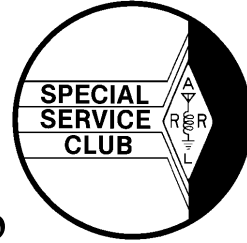




Squaw Island Amateur Radio Club

Since October 7, 1953



Smoke Signal

August 2020

www.siarc.us

Welcome to the heart of summer! It really has been a pretty nice stretch of good weather with mostly just the right amount of rain. Enjoy our bounty.

Remember to stay 1 wavelength at 144 MHz apart and wear a mask when outside around others. You are protecting others around you and slowing the community spread.

We will not have a meeting in August. Normally we would have a picnic, but I think we will cancel that thought for 2020, just to be safe. Meanwhile, we will try to figure out how to move forward in September. It really depends on the county protocols and Covid-19 guidelines.

Past Events

The July meeting was our annual parking lot edition and there were many members there to visit with and show off the mobile/portable stations they have. Thanks to all for wearing your masks.

We had a very successful VE testing session.

Jim KD2UEV (technician) now is WB2RRE (granted General class due to grandfathering)

Keith KD2TJD (upgrade to General)

Matthew KD2UEW Technician

Andrew KD2UEX Technician

Tim KD2UEU Technician

Jed KD2UEZ Technician

Mark KD2THV (upgrade to General)

Congratulation to all and we look forward to talking to you on the air.

I understand that Pat KD2PER made a clean sweep of the 13 Colonies on the Air event. Congratulations, Pat!! Any one else participate?

July 19 saw the Drumlins ARC Fox Hunt that was open to all. It was a beautiful morning for driving around Wayne County and trying to find the “Fox” Jeff N2MKT. The winner was our very own Pat KD2PER and second was Bill WA2UFQ (a semi pro Fox Hunter) from Dryden, NY. There were about 6 of us there and I came in dead last. But it was fun.

Upcoming Events

The only upcoming events I am aware of are:

Elmira Hamfest, September 26—still on as far as I have heard. But check beforehand!

Pumpkin Patrol, October 30 and 31—contact Dave kb2kby@rochester.rr.com to sign up to help.

Our **next VE Session** is scheduled for September 9 at 6:30. **We will know more about this session as we get closer to September.** Pre-registration is required because of the corona virus guidelines. Contact Russ N2IZV at rcharris@msn.com if you would like to be his list of examinees. Masks and social distancing are required. He will also need VEs.

Upcoming Contests and Special Events this month include: Worldwide Sideband Activity Contest (first Tuesday evening of the month), QSO Parties in Maryland-DC, Hawaii, Ohio, Kentucky, Kansas, W/VE Islands on the AIR, Kentucky State Parks on the Air, North American SSB QSO Party, RTTY Rookie Roundup, and many others. See the August 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!

September is the month of our club election of officers. All positions are open for nominations and I hope we get some new faces to run.

RACES and ARES

From the July 8 County Administrator's Newsletter:

Emergency Management

RACES operators around the County participated in the annual nationwide exercise known as Field Day on June 27 and 28. Given the pandemic, a centralized operation with multiple transmitters and public visitation wasn't advisable, so each operator established his/her own "emergency communications" station, and attempted to make as many two way contacts around the world as possible. Results are still being tabulated.

Public Service events that I know of (or believe I have the correct dates for) are as follows:
Pumpkin Patrol, Ontario County, October 30 and 31

All others have gone virtual for 2020, so hams will not be needed

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 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 July/August issue covers many topics, including the 6 meter band, Digital communications, Summits on the Air, 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.

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

Since March 17, SIARC has been hosting a Health and Welfare net on the 146.820 repeater, nightly at 8pm, Monday through Friday. It is intended as a net for hams to keep in contact with others. It has be lots of fun to participate and hear from so many. It is still going on and ALL are welcome. Thanks, Tom

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
146.610- (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

As we get into August, New York is still doing quite well with Covid cases and I believe that is because so many of us are following the CDC guidelines about social distancing and wearing masks. Many parts of the country are dealing with what we did a few months ago and I hope they come out on the other side very soon. No one wants to hear of all the misery any longer that we must.

Those guidelines dictate how much close contact we have with each other and therefore how we go about our meetings and events. As I said at the top, our meeting in September is ruled by our host, Ontario County, and I will send out notifications via email and try to keep the website up to date. In the meantime, I hope you can enjoy the hobby and keep learning and experimenting. There are so many areas to explore.

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.

