



Shelly-AA2Y
Jackie-KA2GAD
Todd-KC2YKM
Fred-NF2F
Ron-WA2UYY
Skip-WB2T

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



























PLEASE



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
November
19th
7:00 PM
At the Noecker66

At the Noecker66 Club House in Hudson

NOVEMBER MEETING

Noecker66 Showroom (Club House) 11/19/2012—*7:00 PM*

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/ ECHOLINK/

http://groups.yahoo.com/group/

GCNYARESRACES/ Echolink Node #6269 IRLP Node #4207

REPEATER REPORT

We still do not have the repaired antenna on the tower. We seem to be having a hard time getting someone qualified to do the job.

I think I finally have the mice under control. I found a couple of channels that I did not see until I got on my knees looking. I put some steel wool in them and no sign of any more mice since.

We opened the Heat/AC units and there is some damage to the insulation but nothing serious. I will try to find some replacement some time in the spring.

All else seems to be in good condition and working fine.

RVW WORK PARTY

Unless we have another ice storm or something that might damage some of our stuff then no more work till spring. All of the utilities are underground. I think the only thing that is subject to storm damage are the solar panels and a couple of antennas mounted near the shelter.

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.

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

RVWARS Meeting Monday November 19 Noecker66 Club House

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 — Cark 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/

RVWARS Meeting October 15, 2012

- Meeting called to order at 7:00pm by President. N2JVE. Attendance 18.
- Secretary's report read. Motion to accept by WB2TCV, second by AC2JM.
- Treasurer's report Checking \$2019.53, Savings \$1011.24, Petty Cash, \$50.00, Total \$3080.77

Repeater

Bob Isby gave an estimate of \$300.00 to place antenna at 100 feet. Accord ing to Insight, he is not qualified to do the work. Arnie Cavallaro of NY Air will submit paperwork to install the antenna. Mouse problem has been re solved.

Old Business

Carl, WA2UJX, is interested in the position of club historian.

New Business

W2JSN handed out adjustable wrenches to all present. Thanks John! December 17 will be the date for this year's Hamfeast. There will again be a silent auction. We made \$278 last year. N2JVE and KC2PWO will solicit donations. Donations of food will be needed for the feast. Families are wel come.

ARES/RACES

Columbia County: Meeting held October 1 at EOC. Simulated Emergency Test was held October 6. WE2G and KC2OGK were at EOC. Messages re ceived and sent on 80 meters CW and 75 meters phone.

Meeting closed at 7:20pm. Motion by KC2YKM, Seconded by WB2TCV. 50-50 drawing won by AC2JM.

Respectfully Submitted, Thomas J Cody WE2G, Secretary

Rip Van Winkle Amateur Radio Society, Inc. Treasurers Report October 15, 2012

Balance Fwd. Checking Acct \$1885.65

RECEIPTS: 50/50

\$10.00 Dues \$100.00 Donation \$100.00

Total \$210.00

EXPENSES:

Repeater NYSEG \$53.44 Food meeting \$22.68

Total \$76.12

Checking Bal \$2019.53 Petty Cash \$50.00 **Savings Acct Bal** \$1011.24

Total RVWARS monies

\$3080.77

HiPot Testing for High Voltage Systems

By: Carl J. Verderber WA2UJX Oct. 27, 2012

Buzz (W3EMD) lives in lower Rhinebeck about 7 miles south of me. At his QTH resides a Collins KW1 transmitter with which he operates primarily in AM mode on the 160M and 75M bands. He uses a Johnson KW Matchbox to connect into his 500 ft. loop with a modification for 160M which uses an additional padding capacitor to resonate the Matchbox to the lower frequencies.

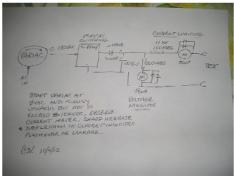


Buzz and the KW1.

Recently Buzz was off the air with the KW1 because of arcing in the RF PA HV circuit. From time to time, Buzz could hear an arc and then experienced a blown fuse in the HV supply. Additional experimentation with this problem proved the arcing occurred when peak audio levels approached 100 %. With 2,000 VDC PA HV plus the impressed audio peak voltages Buzz assumed the flashover started at about 4,000 volts. Unfortunately, hearing an arc but not actually seeing or identifying its location required a method to test each and every insulator and capacitor at DC voltages above 4,000 volts to assure insulator integ-

When Buzz made me aware of the problem I suggested he borrow or buy a HiPot test-

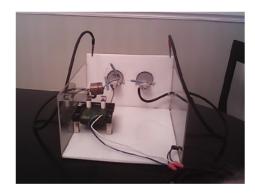
er but with none available to borrow and being cost prohibitive to purchase an alternative was chosen. HiPot testers can be assembled from easily obtainable components. Since I had thick Plexiglas, a 10K voltage source, filter capacitors, diodes, switches, wire, connectors and cables I offered to collaborate with Buzz to create our own HiPot tester. Buzz obtained the other components needed: two 50uA meters, a uWave diode and some 100 MEG and 50 MEG HV resistors.



The uWave diode provides the half wave rectified DC source and a meter in series with a set of resistors forms the DC voltage metering circuit. Another meter in series with a HV high value resistor forms the current limiter and leakage indicator. We agreed that 10KV DC with a leakage of 50uA maximum would be adequate for testing insulation quality. As soon as all the components were available I partly assembled the tester with final assembly being a team effort. We checked the HiPot tester against a Johnson variable capacitor with a 4KV rating and by turning up the Variac slowly and watching the voltage, at about 4KV DC leakage started to occur just as expected.



This pic is backwards but shows Voltage and Leakage Current Meters.



Notice how small the HV power source is compaired with a large 60HZ transformer.

I want to explain the major difference between our home brew HiPot tester and other typical home brew versions. We incorporated a modern oil burner electronic high frequency switching ignition module. A typical oil burner ignition transformer is a large unit approximately 4-1/2 inches on each side and weighing about 5 lbs. The modern high frequency electronic ignition module is 2 inches by 3 inches by 5 inches and weighs 10 ounces. Smaller and lighter, the module fits into a chassis made of 3/16 Plexiglas and simplifies construction.

In the case of the KW1 arcing problem, the RF PA HV circuit wiring was disconnected at various places. HiPot testing located a ceramic HV feed thru insulator that had developed a micro sized hole through the ceramic leaving a carbon track which flashed over on audio peaks.



You can see a small black hole in the shoulder of the ceramic feed thru.

Another problem occurred with the Johnson KW Matchbox after just a few minutes of operation with the repaired KW1. Buzz heard flashing on voice peaks operating in the 160M band. By using the HiPot tester on a number of

Continue next page

Continued!

isolated components, a sizzling sound and some steam was observed coming from Oak wooden standoffs used to isolate the extra padder capacitor. Even though the 5 inch long wood standoffs were very dry to the touch and had been in-place for months, moisture hidden within this wood caused a leakage path. Buzz had expected "dry Oak" would be adequate to isolate antenna voltages but was proven wrong. The oak was replaced with Lexan material to affect the repair. Again the home brew HiPot tester proved its effectiveness.



You can see the standoffs just under the doorknob capacitor in the left side of the picture.

HiPot testing is normally used in Industry but in certain circumstances, this type of testing is necessary for the Amateur to diagnose leakage of components in high voltage systems.

I was happy to participate with W3EMD in his diagnostic approach to finding HV leakage on two pieces of his equipment and I enjoyed building and testing this apparatus. I suggest anyone needing to diagnose similar problems associated with HV flashovers to use HiPot testing. And I certainly learned a lot about leakage and HV isolation. END

THE AMATEURS CODE

The Radio Amateur is:

CONSIDERATE...never knowingly operates in such a way as to lessen the pleasure of others.

LOYAL...offers loyalty, encouragement and support to other amateurs, local clubs, and the ARRL, through which Amateur Radio in the United States is represented nationally and internationally.

PROGRESSIVE...with knowledge abreast of science, a well built and efficient station and operation above reproach.

FRIENDLY...slow and patient operating when requested; friendly advice and counsel to the beginner; kindly assistance, cooperation and consideration for the interests of others. These are the hallmarks of the amateur spirit. BALANCED...radio is an avocation, never interfering with duties owed to family, job, school or community. PATRIOTIC...station and skill always ready for service to country and community.

The original Amateur's Code was written by Paul M. Segal, W9EEA in 1928

History Corner #1

By: Carl J. Verderber WA2UJX Oct. 27, 2012

During the past few years, Ken N2SQW and then Stan WA2UET held the position as Club Historian and recently the time was right to pass this post on to another Club member.

During the October 2012 meeting I was given the opportunity to fight for the right to become your Historian. The race was hard fought as a number of aggressive candidates vied for that position. Knowing deep to my soul that I was the right person (man) for the job, I did everything I could to win that position. My campaign manager with the aid of the "team" promised voters everything and anything that they could to get the support needed to overcome the tortuous climb to success.

Well, any promises made outside the Historian's tasks will have to be forgiven - but I do have some objectives I would like to meet.

- I will get together with Stan WA2UET to transfer the documents and archives during November.
- I will study documents and try to organize the material into more easily accessible units.
- I want to re-publish an interesting project or situation from the club's past in each month's Newsletter.

Thanks, Carl WA2UJX

Anyone that lives within their means suffers from a lack of imagination

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 partsheavy duty diodes, chokes, capacitors or would charge a good battery bank. "Free to a good home". Contact wb2tcv@mhcable.com

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

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



Trade/Sale/In Search Of

Serving Greene and Columbia Counties

Visit NYAIR.net

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 qrpp 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 call@yahoo.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 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

I have a new recently purchased in box, never used: KT 100 auto tuner. This tuner is for Kenwood 'newer' rig's via antenna connection.

I Would like to swap/exchange either or auto tuner with SO239 connectors, or else trade this tuner for a HT or mobile 2, or 2/440 FM rig of compatible cost. This KT-100 was \$199.99 s+h added. This antenna Tuner is Kenwood Only!

I purchased this tuner for a Kenwood TS440S..Not knowing it was not adaptable, for easy operation. I 'decided' I did not wish to pursue 're inventing' any other recourse in making tuner work for my TS440S. So.. I now wish to 'trade' this new KT-100 tuner, as it isn't 'needed' at this time for my personal usage. If this is acceptable for listing with our club rvwars, I'd like to recommend this item for possible 'trade/exchange' resource. thank you. vy 73!-ke2eb george call. 518-731-9854

As near as I can tell the below "Curmudgeon" article is the first one that was printed. It was in the Dec 1995 NL.

The Newsletter to the right was I believe the first NL written for the current RVWARS club done in the late 70's. If anyone knows differently please let me know.

I have a copy of newsletters dated January 1979 and September 1979 then it looks like there was a big gap between these first NL's and the next one I can find dated March 1994.

I did find several more of Dave's Curmudgeon articles and will publish them in future Newsletters.

MUSING OF A CURMUDGEON

In the storm of debate over the impact of removing the code requirement to become an Am-

ateur charges and counter charges are made about the deterioration of the hobby. The statement I don't seem to hear is "we all have a part of what's happening". Those of us with the longer fangs keep mumbling that things aren't what they used to be but then we no longer use spark gap either. Change only stops at death and if our hobby cannot change it is doomed to go the way of the dinosaur.

Instead of bemoaning the quality of the newcomers (as our batch of old timers did about us) it's time we became proactive and become the standard bearers setting the example for the folks who will and are replacing us. Think back to when you started, was your procedure great or did an old timer or two gently

(?) correct you and then go on to fill you in on why it was done that way? Did he go on to hold a nice conversation with you, tell you he'd look for you again, while working you at your speed. Then a week or so later a QSL card showed up in the mail with strange logos like Al OP, WAS, WAC, DXCC SBAND and you couldn't wait to show it off.

We didn't stop to think that here was a guy who had accomplished much in the hobby but we did know that someday we wanted those logos on our cards too. Many years later as we run across that card the conversation comes back to mind and we chuckle a little as we remember him keying to us "think you better work on that punctuate a little". What we forget is we

HENAMELESS NEWSLETTER

CONTAINING ARTICLES OF LASTING INSIGNIFICANCE

SWAP BUY and SELL

This newsletter will feature a column for the purpose of allowing members to swap and sell gear. Anyone interested is asked to submit all information to:

> Shelly Evans, WA2ZLQ Star Route Claverack, N.Y. 12513

Anyone who wants gear should also send a description of wanted materials to Shelly Evans. Since this is your gear please be specific so as to avoid confusion. We are responsible only for the publication of materials received.

ALSO APPEARING IN FUTURE ISSUES WILL BE SUCH STIMULATING ARTICLES AS:

PROPER OPERATING PROCEDURES by C. W. MC CALL

EME THE HARD WAY by John Glen

LONG WIRE ANTENNA MAINTENANCE by Carl Walenda

SCHEDULE OF FUTURE EVENTS

May 27 Flea Market/Auction

June 14 Repeater Comm. Meeting

MAY 22 ARES Meeting

June 19 General Meeting

June 24-25 Field Day

did work on it and because he was kind enough (yes, kind enough) to point it out we became better operators and by doing so increased our enjoyment of the hobby.

Maybe it's time that we, the current crop of old timers, remember this and instead of decrying what we see as deterioration, find a newcomer and say that we enjoyed the conversation and welcome them to the hobby, gently adding "maybe you better work on that.,..." before we sign off, fill out our QSL cardwith the nice logos on it and put it in the mailto the old timer of the future.

By Dave Watrous, WD2K 12/1995

25, 50, and 75 Years Ago in QST (October 2012)

By Dan Romanchik, KB6NU

QST publishes a column every month towards the back of the magazine that highlights from issues 25, 50, and 75 years ago. Now that the QST archive is online, it's really worth taking a look at these articles. Here are a few that caught my eye in October:

October 1937

- * Modernizing the Simple Regenerative Receiver (http://plk.arrl.org/ pubs_archive/19076) by Vernon Chambers, W1JEQ. This a nicely-designed and built regen using two tubes, a 6K5 pentode and 6C5 triode. I'm going to keep this design in mind if I ever get around to playing with all the tubes I have. As an aside, I searched on W1JEQ's callsign and found out that he wrote 87 articles for QST from 1936 through February 1958. This was his third article.
- * Concentrated Directional Antennas for Transmission and Reception (http:// p1k.arrl.org/pubs_archive/19078) by John L. Reinartz, W1QP, and Burton T. Simpson, W8CPC. This article describes two

different antennas. The first is a halfwave loop antenna that the author says works on 2-1/2, 5, 10, and 20m. The second is a square loop antenna called a "signal squirter" for 14 Mc.

October 1962

- * In "New Apparatus" (http:// p1k.arrl.org/pubs_archive/46246) on page 27, a key made by J. A. Hills, W8FYO, of Dayton, OH is shown under the heading, "New Key Mechanism for Electronic Keyers." The photo clearly shows a key whose design was adopted by Bencher for the BY-1 paddle.
- The Towering Problem (http:// p1k.arrl.org/pubs_archive/46122) by Jay Kay Klein, WA2LII clearly shows that putting up towers have always been a problem for amateur radio operators. This is a humorous take on the problem. What's notable is that this type of humorous article almost never appears in QST anymore. Amateur radio seems to have lost its sense of humor, or at least its cadre of humorous writers.

October 1987

* Stalking Those Fugitive Components (http://p1k.arrl.org/pubs_archive/81357) by Doug DeMaw, W1FB. Today, we often complain about the demise of local parts suppliers, but this article shows that this was a problem 25 years ago as well. W1FB gives some advice that I gave not long ago on my blog. That is, stock up on parts, especially when you find a good deal on them, and you won't have to scrounge around for them when you want them.

Digitizing all of the back issues of QST and putting them online is one of the things that the ARRL has done right. This is a wonderful resource for members. If you have a favorite OST article I'd love to hear about it. Please send me the title and the month it was published. Μv e-mail address cwgeek@kb6nu.com. Thanks & 73.

When not perusing old issues of QST, Dan is the station manager for WA2HOM, the amateur radio station at Ann Arbor's Hands-On Museum. He also writes amateur radio license study guides. In fact, by the time you read this, the No-Nonsense Extra Class Study Guide should be available on Amazon. Just search for "KB6NU."

FAMILY EVENT, HAM FEAST II AKA PORKY'S REVENGE

When: Monday Dec 17,2012

Where: Noecker's Showroom Rt. 66 Greenport

Time: 7pm till ????

After a very successful Christmas celebration last year, we are going to try for a ''Repeat -er''. We will need food donations. We already have a Turkey Breast, Hot Dogs and Pepperoni Pot, Bread and Rolls.

Please Contact Patti Lensink KC2PWO @ 784-3864 and tell her what Casserole, Potato, Veggie, Salad, or Goodie plate you can bring.

50/50 Tickets will be sold so Please bring extra cash.

Chinese Auction will be held. Gift Certificates, gifts, cookies in boxes or jars, Radio equipment etc. are needed Again call Patti if you can donate any items. Remember, A sleeve of tickets is \$10.00.

We will also Auction off any used Radio items, Christmas Decorations, Knick-knacks, etc. you no longer want.

See you all there!!!! Patti KC2PWO