



Skenoh Island Amateur Radio Club

Since October 7, 1953

Smoke Signal

December 2021

www.siarc.us

Welcome to December and the last month of 2021. The weather does not seem to think it is winter just yet. I see it may reach temps in the 50's tomorrow! I am thankful to be able to work outside a little longer.

Our next meeting will be Wednesday, December 8, 2021 at the AWA museum, 6925 Routes 5&20, Bloomfield. This will be our holiday get together and will start at 6:30pm. Stan will be picking up the sheet pizza and we ask for each of us to bring a dish to pass along with your table setting (plate, silverware, cup, etc). I will be bringing an assortment of soft drinks and water. This is open to members and a guest. If by chance the weather turns bad, monitor the 146.820 repeater for updates around 5pm.

We continue to hold the Health and Welfare net on the K2BWK 146.820- (110.9) repeater at 8pm, Monday through Friday, so there is ample opportunity to check on your friends in a safe way. We just hit net number 435! I hope you all can check in.

Past Events

At our November meeting, the members in attendance voted to change the name of the club to Skenoh (scan-oh) Island Amateur Radio Club, in keeping with the official name change of the island. The state changed the name since the meaning of squaw seems to have morphed into something derogatory. We will be changing our patch soon.

Our November program was by Dave KB2KBY and covered the World War II German usage of the Enigma machine to send encrypted messages, and other related topics of message handling. Dave will be back in 2022 with more on this topic. Thanks Dave!

The VE results from November are as follows:

Passing Extra Class

Stu KC2KJO

Passing General Class

Bill KD2YEI

Larry KD2YCE

Michelle KD2YBV

Joseph KD2UZM

Passing Technician Class

Stephen KD2YGS

Melissa KD2YGT

Richard KD2YGU

Kenneth KD2YGV

Eric KD2YGW

Forrest KD2YGX

Max KD2YGY

Clover KD2YGZ

John KD2YHA

Congratulations to all and kudos to Russ and his team. It takes a lot to conduct these sessions and each VE is crucial to their success.

I know a couple of our folks have been doing some Parks on the Air activations and operating from your summer campsites, 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

The **next VE Session** is scheduled for January 12, 2022 at 6:30. The testing will be held at the Safety Training Center, 2914 CR 48. 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.

Upcoming Contests and Special Events this month include: Worldwide Sideband Activity Contest (First Tuesday evening of the month), Worldwide SSB activity contest, ARRL 160 meter CW contest, ARRL 10 meter phone and CW contest, ARRL EME contest, ARRL CW Rookie Roundup, 2 meter Classic Sprint, RAC Winter Contest and many others. See the December QST pages 62 and 81 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!

RACES and ARES

Our next administration meeting is scheduled for January 20 at 9am.

The Fire Frequency Interference project is still underway. We are monitoring 453.3125mhz for possible digital signals that are interfering with emergency communications. If you hear those digital signals, please note the time, day, your location, what radio and antenna you are using and forward the report to Doug KD2LGE at kd2lge@gmail.com and he will record it. Thanks for whatever you can provide.

From the County Administrators Newsletter:

Emergency Management

On October 30 and 31 RACES operators and other radio amateurs from Ontario, Wayne and Monroe Counties supported NY State Police Troop T in the annual Pumpkin Patrol, which places observers on all the Thruway overpasses in NY to hopefully prevent Halloween celebrations such as tossing objects onto the speeding traffic traveling below the bridges. The Halloween event was coordinated on Saturday night

by RACES member Steve Benton in Farmington and on Sunday night through the W2ONT station at the Safety Training Facility, operated by RACES member Tom Sanders of Victor. No incidents were reported on either night.

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@arrrl.net or 585-924-0752 or Scott N2UMH at ldfask@yahoo.com . 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.

We will not be holding RACES nets on December 26 and January 2 because of the holiday weekends.

The New York State RACES net is held each Sunday morning at 9am on 3993.5khz LSB and members are always welcome and get some more training on HF net operations. The net follows the same procedures that our weekly nets do. 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. Now is a good time to check your station for lightning protection.

Odd and Ends

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!

A new benefit of ARRL membership:

ARRL Learning Network

Overview: ARRL's Learning Network is a webinar series to help introduce members to the variety of activities and opportunities enjoyed by radio amateurs. These live presentations will be given by member-volunteers, for all members. Like hamfest forums and radio club presentations, the webinars are intended to help participants get more active, involved, and engaged in amateur radio. Presentations are 30-minutes each to accommodate attendee's busy schedules, followed by a 15-minute period for questions-and-answers. For additional information contact ARRL's [Lifelong Learning](#) department.

Registration & recordings: ARRL members may register for upcoming webinars and view recordings of previous webinars:

> [To register for an upcoming presentation click here](#) <

> [To view recordings of previous sessions click here](#) <

Setup & Support: All participants are advised to confirm that your device is ready to view a webinar prior to each session by following the steps below. For best results we recommend viewing live webinars on a desktop or laptop computer.

- Review [system requirements](#)
- Perform a [system check](#), prior to each session

For technical assistance before or during a presentation:

- Visit GoToWebinar's [online support](#)
- Call toll-free (833) 851-8340

[Webinar Schedule](#)

More webinars coming soon!

>> **Registration & Recordings** <<

ARRL members may register for an upcoming presentation and view previously recorded webinars by [clicking here](#) to access our registration page.

> [To register & view recordings click here](#) <

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 November/December issue covers many topics, including Impedance, Antenna Tuners, Getting a Better Signal from Your Handheld and many others. It is available on the website and you may choose to receive the print version or QST with your membership.

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.

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! While we are not having meetings, you can 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 #435 and have covered a range of topics and have heard from new hams in Yates and Seneca Counties.

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
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
KD2HYJ D-Star	444.500 (no offset) Victor hot spot—very local coverage for now

President's Thoughts

I want to wish each and every one of you a happy and enjoyable holiday season. I hope you can spend time with family and friends that make our lives rich and fulfilling. It has been a pleasure being president of the club and getting to know all of you while we participate in our hobby. I hope you can make time to get on the air and meet new people (we had several new licenses issued in November!) and keep up with previous friends.

From my family to yours, Happy New Year and stay safe in all you do.

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^{[L][SEP]} Originally written by Paul M. Segal, W9EEA (1928)^{[L][SEP]} The Radio Amateur is:

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

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

^{[L][SEP]} PROGRESSIVE With knowledge abreast of science, a well built and efficient station and operation beyond reproach.

^{[L][SEP]} FRIENDLY With slow and patient operation when requested, friendly ^{[L][SEP]} advice and counsel to the beginner, kindly assistance, cooperation and consideration for the interests of others. These ^{[L][SEP]} are the hallmarks of the amateur spirit.

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

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

