



# Squaw Island Amateur Radio Club



Since October 7, 1953

## Smoke Signal

February 2018

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

Hello again, and I trust you all made it thru the deep freeze of January. Seemed like a longer stretch than normal, but still typical for this time of year. At least February is a shorter month!

Our next meeting will be Wednesday, February 14 at 7:30pm at the Safety Training Center on County Road 48. Our program will be by Rich, WB2JLR, and cover his time in Ecuador at HCJB, a powerful broadcast station. All are welcome.

### Past Events

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Our January meeting saw some flea market activity and a few items sold. I hope it was enjoyable for all.

We had 17 for our quarterly breakfast get together at the Villager. It is a great time to visit and see some that may not make it to our meetings. Look for the next one in the spring (probably in May, since April is already filling up).

### Upcoming Events

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I would like to propose that we have a special event station to commemorate the 65<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the club. This would be a daylong event, where we set up one or more HF stations and activate them to contact as many station to help us celebrate. This could be in place of our annual picnic. I am looking for volunteers to organize this day. These are usually publicized in QST, so the date and bands need to be set about 3 months in advance. Contact me if you would like to help.

Our **next VE Session** will be held at 6:30pm, on March 14, 2018, and Russ N2IZV is always looking for Volunteer Examiners. This session will be before the regular SIARC meeting at

the Safety Training Center. Sabrina WD2STK will be leading this session as Russ has some lame excuse for being out of town for a Rotary event. (just kidding, Russ). Safe travels. Contact Russ at [rcharris@msn.com](mailto:rcharris@msn.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 Russ 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.

In January, Russ conferred new technician licenses to  
Austin KD2OYY from Webster  
Dale KD2OYZ from Penn Yan

Congratulations to both of them.

Upcoming Contests and Special Events this month include: Minnesota, Vermont, British Columbia, OMISS, South Carolina, North Carolina QSO parties, North American and ARRL International DX CW contests, 10-10 International Winter Contest, School Club Roundup (KD2IFF, are you and the boys operating?), AWA AM QSO Party, and many others. See the February QST pages 87 and 96 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. And they are fun!

The ARRL Rookie Roundup will be held April 15 and is targeted to get those first licensed from 2016 and later onto HF. On the ARRL website, enter Rookie Roundup in the Key Word search and follow the link.

Upcoming events for 2018 include:

Drumlins Hamfest, April 21  
Wild Water Derby, April 28  
Tour De Cure, June 9  
Field Day, June 23 and 24  
Roc the Ride Rochester, August 25  
Finger Lakes Triathlon, September 9  
Pumpkin Patrol, October 30 and 31

As I get more information, I will post it here.

## RACES and ARES

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The weekly RACES nets are back on the W2ONT 145.450 repeater, thanks to a loan from Dave W2ACC. Steve WB2VMR has fixed the primary repeater and we will get it installed when the weather breaks.

For 2017, RACES had 51 events, including weekly nets and public service activities. For those events, we had 739 checkins/participants giving an average of 14.5 per event. Very nice and I thank all who were part of it. The best way to be prepared for a disaster type event where we would be needed to help out our communities is to PRACTICE. You are always welcome and there is help to get you started and comfortable with your skill. Contact Tom KB2NCI, Scott N2UMH, Steve WB2VMR, John WA2SSJ or anyone else associated with the group with questions.

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.

## Odd and Ends

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I have received a couple of questions spurred by the survey, which I responded to, and Dave N2EZY and I will work to answer them as more of them come up.

Send your questions to me at [kb2nci@arrl.net](mailto:kb2nci@arrl.net) and Dave and I will do our best to get them answered. It may even generate some programs. If you can help with any of the topics listed on the survey, please contact Dave or myself. This is your club and you can make it successful.

Remember the National Parks on the Air event? The ARRL is sponsoring another similar event called the International Grid Chase and the object is during 2018 to make contacts with as many Grid Squares around the world as possible. See the ARRL website for details.

December 11 will start off a year long operating event commemorating NASA, similar to the National Parks on the Air event in 2016. See [nasaontheair.wordpress.com](http://nasaontheair.wordpress.com) for details. Could be a fun event to participate in.

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 as S.1534. See QST or the ARRL website for more details on how you can have your voice heard.

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.

If you travel, look at [www.repeaterbook.com](http://www.repeaterbook.com) for lots of repeater information. And for scanner listeners, go to [www.radioreference.com](http://www.radioreference.com) for nationwide information.

Dave W2ACC has repeaters up in Waterloo that can offer good coverage to our east. They are on 145.130- (pl 110.9) and 442.225+ (pl 82,5). Give them a try. His 220 repeater (on the Stanley tower) is now up and waiting to be used. The frequency is 224.26 (-1.6mHz offset and pl of 110.9). He is also working on a 900mHz repeater in Stanley. Stay tuned for more details.

**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.

This repeater system carries a Central New York Information and swap net on Wednesdays at 7pm. Stations check in from all up and down the thruway, so it is interesting. Check it out.

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 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.**

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.

We recently were made aware of a Silent Key from Rushville and the wife asked for assistance with his equipment. The gentleman was Bernie, K2BND, and the following is a list of what will be available. What is not sold, will most likely be taken to the Drumlins Hamfest in April.

MFJ VERSA TUNER III 9620  
YAESU FT101E TRANSCEIVER  
KENWOOD TS940 TRANSCEIVER  
KENWOOD SM220 STATION MONITOR  
KENWOOD PHONE PATCH CONTROLLER  
MICRONTA 2.5 AMP POWER SUPPLY  
EAR POLLUTION HEADPHONES  
MICRONTA FIELD STRENGTH/SWR 21525B

15 W DUMMY LOAD  
MFJ TUNABLE DSP FILTER 784B  
HOWARD COMMUNICATIONS RCVR 450A  
MFJ SIGNAL ENHANCER 752B  
ROPE  
MFJ POWER SUPPLY 45 AMP, 4245MV  
GROVE MINI-TUNER  
KENWOOD TH75A DUAL BAND HT, 4 BATTs  
HALLICRAFTERS SX104  
HALLICRAFTERS R46B SPEAKER  
REALISTIC PRO 2005 SCANNER  
ELECRAFT KX3 TRANSCEIVER  
AMIDON W2FMI BALUN  
GAP EAGLE (?) ANTENNA, NEW IN BOX  
GE MONITOR 10  
PANASONIC GX600  
PALOMAR TUNER (?)  
J38 KEY  
BENCHER PADDLE  
VIBROPLEX BUG #131652  
AEA MORSE MACHINE  
MFJ FREQUENCY STANDARD  
MFJ CLOCK (TWO SMALL DIGITALS, RACK)  
TRIPP LINE STABILIZER  
ALPHA DELTA WIRE ANTENNA  
NATIONAL HRO-7 RECEIVER  
HALLICRAFTERS SX ??? RECEIVER  
Contact John WA2SSJ or Tom KB2NCI if interested.

FLCC Maker Space—John and I make a trip to FLCC to check out their Maker Space area. It is on the main floor of the Library and they look to expand it if there is a need in the community. These types of projects are getting very big across the country and there was even a Maker event in Rochester in the last couple of months. The following is what they have now and they are open to us doing a club tour at some point. Maybe we could hold one of our meetings there. If you get by there, take a peek.

## FLCC Maker Space

The space includes a 3D Printer, silhouette cutting Machine, 3D Scanner, Button Maker, Heat Press (can make some club shirts) and has several kits that can be checked out.

Arduino Kit

Little Bits Kit

Go Pro Hero 4 camera

In addition, the periodical section contains an amazing bound collection of QST magazines dating back to 1974 and beyond, courtesy of John Park WA2SSJ.

You can find the information on line at [flcc.edu](http://flcc.edu) and going to Library and then Library Maker Space.

## 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

## 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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I have listed some great idea generators in the newsletter this month and I hope it stimulates some thought and discussion among us. Amateur Radio is a wide open hobby that can cover all sorts of fun and interesting areas of technology and the world. The club is a great place to explore and expand on these topics and our meetings and repeaters can offer avenues to communicate your interests and questions. I encourage you to utilize them. If you have an area

you would like to tell the club about, send me a paragraph or two (or three) and I will get it in the Smoke Signal.

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 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.

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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.