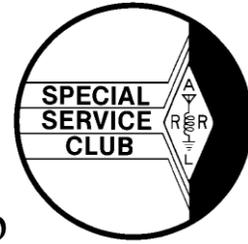




## Squaw Island Amateur Radio Club

Since October 7, 1953



# Smoke Signal

May 2017

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

So this is May? Looks pretty soggy to me. What does this bode for the summer? Time will tell.

Our next meeting on Wednesday, May 10, 2017, at 7:30pm will be at a different location, because of the annual county tax auction. We will be in the **Human Resources Building, 3019 County Complex Drive, Hopewell**, Rooms 204 and 205. This drive is just to the east of CR 48, off of CR 46. The meeting will follow the Laurel VE testing sessions at 6:30pm. Our program will be by Steve, WB2VMR, and he will show off the new Go-Kits he has been working on for RACES. It should be very interesting.

### Past Events

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Our program in April was by Norm, WB2GGM, and he spoke on his journey through amateur radio. It was fun to see the varied types of radios he has used and to hear his stories of operating. Thanks, Norm.

Twelve of us assisted in course communications for the Wild Water Derby last weekend in Shortsville. We had stations at the start and finish lines to assist with timing and scoring and 3 other posts along the way to watch for problems. I don't believe there were any serious mishaps and all made it out of the water safely. Thanks to KC2TCM, KD2GTA, WA2SSJ, WD2STK, KD2BSH, KB2KBY, W2WDS, KA2HQZ, KD2AUH, WB2VMR, KD2DNO and KB2NCI for their participation. One of my highlights was the craft in memory of our late member, Lee Schutt, WA2LEE. He has been remembered in the last 2 events.



## Upcoming Events

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Our next breakfast will be tomorrow, May 6, at a different location. It is at 8am at the **Akropolis Restaurant, 4025 Routes 5 & 20**, just east of Lowes in Canandaigua. All are welcome.

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 7<sup>th</sup> Call Area, Indiana, Delaware, New England, Arkansas, June Kids Day, June VHF contest, Armed Forces Day Crossband Military/Amateur Radio Communications Test (May 13), and many others. See the May QST pages 87 and 100 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 Armed Forces Day Crossband event is a fun way to learn how to use the split frequency function on your HF rig. The amateur transmits on amateur frequencies and listens on the military frequencies. This is perfectly legal! If you go to [usarmymars.org](http://usarmymars.org) you will find all the information you need to operate this event.

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 an organizational meeting planned for Saturday, May 13, at 8:30am at Dennys Restaurant** on Eastern Blvd. in Canandaigua. All are welcome to attend. See the ARRL Field Day locator for details on the location of our event.

The Field Day shirt order is in and will be distributed at the May 10 meeting. Please bring the exact amount for your order or a check made out to me, Tom Sanders. The shirt price is \$10 and the other items are as priced on the ARRL website.

Upcoming events for 2017 include:

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.

## RACES and ARES

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We will not have a RACES net on Mothers Day, May 14, Fathers Day, or Memorial Day weekend.

Several of us are meeting monthly (for now) to get the RACES group re-energized. Our next meeting has not been determined, but will most likely be in early June 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. If you are not getting emails from the Yahoo RACES group, please let me know so we can rectify that. We would need to have a current email address for you.

We are planning a drill on Saturday, May 20 (sorry that this is during the Dayton Hamvention). Scott, N2UMH, will be looking for stations to check in and go to a fire station close to them to send a message using the 145.450 repeater with voice and MT63. The call out will be made with the county HyperReach system, using the contact phone number you have provided. You will then monitor the 145.450 repeater. This event will cover most of the day, but you do not have to be active the whole time. It is primarily to test your ability to communicate from the parking lot area of a fire department near you. We will not be entering the fire house, unless invited by the officer in charge at the time. I will be sending out an email this weekend asking for information from you. Please respond to the email.

## **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.

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.

Also, as a reminder, during times of severe weather, power outages, or other similar events, monitor the 145.450 repeater. There may be a net forming and a need to be met.

Remember that we do not self deploy. We go to sites only at the request of the Emergency Management Office or designee (usually Scott, N2UMH).

## Odd and Ends

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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. Please see Tom at the meeting to get your ticket. **We will draw at the May meeting.** 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.

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.**

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	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
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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I was recently made aware of a situation on HF that is disturbing and is very detrimental to our hobby. There are a few individuals that are transmitting on 7200 kHz or abouts and using very derogatory and unacceptable language. I did not listen long enough to hear any station ID, so I don't know if that is not occurring, but just the nature of the transmissions are enough to make me turn the radio off. The ARRL supports the Official Observer program but the OO can only try to make the offenders change their practice. It is really the FCC that has that authority and they are understaffed to tackle that type of problem without some urgency of complaints. The league is working on some sort of plan to deal with this problem, but in the meantime, if you hear this and can provide the FCC with details of time, frequency, call sign, language, and if they get enough correspondence on this subject, they may have the impetus to act. Ham radio is primarily a self policing radio service, so we are expected to act in accordance with the rules that are set up. Those that don't, should be held accountable.

Again, see you at the Human Resources Building on May 10.

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<sup>[1]</sup> Originally written by Paul M. Segal, W9EEA (1928)<sup>[1]</sup> The Radio  
Amateur is:<sup>[1]</sup>

**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.