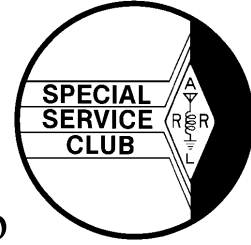




Squaw Island Amateur Radio Club  
Since October 7, 1953



## Smoke Signal

August 2013

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

### Happy Birthday to SIARC

Greetings to August. It has been a pretty uneventful summer so far weatherwise for us in Ontario County. We have had more than an average stretch of rainy weather to keep things green and growing (still mowing 1 to 2 times a week) but so far pretty nice. Just one week of daily temps a above 93 or so. And I was out of the area! Missed it here, but not where we were in New York City. I will take this as we will be into cooler temps soon enough.

Welcome to our newest members: Scot Kolsin., KD2ELB and Michael Friedland, KD2EHU. Look and listen for them.

### Past Events

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Scott, N2UMH, gave a nice talk on **digital modes in July**. Many of those modes are being used in EmComm and other amateur uses. It is hard not to hear of digital something or other every day, either in ham or regular communications. Our own RACES shack has several digital modes available. We will hear more about them in the coming months.

We supported the second annual **Red Cross 5K run** around Canandaigua on Thursday evening, July 25. We had 8 hams (6 on the course and 2 at Thompson Hospital for Net Control). The event went off without a hitch. I am sure we will be needed again next year.

Dave, KB2KBY, sent a nice **report of the Field Day** event with Drumlins. Looked like a great work-together event. Thanks to the organizers from both clubs. Thanks, Dave  
SIARC-DARC FIELD DAY- BIG SUCCESS

Yes-Field Day (FD) was a great success at the Palmyra VFW pavilion! FD may be fun but FD is a good preparedness skill for RACES-ARES. Yes! The idea is to use emergency power for communications. You can't get any closer to the 'name' EmComm- Emergency Communications than FD. It is a big part of our 'mission' in RACES-ARES supporting the public and government agencies which is entrusted to you RACES-ARES members. So it is great to see that FD was the event to be happy with this year.

Happy FD seems like be silly way to express FD. It is a serious occasion as we are testing our ability to have emergency power via a generator to operate equipment and antennas in a 'when all else fails' situation. As a QRP/P (Lower power HF portable), person, I do this all the time working with simple wire or vertical antennas and usually using battery power. FD is a more 'aggressive' response with big wire antennas, towers-this case a military tower, and a beam brought out of the DARC 'archives' after a good hiatus and a first time FD use by SIARC. The DARC tri-bander FD beam hasn't had a workout in more than 25 years. I know as I have been there the last times the beam was used. The poor 'girl' needed some help, but in true FD fashion the crew did a excellent job bringing her back to life. Of course that is FD is all about! This kid is of little help with that stuff. So I thankful for the crew that gathered.

This year's FD was the biggest effort to date for SIARC & DARC working together and the cooperation is commented. Thank you to SIARC's Don, N2VDE; and DARC's Rich, KC2TNJ and Jay, KC2TCM for organizing the FD event. A special thanks is need for KC2TNJ for all all the food-drink coordination, as we all know we need sustenance to keep going at the various positions. I know just what it takes to get my QRP/P for 'fun' going and the planning for the FD's three positions with all the antennas, gear, coax, rope, etc., etc., etc.-wow! It ain't easy! So when you see anyone of these three guys with an eyeball QSO, thank them!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Take a look at the pictures attached for some of the fun. Hopefully next year's 2104 FD we can work together on FD for a bigger and more fun filled time. With the SIARC & DARC meetings we'll find out the official results.

I do want to thank WB2VMR, Steve, for saving my poor body from a fall. While going back to my van for a return trip for FD 'stuff' I was only using one of my hiking sticks. I hit the uneven ground and started falling backwards. Ooops! Now Steve is a big frame chap as you well know who could be a good football front line guy. (What do you call them? I don't know one end of a football from the other. I only played in the pep band for football games.) Luckily I fell into Steve and he saved me from an embarrassing moment picking myself up from the ground. These days with the 'pretend' knees I can't get on my knees to help get up. Believe me, it is not a pretty sight seeing KB2KBY get up with his intelligence, a.k.a. butt, sticking up in the air. Thanks, Steve! When I had to hit the porta-potty on Sunday I kiddingly told Steve I was using both sticks and wouldn't need him this time. Hi hi!

The Palmyra VFW location worked out very well even with the heat and sticky WX. SIARC and DARC, let's do this FD together again. The best part is hams are hams wherever we get together and the two clubs members just pitched in hand in hand easily and with no big formality. It was great to see the cooperation and coordination like it was the same two hands of one body. You can be proud of yourselves SIARC and DARC.

73 & 88, Dave KB2KBY  
SIARC Liaison /DARC















## Upcoming Events

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Contests and Special Events this month include: QSO parties in North America, Maryland-DC, Dominican Republic, Hawaii, Kansas, Ohio, the ARRL Rookie Roundup Digital and many others. See the August QST page 73 or the WA7BNM website <http://hornucopia.com/contestcal/> for more information.

The **Finger Lakes Triathlon will be held Sunday, September 8**. This annual fundraiser for the Hemophilia Society is always well attended and lots of fun. I believe there were over 1200 participants last year. Our day starts at 6am for those that want to meet at Dennys in Canandaigua for breakfast then we meet around 7am for assignments and move into position. We will need 12 or more operators to do this right and all hams are welcome. If you don't have a handheld or mobile rig, don't let that stop you from participating—we will have loaners to use. Our part usually raps up by 1pm so you have the rest of the day to relax or do home projects. Please contact Scott [n2umh@yahoo.com](mailto:n2umh@yahoo.com)

or Tom [kb2nci@arrl.net](mailto:kb2nci@arrl.net) if would like to help out. You can see [www.fingerlakestriathlon.org](http://www.fingerlakestriathlon.org) for details on the event.

A reminder that **dues are payable in September** for the next club year. \$10 per year, \$14 for family or \$100 for Life membership. See Stan to pay your dues.

Our celebration of the **club's 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary special event station and picnic** will be on **August 17** at the home of Steve, WB2VMR, in Farmington. The address is 6129 County Road 41 (Boughton Hill Road). **Thank you so much to Steve and Nancy.** We had a preliminary planning meeting recently and we are well on the way for a successful event. We will have 3 to 4 HF stations, a couple of VHF/D-Star stations, lots of food (picnic pot luck dinner in the late afternoon) and great friendship to enjoy. All you will need to bring is a dish to pass for dinner, a chair and some snacks for consumption during the day. We will plan on doing a lot of the set up on Friday, August 16 and begin operating from 9am Saturday to early evening. I will be sending out an email this week to get an idea of those coming and what they are bringing. This will be a fun day so plan on being there as much as you can. The event, but the picnic portion especially, will be open to your family. Please invite any former members of the club you know to attend also. Call or contact me with any questions or suggestions.

September is the month for club elections. All positions are open and we would encourage all members to get involved with **YOUR** club. We will take nominations from the floor at the September 11 meeting.

Odds and End

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Please be sure to inform Stan WM3D and Tom KB2NCI if you change your preferred email address, or other changes in your contact information.

A reminder to renew your ARRL membership thru 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.

See the Radio Reference website at [www.radioreference.com/apps/db/](http://www.radioreference.com/apps/db/) for interesting information on all sorts of radio related items. There are areas for public service, ham radio and live feeds for all over the country. It is fun to watch the changes in public service frequencies as all agencies ramp up for the new requirements to conserve bandwidth, and it helps you listen to our fine emergency services personnel. I have



programmed my digital scanner with the new frequencies, but have heard very little activity. Does anyone have any other information?

September is the next month (every odd month) that **SIARC offers VE license testing**. The session begins at 6:30pm and please contact Dave AB2WZ at [d1161f@aol.com](mailto:d1161f@aol.com) to preregister. Dave is also always looking for additional hams (at least general class) to be VEs.

RARA is offering license classes beginning September 10. See <http://www.rochesterham.org/LicCourses.htm> for details. I am going to see about taking the Extra class this fall. Any others?

### Nets

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145.450 (110.9) W2ONT      Sundays 8pm    Ontario County RACES/ARES training net  
146.685 (no tone) WA2EMO    Sundays 8:45pm Wayne County RACES net  
146.610 (110.9) N2MPE      Thursdays (except 4<sup>th</sup>) 9pm Monroe County ARES net  
3993.5 kHz LSB State RACES net    Sundays 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  
W2ONT 147.090+ (110.9) Geneva City Hall

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## President's Thoughts

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As the end of summer (say it ain't so, Joe) approaches, I hope you have had time to recharge your personal batteries with vacation, family or just plain enjoying the beautiful evenings we have been blessed with recently. Schools are getting ready for the return of students and those without kids at home are looking forward to being able to vacation without the larger crowds. We all have things to be thankful for and one of mine is amateur radio. I have many good friends that I have met this way and I can keep in contact with them in a little different way. I don't use face-twit or other common social media methods. I like calling out on HF and repeaters to see who is there. I like not being part of the herd. I think you do too. As we approach the celebration of our club's founding and new year, I hope you will take the time to reach out to your friends, known and unknown, and connect. Someone is always there.

Have a great summer, Have Fun and Talk Up Ham Radio.  
73, Tom KB2NCI

### 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