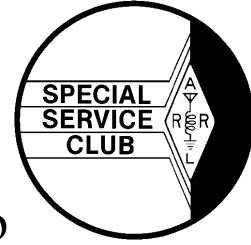




Squaw Island Amateur Radio Club
Since October 7, 1953



Smoke Signal

March 2012

www.siarc.us

Happy March to you all! The sun is out today and it is 44 degrees, but very windy, although not as bad as other parts of the US and their tornadoes. Best Wishes to all affected. This may be a good day to check your antennas and roof, at least from the ground. Of course, operating the ARRL Phone International DX Contest this weekend is a great way to test them!! (and pick up some more entities).

Our next meeting will be Wednesday, March 14 at 7pm at the Safety Training Center. After the business meeting, we will have a program on EME by Bob W2CNS. Bob's many years in the hobby and industry will no doubt give us a very informative talk.

Past Events

Work continues on the 145.450 repeater and its amplifier. Thanks to Steve, WB2VMR, who has been trying to find the problem and fix it. Steve and I went to the home of Charlie KB2SOZ in Macedon recently and picked up a repeater cabinet with an amplifier in it to see if it would work to get the repeater up and running. Time will tell. Charlie donated whatever we could use on it to get us back at full power. Thanks Charlie!

The D-Star repeater continues to work well and needs some use. Dave AB2WZ is in the process of adding a VHF module (frequency not determined at this time) to increase our utilization of the controller and increase the area of coverage. Thanks again to Larry N2MLH for the use of his towers and equipment. Our program in April will be a how-to for D-Star and Analog radios. So think about what you need help with and we can learn from each other.

Upcoming Events

Scott N2UMH will be reporting on his findings for the Field Day sites. We should be able to finalize our location plans.

I spoke with Jeanne KA2OXS and she thought coming to help her in the spring would be a better idea, so we will table the help detail until later.

Contests this month include: Worldwide EME contest, QSO parties in Idaho, Wisconsin, Oklahoma, Virginia, North Dakota, 10-10 Mobile QSO party, CQ WPX SSB Contest and various CW contests. See what you can work and have fun. See the March issue of QST or the WA7BNM website <http://hornucopia.com/contestcal/> for more information.

Remember the Drumlins Hamfest on April 14. See www.drumlinsarc.org for details. Anyone go to Elmira for the hamfest? How about a report? Dayton is coming up. Anyone going?

Several of us will be doing an amateur radio demonstration at the 4H Expo on March 10 at Midlakes School in Phelps. We have two sessions of just over an hour each to introduce the youngsters to our hobby. We will have HF, IRLP, D-Star and CW represented and maybe more. Listen around for us if you can and try to work the kids.

Odds and End

A reminder to renew your ARRL membership thru the club. We get a commission on each new and renewal if the club sends it in. See Ray AB2UY or Tom KB2NCI for details.

There has been a schedule change in the clubs VE sessions for 2012. Dave AB2WZ is holding them on odd months. See the SIARC website for details. The Drumlins ARC will be holding them on the even months. Contact Sabrina WD2STK at wd2stk@yahoo.com for details.

See the Radio Reference website at www.radioreference.com/apps/db/ for interesting information on all sorts of radio related items. There are areas for public service, ham radio and live feeds for all over the country.

Nets

145.450 (110.9) W2ONT	Sundays 8pm	Ontario County RACES/ARES training net
146.685 (no tone) WA2EMO	Sundays 8:45pm	Wayne County RACES net
146.610 (110.9) N2MPE	Thursdays (except 4 th) 9pm	Monroe County ARES net

3993.5 kHz LSB State RACES net Sundays 9am

Club/RACES Repeaters

K2BWK 146.820- (110.9) Canandaigua VA Hospital

K2BWK D-Star 443.5 (+) Honeoye

W2ONT 145.450- (110.9) Gannett Hill

W2ONT 442.200- (110.9) Gannett Hill

W2ONT 147.090- (110.9) Geneva City Hall

President's Thoughts

I think back to my first March here, 1991, the wonderful ice storm we had. It was beautiful but so devastating. We were without power for only 3 days at our home, but others were out for many more. I was not into amateur radio at the time so I did not have any back up communications available to me. I wish I had and would have been able to help out in the community. We have a great ability and responsibility to use our equipment and knowledge to help others. I am often reminded of other areas of the country and world that need back up communications more than we do. But, we need to be ready as some day our area may be hit also, or we may be needed to help relay messages to loved ones. Prepare, a major component of any emergency plan. Think about it.

See you at the meeting and on the air. And, remember to Have Fun and Talk Up Ham Radio.

73, Tom KB2NCI