

Published by the Rip Van Winkle Amateur Radio Society, Inc.

Picnic August 12

Rip's Report

August 2012

Happy Birthday

George-KE2IV
Marty-N2LDR
Chris-N2PBN
Carol-N2REY
Bruce-N7CXJ
Dick-W2CSQ

**OUR REPEATERS ARE BACK
ON THE AIR!
GIVE THEM A TRY.
REPORTS ARE WELCOME!**

*2012 dues are \$25.00 per individual
\$30.00 for family \$5.00 for
students and active Military are
free.*

Please Pay Your 2012 Dues!

Mail to:
Stan Engel, WA2UET
PO Box 153
Ghent, NY 12075
Or bring with you to meeting
Make checks Payable to RVWARS

PAY

YOUR

DUES!


PLEASE



**GOD BLESS
AMERICA**

Please join us on the Tuesday night Roundtable on
147.210 at 7:00 PM. ALL are welcome!
Use the EchoLink (K2RVW-R) if need be.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR



**Annual
Picnic
at Claverack
Park
August 12
Around 10
AM**

ANNUAL AUGUST PICNIC

**At the Claverack Park. We will have hot dogs and
hamburg and soda. Bring what you wish.**

8/12/2012—10 AM

Map on Page 8

Thanks to those that donated a bit
toward the expense of FD!

**See photos and past
Newsletters and much
much more club
information at:
www.w2jsn.com**

RVWARS WEB PAGE

The Web Page has been updated! We added some info on the main page to try to keep folks aware of events. Comments and suggestions are welcome. We will keep Dave Clappers design at least for now. Let me know what you think.

www.rvwars.com

[Join our Yahoo Group at the bottom
of the web page. Simply enter your
call sign](#)

N2LEN Repeaters

The N2LEN Repeater Network:

147.150 114.8hz East Windham, NY
449.025 114.8hz New Baltimore, NY
448.275 114.8hz Colonel's Chair Ridge
442.050 114.8hz Sam's Point, NY 2200'

Yahoo Groups

[http://groups.yahoo.com/group/
N2LENREPEATER/](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/N2LENREPEATER/)

[http://groups.yahoo.com/group/
ECHOLINK/](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/ECHOLINK/)

[http://groups.yahoo.com/group/
GCNYARESACES/](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/GCNYARESACES/)
Echolink Node #6269
IRLP Node #4207

REPEATER REPORT

HPC has refused to have the defective antenna repaired or replaced. They say it is up to us to maintain our equipment. I argued that they purchased and paid for the antenna therefore they should get it working but it did not work. We have to fix it and put it back on the tower.

I am looking for help to find out how to install an opening in the chain link fence to access the AC unit. There were mice in there we need to clean and inspect the insides and the fence is in the way. I have permission from InSite to do it but I need parts and instruction.

We have power to the old shelter now to run the vent to try to dry it out inside. It is so damp in there that water drips from the hardware.

RVW WORK PARTY

Thanks Jim and Carl and Karen and Scott for helping to dig a trench to the old shelter to install some conduit and cable to power the building. The vent is running, hopefully to dry the inside out a bit. A big job finally done.

There is a pile of pea stone there that I would like to spread out over the area near the shelter to make it look a bit better. We will need a wheel barrow and shovels. I will post on the yahoo group when we will do that.

TREASURERS REPORT

I am going to try to include a copy of the monthly treasurers report in the newsletter each month. It is money that belongs to all members even if you do not attend the meetings. It is a brief outline of where we get and spend money each month. If anyone would like to see more detail please let me know. It is on page 3 of this issue.

New and Old HAMS needed!

Columbia County (ARES) "Amateur Radio Emergency Service" and (RACES) "Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Services" are seeking new members. We currently meet once a month at our station in the County Emergency Operation Center. We do an occasional public service event as ARES members where we utilize our communications skills and equipment to assist with public safety. We assist the County with Civil Emergencies and disaster communications when they request us. No equipment required. No experience required. Total voluntary participation. Your help is appreciated when needed to maintain communications during disaster, emergencies or public service events. If you think you might be interested, please email me or ask at field day or an RVW meeting.

Thank you.
TomG (n2nzd@taconic.net)



Upcoming Events

ANNUAL RVWARS Meeting (picnic)

Sunday August 12 at the
Claverack Park

ARES/RACES Meeting first
Monday of the month at CC
EOC

WB2DUW-RO
N2NZD-EC

Weekly Nets

EVERY TUESDAY at 7:00 p.m.

Informal Roundtable on the
147.210 repeater ALL are
welcome.

1st Wednesday of the Month

Columbia Greene-Emergency Net
on the N2LEN 147.150 Repeater
7:00 PM

Repeaters

BACK ON THE AIR!!!

147.210/147.810 no PL tone
449.925/444.925 no PL tone
224.280/222.680 no PL tone

Vital Statistics

President — Mike Alecksynas N2JVE
Vice President — Tom Gutierrez N2NZD
Secretary — Tom Cody WE2G
Treasurer — Stan Engel WA2UET
Historian — Stan Engel WA2UET
Safety Officer — Stan Engel WA2UET
Repeaters — 147.210 224.280 449.925
Club Call — K2RVW
Club Special Event Call—WD2K
Web Page — <http://www.rvwars.com>
NEWS E-mail — wa2uet@taconic.net
Yahoo Group
<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/RVWARS/>

Rip Van Winkle Amateur Radio Society, Inc. Treasurers Report July 16, 2012



Mike Alecksynas - N2JVE, President
Tom Gutierrez - N2NZD, Vice President
Tom Cody - WE2G, Secretary
Stan Engel - WA2UET, Treasurer

Starting Balance Checking Acct. - \$902.16

Receipts:

50/50 drawing.....\$
Dues.....\$30.00
Donation.....\$404.00

Total receipts \$434.00

Expenses:

Repeater.....\$0
NYSEG.....\$37.64
Food FD.....\$191.03

Total Expense \$228.67

CHECKING ACCOUNT BALANCE \$1107.49

Petty cash activity:

\$19.00 gas - \$12.00 pad lock - \$18.00 FD donations

PETTY CASH \$37.00

Savings Acct:

Balance fwd.....\$1011.18
Interest.....\$.03

SAVINGS ACCOUNT BALANCE \$1011.21

Grand Total RVWARS monies:

..... \$2155.70

Respectfully submitted,

Stan Engel
Stan Engel, Treasurer

LABOR DAY TAG SALE BENEFIT RVW

I would like to try to have another tag sale this year at my yard in Ghent. I live right on Route 66 where the Chatham Fair traffic is heavy. If the weather cooperates we need to make some money. All of the expenses involved with the new shelter have drained the treasury pretty serious. In the past we have done quite well. BUT I **NEED** your commitments to bring stuff to sell, either on your own or donations to the club. If you sell it on your own we would like to get 10% for the club. If we can fill this yard with stuff to look at people will stop. It is fun and profitable. But 2 or 3 people cannot do it alone. PLEASE give it some thought and let me know as soon as you can. This of course depends on the weather. We would hold it for the entire week end, probably start August 30 through September 3.





SW-3 "Thrill box" Receiver

By: Carl J. Verderber WA2UJX
July 26, 2012

My local barber is finally retiring and emptying his shop after 60 some years. He is also an Amateur Radio Operator but not active. Over the years he accumulated a few receivers and other stuff that was not useable and most of which he stored in the basement. He offered me a trade for a few items if I could repair his Hallicrafters SX-110 receiver. I agreed!



The SX-110 is a great basic radio and has a lot of features to offer. The BFO is stable and the crystal filter works well. This radio needed electrolytic capacitors and one resistor in the audio driver stage and an alignment. Job done! Next I looked at an old dirty black painted box and upon opening the top cover, I found a folded up instruction manual that said it was for a National SW-3 receiver – also called the "Thrill Box" from research on the internet.



It is a three tube receiver of the simplest type available in the late '40s. Using two 6J7G tubes in the RF and Detector stages plus one 6C5G as an audio driver, the receiver only needed a replacement 20 microfarad 200VDC electrolytic capacitor to make the receiver functional.



I connected a 130 VDC power supply to the and a 6.3 VAC transformer to the appropriate power cord pins, plugged in my "Trim" headphones, connected to a single wire antenna and listened to the worst sounding and loudest whooping and whistles I ever heard.



For you see (and I found out) this receiver has an RF amp stage and a Regenerative Detector which is not the easiest to adjust. With only one set of coils for the 20 Meter band and the band was dead, I had a very hard time finding signals to work with while trying to understand the interaction of all the controls. After about an hour of experimenting (and rereading the operating manual many times) I was able to get some reasonable signals to listen to. The SW-3 is an interesting radio but don't think I will ever use it again for anything other than collecting dust on my shelf. When I think about the folks in the old days that only had this receiver to use and were able to carry on decent QSOs, I am amazed at their tenacity. Being an

MUSINGS OF THE CURMUDGEON A reprint from 10/1999

There seems to be a pattern in the reports of public service events that the club is involved in lately. Maybe it's just the imagination of a cranky ole timer but it seems that the same folks seem to be carrying the load at these events.

While I know they enjoy what they do we all have a responsibility to support these events. These events are our point of contact with the public. It is the only time they see that we are an asset to the community This is the time that we make the friends we may need when tower restrictions are considered or our bands are threatened. Public service is both selfless and selfish, it is the reason we are allowed to have the privileges we take for granted.

If you consider an investment of a few hours helping someone else by providing communications a unreasonable demand then maybe it's time to ask what entitles you to the use of the public airways. If you think it doesn't make a difference ask the folks that worked the carriage event what the competitors and organizers said to them about what having a group of dedicated Amateurs there meant to them.

Enjoy your privileges but next time the call goes out for volunteers remember that there is no free lunch and the same folks can't be asked to pick up the check every time.

By Dave Watrous, WD2K Oct 1999

It would be really neat to have someone take this column over. It makes great reading! PLEASE! There must be a curmudgeon out there!

Join the RVWARS Yahoo Group. Go to the www.rvwars.com web site and scroll to the bottom of the page and simply enter your email address into the box.

"To the world you may be one person, but to one person you may be the world."

July 26th Ditch Diggers



The ferocious little Jack Russell is hiding behind Karen. He did not do much digging!





Items for sale de K2WG

- Two Decibel UHF base station antennas. 20 years old but have not been in use since 2002. Exact model no longer manufactured but similar to current model ASP-705K 10 dB gain, 450-470, 500 watts, N female connector. Asking \$250.00 each or \$400.00 for both.

Contact: wayneg1231@fairpoint.net
Phone: 392-5704

48 VOLT SUPPLY

I have a 48 volt, 16 amp **HEAVY** duty power supply in need of a home. 220 or 110 primary, can be used for parts-heavy duty diodes, chokes, capacitors or would charge a good battery bank. "Free to a good home". Contact wb2tecv@mhcable.com

ANTENNAS FOR SALE

Comet GH50 6 meter vertical—\$50.00

Diamond X50A Dual Band 2 meter 450MHz \$50.00

Call Martha at 828-5282

FOR SALE

For the news letter

Anyone interested in this package.

MFJ 962 tuner
Ten-Tek HF rig
Forty foot crank up tower
CDR rotor & cable
Coax cable
Tri Beam Ant

You have to take it down
Price total-----\$550.00

Wa2uuy
Ron Coons Sr.
518-945-3731

PROFESSIONAL INSURED TOWER CLIMBER DISCOUNT RATES FOR HAMS

ANTENNAS - FEED LINES
INSTALLED & REMOVED

CALL
ARNIE CAVALLARO
518-965-9299

Arnie Cavallaro
Wireless Operations Mgr. Cell: 518-965-9299



Secure Wireless Broadband Internet
Serving Greene and Columbia Counties
Visit NYAIR.net

Reminder from: TARA-N2TY Yahoo! Group

T.N.T. TRADER NET

Date: Thursday September 29, 2011

Time: 8:00 pm - 10:00 pm

Repeats: This event repeats every week.

Next reminder: The next reminder for this event will be sent in 1 day, 12 hours, 4 minutes.

Location: TARA REPEATER SYSTEM:
145.17/R & 447.075/R

Notes: This is a reminder for our weekly TARA - T.N.T. Trader Net which dedicated towards buying, selling or trading your amateur related items. All are welcome to come join us at 9:00 PM on the TARA repeater system 145.17/R & 447.075/R, plus Echolink #1774 or IRLP #4151.

Get reminders on your mobile, Yahoo! Messenger, and email.
Edit reminder options

Trade/Sale/In Search Of

I have some 'used condition' amateur rig's I purchased in the past 'new' eg. -1 Alinco DR-605 2/440 mtr fm dual band'r, 6 mtr fm mono band'r, 2 mtr fm mono band'r some 'cb' rig's (am), 1 is a ssb/am. These rig's either DO or Do Not function! Mostly all are easy/cheap 'radio repair' issues eg. internal 'fusing' maybe final or a digital led 'quirk' whatever! My Quest is to swap/trade (barter?) whatever it 'takes' from my 'rig collection' to acquire a simple mono mode cw or better if (Lucky:-) cw/ssb 2 MTR rig. Not qrp but qrp 5w or better. This can be Any 'working' stable rig, transverter, completer kit rig, (the mfj-2mtr is an example). If Anyone is Interested in 'trade' or trade/cash 'barter' I am open ears. :-)
I've had much 2 mtr fun with fm now to go on with cw, and/or ssb. :-) -ke2eb George H. Call West Coxsackie, NY 518-731-9854 bubby-call@yahoo.com

I have about 16 -120 volt pan cake fans plus protective guards if you know of any-one that needs one and 2-12volt 6watt.

10-- 10 watt fans----- \$4.00 @
1--12 watt-----\$5.00 @
3-- 20 watt-----\$5.00 @
2-14 watt-----\$5.00

\$5.00 for the 12 volt fans @

Contact Ron, WA2UYY
wa2uuy@aol.com

STATION MASTER ANTENNA FOR SALE

White fiberglass Station Master antenna, last used on 151.2 MHz. Includes mounting hardware. Pickup Only.
Call Carl 845-876-2568 5PM to 9PM
Mon-Fri, all day Sat/Sun

GREENE COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO DEMONSTRATION

Hi all, On July 3, 2012, Bob Jackson KB2SOJ, and myself Claude Kearney WT2C, went to Camp Tri-mount in East Jewett, N.Y. and put on a demonstration about Amateur Radio. This was for the Cub Scout attending camp that week, they are members of the Rip Van Winkle Council, that covers this part of New York for the Boy Scouts.

Located in the heart of the Catskills, Camp Tri-Mount has served Scouting for more than 60 years. It is 500 acres nestled beside three of the tallest peaks in the Catskills. Each summer programs are offered for long-term camping. Camp is open year round and many more enjoy use of the fine facilities for weekend camping and training.

Bob and I put up a dipole and worked stations on 20,40,and 75 meters, we had a lot of interest from the Scouts, there parents, and the Scout leaders. We handed out information packets about becoming an Amateur Radio operator. These hand outs were provided to us by W4NYF (JR.), I want to thank him very much for his generosity.

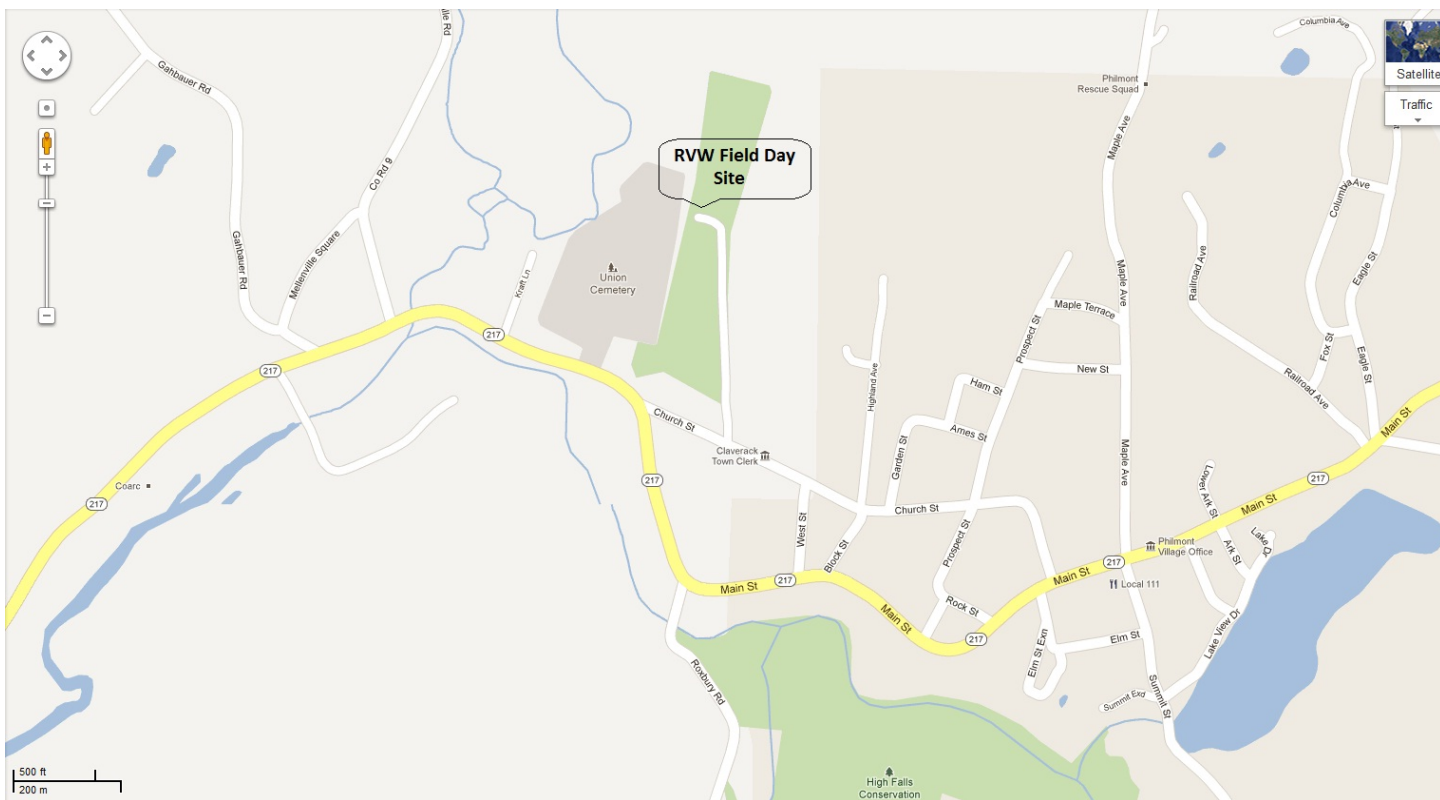
We are going to set up another demonstration there for the Jamboree-on -the Air (JOTA), that will be on October 20 and 21, 2012. This is their family for fun weekend at Camo Tri-Mount, and will have a big attendance of parents and Scouts.

JOTA is an annual event in which Boy and Girl Scouts and Guides from all over the world speak to each other by means of Amateur (ham) Radio. Scouting experiences are exchanged and ideas are shared via radio waves. Since 1958 when the first Jamboree-on-the-Air was held, millions of Scouts have met each other through this event. Many contacts made during JOTA have resulted in pen pals and links between Scout troops that have lasted many years. With no restrictions on age or on the number of participants, and at little or no expense, JOTA allows Scouts to contact each other by ham radio. The radio stations are operated by licensed amateur radio operators.

If anyone is interested in helping out please contact me (WT2C) .

73 Claude/WT2C, wt2cfn22@gmail.com
AEC, ARES/RACES
GREENE,COUNTY,N.Y.





ANNUAL PICNIC

Same place as Field Day

From the traffic light in Claverack take route 23 east about 1 mile to route 217. Turn left on 217 for about 3.8 miles to a left on Church Street in Mellenville. About 600 feet to the Claverack Town Hall and turn left at the town hall for about 800 feet to the end of the drive. We will be there at the pavilion.



Bike MS 2012: Hudson River Ramble

http://bikenyr.nationalmssociety.org/site/TR/Bike/NYRBikeEvents?fr_id=18094&pg=entry

September 22, 2012

Birch Hill in Schodack, NY

<http://www.birchhillcatering.com/>

Contact Karen, KS2O if you can help with communications!

KsmithKB2UUC@aol.com