



SIARC Smoke Signal

June 2011

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Our next regularly scheduled meeting is on Wednesday June 8, 7 P.M. at the PSTF. The meeting will start off with a DVD about D-STAR from the ARRL Atlantic Division webinar. The club will then discuss and vote on whether SIARC will purchase and maintain a D-STAR repeater (see details in the special meeting report). The other special business item will be the final plans for Field Day. For those interested in D-STAR applications for Em-Comm there will be a live webinar broadcast after 9PM that we will show on the big screen.

Special Meeting Report: on Sunday May 29 a special meeting was held to discuss a special promotional offer from ICOM. This offer would allow SIARC to purchase a D-STAR repeater directly from ICOM. The club would then be reimbursed the purchase price of the repeater if it met specific conditions within a 90 day time frame. This is an excellent opportunity for SIARC to provide a new service to the amateur radio community in the area. At the special meeting the directors and officers of SIARC decided that the club has the means to purchase and maintain a D-STAR system (it would be the first in the area). This issue will be presented to the membership at the regular meeting on June 8 for approval. The details of the ICOM D-STAR infrastructure promotional offer were sent in a previous E-mail and posted on the Ontario Ham Radio Yahoo! group.

The **ARRL Field Day** event is from Saturday June 25 to Sunday the 26th. SIARC will participate this year from the new ARES/RACES repeater and operations site at City Hall in Geneva. Final details will be discussed at the June 8th meeting. Contact our Field Day 2011 coordinator Don Smith, N2VDE with any questions.

There will be a **Laurel VE exam** session Saturday June 25 at our 2011 Field Day site (City Hall Geneva). This is a great opportunity to get a family member or friend into ham radio. There is plenty of time for them to prepare for the exam and Field Day event will give them a chance to get on the air and feel the fun and excitement of our hobby.

August Meeting: traditionally our August meeting is a picnic or other fun event with members, family, and friends. We are looking for ideas and locations for this years get together.

SIARC has been very active this year with our members participating in numerous events over the first half of the year. Below are some of the highlights:

4H Event, March 12 at the Midlakes School

SIARC participates in the 4H event every year. Here is the report from KB2NCI that he posted on the Ontario County Ham Radio Group.



KB2KBY, Jay KC2TCM,

Hello to all,
I just wanted to update you on the great 4H Expo event that happened yesterday at Mid Lakes High School. Several member of SIARC gave a ham radio demo to several youngsters from the local area (we had 2 sessions of 6 participants each) in which we gave a brief introduction to ham radio and they got to learn how to send their names and other characters in CW, speak over IRLP to Manchester, England, and over HF to Florida and Oklahoma. We were even able to contact K5USA (remember AB2WZ's story a few weeks ago?). And, John brought his hand held beam and was able to hear an OSCAR satellite, but not contact it Maybe next time! Norm made a cw contact on his extension cord antenna. One of our kids was even in the classes last year, so it was nice to have her back again.

.... many thanks to Steve WB2VMR, Dave

Dale KB2TNL Norm WB2GGM and John WA2SSJ for all of their help, equipment and enthusiasm. We could not have done it with out all of our efforts. Plans will begin soon for next years event.

73 and Talk Up Ham Radio!
Tom KB2NCI

In the past SIARC worked the **Wild Water Derby** held in Shortsville. Like SIARC the Derby faded away for a while and came back strong. This was our second year of our renewed participation at this fun filled event. Normally held in April the Wild Water Derby was delayed until May 21st this year do to dangerous water levels in the outlet. Also beginning this year the event will be held on Saturdays instead of Sundays. This year Vern N2YZS, Dale KB2TNL, Steve WB2VMR, Dave AB2WZ, Lee WA2LEE, and Scott N2UMH used the Winlink 2000 packet RMS station W2ONT-10 to exchange raft times and information. Larry N2MLH was present with the Ontario County Water Rescue Team and stayed in touch with net control on the 146.820

The **146.820 has been linked to echolink**. The link radio currently resides at the Ontario County EMO. In echolink connect to N2UMH-R or node # 578574. I will try to keep the link up as much as possible. Currently we are using the TS2000 at the EMO as the link radio. W2ONT 145.450 is also on echolink. Connect to AB2WZ-R. This link is ran out of AB2WZ's home. Using echolink you can connect to repeaters and other halls from all over the world.

In **ARES/RACES news** there has been a lot of development and activity. The Geneva repeater is almost up. The hardline has been run into the wiring closet and Steve KD2OM has been retuning the repeater and programming the controller. ARES/RACES also has a new operating room in City Hall Geneva on the 2nd floor. Equipment for the room has been ordered and most of it has arrived. This operating position/room will have close to the same functionality as the W2ONT room at the EOC.

Wrap up from N2UMH

Just like the news on the economy the answer about how our hobby is doing and how its future looks depends on who you ask. In my opinion I see many opportunities for amateur radio to grow and remain an interest to future generations. I see SIARC playing a central role in our area keeping the interest up from providing VE exams to bring in new hams to helping existing hams explore the areas of the hobby they are interested in. No matter what mode of communication used you need some one to communicate with. SIARC is that group of friends that you can talk to whether using a home brew qrp transmitter on CW or a new experimental mode (within the FCC rules of course!) As a club we help one another achieve our personal goals in the hobby and give back to our community through public service and educational programs.

I would like to remind everyone of the Ontario County Ham Radio Yahoo! Group ran by AB2WZ. It is a place to chat, exchange ideas, and ask for help about any area of amateur radio. You can join the group at:

http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Ontario_County_Ham_Radio/