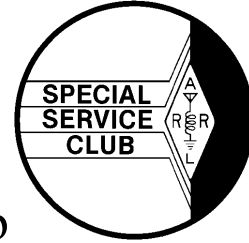




Squaw Island Amateur Radio Club

Since October 7, 1953



Smoke Signal

May 2020

www.siarc.us

And here we are in May and still not sure when New York will emerge from the Stay at Home order! I am hopeful that all of you and your families are doing well.

We will NOT have a face to face meeting on May 13. We will be holding the meeting on the K2BWK 146.820- (pl 110.9) repeater. The board was polled and decided that since we are hams, let do it on radio. I will announce the June plans as we get closer to that time. We will begin at 7:30pm and I think I will take the roster and call out the call signs of those that usually attend and then take additional checkins. It will probably be without a program and just cover the basics for club and ham activities. 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

We did not have a meeting or program in April.

Did anyone participate in the Rookie Roundup on April 19? I listened around but did not hear any Rookie stations, but the noise level at my home probably affected that. Send me what you did and I will forward to the group.

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.

Shortsville Fire Department Parade—June 12
Skyline Hamfest, Cortland—June 13
RAGS Hamfest, Syracuse—July 11
Batavia/Alexander, NY Hamfest—July 18, VE testing possible, pre-register
Musselman/Ironman Triathlon, Geneva—July 19
RadioCom Hamfest, Utica—July 26
Tompkins County Hamfest, Trumansburg—August 1
Roc City Hamfest, Log Cabin Restaurant, Macedon—August 29
Bike MS Roc the Ride, Rochester—September 12
Lancaster Hamfest, Lancaster—September 12
Tour De Cure, Webster—October 3
Wineglass Marathon, Bath—October 4
Pumpkin Patrol, Thruway bridges—October 30 and 31
HamXposition, Marlborough, MA—November 6,7,8

As you can see, 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 uncertain at this time. Since we will not be meeting in May, the next session for SIARC will most likely be at Field Day. 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 7th Call Area, Indiana, Delaware, New England, Arkansas, 50MHz Spring Sprint, and many others. See the May QST pages 69 and 81 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. Rich KC2TNJ, Don N2VDE and others will be holding on-line meetings beginning in May to discuss what our alternative will be. There will be more information to follow.

RACES and ARES

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

Shortsville Firemans Parade—tentatively scheduled for June 12

Tour de Cure, Webster, June 13

Musselman Ironman Triathlon, Geneva, July 19

Bike MS Roc the Ride, Rochester, September 12

Tour De Cure, Webster, October 3

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 **June** meeting. They are \$10 each and payable with cash or checks made out to SIARC.

Odd and Ends

Sad news for the area, Gary Hoffman, AA2IZ, was killed last weekend in a lawn mower accident. Gary was past president of SIARC and was very active in the club for many years. Rest in peace, Gary.

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.

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

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

As I write this we have finished week 6 of the Stay at Home order and it may go on past the May 15 date of the last extension. We are faring pretty well at the Sanders home, only getting out for necessary trips. We have not been able to visit friends or family except for Facetime. That is such a wonderful invention (I believe there are more of those types of modes out there, but....). We held our 40th nightly Health and Welfare net last night and as it says above, the check in counts have been very good (I think) and have covered 5 counties. We have many regulars, but several that check in a couple of times a week. Everyone is welcome to join us on the K2BWK (I think Ernie would be proud of us) 146.820- (pl 110.9) repeater at 8pm every night except Sunday. The next few weeks could be rocky for our country, especially if we relax our Social Distancing and wearing of masks. A good indication will be the states that have begun to relax the guidelines. Watch closely. It is also a time for us to prepare our households and families for what 3 months ago would have been unforeseen circumstances. Don't go overboard, but having adequate non-perishable food might be a goal. Don't forget your neighbors too.

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.