



## Squaw Island Amateur Radio Club

Since October 7, 1953

# Smoke Signal

April 2015

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

Good morning Spring! Two days in a row with blue skies. Temps still cold, but they say it will be close to 60 by weeks end. Glad to see it.

Our next meeting will be Wednesday, April 8 and will be a tour of the new 911 Center, 74 Ontario St, Canandaigua. We will meet at 6:45pm so we can all go in together at 7pm. All are welcome. Thanks to Scott N2UMH for organizing this. Be sure to leave all sharp objects and weapons at the door (hi hi).

## Past Events

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Our March meeting was a Summer Skywarn Presentation by Jon Hitchcock from the Buffalo office of the National Weather Service. 16 of our members attended, along with several non members. Here is the write up in the county Administrators newsletter:

### Emergency Management

- 16 RACES members joined 13 other participants for the Summer Skywarn training by the National Weather Service on March 11<sup>th</sup> at the Safety Training Facility. Senior Meteorologist Jon Hitchcock addressed being prepared, the workings of Doppler radar and the Weather Service, including tornadoes, thunderstorms, wind shear, derechos, lightning, floods and being safe around them, stressing the importance of the spotter program and its ability to give the National Weather Service good ground truth information. More information is available at <http://www.nws.noaa.gov/skywarn/>.

A second collection was taken for Roger Kessler, KD2RPK, and a total of \$200 was raised for the Cheshire Fire Department in his name. Great job everyone!

The March VE session yielded 3 more hams. Two technicians: Riley KD2IFE, Bradford KD2IFD and one went to general: Michael KD2IFF. Congratulations to them and thank you to Dave AB2WZ and his team. The next VE sessions will be at the Drumlin Hamfest, April 18 and our May 13 meeting.

## Upcoming Events

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The Wild Water Derby for this year has been cancelled. A major sponsor sustained a great deal of damage to their building and so the Shortsville Chamber of Commerce decided to support them and cancel the event. We wish them all the best of luck and hope for an event in 2016.

**May 2** will be a very busy day for our club. Norm WB2GGM is organizing a ham radio demonstration for the public at the Honeoye Library and is still in need of hams to be there to meet and greet the public. Please contact Norm at [wb2ggm@yahoo.com](mailto:wb2ggm@yahoo.com).

Also that day, we will be doing a ham radio demo for the Wayne County 4H organization at their office on Route 88, north of Newark. We will have several stations set up to showcase amateur radio. I have a few signed up to help, but could use more. We will be doing some qso's with the Honeoye group and our friends in Australia and England. Contact me at [kb2nci@arrl.net](mailto:kb2nci@arrl.net) if you can help.

Our **next VE Session** will be held at 6:30pm, on May 13 and Dave AB2WZ is always looking for Volunteer Examiners. **This session will be at different location, due a county auction at the Safety Training Center the same night. The May session will be at the County Human Resources Building, 3019 County Complex Drive, Hopewell, NY.** 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.

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 13 meeting (this meeting will be at the County Human Resources Bldg on County Complex Drive).** Please have your money for Steve that night.

Upcoming Contests and Special Events this month include: Lighthouse Spring Lites QSO Party, QSO parties in Texas, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, New Mexico, Georgia, Nebraska, Michigan, North Dakota, Ontario, and Florida, ARRL Phone Rookie Roundup, various international events and many others. See the April QST page 83 or the WA7BNM website <http://hornucopia.com/contestcal/> for more information.

The ARRL Rookie (originally licensed less than 3 years) Roundup Phone Contest is Sunday April 19 and we have several members that would qualify for this event. If you have a station that could accommodate getting them on the air, please consider operating that day. You can also just get on the air and work Rookies to help them learn the ropes of HF. See the ARRL website for details on this and many contests.

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----CANCELLED
- 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. **We will doing a big order for shirts and hats this year again. The shirts**

**come in two colors, RED or GRAY and all the regular sizes. The regular price is \$14.95 and the board has not had a chance to come up with a club support amount, but I imagine it will be in the range of 2 to 3 dollars, getting your shirt price to around \$12 to \$13. One order yields us one \$12.50 shipping fee. Please email me your order (shirt, size and color, and if you want a hat, pin, patch, etc) by April 15 so I can have the order by the May meeting.** The ARRL website and QST have advertisements to show what is available.

Our **next breakfast will be Saturday, April 11**, at the Villager Restaurant, 245 South Main St, Canandaigua. I sent out an inquiry yesterday, so please let me know by April 4 if you can attend. If that does not work, just show up at the Villager at 8am.

The world famous **Drumlins Hamfest will be held Saturday, April 18** starting at 8am at the Palmyra VFM post at 4306 Route 31, Palmyra. There will be breakfast, commercial vendors and lots of flea market space. SIARC will have a table, so bring your salable, marked items and we will see what will sell. See [www.drumlinsarc.org](http://www.drumlinsarc.org) for details. Let's all support our friends in Wayne County. It is a great opportunity to see your friends, too.

Dave W2ACC tells me that there will be services at the Cheshire Fire Department for Roger KD2RPK on Sunday, June 28.

**AWA Spring meet** will be held Saturday, May 2 in Bloomfield.

Rochester Hamfest will be June 6. See [www.rochesterham.org](http://www.rochesterham.org) for details.

The Tour De Cure bike event for Diabetes will be held Saturday, June 13, based out of Webster and running mostly through Wayne County. See the public service tab of [www.rochesterham.org](http://www.rochesterham.org) for details and to sign up.

## **RACES and ARES**

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Scott, N2UMH, our Radio Office (RACES) and Emergency Coordinator (ARES) sent out a very comprehensive memo on February 24, detailing the upcoming year and goals for 2015. We are blessed to have a very supportive Emergency Management Office and with that, a very good communications system. The goal is to have the Hopewell and Geneva

stations nearly identical so they can equally support each other and the county. Our role with the county is constantly evolving and there is always room for more involvement from our members. We have modest stations in all three hospitals and again, are always looking for more involvement of our members. Please contact Scott at [n2umh@yahoo.com](mailto:n2umh@yahoo.com) to volunteer or get more involved.

## Odd and Ends

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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 Mobiltech Communications for their support, expertise and site. This project was the brainchild of Roger KD2RPK and his determination inspired it. Get on the air and enjoy the world. See QRZ.com and look up KD2HVC for a nice tribute to Roger.

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](mailto:ab2wz@aol.com). The D-Lan website is [eoc.co.ontario.ny.us](http://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.

## Nets

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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 <sup>th</sup> ) 9pm Monroe County
3993.5kHz LSB	New York State RACES net

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

## President's Thoughts

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I am urging all of you to lend your support in the effort to pass HR 1301, the Amateur Radio Parity Act of 2015. This bill, when passed, will help ensure that we can practice our hobby and help the public by receiving reasonable accommodations for antennas in all land use arenas. See the ARRL website for more information and how you can contact your representatives in congress. They will act for you if they know your thoughts.

We are entering the very busy Public Service event season. There will be many events looking for our assistance to keep them safe and fun. They are fun for us too and it gives you a chance to support many worthy causes. Please stay tuned to these pages, our website and the websites of local ham clubs as they request your assistance. Keep those batteries charged!

And, take amateur radio along with you on your travels. It is fun and could be the communication tool you need.

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.

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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.