



Drumlins' Rumblings

RACES-ARES November 2016 KB2KBY Dave Taylor

Hope you survived the Halloween trick and treat-ers! And it was another COMEX and WRECKIT under our belts and Pumpkin Patrol! What a month. All happening at the same time as well. Hi. Please read the separate article about the Pumpkin Patrol in this newsletter.

I also sent N2ZVP pictures of some of the grandkids that I was able to see both days of October 30th & 31st while each night's ops were doing their duty. I thank WB2VMR, Steve; and, KB2NCI, Tom, for taking over the NCS so I could enjoy both free evenings. I did monitor the 745 repeater on the hour some of the time and made sure everyone did get to their "Posts." My sister-in-law in MA says I am reliving my childhood on Halloween with the grandkids. I'll admit I had a good time in Macedon growing up. I knew 99% of the homes and their owners traveling around with my younger-older brother Bob on his Times Union paper route. He did the whole village of Macedon which is just a hamlet now. The Times Union is gone so long I can't even remember when it did stop printing papers. Hi. Halloween is a special time we passed on to my kids, especially my son. He has carried the tradition on-to his son and daughter in the one picture. My son and "daughter" really go crazy with Halloween and dress as a theme. Plus the Italian side of the family is there too, on the 31st. The "daughter" is one of my former 9th grade students, so it is special just for that. The other picture is the daughter's two girls who are dressed for Halloween for school. Guess I am reliving my childhood. Hi.



So, thank you to all the Pumpkin Patrol-ers who helped. As I stated in the article in the newsletter, the two nights meant 108 hours of public service for you! The good news is I had an email from my Troop T Sergeant for the Pumpkin Patrol State wide. He said it was quiet and no incidents along the entire Thruway. That is what we like to hear! I sent in addresses for all involved and some time in the future you will receive your Pumpkin Patrol certificates. A small thank you, I know, but we know we did a good

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Drumlins' Meeting

November 16, 2016—7:30 PM
Social—7:00 PM
Wayne County EMO, 1st Floor
Conference Room
7336 Rt. 31, Lyons, NY
Doors open at 6:30 PM, Talk-in:
146.685



RACES-ARES continued

job is all the reward we need.

COMEX 2016, N2IZV, Russ, participated in this exercise big time. He told me he had put in 90 hours of MARS for October. With the Pumpkin Patrol happening at the same time, I could not be apart of this COMEX this time. We are only human and can only do what we are able. I do have to give N2IZV credit for still doing a bridge for the Pumpkin Patrol. FB, Russ! Of course many of the bridge-sitters have full time occupations which shows the dedication for ARES & RACES we have. Russ is a computer expert and he has helped this kid with MARS programs, etc. I am a good op but a complete dodo as far as the PC geekness, as many of you know. We all have talents and collectively we are powerful help! Each of us is important in getting the work done! Even though this COMEX was not stressed by me with the timing, State wide Russ said they were only short two counties for County Status reports. That is a record.



WRECKIT 2016 was, also, a success. WRECKIT? It means the Western Region Emergency Communications Knowledge Information Tests. Whew!, I am glad I don't have to spell that out every time. Hi. I encourage you to look up <http://www.wreckit2016.com/> and check it out. Our participation in our county is passing of a hospital status form. That was just a short two hour part of a larger exercise. We teamed up with Ontario County for this event. Since that county has three hospitals, Ontario EOC was the NCS for the two counties. Wayne County was the ANCS. The arrangement worked out well. The 145.450 repeater was used for voice and the 146.745, WA2AAZ, repeater was used for sending digital traffic only. Our part was sending the hospital status form given to us as quickly as possible which I am happy to say the crew of N2IZV, KB2FSB and N0EK was the first to get it sent between Wayne and Ontario Counties.

Good show, guys! KC2TNJ and myself manned the Wayne EOC at the EMO. I know we use these two acronyms of EOC and EMO back and forth but they refer to the same emergency communications which we deal with. Don't let that bother you. With a new digitized computer program form, these status reports were sent by Fldigi successfully. We once again saw the short comings of the West Mountain Rig Blaster digital interfaces and we have plans for replacing them all with Tigertronics Signalinks. When interfaces were ordered for the new, present EMO, Signalinks were not an option for the FT8800s. Talk about timing. Hi. As we all know communications is on going and improving all the time. There are times my old CW sounds good to me. Hi. But we can't put our heads in the sand, as the saying goes. (That might shut Taylor up, however, you are saying under your breath Hi, hi. Oooops, talking too much, again.)

As exercises and commitments go, hopefully they'll separate things out more next time. Three events at once! It was all or one this time and the Pumpkin Patrol took precedence. It was my judgment call and not an exercise but our duty to help out Troop T and the NYS Thruway comes first at this time of the year; and, that help is real help, not an exercise. Wow! Hi. Let's do hope things settle down to a dull roar now. Remember, dull we like! But, we ARE prepared! That is the important thing. And if things come up and happen, we use our expertise to work them out or work around them to get the job done. Our versatility is our strength! My hat is off to all of you for helping RACES-ARES work! Thank you!

See you next month. December? Yes, and nearly an end to another year. We have a lot to be thankful for in RACES-ARES. With Thanksgiving coming up, remind yourself of that, please. Remember NO WARECS NET that Thanksgiving weekend Sunday. Enjoy time with family and friends and be safe.

73 & 88, Dave KB2KBY Wayne RO/EC

P.S. My last short weekend trip to the Adirondacks at Old Forge and Inlet, I happened to meet the second Hamilton County, Inlet, ham-N2NCM. He goes by N2-No-Code-Man. Hi. I told him of our county and what we do and who I was. He was impressed. I was up north for a 90th birthday of the great-granddaughter of one of the founding fathers of Inlet who we met back in the 1980s. N2NCM also noticed my Army ASA hat and invited me to an American Legion Post 893 (of Old Forge), Veteran's Day ceremony that Saturday evening. I have to check the Adirondack Express paper of Old Forge online as they took pictures. Small world and small town America at its best. The affair is put on by a local tavern since the 1970s, free food included. Hi. You know me and food. It was a simple but touching tribute. Duncan; K2OEQ, on the Wall of Honor started by the tavern's owner, there was a camo ASA patch! Duncan and I are the only ASA members of the club, I believe. Veteran's Day will have passed by the time you read this month's newsletter, however. I am prejudiced admittedly, when it comes to veterans!

November Program-

Bill Tegtmeier will bring the club up to date on the club equipment inventory, go kit set-up and the Go-Kit digital mode drills the first 2 Saturdays in November

Our next VE testing session will start at 6:30 PM before the regular meeting on December 21st. This will allow more testing flexibility and less overlap with our club meeting.



**December Rumblins
Deadline is: December 15th,**

**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	RARA Hamfest May 28th, 2016 @Eastman Business Park
Barnard Hamfest June 4th, 2016 @ Barnard Exempt	Horseheads Fall Hamfest September 24?
Ham-O-Rama December 3rd, 2016 IRON WORKERS AFL CIO LOCAL UNION 196 Orchard Park Rd West Seneca, New York 14224	

Meeting Notes

Club dues for 2017 are now being collected. Please pay the treasurer, N2ZVP Walter by check or cash at the regular meeting or by Paypal through the club website www.drumlinsarc.us. The club meeting notes and the newsletters can also 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

Meeting Location: Renovations for the Sheriff's Office are finished! Our first floor meeting room is once again available! Same time 7:00 social; 7:30 meeting

PUMPKIN PATROL 2016

Troop "T" says "Thank you!" for all your help this Halloween with the Pumpkin Patrol! KB2FSB, Lloyd, of the Drumlins was visited by the Troop "E" and the Clifton Springs police, which it always seems they do despite my letters about the bridge sitters. Hi. Anyway, the Trooper thanked Lloyd, after checking his Pumpkin Patrol orange card, and offered to get him coffee. So, if you don't think our effort is not welcomed and appreciated, that is the proof.



Thank you:WB2VMR, KB2NCI, KC2YGH, KA2CNF, KD2GTA, N0EK, AB2XM, KC2RZM, KC2TCM, N2IZV, KA2HQZ, KB2FSB, W2WDS, N2MKT, KD2FCX, KD2AVK, KD2DNO, KC2TNJ, N9SBY, K2OEQ, AB2WZ, N2ZVP and W2WES for NCS, rovers, bridge sitters and substitutes which totaled to 108 hours of public service! Job well done! FB! Best of all was me being able to be with the grandkids each night and enjoying their fun. I thank WB2VMR and KB2NCI for taking NCS making my fun possible.

Please, think about helping out year! This is only the second year Pumpkin Patrol has had two rovers for each and in addition having all the bridges covered, we had ample substitutes as well. We are very fortunate for the cooperation between both SIARC and DARC for many events. This inter-county help is NOT seen across NYS. Believe me. "FB" SIARC & DARC. CU next year for Pumpkin Patrol.



73 & 88, Dave KB2KBY
Pumpkin Patrol Coordinator
And proud **Grandfather!**



VE Testing

Drumlins ARC / Laurel VEC Testing

December 21, 2016

Testing will start at 6:30 PM
(Before the Drumlins ARC Monthly 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 conducts amateur radio license testing on the 3rd Saturday of each month from September through April and at the Hamfest. These tests cover all amateur radio elements as required for the Technician, General, and Extra class licenses.

Testing is conducted at: Rochester Institute of Technology
James E. Gleason Hall, Room 9-3139
Registration is at 10:00 AM

Please check www.rochesterham.org for details.

Repeater Report November 2016

146.745- After pumpkin patrol it was learned that some of the macros were not playing as they should, including the Direct Net Macro. After looking at the program, we changed the playback to TX2 port. On the old repeater it was played on TX1 port. This has been addressed. Most club announcements happen to broadcast in and around 6pm as reminders. Each month is a different message. 745 was very effective in coverage for the pumpkin patrol exercise.

146.685- A preamp was purchased for this machine in the spring. This was discussed before but the preamp was needed more on the .745 machine so was used there. A second preamp has now been purchased and installed on .685. Maybe this will help old "scratch and bacon frying" KB2KBY better make the repeater for the weekly nets!

444.750- It took some time to get the repeater back from Yaesu, It has been upgraded to 1.10Q the very latest update. Additionally, we were able to integrate the URDC (Universal Data Radio Controller) /Dstar module into the Fusion machine to make it a tri-mode repeater as planned. We have also tested the Wires-x link from the EMO and its working great! At some point members may need a program on how to work D-stars features (Maybe December?). I was able to connect into REFLECTOR 30C, which is based in Atlanta and had a quick conversation with an Alabama station as well as a gentlemen from the UK. If you are familiar with D-Star give it a try. You have to transmit your TO: information for a good 4 seconds before you get a response. This may be slightly different than a standard Dstar repeater, but once connected it works great!

Additionally- XARC radio club has asked me to give a presentation to them regarding the improvements that we have made with the DARC Repeaters. So I will be attending their regular meeting in January if anyone is interested. (2nd Thursday in Webster)



'73 Drumlins repeater committee



