



Skenoh Island Amateur Radio Club

Since October 7, 1953

Smoke Signal

July 2025

www.siarc.us

July is starting out hot, but Field Day lucked out this year (does not always happen that way). It was dry!

Our next meeting will be on **Wednesday, July 9, 2025** and begins at 7:30pm in the Safety Training Center, 2914 CR 48, Canandaigua. All are welcome!! The program will be by Mike Kennerknecht, N2MAK, and cover the upcoming Erie Canal Bicentennial Celebration in September. I am hopeful we can field a team to activate one of the properties along the canal. Note—we will NOT have a meeting in August.

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 hit net #1298 last Friday, so thank you to all who have checked in since March 2020. I hope you all can join us.

Past Events

Our June program was by Steve WB2VMR and covered his experience during the Commex in May in Oriskany, NY, at the state training facility. He has attended several classes there over the past couple of years and always brings back practical information for RACES that can benefit our community. Thanks Steve.

Several of our members assisted the Shortsville Fire Department for their annual Parade on June 20. We helped get the entries in their proper order so as to pass the reviewing stand according to the program lineup. It was a beautiful evening, except for the 30 minute shower right in the middle of our work. Nobody melted, but the rain did a number on our

roster sheets. I have to be better prepared next year. I look forward to more operators to help next year.

Thanks to following for their time and expertise: KD2DNO, WB2VMR, KD2LGE, WA2SSJ, KE2CXQ, W2LVP, W2ODD and KB2NCI.

The Rochester Hamfest was held at the Barnard Fireman's Field on Saturday, June 21. WB2VMR, KD2SER, KE2CXQ and KB2NCI manned a SIARC table to spread the word about the club. Several people stopped by and mentioned that they did not know there was a club in Ontario County. Now they know! We had been donated some antennas, mobile speakers and other items from Charlie KB2SOZ, who is moving out of state. We sold several items and the money went into our treasury. We also picked up a new Life member that day. Good thing Steve brought his canopy to protect us from the sun. It was a great day for the event and we all enjoyed ourselves.

The annual ARRL Field Day event was held this past weekend and as it has been the practice for several years, SIARC and Drumlins ARCs joined up forces for a fun time at the Big M Game Club in Clifton Springs. Throughout the day and evening, around 20 people showed up to help, operate, eat and take down. We set up Saturday morning and began operating at the 2pm kick off, going into the evening and stopping around 11pm. We then restarted around 7am Sunday for a couple of hours and then started to dismantle the stations and antennas. The callsign used was WA2AAZ (Drumlins) and probably will use the SIARC call of K2BWK in 2026. We had plenty of helpers for the set-up and they sure come in handy for the erection of the 40 foot high military mast and tri-band beam antenna. The tower belongs to Drumlins and it takes a lot of coordinated effort to be sure it is installed properly and safely. There were not any injuries again this year. The weather was warm, but dry, which was a nice change from the heavy rains we got last year in the afternoon. We also put up a G5RV and end-fed half wave antenna. The totals are not available at press time, but when I last looked Sunday morning, we had over 120 qsos. Lots of fun. A highlight for me was seeing the 16-year-old grandson of KE2CXQ chasing contacts on 40 meters. He was having a ball and exclaimed several times how much fun he was having. He was keeping his logger, KD2SER, busy! Next comes the license!! And we ate well. Many of us started the day with breakfast at the Countryside Restaurant in Clifton Sprins and later WD2STK cooked up fixins for tacos and we all had our fill of them. Then KE2DJR brought a pizza during the evening and that helped top us off for the rest of the night. See you next year!



K2BWK

**Skenoh Island Amateur Radio
Club**
Canandaigua, New York

An ARRL Special Services Club
Supporting the Amateur Radio Art
and Ontario County ARES/RACES













I know a couple of our folks have been doing some Parks on the Air activations and operating from your outdoor 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. Any new radios or equipment in your inventory?

If you have assisted in any public service events that I may not be aware of, please let me know so you can be acknowledged.

Upcoming Events

Our next breakfast will be on Saturday, August 16, 8am, at Ray's Restaurant, 2510 Rochester Rd, Canandaigua. All are welcome. The RACES meeting at the Safety Training Center will follow.

The **Ironman/Musselman is coming up on Sunday, July 13**, and if anyone else would like to volunteer, please contact me soon. This event starts and ends in Geneva and goes into Seneca County and back. We help with Bike portion safety communications and this year have been asked to assist for the Run portion of the Triathlon. If you have not signed up and would like to help, please contact me for the link to volunteer. They provide grants to groups that assist and the more folks we have the more money we can receive for the club. If you or a family member would like to help with other aspects of the event, there are lots of openings for other duties on Friday, Saturday and Sunday. When filling out the volunteer link, there is a spot to list your associated organization. Let me know if you have questions.

I am also looking for volunteers to help with the **Phelps Sauerkraut Festival "Krauter"** races on Saturday, August 2. We meet around 0630 for a 0700 race start. There are a 5K and 20K events, and we are usually done by noon at the latest. A handheld radio works fine. I have several operators at this time, but there is always room for more. Please contact me at kb2nci@gmail.com if you are interested.

The 7th annual **Roc City Net Hamfest** is scheduled for Saturday, August 23 at the Log Cabin Restaurant in Macedon. Check <http://roccityhamfest.com> for updates and details.

The new Yaesu repeater has arrived and is in the process of being programmed and installed at the VA tower this summer. We will keep the current repeater on site in case it is needed.

The **next Laurel VE Testing Session** will be on July 9, 2025. The session will begin at 6:30pm. Thank you to Sabrina WD2STK and her team of dedicated volunteer examiners. You provide a great service to the ham radio community. She will need VEs to help administer the exams, so please contact her if you can help. See the SIARC website, Exam page, for details. Thank you to Sabrina WD2STK and her team.

Upcoming Contests and Special Events this month include: Worldwide Sideband Activity Contest (Tuesday evenings of the month), QSO party in Alabama, IARU HF World Championship, CQ Worldwide VHF Digital Contest, North American RTTY QSO Party, ARS

Flight of the Bumblebees QRP CW contest, and many others. See the July QST pages 77 and 84 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!

I am continuing to prepare for the upcoming public service event season and I want to alert all interested parties of the dates as I become aware of them. Please mark your calendar to help out with some or all of these events that support our community and amateur radio.

July 13—Musselman Ironman, Geneva

August 2—Phelps Sauerkraut Festival Krauter races

August 9—Mammoth March, Letchworth State Park---see www.rochesterham.org

August 9—MS Roc the Ride Great Lakes, Lakeside SP---see www.rochesterham.org

September 7—Finger Lakes Triathlon, Canandaigua

October 5—Wineglass Marathon, Steuben County

October 30 and 31—Pumpkin Patrol, Thruway bridges

The following is from Mike N2MAK and concerns a special event he is working on for this summer-----**Something for us to talk about**-----*I've been working with Matt Brown K2EAG to try and organize some Parks on the Air (POTA) events across the state for the Erie Canal Bicentennial, Sept. 16-25, 2025.*

I'm on the Board of Directors for the Rochester Amateur Radio Association (RARA) and they are interested in doing something for this. I still need to work out the details to pitch it at the next Board meeting, but it'll likely involve a club-sponsored POTA outing on Saturday 9/20 or Sunday 9/21 at one of the many parks within the Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor (POTA US-6532).

I wanted to see if SIARC was interested in doing something for this or even collaborating. I'd be happy to stop by a club meeting sometime or even setup a time to talk about it.

If you have any questions, please let me know. Thanks!

73,

Mike Kennerknecht, N2MAK

RACES (Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service) and ARES (Amateur Radio Emergency Service)

Thank you to the Ontario County Emergency Management Office for its continued support.

The next RACES meeting is scheduled for Thursday, July 24 at 7pm in the Safety Training Center. All RACES members are encouraged to attend.

Steve WB2VMR attended a four-day COM-X session in Oriskany in May and has some great information on what occurred.

RACES Training A number of members of Ontario County RACES have been participating in training courses over the last 2-3 years with the OIEC (Office of Interoperability and Emergency Communications) part of NYS Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Services (DHSES) to obtain communication credentialing for New York State. This has involved training at the NYS Training Facility in Oriskany, NY. These training sessions last from 3 to 5 days and are taken on a volunteer basis. Upon completion of the course, the student must take and pass a course test and then complete a Student Position Task Book within three years. Upon successfully completion the student is issued State Credentials for the subject course completed.

Ontario County RACES Radio Officer and County ARES Emergency Coordinator, Steve, recently received AUXCOMM (Auxiliary Communications) credentials from the OIEC. AUXCOMM is the amateur radio interface to the NYS DHSES Communication Unit. Hopefully, we will have more certified communications personnel from Ontario County RACES over the next year.

RACES and ARES is always looking for more participation and the recent events in western North Carolina from Hurricane Helene, show that disasters can occur in unexpected locations. Training to Serve, Serving to Support!

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@gmail.com or 585-430-9850. If you are not a member and would like to become one, please contact me or our Radio Officer, Steve WB2VMR. And please let me know if you have a change in contact information. We need to keep the roster as current as possible.

The **New York State RACES net** is held each Sunday morning at 9am on 7281kHz LSB and members are always welcome to check in and get more training on HF net operations. The net follows the same procedures that our weekly nets do. A digital message is sent afterwards on 7081.5kHz USB using Olivia 8-500, MFSK 32 and Thor 22. Forty meters has worked very well, so for the time being, the net will remain there. We are in Region 5 (check in is by region) and we are always very well represented. Give it a try! NYS RACES is also doing testing on 60 meters. It is a great band for these regional communications, so all members should have that capability. For more information on RACES, go to [Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service \(RACES\) | Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services](#)

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 ARES net.

To receive emails on a national basis for ARES, ARRL members can subscribe to the ARES Letter by going to the ARRL website, Public Service tab, ARES tab, ARES Letter and then "How to Subscribe". It is a very informative publication.

The following is a list of digital HF nets you can listen and check into. Thanks to Paul KD2DO for this information.

Here are the digital nets in our area that you can listen into and now join.

*** MID-ATLANTIC Net: @ 1000L Sunday morning on 7.068 MHz USB.

*** NJ NBEMS Net: @ 0900L Sunday morning on 3.582 MHz USB.

*** NH NBEMS Net: @ 0700L Saturday morning on 3.582 MHz USB.

*** NY NBEMS Net: @ 0800L Saturday morning on 3.583 MHz USB.

*** US East NBEMS: @ 1900L Wednesday evening on 3.536 MHz USB.

*** MIDTN Net: Tues, Thurs & Sat 1930L on 3.582.5 MHz USB.

and for a change of pace

Feld Hell 30m net, Wed 2000 ET on 10.1410, FSKH105

Feld Hell 40m net, Thu 2100 ET on 7.0890, FSKH105

Feld Hell 80m net, Fri 2200 ET on 3.5835, FSKH105

Be sure your TxID and RxID buttons are activated and green on FLDIGI, to follow the mode used.

There are others when you have tried these.

Odd and Ends

Welcome to our new SIARC Life Members:

Freddie Sulyma WB2GFZ

Jack Daugherty NA7JD

From July 1 through July 7, is the Annual 13 Colonies Special Event on the HF bands. See <http://13colonies.us> for details

Be sure to check your license expiration periodically. You can renew through the FCC starting 90 days before expiration. See this link for instructions. [SOMMA.indd](#)

AND, it is important to keep your FCC registration postal and email address up to date. This will ensure that you receive correspondence from them promptly.

Remember that club dues need to be renewed in September. If you are not a Life member (only \$100), be sure to see Stan to keep current.

If you have items you would like to sell, let me know and I can post it in the Smoke Signal.

Doug KD2LGE has been working with a business, Apparel Printers Plus, on Main St in Victor, to provide club apparel. Contact Doug if you are interested and he can give you details.

There are lots of new hams in the area due to the great success of the local VE testing program. If you hear a new license (many are KE2xxx) be sure to call them and welcome them to the hobby.

Don't forget to add 146.520 simplex to your scan routine. It is a good frequency to find and help hams traveling through our area.

From the County Administrator's Newsletter and the NYS Department of Motor Vehicles:

DMV The Federal REAL ID deadline is now May 7, 2025. Though not mandatory, we encourage everyone to obtain a REAL ID compliant identification today! For more information please visit <https://dmv.ny.gov/driver-license/federal-real-id>

A STAR in the upper right corner of your license indicates a REAL ID.

ARLB007 FCC to Require Two Factor Authentication for CORES Users

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) has announced an upcoming change to the Commission Registration System (CORES) that licensees use to pay any application or regulatory fees, manage or reset a password on an existing FRN, or request a new FRN. Beginning March 29, 2024, multifactor authentication will be implemented.

Users will be prompted to request a six-digit secondary verification code, which will be sent to the email address(es) associated with each username. The user will then need to enter the code into CORES before they can continue.

In a public notice, the FCC said this change will make the system more secure. "This additional layer of security will further safeguard against unauthorized access, thereby enhancing the overall integrity of information contained within the CORES system and improving the security of user data," it read.

The Public Notice can be found in PDF format at, <https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/DA-24-219A1.pdf> .

The FCC recommends that users confirm they have access to their username account email and to add a secondary email address, if need be.

Resources are available for those who need assistance with the system. For inquiries or assistance regarding the implementation of multifactor authentication on CORES, submit a help request at <https://www.fcc.gov/wtbhelp>, or call the FCC at 877-480-3201 (Monday through Friday, 8 AM to 6 PM ET).

NNNN

/EX From the ARRL Letter 3-22-2024.

A new link, **NY weather MESONET**, has been added to the SIARC website. It is a map of weather stations around New York State operated by the University at Albany, Department of Atmospheric and Environmental Sciences. The two closest to us are in Clifton Springs and South Bristol. Check it out!! [NYS Mesonet](#)

May 3, 2023, the transition period ends for all amateur transmitters to be compliant with the FCC Exposure Rules. We have had two years to get into compliance and now the time has come to “get ‘er done”. The complete article is in the May 2023 QST, pages 64, 65 and 66. It is our time to show the FCC that we can follow the rules for safe operation of our stations. You can also go to [RF Exposure Calculator \(arrl.org\)](#)

The International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) has designated **14.300Mhz** as a worldwide center of activity frequency for emergency traffic. There are two nets that run from 7am to 10pm eastern time daily. The **Intercontinental Amateur Traffic Net**, aka Intercon, (www.intercontinentalnet.org) operates from 7am to noon and the **Maritime Mobile Services Net** (www.mmsn.org) operates daily from 12pm to 10pm ET. Please keep these frequencies clear during times of need and net times. Listen in for some interesting conversations.

During hurricane season, you can find some interesting traffic from the **Hurricane Watch Net (hwn.org)** on 14.325Mhz days and 7.268Mhz nights, when a hurricane is within 300 miles of land.

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.

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 May/June issue covers many topics, including articles on Building Simple Antennas for 10 and 15 meters, a couple of articles on Field Day, Battery Bags, and many others. It is available on the website with your ARRL membership. Your membership also allows you to see the digital version of all of their periodicals QST, QEX and NCJ.

Discover the ARRL Learning Center and how to “Make Amateur Radio Your Own” at [Make Amateur Radio Your Own | ARRL Learning Center](#). Give a look-see!!

NEW REPEATERS:

The W2WDS 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 linked to the WB2KAO 444.850+ (110.9) repeater in Greece only on Saturday nights for the Green Eggs and Hams Net.

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. The 442.500 is linked to the WB2KAO repeater 444.850+ (110.9) in Greece. Many of our members have been getting on the air with 6 meters. Looks like fun. Thanks to Dave W2ACC and Dean W2WDS 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.

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. Another ham site with useful information for New York state is Upstate Ham [Upstate NY HAM Radio News & Information](#)

upstateham.com with many repeater lists. And for scanner listeners, go to www.radioreference.com for nationwide information on repeaters and public safety.

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 and 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 (\$15) and renewal (\$5) 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 work 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 (except meeting nights). It is intended as a net for hams to keep in contact with others. It has been lots of fun to participate and hear from so many, and ALL are welcome. We just completed net #1298 last Friday and have heard from hams in Wayne, Monroe, Yates, Cayuga and Seneca Counties.

146.820- (110.9) K2BWK
145.450- (110.9) W2ONT
146.685- (71.9) WA2EMO
146.610- (110.9) W2ARM
7281 kHz LSB

Monday through Friday 8pm Health and Welfare Net
Sundays 8pm Ontario County RACES/ARES training net
Sundays 8:35pm Wayne County RACES net
Thursdays 7pm Monroe County ARES/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
KD2HYJ D-Star 444.500 (no offset) Victor hot spot—very local coverage for now

President's Thoughts

Another Field Day is in the books and it was a grand success for the club (and Drumlins) and the country as a whole. There was a lot of activity on the HF bands and our group made contacts in many of the ARRL sections. We have worked with the Drumlins ARC from Wayne County for several years and it has fostered some very good relationships over that time. Spending a weekend together, putting several stations and antennas up, and working the radios to maximize the number of contacts, helps you to learn a lot about yourself and the rest of the group. You understand their strengths and interests and find out that we all have many things in common. It is a busy time of year for everyone, but I hope that more can make a little time next year to participate and have FUN.

There is still time left in the warm weather months to get radio-active, so dust off the equipment and get into the outdoors!!

Have Fun, Talk Up Ham Radio, Be Safe and I hope to catch you on the radio!
Get Active/Get Involved!

73, Tom Sanders KB2NCI

kb2nci@gmail.com

585-430-9850

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.