



Skenoh Island Amateur Radio Club

Since October 7, 1953

Smoke Signal

May 2022

www.siarc.us

May is pretty nice for now. I hope the warm weather continues for us; although having rain from time to time keeps us a step ahead of the south west U.S.

Our next meeting will be Wednesday, May 11, 2022 at the Safety Training Center, 2914 County Road 48, Canandaigua (our usual haunt) at 7:30pm. The meeting follows the Laurel VE testing session at 6:30pm. The program for the evening will be by Paul AA2AV and cover his favorite call signs in CW. Paul had something come up last month, so he will give the presentation this month. Thanks, Paul.

Please be aware that because of the Russian Invasion, ALL amateur radio activity in Ukraine (UR-UZ, EM-EO) has been suspended.

We continue to hold the Health and Welfare net on the K2BWK 146.820- (110.9) repeater at 8pm, Monday through Friday, (except club meeting nights) so there is ample opportunity to catch up with your friends. We just hit net number 541! I hope you all can check in.

Past Events

This past weekend was the Drumlins Hamfest. It was great seeing so many friends and new faces at the Hamfest. I heard they had at least 280 go through the doors so I feel that it was pretty well attended. Hopefully those looking, found the bargains they were looking for. Kudos to Rich KC2TNJ and his team for an outstanding effort. See you in 2023. See this you tube video of the Hamfest.

[\(625\) Ham On The Road: 35th Annual Drumlins HamFest Offers Food, Fun, and Prizes!! - YouTube](#)

The Wild Water Derby in Shortsville was also held this past weekend. 7 of our members and 4 from Steuben County helped to provide assistance with the scoring and course safety. Those who volunteered were: WB2VMR, W2WES, K2TJW, KD2PER, KA2HQZ, W2CAZ, KD2WGS, WA2SSJ, N1PTB, W2ODD and KB2NCI. It was a wonderful day out and there were lots of spectators. Thanks to all.

I know a couple of our folks have been doing some Parks on the Air activations and operating from your winter sites, any reports on the fun you are having? We would all be very interested in hearing from you!

Any interesting or unusual contacts made? What have you been doing with amateur radio? Build anything interesting? Let me know and I can publicize it. And you can always show it off by doing a little program for the club.

Upcoming Events

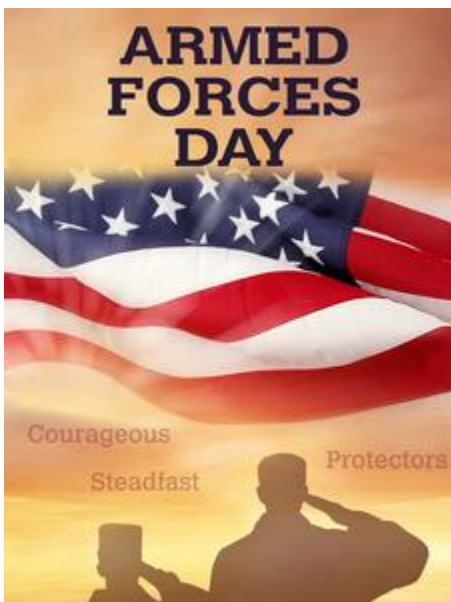
We will be setting up an HF station(s) at my home in Victor for the Armed Forces Day Cross Band Exercise on May 14, for a little fun and operating. Final details will follow this coming weekend.

Annual Armed Forces Day Cross-Band Exercise Set for May 14

The 2022 running of the Armed Forces Day (AFD) Cross-Band exercise will be held on May 14, 1300 - 2200 UTC. A complete list of participating stations, modes, frequencies, times, and other details [will be announced](#) on April 1. The event is open to all radio amateurs. Armed Forces Day is May 21, but the AFD Cross-band Military-Amateur Radio event traditionally takes place 1 week earlier in order to avoid conflicting with Dayton Hamvention®. During the exercise, radio amateurs listen for stations on military operating frequencies and transmit on frequencies in adjacent amateur bands.

Military and amateur stations have taken part in this event for more than 50 years. It's an exercise scenario, designed to include ham radio and government radio operators alike.

Per previous announcements: "The AFD Cross-band Test is a unique opportunity to test two-way communications between military communicators and radio stations in the Amateur Radio Service, as authorized in 47 CFR 97.111. These tests provide opportunities and challenges for radio operators to demonstrate individual technical skills in a tightly controlled exercise scenario that does not impact any public or private communications."



Military stations in various locations will transmit on selected military frequencies and announce the specific ham band frequencies they are monitoring.

An AFD message will be transmitted utilizing the Military Standard (MIL-STD) serial PSK waveform (M110) followed by MIL-STD Wide Shift FSK (850 Hz RTTY), as described in MIL-STD 188-110A/B. The AFD message will also be sent in CW and RTTY.

The **next VE Session** is scheduled for May 11, 2022 at 6:30. The testing will be held at the Safety Training Center, 2914 CR 48. As of this time, we will not need to move to another location for the meeting or testing. Pre-registration is **REQUIRED**. Contact Russ N2IZV at n2izv@outlook.com if you would like to be on his list of examinees. He will also need VEs. Thanks to Russ N2IZV and his team for keeping this worthwhile project up and running.

The schedule of test sessions for the rest of 2022 is:

May 11

July 13

September 14

November 9

Upcoming hamfests are:

Hamvention, Greene County, Ohio, May 20, 21 and 22

Rochester Hamfest, June 4

Lockport, June 11

Cortland, June 11

Roc City Hamfest, August 27

Northeast HamXposition 2022, Marlborough, MA August 26, 27 and 28

Lancaster, September 10

Upcoming Contests and Special Events this month include: Worldwide Sideband Activity Contest (First Tuesday evening of the month), QSO parties in 7th Call Area, Indiana, Delaware, New England, Canadian Prairies, Arkansas, and many others. See the May QST pages 71 and 82 and the WA7BNM website. www.contestcalendar.com 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!

Public Service events I am aware of at this time for 2022 are the:

Tour De Cure, Webster, June 11---sign up at [2022 rochesterham.org public service website input - Google Sheets](#)

Keuka Triathlon, Keuka Park, June 12

Shortsville Fire Department Parade, June 17—See Tom if you would like to help

Musselman Ironman, Geneva, July 10—sign up at [Volunteer for IRONMAN with VolunteerLocal - simple volunteer registration](#)

MS ROC Great Lakes Experience, Waterport, Orleans County, NY, August 13—see [www.rochesterham.org](#) to sign up

ARRL Field Day is June 25 and 26. The location details have yet to be worked out, but more information will follow this month. If you want to be on the organizing committee, please let me know. It takes a lot of effort to put on Field Day and many hands help. The **shirt order has arrived** and ARRL had all of the requested items. I will have them at the May meeting and you can pay me (not SIARC) cash or check. If cash, exact change will be appreciated and easier. I will bring the items not picked up to the June meeting.

The **Antique Wireless Association** is working on a project to bring amateur radio and all of its fun to school age children by constructing a portable station that could be taken to the students. They are looking for any interested parties to help with this project. Below are their goals for the program:

Goal: To introduce and educate children about communication technologies as a component of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) by:

- a. Constructing a self-contained, portable amateur radio station transportable in an enclosed cargo trailer for the purpose of educating and demonstrating to children the basics of wireless communications during good times and in emergencies; and
- b. Supporting a special effort to reach out to our region's underserved rural communities; and
- c. Facilitating visits to schools, scouts, libraries, camps, homeschool groups, fairs and public service events; and
- d. Supporting AWA's educational outreach efforts, which extend well beyond the AWA campus.

If you are interested, please contact Bob Hobday at president@antiquewireless.org

RACES and ARES

Note—We will NOT have RACES nets on Mother's Day or Memorial Day Weekend.

Our next administrative meeting is scheduled for May 19 at 9am at the Safety Training Center. All RACES members are welcome to attend. Among the many items discussed on April 20, were the purchase of a Fusion/Analog repeater for the 145.450, a drill on June 18 and what we would do to assist the 911 center if phones went down.

All RACES members should have (and know how to access) their Disaster Lan (D-LAN) account. If you have any questions on this, send Scott N2UMH an email at scott.teresi@ontariocountyny.gov. In the future, this will be the preferred method of internal communications for the group. And it will be one of our primary tasks to assist the county when needed. Any RACES members **without** a D-Lan log in will be dropped from the roster in June.

Regarding the **DOD COMEX 22-2 Exercise**:

Here is the information on the Amateur Radio Support to DOD COMEX 22-2 exercise that we have been requested to participate in. If you missed the kickoff presentation you can view it here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OX88D0Xtg_w.

Key Points:

1. All information passed is voice only. No digital modes.
2. May 2, 2022, 10PM Eastern - High power broadcast on 60M Channel 1 with exercise instructions.
3. May 3-7, 2022, each day at Noon Eastern - Net calls by FEMA region on 60M Channel 1 to retrieve information.
4. NY is in FEMA Region 2
(<https://www.fema.gov/about/organization/regions>)
5. There may be a local component on the 145.45, 146.82 or 146.685 repeaters. Monitor the 60M broadcasts for instructions and monitor our ARES repeater.
6. If I receive additional information I will send a group email.
7. Also check WWV 10 minutes and 50 Minutes after the hour for DOD exercise information. .

US Army NETCOM will be utilizing 60 meters for amateur radio outreach from April 29 - May 7 as part of DOD COMEX 22-2. On May 3 at 0200Z (May 2 at 2100 Central), there will be a high-power broadcast about the information that will be requested during the exercise. US Army NETCOM

will also announce times for amateur radio and AUXCOMM to net with DOD HF stations for the remainder of the week. Beginning on May 3 at noon local for each US time zone (East, Central, Mountain, Pacific), there will be a short net for amateur/AUXCOMM stations. In the evening, 2100 Central and noon local nets will conclude with the noon net on Saturday, May 7. NETCOM will be requesting support for collecting various types of information that may include road closure reports, METAR weather reports, and electrical power service availability.

More information to follow.

Russell Harris
585-738-0321

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, but we will be discontinuing the use of FLMSG for our nets and drills, due to the difficulty of keeping everyone on the same version. It appears that the use of different versions of FLMSG makes receiving the transmission very spotty. If you have ANY questions, feel free to contact me at kb2nci@arrl.net or 585-924-0752 or Scott N2UMH at scott.teresi@ontariocountyny.gov . If you are not a member and would like to become one, please see or contact me. And please let me know if you have a change in contact information. We need to keep it as current as possible.

The New York State RACES net is held each Sunday morning at 9am on 3993.5khz LSB and members are always welcome and to get some more training on HF net operations. The net follows the same procedures that our weekly nets do. A digital message is sent afterwards on 3583.5kHz USB using Olivia 8-500, MFSK 32 and Thor 22. We are in Region 5 (check in is by region) and we are always very well represented. Give it a try!

Monitor the W2ONT 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.

The following is an article from Paul AA2AV.

Our Wiretapper Heritage In Ham Radio?

Paul Scipione, AA2AV

In the April 2/3, 2022 issue of the *Wall Street Journal* (p. C3), Brian Hockman wrote a fascinating article entitled “The Wiretappers Who Invented a High-Tech Crime.” As a dedicated CW operator, I was socked that our telegrapher forbearers may have hiacked the revolutionary new dots-and-dashes of the Civil War to new sinister, criminal purposes. Hockman’s sub-title was “Criminal wiretapping schemes fueled public doubts about the security of telegraph networks.” Here are a few key excerpts from Hockman’s piece that will give you a picture of wiretapping.

“Wiretapping has a longer history than current battles over privacy and surveillance would appear to suggest. Today the national debate is focused on . . . making it easy for government agencies and corporate conglomerates to monitor the things we say and the data we produce. But Americans were already worried about . . . wiretapping in the 19th century when petty crooks and con artists began to take advantage of the nation’s new dependence on telegraph communication. The original wiretappers were military men who perfected the tricks of their trade during the Civil War, the first armed conflict in which the use of electronic communications proved decisive. To intercept the enemy’s messages was a relatively simple affair – just cut into a telegraph wire and attach a fine copper extension line Confederate wiretapper George “Lightning” Ellsworth was reputed to be able to place both ends of a severed telegraph line against his tongue to “read” the incoming electrical signals. Wartime wiretappers were celebrated for their courage, ingenuity and bravado.”

After the war former signalmen from both Armies founds lots of business, both from outright criminals and investors who were trying to get the jump on competitors in commodities markets such as cotton, livestock, pork bellies, wheat, corn, coal, oil and other minerals. Particularly crooked were traders in New York, Atlanta, New Orleans and Los Angeles. “As late as 1908, the L.A. Times found that commodities brokers were using pocket wiretap instruments . . . to secure free price quotations” or steal digital data from competitors. “Savvy criminals also used wiretaps . . . on gambling. When private betting parlors known as “poolrooms” began receiving the results of horse races via private telegraph services, wiretappers developed a variety of strategies to defraud them.” This was the theme of the 1973 “The Sting” hit movie with Paul Newman. But eventually the FBI and local police hired expert CW-types to identify bad guys by their unique style of banging out dots and dashes.

Fortunately, these dirty electronic deeds occurred before ham radio became a legitimate hobby just before and since World War 2. The FCC says it is perfectly legal to trade advice and recommendations on rigs, wire, antennas and keys, but not for the commercial sale of radio gear. So, us “CW types” like KB2KBY, W2WDS and I are in no danger of having the FBI bust down the doors of our Ham Shacks!

Paul, .- .- ..- - .- ...-

Spring SkyWarn Training - Online or in-person

Spring SKYWARN Spotter Training Classes are coming!

Most upstate NY counties are conducting SkyWarn Training in April and May.



The training will be held at various area locations and on-line. This class is for beginners or anybody that has a general interest in weather (some advanced classes available). These classes train volunteers how to accurately observe and report hazardous weather to the National Weather Service. The classes are free and open to everyone; no age requirements, previous training, or equipment is required.

The SKYWARN program is a nationwide program that provides real-time severe weather reports to the National Weather Service. Trained weather spotters provide valuable lifesaving information to the National Weather Service and we encourage those who have an interest in weather to participate in this critical program. Despite all the technological advances, SKYWARN Spotter reports are still crucial to the National Weather Service in providing more accurate severe weather warnings.

See the full training schedules at:

Binghamton (Syracuse-CNY): <http://www.weather.gov/bgm/outreachSKYWARNtraining>

Buffalo (Rochester-WNY): <http://www.weather.gov/buf/Skywarn>

Albany(ENY) :<https://www.weather.gov/aly/skywarn>

Learn more about SKYWARN and Amateur Radio at: <http://www.upstateham.com/p/skywarn.html>

A few months ago, I asked for some assistance with a couple of areas and these are the folks I tapped.

Technical Committee Chair—Steve WB2VMR

Programs—Sandy KA2HQZ

Publicity—Doug KD2LGE

Please contact them if you would like to assist in their area or have ideas.

A new **RF Exposure Calculator** has been added to the Links on the SIARC website. The calculator was produced by the Lake Washington Ham Club in Redmond, Washington. Check it out and be prepared for the rule change that amateurs must evaluate their stations for RF Exposure. Below is the link to the FAQ from the ARRL.

[RF Exposure Calculator FAQ.pdf](#)

For all the new hams, are you aware of QRZ.com? It is a wealth of information on hams WORLDWIDE and carries informative articles, editorials. It is editable by the individual ham so can be updated as often as you like. They also have a logger for your contacts. Check it out!

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 March/April issue covers many topics, including articles on The 10 meter Band, Quest for the Perfect Antenna, Practice for Disaster and many others. It is available on the website and you may choose to receive the print version or QST with your membership. Your membership allows you to see the digital version of all of their periodicals QST, QEX and NCJ.

NEW REPEATERS:

Dave W2ACC reports that the KD2NOL 146.985- (82.5) repeater is up and running in Naples. This is the former frequency for the N2LSJ repeater in Penn Yan. There is also an APRS I-Gate at this site. This repeater is also linked to the WB2KAO 444.850+ (110.9) repeater in Greece.

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. Many of our members have been getting on the air with 6 meters. Looks like fun. Thanks to Dave W2ACC and Dean for these upgrades.

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

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. He would love to

hear from you! You can also send your renewals to me, Tom Sanders at 6310 Gillis Road, Victor, NY 14564 and I will forward to Stan.

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. canceling 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

STILL GOING---Since March 17, 2020, SIARC has been hosting a Health and Welfare net on the K2BWK 146.820 repeater, nightly at 8pm, Monday through Friday. It is intended as a net for hams to keep in contact with others during the virus situation. It has been lots of fun to participate and hear from so many, and ALL are welcome. We just completed net #541 and have heard from hams in Wayne, Monroe, Yates, Cayuga and Seneca Counties.

145.450- (110.9) W2ONT
146.685- (71.9) WA2EMO
146.610- (110.9) N2MPE
3993.5kHz LSB

Sundays 8pm Ontario County RACES/ARES training net
Sundays 8:35pm Wayne County RACES net
Thursdays (except 4th) 9pm Monroe County RACES net
Sundays at 9am New York State RACES net

Club/RACES Repeaters

K2BWK 146.820- (110.9) Canandaigua
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
KD2HVC D-Star 444.300+ Stanley
KD2HYJ D-Star 444.500 (no offset) Victor hot spot—very local coverage for now

President's Thoughts

ARRL Field Day is the fourth weekend of June (25 and 26). SIARC holds this event with the Drumlins ARC in Wayne County and has for many years. It is an annual event to practice setting up under field conditions and to see how many stations across the U.S. and Canada can be contacted. Depending on the location chosen, we will use generators or other emergency power to energize the radios. The operating part of the event runs for 24 hours starting at 2pm local on Saturday, and even though our group operates through the night, we usually start breaking down around 9am on Sunday. The planning and implementation of our event is done jointly and the location is sometimes moved around to allow both counties the opportunity to host. We look for sites that are open to the public so we can expose non-hams to the event and hobby. We have used fire department grounds, the pavilion at the Ontario County Park at Gannett Hill, and the grounds at the Safety Training Center on CR 48. Now that the Drumlins Hamfest is past, we will begin planning in earnest, so now is the time to contact me if you would like to be apart of the committee. I will send out emails to the club when I get more information. I hope you can attend and operate at this fun and educational event. Anyone can attend!

Take care of yourself and each other.

Have Fun and Talk Up Ham Radio, Be Safe 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^[SEP] Originally written by Paul M. Segal, W9EEA (1928)^[SEP] The Radio^[SEP] Amateur is:

^[SEP]CONSIDERATE Never knowingly operating in such a way as to lessen the pleasure of others.^[SEP]

LOYAL Offering loyalty, encouragement and support to other^[SEP] amateurs, local clubs and the American Radio Relay League,^[SEP] through which Amateur Radio in the United States is^[SEP] represented nationally and internationally.^[SEP]

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^[SEP] advice and counsel to the beginner, kindly assistance, cooperation and consideration for the interests of others. These^[SEP] are the hallmarks of the amateur spirit.

^[SEP]BALANCED Radio is an avocation, never interfering with duties owed to^[SEP] family, job, school or community.^[SEP]

PATRIOTIC With station and skill always ready for service to country and^[SEP] community.