



**Happy  
Birthday**

**Jim-KD2DNJ  
Dana-N2KN  
Claude-WT2C**

Your dues are important to this club! We support the operation of the repeater at between 700 and 800 dollars per year just in electric bills. We are always upgrading and improving and maintaining the system. Some of this expense is covered by our members. Our insurance is \$320 per year. Food alone for Field Day and the picnic is over \$300. We purchase some kind of snack for each meeting at probably around an average of \$15 per month and about another \$100 plus for the goody fest. Other than dues our income is sparse. The only substantial income has been the fall tag sale and the goods to sell are running out. The income from the raffle is not a lot. Our paid roster so far in 2015 is only 26 members paid. About \$600 income from dues so far. A rough estimate is about \$1600 expense and about \$600 income leaving us in the hole for \$1000. At the current rate we will be broke in two years! I know that several more members will pay their dues soon, but if you could pay sooner it would make it easier to plan. These figures are obviously a rough estimate but i think you can all see the potential dilemma looming. Please consider helping to maintain your club. Not only dues but your attendance at the meetings and your donations toward the fall tag sale and other needed support.

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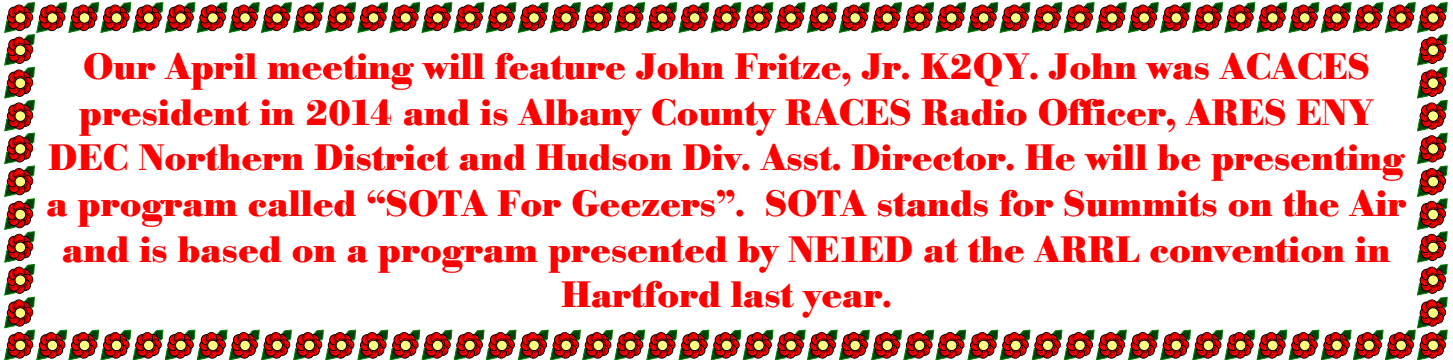
Please join us on the Tuesday night Roundtable on 147.210 at 7:00 PM. ALL are welcome! Use the EchoLink (K2RVW-R) if need be.



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**Next Meeting  
April 20  
CHURCHTOWN  
FIREHOUSE  
2219 Cty 27  
Hudson, NY  
All are Welcome**



**Our April meeting will feature John Fritze, Jr. K2QY. John was ACACES president in 2014 and is Albany County RACES Radio Officer, ARES ENY DEC Northern District and Hudson Div. Asst. Director. He will be presenting a program called "SOTA For Geezers". SOTA stands for Summits on the Air and is based on a program presented by NEIED at the ARRL convention in Hartford last year.**

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.

**April Meeting  
4/20/2015  
CHURCHTOWN**

**WE ARE NOW  
ON FACEBOOK  
CHECK IT OUT**

*2015 dues are \$25.00 per individual \$30.00 for family \$5.00 for students and active Military are free.*

**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.

**New DTMF codes for the New Vantage Vue Weather Station:**

- 500-Wind Speed & Direction
- 501-Outside Temperature
- 502-Indoor Humidity
- 503-Outdoor Humidity
- 504-High Wind Speed (since midnight)
- 505-High Outside Temperature (since midnight)
- 506-Low Outside Temperature (since midnight)

Hopefully a Rain reading will be added soon. But these are what is available at this point. The system is installed and ready to use. Please feel free to try the codes and see what is going on at the repeater site at Forest Lake. (the outside temperature from the new system is different than that from the controller. They are different sensors.)

**RVW WORK PARTY**

We did not get the stone raked off this summer. It is not a big deal but would look better if we can get it done next spring. I will let all know when I can help. We will also have to do some weed eating in the spring. That to was neglected this year. Other than that there is not a lot that needs to be done at the site. Todd took the junk away. We are in pretty good shape on the hill.

If we can get the money through a grant next year we will put some solar panels on the roof of the shelter. **SPRING IS NEAR!!!**

**TO USE THE BELOW CODES SIMPLY KEY UP AND ENTER THE CODE WITH YOUR KEY PAD**

**SOME FUN 147.210 REPEATER DTMF CODES**

Site Info:	Daily High/Low	
<u>228</u> -Outdoor Temp >	<u>900</u>	
<u>229</u> -Indoor Temp >	<u>910</u>	Resets at
<u>230</u> -DC Volt Bat 1 >	<u>930</u>	1:00 AM
<u>231</u> -AC Volt read >	<u>920</u>	Daily
<u>232</u> -DC Volt Bat 2 >	<u>940</u>	

\*\*\*\*\*  
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

### ARES

Things are moving along with organizing a new ARES group. Soon we will start having meetings, probably coinciding with our regular club meetings. We have several club members interested in getting involved. Practice traffic nets will be in the near future. We will NOT be getting involved with RACES, at least not right away. Anyone interested in joining ARES please pay your dues and **l e t m e k n o w .** wa2uet@taconic.net

### 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  
Yahoo Group  
<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/RVWARS/>

Auction was the word at the March monthly meeting with Dick W2CSQ leading the group as auctioneer. It was a very smooth operation with 27 bidders taking part and much equipment was taken home.



## SPRING TECHNICIAN CLASS, MAY 9 AND 16 INFORMATION ON PAGE 4

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

#### Treasurers Report

March 16, 2015

**Balance Fwd. Checking Acct      \$1618.52**

<b>Repts:</b>	Dues	\$50.00
	Raffle	\$105.00
	Sell broken radio	\$41.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$196.00</b>

<b>Exp:</b>	NYSEG	\$62.92
	Raffle Prize	\$79.90
	Replace Def radio	\$49.99
	Subway	\$11.88
	Ink and postage	\$218.39
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$423.08</b>

<b>Checking Bal</b>	<b>\$1391.44</b>
<b>Petty Cash</b>	<b>\$50.00</b>
<b>Savings Acct Bal</b>	<b>\$1011.49</b>

**Total RVWARS monies      \$2452.93**





## AMATEUR RADIO LICENSE COURSE

The East Chatham Fire Company, Inc. will be hosting and co-sponsoring an Amateur 'Ham' Radio licensing course with the Rip Van Winkle Amateur Radio Society. This course will be held on Saturday, May 9th from 8 AM until 5 PM and on Saturday, May 16th from 8 AM until 5 PM. The FCC licensing exam will be given at 5 PM on the 16th.

There is no fee for the course but a textbook is required and purchase of that textbook is the responsibility of the student. The text book is "The ARRL Ham Radio License Manual, Third Edition, Level 1, Technician". This book is available on-line from many sources but the best avenue for purchase is probably using the ARRL website at [www.arrl.org](http://www.arrl.org). The cost is approximately \$30.00. There will be a fee for taking the FCC exam and at this point in time that fee is \$15.00. The ARRL web site is a valuable source of information about all aspects of Amateur 'Ham' Radio.

It is important that each student read Chapters 1 through 5 before attending the May 9th session. There will not be enough time during class sessions to cover everything needed to be successful with the exam. So, each student must be willing to read the material in the textbook. Class time will be spent with demonstrations and 'hands-on' activities to reinforce the material provided in the textbook.

Attached is the schedule for the two day course. You will also need to bring a photo ID with you on May 16th to prove to the exam proctors that 'you are who you claim to be'.

If you have any further questions and/or to register for this class, email me at your convenience:

wayne1231@fairpoint.net.

73 for now (you will learn what that means during the course)....

Wayne – K2WG

## TWO DAY COURSE SCHEDULE

### Saturday May 9, 2015: 8 AM to Noon

1. Welcome to Amateur Radio
2. Radio Signals, Waves and Modulation
3. Radio Equipment Basics
4. Math Review
5. Electricity
6. Electronic Components

### Saturday May 9, 2015: 1 PM to 5 PM

1. Types of Radios and Radio Circuits
2. Propagation
3. Antennas and Feed Lines
4. Practical Antenna Systems
5. Basic Amateur Radio station

### Saturday May 16, 2015: 8 AM to Noon

1. Power Supplies and RF Interference
2. Communicating with Other Hams
3. License Terms and Working with the FCC
4. Bands and Privileges
5. International Rules and Call Signs

### Saturday May 16, 2015: 1 PM to 5 PM

1. Operating Regulations
2. Electrical Safety
3. Radio Frequency Exposure
4. Mechanical Safety
5. Practice exam[s]
6. VE Session

## 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.

## 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)



## **RVWARS REPEATER CHATTER**

I finally got on the site on Monday 3/23. The road was in good condition just a couple of small iced patches. I could not however get into the compound as the snow is frozen hard and has the gates blocked! So I could not check out the weather station.

I installed a bypass switch on the HEAT/AC system to bypass the remote relay if needed. Also installed a DATA switch on the controller. All looks good in there!

We have STILL not tested the Generator setup for the repeater. I just have not gotten much done in some time. I will try to get that done before something major happens.

Spring is coming sometime!!!

Stan, WA2UET



If every word  
I said could make  
you **laugh**,  
I'd talk forever...

[Backspace="Forever"]

## **RVWARS ON FACEBOOK!**

There is now a group on Facebook for the Rip Van Winkle Amateur Radio Society. Just search for the above. There are currently 13 members since Tom started the group about a month ago. Please join in!

## **CURMUDGEON NEEDED!**

It's imperative that we find another "Curmudgeon" as soon as possible! I have printed all of WD2K's great Musings that I have.

Someone out there should be able to carry on the tradition. Please send me your Musings!!!

ARRL has just published another PowerPoint Jeopardy-type game for instructors to use in exam-prep classes for the General-class test. The game was produced by our own W2XM. The new game, and several old ones, can be found at <http://www.arrl.org/instruction-exam-practice-and-review>.

**The Meeting  
room in the  
Churchtown  
Firehouse is  
HUGE. Bring  
yourself and lots  
of other folks.**

**2015 Dues**

**Mail to:**

**Stan Engel, WA2UET**

**PO Box 153**

**Ghent, NY 12075**

**Or bring with you to meeting  
Make checks Payable to RVWARS**

**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.**

People are  
like Oreos.  
The good  
stuff is on  
the inside.



# FCC RF-Exposure Regulations -- the Station Evaluation

Carl J. Verderber WA2UJX

March 5, 2015

It is time to remember our responsibility to our neighbors, our families and ourselves to re-evaluate RF-Exposures from our stations. All necessary support information is available from the ARRL website. Search for “fcc rf-exposure regulations” and you will find a good explanation of rules and requirements. I have copied a section of that page for those who transmit power levels below those listed in table 1. For those who radiate above the listed power levels, more evaluation is required.

## Who Needs to Do an Evaluation?

The good news is that most amateur stations *do not* need to be evaluated. The following classes of amateur stations are exempt from the evaluation requirement because their power levels or operating duty cycles are low enough that they are presumed to be in compliance with the MPE limits:

- Stations using the power levels at or below those shown in Table 1.
- Most mobile or portable stations (hand-held).

Amateur [repeaters](#) using 500 W effective radiated power (ERP) or less, if they meet certain antenna-separation requirements.

The power levels in Table 1 are expressed in *PEP input to the antenna*, except for the repeater specification, which is in terms of ERP. To determine the PEP input to the antenna you will need to include the transmitter PEP output and any feed line losses. Hams whose power levels exceed these limits must perform an evaluation.

**Table 1**

**You must perform an RF environmental evaluation if the peak-envelope-power (PEP) input to the antenna exceeds these limits.**

<i>Band</i>	<i>Power Watts</i>
160 meters	500
80	500
40	500
30	425
20	225
17	125
15	100
12	75
10	50
6	50
2	50
1.25	50
70cm	70
33	150
23	200
13	250
SHF(all bands)	250
EHF(all bands)	250



**Repeaters: Non-building-mounted antennas:** If the distance between ground level and the lowest point of the antenna is less than 10 meters and the power is greater than 500 W ERP.

**Building-mounted antennas:** If the power exceeds 500 W ERP.

## Who Can Do the Evaluation?

The FCC is relying on amateurs to perform their own station evaluations. Other than a simple statement on Form 610, the FCC does not require any paperwork from amateurs; once the evaluation is complete, the amateur can begin operation.

So let's do our part and spend a few minutes re-evaluating RF exposure at our stations. END

## Should we weep for amateur radio?

By Dan Romanchik, KB6NU

On an amateur radio mailing list that I subscribe to, one fellow wrote, "I weep for the state of amateur radio in the US, since this dispatch is apparently necessary..." He then pointed to an article on the ARRL website that reminded hams that while their local time may be switching to daylight time, Universal Coordinated Time did not change (<http://www.arrl.org/news/view/change-local-clocks-this-weekend-but-not-utc>).

The implication, of course, was that we have dumbed down ham radio so much that a reminder like this was necessary.

This thread went on and on, eventually garnering 17 different replies. Before it morphed into a discussion of whether or not DST is a good idea in the first place, the replies echoed the sentiment in the original e-mail:

"It's become a push button, nanny state world, what do you expect, competence?"

"We are truly in a time of appliance operating, not only in ham radio, but in practically every aspect of our lives. :-("

At first, I had the same reaction. I thought to myself, "How dumb are we getting in ham radio, if guys have to be reminded that UTC doesn't change when we switch to daylight savings time?" After thinking about this for a while, though, I've completely change my mind on this.

I work with a lot of newcomers to amateur radio, and many of them just don't know how UTC works. This is not their fault—they just haven't had the opportunity to deal with UTC. What these old timers (old farts?) didn't realize is that the ARRL article is not directed at them, but at the newcomers to ham radio.

I'll even go one step further. It's easy for us old-timers to be dismissive of newcomers' lack of knowledge, and then complain that amateur radio is getting dumber, but knee-jerk reactions don't usually help anyone involved. A much better approach would be to roll up your sleeves and teach them something. The only way newcomers are going to get to be old timers like us is if we help them learn stuff like this.

=====

When not teaching newbies about UTC, you'll find KB6NU working on updates to his "No Nonsense" study guides, teaching one-day Tech classes, or blogging about amateur radio at [www.kb6nu.com](http://www.kb6nu.com).

Here is a good visual calculator, for Ohms Law. It may help some understand it better.  
[https://phet.colorado.edu/sims/ohms-law/ohms-law\\_en.html](https://phet.colorado.edu/sims/ohms-law/ohms-law_en.html)





Henry 2KD2 upgraded to 2KD3. Very low hours 3-5000Z's, up-to-date grid bias circuit. Pi-L network, New power supply components. Fully functional. requires 230VAC (no more); will show how to build bucking transformer. Modified top cover to fit new tubes. Full power out 80 thru 10 M. Asking \$590.00 Contact Carl WA2UJX at [cjv@1791.com](mailto:cjv@1791.com)



**FOR SALE**

For the news letter

Anyone interested in 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 about 16 -120 volt pan cake fans plus protective guards if you know of any one 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](mailto:wa2uyy@aol.com)

**For Sale**

**2012 Keystone Retreat 39 FDEN**

**New lower price \$30,500**

**Call (518)784-3864**

*Ask for Mike or Patti or leave message*



I have a Item here I would like to put in the News Letter For Sale I is a AOR TDF-370 DSP Multi Media Terminal NEW in Box. Everything is there plus I burned a CD for the unit. There is a link below of a description on what the thing does plus you can go right to a PDF file for the owners manual and a picture of the unit. Thanks !!!!!

I am ASKING \$225.00  
Mike , N2JVE  
<http://www.usascan.com/files/tdf370.html>

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