

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

# Rip's Report

March 2011

Happy  
Birthday

Lou-KD2MU  
Cliff-N2FN  
Mike-N2JVE  
LEN-WB2UEB

Our 2 meter repeater is working great! Please feel free to use it. Try the 449.925 but our 224.280 is temporarily off the air. No one uses the 450MHz or the 220MHz repeaters so we don't know the coverage. If you use them give us a report...

2011 dues are \$25.00 per individual \$30.00 for family \$5.00 for students and active Military are free.

**March is the last month  
To PAY your 2011 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 Echo-Link (K2RVW-R) if need be.



# Annual Auction & Meeting

## March 21, 2011

### Bob, WB2DUW

An update on WB2DUW (Bob Turner). Tom talked to Bob a couple of weeks ago and he is doing well. He is still doing rehab. He is working on the nursing home antenna projects and hopes to become active again soon.  
Good Luck Bob!

### RVWARS WEB PAGE

Dave, WA2FTI has our RVW web page [www.rvwars.com](http://www.rvwars.com) updated and looking great. Thanks Dave.

On Monday David's white and blood counts were down again as expected. His low point was this morning when he spiked a low grade fever. The Tylenol took care of



that, but he has been uncomfortable all day. This is not too alarming as it follows the pattern of all of the other second Wednesdays. The best news is that he did NOT have to go to the hospital this time.

Just before he went to bed he announced that he was feeling better. He is still troubled with a cough and post nasal problems. This is part of the pattern as well.

Tomorrow he will go over for an extra blood test to be sure that the cells are recovering. On Monday he will have another CT scan to check for any sign of the cancer. On March 3rd he will find out if the infusions will continue.

The Auction will be held right after the 7:00 PM meeting on 3/21. PLEASE bring some good stuff to sell and lots of cash to buy the GOOD stuff. All are welcome. Shelly and Wayne will be auctioneers and as always they do 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.



### RVWARS Auction Procedures

1. **Seller**-callsign on card and minimum price. If bid not reached, the auctioneer will ask you if final bid is acceptable. If item is not sold, please come up and pick it up.
2. **Buyer**-if you buy an item, please give your callsign so we can record it. We will not go on until the treasurer has the information he/she needs for bookkeeping.
3. The club receives 10% of the selling price to a maximum of \$25.
4. If you decide you want an item that did not sell during the auction, you may work out a deal with the seller. If you do, please ask the seller to remit the 10% to the club.
5. Please pay attention to all bidding on your item in order to prevent misunderstandings. Bidders, if the auctioneer does not see your bid, we will restart bidding from that point. If there are any disputed bids, we will have a do-over.
6. We ask buyers to pay at the conclusion of bidding on the item which was won, and to promptly remove it if possible, in order to aid in keeping the auction moving smoothly.

*"Be who you are and say what you feel because those who mind don't matter and those who matter don't mind."*

*~ Dr. Seuss*

### RVW WORK PARTY

SNOW SNOW SNOW, does not stop! The repeater sounds pretty good at this point. We will get up there as soon as possible to tweak and make it better! TomG went up yesterday 2/27 and installed a heat lamp under the repeater.

Since 1978 we have been having the RVWARS auction. In those days it featured tube sets which are now not so easily available. The purpose was secondarily to make some money but primarily to have a good time. AHHH-memories-- Dick and Ellen Retus(deceased) used to run the kitchen at the Hudson High School and all had a good time. For those items not auctioned often deals were made on the side from which all benefited.

We used to meet in John Edwards School, later Questar III on Route 66 and more recently at Noecker's also on Route 66. While much water has run over this dam since 1978, the idea of having a good time has not. Good gear still is needed, as well as stuff for guys like Carl, the preservationist. He does good restoration work and you can too with the proper interest.

So bring your stuff to the auction and plan on having fun. I usually find something myself even though my station is complete; you can also. Our club starts the auction season in March every year and we invite people from all over to join us.

Shelly-AA2Y





## Upcoming Events

### Monday, Mar 7 — 7:00 p.m.

ARES/RACES Meeting on the air! Tom, WE2G will be at the EOC if someone wants to stop by.

### Monday, Mar 21 — 7:00 p.m.

RVWARS Meeting:

Noecker Clubhouse, Rt. 66 & Graham Ave. Hudson

## Weekly Nets

### EVERY TUESDAY at 7:00 p.m.

Informal Roundtable on the 147.210 repeater ALL are welcome.

### 3<sup>rd</sup> THURSDAY at 8:00 p.m.

ARES/RACES

Emergency Training Net: 147.21 Repeater

## Repeaters

147.210 no PL tone

449.925 no PL tone

224.280— no tone and temporarily off line.

## Vital Statistics

President — Tom Gutierrez N2NZD  
 Vice President — Mike Alecsynas N2JVE  
 Secretary — Tom Cody WE2G  
 Treasurer — Stan Engel WA2UET  
 Historian — Stan Engel WA2UET  
 Safety Officer — Stan Engel WA2UET  
 Repeaters — 147.21 224.280 449.925  
 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/>

## RVWARS Meeting 2/21/2011

- Meeting called to order at 7:14pm by President. N2NZD. Attendance 20.
- Secretary's report read. Motion to accept by KC2YBJ, second by KC2YKM.
- Treasurer's report Checking \$762.91, Savings \$2010.40, Total \$2773.31.

### Committees:

#### • ARES/RACES

Columbia County looking for events to cover. If anyone has any ideas, let officers know. Northern Columbia County Rotary Club looking for a speaker about emergency communications in Columbia County. Bob, WB2DUW is working on it. It will be presented by N2NZD or WE2G. Copake's town web site mentions ARES/RACES with no contact. N2NZD will look into it.

#### • NO REPORT FROM GREENE COUNTY

#### • REPEATER

Nothing heard from Manny on tower. 2 meter repeater working well after adjustment. 440 working.

#### • EDUCATION

KC2SAG reported the class will begin on March 8. There will be no CW option. Class will begin at 6:30. VE session will be May 10. Everyone is invited to participate. WB2TCV will do antennas, WA2UET will do digital. WE2G will do poster for distribution. KC2SAG will do press release. K2WG hopes to have discussions to help those going for General license. KC2YKM will announce on his net. New books will be ordered, as there is a new version. We may be able to get a discount. We got them through a grant last year. May try this year. Otherwise students will have to pay. Rotary club gives donations to clubs.

#### • OLD BUSINESS

Vote on change in by-laws. Motion by KC2SAG, Second KC2YKM. It was adopted with change in language.

#### • NEW BUSINESS

Auction will be next month. Rules will be in newsletter. Other clubs will be notified.

Field Day chairman needed. No volunteers. N2JVE will be away. Tabled. Stan has Claverack Town Park reserved. Stan has raffle tickets. \$3 each.

10 meter net on Sunday afternoons 28.430. AC2DK NCS.

Fundraising- tabled.

Winter Sprint. 3 entries. Single Operator Single Band N2JVE 1st N7CXJ 2nd Single Operator Multi Band WA2UET 1st.

50-50 won by WB2TCV.

Adjourned 7:45. Motion by KC2YKM, second WB2TCV.

Respectfully Submitted,

WE2G, Secretary

## FIELD DAY RAFFLE

Rip Van Winkle Amateur Radio Society, Inc.

**First Prize—24" Samsung LED Full HDTV/Monitor**  
**Second prize-ARRL Repeater Directory**

**Drawing Saturday 6/25 Noon at the FD Site**  
**Tickets—\$3.00 each Tickets available at the meetings and at FieldDay Site.**

**Send \$ASE to RVWARS c/o Stan Engel**  
**PO Box 153 Ghent, NY 12075**  
**Make Checks Payable to RVWARS**

## QNZ de K2WG ...

In about 30 or 40 years will my grandchildren reminisce about the early 2000's as 'the good old days'? Just when were the 'good old days' for my generation? The 1950's? The 1960's? Radios and TV's had vacuum tubes or a few of the new transistor devices. I entered the world of ham radio with a Novice license in 1960 (WV2ULU). Real radios glowed in the dark and helped keep your shack warm in winter. Novices only had one year to upgrade then so the move to Technician or beyond was imperative (WA2ULU). One of the best ways to get good ham radio gear at a reasonable cost was to build a Heathkit. Many hams learned a lot about electronics by not only following the assembly instructions but also by carefully studying the accompanying large diagrams and schematics. Operating in digital mode meant you were using CW. Often you would get to know your neighbors better and learn about TVI at the same time. Anyone else remember 6 meter AM and TV Channel 2?



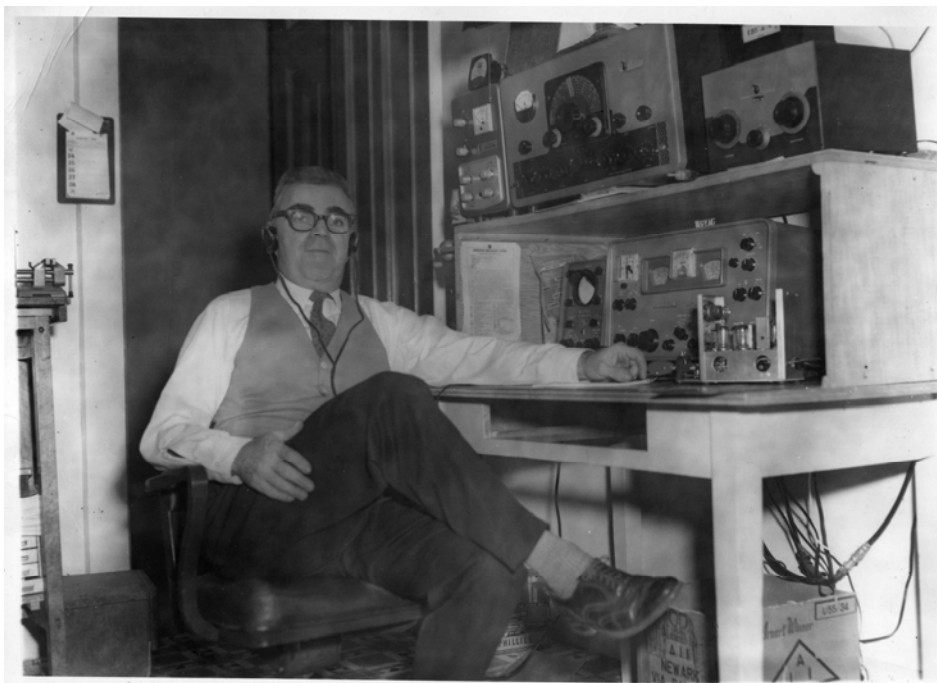
would be the best individual to be the faculty advisor for the club. And thus the Chatham Central High School Amateur Radio Club was born and obtained WB2STN as the club license. A station was set up in the corner of one of the science department store rooms, a vertical and a wire antenna were set

Walker K2LQY, Harold Whitney W2ANV, Cal Van Beusichem WB2ICI, Dave West WA2SRT and especially Uncas Richter WB2LMG. The fact that WB2LMG had an attractive daughter might have had something to do with the amount of time that the group (all males) spent at Rick's QTH. Rick always fascinated the group with his CW skills and his home brew electronic keyer. Rick was the field sales representative for E. E. Taylor Electronics in Albany (still in business) and was a good resource person for parts for those home brew projects. There was always strong and not so subtle encouragement to upgrade to at least a General Class license.

The most important lesson from all of those mentors was not about CW, electronics or working DX. Obtaining a ham license and getting on the air was not an end in itself. It was a means to becoming a better person by learning about on-the-air courtesy, learning about geography and cultures around the world and learning how to always strive for self improvement. We are those mentors for this generation of new hams. Let's continue the legacy by passing along those important lessons.

For a much more detailed trip down memory lane regarding ham radio activity in the Chatham area in the 1960's go to WA3UMY's web site at [www.qsl.net/wa3umy/](http://www.qsl.net/wa3umy/).

73 for now... AR... SK... de K2WG



The Geek Squad (we existed but there were other names for us back then) at Chatham High School decided to share the ham radio hobby with others in the school by forming a club. Three licensed hams (WA2ULU now K2WG, WB2CJQ no longer licensed, WN2IYN now WA3UMY) and a few others who wanted to get their licenses convinced the head of the science department that he

up on the roof of the building just outside the store room window, equipment was donated by local hams, the principal was convinced to put aside some money to purchase some equipment and along with a homebrew 40 meter CW transmitter WB2STN was on the air from 1964 through the early 1970's.

There were several local hams that mentored the group (all SK's). Hal





## ADDING REMOTE FREQUENCY SWITCHING TO K7DYY TRANSMITTER

(copyright 2011 CJV)

BY: Carl J. Verderber WA2UJX

The AM Amateur Radio Community is an interesting group of people with some very interesting gear. Some are intent on using boat-anchors (tube transmitters which were manufactured between 1930 and the 1960's) that emulate the operation of their father's and grandfather's stations. Some modify very large commercial transmitters, once used on the Broadcast Band, tweaked for use on 160 or 75 Meters. Generally these operators adapt audio enhancement and processing equipment to get the full and robust sound normally heard on professional Broadcast Stations.

There are also many AM'ers that prefer to utilize the newest and most modern solid state technology in their transmitters. Transmitters either home brewed or purchased, and designed primarily with Field Effect Transistors (FET's), have become very popular. Class D and E circuit designs have very high efficiencies and also produce a Hi-Fi sound whose quality is described as "like listening to FM radio".

Chet WB2AHK, a HAM buddy living in Queens County NY, utilizes a pair of K7DYY Class D transmitters, one on 160 Meters and the other on 75 Meters. The compactness and simplicity of design is astounding. Typically, a 300 Watt output tube type modulated AM transmitter (1200 Watts PEP) weighs in at from 200 to 300 lbs. For example my Globe King 500C is comprised of three rack mounted units that weigh 260 lbs. The K7DYY 300 watt (1200 W-PEP) transmitter weighs about 6 lbs., has only three function switches and a rotary knob (Fig 2) that selects from 6 transmit frequencies. Instead of being a rack of equipment 4 to 6 feet high, the K77DYY is smaller than a shoe box. Considering Chet operates remotely there were a few control difficulties when changing frequency.

The K7DYY frequency selector has six frequencies defined at the time of manufacture. Chet first used a rubber band placed over the frequency rotary selector knob which was moved by a servo motor activated through DTMF control relay function. This lash-up worked OK but more often than not, Chet would have to reset the rubber band or motor. Something had to be done to im-

prove selection functionality. Since it was determined that the selector switch provided +5VDC power to any one of six individual oscillator modules, one at a time, I designed a simple scheme that would utilize six DTMF controlled relays to take the place of the rotary selector. Adding a Mode Switch to direct the +5VDC to either the outboard DTMF board or to the internal selector switch allows Chet either Remote or Local frequency function.

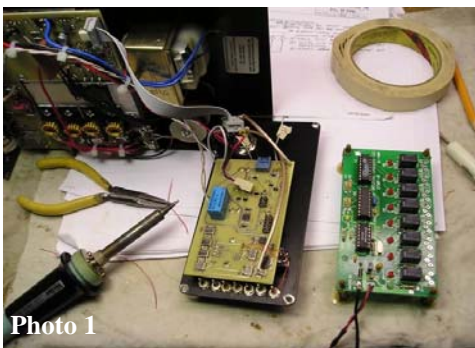


Photo 1



Photo 2

Photo one and two shows the layout of the Mode switch and the seven .03 uF feed thru capacitors with attachment to the 7 conductor ribbon cable wired between the caps and the DTMF board. This board is fed audio from a UHF receiver that delivers the control tones for six of the eight relays located within the board.



Photo 3

Photo three shows the 160 and 75 Meter transmitters wired and being test evaluated before shipment to Chet's QTH. Notice the DTMF control boards have been nested within a metal box for RF shielding purposes. Holes allow visual access to all the board status lights.



Photo 4

Photo four is the final installation at Chet's QTH. Nested below his Japan Radio JST 245 transceiver/JRL 2000F amplifier are the two K7DYY transmitters with DTMF control boxes - all mounted within the rack. He uses five UHF control receivers and other equipment such as the 50A DC regulated supply to remotely operate the sharing of antennas/talking power meter, selection of transmitters, etc. Notice the single rack layout, neat, clean, and LOOK - no rubber bands!

## ORANGE COUNTY ARC HAMFEST

Saturday, March 26, 2011  
Town of Wallkill  
Community Center  
2 Wes Warren Drive  
Middletown, NY

★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★  
★ "IT IS AMAZING HOW MUCH ★  
★ YOU CAN ACCOMPLISH ★  
★ WHEN IT DOESN'T MATTER ★  
★ WHO GETS THE CREDIT. " ★  
★ ~ UNKNOWN ~ ★  
★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★

**RVWARS Technician Course 2011:**

Textbook: The ARRL Ham Radio License Manual second Edition Level 1 Technician  
All Class Sessions Begin at 18:30 (6:30 PM)

**March 8: Welcome to Amateur Radio (Chapter 1)**

What is Amateur Radio?  
The FCC and Licensing  
Amateur Radio Activities  
Getting Your Ham Radio License

**March 15: Radio and Signals Fundamentals (Chapter 2)**

Radio Signals and Waves  
Modulation  
Radio Equipment Basics

**March 22: Electricity, Components and Circuits (Chapter 3)**

Electricity  
Components and Units  
Types of Radios and Radio Circuits

**March 29: Propagation, Antennas and Feed Lines (Chapter 4)**

Propagation  
Antenna Fundamentals  
Feed Lines and SWR  
Practical Antenna Systems

**April 5: Amateur Radio Equipment (Chapter 5)**

Transmitters and Receivers  
Digital Communications  
Power Supplies and Batteries  
RF Interference (RFI)  
RF Grounding

**April 12: Communicating With Other Hams (Chapter 6)**

Contact Basics  
Band Plans  
Making Contacts  
Using Repeaters  
Nets  
Emergency Communications  
Special Activities, Modes and Techniques

**April 19: Licensing Regulations (Chapter 7)**

Licensing Terms  
Working with the FCC  
Bands and Privileges  
International Rules  
Call Signs

**April 26: Operating Regulations (Chapter 8)**

Control Operators  
Identification  
Interference  
Third-Party Communications  
Remote and Automatic Operation  
Prohibited Transmissions

**May 3: Safety and Review for Exam (Chapter 9)**

Electrical Safety  
RF Exposure  
Mechanical Safety  
Review

**May 10: VE Session**

All Levels of Exams will be offered

## FREE 10 WEEK AMATEUR RADIO COURSE



Sponsored by the  
**RIP VAN WINKLE AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY**  
Beginning March 8, 2011 @ 6:30 PM  
Held at the Noecker66 Dealership  
92 Union Tpke, Hudson  
For more information, call Tom at 518-828-7084  
There may be a fee for course materials

### THUNDERBOLT SKI RACE COMMS

Sorry I didn't get any pictures but Alex KC2RDK, Richard KC2YKT and I assisted with the communications for the Thunderbolt Ski Race at Mount Greylock on February 12th. Alex was stationed at the summit and was responsible for reporting each racer's start time to Net Control. Richard and I shared Net Control duties at the base lodge on Gould Road in Adams, MA. The Finish Line and other positions along the course were staffed by members of the Northern Berkshire Amateur Radio Club. In addition to recording the start and finish times our job at Net Control was also to act as radio communication liaison with the Ski Patrolters and the EMT/Paramedics providing

assistance to the racers. This was Richard's first time as a Net Control Operator and I am very proud of the way in which he handled his assignment. During the approximately three hours to allow all 100 racers to ski down the mountain on an un groomed course, Net Control operations often became hectic especially when there was an injury on the course. This race was held last year as a revival of a once popular race that began during the 1930's. This is the second year that I have participated and the organizers are planning on continuing to make this an annual event. If anyone is interested in more information about the Thunderbolt Race, refer to [www.thunderboltskirun.com](http://www.thunderboltskirun.com).  
Wayne - K2WG

**For Sale de K2WG:****\$50.00 each****HTX-242** (Radio Shack) 2 meter mobile transceiver

45 watts/10 watts  
 Mobile mounting bracket  
 Power-Pole connections on double fused 12 volt DC line  
 DTMF microphone  
 Good condition

**HTX-202** (Radio Shack) 2 meter HT  
 Alkaline battery case only  
 Good condition

**GP-68** (Motorola) UHF hand held  
 Drop in charger  
 Head set

**FT-11R** (Yaesu) VHF hand held  
 Drop in charger  
 2 battery packs

Contact Wayne at  
[wayneg1231@fairpoint.net](mailto:wayneg1231@fairpoint.net) or 518-610-1929



## Amateur Radio & Electronics Hamfest

**Saturday March 5, 2011**  
**Springfield Turnverein Club**  
**176 Garden St, Feeding Hills, MA**  
 Info: <http://www.mtara.org>

## MT. BEACON ARC HAMFEST

**Sunday April 10, 2011**  
**8:00 AM to 2:00 PM**  
 Tymor Park, LaGrangeville  
 Dutchess County

### PACKET RADIO—TRY IT!

If anyone is interested in trying a bit of PACKET radio you should know that there are two BBS's on 145.030 that are always online. They are K2WG-1 and K2RVW-1. Just type "C" and one of the above stations and you should connect. Once connected type "H" for the rest of the commands. Type a "B" to log off.

## The Cooling of Ham Radio

Surfin': The Cooling of Ham Radio

TAGS: amateur radio, ham radio, Stan Horzepa  
 02/12/2010

By Stan Horzepa, WA1LOU  
 ARRL Contributing Editor

This week, Surfin' considers the coolness of iPhone ham radio applications ("apps").

The weather outside is rightful for mid-February -- white precipitation with temperatures dipping below zero Centigrade. So what better time than now to consider some cool new ham radio applications for the coolest gadget that fits in your palm of your hand.

According to the kids, nothing is cooler than the iPhone, so it is nice to discover some brand new ham radio iPhone apps. Which reminds me of my most embarrassing moment as a kid. I was about 11 years old when my family visited App's restaurant in West Haven. My parents and sister ordered lobsters for dinner. Not being a shellfish kid, I ordered pizza. When dinner arrived, the pizza was so big that they moved me and my pizza to my own booth. I was so embarrassed that I lost my appetite and did not eat one slice.

By the way, App's is still in business; I wonder if there's an iPhone app for App's?

Getting back to ham radio apps, visiting the iTunes store, I was surprised how many ham radio apps there are -- and about a quarter of them are free! Among the free apps are a satellite tracker, an EchoLink app, ham utilities, an APRS app, a Maidenhead converter, a direction finder, a HF beacon app, a VHF/UHF/SHF contest rover logger and a bunch of ham radio exam preparation apps, including some in partnership with the ARRL. If you are willing to part with a buck or two, there are a slew of "unfree" ham radio apps, too.

If you visit the iTunes store to search for ham radio apps, be sure to search on both "ham radio" and "Amateur Radio," since the search results are slightly different -- some apps only show up in one or the other search results. There are also some pertinent apps that turn up when you search on "radio," but that search also turns up a lot of apps not related to ham radio that you will have to wade through.

By the way, I offer no URL for the iTunes Store. If you have iTunes installed on your computer, you click on the "iTunes Store" button in iTunes and iTunes proceeds to access the store via the Internet. In other words, iTunes acts as your Web browser, but its browsing is limited to the iTunes Store. If you don't have iTunes installed on your computer, you can download it for free.

Man --- I got to get cool and get an iPhone real soon now to help me forget my bad pizza app.

Thank you, Gerry Jurrens, N2GJ, for alerting me to the EchoLink app.

Until next time, keep on surfin'!

Editor's note: Stan Horzepa, WA1LOU, has owned Macs since they first arrived on the computer scene, so one wonders why he is slow going to the iPhone. To contact Stan, send him e-mail or add comments to his blog.

## FIELD DAY RAFFLE 2011



**FIRST PRIZE: 24" LED HDTV/MONITOR**

**MODEL-FX2490HD**

**SECOND PRIZE: ARRL REPEATER HANDBOOK**

**Drawing on Saturday June 25 at noon.**

**Tickets are \$3.00 each**

**Tickets are available at meetings and at Field Day before the drawing. They are also available by mail. Please make checks payable to RVWARS c/o Stan Engel, PO Box 153, Ghent, NY**

**12075**

**Please include a SASE if you want the stubs.**



## The first official correspondence from the "New Rip Van Winkle Amateur Radio Society" as far as I can find out. Dated July 22, 1951.

37 Broad Street  
Catskill, New York  
July 22, 1951

American Radio Trading Company  
West Hartford, Conn.

Dear Sir;

We have formed an Amateur Radio Club known as the Rip Van Winkle Amateur Radio Society. We have at present twenty licensed amateurs from Greene and Columbia Counties. At our last meeting it was voted to seek affiliation with ARRL, therefore I am writing to inquire if there are any special forms to be made out or just what is the proper method of applying for affiliation.

We also would like to be placed on your list of clubs to receive any of the aids which you have from time to time.

73,  
John J. Rappleyea, W2WGE

### Content of Above Letter

Dear Sir;

We have formed an Amateur Radio Club known as the Rip Van Winkle Amateur Radio Society. We have at present twenty licensed amateurs from Greene and Columbia Counties. At our last meeting it was voted to seek affiliation with ARRL, therefore I am writing to inquire if there are any special forms to be made out or just what is the proper method of applying for affiliation.

We also would like to be placed on your list of clubs to receive any of the aids which you have from time to time.

73

John J. Rappleyea, W2WGE

Information that I have from this first club is:

President, Loys Tice, W2FQL  
VP, Gordon Widey, W2FVP  
Treasurer, Louis Teator, W2VCY  
Secretary, John Rappleyea, W2WGE

ARRL Members:

Harold Faily, W2QIS  
Robert O'Keefe, W2ESL  
Harold Schect, W2NOC  
Frank Michelson, W2EYG  
Henry Osterhoudt, W2HUM  
Henry Barsch, W2VP  
Werner Stiefel, W2HSK  
Delores Ricketson, call pending

There is little more known about this club as far as I can find out. There is little or nothing known about anything from this time until at least the 70's. If anyone can help with this please do. If you know any names or family of any of the members let us know. Maybe we can come up with some information or even some old photos.

ARRL Affiliation was approved on November 21, 1951 from F.E. Handy, W1BDI, Communications Manager.

HONDA EM-5000SX  
5 KW GENERATOR  
\$2,600 FIRM



Comes with:

Wheel Kit and Handles,  
Cover

(4) 20Amp 120VAC Outlets

(1) 30 Amp Twistlock

120VAC 3 Prong Outlet

(1) 30 Amp Twistlock 240VAC 4 Prong Outlet

Automatic fast idle Switch when in use

Charges 12VDC Vehicle Batteries

1 Pull to start (sorry no starter)

1 hour of break in time and about 2 hours of run time

Contact Mike at (518)784-3864 and leave message  
(SERIOUS INQUIRIES ONLY) Thank You

## FOR SALE

**ICOM IC-703 PLUS**  
WITH SEC-1223 POWER SUPPLY

About 6 months old, Like new condition.

Asking \$500 for both.

Contact Tom, WE2G at 828-7084

tcody@mhcable.com

## 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 'take's from my 'rig collection' to acquire a simple mono mode cw or better if (Lucky:-) cw/ssb 2 MTR rig. Not qrrp 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 bubbycall@yahoo.com

## FOR SALE

Galaxy Saturn CB with Silver Eagle D104 microphone.

Covers 26to 30 MHz.

\$425.00

Also Palomar Amplifier...

Call 329-3439

## GCARC Statistics

Claude Kearney, WT2C President  
David M. Rivenburgh, KC2YBK Vice President  
James A. Carr, KC2USW Treasurer  
Len Signoretti, N2LEN Secretary/Technical Advisor

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/ECHOLINK/>

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/GCNYARESRACES/>

Echolink Node #6269  
IRLP Node #4207

## The RVW "By-Laws, Dues, D" has been amended to read:

Any unlicensed member of a RVWARS sponsored License Class who successfully passes the VE exam shall be awarded a free membership in RVWARS for the balance of the current year.

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By David Rowan, Wired UK  
February 7, 2011

Somehow it makes little sense that amateur “ham” radio continues to thrive in the age of Twitter, Facebook and iPhones. Yet the century-old communications technology — which demands such commitment that you must generally pass an exam to receive a license — currently attracts around 350,000 practitioners in Europe, and a further 700,000 in the United States, some 60 per cent more than 30 years ago.

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For a start, there is that thrill in establishing a magical person-to-person long-distance radio conversation that no commodified internet communication can compete with. In a world of taken-for-granted torrents of e-mails, instant messages and Skype video-chats, there is a purity and a richness in the shared experience of exchanging “73s” during a live “QSO” with strangers on another continent.

Why, the very ham slang that defines the community — 73 translating as “best regards”, and QSOs as two-way conversations — tells practitioners that they belong to a special, mutually curious and highly courteous club. And the fact that DXers (long-distance amateur operators) take the trouble to acknowledge received transmissions and conversations by sending their new contacts custom-designed postcards through the analog postal service ... well, that is charm itself in a world where it’s considered excessive to end a communication with anything more effusive than a “bestest”.

You only need study a handful of these cards to understand, even today, the old-fashioned excitement of connecting with a stranger who might be many thousands of miles away. The postcards — known as QSL cards — can be as quirky and personality-filled as the senders themselves. At times humorous and characterful, at others terse and geographically factual, they have naturally inspired

their own subculture that has spurred DXers to collect and display them much as they would colorful foreign postage stamps.

The cards invariably display as a minimum some basic factual information about the sender. This will generally include the radio operator’s individual call sign, his (there are not too many “hers”) location, and a few details about the signal detected. And just to show that the Twitter generation did not invent the linguistic contractions exemplified in text-message speak, QSL cards too rely on slang and abbreviations to pack information into a tight space.

So cards will display the “RST” — the received radio station’s readability, signal and strength; perhaps details of the sender’s “XMTR” (transmitter) and “ANT” (antenna); and occasionally a request to reciprocate, expressed as the shorthand “PSE QSL TNX” (please send an acknowledgement card, thanks) or the more chatty “hw abt a crd om?” (How about a card, old man?) Old man, by the way, is not a reference to the recipient’s age — just as, on the rare occasions when the DXer is female, she is referred to as a “YL”, a young lady, whatever her chronological age.

DXers have been exchanging QSL cards since at least 1916, when Edward Andrews of Philadelphia — call sign 3TQ — recorded the receipt of a card from 8VX of Buffalo, NY. Over the next decade, the hobby took off — so much so that, by 1928, Paul Segal (W9EEA) had formulated an “amateur’s code” setting out six key qualities to which practitioners must adhere: “The radio amateur is considerate... loyal ... progressive ... friendly ... balanced ... [and] patriotic,” Segal specified, always ready for service to country and community.

Since then, the hobby has captivated royalty and celebrities alike. Among the most celebrated DXers have been the late King Hussein of Jordan (call sign JY1), Queen Noor (JY1H) and Juan Carlos, King of Spain (EA0JC). Had you picked the right moment, you could have chatted to Morocco’s King Hassan II (CN8MH), the former Sultan of Oman (A41AA) or Bhumiphol Adulayadej, King of Thailand (HS1A).

If monarchs have never appealed, you could instead have shot the breeze with Marlon Brando (FO5GJ), prime minister Rajiv Gandhi of India (VU2RG) or the CBS anchorman Walter Cronkite (KB2GSD) — not forgetting the singer

Cliff Richard (W2JOF), Joe Walsh of The Eagles (WB6ACU) and genuinely beyond-this-world DXers such as Yuri Gagarin and Helen Sharman.

It’s little wonder that collectors describe the buzz of receiving a new exotic foreign card as akin to that of philatelists discovering a rare commemorative stamp. That explains why the late Jerry Powell, a New Jersey ham between 1928 to 2000 (W2OJW), proudly displayed the 369 cards he had gathered from Okinawa to Papua.

Another obsessive collector, Thomas Roscoe of Brookfield, Ohio (K8CX), has created an awe-inspiring QSL museum where he displays his trophies from Afghanistan to Zimbabwe. (You can see his individual cards at [hamgallery.com](http://hamgallery.com)). Take a journey with Roscoe to Wallis & Futuna Island and Western Kiribati, to Kyrgyzstan and Kerguelen Island; visit “states” whose international status is somewhat contentious, such as the Republic of Ichkeria and the Principality of Sealand; celebrate one-off events such as Operation Desert Storm in Saudi Arabia, or the Queen Mary’s last voyage.

But it’s not simply the romance of card-collecting that continues to inspire DXers, nor the blunt urge to communicate. Instead, hams talk proudly about belonging to a global “brotherhood,” with few rules and little bureaucracy and the ability to transcend language, religion and race — while never quite knowing who they might come in contact with.

Plus, of course, the chance to be a genuine real-life hero. Days after a magnitude 7.3 earthquake devastated Haiti in January, amateur radio operators were busy at work connecting rescuers within the country and contacting survivors’ families. When a magnitude 8.8 earthquake hit Chile the next month, and the phone network collapsed, a radio operator named Alejandro Jara broadcast the first information from the ground.

Hams stepped in on September 11, 2001, and during Hurricane Katrina. Then there was Tony Pole-Evans, a bird lover with a short-wave radio on Saunders Island, who famously risked his life during Argentina’s 1982 invasion of the Falkland Islands to radio the first news back to Britain that 1,000 soldiers had landed on Goose Green.

How exciting it must have been to intercept that particular radio call. And boy, what a QSL card to top one’s collection. You can tweet all you like, but this is the way to communicate.



# TONY'S WORLD FAMOUS 2011 HAMFEST LIST

Come to FLUNGE and EBB with Tony, W2BEJ

<u>MARLBORO</u>	2/19	X	Whitcomb School - Marlborough, MA	147.27 + pl 146.2
<u>HORSEHEADS</u>	2/26	X	Armory - Horseheads, NY	147.36 +
<u>COLCHESTER</u>	2/26	X	Hampton Inn - Colchester, VT	145.15 -
<u>SWL WINTERFEST</u>	3/4	X	Doubletree Suites - Plymouth Meeting, PA	
<u>MT TOM</u>	3/5	X	Turnvereim Club - Springfield, MA	146.94- pl 127.3
<u>SARATOGA WINTERFEST</u>	3/12	X	Ballston Spa, Solar Building	147.00 + pl 91.5
<u>SOUTHINGTON</u>	3/20	X	HighSchool - Southington, CT	147.345 + pl 77
<u>MIDDLETOWN</u>	3/26	X	Wallkill Community Center	146.76 - pl 100
<u>FRAMINGHAM</u>	4/3	X	Keefe Tech - Framingham, MA	147.15 +
<u>BEACON</u>	4/10	X	Tymor Park, LaGrangeville, NY	146.97 - pl 100
<u>SPLITROCK, NJ</u>	4/3	X	Horseshoe Lake Park - Succasunna, NJ	146.985- pl 131.8
<u>BINGHAMTON</u>	4/17	X	Firehouse - Port Crane, NY	146.865 - pl 146.2
<u>DEERFIELD</u>	4/29	X	Fairgrounds - Deerfield, NH	
<u>EAST GREENBUSH</u>	5/14	X	Phillips Road Firehouse	147.27 +
<u>DAYTON</u>	5/20	X	Hara Arena - Dayton, OH	146.94-
<u>SoBARC</u>	5/22	X	Fairgrounds - Goshen, CT	146.73 - pl 77.0
<u>BERGEN, NJ</u>	5/28	X	Westwood HS, Washington Township, NJ	146.79 - pl 141.3
<u>ROCHESTER</u>	6/4	X	Barnard Carnival Grounds	146.88 - pl 110.9
<u>CORTLAND</u>	6/12	X	Cortland County Fairgrounds	147.18 +
<u>LIMARC</u>	6/14	?	Briarcliffe College - LI, NY	146.85- pl 136.5
<u>NEWINGTON</u>	6/18	X	St Mary"s School - Newington, CT	145.45-
<u>MURGAS</u>	7/4	X	Luzerne County Fairgrounds, PA	146.61 - pl 82.5
<u>SUSSEX CO, NJ</u>	7/11	X	Augusta, NJ	147.30 + pl 151.4
<u>UTICA</u>	7/16	X	Herkimer Co Fairgrounds	145.45 -
<u>ROME</u>	8/13	X	Westmoreland VFD Field	146.88 - pl 151.4
<u>UTICA (CNYARA)</u>	8/20	X	Deerfield fire dept	145.21 -
<u>NoBARC</u>	8/28	X	Bowe Field - Adams, MA	146.91-
<u>SARATOGA</u>	9/10	X	Saratoga Co Fairgrounds	147.00 + pl 91.5
<u>CANDLEWOOD</u>	9/11	X	Edmond Town Hall, Newtown, CT	147.30 + PL 100.0
<u>R.A.G.S. (SYRACUSE)</u>	9/17	X	Pompey Hills FD	147.30+
<u>ELMIRA</u>	9/24	X	Chemung Co Fairgrounds	147.36 +
<u>NUTMEG</u>	10/10	?	Wallingford, CT	147.36+

UPDATED 2/5/2011 (X=CONFIRMED)

Note: Date for multi-day events reflects the starting date

Additions, Corrections, Comments? Send E:Mail to: Tom Woznick, n2sqo@nycap.rr.com

THANKS to ALL who have helped with updating this list!

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