

FOOT RACE

Jan 6, at CGCC

Foot Race help needed, see below!

Happy
Birthday

KB2BDC-

Sara

KC2AGM-

John

KC2CVJ-Pat

KC2DMI-

Erika

KC2RHV-

Bernie

N2XPW-Ed

W2DAV-

Dave

W2JSN-

John

D
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S

**FOOT RACE at CGCC this
Sunday 1/6. We meet at
9:30 at the college. Talk in
on 147.57. Help needed!!!**

Dues for 2008

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

As always PLEASE let us know if you have a problem with this News-
letter. My email address is: wa2uet@taconic.net

Any problems or suggestions are more than welcome.
Thanks



**GOD BLESS
AMERICA**

Please join us on the Tuesday night net and Roundtable
On 147.210 and the 75 Meter Net on Thursday Nights.
ALL are welcome!

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**Meeting
Jan 21
7:00 PM**

**Noecker
"Club House"
Talk-in 147.21**



RVWARS Receives \$1,000 Grant for Education

The Rip Van Winkle Amateur Radio Society has received a \$1000.00 grant from the Hudson-River Bank Foundation. The grant will be used to purchase classroom training material and equipment, including a computer projector, that will assist the Rip Van Winkle Amateur Radio Society to continue its program of offering a ten week course to enable the youth of our community to obtain an entry level FCC Amateur Radio license. The projector will also be used during RVWARS meetings to show training videos.

The Technician class FCC license will allow the students to communicate with other Amateur Radio Operators around the world. In addition to the rules and regulations and basic electrical theory, the students will be taught the basics of Emergency Communications.

The course will be offered starting in February and will run for ten weeks, the FCC License test will be given at the end of the course. Anyone interested in becoming a Licensed Amateur Radio Operator is welcome to attend. Contact Tom Gutierrez 329-5195 or Marty Miller 672-7344 for more information. Registration will be announced later.



RVWARS Officers, (L to R) Steve Walsh, W2SXX, V.P.; Tom Gutierrez, N2NZD, President (Holding Check); Shelly Evans, AA2Y, Secretary; Stan Engel, WA2UET, Treasurer, display the \$1,000 check presented as an education grant from The Hudson-River Bank Foundation.

W2JSN Photo

Dec. 'Goodie Fest' Huge Success

More than 40 RVWARS members and their guests enjoyed an evening of 'Goodies' and pizza and good fellowship at the Noecker Clubhouse. A fine time was had by all!

Pictures of the event may be seen on page 3 and on www.w2jsn.com. The photos were taken by John, W2JSN.

It was especially nice to see so many of our Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts, who recently successfully completed the RVWARS Tech. course, in attendance along with several others who were also recently licensed.

The Club extends its thanks to John, W2JSN, for all his work in setting up our annual party.

RVWARS Invited To Join Trader-Net

TARA extends a welcome to all of our friends in the Rip Van Winkle Amateur Radio Society to come join us each Thursday at 9:00 PM for the T.N.T. Trader Net held on the TARA repeaters 145.17 & 447.075 in Troy. This is a friendly directed net which offers you the opportunity to Buy, Swap or Sell your amateur related equipment.

If you're looking for a piece of equipment why not come list it on our net and see if other hams throughout the region might have the item(s) you're looking for. Likewise, this is an excellent place to list your items for sale and beat the rat race of dealing with eBay.

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Upcoming Events

Jan. 7, 2008 — 7:00 p.m.

RACES/ARES Meeting at the Clubhouse, Corner of Graham Ave. & Rt 66, Hudson

Jan. 21 — 7:00 p.m. RVWARS

Meeting at the Clubhouse. Corner of Graham Ave. & Rt 66, Hudson

Feb. 4 — 7:00 p.m.

RACES/ARES Meeting at the Clubhouse, Corner of Graham Ave. & Rt 66, Hudson

Feb. TBA — Annual Technician

License Class 10 Week Course at the Clubhouse, Corner of Graham Ave. & Rt 66, Hudson

Feb. 18 — 7:00 p.m. RVWARS

Meeting at the Clubhouse. Corner of Graham Ave. & Rt 66, Hudson

RVWARS Wee4kly Nets

Tuesday — 7:00 p.m.

ARES/RACES Emergency Training Net. 147.21 Repeater

Tuesday — (After the Net)

Round Table Discussion
147.21 Repeater

Thursday — 7:00 p.m.

ARES/RACES Emergency Training Net: 3.980 LSB

Rip Van Winkle Amateur Radio Society VITAL STATISTICS

President — Tom Gutierrez N2NZD
Vice President — Steve Walsh W2SXX
Secretary — Shelly Evans AA2Y
Treasurer — Stan Engel WA2UET
Historian — Stan Engel WA2UET
Safety Officer — Stan Engel WA2UET
Newsletter — David Clapper WA2FTI
E-mail — dclapper@mhicable.com
Repeaters — 147.21 224.280 449.925
Club Call — Kilo 2 Rip Van Winkle
Web Page — <http://www.rvwars.com>
RVWARS E-mail — wa2uet@taconic.net

A "Thank You" Note to All Rippers!

Dear Members of Rip Van Winkle
Amateur Radio Club,
Thank you for organizing
the Scout Jamboree on the
Air. We all had a really
fun time! Thank you for
everything!

Anna KC2SJJ Emily O. KC2SAK Hannah Emily D. KC2SAF!!

Tune in and Join the Weekly Roundtable For Fun and Information

Every Tuesday evening at 7:00 p.m., RVWARS operates a training Net for ARES/RACES members and others who are interested in Emergency Communications. Because of the nature of this type of communications, the net is formal except for the informal comment time. This can be a little frightening to many hams, both old-timers and newly licensed.

For the past few months, RVWARS has been holding a "Roundtable" following the Tuesday evening EmComm net for the purpose of getting together to discuss all sorts of Ham Radio topics. This is the ideal time for anyone not "into" formal nets and emergency traffic to join in an ages-old form of Ham communication — the Roundtable.

You can hear this type of communication going on just about every ham band. Three or more hams talking together, sharing

information, ideas, etc., each taking turn speaking... just as you would with a group of friends around a table at your favorite restaurant. It's an informal conversation and everyone shares in the discussion.

So it is with the Tuesday evening Roundtable on the 147.21 repeater. There isn't any required format or procedure to follow. Just announce your call when the Leader asks for new sign-ins and wait your turn. (The Leader will usually tell you who you follow in the station line-up.)

What do you talk about? Just about anything. Sometimes there is a topic being discussed, but not always. And, it's OK to change the subject. Ask a question about antennas... how to use an antenna tuner, what is DX? If you are new at the Ham Radio hobby, you must have dozen of questions. The Roundtable is the perfect place to get answers.

Join us Tuesday evening!

December 'Goodie Fest'





RVWARS Amended Constitution is now Available on Web Site

The amendments to the RVWARS Constitution and By-Laws are now available on the Club's Web Site: www.rvwars.com

Members, and any others who are interested, may read and print out a copy of the document.

The amendments were presented to the members in the November issue of *Rip's Report* and received a vote of approval at the December meeting.

Also available on the web-site are a variety of other helpful pages: There is a History of the RVWARS, and Antenna Calculator, Membership Application, Ham Radio Links, DX Certificates, Newsletter archive, GMT Clock, RVWARS Repeater Frequencies, Meeting Dates, and Call Sign look-up courtesy of QRZ.com.

The web site is there for you... Please use it!

Troy Amateur Radio Association

T.N.T. TRADER NET

**Every Thursday
9:00 pm - 10:00 pm**

**TARA REPEATER SYSTEM:
145.17 & 447.075**

**This is a reminder for our
weekly TARA - T.N.T.
Trader Net**

Dedicated towards buying, selling or trading your amateur related items. All are welcome to come join us on the TARA repeater system 145.17 & 447.075 plus Echolink #1774 or IRLP #4151.

Straight Key Club Is 2 Years Old

As of January 1st, 2008, the Straight Key Century Club (SKCC) is celebrating its 2nd Year Anniversary with a month-long event using the special event callsign K2A. We will be sending out QSL cards for confirmed contacts. Certificates for working all 10 call areas and endorsements for Alaska and Hawaii will also be made available for download. More information can be found at www.skccgroup.com/k2a

The Straight Key Century Club - a/k/a SKCC is the fastest growing group of straight key, morse code operators in the world. First organized in January of 2006 our membership has rapidly grown to include thousands of members from all corners of the globe.

Here's how it works:

The SKCC is open to any interested licensed radio amateur and Membership is free. SKCC numbers are issued for life. Once you get it, it's yours. Take care of it, and above all, USE it!

To Request a SKCC Number, send an email with 'SKCC # Request' as the subject. Include: Your name, call, city and state and a brief description of why you're joining SKCC to number@skccgroup.com

Join the SKCC and help preserve the traditions of amateur radio, and discover the joy of using Morse Code.

For general information about the SKCC, please visit <http://skccgroup.com/>



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Trader-Net

Plus, if you sell it on our net it costs you NOTHING! And, usually you can arranged to have the items picked up versus boxing them up and shipping the equipment out.

We'll be looking for you on Thursday night. Meanwhile, look around the shack and see if you don't have a couple of items you are willing to part with. You'll be surprised how easy it is to "list" or "sell" your items right from the comfort of you home.

73 de NY2U - "Mr.Bill"
President of TARA



I got a lotta new rigs this Christmas!

FOR SALE!



I have for sale a Yaesu FT 101 E with cw filter, fan, external speaker, and table mike. The rig, while 1978 vintage, has been little used, refurbished by Yaesu about ten years ago and when last used a month ago, in fine shape. Anyone wishing this must be familiar with tube rigs and dipping the plate etc. as I will not sell otherwise. I would like \$250 for the lot as is. If anyone is interested email me at AA2Y@aol.com.

73, Shelly