

# "DRUMLINS RUMBLINS"-FEBRUARY 2021

'ZOOM' MEETING STARTING AT 7:30PM WITH PRESENTATION BY N2MKT



That "rodent" saw his shadow! So spring will not come until March 20th. Hi hi. Sorry about that. But even if "he" didn't see his shadow spring still was six weeks away. Right?

## PRESIDENT'S KORNER

(Written by Dave, KB2KBY, with Bill's permission.)

The Drumlins ARC meeting this Wednesday, February 17th will be on Zoom with Jeff N2MKT giving a program presentation on the new IC-705 QRP rig. Jeff is a big microwave ham "op" as you could tell from last month's newsletter.



The IC-705 is a "dream" for the microwavers, Jeff said in an email. This will be an interesting program even if you're not microwave crazy like Jeff. Look for an email with the Zoom link information. Be safe. The Covid is real and still deadly.

73, Bill KD2DNO

## SIARC HEALTH & WELFARE NET

Tom, KB2NCI, is continuing his "health and welfare net" on the 146.820 repeater (tone 110.9), every weekday night at 8:00PM (2000Lhrs). Friday, February 12th was Tom's 240th welfare net. NOEK

and KB2KBY have been checking in on a regular basis from Wayne County. Also hams from Seneca, Yates and Monroe Counties have been checking in. All hams are welcome! Tom does a checkin of Ontario County by sections first. Then he will call for checkins outside Ontario County. Tom asks outside Ontario County give your QTH and County after your call. Remember this is a "net" and Tom is the NCS so use your good net protocol. The net gets you "out" of the QTH! Hi hi. Have some fun as well.

## JEFF N2MKT

### "Why did I get into ham radio?"

I imagine that each of our stories is very interesting in how we embarked on becoming a Ham Radio operator.. My story is like a building block of items, from a youngster, to a teenager. The road included many Elmer's along the way.

As a child, I grew up in trailer park in the 80's and all my friends had those 27mhz walkie talkies. We would spend hours riding our bikes around playing in the woods using those "HT's".. Trying to keep ourselves entertained and "out of trouble". One of my friends father was a Ham and was avid CW op. He built all his equipment – Heathkits... On one occasion we ventured out to the Syracuse Hamfest...and on this trip I heard what a repeater was,(I think it was .745) for the first time. I was 11 at the time..

In the middle of the 5<sup>th</sup> grade we moved to our new house that my dad constructed near Port Gibson. (I helped nailing sheets of plywood, wiring outlets, etc. at an early age).Problem for me was that it was considered long-distance to talk from Newark to Palmyra on the telephone. So talking

with my friends was difficult as my parents were not interested in me racking up a phone bill. So we devised a plan to get a couple CB mobiles and antennas and use CB to talk back and forth. This only worked 50% of the time as conditions weren't always in our favor...

As time progressed, I found myself more and more interested in electronics. My parents had bought me one of the 160 in 1 electronic kits, from Radio Shack, for Christmas.. I literally went through all those kits, building an AM receiver, Morse code sender, etc. I really had a blast with that electronic kit.

In the middle of my sophomore of high school year, Feb.1991, there was a rumor that the FCC was going to eliminate code requirements. A co-worker of my mom was a ham, and suggested checking out the Drumlins Amateur Radio Club..and I did.. I was excited to learn that they were holding a class.. I participated in all the class, and took the exam at the April Hamfest.. I was 15 and got my radio license before I got my driver's license... In those days you had to pass the Novice license 40 questions and Tech 35 questions.. the question pool between them both was 800 questions. And not only did I remember all those 800 questions, I learned the material because of the hands on class... Out of the class we had like 22 new hams.!!! I took me 5 years after that to get my 5 WPM—but I did it..

So I guess I got into ham radio out a need of necessity, (No Internet in those days.), but also out of interest.. my interest in electronics which obviously I've made a career as a Electrical Controls Technician. I also find Ham radio as a hobby that never gets boring. With new technology, new challenges, new modes. I've been a ham for 30 years and still have not been able to do it all..

So writing this felt a little weird to do, but I guess if it helps anyone to self-reflect, and or inspires you

to submit an article to the newsletter I think it was worth it... So I ask **“Why did YOU get into Amateur Radio?”**

**Keep radio alive before corporations take it away!**

**Jeff-N2MKT**



[P.S. TNX, Jeff, for your article for this editor. With some coaxing Jeff was kind help me out as you have read. I'm going to try and coax some other club members for the newsletter. Hi hi.]

**RACES-ARES FEBRUARY  
2021**

Dear DARC-RACES/ARES Members,

Ontario County and WARECS-RACES nets will be back up and running Sunday, February 21st!

FEBRUARY 23-27 is the Department of Defense and MARS COMEX 21-1. There are four of these COMMunication EXercises each year. Last COMEX hams were asked to monitor WWV/WWVH and fill out a report on the Army MARS site. The 60m ham band was used for ham contacts and you radioed replied info to an Army MARS call. Keep "eyeing" your emails for information about the COMEX.

George Bastedo was kind to send me an email which I sent out thru the DARC Google of this year's Ginna exercises. Yes, that is plural on the word exercise. I know George at least reads the newsletter. Hi hi.

There will be a State and FEMA Ginna exercises for 2021:

STATE exercise Tuesday, JULY 27th  
FEMA exercise Tuesday, AUGUST 24th

See you next month. 73, Dave

## FINAL HAPPY funny NOTE!

As of February 12th it is the Chinese New Year, the "year of the ox."



Always the teacher! Hi hi. The Chinese New Year is celebrated for another 16 days. The Chinese New Year is the second month of the Lunar Year so it can vary on our calendar. And we have Mardi Gras Day February 16th or "fat Tuesday" from our French influence.

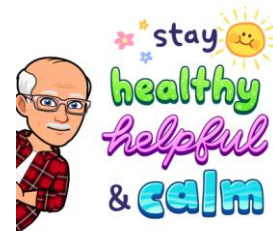


I sure fit that "fat Tuesday" even without Tuesday coming up February 23rd. Hi hi.

Also-it snowed on MARS! Well, Army MARS headquarters in Arizona at least. Hi hi.



This was during our snowfall last week as I type the weekend before our meeting. I guess it can snow in this part of Arizona?



BE SAFE! KEEP WELL! MASK UP! BE SMART with this Covid, please!

