



Happy Birthday

- Jim-KA2PEJ
- Bob-KB2SOJ
- Greg-KC2FRW
- Charles-KC2VZE
- Glen-W2BK
- Carl-WB2TCV

Our 2 meter repeater is working great! Please feel free to use it. Try the 449.925 but our 224.280 is temporarily off the air. No one uses the 450MHz or the 220MHz repeaters so we don't know the coverage. If you use them give us a report...

2011 dues are \$25.00 per individual \$30.00 for family \$5.00 for students and active Military are free.

You Can Pay Your 2011 Dues Anytime!

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 Echo-Link (K2RVW-R) if need be.



MARK
YOUR
CALENDAR



**Regular Meeting
 June 20
 7:00 PM
 Noecker
 "Club House"
 Talk-in 147.21**

MEETING JUNE 20

FINAL PLANS FOR FIELD DAY

SPRING IS HERE!!!

TARA's Mr Bill

Mr Bill, NY2U, is improving, and is now in Troy at the Diamond Hill Nursing and Rehabilitation Center.

Please send get well cards to the TARA PO Box:

Troy Amateur Radio Association-N2TY
PO Box 1292
Troy, NY 12181

NEW REPEATER

Hello, this is Dan KC2MZY. I put up a repeater in Sand Lake NY a while back @ 449.350 negative shift no tone. If the guys want to try it out that would be great and let me know how it works. I know it works good on the thruway and up north of here. It IDs W1GRM so don't think it is the wrong one. You can e-mail your comments to, danfullthrottle@verizon.net
Thanks Dan 73s

RVWARS WEB PAGE

The Web Page is falling behind with Updates lately. We are currently working on getting and keeping it updated!.

VE SESSION

On May 17, a VE session was held at the Noecker Clubhouse. Four candidates walked out with a new license and one with an upgrade.

There are 2 new General Class licensees and 3 new Technicians. Of the 12 elements taken, 6 had a passing mark and 6 a failing mark.

Thanks to our stalwart VE's, WA2UET, KC2OGK, N2PBN, N2ROQ and WE2G for doing a fine job.

The New Hams are:
Victor Behoriam, KD2AGP
Darlene Miller, KD2AGR
Mark Mecir, KD2AGQ
Charles Tucci, KD2AGS

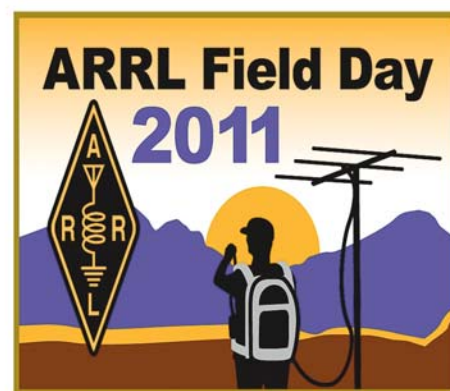
Upgrade:
Chester Pertchik, KC2ZYF to General.

CONGRATULATIONS!!!

*The wisest mind has
something yet to
learn.*

RVW WORK PARTY

If all goes as planned we will be needing a work party probably some time in July. Homeland is going to remove the tower at some point and I am not sure if we will be needed or wanted at that point. We will certainly need to disconnect antenna cables etc at the least.



www.arrl.org

ARRL Field Day Overview

ARRL Field Day is the single most popular on-the-air event held annually in the US and Canada. Each year over 35,000 amateurs gather with their clubs, friends or simply by themselves to operate.

ARRL Field Day is not a fully adjudicated contest, which explains much of its popularity. It is a time where many aspects of Amateur Radio come together to highlight our many roles. While some will treat it as a contest, most groups use the opportunity to practice their emergency response capabilities. It is an excellent opportunity to demonstrate Amateur Radio to local elected community leaders, key individuals with the organizations that Amateur Radio might serve in an emergency, as well as the general public. For many clubs, ARRL Field Day is one of the highlights of their annual calendar.

Join us at the Claverack Town Park on June 25-26 for our activities. Everyone is welcome!

HOMELAND TOWER PROJECT

I finally got to speak to Manny on May 26. The holdup has been with Verizon. But they now have the go ahead and expect to begin construction on June 15, with completion around late July. Mean time they will be working on our lease agreement and finding a shelter etc. I expect to talk to him again next week with more updates. But it finally seems to be moving along with all the same benefits as in the beginning.





Upcoming Events

Monday, June 6 — 7:00 p.m.

On Monday, June 6, the Columbia County ARES/RACES Meeting will be held at the Columbia County EOC in Greenport. Talk-in will be on 147.21.73,

Tom, WE2G, DRO, Columbia County

Monday, June 20 — 7:00 p.m.

RVWARS Meeting:
Noecker66 Clubhouse, Rt. 66 & Graham Ave. Hudson

Weekly Nets

EVERY TUESDAY at 7:00 p.m.

Informal Roundtable on the 147.210 repeater ALL are welcome.

3rd THURSDAY at 8:00 p.m.

ARES/RACES

Emergency Training Net: 147.21 Repeater

Repeaters

147.210 no PL tone
449.925 no PL tone
224.280— no tone and temporarily off line.

Vital Statistics

President — Tom Gutierrez N2NZD
Vice President — Mike Alecksynas N2JVE
Secretary — Tom Cody WE2G
Treasurer — Stan Engel WA2UET
Historian — Stan Engel WA2UET
Safety Officer — Stan Engel WA2UET
Repeaters — 147.21 224.280 449.925
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 5/16/2011

- Meeting called to order at 7:16pm by President. N2NZD. Attendance 13
- Secretary's report read. Motion to accept by KA2PEJ, second by WA2UJX.
- Treasurer's report Checking \$1024.34, Savings \$2010.65, Total \$3034.99.

• ARES/RACES

Columbia County ARES did MS walk on May 1 with 5 members. It was a nice day and all went well. The run at CGCC only WE2G showed. FRS was used and it went well. RACES Hospital Drill on May 10, Columbia County did not activate RACES so all we could do was to check equipment. WE2G will send letter to the chairman of the Board of Supervisors about the situation. RACES has to be activated by Emergency Management personnel, while ARES does not. We may hold combined ARES/RACES nets with Greene and Ulster Counties. No report from Greene County.

• Repeater

Stan got word from Homeland Towers that they anticipate construction beginning in July. He doesn't want to do much work at the repeater site until this happens. The repeater is working. Carl, WA2UJX, was speaking with someone from Vermont, and there was interference. We are keeping the current repeater when we move to Homeland's site. They will provide the shelter, feed line, and ½ of the cost of antennas. We've only had the MTR 2000 for a year. The Yaesu/Vertex still works, but both repeaters may have PLL problems. We still need a contract with Homeland.

KC2AGM mentioned there will be a D-Star repeater going up in Greene County.

• Education

K2KGJ reported there were 6 students at the last class. They were asking good questions. Some had only been to a few classes. They are enthusiastic. Some have dropped out. Should we have exams more than once per year? We will discuss field stocking of exams at VE session.

• Field Day

Things are going fairly well. The balun from the club beam was taken from the Field Day site for repair. Nobody knows who has it. An e-mail will be sent asking for information. Len, WB2UEB, offered the use of his beam if anyone will help him take it down. Todd's trailer should handle the tower. He needs some volunteers to help move it. Todd has straps to hold the bags down. The club generator will be used. The use of 2 more laptops with Windows 7 has been obtained. We should be all right if the computers are compatible. We will run 3A or 4A. Stan will try digital if no interference. Todd will check out. Bad coax will be checked. KC2AGM will bring analyzer.

• New Business

Change proposed to By-Laws. Article 4 Section E states that new members joining the club after April 1st will be considered paid up for the balance of the current year and the following year. Membership is from January 1st to December 31st. Members who pay dues after April 1st will be paying for the following year and not have full membership for the current year.

After much discussion, it is proposed that the wording be changed to: **New members joining the club after July 1st of the current year will be charged ½ year's dues.**

Renewing members who pay after April 1 will be credited with that year's dues and will not be forced to wait to be a full member again. Their dues will again be payable on January 1 of the following year.

Meeting adjourned at 8:06. Motion by AA2Y, seconded by KA2PEJ.

50-50 won by WE2G, donated to club.

Respectfully Submitted,
Thomas J Cody
WE2G, Secretary

FIELD DAY RAFFLE

Rip Van Winkle Amateur Radio Society, Inc.

First Prize—24" Samsung LED Full HDTV/Monitor
Second prize-ARRL Repeater Directory

Drawing Saturday 6/25 Noon at the FD Site

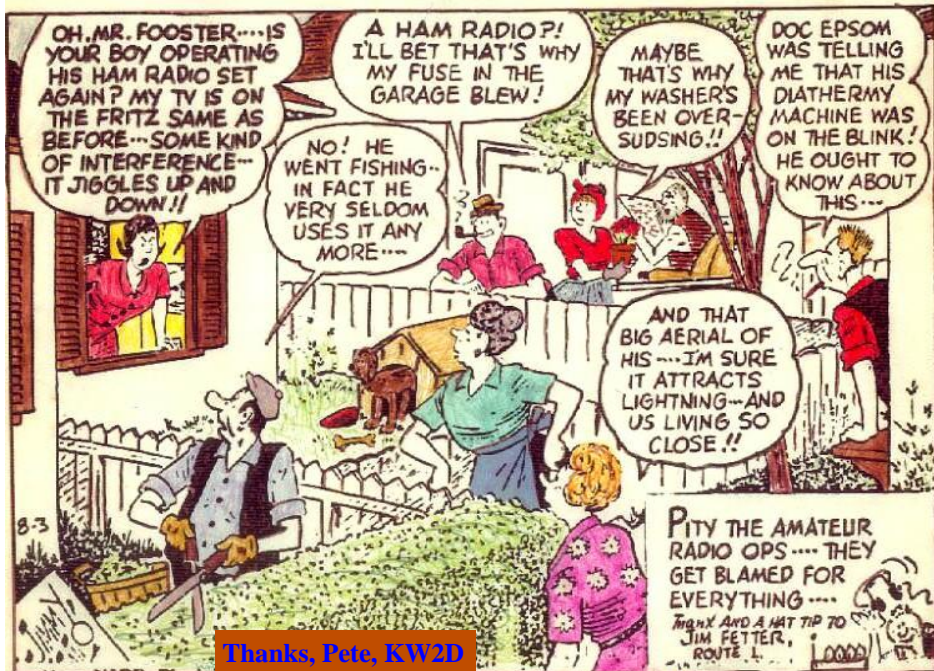
Tickets—\$3.00 each Tickets available at the meetings and at FieldDay Site.

Send SASE to RVWARS c/o Stan Engel

PO Box 153 Ghent, NY 12075

Make Checks Payable to RVWARS

THEY'LL DO IT EVERY TIME :-:-:- by Hatlo



Thanks, Pete, KW2D

N2LEN Repeaters

The N2LEN Repeater Network:

- 147.150 114.8hz East Windham, NY
- 449.025 114.8hz New Baltimore, NY
- 448.275 114.8hz Colonel's Chair Ridge
- 442.050 114.8hz Sam's Point, NY 2200'

Yahoo Groups

- <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/N2LENREPEATER/>
- <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/ECHOLINK/>
- <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/GCNYARESACES/>
- Echolink Node #6269
- IRLP Node #4207

PACKET RADIO—TRY IT!

If anyone is interested in trying a bit of PACKET radio you should know that there are two BBS's on 145.030 that are always online. They are K2WG-1 and K2RVW-1. Just type "C" and one of the above stations and you should connect. Once connected type "H" for the rest of the commands. Type a "B" to log off.

FIELD DAY RAFFLE 2011



FIRST PRIZE: 24" LED HDTV/MONITOR

MODEL-FX2490HD

SECOND PRIZE: ARRL REPEATER HANDBOOK

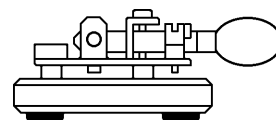
Drawing on Saturday June 25 at noon.

Tickets are \$3.00 each

Tickets are available at meetings and at Field Day before the drawing. They are also available by mail. Please make checks payable to RVWARS c/o Stan Engel, PO Box 153,

Ghent, NY 12075

Please include a SASE if you want the stubs.



I just want to thank the members who have sent me some great articles for the Newsletter. PLEASE keep them coming. I believe this is the type of content that readers are interested in.

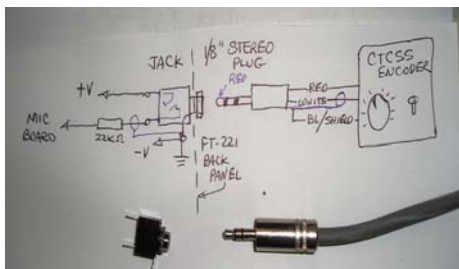


THE \$110.90 PHONE JACK

By: Carl J. Verderber WA2UJX
May 14, 2011

It's Saturday and I just came back from Kingston Radio Shack where I was finally able to get a 1/8 inch stereo phone jack. Radio Shack sells 2 jacks for 4.99 plus tax but that's not all the cost involved in this venture. There is a bit of history I need to tell that deals with my inability to save money and time.

I purchased a CTCSS (PL tone) encoder for my Yaesu FT-221 2M transceiver. Tone encoding was not available when this radio was built so I needed to integrate the tone encoder into the transmit function. Instructions were straight forward: I needed to connect encoder lines to +6 to +15 volts, Ground, and audio to the radio. Since I wanted to be able to quickly disconnect the encoder from the radio I selected a 1/8 inch stereo phone plug to use for this purpose.

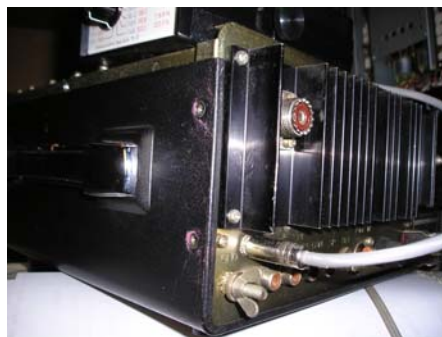


I started my hunt for parts on Friday night. Quickly finding a good used 1/8 inch phone plug but I started to become frantic when after a two hour hunt through all the used parts boxes and drawers I could not find a suitable chassis mount jack. I found mono jacks, jacks that were broken, jacks that switched, jacks that mount on PC boards, jacks that glue into the plastic cases of radios and cassette players - but not one jack that I could use. My jack needs to fit into a hole drilled through the back panel of the FT-221. OK, Let's try the garage!

Well, I store a lot of somewhat useful junk in the garage. Not wanting to throw away anything I might need someday, the garage becomes my long-term storage vault. With my trusty Phillips screwdriver and side cutter I entered the vault knowing 'something in there has a jack I can use'. After cutting apart two cassette players, an old table stereo radio and a couple of other units (and after spending about 1 hour) I tapped out. I said to myself, "I can't believe I left myself this vulnerable". I had always prided myself in knowing I had *every* and *any* used or

new part I would ever need stored somewhere on the property. Isn't that how Home Brewer's operate? Lots of STUFF to pilfer from.

So on Saturday morning I called the Radio Shack store and they said they had a package of 1/8 inch jacks available. Getting ready to leave I checked my wallet to see if I had enough cash money for the parts and trip. NO I DIDN'T. And I didn't have enough gas in the tank for the 16 mile trip. My wife had no cash left so a quick trip to the bank 4 miles away took a half hour and then a trip to a gas station to put \$20.00 in the tank was required. During the trip to Kingston I had to stop for a McDonald's meal (\$6.00) and a coffee at Dunkin Donuts (\$2.00) finally arriving at Radio Shack. Paying \$1.00 toll for the Kingston-Rhinecliff Bridge add to the cash outlay. By the time I got back to the house, I couldn't believe how much time, energy and cash it took to get this little part. I finally finished the installation and it works well.



But I added up the cash layout for the mileage, meal, the extra coffee I really didn't need, the bridge toll, the part, the time (3½ hours) and the driving around, I figure this part cost me (if I gave myself \$25.00/hour for labor and \$0.45/mile for 20 miles) at about \$110.90. Was it worth it? Sure! But I learned a lesson.... I need to store more STUFFI need more STUFF so I can save more money!
END

I NEED NEWS!

Have a story to share? An experience to relate? Some gear to review? Some gear to sell. A technical tip to dispense? Write it up, add a couple of appropriate photographs and send them off to *Rip's Report* wa2uet@taconic.net. Hams throughout the Columbia-Greene area will thank you, and so will the Editor!

Thursday Night Storm At Bubby's House



Hi Dear Tom & Stan and Club Group Member's. The quick Passing heavy storm cell that tore through Our area last evening,,11:00-11:40 PM 5/26/11 was mighty lightshow and windy. I 'noticed' this Morning that my 30 ft. Fiberglass 'telescopic' masting, had become 'unattached' off the center isolator of my 80 mtr dipole. Luckily, for Me all my other dipole's, vertical's, were 'unaffected' by the storm. I 'undone' all the tie string's, and bottom homebrew 'connector' support (an elastic 'bungee cord') and made a homemade 'notch' to a plastic oil funnel I had as a 'spare' placing the cone as a support, and the 'nozzle' as a part of the mast posting. I 'tightened' this with a small metal 'hose connector' I didn't have any non inductor tie's, or also being too 'lazy' to drill a hole in the tubular masting and put a wooden or plastic dowel in for anchorage...(Do it Right!) the metal I hope will not be too much unfavorable...but a 'quickie' project...I will correct for better result's in near future hi. Anyway my low dipole is back 'up' in it's horizontal (mostly!) slightly sloped higher right sided position...awaiting Me to 'give 'ER a try' and have again happy results(I Hope!)...Just thought I'd 'share' my little bit of happiness on getting my 80 mtr mono dipole antenna 'back on line'...'ready to go' QSO'S, yes. Thank Ya'll for reading my 'adventure. Vy GL Dx /73!-ke2eb George 'bubby' Call. West Coxsackie, ny.

PLEASE
Help Me
Fill
This
Space!



QNZ de K2WG....

By the time the loyal readers of Rip's Report are perusing this article, Memorial Day 2011 will have passed. It's important that we take this time to remember those who have paid the ultimate sacrifice for the safety of our Nation and its citizens. But it is also an important time to appreciate those who are currently engaged in military service whether at home or abroad. Some ham radio operators became involved with radio technology as part of their military service. Others joined the military to be of service because of their radio skills gained through ham radio. Many of those who lost their lives defending our country were ham radio operators. WWII, Korea, Viet Nam, Iraq, Afghanistan no matter the theatre of war, ham radio operators were there either deployed or at home serving their country.

As we approach the 10th anniversary of 9/11, let's not forget that several hams lost their lives at the World Trade Center and the Pentagon on that terrible day. Broadcast engineers in the top few floors of the North Tower were doing their jobs keeping the many radio and TV stations that used that tower for antenna supports on the air. Hams were among the military and civilian employees at the Pentagon going about their business in support of the various military activities both domestic and foreign when the plane crashed into the building. And it hasn't ended. Hams have been victims of the continued violence around the globe, pirates taking and killing hostages and other senseless acts of taking human life for 'a cause' or part of the drug wars.

Hams are still volunteering for military service. Many military personnel are becoming hams because of their military assignments. Hams on the domestic front are still assisting their fellow citizens with emergency communications capabilities. Many hams are joining the ranks of the Military Auxiliary Radio Service (MARS) to offer additional support to providing communications capabilities in defense of our country and support for military personnel. Never apologize for being a ham radio operator. Always hold your head high and take pride in not only the history of ham radio operator's service to our country but the ongoing activities of ham radio operators who continue to serve in many different but important capacities.

On a more personal note, it's been a very busy spring at the K2WG QTH. Building a house for mother-in-law with the help of family and friends is very time consuming. I'm not whining or complaining. I volunteered to do this. I'm just offering an explanation as to why you haven't heard me on the air much these past two or three months. Projected completion of construction is sometime in August. I'll take time off to assist with Field Day. The spirit of WD2K is too powerful to ignore. I want to thank Tom WE2G for making sure the VE session happened on schedule May 17th. Earlier that day my father Franklin WA2ULV was hospitalized with Congestive Heart Failure. He is currently in rehab at Hillcrest Commons in Pittsfield. John Lennon said is best, "Life is what happens while you are busy making other plans!"
73 for now..... AR.....SK.....de K2WG



"Companion" Bill to HR 607 Avoids Impacting Amateur Spectrum

SB QST @ ARL \$ARLB014
ARLB014 Senate "Companion" Bill to HR 607 Avoids Impacting Amateur Spectrum

ZCZC AG14
QST de W1AW
ARRL Bulletin 14 ARLB014
From ARRL Headquarters
Newington CT May 25, 2011
To all radio amateurs

SB QST ARL ARLB014
ARLB014 Senate "Companion" Bill to HR 607 Avoids Impacting Amateur Spectrum

On Thursday, May 19, Senators Joe Lieberman (ID-CT) and John McCain (R-AZ) introduced S 1040 -- The Broadband for First Responders Act of 2011 -- in the Senate. While it has a similar objective to HR 607 -- introduced in February by Representative Peter King (R-NY-3) -- this Senate bill, unlike HR 607, does not call for auctioning any portions of Amateur Radio spectrum. Both bills call for the allocation of the so-called "D block" of spectrum, 758-763 and 788-793 MHz, to facilitate the development of a public safety broadband network.

On learning in February that a Senate version of HR 607 was being drafted, ARRL Chief Executive Officer David Sumner, K1ZZ, met with staff members of the Senate's Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee who were working on the bill to share the ARRL's concerns with regard to HR 607. "They seemed very receptive to our argument and appreciative of the public service contributions of radio amateurs," Sumner said. "It is gratifying to see that S 1040 avoids impacting our spectrum allocations."

Sumner explained that while some media reports are referring to S 1040 as "the Senate version of HR 607," it is important that radio amateurs not oppose S 1040: "There is no reason for us to do so. We support the creation of an interoperable broadband network for first responders. Other than to oppose any method that would impact amateur spectrum use, we do not support one method over another of achieving that objective. We only oppose one aspect of HR 607, not the entire bill."

S 1040 has been referred to the Senate Committee on Science, Commerce, and Transportation, chaired by Senator Jay Rockefeller (D-WV). Senator Rockefeller earlier introduced his own bill, S 28, to address the same general topic. Neither Senate bill would impact amateur spectrum.

NNNN
/EX

Rip Van Winkle Amateur Radio Society

WD2K Field Day, June 25-26

Claverack Town Park

Mellenville, NY

Raffle Drawing Around Mid Day Saturday.

ALL ARE WELCOME!

You do not have to be a club member to join in.

