

**Drumlins Meeting March 16th! Hamfest next month!**

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

DRUMLINS Amateur Radio Club LTD  
[DRUMLINS on Facebook!](#) [www.drumlinsARC.us](http://www.drumlinsARC.us)

March 2016  
Volume 6, Issue 3



# Drumlins' Rumblings

RACES-ARES March 2016 KB2KBY Dave Taylor

Before I start anything in this month's article, before I forget again, CONGRATS to Russ, N2IZV; Jeff, N2MKT and Charlie, N2DIT on their completing the training period with Army MARS!

This means Russ, Jeff and Charlie have full fledged licensed Army MARS tickets. I apologize for not getting this in the newsletter sooner. It comes with my hairdo. Hi. To complete the Army MARS training is no Tech easy thing for ham ops, the entrance ham is tough. All three did the training far quicker than this guy. My hat is off to all of them. Also Charlie, N2DIT, completed his training from transferring from Navy MARS, now kaput, to Army MARS. Charlie had a slight advantage being Navy MARS for a couple of years. This brings four DARC RACES-ARES members with MARS tickets.



The ARRL is getting serious about ARRL and MARS cooperation. Look up the ARRL Newsletter for March 3, 2016. There is an article "ARES Groups, Individual Ham Support Army and Air Force MARS Communications Exercise." This is the COMEX 16-1 exercise I talked about at the February meeting which coordinated with hams, MARS and the DOD (Department of Defense). 312 county status reports were passed along to MARS. N2IZV's report was one of them! And Russ was brave and did NCS for an hour for his first COMEX. (Braver than I, Russ. Hi.) "FB," Russ! And those on the WARECS Sunday night nets know Russ has done NCS and ANCS there too. Of course I encourage more ops to give either or both NCS and ANCS a try.

The March 2016 "CQ" magazine has a five page article on "The Quiet Rebirth of MARS-Part I: At Age 90, Restoring Partnership with ARRL." Even the XYL noticed the front cover of this month's magazine and pointed it out and even started reading the article! Yes, the XYL! Miracles do happen. Hi. Bless the XYL for putting up with my MARS, RACES and ARES, etc. To her they are all 'radio clubs' even though I try to differentiate what they are. Hi. One miracle at a time I guess is good enough. Hi hi.

## Inside this issue

RACES-ARES continued.....	2, 4
2016 Hamfests Stay Tuned!! .....	3
Program Info, Spring Fling .....	3
Upcoming Public Service .....	3
BOD notes, Membership .....	4
Repeater Committee .....	5
Drumlins 30th Hamfest .....	6, 7
Club Info, updated for 2016 .....	8

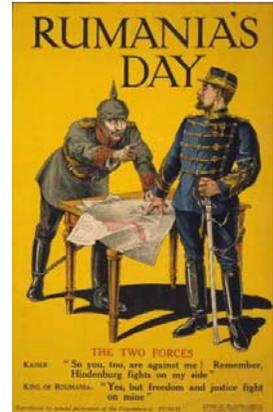
## Drumlins' Meeting

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

The CQ article nicely shows how the Army-Amateur Radio System (AARS), the forerunner of Army MARS; and, the ARRL came to a mutual understanding. While WWI gave birth to an extensive Army communication system, budget cuts in post-WWI favored the U.S. Navy over the Army. (Author's note: The Army was so downsized and ignored between the WWI and WWII years that then WWII broke out in September 1, 1939 with the German invasion of Poland, the U.S. Army was smaller than the Romanian Army! Romania? Yes, I am not kidding. We were the 35<sup>th</sup> army in the world by size with one being the largest.) In post-WWI, a Capt. Tom Rives was the senior instructor at the Army's Signal Corp School. (1943, he would be a brigadier general running the electronics subdivision of the Army Air Corps.) Rives, being an amateur himself, was told to find a way to fill in the gaps in the Army's nation wide communication system. It is he who looked at the amateur community and his findings would lead to the ARRL joining in a partnership. Thus August 7, 1925, Major Gen. Charles Mck. Slaltzman as the Army's Chief Signal Officer, formally wrote a letter to Hiram Percy Maxim, founder of and Father of the ARRL, proposing the partnership between the Army and hams. Needless to say, this kid is looking forward to Part II and Part III of this series.



The important thing here is, this ARRL and MARS partnership is taking a serious leap in this past year. The MARS is not as in time past (Talk to AI, K2MPE for this.), just a phone patch link from war zones or wherever, to military personnel's families back in the States, but seriously supporting the DOD. The military, the DOD included, have their own Standard Operating Procedure with the ACP-127 SOP ruling all MARS traffic. Ever notice KB2KBY's use of all letter caps on the WARECS digital messages and my packet messages! ACP-127 is why and the "mill" caps only manual typewriter too, along with RTTY influence from 'ancient' times of teletype in the DOD and the service branches.



So 1925 is when the Army seeks out help from hams for the first trans-U.S. Army radio network. The daddy of Army MARS today would be born. With cell phone, email, texting and satellite communication ever increasing there is no need of phone patching through hams and the military. (MARS today still has that capacity, however.) Even with the ham WinLink 2K, linking HF radio and the internet being used less, it looked like there was no need for MARS. The DOD has finally come around to notice "When All Else Fails" once again, hams are seen as a vital part of emergency communications, EmComm, as ever! When natural disaster happens and that 'normal' communication, now even more vulnerable in our modern age, is down, we-you and I as hams-fill in with EmComm in the time period during a disaster when normal communications

has to be rebuilt. It may not be long, maybe a few days depending on the severity of the communications loss. But the DOD knows we can do it. Thus, the renewed cooperation and building up of the ARRL, MARS and the DOD. Thanks again for N2IZV, N2MKT and N2DIT in their efforts in MARS supporting this EmComm.

I know in the latest COMEX there was a lot of sit and waiting and not much done by DARC members. This was noted and concerns were sent up through the Army MARS chain of command especially and the DOD. I think ham participation will increase dramatically as a result. More will be asked of hams, believe me. The willingness of the hams to help I think was underestimated by MARS and the DOD. The ham community has always been willing to help. Communications has increased dramatically as we all know. Special costly milspec and/or commercial modems are not needed. Hams have provided economical interfaces making MT63-2K a backup digital mode and used by MARS. Two exercises ago my MARS computer modem failed. MT63!, no problem. Amateurs are great for solving problems and making things work. As hams we sure know. Hi hi. That is no joke. The government has just realized the modernity of communications has increased communications vulnerability! Thus the increased capacity of ham help "When All Else Fails."

Stay tuned for comments for Part II and Part III of the CQ magazine series. Whoo-hoo, ammunition for a couple of articles. Hi. Happy official spring by the way this month. March is one of my "heebee geebee" months. The WX has been so goofy this winter. Keep your fingers crossed!

CUL and thanks for being a faithful RACES-ARES reader.

73 & 88, Dave KB2KBY

# March Program- Wayne County Storm Trackers

The speaker will be John Greco KD2GTA talking about the local Storm Watchers group. John is also proposing a Weather Net, starting Tue March 22 at 7 pm and will be linked on both 443.540 (tone 110.9) and 146.745(tone 110.9). He plans on running nets on the First and 4th Tuesday each month at 7 pm. Anyone interested in weather watching is urged to join in.

73, Jay KC2TCM

Spring Fling club party 5pm social, 6 pm dinner

When Sat, April 2, 5pm – 6pm, registration deadline 3/16



**April Rumblins**  
**Deadline is: April 13<sup>th</sup>, 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**

<b>Upcoming Public Service Events</b>	
Shortsville-Manchester Wild Water Derby 4/30/2016	
Tour de Cure 6/11/2016	
Bike MS 8/27/2016	
Palmyra Canaltown Days 9/17/2016	
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	RARA Hamfest May 28th, 2016 @Eastman Business Park
Barnard Hamfest June 4th, 2016 @ Barnard Exempt	Horseheads Fall Hamfest September 24?

## 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. Annual membership is for the calendar year January 1st through December 31st. **2016 dues should now be paid.**

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

**Meeting Location Change:** Due to renovations at the Sheriff's Office, our first floor meeting room will be unavailable for at least six months. The **Wed March 16th meeting will be in the 2nd Floor Conference Room at the EMO's main building.** Same time 7:30

---

### SKYWARN TRAINING SESSION

The Buffalo office of the National Weather Service will be conducting a SKYWARN spotter training seminar in Lyons, at the Wayne County Emergency Operations Center, Public Safety Building – 7376 Route 31 Suite 2000, on Wednesday April 27 at 7:00PM. The training session is sponsored by the Wayne County Office of Emergency Management and will last about two hours. There is no cost for the training.

SKYWARN is a national effort to save lives during severe weather emergencies with an expanding network of trained volunteer weather spotters. SKYWARN spotters support their local community and government by providing reports of severe weather directly to the National Weather Service in Buffalo through amateur radio or by phone using the the NWS spotter hotline. The services performed by SKYWARN spotters have saved many lives.

The National Weather Service has a number of devices for detecting severe thunderstorms. Included in these are Doppler radar, satellite, and lightning detection networks. However, the most important tool for observing thunderstorms is the trained eye of the storm spotter. By providing observations, SKYWARN spotters assist National Weather Service staff in their warning decisions and enable the National Weather Service to fulfill its mission of protecting life and property. Storm spotters are, and always will be, an indispensable part of the severe local storm warning program.

The training session provides a brief overview of the National Weather Service organization and our responsibilities, severe weather safety, and basic severe weather meteorology including how thunderstorms, severe thunderstorms and tornadoes form.

Anyone can become a severe weather spotter for the National Weather Service. SKYWARN training is free and open to the public.

**Please register for the class by calling Abby Wahl at (315) 946-5663 or email [awahl@co.wayne.ny.us](mailto:awahl@co.wayne.ny.us). Class size is limited.**

More information about SKYWARN is available on the NWS Buffalo website at <http://www.weather.gov/buf/Skywarn>

## Repeater Committee News!

So I've been talking with John KD2GTA, and he has been talking with others on the board about having a Weather net on 443.250 and also 146.745. I talked to him about writing a Net preamble that clearly states upfront what the intent of the net is about etc. He wants to go live with this on March 22nd @ 7pm. The idea is the repeaters will auto connect @ 645pm and the auto disconnect each other about 8 pmish. I think this is a great idea to spur interest and training. A few reasons for using 443.250/745 is that it already does wx reporting, can be linked easily to multiple repeaters, and coverage is good into Ontario county which will also be participating in the check ins., I can easily monitor the machines remotely also.

**Weather Net**, starting Tue March 22 at 7 pm and will be linked on both 443.540 (tone 110.9) and 146.745(tone 110.9).

Also I was thinking about having the repeaters also connect for a tech net on the East coast reflector, but will see how this wx net goes first.

Comments suggestions?

Respectfully Submitted

Jeff Jensen, N2MKT—Repeater Committee



KD2GTA on location, as all hell breaks loose!

### 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](http://www.SIARC.us)) can be used for directions and information.

### VE Testing At RIT

RARA has temporarily suspended testing, stay tuned

**Same Location**

**30<sup>th</sup> 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**



