



# Drumlins' Rumblings

RACES-ARES December 2015 KB2KBY Dave Taylor

DECEMBER? Already the last month of 2015. It is hard to believe, isn't it! But December it must be as I type this month's article the Christmas tree, the decorations, the stockings and all the other well known Christmas-y things are all over the place including my QTH.

So far for December we have had only one day thus far with the 'white stuff' on the ground covering everything which is mighty lucky. November was pleasant with only few gloomy days near the end and December has started the same for the most part and looks like it may even get warmer. (By the time I got this article to NZZVP, it has been warmer. What a nice change from last year at this time.)

Although seemingly gloomy days appear, I remind my fellow



7:30am- weekly-715-repeater-net-ers, when it seems gloomy, "This is a bright day on Shemya." 50 years ago at this time that is where I was 7.5 degrees west of the 180 longitude line, 12 miles from the last island out westward, Attu, in the Aleutians and the old Soviet Union was my closest neighbor, literally. That's right, I was in Northeast Asia and closer to Russia, the old Soviet bad guys then, only a few degrees from the Arctic Circle. (Have these times brought Russia returning to those bad guys?) Shemya was a small 2 X 3, at best, mile island just flat enough for one 10,000 feet runway.

In the Aleutians I had already experienced not being home for two Thanksgivings but this would be the lowest year of my life. I would not be home for Christmas for the first time in my life. No family and no girlfriend, a.k.a. XYL now. I get shivers just thinking of it even after 50 years have passed. I was a 19 year old

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## Drumlins' Meeting

December 16th, 2015—7:30 PM  
Laurel VE testing 7:00  
Social—7:00 PM  
Wayne County EOC  
7336 Rt. 31, Lyons, NY  
Doors open at 7:00 PM, Talk-in:  
146.685



## RACES-ARES continued

kid! Let me tell you, Christmas is not the same without family, friends and loved ones. I have been blessed with time passing on to this present. This past Thanksgiving, I smiled as I looked around at new family, new friends and new loved ones added now to the Taylors. Sure better than the Thanksgiving I can reflect back 51 years ago and 50 years ago on Shemya. It is good to have times of reflection to keep us grounded.

With this last month of 2015 and during this holiday season it is a good time to reflect back what has passed in the happenings of DARC. RACES-ARES is stronger than ever, the Sunday night 2m net is well attended, new Fusion gear has been given us for the EMO positions and HTs for the Dose van teams and donated laptops, a HF loop antenna has been successfully placed on the EMO roof making NYS RACES and MARS communications possible (No more hitting the Azores. Hi.), the vertical HF antenna is tuned once again, the HF gear now can do its work without fear, the 745 site is completed on top of the 'water tank hill' off Rte 88S with new communication frequencies and modes and improvements at the EMO and at the Brantling 685 site. We did a lot of updating and revamping of DARC's club structure and membership is increasing with new members bringing their talents adding to continued accomplishments. There is more that could be said and more things in the works than time permits. You get the picture.

It has been just a little over five-the figure 5 mind you-years since our move from the Cold War NY State bunker to the new EMO and the present radio shack, a.k.a. electrical room, RACES2 and MARS and the RACES Dose positions. Do take the time to sit back and reflect what has been done and accomplished in these 5 years. The New Year will bring more good things done and more talents will come forth to do good things. Let's face it! We are in the good things business. We have fun at our so called 'hobby,' thus the word amateur always is applied. But anyone who knows what we really do, knows we are more than hobbyist and amateurs. We know our stuff! Collectively in DARC we know a lot!

Individually each one of us contributes a lot to those 'good things' toward the whole. Remember this at all times! Even our newbie members, do not be fooled into thinking you are not useful to DARC and good thing for the public. The fact you have passed the FCC VE test you already know more than the average Joe or Jane-public. Believe me. Just ask my XYL, a non-ham. My daughter thinks we are all geeks. To the public we all are geeks I guess. Hi. For all the DARC membership from the longest standing members, who we call Charter Members; and we have quite a few, to the last "Tech" who passed the most recent VE test, ALL ARE IMPORTANT to the collective whole. Never forget this! The collective whole is the sum of each one of us. All are important.

So each one of you reading this article DO TAKE THE TIME TO REFLECT on what has been your talent which you HAVE added to DARC! Well done! FB! In years to come way in the future when you thought that 5 years, or however long you have been with DARC, and it seemed longer at that time, it has been shorter and brighter than you think. There is always someone out there in the club that can't believe the years that have flown by. We have to keep this all in perspective! It is good to reflect and move forward. FOWARD is the key word, however. Collectively DARC has been blessed and each of you have been part of that blessing.

I can't believe it has been 50 years since that most impressionable Christmas of my life. Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! See you in 2016!

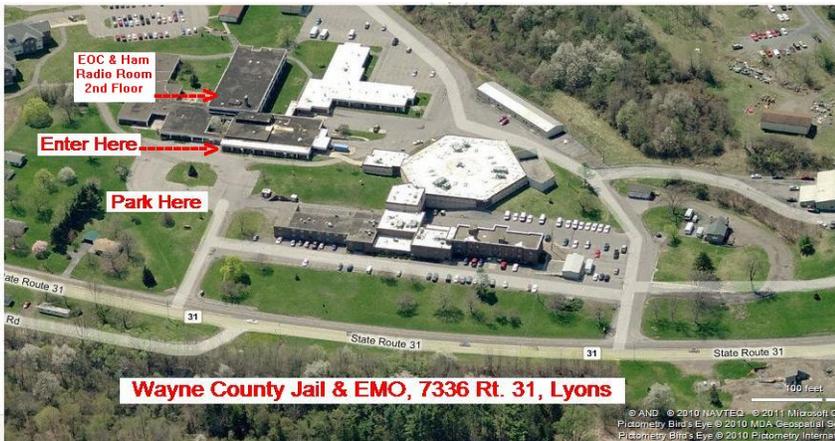
73 & 88, Dave KB2KBY

Wayne RO/EC



## December Program- Fusion hands on

You can begin 2016 Membership registration at any time. Go to our website at [www.drumlinsarc.us](http://www.drumlinsarc.us) (be sure it has "us" at the end), click on your log in and go to "member area" and select "renew Membership" You don't need to change any information if it has not changed. If you are paying by check or cash, be sure to mention that under "comments" and get payment to Walter (N2ZVP). 2016 Membership Cards will be available Online after Jan 1 but payment can be made starting now. GIVE A GIFT OF MEMBERSHIP! What an exciting and wonderful Christmas present a membership would make for a fellow Ham!!



**January Rumblins**  
**Deadline is: January 14th, 2016**

**NY State RACES - HF NET**  
**Sunday 0900**  
**3.993.5kHz SSB/LSB**

**If you have an article that you would like to share with the rest of the club, please submit them to me and I'll work on getting it in the newsletter!**  
**Email address: [w Dutcher@tkcontrols.com](mailto:w Dutcher@tkcontrols.com)**  
**Snail Mail address: 144 Berg Rd**  
**Ontario, NY 14519**

### Upcoming Public Service Events

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### 2015 Hamfest Schedule

<b>All Done!</b>	

## Meeting Notes

The club meeting notes and the newsletters can be found on the member's side of the DARC website at [www.drumlinsarc.us](http://www.drumlinsarc.us)

A list of current members is now on our website. You have to be logged in, go to Members, then Members List. Check it out and if you see any errors, email [drumlinsarc@gmail.com](mailto:drumlinsarc@gmail.com). While you are checking it out, enroll for 2016 online.

We are going to develop a phone tree for emergency needs. We realize not all members are interested in participating in RACES/ARES call ups, so we're asking members send a message to [DrumlisARC@gmail.com](mailto:DrumlisARC@gmail.com) :

1. ONLY IF YOU WANT TO BE NOTIFIED OF A CALLUP TO THE EMO.
  2. Include your cell phone if we may text you. Otherwise we will call your home phone.
  3. This is NOT connected with the Wayne County notification list. It is ONLY for Drumlins ARC
- Remember, send a message only if you want to be notified of an emergency through the club.  
Please respond by Dec. 14.

## Membership, call for Volunteers

We have fallen behind in organizing committees to assist the club in various matters. Our repeater committee has been extremely active in the past 6 months, but the others have fallen by the wayside and we need to invigorate Drumlins with some fresh ideas and activities. Please consider volunteering for a committee for 2016 in order to keep moving Drumlins forward. We have five Standing Committees and the President can form other committees as needed, so if you see the need for something additional please let us know. Better yet, suggest and volunteer! The Standing Committee's are: Repeater; Members & Public Relations; Public Service (RACES/ARES) Activities and Awards; Hamfest; and Volunteer Examiners. We also need help with the Newsletter which is currently handled by the Treasurer (Walter N2ZVP).

Our new President (eff Jan 1) is Al Cook (K@MPE) will be assigning Chairman at our first meeting in January, and the Chairman will select their Committee Members. Please email [DrumlinsARC@gmail.com](mailto:DrumlinsARC@gmail.com) and let us know what Committee you are interested in. Please help keep Drumlins moving forward. We have approximately 63 members now. We have plans to increase activities to include some "work days", breakfast meetings followed by a special activity and other ideas. Please be an active member and offer your services to Drumlins Amateur Radio Club. Thank you and Happy Holidays!

'73

Bill Tegtmeyer KD2DNO

## Repeater Committee News!

### Repeater Report December 2015

I can't believe its December Already !!

**146.685-** The initial id was shortened as per requested. County has installed a motion detection system inside the gates. So you need to make sure we contact dispatch before entering. DPW has added gravel to the roadway and leveled the driveway due to wash out.

**444.750-** Still working on coordination of the freq, eastern conference is ok with it, seems to be a problem with western ny conference, still working on getting this cleared, may need to change frequency...more to come ...ugg It is being said that an update is planned for the fusion repeaters but haven't seen it posted on the yaesu website yet. Russ N2IZV has been working with Wayne county IT to get wires x up and running... Justin W2JPT and Bill KD2DNO was at the EMO programming the new fusion rigs. They are also offering 2 training classes on how to use the new radios...nice work guys!! There is defiantly a learning curve on using the new radios as I can contest.

**146.745-** Added a holiday message that plays nightly @ 545pm. Shortened the initial id message to just the time and call. Adjusted the shed temperature and adjusted backup heater to 50 degrees in case primary heater fails. Have been working on a backup asterisk/allstar linux box with more cpu and a ssd hardrive to replace present computer. Continued work on linux program to clear up autopatch issue.

Been talking with local officials to see if we can get support for propane generator that would power the club shed and the shed for the village/school repeater as well.

**Affiliated 443.250-** has been sounding nice and has been connected to the east coast IRLP from time to time. Have noticed that at times there seems to be some audio distortion from the internet due to some missing packets, if you find them let me know... But apparently its not due to 443.250 as others are having the issue with there nodes as well.

**Affiliated 224.900-** Tom has installed his machine in a new cabinet and it looks nice. It is sounding very good too. I had a chat with him on it the other day. So if you have 220 capabilities try it out!!

Wow I almost needed another page. WE have been a very active group in the repeater front. Always something to improve on hihi.. The committee would like to wish everyone a safe and **Happy Holidays!!!**

Sincerely,

DARC Repeater committee ..

### VE Testing

#### Drumlins ARC / Laurel VEC Testing

December 16th, 2015

Testing will start at 7:00 PM (At the Drumlins Amateur Radio Club meeting)

**CONTACT** for individuals registering in advance is: Sabrina Hamill, WD2STK - (585)727-2091

The SquawIsland ARC (SIARC) has VE testing at the Ontario County EOC-911 center on County Road 46 near the fire training area every other second Wednesday of the month at 6:30 PM. VE sessions are held prior to their meeting. The VE testing is headed by Dave Foster, AB2WZO of SIARC. The SIARC website ([www.SIARC.us](http://www.SIARC.us)) can be used for directions and information.

### VE Testing At RIT

RARA conducts amateur radio license testing on the 3rd Saturday of each month from September through April and at the Rochester Hamfest.

Testing is conducted at Rochester Institute of Technology, Building 9, Room 3139 ([click for map](#)), Registration is at 10:00 AM. Bring a pen and pencil, two forms of ID including one with a picture. If you are upgrading: Bring your original, and a copy, of your current amateur radio license; or unexpired Certificates of Completion. RARA provides free testing sessions as a public service. Handicapped applicants are always welcome, Please notify us in advance if you need any special accommodations.

