

# PICNIC AUGUST 3RD

## Rip's Report

July 2014

Happy  
Birthday

Lee-KC2HAT  
Dan-KC2JTM  
George-KE2EB  
Pete-NX2X  
Carl-WA2UJX  
Tom-WE2G

OUR REPEATERS ARE RE-  
PORTEDLY WORKING GREAT!  
GIVE THEM A TRY.  
REPORTS ARE WELCOME!

2015 dues are \$25.00 per individ-  
ual \$30.00 for family \$5.00 for  
students and active Military are  
free.

### 2015 Dues

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

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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.



September 15  
MEETING &  
Talk on "GO  
Box Set Up"

Churchtown  
Firehouse

# MEETING 7:00 PM

## A NEW 10 MONTHS OF RIPPER MEETINGS START SEPTEMBER 15TH!

See photos and past  
Newsletters and much  
much more club  
information at:  
[www.w2jsn.com](http://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](http://www.rvwars.com)

Join our Yahoo Group at the bottom of our web page. [www.rvwars.com](http://www.rvwars.com)  
Simply enter your email address.

## SEPTEMBER MEETING

We are pleased to have as our September speaker, John Fritze, Jr. K2QY. He is ACACES president, Albany County RACES Radio Officer, ARES ENY DEC Northern District and Hudson Division Assistant Director. John will talk about his Go Box, currently moving to Ver 2.0 with several upgrades. This unit can be rapidly deployed to serve in an emergency as well as being useful at home. He is also expected to talk about the portable repeater he has built in addition to very tiny, self-contained portable APRS trackers. Please come to our September meeting at the Churchtown Fire House to hear this interesting speaker.

## Annual Picnic August 3

The Picnic will be held on August 3rd at the Claverack Town Park. Please bring yourself and anyone else that is interested.

We will have the usual coffee and picnic stuff. Feel free to bring a dish. Hope to see lots Hams and potential Hams.

## FYI

RVWARS is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit corporation. As such all monetary donations are tax deductible and donations of equipment are deductible. Please consider donating your idle equipment to the club for our use or for sale at the annual tag sale or auction.

The new Technicians from the last class at E. Chatham with Wayne, K2WG teaching:

KD2GLL William Pilgrim  
KD2GLM William Simons  
KD2GLN Matt Pirrone  
KD2GLO David Sweet  
KD2GLP Tom Dias  
KD2GLQ Vicki Besterman  
KD2GLR Gene Truesdell  
KC1BWO Dan Salzarulo

The upgrades to General are:

KB2OQQ Tom Benjamin  
KA2YLZ Frank Stark  
KD2CCU Joline Pirrone

All of the new Tech's will have a complementary 2014 membership to the RVW club. Congratulations to all!!!

## RVW WORK PARTY

The antenna is tested and ready to be put back in place on the tower. I am just waiting for Arnie to set a date. We could use some help sometime to smooth the stone around the shelter just to make it look better. Also need to get inside the heat unit #2 to see if it can be repaired.

## SOME FUN 147.210 REPEATER DTMF CODES

Site Info:	Daily High/Low
228-Outdoor Temp >	900
229-Indoor Temp >	910
230-DC Volt Bat 1 >	930
231-AC Volt read >	920
232-DC Volt Bat 2 >	940

Resets at 1:00 AM Daily

\*\*\*\*\*  
450-To check your input to the repeater. Key up and type 450, when it says "ready" **QUICKLY** key up and record your short message, un-key and it will play it back as it heard it.

### WEATHER RADIO

310-ON

325-OFF

These codes will work on 449.925 as well as 2 Meters.

I would like to add a basic weather station sometime as well so we could access wind speed etc. up there.

Feel Free to try them!

### *Upcoming Events*

## **AUGUST 3RD** **PICNIC**

## **ARES Meeting** **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 — Tom Gutierrez, N2NZD  
Vice President — Don Peterson, W1SWM  
Secretary — Carl Roby, WB2TCV  
Treasurer — Stan Engel WA2UET  
Historian — Carl Verderber WA2UJX  
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](mailto:wa2uet@taconic.net)  
Yahoo Group  
<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/RVWARS/>

**I NEED SOMEONE TO TAKE ON THIS TASK OF NEWSLETTER EDITOR! I HAVE NO EXPERTISE IN THIS KIND OF THING AND IT IS NERVE RACKING AND FRUSTRATING FOR ME TO TRY TO GET IT TOGETHER EACH MONTH. THERE HAS TO BE SOMEONE IN THE CLUB MORE CAPABLE THAN I. PLEASE CONSIDER IT. I TOOK IT ON AFTER DAVE PASSED AWAY JUST SO IT WOULD NOT GO AWAY. THANKS!**

### **JUNE MEETING**

At our June meeting we were privileged to have as our speaker Joe Kenneally, from the Hudson-Athens Lighthouse Preservation Society. He brought a model of the lighthouse and told us about the history of the lighthouse, the lighthouse keepers and their families, when tours can be arranged and stories from the early days on that part of the Hudson River. Fifteen members and guests enjoyed the evening.

### **Rip Van Winkle Amateur Radio Society, Inc.**

#### **Treasurers Report**

**June 16, 2014**

#### **Balance Fwd. Checking Acct \$1610.76**

<b>Repts: Dues</b>	<b>\$105.00</b>
<b><u>Total</u></b>	<b><u>\$105.00</u></b>

<b>Exp: NYSEG</b>	<b>\$63.81</b>
<b>Claverack Park</b>	<b>\$50.00</b>
<b><u>Total</u></b>	<b><u>\$113.81</u></b>

<b>Checking Bal</b>	<b>\$1601.95</b>
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<b>Petty Cash</b>	<b>\$50.00</b>
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<b>Savings Acct Bal</b>	<b>\$1011.40</b>
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<b><u>Total RVWARS monies</u></b>	<b><u>\$2663.35</u></b>
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## MUSING OF A CURMUDGEON



Listening on the various 2 meter repeaters it is refreshing to hear a resurgence of interest in proper Amateur etiquette. The disturbing factor in this discussion is that it should be necessary at all.

Granted that while I and others a little long in the fang shudder at phrases such as 10-4, negatory and home QTH and twitch when someone makes a call followed by "what say Alphonse are you around out there?" the answer is quite simple.

Proper Amateur procedure consists of following the rules, courtesy toward others, respect for the opinions of others, courtesy, common sense and courtesy. That's all there is to it folks. Our reaction to the slang terms and long calls is a reaction to having seen (and for most of us experiencing) what happened to the Citizens Band when these terms started to replace the use of English as the mode of communication.

It is our collective responsibility to hold ourselves to a higher standard as the sole group allowed to communicate across international boundaries and as custodians of a tradition handed down to us by the early hams who established standards we should all strive to maintain. That is our challenge!

August 1997

Dave Watrous, WD2K—8/97

## FIELD DAY SUCCESS!

I want to thank all who worked and operated at field day this year! Especially Todd, KC2YKM and Frank, KD2DNJ for doing all of the heavy transporting of the tower and all of the other equipment needed to make it work!

Field Day was a great success. The weather was great! And all involved seemed to have a great time.

Also a BIG thank you to Barry, WA2KLP and Nathan for doing all of the cooking and cleaning up. The food was awesome and professionally done.

## CURMUDGEON NEEDED!

It's imperative that we find another "Curmudgeon" as soon as possible! I am nearly out of Dave, WD2K's great Musings.

Someone out there should be able to carry on the tradition. Please send me your Musings!!!

## AMAZON DONATES TO ARRL!

Amazon.com has a program named Smile that donates 0.5% of your purchase price to the registered charity of your choice. There is no cost to you. The ARRL is now registered as a charitable organization for the program.

To participate, go to <http://smile.amazon.com>. If you don't already have an Amazon account, you'll need to set one up. You'll be asked to sign up for the Smile program which is only a couple of clicks to select a registered organization. Simply select "AMERICAN RADIO RELAY LEAGUE INC"

Once you've signed up, please do your Amazon shopping by going to <http://smile.amazon.com>, and 0.5% of your purchases will be donated to the ARRL. Signing up is a one time process.

This is a simple and painless way to contribute to the League. For a FAQ about the program, visit <http://smile.amazon.com/about>.

73 de Mike N2YBB

ARRL Hudson Division  
Director: Mike Lisenco, N2YBB  
[n2ybb@arrl.org](mailto:n2ybb@arrl.org)

## PLEASE COME TO YOUR CLUB MEETINGS. WE NEED YOU!

### Directions from the north to Churchtown firehouse...

Take exit 12 off of I90 onto route 9 south. Travel 4.6 miles to the traffic circle and take the first right out of the circle (not the mall) onto route 9H. About 11.5 miles you will come to a traffic light intersection of 9H and route 66. Go straight through that light for about 3.6 miles to the next traffic light at 9H and route 23. Again go straight through that light for about 1.1 miles to a left turn off of 9H onto County Route 27. It is marked. Stay on route 27 for about 2.5 miles and the Firehouse is on the right with a sign out front. Park in the lot just before the building.

### Firehouse from RVW Bridge and 9G.

From the intersection of 9G and Route 23 take 23 about 2.7 miles to the traffic light at the intersection of Route 9. Go straight through the traffic light and travel about 2.7 miles on route 9 to the next traffic light at the intersection of 9H and 82. Turn left at that light onto Route 9H about 2.8 miles to County 27. Stay on route 27 for about 2.5 miles and the Firehouse is on the right with a sign out front. Park in the lot just before the building.



# Antique Radio Manufacturers

By Joe Squillace

W T L N O T R A P S Z T K N I G H T R  
R E D A Y E Y W J T E H J L X D R F G  
Y L S W N V U Q P M Z T M N Q Y R C N  
S E Y T Y O Z G P R B I E B W E I Z W  
C T H Y I N I L O Y B N X J S P M L Z  
O O Z E T N E T Q V O E T H M R W T M  
T N L G A N G G A T R Z M Y G A R O D  
T E T L X T P H R N L A L V Q T R T T  
S Y O V I X H E O D N O B N B J S M B  
W E L C L N V K A U R K J F R Y L Y P  
N D N R L L S G I L S A R E L A D A F  
A A L T I I N D M T O E K V D A M Y Z  
D Y M S I I H M T N N R A E D Z C M T  
M T Z L K N X P N C O N O D Y B I R T  
I O M I E D E L H Y I J I T R Y V V X  
R N V W M E P L W A Q S T M O K L R N  
A D D N Y Y T E K Z O T J J M M K D G  
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DAYTON  
ADDISON  
ADMIRAL  
ZENITH  
WESTINGHOUSE  
VIKING  
VIZ  
VOGUE  
SYLVANIA  
TEMPLE  
TELEPHONE  
SPARTON  
STEELMAN  
SILVERTONE  
SCOTT

SENTINEL  
RCA  
PHILCO  
OLYMPIC  
NEWYORKER  
MOTOROLA  
FADA  
FRESHMAN  
FRENCH  
GAROD  
COLLINS  
DRAKE  
HEATHKIT  
KNIGHT  
NATIONAL



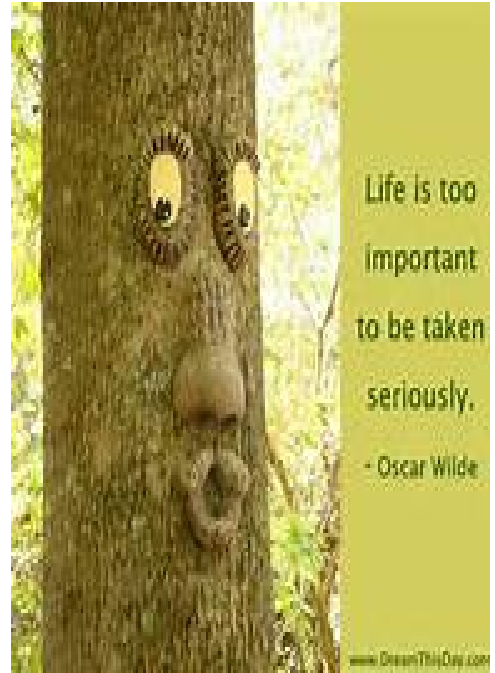
# RVWARS REPEATER CHATTER

I am still open to any questions or suggestions about the operation and construction of the site. Also I would be happy to show and tell to anyone that is interested in seeing the site. (when the weather breaks) I drove up on the hill a week or so ago and find that the road is getting pretty bad again due to the heavy rain washing away the gravel and leaving some pretty deep ditches. I have sent a report to the Village of Philmont letting them know.

I have contacted Arnie at NYAIR and we are going to try to schedule the spare antenna mounting on the next nice weather stretch we get. That will be on the lower bracket in the photo.

The spammer has moved or decided to stop messing with the repeater. Thanks!

Jules worked his magic with our new Antenna analyzer on the repaired antenna and it seems to be in fine shape.



Stan, WA2UET

**The Meeting room in the Churchtown Firehouse is HUGE. Bring yourself and lots of other folks.**

## **ARRL Membership**

**Being a member of ARRL they will remind you to renew your license!**

**They will renew it for you!**

**Magazine with great information!**

**ARRL email address!**

**Good insurance on your radios available.**

*Join the RVWARS Yahoo Group. Go to the [www.rvwars.com](http://www.rvwars.com) web site and scroll to the bottom of the page and simply enter your email address into the box.*

# Churchtown Firehouse



From the West RVW Bridge or 9G take Rt 23 to the 9H intersection and either go North to School House Rd and to Churchtown Firehouse or go through the light and take Bells Pond Road to the Firehouse. From the North or from Hudson go south on 9H, from the traffic light in Claverack, about 1 mile, to County Route 27 on the left then 2.4 miles to the Firehouse.

Park in the lot to the right of the Firehouse and enter through the Main Entrance. Someone will be listening to the repeater and will help you if need be. "FIREHOUSE" is indicated on the right side of the map.

## 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 prior to the regular meeting. 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)

**Our summer picnic is scheduled for  
August 3rd at the Claverack Park,  
Please put it in you plans.**

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happiest moments  
ever is when you  
feel the courage  
to let go of what  
you can't change.

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## A FEW CLIPS FROM OUR FIELD DAY





### How much does CW weigh?

Newcomers to the hobby often get a bit fed up when the older hands keep recommending CW. "...it's more efficient" "...it gets through when SSB fails", we've heard it all before. I want to look at it from a different angle; how much does it weigh? That might sound like a crazy question but bear with me.

First let's look at CW from a communications perspective. An approximate way to compare CW to SSB is by comparing the bandwidths of the respective modes. This is a simplification but it will suffice for this analysis. The bandwidth of an SSB signal is about 2.7 kHz – so your transmitter power is spread across this bandwidth. Let's assume that the bandwidth of a CW signal is 100 Hz – your transmitter power is much more concentrated! The ratio of these bandwidths is 27:1. All things being equal this equates to a 14 dB advantage for CW. Thus a 5 Watt CW signal will have the same power density as a 135 Watt SSB signal. What does this weigh?

Let's start with our CW station and we will use an FT-817 to generate our 5 Watt signal. The manufacturers spec says that an FT-817 weighs 1.17 kg including batteries. If we take out the batteries we save 300 g giving a mass of 870 g, that's 174 g/Watt.

There are no 135 Watt radios that I'm aware of so let's just look at an FT-857 as it's very similar in most respects to the FT-817. That radio weighs in at 2.1kg and runs 100 Watts so that's 21 g/Watt. scaling our FT857 up to 135 Watts gives a mass of 2.85 kg. So as a start our "No Code penalty" is just under 1 kg of extra weight.

That's just the start though. Let's look at the batteries we will need. The FT-817 specification indicated 2 Amps on transmit at 5 Watts output. So for an hour of transmitting we will need a 2 Ah battery. The FT-857 draws 22 Amps on transmit at 100 Watts. Scaling to 135 Watts gives about 30 Amps, so an hour of transmitting would require a 30 Ah battery. If we look at Lithium Iron Phosphate batteries, I found a 2.4 Ah 12 Volt battery weighing in at 360 g. The best 30 Ah 12 V LiFePO4 weighs in at 3.7 kg.

So now we can work out our station weight.

FT817 + 2.4 Ah LiFePO4 battery = 1.53 kg

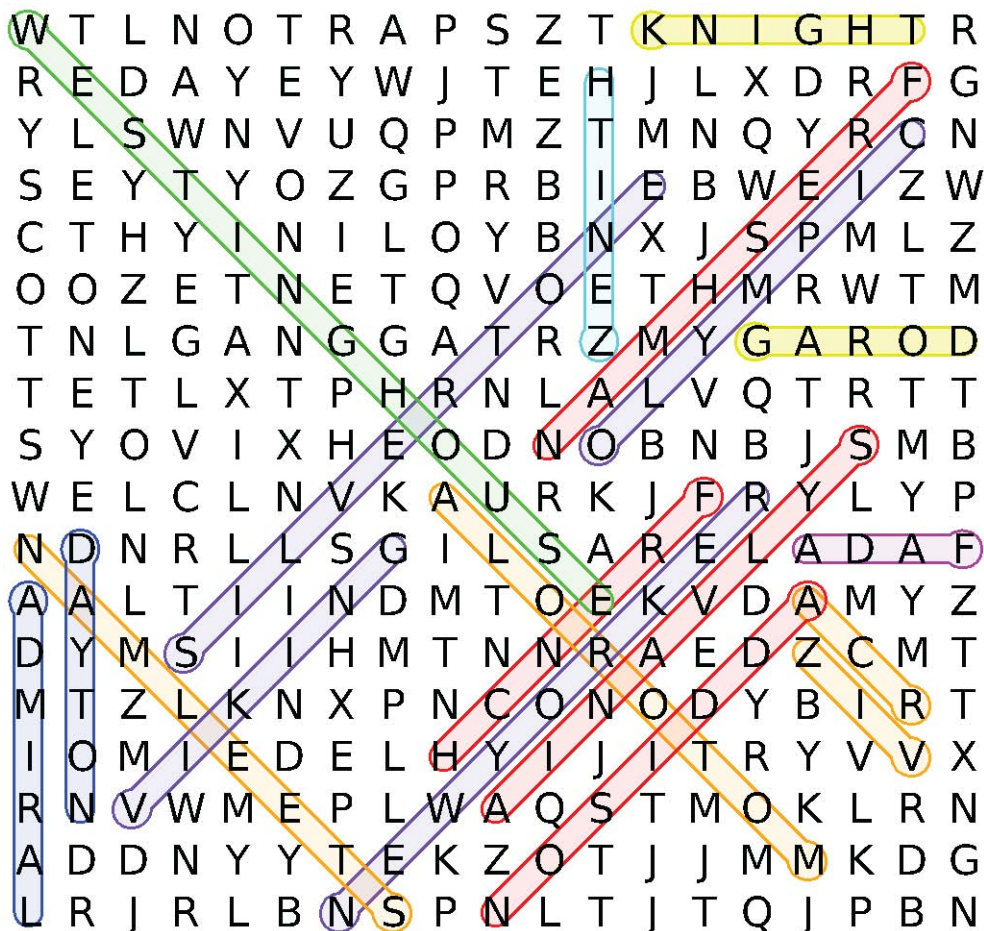
FT857 (scaled to 135 Watts) + 30 Ah LiFePO4 battery = 6.55 kg.

So with this simple analysis we can see that the "No Code penalty" is over 5 kg (11 lbs.).

CW is a skill that weighs nothing but if you are carrying your station it could save you a lot of sweat and toil!

## Antique Radio Manufacturers

By Joe Squillace



## New hams are different

By Dan Romanchik, KB6NU

This is going to be a bit of a ramble, but I need to get some thoughts down about new hams, and maybe get some feedback on these ideas from both new hams and guys that have been around for a while.

Recently, I visited the All Hands Active (AHA) makerspace here in Ann Arbor. Several of the "makers" that use this space have recently gotten their ham licenses-most of them in one of my one-day Tech classes. I was down there trying to get them interested in attending Field Day, and in particular, in operating the GOTA station.

There were four of us sitting around, talking about amateur radio, the projects they were working on, Field Day, and other stuff. In the past, they had also expressed an interest in doing something with WA2HOM, our station at the Ann Arbor Hands-On Museum. While it was a great discussion, it was apparent to me that it was going to be difficult to get them out for Field.

It dawned on me that these new radio amateurs were just not interested in the "old" amateur radio. Sitting in front of shortwave radios and exchanging fake signal reports with other guys sitting in front of shortwave radios is just not their idea of a good time. I think that if you take a step back and try to look at it through their eyes, you'll see where they're coming from.

What are they interested in? Well, one guy is having a blast playing around with RTL SDR dongles. He's also trying to figure out a way to rig up wireless link to light a light at bus stops around his house when a bus is approaching. Another is working on a Hinternet-type project. I helped him out a little bit last summer setting up a wireless node at his house.

This is perhaps one reason why there are so many more licensed radio amateurs these days, but yet there seems to be less activity on the HF bands these days. HF is just not where it's at for these new guys.

One consequence of this is that the old amateur radio clubs don't have much to offer the new guys. In fact, one of them told me that the one time that he attended the local club meeting, he got such a hostile response that he decided not to return.

I'm finding this all quite interesting. I do intend to pursue some kind of joint activities between the All Hands Active maker group and WA2HOM and see where that goes. They may not be interested in working DX on 20m, but they do seem to be interested in the IRLP node that we're in the process of installing there.

I'm not sure where this is all headed, but what I do know is that these folks have a lot of energy and creativity. If we can couple that with our knowledge and experience, then I think that we'll be a good fit for one another. It's going to take open minds all around, though.

I'm really interested in hearing from all of you about this. Have your clubs made contact with the "makers" in your area? Do any of them have ham radio licenses? Are there any interesting ham radio/maker projects going on in your area?

=====

When he's not thinking about the future of amateur radio, Dan, KB6NU enjoys working CW on the HF bands, teaching amateur radio classes, and building kits. For more information about his operating activities and his "No-Nonsense" series of amateur radio license study guides, go to [KB6NU.Com](http://KB6NU.Com) or e-mail [cwgeek@kb6nu.com](mailto:cwgeek@kb6nu.com).



## Items for sale de K2WG

1. 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

## For Sale

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Contact Ron, WA2UYY  
wa2uyy@aol.com

