

Drumlins Meeting February 17th! VE Testing this month!

Meeting location Change-see! EMO 2nd floor conference room

DRUMLINS Amateur Radio Club LTD
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Drumlins' Rumblings

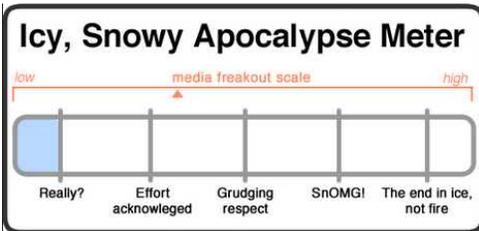
RACES-ARES February 2016 KB2KBY Dave Taylor



February? You think back to last winter's temps and snow and the coldest February since the beginning of weather stats and you wonder what happened. I don't know about you but what a reverse change. Hey, I am not knocking it, believe me. We deserve this break from last year. You take this year

and last year stats and years from now it will look "average," climatically, just where it should be. No one will remember. Hi. Maybe K2MPE will still be taking his every day WX notations and can say, "I remember back in February 2015 and 2016...." Heaven forbid, Al. Hi.

Weather, that daily thing we all talk about, is sure puzzling this winter. The winter wheat is green since there is no snow cover, the other parts of the nation and it seems the world in general have taken some weather hits. My Ft. Meade, MD, and NSA got 32" of snow! Holy crow! Just 2" of the stuff closed down everything 48 years ago when I was there. They would even close the pass book and we had to stay on the base. Us northern boys laughed. I got a call from the niece who lives on the Odenton, MD side of Ft. Meade. She is a school teacher. (Between the two families of the Manske-Taylors we have 20 teachers in the clan since the 1880s. Something in the blood I guess. Hi.) My NSA was on the opposite of Odenton. Well, she was out of school not only that Thursday and Friday before the weekend snow hit. She was out of school the entire next week, and the ground was already bare



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Drumlins' Meeting

February 17th, 2016—7:30 PM
Laurel VE testing 7:00
Social—7:00 PM
Wayne County EOC, 2nd floor
7336 Rt. 31, Lyons, NY
Doors open at 7:00 PM, Talk-in:
146.685



RACES-ARES continued

and only snow plies left she said when she called me on the phone this past Sunday a week later.

You know how I worry about weather and although an easy winter so far, what is yet in store for us? We'll just have to see and be prepared I guess. It sure is a goofy winter. Unlike the other parts of the nation that have been hit and are not use to this snowy winter stuff, we know how to cope. But the weather heebie-geebs still rattle me. Just pray the weather gods are good to us.

Usually, I am ranting and raving about the weather and being prepared. But our RACES-ARES is going strong and things are sure being done. So I have an early April Fools thing to cheer you up. You will notice two pictures of a very unfamiliar guy who is in a "green coat," as the Mexicans would say. Yes, historically the "gringo" means green coat, the "U.S. Military" that interfered a lot in Mexican history. Well, this is KB2KBY 50 years ago on that Island of Shemya an island very near the end of the Aleutian Island Chain, that 1,500 mile long archipelago. By the way the Aleutians are the longest archipelago in the world. The further you go out the lousier is the weather. I was 20 miles from the end.



That one picture, "a" sunny day in March 1966, is very atypical. Notice my ECW (Extreme Cold Weather), Fish Tail Parka-my real back then Army issue!-"top gear" for Alaska at that time This was one of the ten whole days out of 365 the sun is out all day in the Aleutians. Of course it looks nice but the whole 3-story composite building that housed everybody on the island is blocking the wind that would otherwise be blowing my hair. Hair? Dave with hair? Yes, have a good laugh-"hi"- on me. The XYL says all my hair fell to my chest. Genetically that is what happens if you inherit your Dad's receding hair and Mom's thin hair. Hi. I wished I had inherited Dad's hair more and his arthritis less.

In the background is the trope-scatter radar used to detect Soviet missile launches along with many other ones like it all over the world. The bubble is the radar and the BIG antennas are for receiving the signals, so my Harris Radio breakfast group tells me. Soviet Russia was only 130 miles away at its closest. My ASA, Army Security Agency, and the Air Force and Navy electronic warfare counterparts, intercepted the Soviet missile telemetry and all communications. Interesting stuff for a 20 year old kid. We called the radar "Big Alice." I didn't have the "need to know" about anything else. All I know is I had to wrap my phonograph system entirely in aluminum foil to keep the radar pulse out of the system to hear my music. There was always a pulse in the left speaker no matter what I did, unfortunately. Please notice, NO TREES in the picture. With the wind severe most of time, no trees survived, not even conifers. The new Pave Paw missile radar has replaced Big Alice radar. I've seen pictures of it. (Google Shemya and you'll find a good satellite picture of the 2X3 mile island.)



The second photo shows KB2KBY with "Boozer" the Alaskan husky and Shemya AFB's mascot. (Shemya is now named Earecson AFB after the WWII Air Force commander.) Boozer died in 1972, six years after I left the "Black Pearl of the Aleutians," with a full military burial in the front of the composite building and a nice bronze monument to him. It is very fitting as my ASA "died" the same year, officially decommissioned the same year. Coincidence? Boozer slept in the central doorway of the composite building where everyone caught the bus to work for all three shifts of men. Notice "men"! Shemya was entirely 'male' military. "A girl behind every tree!," was the common expression. Hi. I told you about the trees already. The AF guys hated the place as for them living conditions were terrible by AF standards. Us Army thought we were at the Waldorf Astoria!, and it was the best I saw in my four years with the ASA. The Army was a guest of the AF and they took care of us better than the Army.

Black Pearl was the nickname for Shemya. All the Aleutians are volcanic islands and not flat. Yes, volcanic like the Hawai-

February Program- Wayne County Storm Trackers

The program will be presented by Drumlins member John Greco KD2GTA regarding the Wayne County Storm Tracker team
73, Jay KC2TCM

Spring Fling club party 5pm social, 6 pm dinner
When Sat, April 2, 5pm – 6pm
Where Phelps Hotel Restaurant, 90 Main St, Phelps, NY 14532



March Rumblins
Deadline is: March 9th, 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: wdotcher@tkcontrols.com
Snail Mail address:144 Berg Rd
Ontario, NY 14519

Upcoming Public Service Events

2016 Hamfest Schedule

DAYTON HAMVENTION May 20-22!	DRUMLINS ARC HAMFEST 4/23/2016 see page 6!
Lockport ARA Hamfest 1/23/2016	Winter Hamfest 2/27/2016 Big Flats
RAGS Hamfest 7/10/2016 Cicero	Ithaca Hamfest 8/6/2016 Trumansburg
KLARA Hamfest & Campout 8/6/2016 Hornell	Rochester Hamfest 2016 not yet pub- lished

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

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. While you are checking it out, enroll for 2016 online. Annual membership is for the calendar year January 1st through December 31st. **2016 dues should be paid by March 1st, 2016.**

Upcoming **work parties** are being planned for EMO antenna work in support of Wires-X activity; preparations for Field Day—new guy wire assemblies for the tower & test beam antenna. The last work party for installing Yaesu radio updates was well attended and all upgrades were successful.

Meeting Location Change: Due to renovations are the Sheriff's Office, our first floor meeting room will be unavailable for at least six months. The **Wed Feb 17th meeting will be in the 2nd Floor Conference Room at the EMO's main building.** Same time 7:30, VE testing starts at 7:00.

RACES-ARES continued

ian Islands just too bloody far north. Hi. In fact Shemya was on Hawaii time even though west of the 180 longitude line by 7 degrees. Shemya was the furthest island out that could support a 10,000 foot runway originally built for the B-29 Super Fortress of WWII, but only one ever flew in. Adak Island where the Navy base was 650 miles east; literally, the runway was a bay filled in with a mountain of volcanic earth for its 10,000 feet. Shemya was considered quite flat in topography. B-24s and B-17s flew out of there to bomb the Japanese Kuril Islands—which are still under Russian control to this day. The Japan still declares the Kurils as their land and a sore spot in Russian relations. When the Soviet Union crumbled in 1991, Japan offered billions of dollars to Russia to buy the Kurils back. Russia refused. By the way the Kurils is where the Pearl Harbor invasion force started out from to bring the US into WWII. The US gave back all their areas of post WWII control back to Japan in 1956. Shemya's WWII is the same concrete 10,000 foot runway still in use today.

You can blame Walter, N2ZVP, for this good laughter at my cost. At the January meeting I passed around the photos discovered in my continued move to the new QTH. He said I should put them in the newsletter. What the heck! It's not that you haven't had a good "hi" off of me before. And I am at least good for that—a good laugh! If you don't have a sense of humor, you won't last in this world. Sorry for some of the history facts but it comes with the territory of being a teacher. Hi.

I thank you for walking down memory lane 50 years ago. In 1964-1968, I was a 18-22 year old snot nosed kid, literally, peon soldier. I didn't appreciate what I did at the time but I sure do now. I could have been the amateur radio operator back then years before I got my novice ticket in 1990. I had all the theory, etc., at the ASA's cost. And I could do 15 wpm CW with a pencil too! I was so smart, a.k.a. Dumb, I didn't get my ticket. Wished I knew now at 50 years later what I did then. Hi hi. You all can have a good good laugh at that statement.

See you next month. Happy early April Fools from a pretty good fool.

73 & 88, Dave KB2KBY

Wayne RO/EC

Repeater Committee News!

146.685- Nothing really to report. No complaints are good, yes? Sounds good new amp is working nicely! There some minor stuff we could improve like getting better coax cables. Will have to do an inventory of what is needed, at some point.

444.750- Pulled from the hill on Grounds Hogs Day. Yaesu had released an upgrade for squelch/ receive improvements a month ago. Along with this controller update the receiver had a DSP (digital signal Processing) upgrade as well. This also included an update that was issued in July (1.0b) for lock up issues. We will not be able to upgrade to the 1.10d upgrade without a special cable that cost 150-200 dollars for improved wires –X stuff/integration issues. This actually re-flashes the ROM, where we have been doing firmware and DSP upgrades. I always wait and see what “improvements” are tested first before jumping into upgrades. A couple URL with important Fusion upgrade information:

<http://www.trinityos.com/HAM/BayCon2016/BayNet-Baycon2016-YSF-Update-v5.pdf>

http://www.hamoperator.com/Fusion/FusionFiles/K9EQ-Fusion-PDF-0001.0.0_Fusion_Firmware_Update.pdf

The weather has been great to allow us to get to the hill, to make some additional improvements!!

146.745- Justin finished transferring the files to the new Linux Allstar server. Will need to swap this out at some point. Report that it can't “hear” made a few tests and was able to hit the repeater with a 10-15 miles radius around the repeater with less than 1/2watt and a 5/8 wave antenna (4.5dbi). Adding a preamp would only potentially add more noise to the system. It hears the same as it gets out. This is the same repeater that was hearing the Chinese Canadian repeater.

444.250- Been working with a little initial static. At times I've had it connected to the East Coast IRLP reflector 9050 . <http://eastcoastreflector.com/> They have a Tuesday night tech night that I'm going to try and connect it to. Also attempted to connect it to W2SO repeater for WX reports but they need to fix there end.

All and any comments are welcome for discussion on how to make things better.

Respectfully Submitted
Repeater Committee



VE Testing

Drumlins ARC / Laurel VEC Testing

February 17th, 2016

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) can be used for directions and information.

VE Testing At RIT

RARA has temporarily suspended testing, stay tuned

Same Location

**30th ANNUAL
DRUMLINS
HAMFEST**

Contact person: Rich Hamill KC2TNJ
(315) 986-8589

Palmyra VFW Post 6778
4306 Route 31, Palmyra, NY
3 miles east of Palmyra
5 miles west of Newark

TALK-IN
146.745
PL 71.9



APRIL 23, 2016

Vendors 7am
Public 8am Till 1pm

Electronics – **AMATEUR RADIO GEAR** – Computers

Breakfast – GRAND PRIZE – Door Prizes
Admission \$5.00
Tables (6 ft.) \$5.00 - Tailgaters \$3.00

FREE Amateur License Exams will be held at the Hamfest site
Registration & Testing 9am - 11am
Walk-ins accepted Test Doors open at 8:45 AM
For more info call or email Sabrina
Tel: 585-727-2091, Email: WD2STK@yahoo.com

CLUB TRUSTEE

David Taylor, KB2KBY
228 W. Jackson St.
Palmyra, NY, 14522
Tel: (315)-597-4293
Email:
kb2kby@rochester.rr.com

For Tables
Rich Hamill, KC2TNJ
(315)-986-8589
Email:
Hamfest@drumlinsarc.us

VENDORS

KJI ELECTRONICS, Cedar Grove, NJ
www.kjielelectronics.com

RW Antenna Store
www.rwantennastore.com

www.drumlinsarc.us/hamfest.htm

Directions to the Drumlin's Hamfest:

Coming from the East or West on Interstate 90:

Take the NY Thruway to Exit 43 (Palmyra/Manchester).
Turn left after the toll on Route 21 North.
Follow Route 21 into Palmyra.
Turn Right on Route 31 East.
Follow Route 31 East 3.4 miles to the Palmyra VFW.

Coming from Rochester on Rt. 31:

Take Interstate 490 East to Exit 26 (Route 31).
Turn right at end of the exit ramp on Route 31 East.
Follow route 31 East through Macedon and Palmyra centers.
The Palmyra VFW is 3.4 miles from Palmyra center.

Coming from the East on Rt. 31:

Follow Rt 31 through Newark.
The Palmyra VFW is 5 miles west of Newark (before Palmyra center).

LOOK FOR THE TANK OUT FRONT

