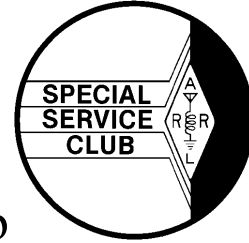




Squaw Island Amateur Radio Club

Since October 7, 1953



Smoke Signal

June 2020

www.siarc.us

Welcome to June and Phase 2 of the Stay at Home orders. The Finger Lakes region is slowly opening up and we can FINALLY get a haircut. Hallelujah!! It is a good thing we did not have a usual meeting in May; we would have had to reintroduce ourselves. I think we are turning the corner but it will proceed only if we continue the masking and social distancing. Remember to stay 1 wavelength at 144 MHz apart.

We will NOT have a face to face meeting in June. We will be holding our June 10 meeting on Zoom (Thanks to James KD2AVK for setting it up). I will also be announcing the meeting on the 146.820 repeater for those that cannot log in or have trouble with Zoom. The meeting will start at 7:30pm and we have 40 minutes of Zoom time. I will send out the log in information when I get it. Thanks for your patience as I navigate this new technology.

Our group Field Day event with Drumlins, has been cancelled. Please see the article below for details of how you can operate.

Past Events

Our May meeting was held on the K2BWK 146.820 repeater and went well. We had 23 checkins. Thank you to the support from everyone.

Upcoming Events

The following is a list of events that I am aware of. If there others, please send the information to me and I can send it to the group. Many of these I got from the ARRL website. All of these are subject to change because of the Covid-19 situation. The VE testing I have listed is based on their websites and may change. Contact them before you go just for that.

Phelps/Camp Ditmer Hamfest---June 13 and 14—VE testing
Batavia/Alexander, NY Hamfest—July 18, VE testing possible, pre-register
RadioCom Hamfest, Utica—July 26—VE testing
Tompkins County Hamfest, Trumansburg—August 1—No VE testing
Roc City Hamfest, Log Cabin Restaurant, Macedon—August 29—VE testing
Bike MS Roc the Ride, Rochester—RARA website to sign up to help--September 12
Lancaster Hamfest, Lancaster—September 12—VE??
Elmira Hamfest—September 26—VE testing
Wineglass Marathon, Bath—October 4
Pumpkin Patrol, Thruway bridges—October 30 and 31
Northeast HamXposition, Marlborough, MA—November 6,7 8

As you can see, even with the virus situation, Summer and Fall will be very busy with ham activities. Have Fun and help out with an event if you can!!

Our **next VE Session** is still pending at this time. More information will follow. There has been talk of doing the testing remotely, but that has not been finalized for SIARC or RARA. Contact Russ N2IZV at rcharris@msn.com if you would like to be his list of examinees.

Upcoming Contests and Special Events this month include: QSO Parties in Kentucky and West Virginia, the ARRL June VHF contest, ARRL Kids Day, and many others. See the June QST pages 69 and 80 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 cancelled this year. Since groups of greater than 10 are banned and other factors associated with the Covid-19, it was decided to not hold our event this year. I am hopeful that many of us will set up as a Home Class D station, either in our yards

or with our inside equipment. See below for the amendment to the Contest Rules for Field Day to allow for submitting your score to help the club.

Temporary Rule Waivers for ARRL Field Day 2020

5/28/2020

With one month to go before 2020 [ARRL Field Day](#), June 27-28, the ARRL Programs and Services Committee (PSC) has adopted two temporary rule waivers for the event:

1) For Field Day 2020 only, Class D stations may work all other Field Day stations, including other Class D stations, for points.

[Field Day rule 4.6](#) defines Class D stations as “Home stations,” including stations operating from permanent or licensed station locations using commercial power. Class D stations ordinarily may only count contacts made with Class A, B, C, E, and F Field Day stations, but the temporary rule waiver for 2020 allows Class D stations to count contacts with other Class D stations for QSO credit.

2) In addition, for 2020 only, an aggregate club score will be published, which will be the sum of all individual entries indicating a specific club (similar to the aggregate score totals used in ARRL affiliated club competitions).

Ordinarily, club names are only published in the results for Class A and Class F entries, but the temporary rule waiver for 2020 allows participants from [any Class](#) to optionally include a single club name with their submitted results following Field Day.

For example, if Podunk Hollow Radio Club members Becky, W1BXY, and Hiram, W1AW, both participate in 2020 Field Day — Hiram from his Class D home station, and Becky from her Class C mobile station — both can include the radio club’s name when reporting their individual results. The published results listing will include individual scores for Hiram and Becky, plus a combined score for all entries identified as Podunk Hollow Radio Club.

The temporary rule waivers were adopted by the PSC on May 27, 2020.

ARRL Field Day is one of the biggest events on the amateur radio calendar, with over 36,000 participants in 2019, including entries from 3,113 radio clubs and emergency operations centers. In most years, Field Day is also the largest annual demonstration of ham radio, because many radio clubs organize their participation in public places such as parks and schools.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, many radio clubs have made decisions to cancel their group participation in ARRL Field Day this year due to public health recommendations and/or requirements, or to significantly modify their participation for safe social distancing practices. The temporary rule waivers allow greater flexibility in recognizing the value of individual and club participation regardless of entry class.

ARRL is contacting logging program developers about the temporary rule waivers so developers can release updated versions of their software prior to Field Day weekend. Participants are reminded that the preferred method of submitting entries after Field Day is via the [web applet](#). The ARRL Field Day rules include instructions for [submitting entries](#) after the event. Entries must be submitted or postmarked by Tuesday, July 28, 2020.

The ARRL Field Day [web page](#) includes a series of articles with ideas and advice for adapting participation this year.

From EvTupis, W2EV

The Rochester VHF Group (rvhfg.org) would like to invite one-and-all to Spring Session #4

Topic: Solid State VHF Power Amplifiers (a Primer)

Professor: Jim Klitzing (W6PQL) ... from the Pacific Time Zone!

When: THIS Saturday, Jun 6, 2020 11:00 AM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Register in advance for this meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZctc-urrD0oHdduCHPNyY99oSiAfFXf8qoU>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

----- Session Synopsis -----

Jim Klitzing (W6PQL) is the force behind W6PQL.com, the de facto online source of information on high-power Solid State Power Amplifiers (SSPA's) for VHF and HF.

Jim will take us on a show-and-tell journey that is sure to inform Greenhorns ("I'd like a high power amplifier, and am confused by the options that I see online"), Apprentices ("Buying a high-power LDMOS pallet from EBay is simply a starting point"), Journeymen ("Identifying the additional modules that go into assembling an SSPA") and Masters ("Best practices for putting one together").

Join us for an overview of these topics and be encouraged to visit W6PQL.com to do even more "deep diving" into this very interesting topic.

RACES and ARES

From the County Administrators news letter (thanks to John WA2SSJ for keeping us in their minds):

Emergency Management

The regularly scheduled monthly meeting of Ontario County RACES and its affiliated organizations took place via radio through the repeater at the VA Medical Center on May 13 rather than in the Safety Training Facility, as originally planned. Highlights included progress report on conversion of surplus county and fire radios to portable emergency communication kits, plans for the national Field Day exercise in June, budget updates from Jeff Harloff and Radio Officer Scott Teresi, status reports on continuing the free examination program for FCC licenses during the pandemic and public service event cancellations, and discussion of potential virtual training programs as opposed to in-person sessions.

Public Service events that I know of (or believe I have the correct dates for) are as follows:
Bike MS Roc the Ride, Rochester, September 12

Wineglass Marathon, Bath, October 4

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 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.

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

Odd and Ends

Vern K2VJK is assisting the estate of Gary Hoffman AA2IZ in the disposition of his ham equipment. We will post here what is available and please contact Vern about anything you are interested in.

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 (we just had net #66 last night), and 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.

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 May/June issue covers many topics, including the phonetic alphabet, building a portable antenna mount, shopping for a mobile radio 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

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

146.820- (110.9) K2BWK Nightly 8pm **Emergency Management**

The regularly scheduled monthly meeting of Ontario County RACES and its affiliated organizations took place via radio through the repeater at the VA Medical Center on May 13 rather than in the Safety Training Facility, as originally planned. Highlights included progress report on conversion of surplus county and fire radios to portable emergency communication kits, plans for the national Field Day exercise in June, budget updates from Jeff Harloff and Radio Officer Scott Teresi, status reports on continuing the free examination program for FCC licenses during the pandemic and public service event cancellations, and discussion of potential virtual training programs as opposed to in-person sessions.

(except Sundays) Health and Welfare Net

145.450- (110.9) W2ONT Sundays 8pm Ontario County RACES/ARES training net

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

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 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

I have been informed of what I consider to be one of the very lesser known consequences of this Covid-19 virus--the increase in domestic violence. Last night I received a text from one of my college buddies that his 34 year old daughter was murdered by her boyfriend this past Sunday. He then turned the gun on himself. This was in a medium sized town in Montana but I feel that it is something that could be more prevalent these days with the stay at home orders so many of us are under. It is harder for those in abuse settings to get out or even contact help.

I am sorry to relay this information, but felt it was important for us to hear and I would encourage you to be aware of those around you and if they need assistance, of any kind, please see what you can do to help them out. Thanks for listening.

I miss seeing everyone, so stay safe and we will get through this.

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.