



Squaw Island Amateur Radio Club
Since October 7, 1953



Smoke Signal

February 2016

www.siarc.us

Where is Winter? Has it come and already gone? I feel we will be getting some, but it is definitely a different season this year!

Our next meeting will be Wednesday, February 10, at 7:30pm at the Ontario County Safety Training Center on County Road 48. It will follow a Board of Directors meeting at 6:30pm that all are welcome to attend. Our program this month will be by Steve, WB2VMR, on proper soldering techniques, in preparation for the building of the 40 meter CW transceivers. All are welcome.

We are also planning on the Club Shirt/Hat distribution for those that did not get their shirts, etc. at the January meeting. John KD2GTA will have the items you ordered and the amount owed. Please bring cash or checks made out to the club as payment.

Past Events

Our club flea market was a success in January. I saw some members leaving with items that they did not come with. Thanks Dave for bringing the rest of Lee's stuff to sell for his wife. I hope you all had a good time.

We had a nice turnout for the latest breakfast on January 16. There were 13 attendees and we were well cared for at the Villager. See you again in April.

Upcoming Events

Our **next VE Session** will be held at 6:30pm, on March 9, 2016, and Dave AB2WZ is always looking for Volunteer Examiners. It will be held at the Safety Training Center. Contact Dave at ab2wz@aol.com if you can help. These sessions have been very successful and are a great way to introduce prospective members to our club and RACES organization. They occur during odd months and Dave needs at least 3 other examiners (extra class preferable) to be present. The Drumlins ARC offers VE sessions on the even months. Contact WD2STK at wd2stk@yahoo.com for testing or to help as a VE.

Upcoming Contests and Special Events this month include: QSO parties in Vermont, Minnesota, New Hampshire, British Columbia, South Carolina and North Carolina, School Club Roundup, ARRL International DX CW contest, North American RTTY QSO party and many others. See the February QST pages 92 and 99 and the WA7BNM website <http://hornucopia.com/contestcal/> for more information.

The National Parks on the Air contest (NPOTA) will be going on all of this year and I would like to see if we can activate in our area. The closest I can come up with is the Womens Rights Historical Park in Seneca Falls. John, WA2SSJ, had mentioned this to me so maybe we can run with that. Bring your ideas to the meeting for discussion. See www.arrl.org for more details.

Plans are coming together for the trip to Dayton for the Hamvention in May. KD2GTA, WB2VMR, W2ACC, KD2CZW and KB2NCI are planning on attending with a van leaving Thursday morning and returning Sunday. There is still room for a couple of more riders, but you need to get your hotel reservation done (we all have ours). Contact KB2NCI if you would like a ride.

Field Day planning has begun and the event on June 25 and 26, will be held again at the Watkins Lodge, Ontario County Park at Gannett Hill in Naples. We expect another great weekend but will need everyone to pray and wish for a nice weather weekend and lots of propagation! Further details will be forthcoming, but you can contact Don N2VDE at porcine2@gmail.com or

Rich KC2TNJ at tinker@rochester.rr.com if you would like to be involved in the organization of this.

The Drumlins Hamfest will be held again at the Palmyra VFW, 4306 State Route 31, on Saturday, April 23, 2016 from 8am to 1pm. SIARC will have an inside table again this year, so if you have items you would like to sell, please arrive after 7am. See www.druminsarc.us for more details.

RACES and ARES

There will be a Joint MARS communication exercise (COMEX 16-1) that is based on a complete loss of internet and telephone communications. MARS (Military Auxiliary Radio System) is asking local clubs around the country to participate in this event on February 12 from 8am to 8pm. Local details will follow. Watch your emails.

If you do not have your Disaster Lan user name and password, contact Dave AB2WZ at ab2wz@aol.com . You do not want to find out at the wrong time that you do not have it.

Also, I encourage all of you to check into our weekly RACES/ARES net (you are invited to check into any other net also) and practice those skills that someday you may be called upon to use. We are also looking for additional stations to practice being Net Control and Assistant Net Control. If you have ANY questions, feel free to contact me with kb2nci@arrl.net or 585-924-0752.

We will begin planning soon for the Wild Water Derby (usually late April), Finger Lakes Challenge MS event in Penn Yan (July 16 and 17), Run for the Red in Canandaigua and the Finger Lakes Triathlon. Please keep those in mind throughout the year as we can always use a few more operators.

Scott, N2UMH, sent out a message recently regarding the RACES group and the development of a Five Year plan. There will be some meetings coming up and we are looking for input from the membership on this very important topic. Your participation is encouraged.

We are also working on getting our various RACES stations better organized and operational. There is always a need for assistance, so please contact

Scott, N2UMH, n2umh@yahoo.com to become involved. You can also contact me at kb2nci@arri.net.

Odd and Ends

The Statewide UHF system has a change at the Bristol site. The repeater frequency has changed to 444.550+ (110.9) and sponsored by W2HYP and W2COP. It is also linked into the 442.000+ (110.9) repeater in Wethersfield, which gives it good coverage into Buffalo and beyond. Many hours and dollars have been spent to get this system on the air and it is a fun and useful system to access and use along the NYS Thruway and I-81 corridors. See <http://www.upstateham.com/2012/12/uhf-ny-statewide-linked-repeaters.html> for more information. They are still updating the Bristol changes, but this gives you good information on the rest of the system.

A reminder that Dave, W2ACC, has activated the 145.130 repeater in Seneca County. I don't believe it needs a pl, but when he puts one it, it will probably be 110.9hz.

There is a new D-Star repeater in the area. It is based near Clyde in Wayne County and its frequency is 443.075 (+ offset) and call sign is KA2NDW. You would enter in Repeater 1 KA2NDW B and Repeater 2 KA2NDW G.

Dues are payable in September for the next year. They are \$10 for an individual, \$14 for a family and \$100 for Life membership. Please see Stan WM3D to pay.

Please be sure to inform Stan WM3D or Tom KB2NCI if you change your preferred email address and phone number, or other changes in your contact information. Having up to date information helps if we need to reach you quickly (e.g. cancelling the Holiday party).

A reminder to renew your ARRL membership (you are a member aren't you?) through 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. I encourage you to support the ARRL and become or maintain membership. They may not be perfect, but they try hard to represent all of amateur radio.

The “Amateur Radio Parity Act of 2015” now has a companion bill in the US Senate, S.1685. See <http://www.arrl.org/news/senate-sponsor-of-amateur-radio-parity-act-of-2015-said-bill-promotes-regulatory-transparency-equali> to see how you can help get this passed and into law.

Nets

145.450- (110.9) W2ONT training net	Sundays 8pm Ontario County RACES/ARES
146.685- (71.9) WA2EMO	Sundays 8:35pm Wayne County RACES net
146.610- (110.9) N2MPE RACES net	Thursdays (except 4 th) 9pm Monroe County
3993.5kHz LSB	New York State RACES net Sundays at 9am

Club/RACES Repeaters

K2BWK	146.820- (110.9) Canandaigua VA Hospital
K2BWK D-Star	147.375+ Honeoye
K2BWK D-Star	443.500+ Honeoye
W2ONT	145.450- (110.9) Gannett Hill
W2ONT	442.200+ (110.9) Gannett Hill—linked to 147.090
W2ONT	147.090+ (110.9) Geneva City Hall—linked to 442.200
KD2HVC D-Star	444.300+ Stanley
KD2HYJ D-Star	444.500 (no offset) Victor hot spot—very local coverage for now

President’s Thoughts

The days are getting longer and the warmer weather will be bringing more opportunities to get outside and play radio and help our communities. If you like to take radio on your trips and have some fun with it, let us know about your experiences. QST is full of ideas each month for the fun parts of the hobby and we would like to hear about what you do that you enjoy with the hobby. At our board meeting this month, we will be discussing activities

for the club. Send your ideas to me or bring them to the meeting so we can talk about them. We are fortunate to continue to add new members and they bring ideas too. Find an unfamiliar face at the meeting and talk to them and find out about them and their interests. Have a great month and I look forward to hearing you on the repeaters, as well as at the meeting.

Have Fun and Talk Up Ham Radio and I hope to catch you on the radio!

73, Tom Sanders KB2NCI

kb2nci@arrl.net

585-924-0752

Ham Radio: Service, Science, Skill

The Amateur's Code Originally written by Paul M. Segal, W9EEA (1928)The Radio Amateur is:

CONSIDERATE Never knowingly operating in such a way as to lessen the pleasure of others.

LOYAL Offering loyalty, encouragement and support to other amateurs, local clubs and the American Radio Relay League, through which Amateur Radio in the United States is represented nationally and internationally.

PROGRESSIVE With knowledge abreast of science, a well built and efficient station and operation beyond reproach.

FRIENDLY With slow and patient operation when requested, friendly advice and counsel to the beginner, kindly assistance, cooperation and consideration for the interests of others. These are the hallmarks of the amateur spirit.

BALANCED Radio is an avocation, never interfering with duties owed to family, job, school or community.

PATRIOTIC With station and skill always ready for service to country and community.