

MEETING MAY 17

ALL are welcome, check us out!

Happy
Birthday

Wayne- K2WG
Jim-KC2RUW
Mary-KC2SAG
Jonathan- KC2BNE
Dave-WA2FTI
Martha-

Our repeaters are working great! Please feel free to use them. Try the 449.925 and if you have the capabilities try 224.280. No one uses the 450MHz or the 220MHz repeaters so we don't know the coverage. If you use them give us a report...

Raffle Tickets are \$3.00 each
Drawing June 26 at the Field
Day Site.
FT-1900

You can now pay your
2011 dues!
Mail to:
Stan Engel, WA2UET
PO Box 153
Ghent, NY 12075

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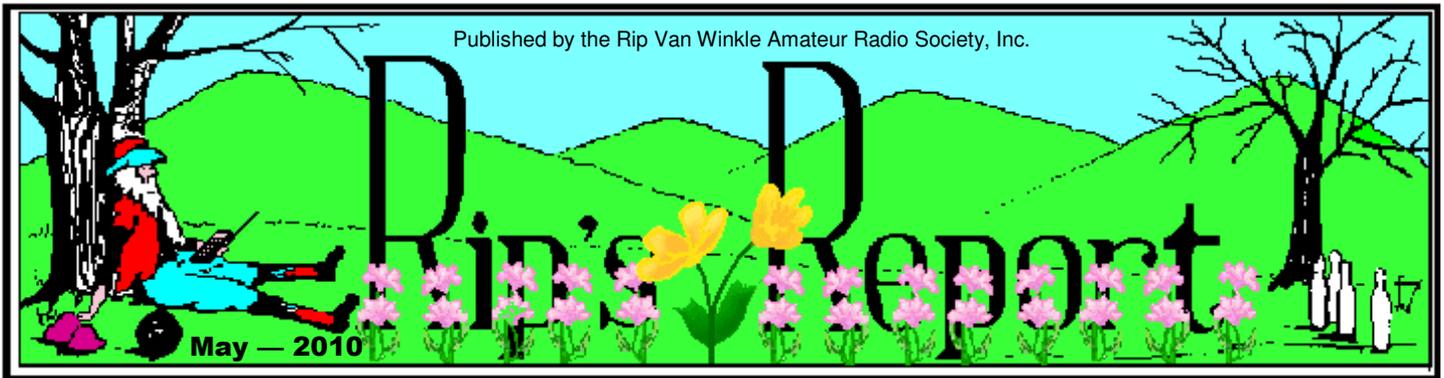
GOD BLESS
AMERICA



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.



Meeting
MAY 17
7:00 PM
Noecker66
"Club House"
Talk-in 147.21



VE Test Session Set for May 4th



Tom Cody, WE2G, RVWARS VE, has set Tuesday, May 4, 2010, at 7:00 p.m., as a VE Testing session at the Noecker Clubhouse. The primary reason for the session is to give the current Technician Class Course students their "final exam."

In addition, the Session is open to "Walk-ins" and tests will be administered in all Amateur Classes: Technician, General and Extra. There are no Morse Code tests required for any class of Amateur Radio License.

The fee for taking an exam is \$15.00. If a test candidate passes an exam, he/she may take the next higher exam for the same fee. If a candidate does not pass an exam, he/she will have to pay \$15.00 to take the test again. (Several versions of the exams are on hand so a candidate would not re-take the same exact exam.)

Please do not bring textbooks or study guides into the exam room. Calculators will be checked to see that the memories are clear. (You will have to remember those reciprocal formulas without outside help!)

VEs should report to the Noecker Clubhouse before 7:00 p.m. to get their assignment for the evening.



WGXC, New FM Station on air soon

Representatives, Max, KC2MIN, and Tom gave an informative description at the April RVWARS meeting about WGXC, a new 3300 watt FM station, located in Cairo, that will be on the air soon. They would like ideas and volunteers for a show on amateur radio and any other subjects concerning radio. If anyone would like to pursue this, contact WE2G at tcody@mhcable.com



SKYWARN Class at May 17th Meeting

The May 17th RVWARS meeting will have a short business meeting followed by a SKYWARN training session. Pre-registration is required through the NWS Albany website: <http://star.cestm.albany.edu:7775/skywarn/Talks.htm>

Rip's Meeting May 17th

The regular monthly RVWARS meeting will be 7:00 p.m., May 17, at the Noecker Clubhouse at the corner of Graham Avenue and Rt 66 in Hudson. Talk-in on 147.21. There's plenty of parking across Graham Ave. at the Bank or Lumber Yard.

Plans for Field Day will be discussed. As a reminder, if you haven't already set aside the last weekend in June to take part in Field Day, set aside Saturday, June 26 and Sunday, June 27 and plan to have a great time! Newly licensed Hams are especially invited to experience Field Day!



MS-Walk May 2nd Volunteers Needed:

This year's MS-Walk at Lake Taghkanic is on Sunday May 2. Ham volunteers are needed to be positioned throughout the course.

The event really benefits from our skills, equipment, and time.

Hams should meet at the large West Beach parking lot at 9 a.m. Location: Lake Taghkanic State Park (Rte 82 or Taconic Parkway) There is no fee to get into the Park. Time: 9 a.m. - noon. Equipment: 2m hand-held or mobile rig. ARES/RACES vest/arm band if you have one. Thank you to all who routinely work this event, and any new volunteers.



Upcoming Events

Monday, May 3 — 7:00 p.m.

ARES/RACES Meeting
Columbia County EOC.
Hudson/Greenport

Tuesday, May 4 — 7:00 p.m.

VE Session for the Technician License Class — Open to all for all License Level Exams
Noecker Clubhouse, Rt. 66 & Graham Ave. Hudson

Monday, May 17 — 7:00 p.m.

RVWARS Meeting
SKYWARN Class
Noecker Clubhouse, Rt. 66 & Graham Ave. Hudson

RVWARS Weekly Nets

Tuesday — 7:00 p.m.

Informal Roundtable Net. 147.21 Repeater

3rd Thursday — 8:00 p.m.

ARES/RACES Emergency Training Net: 147.21 Repeater

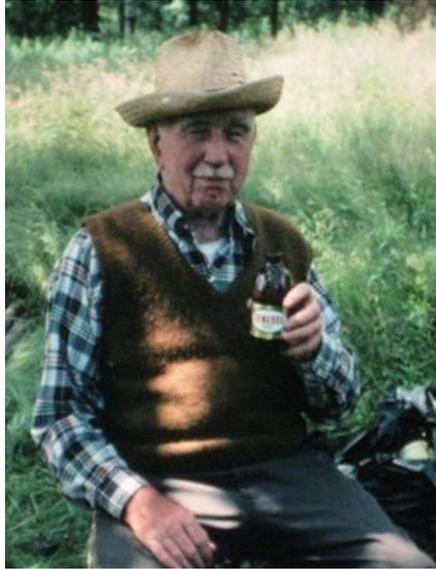
Thursday — 9:00 p.m.

TNT Trader Net, 145.17 & 444.075MHz (with 127.3Hz PL on BOTH input & output)

Rip Van Winkle Amateur Radio Society 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
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 — wa2fti@yahoo.com
<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/RVWARS/>

Adolph Elster W2FSL



The photo above just recently surfaced and was sent to Ye Olde Editor for publication

W2FSL was a mainstay of the Rip Van Winkle Amateur Radio Society for more years than anyone can remember. Although he has been a silent key for many years, his memory lives on with the members who had the pleasure of working Field Day with him. Adolph was a seasoned and dedicated CW operator and could easily copy several QSOs in his head while others were scrambling for paper and pencil.

Adolph's call lives on. His grandson, Russ, applied for and received the call W2FSL and sends it proudly... it's nice to hear it and I'm sure The Old Man is glad it's still on the air.

—WA2FTI



N2LBX, Silent Key



Stanley E. Murawski, 67, of North Chatham, died Tuesday, April 6, 2010 after a long battle with cancer. Stan was born in

Albany and spent most of his adult life in the Capital Region and Lake Luzerne. Retired from General Electric, Stan was an avid boater and fisherman and a ham radio operator, N2LBX. He had been a member of the Hudson River Power Boat Association, the Coast Guard Auxiliary and the Rip Van Winkle Amateur Radio Society.

In recent years, Stan's passion was working as a restoration volunteer and ship cook on the USS Slater in Albany.

The family has requested that those who wish to remember Stan make memorial contributions to USS Slater, P.O. Box 1926, Albany, NY 12201-1926 or to the Columbia Greene Humane Society, in his memory.

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RVWARS Members Volunteer at Boston Marathon

RVWARS was represented at the Boston Marathon when K2WG and KC2RDK traveled to Boston on April 18th - 19th to assist with the Amateur Radio Communications Team to support the finish line/EMS activities at the Marathon.

Alex was assigned to one of the medical sweep zones near the finish line to assist the volunteer medical staff with any medical issues that the runners might have after completing the course.

Wayne was assigned to one of the buses that sweeps the course providing EMS and rides back to Boston for any runner who must drop out of the race for whatever reason.

There are over 300 amateur radio operators that volunteer to assist with the Boston Marathon each year.

If any RVWARS member is interested in participating in 2011, contact Alex or Wayne.



Wayne with the nurse and EMT assigned to the sweep and transport bus #8 at the staging area in Brookline, MA.



Alex and Wayne next to the field communications units from Boston Fire and PD at the command post area in Copley square near the Marathon's Finish line in downtown Boston.



Alex was "forced" to spend the day with nurse Rachel at the Marathon's Finish Line.

Dayton Hamvention® Set for May 14-16

On May 14-16, hams from all over the world will make their way to the Hara Arena, located in Trotwood, Ohio for the 2010 Dayton Hamvention®.

Held annually since 1952, Hamvention is one of the largest Amateur Radio gatherings in the world, and as we have been doing since 2005, the ARRL will bring the ARRL EXPO -- a showcase of ARRL exhibits and activities that celebrate the very best of Amateur Radio — to thousands of radio amateurs. ARRL staff will also present a number of exciting, interactive forums throughout Hamvention weekend.

Several RVWARS members make the annual trip to Dayton to visit with old friends and to see what's new in Amateur Radio.



N2SQW Presents N.Y. SEMA workings to Tech. Class of '09



Ken, N2SQW, New York State RACES Radio Officer, presented an illustrated program at the April 13th Technician class about how New York State, and specifically SEMA, is set to provide emergency communications during natural calamities as well as terrorist attacks. Activation of local and State-wide nets was discussed as was how the class members, as new Amateur Radio Operators could take part in the Emergency Nets.

A spirited question and answer period followed the presentation. The Class instructors, WA2FTI and WA2KCU wore their ARES/RACES vests as did several of the visiting RACES members.

W1AW Offers Code Practice, Bulletins via EchoLink

Audio from W1AW's CW code practices and CW/digital bulletins is now available using EchoLink via the W1AW Conference Server "W1AWBDCT." The 9:45 PM ET phone bulletin is currently unavailable via W1AWBDCT. The audio is sent in real-time and runs concurrently with W1AW's regular trans-

mission schedule. According to W1AW Station Manager Joe Carcia, NJ1Q, this server is currently at an experimental stage: "Since the server is located at ARRL -- and uses the ARRL's Internet connection -- there may be an issue as to how many users can connect to W1AWBDCT via EchoLink. The current number of connections is set to 350. If the current system can

properly handle these connections without adversely affecting the performance of the conference server, this number will be bumped up higher." All users who connect to the conference server are muted. Please note that any questions or comments should not be sent via the "Text" window in EchoLink.

Please send any questions or comments via e-mail.

Field Day Raffle

First Prize: Yaesu FT-1900
2M 55W MOBILE with MH48A6J MIC



Second Prize: ARRL Repeater Handbook

Drawing will be Saturday June 26 at noon. Winner need not be present to win.

Tickets are \$3.00 each

Tickets will be available at the meetings and Field Day before noon or by mail.

Make checks payable to RVWARS c/o Stan Engel, Treasurer, PO Box 153, Ghent, NY 12075.

A SASE would be appreciated (not necessary) if you want the stubs.

150 tickets to be printed.

SECRETARY'S MINUTES

FROM LAST MONTH'S MEETING

4/19/2010



Meeting called to order at 7:03pm by President. N2NZD. Attendance 14

Secretary's report read. Motion to accept by KC2OGK, second by N2JVE

Treasurer's report Checking \$1971.17, Savings \$2009.43, Total \$3980.60.

Committees

ARES/RACES

MS Walk will be May 2 at Lake Taghkanic, 6 operators will be needed. and there will be Community Day in Philmont on July 10, where we will have a Special Event Station. Help will be needed at there also.

Len, N2LEN's appointment as Radio Officer for RACES is pending, as Greene County is studying whether they want RACES involvement. They will hold an ARES meeting in late May.

Repeater

Cell tower will be to the east of repeater site. Unknown effect on signals. The 2 meter repeater is very unreliable when cold. An anonymous donor will give RVWARS a Motorola MT 2000 repeater for 2 meters. Stan WA2UET proposed purchase of a Kenwood TKR 850 and controller from Arcon. Stan would like to link the 2 meter and 70cm repeaters. Not much activity on 440. Motion to purchase TKR 850 by N2FN, seconded by N2JVE. Discussion ensued. Dues were raised due to club needing funds. Why spend them on something which will be lightly used? Motion to do study on 440 needs by AA2Y, seconded by KC2AGM. N2LEN stated that with new 2 meter repeater, usage drops on 440. With linking of repeaters, coverage might open up. What will happen with repeater coverage with cell tower? Possible link with N2LEN's 902.5 repeater. N2JVE suggested moving the UHF repeater. WA2UET would like all repeaters on the hill. Put out survey to see who will use 449 repeater. N2FN withdrew motion to purchase 440 repeater. Most of money in treasury is from tag sales, not dues.

Survey: Would you use the 449 repeater if replaced? Should we attempt to repair The old repeater or scrap it? New controller still needed to link repeaters. N2LEN will donate 440 repeater for the club to use. Port 1 VHF, Port 2 UHF, Port 3 link..

Motion by N2LEN seconded by N2FN to purchase new repeater controller for \$580.

Voted in unanimously. Thanks to Len and the anonymous donor of the 2 meter repeater. 220 repeater will not be linked.

Guy wires on tower have to be replaced soon.

Field Day

Mike, N2JVE will be chairman

Education

Classes going all right.

Vote

Vote on change in Constitution and By-Laws carried.

50-50

Won by WA2UET

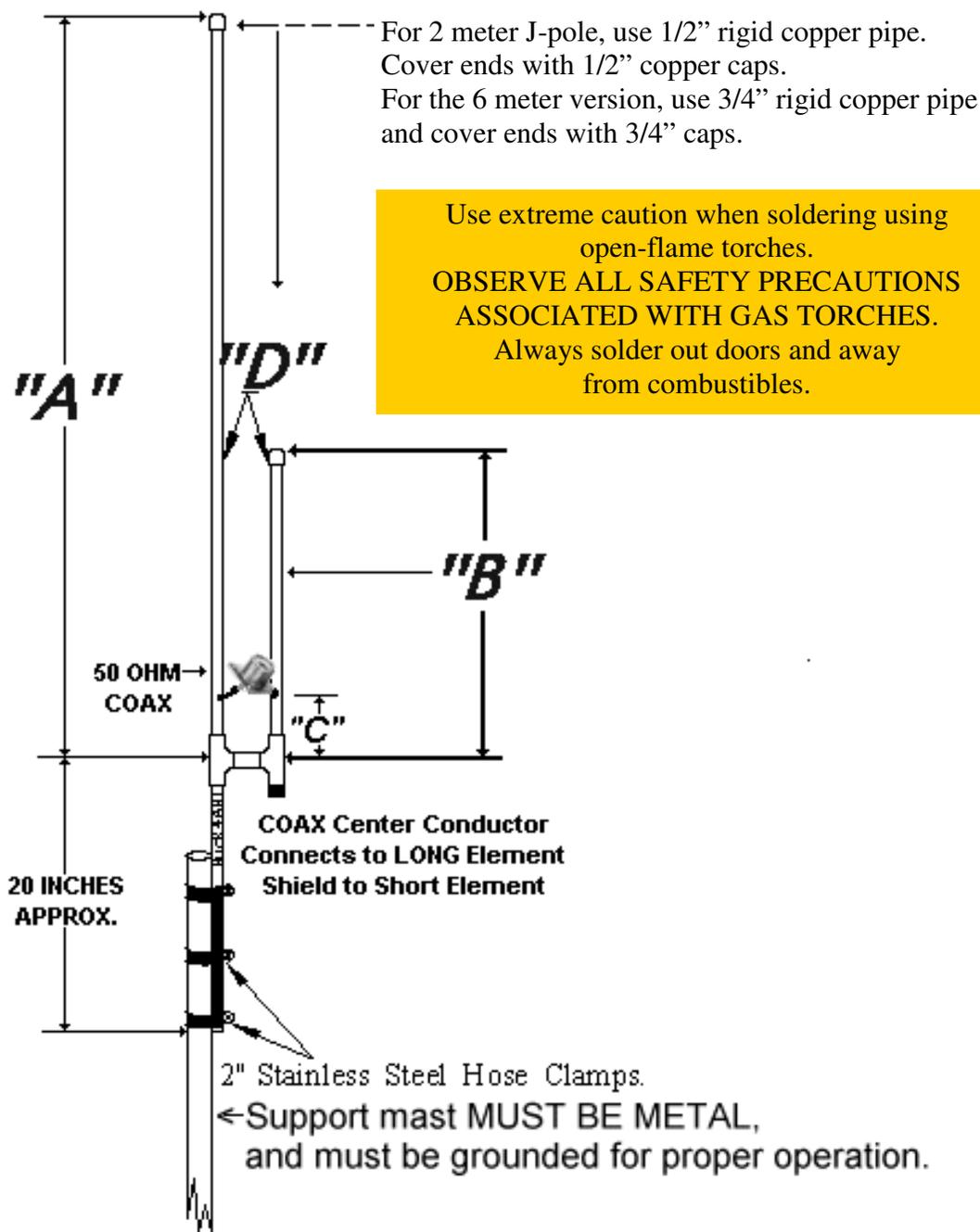
Talk by Tom and Max, KC2MIN about WGXC, a 3300 watt FM station which will be located in Cairo. They would like idea and volunteers for a show on amateur radio and any other subjects concerning radio. If anyone would like to pursue this, contact WE2G at tcody@mhicable.com.

Adjourned 7:49 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Thomas J Cody

Build a J-Pole Antenna



For 2 meters (148.000 MHz) the EXACT dimensions are:

- A = 57.12 inches overall (Long, driven element).
- B = 18.96 Inches
- C = 1.92 Inches
- D = 1.8 Inches (space)

For 6 meters (50.500 to 51.500 MHz) the EXACT dimensions are:

- A = 166-3/4 inches overall (long, driven element).
- B = 58-3/4 inches (short, tuning stub).
- C = 5.5 Inches
- D = 5 inches