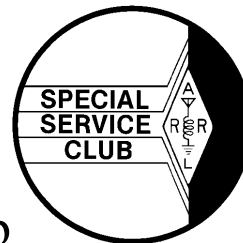




Squaw Island Amateur Radio Club
Since October 7, 1953



Smoke Signal

April 2016

www.siarc.us

Now we are having fun! The weather is warming and so are the club plans for the next several months. I hope you are as anxious as I am to be busy with ham radio!

Our next meeting will be **Wednesday, April 13, 2016, at 6:30pm** at the Safety Training Center, 2914 CR 48, Canandaigua. Please note the earlier start time as we will need some extra time for working on the 40 meter CW kits. All are welcome as we will have some planning items to discuss and input is always encouraged.

Past Events

We had a great turnout for the March meeting, with some new faces there after the testing sessions. Dave KC2DQS spoke and showed a video on proper soldering techniques. It was interesting to see how the professionals do it.

The following received new or upgraded licenses at the March Laurel VE testing session:

| | | |
|-----------------|--------|----------------|
| TORY CARISSIMO | KD2KPZ | NEW TECHNICIAN |
| FRANK GROSSMANN | KC2DVN | NEW GENERAL |
| RICHARD HAMILL | KC2TCM | NEW EXTRA |
| ROBERT HOLMES | KD2KQA | NEW TECHNICIAN |
| SHAWN SPRINGER | AC2SA | NEW EXTRA |
| CHARLES YARGER | KD2KQB | NEW TECHNICIAN |
| AARON ZSEMBERY | KD2KQC | NEW TECHNICIAN |

Congratulations to our own Jay and Chris (Shawn) for their upgrades to EXTRA.

John KD2GTA held his first Storm Trackers Net on Tuesday evening, March 22. He used two linked repeaters in Wayne County, 443.250 and 146.745, and had several checkins. The next net will be on Thursday, April 7 at 7pm on the same repeaters. In the event of severe weather, listen and checkin on these repeaters. Contact John at zoger77@gmail.com or see www.stormtrackerteam.com for more information.

Upcoming Events

Our **next VE Session** will be held at 6:30pm, on May 11, 2016, and Dave AB2WZ is always looking for Volunteer Examiners. It will be held at the **County Human Resources Building, 3019 County Complex Drive, Hopewell**. We need to move our testing and meeting location for this meeting only, due to the annual county property auction, held at the Safety Training Center. We will be back at our usual spot in June. 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 Mississippi, Missouri, Georgia, New Mexico, Michigan, Nebraska, Ontario, North Dakota, Florida, Worked All Provinces of China, ARRL Rookie Roundup, and many others. See the April QST pages 86 and 98 and the WA7BNM website <http://hornucopia.com/contestcal/> for more information.

Our **next breakfast** will be on Saturday, April 16 at 8am at the Villager Restaurant. Mark your calendars for this fun time. You can let me know anytime if you are coming. We have quite a crew coming. See you then!

The ARRL Rookie Roundup (www.arrl.org for more information) will be held on Sunday, April 17 and Dave AB2WZ is heading up a group to lead this event for the club. We will be hosting the event at the Safety Training Center and it runs from 2pm to 8pm local time and encourages Rookies (those first licensed since January 1, 2014) to get on the HF bands. Hams licensed before that are encouraged to help Rookies get on the air so we will be looking for our experienced (or those that would like to get more experience) members to come out and help. We will be in Room 1 as it is large enough and has access to the outside for running of coax. The club will provide pizza and soda and the set up will begin mid morning. More information will be available at the meeting on April 13. Contact Dave at ab2wz@aol.com to help or sign up.

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.

I would like to take **orders for Field Day Shirts, Hats, etc.** at the April meeting so we can place one big order. I will place the order and you can pay me when you pick up your items at the May meeting. See www.arrl.org for what is available and the sizes. I will need all of that from you to place

the order. By ordering together, we only have to pay one flat rate for the shipping. Drumlins will be ordering separately again this year.

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. Have your items marked with the price and your call sign. See www.druminsarc.us for more details on the hamfest.

There will also be two other hamfests in the area this year. The **Rochester Hamfest** (RARA) will be Saturday, May 28, 2016, at the Eastman Business Park, 200 West Ridge Road. See www.rochesterham.org for more details. Talk in will be on the 145.110- (110.9) repeater.

The other will be the **Barnard Fire Hamfest** in association with RRRA and will be Saturday, June 4, 2016 at the Barnard Fireman's Field, 360 Maiden Lane, Greece. See www.k2rra.org for more details. Talk in on 146.880- (110.9) repeater.

RACES and ARES

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.

The **Wild Water Derby will be held on Saturday, April 30 in Shortsville**. SIARC (therefore ARES) will be supporting this event for course safety communications. The event begins at noon and ends by 3pm or so. We will plan on meeting for breakfast ahead of time and then get set up.

More timing details will follow. I have 9 signed up for now, but would like some others. Anyone interested may contact me at kb2nci@arrl.net

We have begun preliminary planning on the **Finger Lakes Challenge MS Bike** event we help support. It will be held the weekend of July 16 and 17 and begins and ends at Keuka College, near Penn Yan. We will be looking for close to 20 operators to help with this event and even though we work closely with Drumlins on this, we will need help from as many SIARC/Ontario County RACES/ARES members as possible. We can use hams for one or both days. Contact Tom, KB2NCI, if you would like to help.

Other Upcoming Public Service Events that will need our communications assistance are:

Tour De Cure, June 11—see www.rochesterham.org and public service for sign up/details

Red Cross Run for the Red, Canandaigua, August, details to follow

Finger Lakes Triathlon, Canandaigua, September 11, details to follow

Pumpkin Patrol, October 30 and 31.

There will be two **Skywarn Training** sessions coming up soon. The first is in Lyons, Wayne County on April 27, 7pm.

The other will be on May 3, 7pm at the Safety Training Center, 2914 CR 48, Canandaigua and is sponsored by the Ontario County Emergency Management Office. See www.weather.gov/buf/skywarn for details on both events.

Odd and Ends

Norm, WB2GGM, has been working hard to get some local educators to attend the **ARRL Teachers Institute** this summer. This is an all expense paid week of professional education on amateur radio and wireless

technology. When you see Norm, ask him about it and lend a hand if possible. See www.arrl.org for details. Way to go Norm. (good thing it has been a poor ice fishing season, it gave him more time to pursue this!). Norm will have a report at the meeting.

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.

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.

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. He is looking to start up a RACES/ARES organization. Contact Dave to help out.

There is a new D-Star repeater in our 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.

Mike, KD2IFF, and others, have started a **Youth Amateur Radio Club**. His son, Wesley, recently became KD2KHI and his other son is studying for the technician exam also. They have some great plans to encourage the youth of our area to become interested in the hobby so keep this in mind if you run across young people that might be interested in becoming hams or learning more about electronics.

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

I am excited and energized by the upcoming warmer weather and look forward to all of our club activities. From operating to planning to set up and just spending time with our group of hams, there is a lot to do and enjoy. For all of you new hams, please feel free to call or contact me with questions about your hobby. We have someone that has tried or uses almost every aspect of amateur radio and I can put you in contact with them. As I have said in the past, being a member of the ARRL is a great way to keep up to date on all things amateur radio and QST is another great resource. Their website and publications can help you with all areas. The membership also gives them some weight on Capital Hill and looking out for our spectrum. It is very valuable and we need to protect it.

So, get ready to have some fun and participate in all the club activities that you can. Everyone has something to bring to the group, so don't be bashful. Speak up. And use the repeaters we have. They are all open to all amateurs.

See you 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.