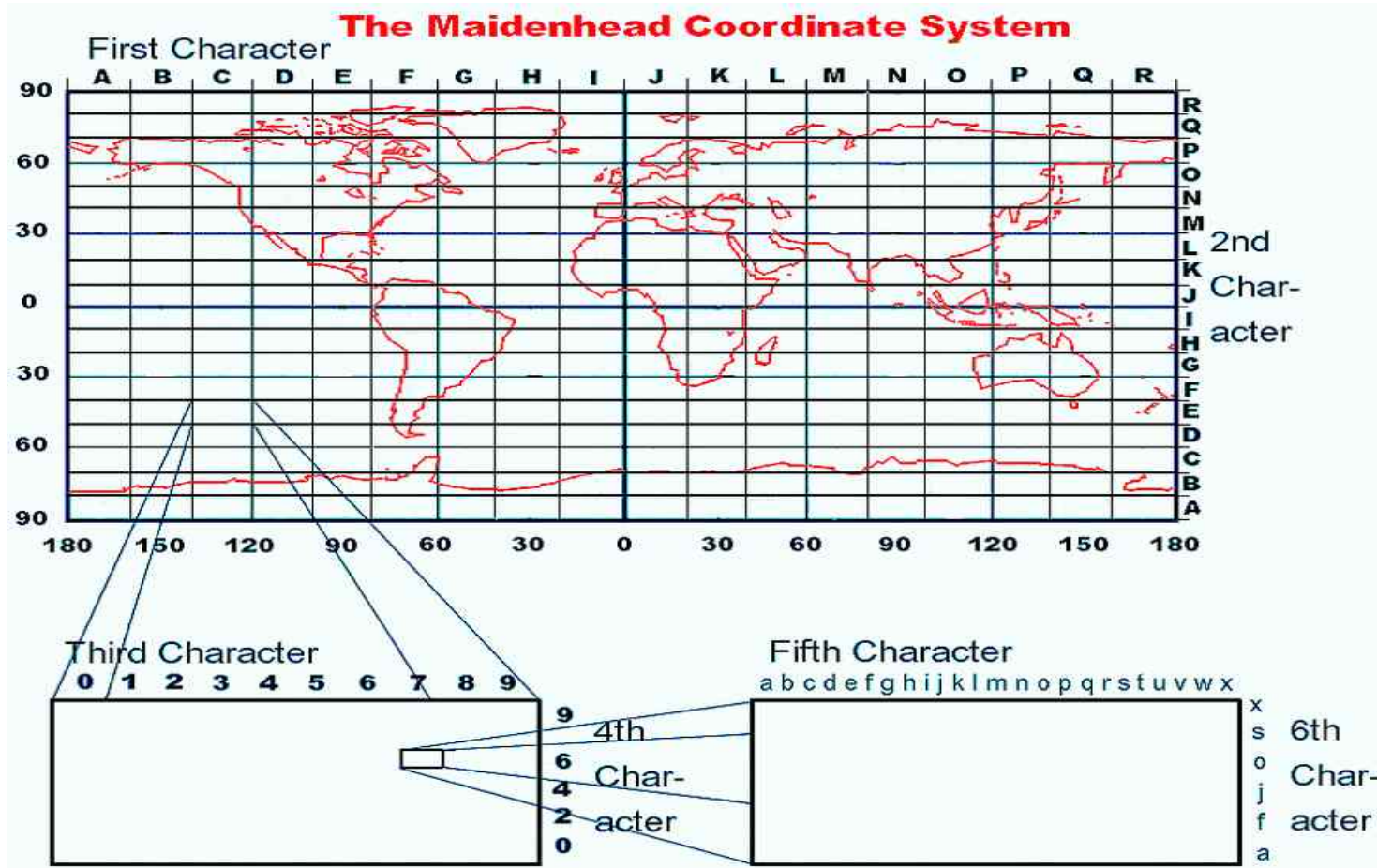
Italics if over 6000 miles

Mode codes: 8 = JT8, 9 = JT9, A = AM, C = CW, D = Digital, E = EME, J = JP4, P = PSK31, R = RTTY, S = SSB, T = SSTV.

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

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

START	FINISH	ENTITY	CALLSIGN	IOTA	BANDS	MODES	QSL via	LOC	Miles	Dir	Info by
	Dec 31	Austria	4U75A		80-15m	C S	UA3DX	JN88ef	4270	NE	ARLD041
	Dec 15	Malawi	7Q6M				<i>per K6ZO</i>	<i>KH75ma</i>	7898	E	ARLD041
Nov 11	Nov 18	Malawi	7Q7RU		160-10m	C S 8	DXW.Net	KH67ru	7693	E	DXW.Net
	Dec 31	Japan	8N1ABIKO	AS-007			bureau	QM05au	6766	NNW	ARLD027
Nov 02	Nov 29	Maldives	8Q7RM	AS-013	80-10m	S D	DXNews	MJ63oe	8818	NE	DXNews
	Dec 31	West Malaysia	9M4DXX	AS-015		8	JE15CJ	OJ05di	9292	N	ARLD041
Oct 19	Nov 02	Tonga	A35GC		160-10m	C S R 8	LoTW	AG29ma	7693	W	DXW.Net
Mar 01	Nov 01	Tonga	A35JP	OC-049	160-6m	C S 8	JA0RQV	AG29ma	7693	W	TDDX
Nov 21	Nov 28	St Vincent	J8/UR5BCP	NA-109	40-6m	8 4	KD7WPJ	FK93jg	2008	SSE	KD7WPJ
Oct 10	Dec 03	St Vincent	J88/8P5AB	NA-025	80-10m	8	8P5AB	FK92ho	2047	SSE	ARLD041
Nov 23	Dec 01	St Vincent	J88PI	NA-025	40-6m	S 8 c		FK92ho	2047	SSE	TDDX
Oct 14	Dec 31	Minami Torishii	JD1\JG8NQJ	OC-073	80-10m	C	JA8CJY	QL64xg	7026	NW	TDDX
	Jan 15	Minami Torihim	JG8NQJ/JD1	OC-073	20-30m	C	JA8CJY	QL64xh	7024	NW	ARLD041
	Mar 01	Jan Mayen	JX2US	EU-022			LoTW	IQ50rx	3095	NNE	ARLD041
Oct 15	Dec 15	Denmark	OZ100MILL	EU-029	80-10m	C S R D	bureau	J065hq	3896	NE	ARLD041
Nov 11	Nov 25	Surinam	PZ5GE	SA-092	40-10m	S		GJ15kr	2595	SSE	DXW.Net
Nov 16	Nov 19	Surinam	PZ5W	SA-092	80-10m	C S		GJ15kv	2584	SSE	DXW.Net
	2021	Antarctica	RI1ANM	AN-016	40-20m	8	RX3ABI	NC63mk	10540	S	ARLD027
Mar 02	Dec 31	Afghanistan	T6AA		160-10m		S53R	MM44nm	6790	NNE	TDDX
	2022	Corsica	TK4VQO	EU-014	160-6m	C S	DL8UW	JN411r	4168	ENE	ARLD027
Oct 29	Nov 05	French Polynes	TX0T	OC-298	40-17m	C S 8	LoTW	FK52jf	1941	S	DXNews
	Nov 08	Belize	V31TA	NA-123		S d	EA5GL	EK67dg	1764	SSW	ARLD043
Jul 30	Nov 30	Iraq	YI/IU5HWS		40-10m		IU5HWS	LM23aa	6041	NE	DXNews
	Dec 31	Serbia	YU2020IARU				LoTW?	KN04gv	4557	NE	ARLD



Larry Puccio K2QDY Worked Australia:

DATE	TIME	FREQ	MODE	CALLSIGN	ENTITY
09/21/2020	21:00	7.015	CW	I2ZGC	Italy
09/21/2020	21:32	14.013	CW	9A3YT	Croatia
09/25/2020	20:59	14.014	CW	E74UK	Bosnia-Herzegovina
09/25/2020	21:07	14.017	CW	LZ3FA	Bulgaria
09/28/2020	21:45	10.116	CW	VK3CWB	Australia *
10/01/2020	22:20	7.159	SSB	9H1TT	Malta
10/14/2020	14:24	14.013	CW	I1YRL	Italy
10/14/2020	14:32	14.021	CW	IK3VUT	Italy
10/14/2020	20:02	14.005	CW	D2EB	Angola
10/14/2020	20:07	10.107	CW	CT9ABV	Madeira Is.
10/14/2020	20:32	14.015	CW	9Z4VY	Trinidad & Tobago
10/14/2020	21:53	7.018	CW	CT1BQH	Portugal
10/14/2020	22:05	7.004	CW	EW7LO	Belarus
10/14/2020	22:10	7.016	CW	E73AA	Bosnia-Herzegovina
10/14/2020	23:23	7.022	CW	I12MM	Italy
10/15/2020	21:45	7.007	CW	OK2BTJ	Czech Republic
10/15/2020	22:35	7.021	CW	9H1TT	Malta
10/17/2020	14:15	14.027	CW	UR4LQ	Ukraine
10/17/2020	15:37	14.027	CW	DL5FU	Fed Rep of Germany
10/17/2020	16:20	10.028	CW	DK2MM	Fed Rep of Germany
10/17/2020	16:28	14.037	CW	DH1KU	Fed Rep of Germany
10/17/2020	23:25	7.016	CW	DP6T	Fed Rep of Germany
10/17/2020	23:45	7.023	CW	DF3VM	Fed Rep of Germany
10/17/2020	23:59	7.023	CW	DP4X	Fed Rep of Germany
10/18/2020	00:03	7.030	CW	DL0XM	Fed Rep of Germany
10/18/2020	00:09	7.033	CW	DK70DARC	Fed Rep of Germany
10/19/2020	21:01	14.012	CW	CO9GBB	Cuba
10/20/2020	18:06	14.017	CW	9A4W	Croatia
10/20/2020	18:10	14.022	CW	HB9IY	Switzerland
10/22/2020	16:10	14.015	CW	I1YRL	Italy

* VK3CWB is in grid QF15bq, which is about 10,417 miles West of K2QDY

November						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4 7:30 NBEMS net 449.825; 8:30 ARES voice net 449.825	5 HCARC ZOOM MEETING 7PM	6	7
8	9	10	11 1:00 Lic. Exams* 8:00 Skyw arn North net 449.825; 8:30 ARES voice net 449.825	12	13	14
15	16	17 VE Session at OC EOC Contact N2LD for appointment	18 7:30 NBEMS net 449.825; 8:30 ARES voice net 449.825	19	20	21
22	23	24	25 7:30 NBEMS net 449.825; 8:30 ARES voice net 449.825	26	27	28
29	30			See QST page 74 for weekend HF activities		

***Our VE crew has been giving License Exams in an outdoor shelter in the Whispering Pines Park at the East end of Selkirk Ave. Call Larry Puccio 732 349-2950 for an appointment (required) on November 11 and for directions to the site.**

The Ocean County ARES group also gives license exams every 2 months at the Ocean County Emergency Operations Center at the Miller Air Park. Contact N2LD at VE@WA2RES.com for information and appointment.