



The SKYHOOK



HOLIDAY CITY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

www.hcarc.us

March 2009

Toms River, NJ

Program for our March Meeting

Have you seen the ads on TV promoting the many uses of high-speed-cable? John C. Grove, KE2OI, Director, Headend Engineering, NJ South, which is a part of Comcast, will be our guest speaker at our March meeting.

He will speak about technology and how its changing so quickly around us. He will be showing us pictures that will 'walk us through' today's modern 'digital headend' office which supports TV, high speed data and voice over internet services.

This is a return visit to our club by John who was here in 2003 featuring the 'old' Comcast. Now he will be showing us what's new with Comcast.

Dates to Remember

March 5	Regular Membership Meeting
March 20	Club Luncheon with the wives
March 14	V.E. Session
March 23	Club Luncheon
March 23	Executive Board Meeting

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Birthdays

3/3	Fred Fanizzo K2KHH
3/11	George Waked KB2OQM
3/13	Larry Housman W2GIS
3/14	Larry Winward N2IFP
3/21	Kevin Wagner KC2NYQ
3/30	Sarah Punderson (W2QO)



Anniversaries

3/18	Nona and Bill AC2F Haldane
3/19	Steve and Chris N2WLH Jackson



The President's Corner By Dave WA2DJN



I am told that last month our program consisted of our club members talking about their military experiences and how they coupled their electronics education in the military into their amateur radio hobby. The three presenters were Bill Haldane AC2F, Carl Le Fevre WA2IQE and Joe Militano KC2QLA. The discussion on the underwater transmissions to the submarine fleet sounded very interesting and the discussion regarding the circular direction finding antennas was equally interesting.

Well this month we will have the Comcast folks talk about how TV signals are picked up and redistributed through our community. It will be interesting to find out about the equipment used at the office the for TV and Internet service, trunk cables and distribution amplifiers used to amplify the signals from the head office to our homes. I am sure we are going to be very interested in hearing about the new conversion to Digital signals and how it will affect us and what new programming and services we can expect. Did you know that when the club was first formed the Comcast folks donated coax that we used to connect our equipment to the antennas that were mounted on a telephone pole next to the fire department building we occupied at that time.

This month we will be asking for a commitment for the quarterly club luncheon that will include the wives. We have selected the New Fortune Buffet located on Route 37 West as it is convenient and we all had a great time when we were there last. The food is very good the price is reasonable and we also had a private section of the restaurant to ourselves.

We are also planning our 20th anniversary celebration. At this time we are thinking about a lunch at the Lisa Restaurant on Route 37. This will be in the Italian style. We are also thinking about a short program to commemorate the occasion and are looking for a few of the original members of the club to recall what things were like in the late 80s. Please let us know your thoughts and suggestions.

**NEXT MEETING: March 6, 2009
Thursday 7:00PM**

**Meeting Rm. #1 at Holiday City South
Clubhouse
Mule Rd. at Santiago Drive**

My Internet Find for Members Looking to Buy or Sell or Swap On-Line.

By Murray KD2IN

I started looking for sites that had kits for radio and electronics listed for sale. I did find some, but then ran into some- new to me - sites for Ham sales and swaps. Here they are:

Kit Sites

www.GSSTechEd.com This site has kits of various kinds including educational courses in electronics, test equipment kits, soldering stuff, electronic kits and learning aids, etc.

www.ScientificsonLine.com All kinds of do-it-yourself kits, radio, science, fun, etc.

www.kitsusa.net Fun projects, kits for electronics, robots, soldering, meters, etc.

www.ElectronicKits.com Hundreds of items of all types.

Buy, Sell, Swap, Need, or Advertise Something sites.

<http://swap.qth.com> This site has classifieds, swaps, chat board, call sign lookups, plus 20 categories of equipment, Manuals for sale, announcement of events, How to ship and pack items for sale properly, and more.

<http://SecondHandRadio.com>. Very good place to advertise what you have for sale. Free of charge, including free foto inclusions of your sale item. All kinds of other features and activities. You buy and sell Ham to Ham, site does not get involved with it.

A Totally Other Kind of Site.

<http://www.vanityhq.com/> This site can tell you what vanity calls are ready to apply for, Lookups for calls, and if you type in your area code, it will show you a map of all the other Hams in your area, with the calls shown. Terrific. Plus many other features. Unusual. Lic. certificates free.

If you know of other good Kit sites, or 'Buy and Sell' sites like the above, email me. I'll do a follow-up with your site included.

Murray kd2in@arrl.net

Dues are Due

2009 is here; actually we are two months into the new year and it's that time of year again to renew your club membership. Dues are due. This is our largest source of income and we depend on everyone to support the club. We try to provide interesting and educational programs at each meeting and to provide interesting outings as well. Please help the club and see Joe Militano club Treasurer with your dues money quickly.

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 K2WJH, Carl W2PTZ

www.hcarc.us Webmaster: 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

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	W2JWN	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

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.

The SKYHOOK is published monthly.

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Toms River, NJ 08757-6445

How's DX

By Russ Young WA2VQV

From January 15th through February 14th HCARC members worked the following DX:

Russ, WA2VQV worked:

On 30 Meters CW: K5D Desecheo Island, NP2L U.S. Virgin Islands, RK3ER European Russia.

On 20 Meters CW: 9A2009ST Croatia, HK0/EA7HEJ San Andres Island, KP2/W3AV U.S. Virgin Islands.

On 20 Meters SSB: 6W1SE Senegal, 6Y5RP Jamaica, 8P6JQ Barbados, 8R1AK/P IOTA SA-068 Guyana, 9A2009ZG Croatia, DR09ANT Germany, EA8AH Canary Islands, ES1QD Estonia, GB5OBH England, HI9/EA3WL, HI9/EA3BT Dominican Republic, IT9ZXX Sicily, J79XBI Dominica, LX/DF1LON Luxembourg, LY1R Lithuania, LZ17ARDF Bulgaria, M0VKY England, OE4XLC Austria, OK1WCF Czech Republic, OX3WS Greenland, PJ4/G4IUF Curacao/Bonaire, S51CK Slovenia, VA3IC Canada, YN2N Nicaragua, YP9W Romania, ZS6AMX South Africa.

On 20 Meters PSK31: EA1AHY Spain, F5LPL France, ON4CD Belgium, VE7GDS Canada, XE1I Mexico.

On 17 Meters CW: EA8/DH2MS Canary Islands, K5D Desecheo Island.

Joe, KC2QLA, worked:

On 20 Meters SSB: CO6LC Cuba, DJ6QT Germany, IK6CWQ Italy, HI9/EA3WL Dominican Republic, TI8II Costa Rico, ON4OS Belgium, SP9LJD Poland, PT7CB Brazil, K5D Desecheo Island.

On 17Meters SSB: VP8YLG Falkland Island.

Larry, K2QDY, worked:

On 80 Meters CW: ES1WN Estonia, VQ9LA Chagos, OZ1CTK Denmark, EA1DR Spain, ON6SA Belgium, K5D Desecheo Island.

On 80 Meters SSB: EA1ALE Spain, SP8BRQ Poland, G4BVB England,

On 40 Meters CW: EA6UN Spain, VK6AU Australia,

G4BPJ England, EC8APO Canary Islands, EW6LO Russia S59N Slovenia, IK0GDG Italy, F5NBX France, 9A4MF Croatia, Z30U Belize.FM5LD Martinique.

On 30 Meters CW: KP4MS Puerto Rico K5D Desecheo Island.

On 17 Meters CW: VP2ETH Antigua, HB9TNW Switzerland, K5D Desecheo Island.

On 20 Meters SSB: CV5A Isla De Flores, VP8YLG Falkland Islands, HI8A Dominican Republic.

Desecheo Island

Desecheo Island located to the west of Puerto Rico and is the 6th most wanted country on the DX list. The following is how one of our club members was able to accomplish contacting the Desecheo Dxpediton on 40 meters.

Just to fill you in Russ uses a Mini Loop antenna in his shack that only covers 30 meters through 10 meters.

The following is an E-Mail between Russ Young and Stan Stafiej.

Stan,

It's now 40, 30, 20, 17 CW + 20 SSB. I made a Mickey Mouse 40 Meter dipole out of lamp cord from my junk pile. One leg looped over the top of the grandfather clock, down on the floor, downstairs to the vestibule and attached to the top of a 14 foot light bulb remover/installer pole (from Home Depot). The other leg across the floor into a sun-porch. Fed with 25 feet of RG-58. SWR 3:1+ and Bingo at 2354z ! He was QSX +5.29 KC

BTW, the mini-loop only covers 7 bands 30-10. So far, so good.

73, Russ

Nice work Russ

At the beginning of this year the ARRL announced a new challenge called the Triple Play Award. This award required Worked All States (WAS) via three modes CW, SSB and RTTY. All the contacts needed to be logged in the Log Book of the World. The pressure was on and soon there was a first person to achieve that status but then came our Jamie Punderson WQ2O. Jamie worked all states on the three modes to become the 86th winner of this contest.

Some Humor via the Internet

There was an engineer who had an exceptional gift for fixing all things mechanical. After serving his company loyally for over 30 years, he happily retired. Several years later the company contacted him regarding a seemingly impossible problem they were having with one of their multi-million-dollar machines.

They tried everything and everyone to get the machine to work, but to no avail. In desperation, they called on the retired engineer who had solved so many of their problems in the past.

The engineer reluctantly took the challenge. He spent a day studying the huge machine. At the end of the day, he marked a small 'x' in chalk on a particular component of the machine and stated "this is where your problem is".

The part was replaced and the machine worked perfectly again.

The company received a bill for \$50,000 from the engineer for his service. They demanded an itemized accounting of his charges.

The engineer wrote the following:

One chalk mark \$1.00

Knowing where to put it \$49,999.00.

It was paid in full and the engineer retired in peace.

Copy center (kop'e sen'ter), n.,

1. An imitation, reproduction, or transcript of an original. 2. Written matter or artwork to be reproduced in printed form. 3. A place to get your digital Xerox copying, color copies, fax services, e-mail, custom artwork, desktop publishing, scanning, business cards, letter head, envelopes, brochures, resumes, invoices, postcards, flyers, stationary, engineering and architectural prints, plotting, large format color prints, lamination, bindery, folding, padding, cutting custom imprinting, t-shirts, signs, vinyl graphics, self-inking stamps, pickup and delivery.

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