



Squaw Island Amateur Radio Club



November 2011

Today (Saturday) is about the same temperature at the last newsletter, but just very overcast with a prediction of snow (oh, no!). Hope it holds out as we have Halloween soon and don't want to keep the goblins inside.

Our next meeting will be on Wednesday, November 9, at the Ontario County Safety Training Center on County Road 48 at 7pm. All interested parties are welcome. Scott, N2UMH, will do a presentation on the equipment in the EOC station and how to use it. We have a lot of great stuff and I for one know little about how to use it.

Past Events

We had 11 get together for breakfast on the 15th at Polimeni's. The food and fellowship were great and I look forward to the next one in January, 2012. Hard to believe we are that close!

Dave AB2WZ and Steve KD2OM gave us a brief presentation on the D-Star repeater and how to get started. There is plenty of help out there so jump in, the "airwaves" are fine. There will be more talks in the coming months. Two sites to check out are www.dstarusers.org and www.dstarinfo.com.

If anyone participated in the CQ Worldwide Sweepstakes this past weekend, please let us know how you did and what bands you worked.

The Pumpkin Patrol was this past weekend and Dave KB2KBY was very pleased with the turnout of operators. He had enough so that no one had to work both nights. Thanks to all who helped keep our section of the Thruway bridges safe. Thanks Dave for organizing.

Upcoming Events

Our Christmas party will be Wednesday, December 14 at the AWA Media Center in Bloomfield. Stay tuned for further announcements.

The ARRL Sweepstakes are in November, CW is the 5th and 6th and SSB is on the 19th and 20th. I would like to have us try to operate on Sunday, November 20 at the EOC station and do a little clean up of the equipment we have had donated. We can erect a couple of dipoles using the holes installed by the county on the grass. Nothing big, just get together and operate and learn the equipment.

Skywarn Recognition Day is December 3 and although I have not heard directly, I am sure the Weather Service office in Buffalo will be on the air. Steve WB2VMR and I have gone a couple of times to help with the operation and it is a good time. You get to see the office, meet and operate with some hams from outside our area and the food is good too. At this time, I am planning on going for few hours, so maybe we can get some of us to go and support the office.

ARRL Kid's Day is scheduled for Sunday, January 8, 2012 and maybe we can put up a station in a public place (maybe the Victor Library) to stir up some interest in kids. Lets think about it.

Odds and Ends

You probably know, but 10 meters is fun again. I have made several contacts recently, notable for me is Russia, Norway and this morning, Morocco with a portable on IOTA MOR012. Have fun and get on the air.

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.

Nets

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 (new repeater)
146.610 (110.9) N2MPE	Thursdays (except 4 th) 9pm	Monroe County ARES net
3993.5 kHz LSB	State RACES net	Sundays 9am

Officer Biography

Jim Wagner-KB2RPV

I was licensed in 1994 as a Technician and currently hold a General class license.

My interest in Amateur Radio developed while I was in grade school when a neighbor gave me a Heathkit shortwave receiver that he had built. I spent many hours listening to the stations I could hear trying to figure out where they were from. I then was briefly involved in the Amateur Radio club at my junior high school that was run by Ron Roach W2FUI. He helped develop my interest in the hobby although I didn't pursue being licensed until well beyond school years. I am thankful to him for sharing his interest with us.

The hobby holds many interests for me including DX, special event stations, satellite, antenna building, Emcomm, and rag chewing on the HF and VHF bands. I am fascinated with the descriptions and accounts of life from operators I talk with around the world. I also enjoy the participation of being a part of an organization and its leadership. I am appreciative that I was able to be a part of the effort to get SIARC operating again after its hiatus and serve as its President for the first two years.

I am the father of three girls (Jessica, Amanda, and Jenna). I am engaged to Jamie Block who has a son of her own (Cameron). We reside in Farmington where I have taken over a room for my ham shack and instruments. I have many interests to keep me busy including playing drums and guitar in my church's band, photography, cheering my middle daughter, Amanda, on in the Victor field band and drum line, and chasing my two year old, Jenna, around the house teaching her musical rhythms. My oldest, Jessica, is off to college to become an attorney. The workday is comprised of managerial work at Manitou Concrete where I am in charge of the concrete plants.

If I had it my way, daily routine would consist of talking on the radio, playing music, riding my motorcycle, and taking pictures until Jamie came home from her office then having a nice dinner and taking the kids for ice cream.

73, Jim

President's Thoughts

I am excited when I think about the direction the club is taking. The board and I want to make the club fun and a great learning experience. We have a great deal of knowledge floating around us and I hope each one of us can contribute that to the group.

This past weekend, saw us dodge another weather bullet, but our neighbors to the east were not so lucky. Many thousands are without power and it reminds us to prepare ourselves and families for the possibilities. We as amateur radio operators have an obligation as part of our licenses to help out in emergencies of this sort and the ARES/RACES leadership is there to help us do that. Contact Scott N2UMH or Bill WA2UKX for further information on how you can be part of it

See you at the next meeting and on the air. And remember to Talk Up Ham Radio.

73, Tom KB2NCI