



Squaw Island Amateur Radio Club

Since October 7, 1953



## Smoke Signal

April 2017

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

Hello April and spring. I am glad that March is over; it did get us back in the snow race.

**Our next meeting will be on Wednesday, April 12**, at the Safety Training Center on County Road 48. The meeting will be at 7:30pm. Program is to be determined. Any volunteers?

### Past Events

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Thanks to John, WA2SSJ, for the very informative presentation on Antenna restrictions and PRB-1. It is always best to do your homework ahead of time and understand what you are up against before beginning this very important outside project.

As you all know, we had a snow event in March and there were several Storm Tracker Weather Nets. I know that John, KD2GTA, appreciates all of the input for his team and they are good practice for the future. Remember to monitor the 145.450 and 146.745 during weather events.

### Upcoming Events

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Our **next VE Session** will be held at 6:30pm, on May 10, 2017, and Dave AB2WZ is always looking for Volunteer Examiners. This session will be held at a different location, the **County Human Resources Building, 3019 County Complex Drive**, just east of County Road 48, Hopewell. 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. The next testing session will be at the Drumlins Hamfest on April 22. 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 Mississippi, Missouri, New Mexico, Georgia, Michigan, Ontario, North Dakota, Nebraska, Florida, Texas State Parks on the Air, North American SSB Sprint Contest, ARRL SSB Rookie Roundup<sup>1</sup> and many others. See the April QST pages 92 and 104 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!

We are moving ahead with plans for **Field Day 2017, June 24 and 25**. It will be a joint operation with the Drumlins ARC at the Varick Fire Department on Route 96A, Geneva. Contact Don N2VDE or Rich KC2TNJ if you would like to help in the organization of it. **There is a meeting planned for Saturday, May 13, at 8:30am at the Villager Restaurant** in Canandaigua. All are welcome to attend.

Upcoming events for 2017 include:

Drumlins Hamfest, April 22---SIARC will have a table there, bring some stuff to sell  
Wild Water Derby, April 29—Yes, we are helping with this event in Shortsville  
Rochester Hamfest, June 3, Walnut Hill Farm, Pittsford  
Tour De Cure, June 10—see [www.rochesterham.org](http://www.rochesterham.org) to sign up to help.  
Bike MS: Finger Lakes Challenge in Geneva, July 8 and 9—contact KB2NCI to help  
Musselman Triathlon in Geneva, July 14 to 16  
Red Cross Run for the Red, August?  
Finger Lakes Triathlon, September 10  
Wineglass Marathon, Steuben County, October 1  
Pumpkin Patrol, October 30 and 31  
Skywarn Appreciation Day, December 2  
and many others that will want ham operators to assist.

## **DRUMLINS ARC HAMFEST**

HAMFEST/CONVENTION

04/22/2017

**Start Date:** 04/22/2017

**End Date:** 04/22/2017

**Location:** Palmyra VFW Post 6778

4306 Route 31

Palmyra, NY 14522

**Website:** <http://drumlinsarc.us>

**Sponsor:** Drumlins Amateur Radio Club

**Type:** ARRL Hamfest

**Talk-In:** 146.745 (PL 71.9)

**Public Contact:** David Taylor , KB2KBY

228 West Jackson Street Palmyra, NY 14522

Phone: 315-597-4293

**Email:** [kb2kby@rochester.rr.com](mailto:kb2kby@rochester.rr.com)

Our next breakfast get together will be Saturday, May 6, at 8am at the Villager Restaurant, 245 S. Main St, Canandaigua. All are welcome. I will send out a notice in mid April.

RACES and ARES

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We will NOT be having a RACES net on Easter Sunday, April 16.

Several of us are meeting monthly (for now) to get the RACES group re-energized. Our next meeting will be on Thursday, April 6 at 9am at the Safety Training Center. All interested parties are welcome to attend. We are looking to step up our game and be

available to be more helpful to the Emergency Management Office. We have radios at all three hospitals in the county, a very good station at the EMO and a work in progress at the Geneva City Hall. If you cannot attend the meetings, but would like to get more involved, please send me an email or contact me at the SIARC meetings or on the air. I usually monitor the 145.450 when I am able.

**To all Active and not so active Ontario County RACES Members!!!!**

We have New Disaster Software to learn and Use!! ( Cool Stuff )

D-Lan training will be starting in April with flexible dates.

If you do not have a user name and password please contact Dave Foster. My email is [ab2wz@aol.com](mailto:ab2wz@aol.com) or call my cell phone and if I can't answer please leave a voice mail with your contact info.

The RACES group is becoming a vital part of the Ontario County Plan and we need everyone to pull together so we can create a wonderful rock solid backup system for our community. It's not just Radio's anymore !!  
The County needs everyone!!

If you are not a RACES member, Please seriously consider it. You don't have to key a mic to play an important part.

Thanks,

73

Dave Foster AB2WZ

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 pages 90 and 91 of the April QST on a useful project. Steve, WB2VMR, is working on our Go-Kits. Contact Steve if you

would like to help. Also, if you are working on any projects yourself, please let us know so we can all become educated with ideas.

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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Welcome to new members, Joe, KD2NAN, and MJ (Mickey) KD2LGM. Be sure to welcome them when you see them or talk to them on the radio.

Norm, WB2GGM, has been in contact with the ARRL and found out there was an upcoming ARISS contact with the International Space Station open in 2018. Because of his work with the Shuttle project a few years ago and helping a teacher he knows in Lancaster, NY, obtain her technician license, he is working with her to get this set up with her school. There will be more information upcoming in the next few months, but I wanted to let you know about it and when you see or talk to Norm, please be sure to ask him about it. Way to go, Norm.

We are still selling raffle tickets at \$10 each for the Kenwood TS120S with power supply and tuner. We are about half way to the number we would like to sell. Please see Tom at the meeting to get your ticket. We will draw at the May meeting. April will be your last meeting to buy a ticket. Help support your club and maybe get a new (to you) rig!

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.

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).

**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.

The ARRL Teachers Institute is taking applications for the upcoming sessions this summer. It is a great opportunity for a teacher interested in using technology in the classroom to get some hands on time with electronics, Ohm's Law, electronic components and simple circuits. See page 88 in the March QST for more information or contact Norm WB2GGM for help on getting a teacher signed up.

Norm, WB2GGM, did an interview about amateur radio on WYSL radio in Avon recently. We will publicize the broadcast of the show as soon as we know the details.

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 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 <sup>th</sup> ) 9pm Monroe County
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	

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## 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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Hello to warmer weather. The public service aspect of the hobby really kicks in this time of year and I do look forward to participating in several events. It gives me a chance to help out, do some radio and work with some great people. The event coordinators and participants all appreciate our being there and we can often provide the first and fastest information to first responders and event leadership. There is a list inside the newsletter and on other clubs websites, so check out to see if you can help. Or, ask me and I can put you in contact with an event.

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.