



Squaw Island Amateur Radio Club

Since October 7, 1953



Smoke Signal

October 2021

www.siarc.us

Hello and welcome to Fall. September and October are two of my favorite months and usually give us mostly good weather. Last minute outside (antenna!) projects anyone?

Our next meeting will be Wednesday, October 13, 2021 at the Safety Training Center and begins at 7:30pm. The meeting will follow the 6:30pm Board of Directors meeting. Our program will not be able to attend in October so we will see what happens. Any volunteers?

The county has reinstated the MASK mandate for inside of all of their buildings. This applies whether you are vaccinated or not. Please respect our hosts and each other.

We continue to hold the Health and Welfare net on the K2BWK 146.820- (110.9) repeater at 8pm, Monday through Friday, so there is ample opportunity to check on your friends in a safe way. We just hit net number 395! I hope you all can check in.

Past Events

Election of officers was held at the September meeting. The slate for the coming year is:

President—Tom KB2NCI

Vice President—Sandy KA2HQZ

Secretary—John WA2SSJ

Treasurer—Stan WM3D

Board of Directors:

Doug KD2LGE

Dave N2EZY

Wes W2WES

Todd W2ODD

Steve WB2VMR

Many thanks to Ray AB2UY for many years of service as secretary to the club. We will miss seeing you at the meetings. Welcome to Sandy as our new Vice President and for John and Steve to switching roles.

Our program in September was to have been a video for National Preparedness Month on "You are the help until help arrives" but I had a little technical difficulty at the last minute so everyone was forced to endure my soft shoe dance routine. Talk about groans!! The video is still a good one to watch and is available on the Ready.gov website.

I know a couple of our folks have been doing some Parks on the Air activations and operating from your summer campsites, 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.

The Drumlins Hamfest was this past Saturday, October 2. There were a few members of SIARC there and it was good to see many friends. It was a beautiful day so I am sorry for those that could not attend. Vern and Dale both won door prizes.

The Wineglass Marathon was this past Sunday and W2ODD, KA2HQZ, KD2PER and KB2NCI went down to Steuben County to assist the over 5000 runners go from Bath to Corning. It was a bit wet, but there were not any casualties and our help was appreciated. Todd was at the Finish line and the rest us were on the sweep busses to help with communications. We used D-Star and it worked pretty well. I am hopeful more of us can help them out in 2022.

Upcoming Events

The **next VE Session** is scheduled for November 10, 2021 at 6:30. The testing will be held at the Safety Training Center, 2914 CR 48. Pre-registration is **REQUIRED**. Contact Russ N2IZV at rcharris@msn.com if you would like to be on his list of examinees. He will also need VEs. This will be our last VE testing session in 2021. Thanks to Russ N2IZV and his team for keeping this worthwhile project up and running.

Upcoming Contests and Special Events this month include: Worldwide Sideband Activity Contest (First Tuesday evening of the month), QSO parties in Nevada, Arizona, Pennsylvania, South Dakota, NEW YORK, Illinois, Scandinavian Activity Contest, ARRL School Club Roundup, ARRL EME contest, Telephone Pioneers QSO party and many others. See the October QST pages 75 and 82 and the WA7BNM website. 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!

The NYQP team and the Rochester DX Association (RDXA) announce the 2021 NYQP Contest starting on October 16th at 14:00 hours UTC and running until October 17th 02:00 hours UTC (10:00 AM to 10:00 PM EDT on the 16th). SIARC has sponsored a couple of award plaques which will be available again this year. They are NY Mobile CW High power and NY Mobile Multi-One Mixed Mode High Power (in memory of Ernie Brown, K2BWK).

SIARC will be operating a station or two for NYQP on October 16. The location will be at the home of KB2NCI, 6310 Gillis Road (near Cline Road) in Victor and all are welcome to come for set up, operating and take down. We will begin set up around 12:30pm Saturday and operate until about 8pm. Take down will most likely be on Sunday morning. At this time, we have one station and antenna to use but more are welcome, so if you want to bring your own, please do. The more the merrier (as they say). We will be using K2BWK as the call sign and will have a talk in station on the 146.820 repeater.

Pumpkin Patrol is coming up at the end of October. I think there a couple of open spots so if you have not signed up and can volunteer for Sunday, October 31, 8pm to midnight, please let me know and I can put you in contact with Dave KB2KBY who is the coordinator.

RACES and ARES

We are nearing completion of the Linking project at the VA. The Link antenna was installed a couple of weeks ago and the next step is to get the Link radio up there and connected up. When complete, we will be able to link the K2BWK 146.820 in Canandaigua with the W2ONT 442.200 on Gannett Hill (which is already linked to the W2ONT 147.090 in Geneva) to allow for HT coverage in the two largest population areas of the county. Thanks to WB2VMR, KD2OM, W2ACC, KD2PER, KD2LGE, WA2SSJ, N2UMH, K2VJK, for their work on this.

The new Bridgecom UHF analog and Fusion repeater for 442.200 to replace the old equipment on Gannett Hill has arrived. The plan is for this to be installed this month. Since internet is not available to us there, this will be a standalone Analog/Fusion repeater. Thanks to the Emergency Management Office for their support of RACES/ARES in Ontario County.

The Fire Frequency Interference project is still underway. We are monitoring 453.3125mhz for possible digital signals that are interfering with emergency communications. If you hear those digital signals, please note the time, day, your location, what radio and antenna you are using and forward the report to Doug KD2LGE at kd2lge@gmail.com and he will record it. Thanks for whatever you can provide.

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 or 585-924-0752 or Scott N2UMH at ldfask@yahoo.com . 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 get some more training on HF net operations. The net follows the same procedures that our weekly nets do. We are in Region 5 (check in is by region) and 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. Now is a good time to check your station for lightning protection.

Odd and Ends

From the County Administrator's Newsletter:

Sheriff's Office Congratulations to Dispatcher Scott Teresi on his Letter of Commendation in recognition of the creation of electronic files of Police Protocols, which expedites the dispatching of police jobs and ease of use for Dispatchers. Way to go, Scott N2UMH!!

From Dave N2EZY. It is very interesting and informative:

I ran across this course and have watched the first 2 videos. There are five classes on the basics of antenna fundamentals and design here. I thought it might be something to share with the club. I think it's very good so far and is now available for free. It seems geared well to amateur radio operators.

<https://hackaday.io/course/178490-introduction-to-antenna-basics>

73,

Dave N2EZY

The Traffic Circle at Smith Road and CR 46 is now open and the detour has been removed.

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 that amateurs must 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!

A new benefit of ARRL membership:

ARRL Learning Network

Overview: ARRL's Learning Network is a webinar series to help introduce members to the variety of activities and opportunities enjoyed by radio amateurs. These live presentations will be given by member-volunteers, for all members. Like hamfest forums and radio club presentations, the webinars are intended to help participants get more active, involved, and engaged in amateur radio. Presentations are 30-minutes each to accommodate attendee's busy schedules, followed by a 15-minute period for questions-and-answers. For additional information contact ARRL's **Lifelong Learning** department.

Registration & recordings: ARRL members may register for upcoming webinars and view recordings of previous webinars:

> [To register for an upcoming presentation click here <](#)

[> To view recordings of previous sessions click here <](#)

Setup & Support: All participants are advised to confirm that your device is ready to view a webinar prior to each session by following the steps below. For best results we recommend viewing live webinars on a desktop or laptop computer.

- Review **system requirements**
- Perform a **system check**, prior to each session

For technical assistance before or during a presentation:

- Visit GoToWebinar's **online support**
- Call toll-free (833) 851-8340

Webinar Schedule

Working the Pileup

Presented by Ron Delpiere-Smith, KD9IPO

If you have ever had difficulty breaking through a pileup, or if you have ever tried to work a pileup, you will want to join Ron Delpiere-Smith, KD9IPO Vice President from the Chicago Suburban Radio Association and ARRL Assistant Section Manager - Illinois for an interesting and enlightening discussion on working a pileup from both sides of the microphone. Whether it is field day, contesting, special events or that rare DX contact, this is a must-see presentation. Ron will be discussing the aspects of Hunt and Pounce vs Sit and Call, when to use them and some tips and tricks on how to use them. The program is based on a number of real-life experiences from various operating events including the Last Man Standing Special Event as one of the station operators.

Tuesday, October 5, 2021 @ 1:00 pm EDT (1700 UTC)

Using the Raspberry Pi with Ham Radio

Presented by Jason Oleham, KM4ACK

Computers have become an important part of amateur radio. The Raspberry Pi is a low cost, yet powerful computer that can be used for many amateur radio tasks. Jason Oleham, KM4ACK, an avid YouTube content creator, discusses how to use them, why he started using the Pi, and why he developed Build-a-Pi, a script that gets hams up and running quickly.

Tuesday, October 19, 2021 @ 1:00 pm EDT (1700 UTC)

More webinars coming soon!

>> Registration & Recordings <<

ARRL members may register for an upcoming presentation and view previously recorded webinars by **clicking here** to access our registration page.

[> To register & view recordings click here <](#)



Dual Band Antenna installation by Dave KD2VNV. Nice and Safe, Dave!! Have fun.

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 September/October issue covers many topics, including Contest Entry Categories, the Humble S-Meter, Analyzing Antenna Systems, Radiosport and many others.

It is available on the website and you may choose to receive the print version or QST with your membership.

NEW REPEATERS:

Dave W2ACC reports that the KD2NOL 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.

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. 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 and click on Useful Links to find a quick reference. You can also go to www.unyrepco.org and 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 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 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 and 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! While we are not having meetings, you can 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 and renewal 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 #395 and have covered a range of topics and have heard from new hams in Yates and Seneca Counties.

Here is a recent picture of some our group. Paul AA2AV has submitted an article to be published in the October issue of CQ magazine.



145.450- (110.9) W2ONT
 146.685- (71.9) WA2EMO
 146.610- (110.9) N2MPE
 3993.5kHz LSB

Sundays 8pm Ontario County RACES/ARES training net
 Sundays 8:35pm Wayne County RACES net
 Thursdays (except 4th) 9pm Monroe County RACES net
 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—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

September saw our annual election of officers and as you can see, many of the similar suspects are on the list for the upcoming year. It is a good group that is interested in furthering the interests of the club and amateur radio. They bring all license levels and gobs of experience to the table (operating position?). I hope that you will bring ideas and thoughts to them so we can keep moving forward and learning and doing new things. If you have had fun building something or trying a new mode, let us know so we can share in the excitement. Who knows, maybe your project will inspire another to try it.

The time is getting short for doing outside projects in a comfortable way, so be sure to get them planned out and if you need help with a ham radio project, let us know so we can be there. (I am very good at dropping tools, if that expertise is needed). As you saw from Dave's picture, height is not a real impediment to getting an antenna on the house. But you do need to plan ahead for what you need. Contact Dave if you have questions about what he did.

Anyway, have a nice autumn (better than saying fall, I think) and enjoy the outside stuff you need to do.

As stated in the past, we are always looking for programs so contact me if you are able to present to the club, or know someone who could.

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

585-924-0752

Ham Radio: Service, Science, Skill

The Amateur's Code^[L]_[SEP] Originally written by Paul M. Segal, W9EEA (1928)^[L]_[SEP] The Radio^[L]_[SEP] 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.

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.