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Your dues are important to this club! We support the operation of the repeater at between 700 and 800 dollars per year just in electric bills. We are always upgrading and improving and maintaining the system. Some of this expense is covered by our members. Our insurance is \$320 per year. Food alone for Field Day and the picnic is over \$300. We purchase some kind of snack for each meeting at probably around an average of \$15 per month and about another \$100 plus for the goody fest. Other than dues our income is sparse. The only substantial income has been the fall tag sale and the goods to sell are running out. The income from the raffle is not a lot. Our paid roster so far in 2015 is only 26 members paid. About \$600 income from dues so far. A rough estimate is about \$1600 expense and about \$600 income leaving us in the hole for \$1000. At the current rate we will be broke in two years! I know that several more members will pay their dues soon, but if you could pay sooner it would make it easier to plan. These figures are obviously a rough estimate but i think you can all see the potential dilemma looming. Please consider helping to maintain your club. Not only dues but your attendance at the meetings and your donations toward the fall tag sale and other needed support.



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.



MEETING 7:00 PM

And lots of money to buy stuff and have a good time!

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 our web page. Www.rvwars.com Simply enter your email address.

FEBRUARY MEETING 7:00 PM CHURCHTOWN

WE ARE NOW ON FACEBOOK CHECK IT OUT 2015 dues are \$25.00 per individual \$30.00 for family \$5.00 for students and active Military are free.



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.

New DTMF codes for the New Vantage Vue Weather Station: 500-Wind Speed & Direction 501-Outside Temperature

502-Indoor Humidity

503-Outdoor Humidity 504-High Wind Speed (since midnight)

505-High Outside Temperature (since midnight)

506-Low Outside Temperature (since midnight)

Hopefully a Rain reading will be added soon. But these are what is available at this point. The system is installed and ready to use. Please feel free to try the codes and see what is going on at the repeater site at Forest Lake. (the outside temperature from the new system is different than that from the controller. They are different sensors.)

RVW WORK PARTY

We did not get the stone raked off this summer. It is not a big deal but would look better if we can get it done next spring. I will let all know when I can help. We will also have to do some weed eating in the spring. That to was neglected this year. Other than that there is not a lot that needs to be done at the site. Todd took the junk away. We are in pretty good shape on the hill. If we can get the money through a grant next year we will put some solar

panels on the roof of the shelter.

LY KEY UP AND ENTER THE CODE WITH YOUR KEY PAD

SOME FUN 147.210 REPEATER DTMF CODES

Site Info:	Daily High/Low	
228-Outdoor Temp >	<u>900</u>	
229-Indoor Temp >	910 Resets at	
230-DC Volt Bat 1 >	930 1:00 AM	
231-AC Volt read >	920 Daily	
232-DC Volt Bat 2 >		

450-To check your input to the repeater. Key up and type 450, when it says "ready" <u>QUICKLY</u> 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 sta-

tion sometime as well so we could access wind speed etc. up there. Feel Free to try them!

March 2015

Upcoming Events

ARES

We are talking seriously about getting an ARES group started again. We feel it is important to have the ability to help with communications with the County EMO if needed. There will be more information about this soon. Meantime PLEASE consider helping. It will be a fun relaxed group. I promise!

Weekly Nets

EVERY TUESDAY at 7:00 p.m. Informal Roundtable on the 147.210 repeater ALL are welcome. Ist 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 Yahoo Group http://groups.yahoo.com/group/RVWARS/

FEBRUARY MEETING!

Railroad Communications was the title of the presentation at the February meeting. Dick Stewart AC2MH, with decades of service in the railroad communications field on the east coast took us through the years of advancement the industry experienced. He explained the many pieces of equipment he brought to the meeting, a few of which were true antiques. Dick also won the raffle which was a Baofeng Yellow BF-F9 V2+ HP 8Watt Tri-Power, dual band 2 meters and 70cm handheld.

Members were reminded to gather as much equipment as possible for the March auction and all who have not paid their dues to bring them to the next meeting or mail to Stan.



Rip Van Winkle Amateur Radio Society, Inc. Treasurers Report February 16, 2015

Balance Fwd. Checking Acct \$1113.06

Rcpts:	Dues	\$365.00		
	Raffle	\$70.00		
	Delete outdated check\$200.00			
	Total	\$635.00		
Exp:	NYSEG	\$68.55		
	Baofeng/raffle	\$59.99		
	Insite Towers	\$1.00		
	Total	\$129.54		
Checking Bal		\$1618.52		
Petty Cas	sh	\$50.00		
Savings Acct Bal		\$1011.49		
Total RVWARS monies		\$2680.01		

Rip's Report — Rip Van Winkle Amateur Radio Society

AMATEUR RADIO LICENSE COURSE

The East Chatham Fire Company, Inc. will be hosting and co-sponsoring an Amateur 'Ham' Radio licensing course with the Rip Van Winkle Amateur Radio Society. This course will be held on Saturday, May 9th from 8 AM until 5 PM and on Saturday, May 16th from 8 AM until 5 PM. The FCC licensing exam will be given at 5 PM on the 16th.

There is no fee for the course but a textbook is required and purchase of that textbook is the responsibility of the student. The text book is "The ARRL Ham Radio License Manual, Third Edition, Level 1, Technician". This book is available on-line from many sources but the best avenue for purchase is probably us-ARRL website the ing at www.arrl.org. The cost is approximately \$30.00. There will be a fee for taking the FCC exam and at this point in time that fee is \$15.00. The ARRL web site is a valuable source of information about all aspects of Amateur 'Ham' Radio.

It is important that each student read Chapters 1 through 5 before attending the May 9th session. There will not be enough time during class sessions to cover everything needed to be successful with the exam. So, each student must be willing to read the material in the textbook. Class time will be spent with demonstrations and 'hands-on' activities to reinforce the material provided in the textbook.

Attached is the schedule for the two day course. You will also need to bring a photo ID with you on May 16th to prove to the exam proctors that 'you are who you claim to be'.

If you have any further questions and/or to register for this class, email me at your convenience:

wayneg1231@fairpoint.net.

73 for now (you will learn what that means during the course)....

Wayne - K2WG

TWO DAY COURSE SCHEDULE

Saturday May 9, 2015: 8 AM to Noon

- 1. Welcome to Amateur Radio
- 2. Radio Signals, Waves and Modulation
- 3. Radio Equipment Basics
- 4. Math Review
- 5. Electricity
- 6. Electronic Components

Saturday May 9, 2015: 1 PM to 5 PM

- 1. Types of Radios and Radio Circuits
- 2. Propagation
- 3. Antennas and Feed Lines
- 4. Practical Antenna Systems
- 5. Basic Amateur Radio station

Saturday May 16, 2015: 8 AM to Noon

- 1. Power Supplies and RF Interference
- 2. Communicating with Other Hams
- 3. License Terms and Working with the
- FCC
- 4. Bands and Privileges
- 5. International Rules and Call Signs

Saturday May 16,2015: 1 PM to 5 PM

- 1. Operating Regulations
- 2. Electrical Safety
- 3. Radio Frequency Exposure
- 4. Mechanical Safety
- 5. Practice exam[s]
- 6. VE Session

PLEASE COME TO YOUR CLUB MEETINGS. WE NEED YOU!

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.

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

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Rip's Report — Rip Van Winkle Amateur Radio Society

March 2015

Rippers 2015 Auction

The Auction will be held right after the 7:00 PM meeting on 3/17. PLEASE bring some good stuff to sell and lots of cash to buy the GOOD stuff. All are welcome. Dick, W2CSO, will be the auctioneer and he does not want to get dirty from handling Junk. The boxes of useful parts are not however junk! Computer gear is also popular. We need some good HF gear and HT's and mobile radios for the new hams and those who will be upgrading soon. And all those accessories that you have tucked away not used anymore.



Our club auction started in 1978. It may have been a year either side of this but I believe it was 1978. I was the auctioneer(and have been with and without help) until K2WG and I did it together for a few years. Many hams helped bring stuff from tables to the auctioneers; their help was important since at one time we were quite large and it was hard: to move stuff around and auction at the same time.

We started at Hudson High School in what was their small cafeteria. We offered food, parking, and a great amount of space. We also partook of a flea market as well. As time went on we moved to the John Edward's school for quite a few years, then to the college | From the intersection of 9G and Route for a short while, Noecker's for a while, and now the Churchtown Fire house. This is a: large facility with decent parking. W2CSQ is looking forward to his 2nd year as auctioneer and Stan(for many years) handles the money.

The purpose of this was two fold: most importantly to let club members have fun, then to expand to other ham communities and offer to us all the beginning of the auction/flea | traffic light at the intersection of 9H and market season. It was not to make a bundle of money-though it sure helped the coffers. It : still remains a fun time for those who want to buy and sell or just say hello to old acquaintances whom live out of area.

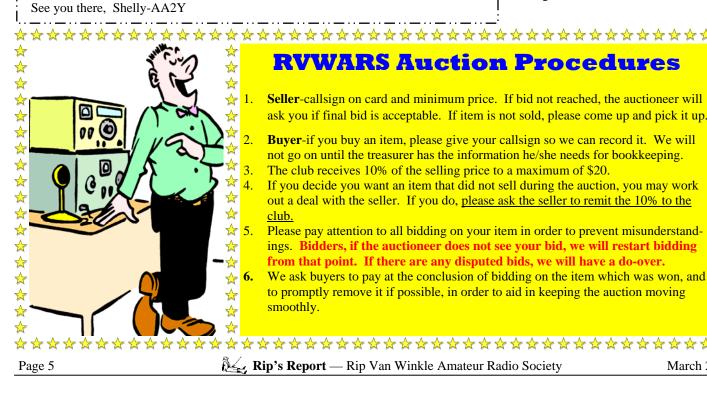
Once in awhile you find a bargain. We do need good stuff. This is a tough sell because the good stuff has a price tag which (while fair) is not what you want to pay. But let's front. Park in the lot just before the keep trying-like fishing you never know what you might catch.

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.

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 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 building.



☆☆☆☆ March 2015

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RVWARS REPEATER CHATTER

The weather station is installed and working. Details and functions on page 2! Although the wind gauge does not seem to be accurate. I will have to wait until spring to get back up there to check it out.

We have STILL not tested the Generator setup for the repeater. I just have not gotten much done in some time. I will try to get that done before something major happens.

I have to wait for a thaw to get rid of the snow and ice on the road to the repeater. I just have a passenger car with 2 wheel drive.

Spring is coming sometime!!!

Stan, WA2UET

CURMUDGEON NEEDED!

It's imperative that we find another "Curmudgeon" as soon as possible! I have printed all of WD2K's great Musings that I have.

Someone out there should be able to carry on the tradition. Please send me your Musings!!! ARRL has just published another PowerPoint Jeopardy-type game for instructors to use in exam-prep classes for the General-class test. The game was produced by our own W2XM. The new game, and several old ones, can be found at http:// www.arrl.org/instruction-exampractice-and-review.

2015 Dues Mail to: Stan Engel, WA2UET PO Box 153 Ghent, NY 12075 Or bring with you to meeting

Or bring with you to meeting Make checks Payable to RVWARS



RVWARS ON FACEBOOK!

There is now a group on Facebook for the Rip Van Winkle Amateur Radio Society. Just search for the above. There are currently 13 members since Tom started the group about a month ago. Please join in!

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

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

Churchtown Firehouse

CHURCHTOWA

It's right here, Please join us!!!

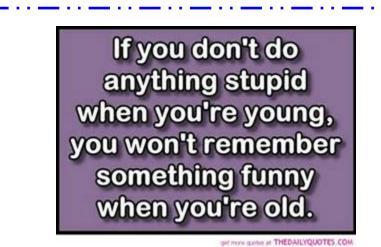
From the West RVW Bridge or 9G take Rt 23 to the 9H intersection and either go North to School House Rd and to Churchtown Firehouse or go through the light and take Bells Pond Road to the Firehouse. From the North or from Hudson go south on 9H, from the traffic light in Claverack, about 1 mile, to County 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) We are considering putting a HF/VHF station in the firehouse meeting area. Details are just being talked about. If it works out members and guests could do some operating before and after the meeting.



SB QST @ ARL \$ARLB001 ARLB001 W1AW 2015 Winter Operating Schedule

ZCZC AG01 QST de W1AW ARRL Bulletin 1 ARLB001 From ARRL Headquarters Newington CT January 2, 2015 To all radio amateurs

SB QST ARL ARLB001 ARLB001 W1AW 2015 Winter Operating Schedule

Morning Schedule:

Time	Mode	Days	
1400 UTC (9 1400 UTC (9			Wed, Fri Tue, Thu

Daily Visitor Operating Hours:

1500 UTC to 1700 UTC - (10 AM to 12 PM EST) 1800 UTC to 2045 UTC - (1 PM to 3:45 PM EST)

(Station closed 1700 to 1800 UTC (12 PM to 1 PM EST))

Afternoon/Evening Schedule:

2100 UTC (4 PM EST) CWf Mon, Wed, Fri 2100 " " CWs Tue, Thu 2200 " (5 PM EST) CWb Daily 2300 " (6 PM EST) DIGITAL Daily 0000 " (7 PM EST) CWs Mon, Wed, Fri 0000 " " CWf Tue, Thu 0100 " (8 PM EST) CWb Daily 0200 " (9 PM EST) DIGITAL Daily 0245 " (9:45 PM EST) VOICE Daily 0300 " (10 PM EST) CWf Mon. Wed. Fri 0300 " ... CWs Tue, Thu 0400 " (11 PM EST) CWb Daily

Frequencies (MHz)

CW: 1.8025 3.5815 7.0475 14.0475 18.0975 21.0675 28.0675 147.555 DIGITAL: - 3.5975 7.095 14.095 18.1025 21.095 28.095 147.555 VOICE: 1.855 3.990 7.290 14.290 18.160 21.390 28.590 147.555

Notes:

CWs = Morse Code practice (slow) = 5, 7.5, 10, 13 and 15 WPM CWf = Morse Code practice (fast) = 35, 30, 25, 20, 15, 13 and 10 WPM CWb = Morse Code Bulletins = 18 WPM

CW frequencies include code practices, Qualifying Runs and

CW bulletins.

DIGITAL = BAUDOT (45.45 baud), BPSK31 and MFSK16 in a revolving schedule.

Code practice texts are from QST, and the source of each practice is given at the beginning of each practice and at the beginning of alternate speeds.

On Tuesdays and Fridays at 2330 UTC (6:30 PM EST), Keplerian Elements for active amateur satellites are sent on the regular digital frequencies.

A DX bulletin replaces or is added to the regular bulletins between 0100 UTC (8 PM EST) Thursdays and 0100 UTC (8 PM EST) Fridays.

Audio from W1AW's CW code practices, CW/digital bulletins and phone bulletin is available using EchoLink via the W1AW Conference Server named "W1AWBDCT." The audio is sent in real-time and runs concurrently with W1AW's regular transmission schedule.

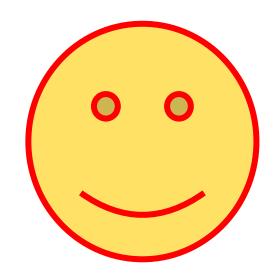
All users who connect to the conference server are muted. Please note that any questions or comments about this server should not be sent via the "Text" window in EchoLink. Please direct any questions or comments to w1aw@arrl.org.

In a communications emergency, monitor W1AW for special bulletins as follows: Voice on the hour, Digital at 15 minutes past the hour, and CW on the half hour.

All licensed amateurs may operate the station from 1500 UTC to 1700 UTC (10 AM to 12 PM EST), and then from 1800 UTC to 2045 UTC (1 PM to 3:45 PM EST) Monday through Friday. Be sure to bring your current FCC amateur radio license or a photocopy.

The W1AW Operating Schedule may also be found on page 91 in the January 2015 issue of QST or on the web at, http://www.arrl.org/w1aw-operating-schedule . NNNN

/EX



MAKE YOUR OWN DIPOLES WITH THESE CENTER INSULATORS

By Dan Romanchik, KB6NU

One of the things that always gets my goat is the price some companies charge for dipole antennas. It's not that they're charging an outrageously large sum of money, and I certainly don't begrudge them making a profit for their efforts. It's just that if hams would just buy their own wire and parts, they would not only save money over the long run, but be encouraged to experiment with antennas. That's what I started doing about ten years ago, and I've been very happy with the results.

One of the first things that I did was to purchase ten Budwig HQ-1 center insulators and ten HQ-2 end insulators (http:// www.budwig.com/antenna-connector-insulators.html). I've made a bunch of antennas with these insulators, including several 40m/20m inverted vees for portable use (such as Field Day and special events), a 17m dipole, and a 10m loop antenna. These insulators are very well-made, and can easily be reused, too.

Universal Radio sells the set (http://universal-radio.com/catalog/antsup/1782.html) for \$18.50. I just placed another order for ten HQ -1s and 20 HQ-2s (the minimum number that you can purchase to get a quantity discount). The price, including shipping, is \$143.

There are a bunch of other center insulators on the market, including:

* The Alpha Delta Delta-C antenna hardware kit (http://universal-radio.com/catalog/antsup/0297.html) consists of a Delta-C Center Insulator, antenna connecting hardware, 1 SEP Arc-PlugTM static protector (installed in Delta-C) and 2 Delta-CIN end insulators. This is a little heavier-duty than the Budwig insulators, but it costs more, too (30 at Universal Radio). Unless you're going to be running a kW, I don't see the need to spend nearly twice as much money on these insulators.

* The TEN-TEC ACRO-BAT Antenna Connector & Hanger (http://www.tentec.com/products/ACRO%252dBAT-Antenna-Connector-%26-Hanger.html) is an interesting product. Unlike the Budwig and Alpha-Delta insulators, this product does not have an SO-239. Instead, this insulator clamps over the coax and antenna wire, and in doing so, provides strain relief. I haven't tried this one, but it seems like a nice design. The cost is \$10, directly from TEN-TEC or from Universal Radio.

* The Unadilla W2AU ANsulator (http://universal-radio.com/catalog/antsup/0913.html) is made from PCV tubing and include eyelets for terminating the antenna wire and for supporting the insulator in the middle. For \$15, I think I'd rather have the Budwig insulator. Also, you should be able to make one of these insulators for less than 15 bucks.

* The Hy-Gain C-1C Center Insulator (http://www.hy-gain.com/Product.php?productid=C-1C) has a screw for tightening down the antenna wire, so you don't have to do any soldering, but overall, I don't think I like the looks of this model. And, at 30 bucks, it seems kind of pricey.

* The W8AMZ Dipole Antenna Starter Kit (http://www.w8amz.com/W8AMZ_ACC_Page.html) comes a center insulator made from PVC pipe, similar to the Unadilla W2AU ANsulator and two end insulators. It costs \$18.

If none of these strikes your fancy, you can always make your own. WP4AOH has some very good instructions on how to do this using PVC pipe and fasteners that you can find at your local hardware store (http://wp4aoh.blogspot.com/2012/07/dipole-antenna-center-insulator.html).

Whatever route you take, I encourage you to keep several on hand and enough antenna wire and coax to complete the antenna. You never know when the urge will strike you to build an antenna, and if you don't have the parts you've missed an opportunity to do some experimenting.

When not checking his stock of antenna parts, you'll find KB6NU working on updates to his "No Nonsense" study guides, blogging about amateur radio at www.kb6nu.com, or working 30m CW.

JOHNSON ADVENTURER FOR SALE Adventurer 80-10M CW and AM screen modulated rig. 35 to 50 Watts out – perfect functional operation. New HV Electrolytic Capacitors, all tubes tested VG, comes with 1- 40M XTL, RCA phono to SO-239 adapter cable, manuals and schematics, and a very rare Screen Modulator module Cat No. 250-40. Asking \$125.00 or best offer- no swaps, more pictures available. Contact Carl WA2UJX at cjv@1791.com



FOR SALE

For the news letter

Anyone interested it 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

Wa2uyy Ron Coons Sr. 518-945-3731 2012 Keystone Retreat 39 FDEN

New lower price \$30,500 Call (518)784-3864

For Sale



If your ad is no longer valid please let me know.

I have about 16 -120 volt pan cake fans plus protective guards if you know of anyone 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 wa2uyy@aol.com



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March 2015