



Squaw Island Amateur Radio Club
Since October 7, 1953



Smoke Signal

March 2015

www.siarc.us

Another month, another day with snow. I wake up this morning and it is 15 degrees and snowing lightly. After a nice couple of sunny days, here we go again. Anyway, things have GOT to get better next weekend when we change the clocks ahead for Daylight Savings Time, right?

Our next meeting will be on Wednesday, March 11 at 7:30pm (after the next VE testing session at 6:30pm). We will again be at the Safety Training Center. We will probably hear about our new D-Star repeater (more later in the newsletter) and do some instruction on how to use some of the functions on the various radios. If you have one and can bring it, please do, along with your manual (fun reading, huh?). We also may hear from KC2TCM on some MT63 capabilities. Having your laptop will help with this and he can get the program downloaded to it also. I hope to see you there!

Past Events

At the last meeting, we raffled off a 2015 ARRL Handbook (congratulations Ray!) and raised \$20 for the club. In March, I will have an ARRL Emergency Power for Radio Communications handbook, latest edition, for raffle. We will sell the tickets for \$3 so be prepared. (Having this book will help you be prepared in the future). We will be doing these raffles from time to time. I will be looking for new and interesting things for this.

A check was issued to the 4H Camp Bristol Hills for a scholarship for a camper this summer in the name of Lee Schutt, WA2LEE, SK. Donations to

and by the club were enough to send a child annually for the next 7 years. Good job everyone.

Upcoming Events

Our **next VE Session** will be held at 6:30pm, on March 11 and Dave AB2WZ is always looking for Volunteer Examiners. 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.

Steve WB2VMR will be doing another kit building. This one will be a frequency counter and the cost will be about \$20. Steve will be doing this project at the May meeting (this meeting will be at the County Human Resources Bldg on County Commerce Drive) and if you would like to build one and have not let him know, please do so soon so he can have all the parts ordered.

SIARC will have a table at the Drumlins Hamfest flea market, April 18, 2015 at the Palmyra VFW on Route 31. If you have items you would like to sell, please bring them that day, marked with a price and your call sign, and we will offer them for sale. Let's all support our friends in Wayne County.

Upcoming Contests and Special Events this month include: QSO parties in North Carolina, Louisiana, Idaho, Wisconsin, Oklahoma, Virginia, the ARRL International Phone DX contest, Tesla Memorial HF CW contest, QCWA Spring QSO party, several EME contests, various international events and many others. See the March QST page 89 or the WA7BNM website <http://hornucopia.com/contestcal/> for more information.

We will be holding another collection in memory of Roger Kessler, KD2RPK, to send to his charity. At the next meeting, please give Stan your contribution and the club will send it afterwards.

This year the following will be events we will support and I hope you can participate in all of them.

---Wild Water Derby in Shortsville, April 25

---4H Amateur Radio Demo, Wayne County, May 2

---Honeoye Library Ham Radio Demo, May 2

---Field and Stream, Henrietta, Emergency Preparedness Amateur Radio Demo, May 9

---ARRL Field Day at Gannett Hill Park, June 27 and 28

---MS Bike Event in Penn Yan, July 18 and 19

---Run for the Red in Canandaigua, late July

---Finger Lakes Triathlon, September 13

---Pumpkin Patrol, October 30 and 31

Field Day—June 27 and 28—will be a joint effort with the Drumlins ARC. We will be at the Watkins Lodge at Ontario County Park at Gannett Hill. Don N2VDE will be leading our part of the great event. I hope that everyone can attend and make this the most successful Field Day in our history.

The April meeting will be a tour of the new 911 Center on Ontario St. We will meet at 7pm, instead of 7:30pm, directly at 74 Ontario St, Canandaigua. Please arrive a little early, so we can all enter the building at one time. We can see the new RACES spot with the Icom 880H radio. There is a dual band J-pole installed on the roof.

Our next breakfast will be Saturday, April 11, at the Villager Restaurant. Look for the reminder emails coming out soon.

Odd and Ends

Due to WINTER, this is still ongoing---Work on the 145.450 repeater on Gannett Hill is nearly complete and the repeater is working well. A new antenna and feedline have been ordered and this should complete the project. The new controller uses a voice ID and also announces the time. Nice addition. I encourage every one of you to help exercise the repeaters. They need the "attention". The Geneva repeater (147.090, pl 110.9) is

next up for improvements. It is still linked to the 442.200 on Gannett Hill and seems to be working fine. (Thanks to W2ACC, KD2GTA and WB2VMR).

The new D-Star repeater in Stanley, KD2HVC is on the air and operational. The frequency is 444.300 (+offset) and is capable of being connected to the usual D-Star reflector groups. Trustee is Dave W2ACC and technical advisor is Steve KD2OM. A big THANK YOU goes out to Ray and Jeff at Mobiletech Communications for their support, expertise and site. This project was the brainchild of Roger KD2RPK and his determination inspired it. The thought is to link it on a regular basis to one of the Hemlock modules for greater coverage. Get on the air and enjoy the world.

AB2WZ has been sending out messages to RACES members to answer emails from him on the D-Lan site. He will continue to give us some bits of training. If you need your user name and password to log in, please contact Dave at ab2wz@aol.com. The D-Lan website is eoc.co.ontario.ny.us

Dues were 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 a member. They may not be perfect, but they try hard to represent all of amateur radio.

As was mentioned at the February meeting, I would like to assemble a group to begin a Mentor program for new hams (or even those wanting to experiment with a new mode). If you are interested in helping with this, please contact me. Through our very successful VE testing program (Thanks AB2WZ) there are several new hams in the area and they probably have some questions and could use some assistance. If you are a new ham,

please contact me if you have questions and I will put you in touch with someone to help you.

At the last meeting, it was requested to send out a list of members, call signs and contact information to the group. Stan made up a sheet with that information, and not hearing of any objections, I will be sending that list out to the membership.

Nets

145.450- (110.9) W2ONT training net	Sundays 8pm Ontario County RACES/ARES
146.685- (no tone) WA2EMO	Sundays 8:45pm 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

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 444.750 (no offset) Victor hot spot—very local coverage for now

President's Thoughts

Lots coming up in the next few months and I encourage all of you to be part of as many of them as possible. As you know, the best way to enjoy the

club, is to be active in it. We are always open to new ideas, so let a member of the board of directors or myself know what you are thinking.
Have a great March and pray for an early, but gradual Spring.

Have Fun and Talk Up Ham Radio

73, Tom Sanders KB2NCI
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.