

SIARC/Ontario County RACES/ARES meeting 4-13-11

We had 20 in attendance, including 4 guests.

Scott, N2UMH, opened the meeting at 7:17pm

Speaker—Gabe Lohowy—Loop Antennas in an Urban Environment

These antennas have a low takeoff angle, but has nulls
Good noise rejection and works well with other radios in close proximity

Use if: height and space are limited, need low visual impact, if co-located radios are interfering

These can tune out adjacent channel interference

More efficient from 7 to 21 MHz.

ARRL Handbook has a good section on Loop Antennas.

For NVIS, Loop is better than a vertical, but a horizontal dipole is better than a loop.

HF loop is designed to reject jamming

References to look at: antennas.com/sshack/urban/urban.htm

Nonstopsystems.com/radio/frank_radio_antenna_magloop.htm

Secretary report—read with corrections from March:

There will be a VE session in May

VE session in June will be at the Field Day Site

There will not be a VE session in July

Motion to approve by Vern/Dave Furber

There was not a Treasurer Report

Net Report—KB2NCI report was similar to March, KC2LOC checked in from Monroe County ARES

Shelter Drill report---WB2VMR reported that there was a high noise level at the Methodist Church in Victor. We had difficulty receiving digital messages. We could send to the EOC.

Set up went smoothly, we had easy access to the outside for coax run thru. We were in the main meeting room and with the Red Cross personnel there, it would be noisy during activation. Having a separate room would be helpful.

Monroe county sent two ops down, but they could not reach their EOC with HT's. Scott had received an email from them prior to the drill so we could contact them. Scott will attend their April meeting.

Gannett Hill Repeater: WB2VMR reported that the 442.200 had a time when it did not transmit any audio, just a carrier, but when he and KB2NCi got there, it had resolved itself. Unknown cause.

Hospitals—AB2WZ had nothing new to report. He would like to activate a hospital for the Sunday night net from time to time.

Echolink simplex will be set up on 145.710

VE session—AB2WZ reported that 5 applicants took the test in April and that 4 passed (2 techs, 1 general and 1 extra)

Steve KD2OM reported on several items:

Send updates for the Website to him and he will update it.

Repeaters working fine.

We maybe changing the controller to link the 442.200.

APRS radio is ready for Scott

He brought the Harris Humvee to the meeting tonight for us to look at.

County Report—John WA2SSJ reported that the items for the Geneva repeater were within out budget and that if the board of supervisors gives final approval, a TS2000 will be ordered for that site.

Postholes for the antenna masts will be moving forward soon.

Drills---no new information

Field Day report—Don N2VDE reports that we have a room for th VE tests, the parking lots will be closed off, the fire escape is available for tie-offs and that there is adequate room for antennas.

Geneva Project—Scott reports that the repeater antenna and UHF/VHF yagi have been installed. The HF antenna will go up soon. The TS2000 and rigblaster will be coming. There is internet access in the radio room.

AWA Spring Meet—Ron W2FUI reports the spring meet will be 5-7-11. Free admission with a donation request for a new museum which is under budget. The Annex is now closed.

The AWA has towers for loan, and there are new collections being donated. The new building is 17,000 square feet. They get 20+ volunteers each Tuesday to work.

Drumlins Hamfest ---KB2KBY Dave reports the Hamfest will be April 16, talk in on the 146.745.

There will be summer Skywarn training in Newark on April 20
See drumlinsarc.org for more information

Wild Water Derby—Scott reports it will be held April 30 with our set up around 11am. Using packet to send start and end times and using others around the course for safety. All are invited and we need a minimum of 6 ops.

Breakfast—Tom KB2NCI reports that the informal breakfast meeting will be held May 14 at 8am at the Lehigh Valley Restaurant in Manchester.

Meeting closed at 9:15pm

Steve WB2VMR reports that he will be taking orders for the Argene Open Tracker units for APRS in May. The RACES group may want to also buy some for loan use.

Submitted by Tom Sanders KB2NCI