



Squaw Island Amateur Radio Club

Since October 7, 1953



Smoke Signal

November 2021

www.siarc.us

November? Where did the year go? It is almost time for Turkey and Pumpkin Pie. I hope you can enjoy the time with family and friends.

Remember the Time Change this coming weekend. We will gain back the hour we lost in the spring.

Our next meeting will be Wednesday, November 10, 2021 at the Safety Training Center and begins at 7:30pm. The program will be by Dave KB2KBY on the Enigma Machine. The meeting will follow the Laurel VE testing session at 6:30pm. Russ expects a large turn out of examinees so if you can help as a VE and have not contacted him, please do so.

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 415! I hope you all can check in.

Past Events

Drumlins Hamfest was held on October 2 in Palmyra and it was a very successful event. It was great to see folks out and about again, swapping stories and looking for that can't leave without it finds. The attendance was down a bit but that was to be expected with the circumstances we are in. Good Job to Bill KD2DNO, Rich KC2TNJ and their team. See you in 2022!

Four of us helped with the Wineglass Marathon in Steuben County on October 3. There were around 5000 runners on the course from Bath to Corning. D-Star hot spots were

used to relay the needs to and from the transportation busses and for course communications. SIARC provided four members: W2ODD, KA2HQZ, KD2PER and KB2NCI.

Our October program was by Rich WB2JLR and covered his experience on FT8 and all of the contacts he has made around the world on low power. Very informative and interest sparking. Thanks, Rich.

The NYQP was held on October 16 and SIARC sponsored an HF station. N2EZY, KD2LGE, KD2PER and KB2NCI operated from 1 to 7:30pm at Tom's garage using a multiband dipole up about 15 feet. Here is Dave's submission:

Total Score: 1320

Contacts by Band (All SSB):

80m	3
40m	38
20m	3

NY Counties Worked: 23

States Worked:

NY	34	
PA	3	
FL	2	
IL	1	
KS	1	
ME	1	
RI	1	
DX:	1	Slovak Republic

Farthest QSO: OM2VL
Nearest QSO: WB2JLR

73,
Dave

We had fun and will look for more opportunities to do events like this again.

Rich WB2JLR, had a qso with Dave AB2WZ in Georgia on 80 meters. He said to say HI.

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 annual Pumpkin Patrol public service event was held this past weekend from 8pm to midnight on October 30 and 31. This event covers most Thruway bridges from New York City to the Pennsylvania state line. Amateurs from SIARC and Drumlins and Monroe County observed the bridges in Ontario County to deter vandals. Those participating were: WB2VMR, KC8QXT, KC8QXQ, W1YX, K2DCO, W2ODD, KD2VNV, KD2LGE, WB2RRE, KD2PER, KD2LBM, W2SCL, N2IZV, KD2UEZ, KA1CNF, KD2TWM, WD2STK, KC2TCM, W2WES, KA2HQZ, KD2FCX, KD2AVK, KB2NCI, KB2KBY. Thanks to all who participated.

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), Worldwide SSB activity contest, ARRL CW and SSB Sweepstakes, ARRL EME contest, AWA Bruce Kelley CW 1929 QSO party, Day of the YLs contest, 2 meter Classic Sprint, and many others. See the November QST pages 79 and 83 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!

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 and been installed. 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 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. Now is a good time to check your station for lightning protection.

Odd and Ends

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

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 <](#)

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 #415 and have covered a range of topics and have heard from new hams in Yates and Seneca Counties.

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

A sign of the times has touched little Ontario County. The name of our club namesake has been changed, from Squaw Island to Skenoh Island. The new name means Peace. The term squaw has become derogatory to many people and so New York State and other entities have officially changed the name. Since the club name seems to have been picked nearly 70 years ago to choose a local landmark, I suggest that we change the name of the club to Skenoh Island Amateur Radio Club (still is SIARC). We will discuss this in the general meeting on November 10 so please think about it a bit and be prepared to offer your thoughtful ideas.

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^[1] Originally written by Paul M. Segal, W9EEA (1928)^[1]The Radio

^[1]Amateur is:

^[1]CONSIDERATE Never knowingly operating in such a way as to lessen the pleasure of others.^[1]

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.