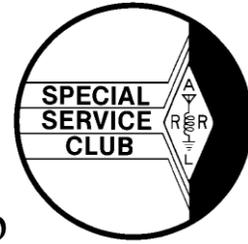




## Squaw Island Amateur Radio Club

Since October 7, 1953



# Smoke Signal

February 2017

[www.siarc.us](http://www.siarc.us)

Welcome to February. Since the groundhog saw his shadow, I expect we will have snow on the ground for a few more weeks. Oh well, it is Western New York. Stay warm.

**Our next meeting will be on Wednesday, February 8,** at the Safety Training Center on County Road 48. The meeting will be at 7:30pm and our program will be by Tony KD2HNI on Elemental and Isotopic Abundance. Should be a very interesting talk. Thanks Tony for volunteering.

### Past Events

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Several of us got together for Kids Day on January 7 and we had one kid and his parent come to find out about Ham Radio. They made a couple of contacts and heard from us about what we do as a club and RACES/ARES group. Small, but successful. Thanks to AC2SA, KD2GTA, KB2KBY, WA2SSJ for joining me. It was good practice for us to set up in a quick time and learn more about our equipment. Thanks to the Emergency Management department for their support of this event.

Our annual Flea Market was held in January and there was quite a bit of equipment that was offered up for sale or trade. I hope everyone was satisfied with the night.

Our VE session netted two new hams or upgrades: November was Carl King KD2MFQ technician and Andrew Mussack KD2JZD to general. January was two new technicians: Dave Vanetten KD2MOX and John Shoots KD2MOV. Welcome to the new hams and upgrades.

There were 15 that attended the Breakfast at the Villager Restaurant on January 28. It was good to be able to shoot the breeze with you all. I look forward to our next one, probably in April.

This past weekend, was the Winter Field Day event. Dave AB2WZ snagged over 60 contacts and I was able to obtain 5 in the limited time I had. Did anyone else participate? Little snippets of time can really be fun if you can take advantage of them. The ARRL VHF contest was held recently also. Let us know how you did!

## Upcoming Events

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Our **next VE Session** will be held at 6:30pm, on March 8, 2017, and Dave AB2WZ is always looking for Volunteer Examiners. It will be held at the **Safety Training Center**. Contact Dave at [ab2wz@aol.com](mailto: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](mailto:wd2stk@yahoo.com) for testing or to help as a VE.

Upcoming Contests and Special Events this month include: QSO parties in Vermont, Minnesota, South Carolina, North Carolina, British Columbia, North American CW Sprint, ARRL International CW DX Contest, North American RTTY QSO Party, ARRL School Club Roundup, and many others. See the February QST pages 97 and 105 and the WA7BNM website <http://hornucopia.com/contestcal/> for more information. These events are a great way to build up your DXCC, WAS and other scores for stations worked.

Upcoming events for 2017 include:

Wild Water Derby, April ?  
Drumlins Hamfest, April 22  
Tour De Cure, June 10  
Finger Lakes Challenge in Geneva, July 8 and 9  
Musselman Triathlon in Geneva, July 14 to 16  
Red Cross Run for the Red, August?  
Finger Lakes Triathlon, September 10  
Wineglass Marathon, October 1  
Pumpkin Patrol, October 30 and 31

Skywarn Appreciation Day, December 2  
and many others that will want ham operators to assist.

## RACES and ARES

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The ARRL EmComm class will be beginning on February 22 and John WA2SSJ still has time to add your name to the list. So far, we have KD2EHU, KA2HQZ, KD2GTA, and N2IZV taking the class. You must be an ARRL member to qualify for the league price, which RACES will pay for. If you have not already, contact me at [kb2nci@arrl.net](mailto:kb2nci@arrl.net) if you would like to participate, so we can include you in the roster. Prerequisites are ICS 100 and 700 (certificates to Scott N2UMH). We will be looking for a few mentors for the Emergency Communications on line course that RACES will be supporting. The student does the class on line and there is an on line mentor, but I would like some of us who have taken the course to meet with the group on a couple of Saturday mornings to help with any areas of need.

If you do not have your Disaster Lan user name and password, contact Dave AB2WZ at [ab2wz@aol.com](mailto: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. In the event we are called out, having some experience as Net Control will be very beneficial. If you have ANY questions, feel free to contact me with [kb2nci@arrl.net](mailto:kb2nci@arrl.net) or 585-924-0752. You can get an outside of the area perspective on this by reading page 93 of the January QST.

From Key Events of the County Administrator Newsletter:

### **EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT**

RACES (Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service) 2016 Training Net Statistics:

47 on the air training nets were conducted, with a total of 759 check ins. Average participation was 16.14 volunteer radio operators per session, a 4% increase over 2015. The purpose of the nets is to train and inform volunteers in the operation of directed radio networks; stations in Ontario, Wayne, Monroe and Yates Counties participated, via the repeater facilities in Gannett Hill Park

From Dave AB2WZ:  
26 January 2016

Both the Air Mail and TS 2000 Computers have been updated with the newest versions of the FLDIGI, FLWRAP, and FLMSG software. On the TS 2000 Computer, the radio (TS 2000) speakers have been turned off and the FLDIGI software is running so it will pickup, decode and display the digital radiogram messages sent over the 145.450 repeater. The digital messages will be saved in the ICS Messages folder located in the NBEMS file. The FLDIGI software has the RSID set to automatically decode the digital mode being received, and will save the file in the proper radiogram form for review in the FLMSG program.

FLDIGI messages may be sent out from the TS 2000 computer using FLMSG while the FLDIGI and FLWRAP programs are running in the background.

I think we should encourage RACES members to compose and send digital messages over the 145.450 repeater during the week as practice exercises for Net credit.

Any thoughts??

Dave  
David A. Foster AB2WZ

I agree with Dave that this would be good practice for RACES members. Give it a try.

We are working on updating the RACES roster. There are several names on the list that we have not heard from for a quite a while and we need to

determine their interest. If you have been semi or not active, please contact John WA2SSJ or myself (KB2NCI) to let us know of your thoughts. All are welcome, we would just like to hear from you.

## Odd and Ends

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Dave, N2JOR, has an ICOM 7200 HF/50mHz radio that he would like some assistance learning. If you have one and can help Dave, contact him at [jorgensen\\_david@yahoo.com](mailto:jorgensen_david@yahoo.com). Any assistance will be appreciated.

The Amateur Radio Parity Act is back before congress. The bill to afford us reasonable accommodations for antennas in all living environments, has passed the House of Representatives and is headed to the U.S. Senate. There will be more information soon on what steps can be taken to help its passage. See QST or the ARRL website for more details.

As a reminder, the Smoke Signals and meeting minutes are posted as soon as possible on the SIARC website. This is an easy way to keep up with the group if you miss a meeting. Thanks to Steve, KD2OM, for keeping the website up to date.

For local repeaters, you can go to [www.rochesterham.org](http://www.rochesterham.org) and select Ham Radio 101 to find a quick reference. You can also go to [www.unyrepco.org](http://www.unyrepco.org) and [www.wnysorc.org](http://www.wnysorc.org) for repeaters in western New York. Lots of information is available, and the councils are continually trying to keep it current. I recommend becoming a member of UNYREPCO as that covers our immediate area.

**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 to 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.

Check out [www.dstarusers.org](http://www.dstarusers.org) and [www.dstarinfo.com](http://www.dstarinfo.com) for lots of information on D-Star.

**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.**

Do you like programs? So do I but we do run out of ideas. If you have an idea for an interesting program, please contact the speaker (or present it yourself) and see me about scheduling it. I am sure with all the membership and varied interests, we can find some programs.

What projects are you working on or involved in? We would love to hear about them, either at the meeting or in the Smoke Signal. Let me know.

## Nets

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145.450- (110.9) W2ONT	Sundays 8pm Ontario County RACES/ARES training net
146.685- (71.9) WA2EMO	Sundays 8:35pm Wayne County RACES net
146.610- (110.9) N2MPE	Thursdays (except 4 <sup>th</sup> ) 9pm Monroe County RACES net
3993.5kHz LSB	New York State RACES net Sundays at 9am
146.745- (71.9) WA2AAZ	Storm Trackers Weather Training Net, 4 <sup>th</sup> Tuesday 7pm

## Club/RACES Repeaters

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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

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February is the shortest month of the year and as such, March and spring (we hope, right?) is not far away. Our many events will be coming up soon and there will be many opportunities to operate and stretch your amateur radio skills, and also to enjoy the friendships that the hobby can provide. The Drumlins Hamfest is scheduled for April 22 at the same location, the Palmyra VFW on Route 31. SIARC will again have a table for members to bring items to sell. It is a great way to start the hamfest season and support our neighbors in Wayne County. The breakfast ain't half bad also! I hope to see you all there.

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

73, Tom Sanders KB2NCI

[kb2nci@arrl.net](mailto:kb2nci@arrl.net)

585-924-0752

Ham Radio: Service, Science, Skill

The Amateur's Code<sup>[SEP]</sup>Originally written by Paul M. Segal, W9EEA (1928)<sup>[SEP]</sup>The Radio

<sup>[SEP]</sup>Amateur is:

<sup>[SEP]</sup>CONSIDERATE Never knowingly operating in such a way as to lessen the pleasure of others.<sup>[SEP]</sup>

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

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

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**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.