



## Squaw Island Amateur Radio Club

Since October 7, 1953



# Smoke Signal

August 2016

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

Sad to say that we are into August. Enjoy the rest of the summer and early fall. It is often the best time of the year.

**We will not have a meeting in August.** Our next meeting will be on Wednesday, September 14, 2016 at the Safety Training Center on County Road 48. The meeting will begin at 7:30pm, after the 6:30pm Lauren VE session. The program is tbd.

We will have election of officers for the next year. I encourage anyone with interest in leading the club to come forward and get nominated. All positions are up for election. Let your voice be heard!

### Past Events

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July was a busy month for many of us, beginning with the activation of the ARRL National Parks on the Air at the Women's Rights Historical Park in Seneca Falls on Sunday, July 10. 4 of us put antennas up on the roof of the building on Saturday and then on Sunday at 7am, set up the ground stations to begin operating at 9am. We made 129 HF contacts on 20 meter phone and cw and 17 meter phone by the time we shut down at 2pm. Those participating were: AC2SA, WA2SSJ, N2IZV, KC2TCM, N2EZY, KA2HQZ and KB2NCI. The superintendent was very pleased with the event and insisted we come back next year. A good event to work on.

Next was the Finger Lakes Challenge MS Bike event, which spanned the weekend of July 16 and 17 in Penn Yan. It was a beautiful weekend, without medical or major bike incidents and we just had enough operators to fill the posts. Planning for this event for 2017 will begin in a few months. Those participating from SIARC, Drumlins and RARA were: WB2VMR, N2IZV, WD2STK, KC2TCM, KC2TNJ, WA2SSJ, KD2FRR, KA2HQZ, KD2DNO,

N2EZY, WA2CHV, KB2FSB, N9SBY, W2WDS, AC2SA, KC2YGH, KD2INH (now a silent key), KD2IFF and KB2NCI. I look forward to working with this and a larger crew next year. We used the N2HLT 145.250 repeater in Penn Yan and it worked very well for us, especially when two of our rest stop operators used the cross band repeat functions in their mobile radios. Nice job Jack and Wayne.

Finally, was the Red Cross Run for the Red Twilight 5K and 10K races in Victor on Thursday, July 21. We were described by the Red Cross Lead, as “a safety blanket over the event for them”. Nice words about what we provide at all the events we support. It was another beautiful evening of summer. Those participating were: N2IZV, N2EZY, W2WDS, WB2VMR, WB2GFZ, KC2NM, KC2TCM, WD2STK, K2FV, WB2GGM, W2ACC and KB2NCI.

We can take a much deserved break in August. Thank you to all that helped out.

## Upcoming Events

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The Drumlins ARC will be holding a Lighthouse Field Days in Sodus Point on August 20 and 21. See [www.drumlinsarc.us](http://www.drumlinsarc.us) for details or contact [wdutcher@tkcontrols.com](mailto:wdutcher@tkcontrols.com) for details. Sounds like it will be a fun weekend.

Our **next VE Session** will be held at 6:30pm, on September 14, 2016, and Dave AB2WZ is always looking for Volunteer Examiners. It will be held 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: 10-10 International Summer Contest SSB, North American CW and SSB QSO parties, August UHF contest, QSO parties in Maryland-DC, Hawaii, Kansas, W/VE Islands QSO party, and many others. See the August QST pages 83 and 100 and the WA7BNM website <http://hornucopia.com/contestcal/> for more information.

The **Finger Lakes Triathlon** (our big event we support!) is Sunday, September 11, 2016. After breakfast (usually at Dennys at 0530 on your own), we meet at Schooners around 0630 to get our maps, and assignments then depart at 0700 for stations. The first Intermediate swimmers enter the water at the old Steamboat Landing at 0730 and are usually on the bike course (24.5 miles) around 0800. The Sprint course participants enter after the first wave is done and their bike course is 14 miles. The last part is the run course, which goes along Lakeshore Blvd toward and out and back on the pier. Our part of the event is usually over by 1300. We will need at least 14 operators, (mostly with handheld radio) cover all the posts. **I have a nice start on volunteers, but need several more, so contact me** at [kb2nci@arrl.net](mailto:kb2nci@arrl.net) if you can help. It is a great event for anyone new to public service. This event supports the Mary Gooley Hemophilia Center.

**We will NOT have a meeting in August.**

RACES and ARES

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Scott, N2UMH, is looking for a few mentors for the Emergency Communications on line course that RACES will be supporting. The student does the class on line and there is an on line mentor, but Scott would like some of us to meet with the group on a couple of Saturday mornings to help with any areas of need. Contact him at [n2umh@yahoo.com](mailto:n2umh@yahoo.com) if interested.

If you do not have your Disaster Lan user name and password, contact Dave AB2WZ at [ab2wz@aol.com](mailto: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](mailto:kb2nci@arrl.net) or 585-924-0752.

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

MS Bike Rochester event, August 27, [www.rochesterham.org](http://www.rochesterham.org) click on Public Service  
Finger Lakes Triathlon, Canandaigua, September 11  
Canal Days Parade, Palmyra, September 17, contact [kb2kby@rochester.rr.com](mailto:kb2kby@rochester.rr.com)

Barktoberfest, Lollypop Farm, September 24, see [www.rochesterham.org](http://www.rochesterham.org), click on Public Service

Pumpkin Patrol, October 30 and 31. Contact [kb2kby@rochester.rr.com](mailto:kb2kby@rochester.rr.com)

Wineglass Marathon, Bath, NY, October 2—see [www.ccares.info](http://www.ccares.info) for more information and to volunteer. It appears they will need many hams for this event.

## Odd and Ends

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Earlier, you may have noticed that in the portion about the MS Bike event in Penn Yan, I mentioned that KD2INH was now a silent key. Chris helped us on Saturday for the event at a rest stop and then joined us at the net control station and for dinner at the college afterwards. I guess that his work took him to the roof of the Walgreens store in downtown Penn Yan the following Tuesday and something happened and he passed away while working on the roof. He was a new ham, having only been licensed just over a year, and he attended a couple of our meetings. He was at the last two May meetings at the Human Resources Building. I worked with him at the Tour De Cure this year and he was becoming more active in the hobby. I was saddened to hear of his passing. I don't know of any arrangements or family.

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.

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.**

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.

I see that the Dayton Hamvention will have a new home in 2017. It sounds like the HARA arena is closing. Details to follow in the coming months.

## 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

## 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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September is National Emergency Preparedness Month and the August QST has a very informative Public Service article written by Rick Palm, K1CE. In it he encourages all of us to become involved in our communities and to be prepared to help out in an emergency. It is a good read. Also along those lines, Bill KD2DNO, sent out an email asking all of us to help our public safety personnel stay safe by "Watching their 6" which means to watch their backs. If you see one of them in danger of being harms way, call 911 immediately to get help on the way. At all of the events we work, we should always be on the lookout for the out of the ordinary or unexpected. Even in our sleepy little bergs, bad guys (and gals) exist and the authorities cannot be everywhere. If you see something, say something. Thanks for listening.

Club elections will be occurring in September and if you are interested in running for ANY office, please let me know.

See you at the meeting in September!

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.