



Squaw Island Amateur Radio Club

Since October 7, 1953



## Smoke Signal

July 2017

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

July is independence month (or at least day!) so exert your independence and come to the next meeting.

Our next meeting on Wednesday, July 12, 2017, is at 7:30pm at the Safety Training Center on County Road 48. The meeting will follow the 6:30pm Laurel VE testing session. Our program will be by all of you by doing a show and tell in the parking lot of your mobile/portable radio installation. We will meet outside and move inside after all has been seen. I hope to see you all there.

As a reminder, we will NOT have a meeting in August. Contact me if you would like to host or organize a club picnic. I will not be available for several dates in August, so have at it if you want it to happen.

### Past Events

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Field Day, as W2S, was June 24 and 25 and we had a great time at the Varick Fire Department, set up to take down and all in between. By my count (and I may have missed a couple of people) there were 33 in attendance and that does not count those that stopped by Sunday morning as we were tearing down and missed out on the operating. I believe there were just over 450 contacts made. Don will provide a complete report soon. The weather was great, the food was great, the bands were so-so and the fellowship outstanding. It was very enjoyable to hold this event again with the Drumlins ARC. Many thanks to all who participated but especially to Don, N2VDE, and Rich, KC2TNJ, for their organization of this event for us and

to Mickey, KD2LGM, for his part in securing the location. It worked out very well. See you in 2018, the last weekend in June.

## Upcoming Events

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Our support of the Finger Lakes Challenge Multiple Sclerosis Bike Event is this coming weekend, July 8 and 9, and if you would like to help out on Saturday, I still could use a couple of extra persons. The event starts and ends at Hobart and William Smith Colleges in Geneva and has 3 events on Saturday (30, 62 and 100 miles) and 2 on Sunday (25 and 50 miles). Contact Tom at [kb2nci@arrl.net](mailto:kb2nci@arrl.net) if you would like to be added to the list of volunteers.

Our next breakfast will be Saturday, July 29, at 8am, and I am going to call the new location that Jay and Sabrina suggested, Rays Restaurant, 2510 Rochester Road (Rte 332) in Canandaigua near the corner of Parkside Drive. They liked it and thought it would work out for us. Please let me know by July 21 if you know you are coming so I can alert them to our numbers.

Our **next VE Session** will be held at 6:30pm, on July 12, 2017, and Dave AB2WZ is always looking for Volunteer Examiners. This session will be before the regular SIARC meeting at the Safety Training Center. 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.

Upcoming Contests and Special Events this month include: QSO parties for 10-10 International Spirit of 76, IQRP Quarterly Marathon, IARU HF World Championship, North American RTTY QSO party, ARS Flight of the Bumblebees, and many others. See the July QST pages 82 and 98 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!

Upcoming events for 2017 include:

Bike MS: Finger Lakes Challenge in Geneva, July 8 and 9—contact KB2NCI to help, we could use a few more operators on Saturday.

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 Labor Day weekend.

Several of us are meeting monthly (for now) to get the RACES group re-energized. Our next meeting has not been determined. 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 not working. 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.

**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,<sup>73</sup> 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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September will see our next elections for officers of the club. If you would like to get more involved with the club, contact Tom KB2NCI and he will get your name up for nomination. The current officers have been there for a few years and would like to see some new blood in the mix. All positions are open.

Walt, KC2EM, has an Icom 880H dual band D-Star mobile radio with RT programming software and cable for sale. Asking price is \$300, like new. Contact Walt at [firecop184@gmail.com](mailto:firecop184@gmail.com) if you are interested.

The next Storm Trackers Weather Training net is scheduled for Tuesday, July 25, at 7pm on the WA2AAZ 146.745- (pl 71.9) repeater. John KD2GTA is the Net Control and looks forward to you checking in.

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  
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 3993.5kHz LSB 9am	Thursdays (except 4 <sup>th</sup> ) 9pm Monroe County New York State RACES net Sundays at 9am
146.745- (71.9) WA2AAZ Tuesday 7pm	Storm Trackers Weather Training Net, 4 <sup>th</sup>

### 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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Now is the time to plan your outside antenna projects. Our nice weather season (also known as Road Construction Season) will be gone before you know it. I am planning on installing a 2 meter Ringo that I picked up at the Drumlins Hamfest on the house to give me the capability of installing a radio on the porch on the ground level. It is more fun to watch the weather happen while checking into the repeaters and I will still have my main operating position in the basement. So, tell us what you are working on and how you will enhance your communications.

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.