



Squaw Island Amateur Radio Club

Since October 7, 1953

Smoke Signal

September 2021

www.siarc.us

Hello and welcome to the official last weekend of summer. It will be sad to see it go, but September is usually a nice month too. I feel for our countrymen dealing with much worse!

Our next meeting will be Wednesday, September 8, 2021 at the Safety Training Center and begins at 7:30pm. The meeting will follow the 6:30pm Laurel VE testing session. Since September is National Preparedness Month, I will be doing a little presentation on the subject. See READY.gov for complete information on getting prepared.

The county has reinstated the MASK mandate for inside of all of their buildings. This applies whether you are vaccinated or not. Please respect our hosts and each other.

We will hold club election of officers in September. I encourage you to consider running for one of the offices. All positions are available for nominations.

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 370! I hope you all can check in.

Past Events

We did not have a meeting in August.

Several of us supported the Shortsville Fire Department Parade on Friday, August 27 by helping getting the entries in the proper order. It was a beautiful evening and the crowd was a bit smaller than in the past, but enthusiastic just the same. Those participating were:

WB2VMR, KD2LGE, WB2RRE, KD2DNO, KD2PER and KB2NCI. We had additional help from W2ODD as a liaison with the fire department.

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

After September, the **next VE Session** is scheduled for November 10, 2021 at 6:30. The testing will be held at the Safety Training Center, 2914 CR 48. Pre-registration is **REQUIRED**. Contact Russ N2IZV at rcharris@msn.com if you would like to be on his list of examinees. He will also need VEs. This will be our last VE testing session in 2021. 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), QSO parties in Colorado, Tennessee, Alabama, Iowa, Texas, New Jersey, New Hampshire, Maine, Ohio State Parks on the Air, Wisconsin State Parks on the Air, ARRL VHF contest, ARRL North American Sprint CW and RTTY, Route 66 On the Air, and many others. See the September QST pages 70 and 80 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!

Upcoming Public Service Events are:

Wineglass Marathon, Bath, October 3
Pumpkin Patrol, NYS Thruway bridges, October 30 and 31
Contact Tom KB2NCI if you can assist with any of these

Upcoming Hamfests:

Lancaster Hamfest, September 11—talk in is on the 147.255+ (107.2) repeater
Elmira Hamfest, September 25—talk in is on the 147.360+ (114.8) repeater

Drumlins Hamfest, Palmyra, October 2 (SIARC will have two tables for members to use
And Drumlins will need our assistance with the event)—talk in is on the
146.745- (71.9) repeater

The NYQP team and the Rochester DX Association (RDXA) announce the 2021 NYQP Contest starting on October 16th at 14:00 hours UTC and running until October 17th 02:00 hours UTC (10:00 AM to 10:00 PM EDT on the 16th).

RACES and ARES

We are nearing completion of the Linking project at the VA. I presume we will be finishing this up by the end of September. When complete, we will be able to link the K2BWK 146.820 in Canandaigua with the W2ONT 442.200 on Gannett Hill (which is already linked to the W2ONT 147.090 in Geneva) to allow for HT coverage in the two largest population areas of the county. Thanks to WB2VMR, KD2OM, W2ACC, KD2PER, KD2LGE, WA2SSJ, N2UMH, K2VJK, for their work on this.

A purchase order has been placed for a new Bridgecom UHF analog and Fusion repeater for 442.200 to replace the old equipment on Gannett Hill. Since there is not internet available to us, this will be a standalone Fusion repeater. This project, as well, should be complete by the end of September. Thanks to the Emergency Management Office for their support of RACES/ARES in Ontario County.

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@arrl.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.

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 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

FEMA Announces HF Interoperability Activity on 60-Meter Channels 1 and 2

Channels 1 and 2 on 60 meters will be available starting on August 30 for interoperability between US government and US amateur radio

stations involved in Hurricane Ida emergency communications. This situation will remain in place until the storm has passed and the need for these channels no longer exists, or on September 6, whichever comes first.

These frequencies will be used: Channel 1 Primary voice traffic 5332 kHz channel center, 5330.5 kHz USB voice; and Channel 2 digital traffic 5348 kHz channel center, 5346.5 kHz USB with 1.5 kHz offset to center of digital waveform.

Stations on 60 meters are asked to yield to operational traffic related to Hurricane Ida. The federal government is primary on 60 meters, and amateur radio is secondary, on a non-interference basis.



From Dave N2EZY. It is very interesting and informative:

I ran across this course and have watched the first 2 videos. There are five classes on the basics of antenna fundamentals and design here. I thought it might be something to share with the club. I think it's very good so far and is now available for free. It seems geared well to amateur radio operators.

<https://hackaday.io/course/178490-introduction-to-antenna-basics>

73,
Dave N2EZY

Be aware of the road closure at CR 46 and Smith Road:

County Road 46 @ Smith Road Intersection to be closed beginning on 6/28/21

Ontario County Department of Public Works will close the County Road 46 at Smith Road intersection beginning at 7:00 a.m. June 28, 2021 for approximately fourteen (14) weeks as work crews' complete improvements at the intersection.

Vehicles traveling on County Road 46 will be detoured using the following route: County Road 10, County Road 4, County Road 47.

Vehicles traveling on Smith Road will be detoured using the following route: NY 5 & US 20, County Road 10, County Road 4.

For more information, call (585) 396-4000.

We will be holding election of officers in September. If you are interested in serving your club and helping with its direction, see me and we can discuss the options. All positions are available.

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

Introduction to DMR and Digital Voice

Presented by Tim Deagan, KJ8U

An introductory overview of Digital Voice (DV) technologies for Ham Radio. Focus on DMR with notes on System Fusion, D-Star, etc. Description of DV architecture, components, and the interesting opportunities, as well as challenges, it presents amateur radio operators.

Thursday, September 9, 2021 @ 3:30 pm EDT (1930 UTC)

Working the Pileup

Presented by Ron Delpiere-Smith, KD9IPO

If you have ever had difficulty breaking through a pileup, or if you have ever tried to work a pileup, you will want to join Ron Delpiere-Smith, KD9IPO Vice President from the Chicago Suburban Radio Association and ARRL Assistant Section Manager - Illinois for an interesting and enlightening discussion on working a pileup from both sides of the microphone. Whether it is field day, contesting, special events or that rare DX contact, this is a must-see presentation. Ron will be discussing the aspects of Hunt and Pounce vs Sit and Call, when to use them and some tips and tricks on how to use them. The program is based on a number of real-life experiences from various operating events including the Last Man Standing Special Event as one of the station operators.

Tuesday, October 5, 2021 @ 1:00 pm EDT (1700 UTC)

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 July/August issue covers many topics, including Winlink, Tuning into Nets, Building a 2 meter Yagi antenna, 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 #370 and have covered a range of topics and have heard from new hams in Yates and Seneca Counties.

Here is a recent picture of some our group. Paul AA2AV has submitted an article to be published in the October issue of CQ magazine.



145.450- (110.9) W2ONT
 146.685- (71.9) WA2EMO
 146.610- (110.9) N2MPE
 3993.5kHz LSB

Sundays 8pm Ontario County RACES/ARES training net
 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
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

September is National Preparedness Month and with all of the weather events occurring recently or now, it is a perfect time to think about your level of preparedness at home and in the shack. As hams, we are often better prepared for the unexpected, but it is always a good thing to annually check out your personal situation. Having a 3 day emergency supply kit, having your medical, insurance and house records in order, having a back up power source for your devices and appliances and keeping an eye to the weather are some ways to be ready. We are pretty fortunate in our area, but with the climate changing, there is always a chance we could be struck by one of these events.

There are still several hamfests coming up so I hope you can get to at least one and support the local community. And you may find some bargains in the process.

Finally, club elections will be held at the September meeting. ALL positions are open so if you would like to get more involved, please speak up to get nominated. New ideas are always welcome!

As stated in the past, we are always looking for programs so contact me if you are able to present to the club, or know someone who could.

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^{[1][SEP]} Originally written by Paul M. Segal, W9EEA (1928)^{[1][SEP]} The Radio
Amateur is:
CONSIDERATE Never knowingly operating in such a way as to lessen the pleasure of
others.^{[1][SEP]}

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.