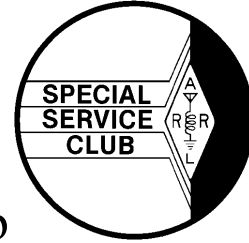




Squaw Island Amateur Radio Club

Since October 7, 1953



Smoke Signal

April 2020

www.siarc.us

Oh, what a difference a couple of weeks make. We went from planning our warm weather activities to planning how we will spend our time (most of it anyway) inside our homes. At least we are resilient group! Covid-19 is sweeping our nation and the globe and we don't know when it will end and allow us to resume normal lives. Time will tell. In the meantime, Stay Safe.

We will NOT have a meeting in April and I will let you know about May and beyond. The Safety Training Center where we meet has been closed to the public until further notice so please do not go in there unless you have a special reason to enter or there is a call out.

Past Events

Our program in March was by John WA2SSJ and was about your Ham Radio estate planning. It was very informative and gave us much food for thought. Have you started your inventory yet? Thanks, John.

Upcoming Events

We were going to use the EOC HF station for the Rookie Roundup on April 19, but due to the Covid-19, that is cancelled. I imagine the event will still go on using the HF bands, so if you can participate as a rookie or not, try to get on the air and hand out some QSOs. It should be fun either way.

See page 87 of the March QST for information. The following is the League's definition of what a Rookie is:

- **How is A Rookie Defined?-**

In the Rookie Roundup, a Rookie is defined as having been first licensed in the current calendar year or the previous two calendar years, regardless of license class.

New for April 2017 and after: If you were licensed before the referenced period, you can also be a Rookie if you haven't made any contacts on the contest mode (SSB, CW, or RTTY) before the Rookie Roundup contest (if you qualify as such, send the current year in your exchange). Either of these reasons qualify you as a Rookie for just one year.

The following is a list of CANCELLED events that I am aware of. If there others, please send the information to me and I can send it to the group.

Wild Water Derby, Shortsville

Drumlins Hamfest, Palmyra

AWA Spring Meet and all activities at the AWA Museum

RARA Hamfest

The AWA will be holding its Annual Conference. See below:

It will be held Tuesday August 11 through Saturday August 15 at the RIT Inn and Conference Center in Henrietta, NY (Rochester area).

The theme for this year's conference will be "The Evolution of Amateur Radio".

In addition to program sessions (including by the ARRL), an equipment auction, flea market, equipment contest and book fair are also scheduled.

Tickets before August 1st are \$60. Tickets after will be \$65.

More information at: <http://www.antiquewireless.org/annual-convention.html>

Best,

Criss Onan

Antique Wireless Association Conference Chair

Our **next VE Session** is scheduled for the May 13, 2020, meeting at 6:30pm. If this session occurs, it will be at the Ontario County Human Resources Building, 3019 County Complex Drive, Canandaigua (off of CR 46). Contact Russ at rcharris@msn.com if you can help. At least 3 examiners must be present, General or Extra Class. Having an Extra Class allows you to score for all three levels. Remember that the testing sessions occur on the meeting nights of the ODD months. There is complete information on the SIARC website.

Upcoming Contests and Special Events this month include: QSO Parties in Nebraska, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, New Mexico, North Dakota, Georgia, Michigan, Ontario, Parks on the air from Florida and Texas, North American SSB Sprint, ARRL Rookie Roundup, and many others. See the April QST pages 71 and 82 and the WA7BNM website. <http://hornucopia.com/contestcal/> 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!

The 2020 Field Day event with Drumlins is scheduled for June 27 and 28. The location has not been nailed down but we have the Hopewell EOC reserved just in case another location does not materialize. Contact Don, N2VDE, with questions.

RACES and ARES

The RACES drill and training activities scheduled for March were all cancelled. Hopefully, we can reschedule for later dates. We are still having our weekly RACES training nets.

Public Service events that I know of (or believe I have the correct dates for) are as follows:

Wild Water Derby, Shortsville, April 25---CANCELLED

Tour de Cure, Webster, June 13

Musselman Ironman Triathlon, Geneva, July 18 and 19

Bike MS Roc the Ride, Rochester, September 12

Wineglass Marathon, Bath, October 6

Pumpkin Patrol, Ontario County, October 30 and 31

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. If you have ANY questions, feel free to contact me at kb2nci@arrl.net or 585-924-0752. If you are not, and would like to become a member of RACES/ARES, please see or contact me.

Monitor the W20NT 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.

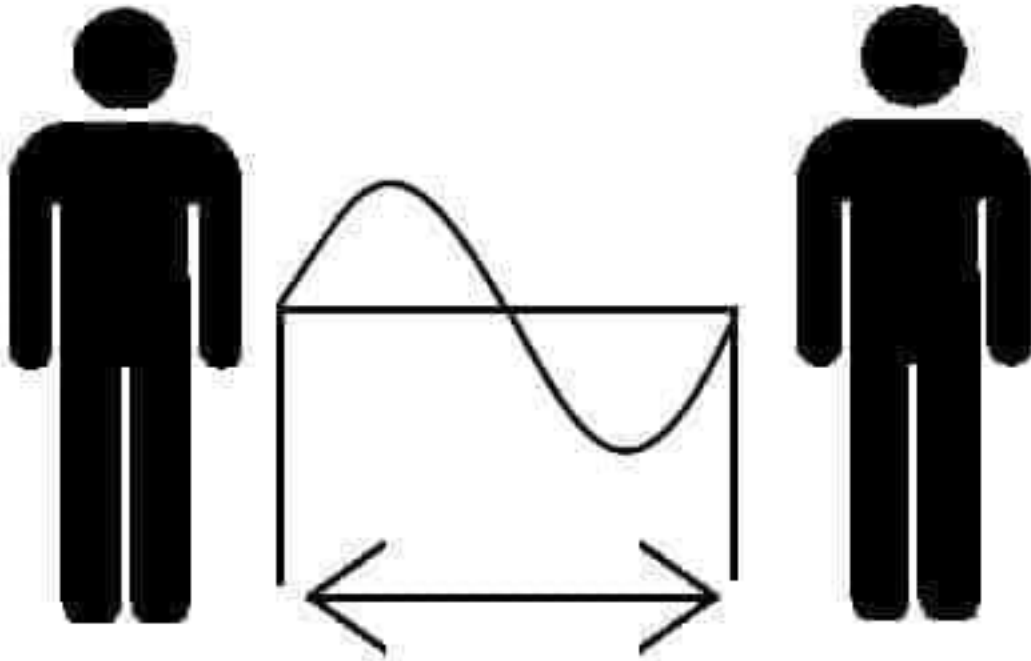
I will have the **magnetic signs for ARES use** during public service events (runs, walks, etc) at the **May** meeting. They are \$10 each and payable with cash or checks made out to SIARC.

Odd and Ends

SIARC is sponsoring a nightly (except Sundays) Health and Welfare net open to ALL amateurs at 8pm on the K2BWK 146.820- (p 110.9) repeater. It began March 17, will continue through the Covid-19 situation. We have had check in counts of 18 to 23 and from Ontario, Wayne, Monroe, Seneca and Yates counties. Check in and hear from your friends and those that can become your friends.

Saw this around and Todd W2ODD sent it to me,

Social Distancing



**Keep one wavelength
apart at 146.52 MHz**

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 current issue covers many topics, including the 2 meter band, feed line questions, Severe Weather Spotting, Answering the Call and many others. It is available on the website and you may choose to receive the print version or QST with your membership.

STANLEY REPEATER:

Dave W2ACC reports that the KD2NOL 146.985- (82.5) repeater is up and running in Dundee and gives very good coverage for Seneca County. This is the former frequency for the N2LSJ repeater in Penn Yan.

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. Thanks to Dave W2ACC and Dean for these upgrades.

The weekly DARC Tuesday night DARC net has been suspended for the time being.

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

I saw a chart that showed the number of amateur radio operators in the US by state and rank. New York was number 2 with 706 hams per capita, behind Louisiana with 746 per capita. Sometimes I wonder where we fit with number of repeaters per capita of hams!?! I will bet NY is up there. Lots of assets to use and people to talk to.

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 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

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
146.745- (71.9) WA2AAZ	Tuesdays, 7pm Drumlins ARC Weather Net-SUSPENDED
146.610- (110.9) N2MPE	Thursdays (except 4 th) 9pm Monroe County RACES net
3993.5kHz LSB	Sundays at 9am New York State RACES net

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 (plus DMR, Fusion, P25 and NXDN)
KD2HYJ D-Star	444.500 (no offset) Victor hot spot—very local coverage for now

President's Thoughts

Last month, the message was preparing for the upcoming warmer months and all of the fun operating we were going to do. From public service events, club contesting and Field Day, we had many great plans to make and implement. We also had several face to face meetings with our friends and family planned. We had that new rig we wanted to take to the outdoors and operate portable. Now, that is all on hold as we battle an unseen foe, and we are not really sure what to do to win. We are very hopeful and if history is reflected, we are very good at battle and will find a way to overcome. But to do that we all must work together in the ways that we each can. I believe the medical scientists will find a way to treat this and to prevent it from affecting us this way again. It will take time and the belief that it can happen. I have that faith and am confident that you do also. For most of us, our part is to stay home as much as possible, physically distance ourselves from others, wear facial covering when you go out and wash our hands often. Take care of your self, your family and community.

If I can be of assistance to any of you, please contact me. We will work something out.

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.