



Drumlins' Rumblings

RACES-ARES October 2015 KB2KBY Dave Taylor

I have already got too much written for this October's newsletter and should keep this one short. We'll see if I succeed. Hi.

The October 2015 issue of CQ magazine is an "Emergency Communications Special" addition. The main article is entitled "The Magic of Emergency Communications." Of course we shorten that to EmComm to make it easier for poor typists like me. Didn't they? Hi.



Back in September's newsletter I had an article called "Is RACES Valuable for EmComm?" Reading the CQ article, just about everything mentioned in my article was repeated in CQ. I am no genius in predictions but it was refreshing to read this kid is not totally crazy. Hi. One point in the "On the Cover..." page article, one statement grabbed my eye: "Regular practice and training are essential to amateur radio emergency communications, keeping both equipment and operator skills in top form."



Thanks to Excelon Corporation, the owners of the Ginna power plant, a contact there meant a contribution to the Drumlins EmComm ARC of new Fusion equipment: two FTM-400DRs, two FT1DR HTs with the camera mics and WIRES-X internet connection. George Bastedo, Wayne County EMO Director and Director of All County



Communications, always visioned some video communications capacity. I explained to him amateur TV took up a big spectrum and a lot of technology involved. But with this Fusion capacity now, RACES will be able to transmit pictures and send them back to the EMO on the spot. Of course this will mean some new training on the Fusion equipment. The FT8000s will still be used in the field and Dose vans but augmented with the FT1DR HTs camera mic. The FTM-440DRs will be used in the EMO shack and the RACES

Inside this issue

- RACES-ARES continued.....2
- Elections, slate of officers.....2
- 2015 Hamfests3
- Program Info3
- Upcoming Public Service3
- Canal Town Days recap4
- Repeater Committee.....5
- Get more out of an HT6
- Is RACES valuable ???6,7
- Club Info.....8

Drumlins' Meeting

October 21st, 2015—7:30 PM
VE Testing—7:00 PM
Wayne County EOC
7336 Rt. 31, Lyons, NY
Doors open at 7:00 PM, Talk-in:
146.685



RACES-ARES continued

Dose positions. Training will be needed here!

I have spoken with Rachel Ford, the Planner/Trainer, for the County EMO. For those with WebEOC access-and we should all be but are not-Rachel is someone we all know. We are coordinating a training on the WebEOC using all the computers in the big situation room on a DARC meeting night. We need to get as many members on WebEOC as possible. This may be in November. Stay tuned!

Finally, in the digital modes—new versions of Fldigi with faster modes are being introduced. The WRECKIT exercise used the newer faster mode in conjunction with digitized forms. By the way, N2IZV, Russ, in his retirement, has programmed all the Dose forms used for Ginna so they could be sent by Fldigi making voice transmissions a backup now. Members will practice using the forms sending and receiving using the Excelon donated laptops. Stay tuned, again!



So, this "...keeping equipment and operator skills in top form." is a fact NOT fiction. To be of use to the County EMO, we all must do our part with the new equipment and new skills needed. This is not to scare you away but to remind myself and you, training is on going and always progressing. The days of hams appearing with just their own equipment and nothing more is really too costly and outdated. Thank goodness we have a County that supports! We are blessed and needed!

73 & 88, Dave KB2KBY
Wayne County RO/EC

2016 Drumlins Officers pending election

New Business: In October we will be the voting for the slate of officers put forward at the September meeting:

- K2MPE President
- KC2YGH Vice President
- WD2STK Secretary
- N2ZVP Treasurer
- KC2TCM Program Director
- KD2DNO 1 yr Director
- W2ACC 2 yr Director
- W2JPT (was KD2HBQ) 3 yr Director



October Program- Argent Open Trackers APRS See Pics Page 7

- **Pumpkin Patrol October 30th & 31st — CONTACT: Dave KB2KBY C: 315-871-8767 (I do text.) H: 315-597-4293 (Leave a message.) kb2kby@rochester.rr.com**



October Rumblins
Deadline is: October 14th, 2015

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

CANAL TOWN DAYS Saturday
SEPTEMBER 19th

2015 Hamfest Schedule

40th Annual Elmira International Ham-Fest 9/26/2015 Chemung County Fairgrounds 147.360+ (no PL tone)	Hamfest and Electronics Fair 10/25/2015 Levittown Hall 146.850 (PL 136.5)

DRUMLINS Canal Town Days 2015

Another Canal Town Days under our belt! September 19th, Saturday, was the parade setup day with Canal Town Days-as if you haven't been reminded how many times? Hi! Well, I have to thank the helpers for helping this guy out.

This kid r-e-a-l-l-y THANKS, Jay, KC2TCM; Rich, KC2TNJ; Russ, N2IZV; Wayne, N9SBY; Jeff, N2MKT and his XYL; and, Cheryl, KD2HRY and her O.M., Walter, N2ZVP; and, finally Bill, KD2DNO, for their invaluable help and time with this chaotic activity.

Chaotic?! You bet! The setup was better organized this year then in the past by Sharon Condit, the Pal-Mac High School Band Director. Poor Sharon got caught with this duty by fault- no one else wanted it, so the Canal Town Committee placed the parade setup onto the Band Director. I know Sharon well from singing in the Western Presbyterian Church Chancel Choir and she directed the church bell choir as well until the beginning of this past summer. She wisely dropped the bell choir and she is obviously musical enough, she can get by just practicing Sunday mornings to sing at morning service. She has to get up early as our service changed to 10:00AM Sundays and Sharon lives on from western Webster lake shore. Even this kid has a harder time getting there on time as the NYS HF RACES net is at 9:00AM. If Sharon doesn't make it to sing Sundays, that is okay.



Canal Town Boys



Canal Town Boys hard at work?

Hey!, why the ruckus over Sharon? Well, I had the same feelings for my help listed in the paragraph above! This RACES-ARES stuff takes time. And, in our busy world it seems the busy people have the time to take to help out. Sharon may have gotten caught with this duty "Army style." So that makes those who take the time for RACES-ARES are especially appreciated.

Sharon organized the parade better by sending all vehicles and most of the paraders to the south gate of the Wayne County Fair Grounds on West Foster Street but for the floats who line up on the Jackson Street "Extension" -well, actually part of West Jackson Street from Stafford Street to Hyde Parkway. In the old days before that "extension" it was called "The Bunny Trail" by us locals. When dating the XYL, I took advantage of

the "The Bunny Trail" sneaking a kiss or two walking the trail with the path winding a little around bushes and small trees-unseen by eyes naturally. Hi! The terminology of the "extension" confused KD2DNO at times. One reason I have kept on as NCS for the parade setup is I know the people and the references, nicknames etc., more than most. The XYL would be happy to see me drop this parade setup but I think I am of value more there. Now that I have Bill, KD2DNO, keeping track of things with me, my job is MUCH easier. Thanks, Bill!

Sharon Condit was very happy to see us and was more than happy to see the parade off on time and in order and said, "I couldn't do this without you!" In addition the Palmyra Village Police Chief "Sherm" Yaters, came over and thanked me for the club being there. Shem even apologized he was busy and late getting there for the parade setup although one of his deputies was there. The Chief came right over after parking and walked straight to Bill and I seated under a tree escaping the raindrops and shook my hand. I have know Sherm since he was on the night duty protecting the streets of the Village many, many years ago.

Thank you, my parade crew! I was also thankful Cheryl, KD2HRY, was able to do some running around checking on floats and where certain elements of the parade were suppose to be. With the new setup by Sharon I could have used one other op! Cheryl being at the beginning of the parade setup was able to be a "runner" and really pitched wonderfully for her first time but hopefully not her last. Of course she can bring Walter too. Hi. Walter just volunteered the Friday before too. It is wonderful to work a bunch that really are there to help this poor kid and keeps me calmed down. Believe it or not that is true. TNX, crew, "FB!"

Next year? I NEED A MINIMUM OF NINE (9) VOLUNTEERS TO KEEP THINGS RUNNING SMOOTH!

73, Dave KB2KBY

Repeater Committee News!

Justin W2JPTour networking/website guru has been busy making upgrades. He has added a status widget for the Newark, 745 site so we can monitor the repeater shed temperature and UPS battery voltage. Check it out.. It's pretty cool. (See Pic—sorry about the poor quality, best your editor could do!) Hats off to Justin for heading this up and all his hard work. Also Echolink and Allstar are up and working on 745 Dit dit..

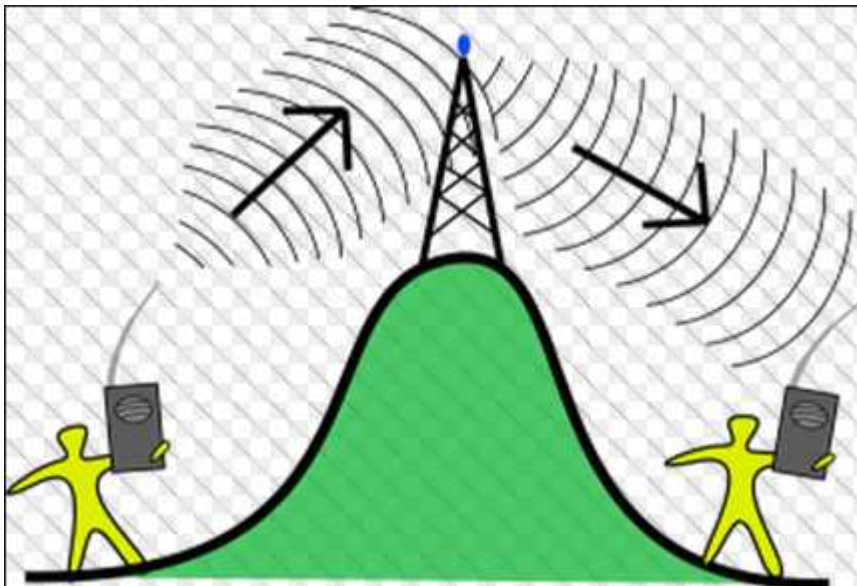
Jeff N2MKT--

10/16/15	WA2EMO	WA2AAZ
Status	UP	UP
Temp	N/A	79.11 F
Packet	UP	UP
EchoLink	DOWN	UP
Internet	N/A	UP
Batt	N/A	12.8 V

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT: TONES ON DARC REPEATERS EFF NOW & SEPT. 1 2015

Effective Immediately a PL tone of 110.9 on 444.750 is in effect.

Effective Sept 1, 2015, PL tone 71.9 will be on 146.745 and 146.685



VE Testing

Drumlins ARC / Laurel VEC Testing

October 21st, 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 Squaw Island 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 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.

HOW TO GET OUT MORE WITH AN "HT"

We all know a HT rubber ducky antenna is terrible as far as gain. Gain? With a rubber ducky you are lucky if the gain is zero if not actually a negative gain which seems like a misnomer to me. Hi. Unfortunately until the future brings Star Ship Enterprise type HT communications devices, our HTs are all we have to work with. And, unfortunately, the HT seems to be our choice of radios when doing events like the Canal Town Days parade setup, or the Fairport regatta or the Lollipop Farms Barktoberfest when we are not in our cars. Heaven forbid for those who remember the PRC manpack radios used by the military WWII, Korea and Vietnam-just as K2MPE, God bless his soul for caring around that PRC-25 in Vietnam. AI will have to give the correct nomenclature of his manpack rig.

One solution to "get out more" is getting a longer HT antenna. I have several collapsible HT antennas. They go pretty conveniently small when collapsed, as you can see by the one picture. When extended they become a ¼, ½ or 5/8's wave antenna. (See picture with my old Icom HT as reference.) Of course you have to be careful as these collapsible antennas are not capable of punishment, bread easy and can be hard on the antenna mounts. (The old BNC connections were stronger than these SMA types today.) There was a thing called a "Tiber Tail" which use to connect to a BNC connector before you put the antenna on giving the affect of a counterpoise to react against the antenna even if just the small rubber ducky. (I have one but haven't seen them in a coon's age whatever that is.)



For possible overkill, "to get out," this kid for the Canal Town Days parade setup uses a short of GI manpack with a mobile mounted full 5/8 whip antenna. SEE THE SERIES OF PICS. Since I could 'play at' and not have to be a real manpack op, (Again, great respect for aK2MPE.), I could compromise making up this parade setup kit. It has been the only time I have used this setup but in a wooded area, or search & rescue and/or long ways from a repeater scenario, this GI Joe Dave getup could be of help. (I do get mocked a lot with this "manpack." Hi.)

For the Canal Town Days parade setup we need one op at the grandstand nearly a half mile away from the actual parade setup at West Jackson & Stafford Streets in the middle of harmonic ally and tall buildings. HTs work better if away from the body. You would be surprised how much energy the body absorbs with an HT on the belt. HT antennas work better too up and away from body parts and in the clear. The antenna is 90% of the game with a HT.

MY SOLUTION was the aluminum framed Army surplus Alice Pack, a mobile mirror NMO mount and NMO 5/8s antenna. (Since the EMO go-kits have lots of 2m NMO mobile antennas, I chose the NMO mount.) The Alice Pack was thanks to my West Point-Army Reserve officer now retired nephew. I am the world's best cold solderer so I bought my cable and connector all wired for an actual car installation-the cable could be w-a-y shorter if you can solder your own coax and connectors. But the metal frame does make a nice "counterpoise" and why I chose the military metal Alice Pack frame. And with 5watts out on an HT, there is NO PROBLEM with getting out and being heard. To keep the military manpack weight down I use my trusty Icom IC-02AT HT-old, big, "ugly" HT but with a BIG battery. (Radio Shack had the nice "202" that was the same.) Of course, my IC-02AT has the BNC connector but there are extenders out there for the SMA mounts. I use the Alice Pack pockets for extra IC-02AT batteries, mic-speaker or even a spare HT and rubber ducky antenna. (I even have a 9aHr gel cell battery I could connect the HT to, as well.)

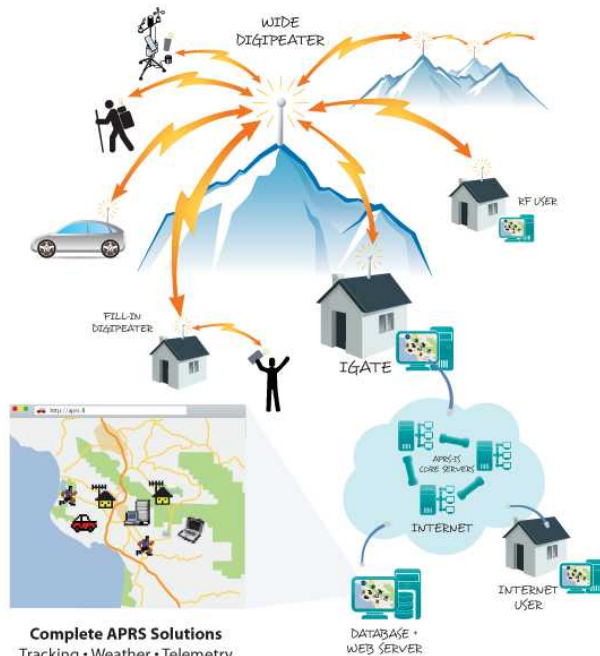


I am not saying every body get Alice Packs and the rest. This setup works for me. But-YES- get longer antennas, spare and/or bigger batteries and headset is nice too. This kid had to use his "teacher voice" to stop the Macedon fife and drum corp from playing as neither Bill or I could not hear WITH our headsets when they started playing. (I might have to get a HT connector for my Heil Pro-7. That would even cut 90% of the outside noise.) For RACES-ARES give all this some thought. You have to be able to GET OUT and BE HEARD, otherwise you are no help at all.

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Drumlins Leaders 2014-2015

President	Glen Bruemmer, KC2YGH	315-398-3266
V-President	Al Cook K2MPE	315-483-8717
Secretary	Sabrina Hamill, WD2STK	315-210-8078
Treasurer	Walter Dutcher II, N2ZVP	585-224-5581
Program	Jay Hamill, KC2TCM	315-210-8078
Program Asst	Dave Taylor, KB2KBY	315-597-4293
Director 3 yr	Dave Mette, W2ACC	315-781-5363
Director 2 yr	Bill Tegtmeyer, KD2DNO	315-904-1012
Director 1 yr	Richard Hamill, KC2TNJ	315-986-8589
Repeater Chair	Jeff Jensen, N2MKT	315-879-1588
Membership	Bill Tegtmeyer, KD2DNO	315-904-1012
Newsletter	Walter Dutcher, N2ZVP	585-224-5581
Club Trustees	Jeff Jensen, N2MKT Sabrina Hamill WD2STK	315-879-1588 315-210-8078
Website	Richard Hamill, KC2TNJ Justin Toarmino KD2HBQ	315-986-8589

Radio Club Contacts

Drumlins Amateur Radio Club Ltd. (DARC)

Glen Bruemmer, KC2YGH kc2ygh@yahoo.com

Monroe County ARES

Jim DiTucci, N2IXD N2IXD@arrl.net

Rochester Amateur Radio Association (RARA)

Frank Schramm, WB2PYD WB2PYD@arrl.net

Rochester DX Association (RDXA)

Paul Kolacki, K2FX usafpilot@rochester.rr.com

Rochester Radio Repeater Association (RRRA)

Brad Allen, KB2CHY kb2chy@frontiernet.net

Rochester VHF Group (RVHFG)

Dave Hallidy, K2DH K2DH@frontiernet.net

XEROX Amateur Radio Club (XARC)

Ned Asam, W2NED w2ned@frontiernet.net

Squaw Island Amateur Radio Club (SIARC)

Steve Benton, WB2VMR sbenton2@rochester.rr.com

Antique Wireless Association (AWA)

Lynn Bisha, W2BSN lbisha@rochester.rr.com

Fisherman's Net Amateur Radio Club

Jim Sutton, N2OPS jim@atrym.org

Genesee Valley Amateur Radio Assn

Bill Boyd, N3DSP N3DSP@lafireline.net

WAYNE COUNTY RACES

VHF NET

TIME-FREQUENCIES

SUNDAY EVENING 8:35PM

PRIMARY:

146.685 (PL 71.9)

WA2EMO REPEATER

Secondary

146.745 (PL 71.9)

WA2AAZ REPEATER

Voice and Digital

FLDIGI MT63-2KL

ONTARIO COUNTY RACES

VHF NET

TIME-FREQUENCIES

SUNDAY EVENING 8:00PM

PRIMARY:

145.450 (PL 110.9)

W2ONT REPEATER

ALSO MONITORED

146.820

(PL 110.9)

Club Address

Dave Taylor KB2KBY
228 W. Jackson St.
Palmyra, NY 14522

Packet:

kb2kby-1 thru WA2EMO-14

Email:

KB2KBY@rochester.rr.com