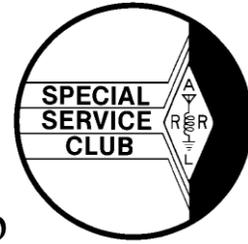




Squaw Island Amateur Radio Club

Since October 7, 1953



Smoke Signal

December 2016

www.siarc.us

Hello to December. Does not really feel like it, but I am confident we will get winter soon enough. I think I am finally ready for it to come as the wood is all set and the winter tools are in their place. I hope you are ready too!

Our next meeting will be on Wednesday, December 7, (a week earlier than usual, this month) at 7:00pm at the Antique Wireless Museum, 6925 Routes 5 & 20, Bloomfield. We will meet at the main building on the south side of the highway, not the north side as last year. This will be our holiday party and the club will provide pizza and soft drinks. Please bring a dish to pass, your choice, and your table service. We will have a couple of raffle gifts too. See you soon! We will also be selling \$10 raffle tickets for the Kenwood TS 120 and power supply that was donated to the club a while back. It was recently repaired at the AWA so as far as I know, it works fine and would be a great starter rig to get into HF. When we sell 40 tickets, we will do the drawing. See me at the meeting.

Past Events

We had one new technician and general awarded at the November VE session. Passing the Technician exam was Carl King, KD2MFQ from Ithaca and the General exam was Andy Mussack KD2JZP of Penn Yan. Say hello when you hear them on the air. Thanks to Dave AB2WZ and his VE team and for all their successes this past year. It is a great service provided to the community.

See the November Smoke Signal for the reports on the WRECKIT drill.

Upcoming Events

This coming Saturday, December 3, is the annual **Skywarn Recognition Day** and there will be a few of our locals heading to the Buffalo National Weather Service office to operate. Rich KC2TNJ and John KD2GTA will be going and have some room for those that want to ride along. They will be coming back mid afternoon. Contact Rich at tinker@rochester.rr.com for details. For more details on the event see <http://www.wrh.noaa.gov/mtr/hamradio>.

Also this coming Saturday, the **Ham-O-Rama**, sponsored by the Lockport ARA will be held at the Iron Workers Union Hall, 196 Orchard Park Road, West Seneca, NY. See www.lockportara.us for details. Those going to the Skywarn event may want to take this in as well.

ARRL Kids Day is Saturday, January 7, 2017 (not January 8, as I thought) so I hope that those that expressed interest in helping out can still do so. They are: AC2SA, KD2GTA, WA2SSJ, WB2VMR and KB2NCI. All others are welcome to join us. We have room 1 at the Safety Training Center from 9am to 5pm and we will begin set up of some HF and a VHF station then. I plan on having breakfast at 8am in Canandaigua, so please join me. The event officially starts at 2pm, but that is really too late for us to begin (as we need to break down before dark) and therefore, we will begin operating once set up. There are always hams on the air, so contacts should not be an issue. Please invite kids you know to come and learn about Ham Radio. There will be more planning during December. Contact me if you would like to help out.

Our **next VE Session** will be held at 6:30pm, on January 11, 2017, and Dave AB2WZ is always looking for Volunteer Examiners. It will be held at the **Safety Training Center**. Contact Dave at 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 for testing or to help as a VE.

Upcoming Contests and Special Events this month include: ARRL 10 meter contest, International Naval Contest, ARRL CW Rookie Roundup, AWA Bruce Kelly 1929 QSO Party, ARRL Straight Key Night, and many others. See the December QST pages 73 and 101 and the WA7BNM website <http://hornucopia.com/contestcal/> for more information.

The **January 11 meeting will be our annual Club flea market**, so get together any items you would like to sell and bring some cash so you can bring home some new goodies.

We will be having our **next breakfast get together** on Saturday, January 28, 2017 at the Villager Restaurant in Canandaigua. Mark your calendars for 8am. More information will be out in January.

RACES and ARES

We will begin planning for RACES members to take the ARRL EmComm course on-line. It is a course that goes through all aspects of Emergency Communications and Ontario County RACES will cover the cost for members. I would like for us to do this course in the first quarter of 2017, so please let me know if you are interested. I have heard from a couple, but everyone interested should contact me at kb2nci@arrl.net to get on the list. I am 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 I would like some of us who have taken the course to meet with the group on a couple of Saturday mornings to help with any areas of need.

If you do not have your Disaster Lan user name and password, contact Dave AB2WZ at 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 or 585-924-0752. Only 3 more for 2016.

Odd and Ends

I just today heard from Dale, KB2TNL, a former member of ours that moved to Tennessee. Here is his email:

We are all doing fine. Unpacked but can't remember where I put things. Radio's are set up, 2m and 440 antenna is up. I am able to check in to the "old gogers net, 146.910. Have not met many ham operators yet. Have been real busy getting the house set up the way we want it. Almost done! The weather is fantastic, warm but nice. The fires are about 250 miles south east of us and that area is dry! The high peek mountains are bone dry. This weeks bad weather & high winds are south of us. We got needed rain but little wind. I never realized so many people live in the mountains, narrow roads and back in. Hope all is going well with the radio club. Send my best wishes to everyone. 73
Dale, KB2TNL

You can contact Dale at dhansen@twlakes.net

As you are aware, the fires in Tennessee have caused major chaos in the area and if you read the ARRL website, you will see that there has been some requests for amateur radio assistance for shelter communications in the area. That need could present itself here at some point and would we be ready? Even if we are not needed to assist local agencies, cell phone coverage may be impacted and the local repeaters could be your best way to keep in touch with others. These types of scenarios continue to occur and it seems with increasing frequency. Check out your readiness.

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 and select Ham Radio 101 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.

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 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.

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.

Do you like programs? So do I but we do run out of ideas. If you have an idea for an interesting program, please contact the speaker (or present it yourself) and see me about scheduling it. I am sure with all the membership and varied interests, we can find some programs.

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

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

Club/RACES Repeaters

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

As more holidays approach, I am reminded out how fortunate we are to live in this area. It is fairly safe from natural disasters, has a lot of beautiful scenery and a stable economy. The cost of living is reasonable (although our regulations can be a bit much some times) and we have a very robust amateur radio community. The club is healthy, has a wide variety of interesting members and is very supportive of each other. We work well with our other clubs and help out at a number of events to support our community. Let us continue to move forward as a club and in our radio knowledge.

See you at the meeting and I wish you and your family a very Merry Christmas and holiday season! Be safe out there!

Have Fun and Talk Up Ham Radio 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 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.

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.