

Meeting 12/17

Rip's Report

December 2012



Happy Birthday

Roger-KC2YKV
Tom-N2NZZ
Russ-W2FSL
Barry-WA2KLP

**OUR REPEATERS ARE BACK
ON THE AIR!
GIVE THEM A TRY.
REPORTS ARE WELCOME!**

2013 dues are \$25.00 per individual \$30.00 for family \$5.00 for students and active Military are free.

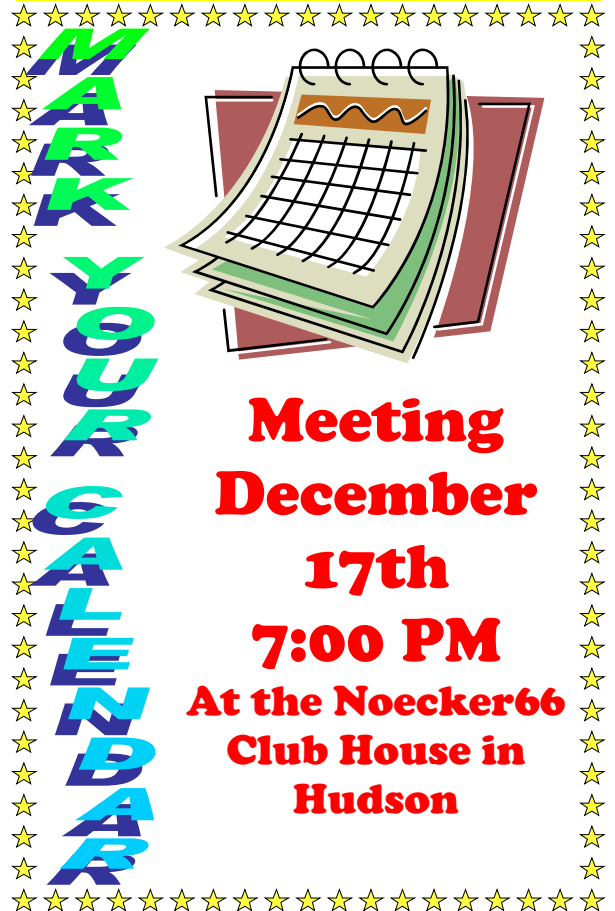
Please Pay Your 2013 Dues!

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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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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Meeting December

17th

7:00 PM

**At the Noecker66
Club House in
Hudson**

Upcoming Events

RVWARS Meeting
Monday December 17th
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 — 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/>

RVWARS Meeting November 19, 2012

- Meeting called to order at 7:00pm by President. N2JVE. Attendance 19.
- Secretary's report read. Motion to accept by KD2CCP, second by AC2JM.
- Treasurer's report Checking \$1907.15, Savings \$1011.24, Petty Cash, \$50.00, Total \$2968.39
- **Repeater**
Not much going on. Village of Philmont repaired road. Arnie Cavellaro will install antenna at 100'. Will wait for a weekend. No estimate. Ground kits are not installed yet. Not at site. Telephone service was re-installed in June. No bills received from June to present. Disconnected for non-payment. Cost \$174.94 for past bills to be re-connected. We have 2 year contract. Only used for controller, which can be *done* over the air. Not configured for 9-1-1 service. Costs \$360 per year. Stan may try to break contract.
- **ARES/RACES**
Tom, WE2G, will be resigning as Deputy Radio Officer for RACES. The county doesn't seem to have a purpose for us. After they received RACES money, they shunned us. We should speak with Bob, WB2DUW, RO, Ken, N2SQW, NYS Radio Officer, Dave Galletly, KM2O, ENY SEC and Len Signoretti, ARES DEC.
We seem to get in the way of bureaucracy. If we have a real emergency, we won't have people trained to handle messages, since we aren't allowed to participate in drills with the county.
ARES: WE2G checked into ENY nets related to Superstorm Sandy. Jim, KC2OGK went to Windham in Greene County.
- **Old Business**
Christmas Party: Contact N2JVE by December 10 if you are bringing food items. Solicitation of prizes for auction going well.
- **New Business**
Firemens Museum wants to do a telegraphy demonstration in February. De tails later.
W2CSQ has been licensed 54 years. Contests can be a war. There's a lot going on the bands. If contesting listen on frequency, know which nets are on the bands and ask if the frequency is in use. It happens both on CW and Phone. VHF contest January 19, on sideband.
- Meeting closed at 7:21pm. Motion by WA2KLP, Seconded by KD2CCP. 50-50 drawing won by WA2KLP.

Respectfully Submitted,

Thomas J Cody, Secretary, RVWARS

Rip Van Winkle Amateur Radio Society, Inc.

Treasurers Report

November 19, 2012

Balance Fwd. Checking Acct \$2019.53

Rcpts:	50/50	\$9.00
	Dues	\$105.00
	Donation	\$20.00
	Total	\$134.00

Exp:	NYSEG	\$47.14
	Food meeting	\$24.30
	Verizon	\$174.94
	Total	\$76.12

Checking Bal	\$1907.15
Petty Cash	\$50.00
Savings Acct Bal	\$1011.24

Total RVWARS monies \$2968.39



RECOLLECTING RVWARS HISTORY: INITIAL CLUB CREATION

Nov. 25, 2012

Carl J. Verderber WA2UJX

This month Stan WA2UET transferred most of the RVWARS archive to me. A CD disc and a backup thumb drive were part of a two box collection of documentation ranging from photos, news clippings, old Ripper newsletters and correspondence. Browsing through the CD that Stan produced, I was happy to see that he had scanned the documentation and correspondence that took place during the initial phase of RVW Club's request for acceptance as an ARRL affiliate.

RVWARS was formed and by-laws were drawn up and approved, request for affiliation with ARRL were sent and acceptance received - this all happening during 1951. Starting with 32 total club members (23 voting and 9 associate) and dues set at \$1.00, this club was started to: "... secure for ourselves the pleasures and benefits of the association of persons commonly interested in Amateur Radio to fully co-operate with existing and future programs of Civilian Defense".

After 61 years, our club has held fast to these goals even though Civilian Defense has morphed into RACES and ARES services.

HERE IS A BRIEF TIMELINE FOR CLUB CREATION AND ARRL AFFILIATION:

The first club officers were: President Loys Tice W2FQL; V.P. Gordon Widey W2FVP; Treasurer Louis Teator W2VCY; Secretary John Rappleyea W2WGE.

July 22, 1951 was the initial letter of intent sent to the ARRL by John Rappleyea; The Club has been created.

Oct. 8, 1951 was the request for affiliation to the ARRL by Loys Tice (Pres.)

Oct. 22, 1951 ARRL Investigation Report was generated

Nov. 21, 1951 a letter of acceptance received from ARRL with approval and the words: "...You are now officially an ARRL Affiliated Club...".

RVWARS has successfully serviced the community and supported the Amateur Hobby for 61 ARRL affiliated years. Happy 61st Birthday RVWARS! End.

1957 Transistor Radio Comes Home

Nov. 27, 2012

Carl J. Verderber WA2UJX

Last month I described a repair project that was a home made transistor AM radio based on the plans published in the July 1957 Popular Science Magazine. Other than replacing some electrolytic capacitors, clean up solder joints and an alignment, the radio worked well with original components. I was finally able to hook up with the owner and give back the radio. Manny was very pleased because the radio had not worked in 55 years and I was glad to provide him with a working set.



Manny WA2YNN is originally from Hudson but worked at his barber shop in Red Hook for nearly 50 years. He now lives 2 blocks from Noecker Club House and I'm hoping to bring him to one of our club meetings soon. END

KB6NU builds an end-fed, half-wave antenna

I've always been interested in end-fed, half-wave antennas before, but until this recently, I'd never built one. One of the reasons for this is that most designs are for QRP antennas and not made to handle more than 5 – 10 W of power.

A couple of months ago, though, I ran across a design rated at 100 W (http://earchi.org/proj_homebrew.html). The design seemed relatively simple to build, requiring only a single toroid and a capacitor made with a short length of RG-174 coax. Well, it just so happens that I bought 100-ft. of RG-174 at Dayton this year, and I found the toroid cores online from the "Toroid King" for a very reasonable price, so I decided it was high time to build one.

All told, the parts cost about \$10, the

biggest part of that being a 4-in. x 4-in. x 2-in. plastic junction box (Carlton E989NNJ-CAR) I got from Lowe's for \$6.41. Compare that with the \$60 that LNR wants for their end-fed antenna.

I put up the antenna about three weeks ago, on a beautiful fall Sunday, running 34 feet of wire up a trellis attached to a small deck in my backyard, then out to a tree near the back of my lot. With more than a little anticipation, I put the antenna analyzer on it, only to be somewhat disappointed with the readings. The SWR was 2.6:1 at 14.000 MHz, dropping to about 1.5:1 at 14.900 MHz.

Since the internal tuner on my IC-746PRO is supposed to be good to 3:1, I did use it and made a couple of contacts. A guy in MA even gave me a 599 signal report. So, while I was a little uncomfortable with an SWR so close to the limit of my tuner, it did seem to radiate pretty well.

I e-mailed the guy who published the design and asked why he thought the resonant frequency was so high, and he said that all I had to do was add a couple feet of wire to the antenna. I also did some more reading about end-feds and several websites suggested that adding a counterpoise might be a good idea, too.

A week later, I finally got back to playing with the antenna. I added 24-in. of wire to it, and it did indeed bring down the SWR of the antenna to below 2:1 in the CW portion of 20m. I'm happier with this. I made a couple of contacts that day, too, with both stations giving me good reports.

I still do plan to try a counterpoise. Not so much to improve the SWR, but to see if it makes the antenna a little more efficient.

Overall, this has been a fun project. I learned something about end-fed, half-wave antennas and saved a bunch of money by rolling my own. Isn't that what ham radio is all about?

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When he's not messing with antennas, Dan, KB6NU publishes the "No-Nonsense" series of amateur radio license study guides. The latest in this series is the No-Nonsense Extra Class License Study Guide. For more information, go to KB6NU.Com or e-mail cwgeek@kb6nu.com.



History: Call For Help

Nov. 28, 2012

Carl J. Verdrber WA2UJX

RVW Historian

I was so glad to receive a copy of some articles about RVW club activities in Feb. 1977 from Pete Avery KC2C (was WB2AEA). At that time Pete was Club Training Officer and he put on a great program. The Club held a "project and training workshop" where any Amateur could bring in equipment for test, diagnostic evaluation and some repairs. Also, teams of experts were there to help train anyone not familiar with their equipment. Pete tells me he just rejoined RVW and we all welcome him back.

I know the technologies have become very advanced since 1977 but I bet some members who have technical questions or some kind of difficulty with transmitters, receivers, microphones/ audio processors or phone patches or the like might appreciate a 2013 Equipment Clinic. We could get a club member with a Service Monitor and some dummy loads, VOM's, DVM's, O'scope, Watt Meters, SWR meters, tube tester, etc. and we could have a great time discussing and evaluating and testing equipment and mobile antennas. Let's discuss this at the next meeting.

Anyone who has similar historic information please share it with the Club. It would be appreciated. END

STOTTVILLE - The Rip Van Winkle Amateur Radio Society held a project and equipment

workshop Sunday at the Stottville firehouse.

Club members and new hams were invited to bring radio equipment that had problems, and teams of trained electronic technicians were on hand to help solve them. Testing equipment such as oscilloscopes, signal generators, UTVM and RF probes were used throughout the afternoon.

Peter Avery, WB2AEA, the club's training officer, said 30 members and guests attended. Twelve pieces of radio equipment and related items were tested.

Members of the training committee at the workshop, in addition to Avery, were Richard Leavitt, WA2CSQ; Clifford Miller, WN2DOA; Robert Turner, WB2DUW; Joseph Johnson, W2DW; Jerome Walsh, WA2LSU; Shawn Smith, WB2UOZ; Shailer Evans, WA2ZL2.

The club meets the third Monday of the month at 7:30 p.m. at Columbia-Greene Community College. Information about club programs or membership is available from President Robert Turner at 851-7005.(cvm)

**Therapy is expensive,
Poppin' bubble wrap is
cheap, You choose.**

Ham radio workshop draws 30

The Rip Van Winkle Amateur Radio Society held a project and equipment workshop Sunday at the Stottville Firehouse. Club members and new hams brought radio equipment needing repairs and teams of electronic technicians were on hand to help put them back working order.

Peter Avery, club training officer, said 30 members and guests attended and that pieces of radio equipment and related items were tested.

Members of the training committee who attended the workshop were Avery, Richard Leavitt, Clifford Miller, Robert Turner, Joseph Johnson, Jerome Walsh, Shawn Smith and Shailer Evans.

The club meets on the third Monday of the month at Columbia-Greene Community College at 7:30 p.m. Further information about programs or membership can be obtained by calling the president, Robert Turner at 851-7005.

The Register-Star Hudson, N.Y. Tuesday, February 22, 1977 A-7

Amateur Radio Society plans auction, courses

GREENPORT - The Rip Van Winkle Amateur Radio Society, at its meeting Monday, planned its ham radio auction for April 30 and formed committees to plan a licensing course, public relations activities and a field day.

Thirty-eight attended the meeting at Columbia-Greene Community College.

Activities manager Shelly Evans (WA2CLQ), outlined plans for the ham auction. Peter Avery (WB2AEA), training committee chairman, an-

nounced that the Society will sponsor novice and general licensing courses at Columbia-Greene Community College this fall.

A public relations committee was formed to handle promotional activities for the Society. Members are Peggy Garrison (WB2R22), Anna Shook (WB2KEZ), Ann Clapper (WA2KCU), Pete Willis (WB2KEX) and Shawn Smith (WB2UOC).

A committee was named to select a site and make

arrangements for the annual June field day outing.

On the committee are Joe Johnson (W2DW), Cliff Miller (WA2DOA), Shelly Evans and Shawn Smith.

Sixteen new members were accepted into the Society. They are: Harold Warner, Pete Willis, Louis Weiss, Ernest Weiss, Romolo Toigo, Anna Shook, Leonard Sawicky, Ellen Rettus, Richard Rettus, William Nightingale, Peter Jaworski, David Clapper, Ann Clapper, Joseph Blasco, Donald Bartlett and Richard Aggers.

The next Society meeting will be March 21 at Columbia-

QNZ de K2WG....

I think it was Steinbeck. "The best laid plans...." Anyway, I had really good intentions of having a QNZ article for every newsletter during 2012. But, alas! WD2K had warned me that there will be times when life will get in the way of pursuing ham radio interests. How true! Club meetings? Tuesday night round table? ARES/RACES meetings? It seems that most fire departments in the county who graciously agree to host fire schools want them on Monday or Tuesday nights. Also, I am the project manager and the electrician for the addition being built on the East Chatham fire station. I do find some time to get on the ham bands and I am still active in Army MARS. But here I am, kind of on the outskirts of important aspects of my hobby looking in to see where and when I can get back into the local mainstream once again. I needed some kind of refresher, a shot in the arm or perhaps a twist of the arm.

While perusing QST magazine my attention was drawn to a promotion piece for a new book by Don Keith N4KC titled "Riding the Shortwaves: Exploring the Magic of Amateur Radio." The promo and review stated it was written primarily for newly licensed hams or for those who were interested in the hobby but hadn't been licensed yet. However, a strong point was made by the reviewer that experienced hams would also benefit from reading the book. Sure enough it gave me the kick in the gluteus maximus that I needed. A wonderful mixture of anecdotes, 'how it's done' and tales of personal experiences does appeal to the experienced ham who could recognize his or her own ham 'career' in the pages of N4KC's book.

I'll keep the details to a minimum to stave off boredom for those who are reading this article but suffice it to say that I now have a new homebrew multi-band wire antenna installed using window line and a Heathkit balun I constructed somewhere in the 1960's, my antenna switching network has been streamlined, each of my 3 HF rigs has an iambic paddle connected to its internal keyer and my 2012 Tundra has 40m through 70cm capabilities. Not sure if I'm bragging or complaining, but there it is! I've also been reflecting upon the influence several Elmers (or mentors as N4KC prefers to be called) had upon my earlier ham radio career. Because I'm

going on 52 years of involvement in ham radio all of those Elmers are now Silent Keys. I think ham radio operators really began the 'Pay It Forward' concept only they didn't call that.

Moving forward. Resisting static inertia. I know there is more that I can be doing. Not much I can do about the fire school schedule. That is not under my control. However, you will indeed see a QNZ article on a regular basis in this newsletter. And Stan, thank you for all you do for the RVWARS! I have two Wouxon KG-UVD1P dual band HT's gathering dust in my shack. One is a 2m/70cm the other is a 2m/1.25m. I would like to give them to two school age hams out there that may not have the resources to buy their own 'rig'. So, readers, if you are one of those school age hams or if you know of one who could use one of these HT's email me at wayneg1231@fairpoint.net and I will get in touch. If anyone would like to borrow N4KC's book, let me know. **I'm also offering my services to do another two day licensing course modeled after the one we did this past spring.** Let me know when the club officers think scheduling would be appropriate.

73 for now.... AR....SK....de K2WG

Highlighted by the editor!

ARE YOU A MEMBER OF THE ARRL?

We need to know PLEASE.

Email Tom

we2g_1@yahoo.com and let him know.

MUSING OF A CURMUDGEON



It seems that every day you hear someone say "I only want to learn the code to get on voice on the low bands".

While it is a requirement to learn phone privileges it shouldn't be the only reason. There are many other advantages to acquiring this skill. Many Amateurs in other countries have only CW as a means of communicating and not to use these skills means cutting oneself off from making contact with them. Not keeping up and using the code also means that one is making a conscious decision to give up the ability to operate when conditions are too poor for phone and losing the ability to work many countries with a modest station, basic wire antennas and low power.

Before deciding not to operate CW everyone should take a look at the band allocations. It means giving up half of most bands and all of the 30 meter band. Somehow this doesn't seem like a wise decision.

Not everyone likes the code but to make this decision before giving it a try is a mistake. It is encouraging to hear that so many new Amateurs are upgrading and rebuts the cry that the no code license is the end of Amateur radio. After making the effort to learn the code and become one of the custodians of this traditional mode to deny one self the opportunity to enjoy another mode is unfortunate. We can only hope that like many of the "old timers" they will find CW a source of enjoyment.

By Dave Watrous, WD2K 1/1996

CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

PRIZE—BAOFENG UV-5RA DUAL BAND HT

DRAWING AT THE CHRISTMAS FEAST

DECEMBER 17, 2012

TICKETS \$2.00 DONATION

Send me the money or buy at the party. I will send your stubs when I get your payment.



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*

***PLEASE LET MIKE KNOW IF YOU CAN BRING A DISH
BEFORE DECEMBER 10!***



**MERRY CHRISTMAS AND
HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL.
I HOPE YOU ALL HAVE A
WONDERFUL CHRISTMAS
SEASON!**



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 parts-heavy duty diodes, chokes, capacitors or would charge a good battery bank. "Free to a good home". Contact wb2tecv@mhcable.com

If your ad is no longer valid please let me know.

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

Wa2uuy
Ron Coons Sr.
518-945-3731

**PROFESSIONAL
INSURED
TOWER CLIMBER
DISCOUNT RATES FOR HAMS
ANTENNAS - FEED LINES
INSTALLED & REMOVED
CALL
ARNIE CAVALLARO
518-965-9299**

Arnie Cavallaro
Wireless Operations Mgr. Cell: 518-965-9299



Secure Wireless Broadband Internet
Serving Greene and Columbia Counties
Visit NYAIR.net

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

Trade/Sale/In Search Of

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 qrp 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 bubby-call@yahoo.com

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
wa2uuy@aol.com

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