



# Skenoh Island Amateur Radio Club

Since October 7, 1953

## Smoke Signal

August 2022

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

Roll out those crazy, lazy, hazy days of summer!! It has been a warm one for sure and we could use some rain, but hopefully not the deluges seen in the southern part of the country. Enjoy August!

We will not be having a SIARC meeting in August. Our next meeting will be September 14 and will be our annual election of officers. Please consider running as ALL positions are open for YOUR club. Our next Laurel VE test session will also be in September.

Please be aware that because of the Russian Invasion, ALL amateur radio activity in Ukraine (UR-UZ, EM-EO) has been suspended.

We continue to hold the Health and Welfare net on the K2BWK 146.820- (110.9) repeater at 8pm, Monday through Friday, (except club meeting nights) so there is ample opportunity to catch up with your friends. We will hit net number 605 TONIGHT! I hope you all can check in.

### Past Events

---

The program for the July meeting was our Annual Parking Lot—Show Off Your Mobile/Portable set up night. It was a very nice night and we solved many ham radio problems (and told a few stories too).

Seven of us assisted the Ironman-Musselman Triathlon event out of Geneva on July 10. It was a warm one and there were over 2400 participants. Our crew covered the three rest/water stops, drove a Sweep vehicle and a SAG vehicle, and operated net control from the Command Center along side representatives of the State Police, Ontario County 911 center and Seneca County Law, Fire and EMS. Problems were minor and bike issues few.

Thanks to the volunteers: KA2HQZ, KD2LGE, KD2LBM, W2ODD, W2SCL, N2UMH and KB2NCI.

I know a couple of our folks have been doing some Parks on the Air activations and operating from your outdoor sites, any reports on the fun you are having? We would all be very interested in hearing from you!

Any interesting or unusual contacts made? What have you been doing with amateur radio? Build anything interesting? Let me know and I can publicize it. And you can always show it off by doing a little program for the club.

### Upcoming Events

---

A number of us will be assisting with course communications for the Phelps Sauerkraut Festival 5K and 20K races on Saturday, August 6 (this weekend). We will be using the WA2AAZ 146.745 repeater, so listen in if you like. This will be a joint effort of SIARC and Drumlins ARC. If you would like to help, but haven't contacted me yet, please do as we can find a spot for you.

Start planning now to be able to assist for Pumpkin Patrol on October 30 and 31. It is only 4 hours from 8pm to midnight. Contact Tom KB2NCI if you have questions or would like to volunteer.

The **next VE Session** is scheduled for September 14, 2022 at 6:30. The testing will be held at the Safety Training Center, 2914 CR 48. Pre-registration is **REQUIRED**. Contact Russ N2IZV at [n2izv@outlook.com](mailto:n2izv@outlook.com) if you would like to be on his list of examinees. He will also need VEs. Thanks to Russ N2IZV and his team for keeping this worthwhile project up and running.

Congratulations to Mark KD2ZLR who passed his General class exam on July 13. Outstanding Mark!! He is a new ham and member from Dundee.

The schedule of test sessions for the rest of 2022 is:

September 14  
November 9

Upcoming hamfests are:

KLARA hamfest, Hornell, August 20

Roc City Hamfest, Macedon, August 27

Northeast HamXposition 2022, Marlborough, MA August 26, 27 and 28

Lancaster, September 10

Elmira, September 25

Upcoming Contests and Special Events this month include: Worldwide Sideband Activity Contest (First Tuesday evening of the month), North American CW and SSB QSO parties, ARRL 222mhz and up Distance Contest, ARRL 10Ghz and up Contest, ARRL Rookie Roundup RTTY Contest, ARRL EME Contest, QSO parties in Kentucky, Maryland-DC, Hawaii, Kansas, Ohio, W/VE Islands QSO Party, and many others. See the August QST pages 70 and 84 and the WA7BNM website. [www.contestcalendar.com](http://www.contestcalendar.com) 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!

**Public Service events** I am aware of at this time for 2022 are the:

MS ROC Great Lakes Experience, Waterport, Orleans County, NY, August 13—see [www.rochesterham.org](http://www.rochesterham.org) to sign up

Wineglass Marathon, Bath to Corning, October 2

Pumpkin Patrol, October 30 and 31

The **Antique Wireless Association** is working on a project to bring amateur radio and all of its fun to school age children by constructing a portable station that could be taken to the students. They are looking for any interested parties to help with this project. Below are their goals for the program:

**Goal:** To introduce and educate children about communication technologies as a component of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) by:

- a. Constructing a self-contained, portable amateur radio station transportable in an enclosed cargo trailer for the purpose of educating and demonstrating to children the basics of wireless communications during good times and in emergencies; and
- b. Supporting a special effort to reach out to our region's underserved rural communities; and

c. Facilitating visits to schools, scouts, libraries, camps, homeschool groups, fairs and public service events; and

d. Supporting AWA's educational outreach efforts, which extend well beyond the AWA campus.

If you are interested, please contact Bob Hobday at [president@antiquewireless.org](mailto:president@antiquewireless.org)

## RACES and ARES

---

We do not have an Admin meeting scheduled for August at this time. Our next scheduled Exercise will be on Saturday, September 17. Information to follow.

We held an evening Admin meeting on July 21 and it was nice to see several faces that usually cannot attend the morning meetings. We talked about the June exercise and how it was helpful for us to open up the Go Kits and practice sending digital messages to each other in the confines of the Safety Training Center and get immediate feedback.

Four of us met the following Sunday at the Hopewell EOC to label the coax runs and check out the HF radio coverage. We discovered that one of the dipoles had both legs not connected so we went back this past Sunday and connected them. The TS2000 was still deaf, so we believe that the issue is also the Balun. Further repairs are in process.

**All RACES members** should have (and know how to access) their Disaster Lan (D-LAN) account. If you have any questions on this, send Scott N2UMH an email at [scott.teresi@ontariocountyny.gov](mailto:scott.teresi@ontariocountyny.gov). In the future, this will be the preferred method of internal communications for the group. And it will be one of our primary tasks to assist the county when needed. Any RACES members **without** a D-Lan log in will be dropped from the active roster in June.

I encourage all of you to check into our weekly RACES/ARES nets, which are on Sundays at 8pm (except around holidays) (you are invited to check into any other net also) and practice those skills that someday you may be called upon to use. They are held on the W2ONT 145.450- (pl 110.9) repeater. We are also looking for additional stations to practice being Net Control and Assistant Net Control. In the event we are called out, having experience as Net Control will be very beneficial. We will be migrating to a more digital usage for the nets. Use of FLDIGI and MT63 will be very important for our mission to assist the Emergency Management Office, but we will be discontinuing the use of FLMSG for our nets and drills, due to the difficulty of keeping everyone on the same version. It

appears that the use of different versions of FLMSG makes receiving the transmission very spotty. If you have ANY questions, feel free to contact me at [kb2nci@arrl.net](mailto:kb2nci@arrl.net) or 585-924-0752 or Scott N2UMH at [scott.teresi@ontariocountyny.gov](mailto:scott.teresi@ontariocountyny.gov) . If you are not a member and would like to become one, please see or contact me. And please let me know if you have a change in contact information. We need to keep it as current as possible.

The New York State RACES net is held each Sunday morning at 9am on 3993.5khz LSB and members are always welcome and to get some more training on HF net operations. The net follows the same procedures that our weekly nets do. A digital message is sent afterwards on 3583.5kHz USB using Olivia 8-500, MFSK 32 and Thor 22. We are in Region 5 (check in is by region) and we are always very well represented. Give it a try!

Monitor the W2ONT 145.450 repeater in times of severe weather or area wide power outages. And if you do not hear anyone, start up an informal net.

## Odd and Ends

---

A few months ago, I asked for some assistance with a couple of areas and these are the folks I tapped.

Technical Committee Chair—Steve WB2VMR

Programs—Sandy KA2HQZ

Publicity—Doug KD2LGE

Please contact them if you would like to assist in their area or have ideas.

A new **RF Exposure Calculator** has been added to the Links on the SIARC website. The calculator was produced by the Lake Washington Ham Club in Redmond, Washington. Check it out and be prepared for the rule change requiring amateurs to evaluate their stations for RF Exposure. Below is the link to the FAQ from the ARRL.

[RF Exposure Calculator FAQ.pdf](#)

For all the new hams, are you aware of QRZ.com? It is a wealth of information on hams WORLDWIDE and carries informative articles, editorials. It is editable by the individual ham so can be updated as often as you like. They also have a logger for your contacts. Check it out!

I would encourage all ARRL members to check out the new publication the League has introduced, "On the Air", aimed at new hams and those experienced hams that have some questions. The July/August issue covers many topics, including articles on the 222mhz band, FT8, public service events and many others. It is available on the website and you may choose to receive the print version or QST with your membership. Your membership allows you to see the digital version of all of their periodicals QST, QEX and NCJ.

Scanner for sale---Contact Stu KD2TWM if you are interested in purchasing a Whistler WS1095 digital scanner. It works, but just not as well with the local simulcast systems. Stu can be reached at [kd2twm@gmail.com](mailto:kd2twm@gmail.com).

## **NEW REPEATERS:**

Dave W2ACC reports that the W2WDS 146.985- (82.5) repeater is up and running in Naples. This is the former frequency for the N2LSJ repeater in Penn Yan. There is also an APRS I-Gate at this site. This repeater is linked to the WB2KAO 444.850+ (110.9) repeater in Greece only on Saturday nights for the Green Eggs and Hams Net.

There is a **new 6 meter repeater** on the air, from Naples. The call sign is W2WDS. It is on a tower site space provided by Dean, W2WDS, and the frequency is 53.110- (pl 82.5). The **440 repeater on the same site**, 442.500+ (82.5) is on the air as well. The 442.500 is linked to the WB2KAO repeater 444.850+ (110.9) in Greece. Many of our members have been getting on the air with 6 meters. Looks like fun. Thanks to Dave W2ACC and Dean for these upgrades.

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. Steve has also started posting the Minutes of the Board Meetings, which will be held at various times throughout the year. 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 click on Useful Links 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.

If you travel, look at [www.repeaterbook.com](http://www.repeaterbook.com) for lots of repeater information. They have an app for your phone that shows repeaters within 50 miles of where you are. And for scanner listeners, go to [www.radioreference.com](http://www.radioreference.com) for nationwide information.

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. Dave's 220mHz 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).

From Dave, W2ACC

"There is a **220 net** on Tuesday night 7:00 pm and three nets on Friday night. 7:00 pm is the Syracuse world net followed by Tech net and the a swap net My 220 is tied into all of them along with KA2NDW and KD2SL

My 900 MHZ repeater is up and running"

927.212	902.212
5	5

With an 82.5 tone

All are welcome

73

Dave

W2ACC

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. He would love to hear from you! You can also send your renewals to me, Tom Sanders at 6310 Gillis Road, Victor, NY 14564 and I will forward to Stan.

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. canceling 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 (\$15) and renewal (\$5) if the club sends it in. See 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

---

STILL GOING---Since March 17, 2020, SIARC has been hosting a Health and Welfare net on the K2BWK 146.820 repeater, nightly at 8pm, Monday through Friday. It is intended as a net for hams to keep in contact with others during the virus situation. It has been lots of fun to participate and hear from so many, and ALL are welcome. We just completed net #604 and have heard from hams in Wayne, Monroe, Yates, Cayuga and Seneca Counties.

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	Sundays at 9am New York State RACES net

## Club/RACES Repeaters

---

K2BWK	146.820- (110.9) Canandaigua
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

W2ONT 147.090+ (110.9) Geneva City Hall  
KD2HVC D-Star 444.300+ Stanley  
KD2HYJ D-Star 444.500 (no offset) Victor hot spot—very local coverage for now

## President's Thoughts

---

Welcome to summer and hopefully some lazy days to enjoy ham radio (after mowing the lawn, of course). It is a wonderful time to get outside and make some contacts with a portable set up and wire antenna. Parks on the Air and other organized events are happening all the time and kick into high gear in the warmer months. A few of our folks have quite a bit of experience getting into the Out There, so ask around for some tips. It is a great way to practice your emergency skills and set up. You can also take a handheld along on summer trips and make some contacts out of your local area. There are lots of small mag mount antennas available to extend your HTs range and it is a good idea to have one anyway. It is also a good time to listen on the local repeaters, as well as 146.520 simplex, for unusual call signs from travelers and it makes them feel more at home. And, you can also assist someone in need.  
See you in September.

Take care of yourself and each other.

Have Fun and Talk Up Ham Radio, Be Safe 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>[L]</sup> Originally written by Paul M. Segal, W9EEA (1928)<sup>[SEP]</sup> The Radio

<sup>[L]</sup> Amateur is:

<sup>[SEP]</sup> CONSIDERATE Never knowingly operating in such a way as to lessen the pleasure of others.<sup>[L]</sup>

LOYAL Offering loyalty, encouragement and support to other <sup>[L]</sup> amateurs, local clubs and the American Radio Relay League, <sup>[SEP]</sup> through which Amateur Radio in the United States is <sup>[L]</sup> represented nationally and internationally.<sup>[SEP]</sup>

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.