



Happy  
Birthday

Paul-KC2IK  
Frank-KD2EBL  
Ken-N2SQW

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.



Meeting  
October 20

Churchtown  
Firehouse

Directions on  
page 6

Anyone interested  
in Amateur Radio  
is Welcome

# MEETING 7:00 PM

**PLEASE JOIN US WE NEED YOU!**

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.

## OCTOBER MEETING

## MEETING LOCATION

With the tally of the poll for our meeting location it has been determined that we will continue to meet at the Churchtown Firehouse. With a total of over 60 paid members there were only 13 people that responded!

## 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  
KC1BW0 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 spare antenna is installed! We checked it out on the roundtable on September 9th with great reports. It is at the 100' level and it works way better than I expected.

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

# TO BE ANNOUNCED

## 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/>



## SEPTEMBER MEETING

Our RVWARS September meeting featured John Fritze (K2QY). He gave a detailed presentation on his GoBox, a portable, self powered HF/VHF communication station that is capable of supporting APRS, packet, etc. in the field. This unit can be rapidly deployed to serve in an emergency as well as being useful at home, in the field, or even on a boat. Following a Q & A session, John stayed and chatted with several members.

## STOCKPORT COMMUNITY DAY

Jim, KC2OGK and Tom, WE2G operated a station at Stockport Community Day on Sunday, September 28. The station was operated using generator power and consisted of an Icom IC-703, running 10 watts to a Buddipole antenna. Despite bad band conditions, three contacts were made, two with Texas on 20 meters and one with W1AW/7 in Idaho on 10 meters. Jules, K2KGJ/M, also heard the station at an S3 signal at the Parkway overlook near Philmont. It was a beautiful day, great for operating portable and for promoting our hobby to the public.

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

#### Treasurers Report

September 15, 2014

**Balance Fwd. Checking Acct      \$1601.95**

<b>Repts:</b>	Dues	\$75.00
	50/50	\$11.00
	Donations	\$70.00
	Tag Sale	\$246.00
	Sell old Generator	\$200.00
	Sell auction item	\$50.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$652.00</b>

<b>Exp:</b>	NYSEG (3 mo)	\$203.16
	Batteries	\$254.19
	Field Day food	\$208.33
	Picnic Food	\$52.27
	Lowe's	\$39.00
	Subway	\$10.80
	Antenna install	\$200.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$967.75</b>


<b>Checking Bal</b>	<b>\$1286.20</b>
<b>Petty Cash</b>	<b>\$50.00</b>
<b>Savings Acct Bal</b>	<b>\$1011.43</b>

**Total RVWARS monies      \$2347.63**





## MUSING OF A CURMUDGEON

 I am out of Dave's Musings articles! I can start over if no one can step up with some new stuff. A curmudgeon is defined as an "irritable complaining person." Although Dave, WD2K played the part he was anything but irritable. There has to be someone in this club that would like to fill this position. It makes for good reading. Even if you don't want to be a curmudgeon it would be nice to have a column to take it's place. Feel free to contact me or just send me your stuff.

Dave Watrous, WD2K—8/97

## TAG SALE SUCCESS!

Jim, KC2OGK and I did the annual Tag Sale over the 6 day Labor Day weekend. There was no Ham gear for sale and only a couple of Hams showed up but we cleared \$246.00 for the treasury. It is a far cry from last years profits but we can only sell what we can get.

## 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.



# RVWARS REPEATER CHATTER

I have installed a cable and interlock device for use with the emergency generator. We have not tested it yet but will soon. The mechanical interlock makes it impossible to connect the generator without disconnecting the main breaker.

The spare antenna is located on the lower bracket in the photo and seems to be working fine.

The old shelter has been cleaned up and the generator and associated gear are stored in there. The wire and cable is hanging on the wall clearing the floor so that we can discourage the snakes from living in there. There is no evidence of any other critters in there.

Stan, WA2UET



**EVERYTIME I  
THINK ABOUT  
EXCERSISE,  
I LIE DOWN UNTIL  
THE THOUGHT  
GOES AWAY!**

**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)

**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.**

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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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# Collins KWS-1 A beloved Boat Anchor

By: Carl J. Verderber WA2UJX  
Sept. 27, 2014

James (Buzz) Beitchman, W3EMD called me over to his QTH a few weeks ago. He wanted me to see his new acquisition but didn't tell me what it was. I had a great surprise when entering his shack. There was the famous Collins KWS-1 SSB transmitter sitting next to a Collins KW-1 AM/CW transmitter, a Collins 75A4 receiver and a Collins 32V-3 AM/CW Amateur band transmitter. I published an article in RVWARS Newsletter a few years ago that described Buzz's KW-1.

It seems Buzz has been looking for a perfect specimen of the KWS-1 for a long time and recently was able to purchase one. He seemed very happy to get it into the shack where he will inspect the power supply and the transmitter deck component by component. He expects to replace all electrolytic capacitors and

some of the waxed tubular caps starting with the power supply. He said he can't wait to get it on the air as it is considered the finest and most expensive to build single-sideband transmitter that was ever available to the Amateur community.

In the 1950's the KWS-1 was the cost of a new automobile and no more than 550 of them were ever manufactured. In reading about the KWS-1 I was made aware that there were no other rigs available at that time to match its output and SSB quality signal.

Looking at the picture, Buzz sure looks proud as he stands by his new acquisition. I suppose he might finally be called a Collins Collector!



## Should QSOs from remote stations be given DXCC credit?

By Dan Romanchik, KB6NU

In July, the DX Advisory Committee Report recommended several rules changes for the DXCC program ([http://www.arrl.org/files/file/About%20ARRL/Committee%20Reports/2014/July/Doc\\_27.pdf](http://www.arrl.org/files/file/About%20ARRL/Committee%20Reports/2014/July/Doc_27.pdf)). Among them, was a recommendation that rule I.9 be changed such that a QSO is acceptable for DXCC credit only when the remote station and the operator's home station location are no more than 200 km apart.

As with any rule change, this precipitated a lot of comment in the amateur radio community. A thread on the eHam.Net forum (<http://www.eham.net/ehamforum/smf/index.php/topic,98348.30.html>) got quite a few comments. N7NG had a nice blog post (<http://n7ng.wordpress.com/2014/03/05/remote-control-dxing-and-dxcc/>) on this controversy.

Perhaps the most strident post on this topic was written by WW1X (<http://ww1x.com/opinion/2014/08/14/in-defense-of-remote-dxcc.html>). He called these recommendations "uninformed, misguided, and detrimental to the future of our hobby." Detrimental to the future of our hobby? Seriously?

Of course, WW1X has a vested interest in this debate. He's the lead developer for RemoteHamRadio.Com, a company that charges other hams to use the "super stations" that they've set up around the world.

Note that the DX Advisory Committee is not saying that amateur radio operators should not use and enjoy these remote stations. All they're saying is that the QSOs made with them, unless they are located less than 200 km from an amateur's home station, are not eligible for DXCC credit. I'm sure that if you asked any of the members of the committee they would agree with WW1X that the remote stations serve a very useful purpose for amateurs who are not able to set up their own home stations.

WW1X prattles on about how "DXCC is not a contest. It's not a competition. There are no winners or losers. It's a personal achievement award, plain and simple." This is just silly. Of course it's a competition. As N7NG rightly points out if it's not a competition, why publish the DXCC Honor Roll?

What I think is detrimental to the hobby are hams who use RemoteHamRadio.Com to simply add to their DXCC scores. I see no sense in doing so, and furthermore, where's the personal achievement? Anyone who can afford to pay what they charge—and it's not a small sum of money—can work the rarest DX with one of those stations.

A friend of mine, Mark, W8MP, is a RemoteHamRadio.Com customer, and it's a boon for him. He loves being able to work DX from his home in a development where no outside antennas are allowed. He's not trying to pad his DXCC score. He does this for the pure love of talking to other hams in far-away places.

When the final decision is made, I hope the DX Advisory Committee goes back to first principles as set forth in FCC Part 97.1 and makes their decision on whether or not allowing DXCC credit for remote station QSOs contributes to "the advancement of the radio art" or is an "extension of the amateur's unique ability to enhance international goodwill."

=====

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





## ARRL support for clubs could use some improvement

By Dan Romanchik, KB6NU

Often, when you hear ARRL officials speak, they extol the virtues of amateur radio clubs, saying things like, "Clubs are the life-blood of amateur radio." For example, Dale Williams, WA8EFK, in response to my e-mail congratulating him on his appointment as the new ARRL Great Lakes Division director, said that his "plans are to push to keep things local, club-related, and bottom-up driven."

Of course, that kind of set me off. When it comes to club support, the ARRL is more talk than action.

One example of this lack of support is that there hasn't been an issue of the ARRL Club News newsletter for years. Even so, if you log into the ARRL website and look at your e-mail subscriptions page, you'll see that it says that it's supposed to be a monthly newsletter.

I'll also note that the ARRL CEO Harold Kramer, WJ1B, left this particular newsletter off the list of available newsletters in his June QST column. I don't know who at HQ is responsible for producing this newsletter, but the fact that there hasn't been one for so long speaks volumes to me.

Another example is the club commission program. Under this program, clubs get a \$15 commission when they sign up a new member. That's not bad, but the commission falls to only \$2 for renewing members. According to a former treasurer of ARROW, my club here in Ann Arbor, MI, \$2 just wasn't enough to make it worth his while to process renewals.

To be fair, it's not all bad news. The ARRL website does have a page with information on how to set up and run an active club (<http://www.arrl.org/affiliated-club-resources>). The ARRL also has a club liability insurance program is a decent deal for clubs, but that program probably doesn't require much effort on the ARRL's part. The ARRL is also supposed to refer new hams to clubs, but I'm not sure exactly how they do that, and I don't think ARROW's gained any new members from this recently.

Let me ask you. Is your club getting the support it needs from the ARRL? If so, I'd like to hear about what you think they're doing right. If not, I'd like to know what you think they should be doing to help your club.

=====

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**I REALLY 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!**

## 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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Ask for Mike or Patti or leave message



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

Wa2uyy  
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plus protective guards if you know of any-  
one that needs one and 2-12volt 6watt.

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

\$5.00 for the 12 volt fans @

Contact Ron, WA2UYY  
wa2uyy@aol.com