

"DRUMLINS RUMBLINS"- MAY 2026



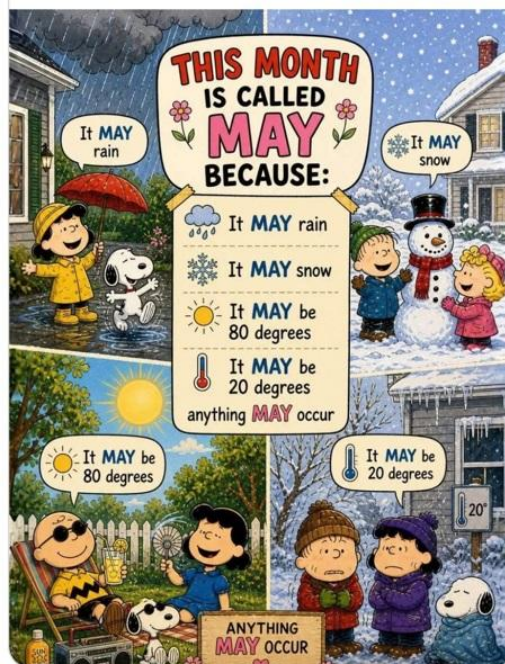
WE'RE meeting at the **WAYNE COUNTY SECOND FLOOR EOC ROOM**
Wayne County Public Services Building 7227 Rte 31 Lyons NY 14489

WEDNESDAY MAY 20th MEETING START 7:30PM

REMEMBER: The front door and the EMO entrance will be unlocked from 6:30-7:30pm.
So arrive in this time period for an easy entry



***YOU HAVE A LITTLE LEEWAY TO GET IN UNTIL 7:55PM!** (Lately, the broom is keeping the door open.)
[REMEMBER: Bring some \$\$\$\$ for the 50/50!]



How appropriate this "ditty"

is my XYL found for me!

PRESIDENT'S KORNER

The April DARC hamfest is over and all that worked like crazy have had a chance to recoup their energy after a frenzy week and especially a busier Friday and Saturday. We hope you can come to the Wednesday's DARC meeting and hear the final report.

Thank you, "Faithful Workers": KC2TNJ, Trista, Brenda, Ray, WD2STK, KC2TCM, N2MKT & XYL, KB2FSB, Thank you KA1CNF, N2IZV, AA2MS, KD2VNV, KB2NCI and KD2DNO. **There will be drawing at this Wednesday's meeting for the ARRL \$25 gift certificate for ALL HELPERS, even out visitor and SIARC helpers.**

One "old" DARC member in the past who dropped by was **KB2UBD- Mike**. I would especially like to recognize for helping out Friday and Saturday. Mike was a busy member of DARC many years ago but later moved to the South. He has been back up North visiting for a good time with family while his XYL is up here for cancer treatments. I ask DARC members to send "**good signals**" for his XYL and Mike and their families. (Been there.) It was nice to catch up with Mike to gab and compare life's notes and DARC members past and present.

For DARC, I would like to **thank our SIARC friends** that helped out with Hamfest with their "Helping Hands" either Friday and or Saturday. (Yea, I know a little hint of those "shopping cart retrievers" we see at one of our local grocery stores.) Thanks: **WB2QJR**-Dean, **KE2SER**-Bill and **KD2DJR**-Chris.

I hope, I have everyone who helped out with our hamfest. If not, please, let me know.



I will not be at this month's meeting as our Fairport granddaughter has an orchestra concert that night. I have always said family, work and obligations come first. I do hope members can come when you are able. Our **first half** of our DARC year of 2026 is soon ending. **June** will be our last Wednesday night meeting and remember **July** there is no Wednesday meeting and **August** we have no meeting night meeting but our DARC picnic! No one has stepped up to slow "time" down like I have asked. (I sure wish we could slow time down.)

Hopefully "spring" will come to us eventually. My XYL, as I have said many times this fall, winter and now spring has complained of our weather. It seems this spring is a continuation. Hi hi. As I type this newsletter, the forecast is for some 80 degree days. "90!," she says. "You gotta be kidding me. That is too warm too early." My comment each time she has said anything about the weather any season, I say "This day is a good day on Shemya." The picture, below, I took of my work "trick" on our 48-hour break "playing Army" is on Shemya 60 years ago June 1966. Notice, we are still wearing our



1951 Korea era issued winter gear of “fishtail parks and pile caps.” (The picture looks faded but it is the usual normal Shemya fog when the picture was taken. The WX would change every 3-5 minutes of fog, rain, snow, sleet, sunshine, low clouds and just cycle constantly 3-5 minutes thru the day and night, usually with the nearly continuous wind.) The concrete building in the background is the “composite” building (Bld 606) where 90% of the 2,000 population of mostly Air Force with Army, Navy personnel and a few civilians lived as the latter three we were guests. It housed the mess hall, BX (**B**ase **eX**change or store, the post office, etc. This was an Air Force base. In the Army it would be the PX or **P**ost **eX**change.) I don’t complain of the weather too much. I will admit, the heat and humidity, I do not like. Thank heaven for affordable air conditioning. I got my intolerance for the heat and humidity from my Mom. She had my Dad install a big window A/C unit to cool our downstairs 1830s homestead way in the late 1950s. My parents’ bedroom was downstairs, too. Our heat was only downstairs, as well. Upstairs, I froze in the winter and roasted in the summer where my bedroom was. Hi hi. When school was over for the summer, I slept in a two-man pup-tent on the side yard under an apple tree.

Yes, My ASA “comrades” don’t look very Army-ish. It is true, thank heavens. The ASA was not the “ground-pounder” Army by any means. I lucked out being in the Army Security Agency in my MOS (Military Occupation Specialty).



I wish I could say I had more pictures with the vendors and kitchen crew but I didn’t even get out of the Hamfest table area for pictures this year. I was glad AA2MS stuck close to me and kept me grounded. I did a better job of keeping all the prizes straight and cataloged for KC2TNJ. You all know, I am very right brained. In the classroom to keep fluid with classroom teaching flow and making 5,000 quick on the spot decisions a day (That is what the education experts estimate a teacher does.), the left brain is usually thinking, “What the heck is going on?” No joke by the way. The five teaching classrooms, homeroom and study hall which in the secondary level of teaching 200-250 students you have daily

responsibility for, the left brain of controlled organization is going “nuts.” AA2MS was an elementary teacher with far less students but our two minds together, the MC part of the Hamfest we kept organized. TNX, AA2MS.



At least you see some of the “help” who worked the Hamfest and I kept those out who did not want their pic take.



The fun part Friday was all the gab and stories with pizza after the setup. **See what you are missing.** The more who volunteer to help means more hands to make the Hamfest work. 88 & 73.



RACES-ARES MAY 2026



NO WARECS NET MAY 24th FOR THE MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND!



Military

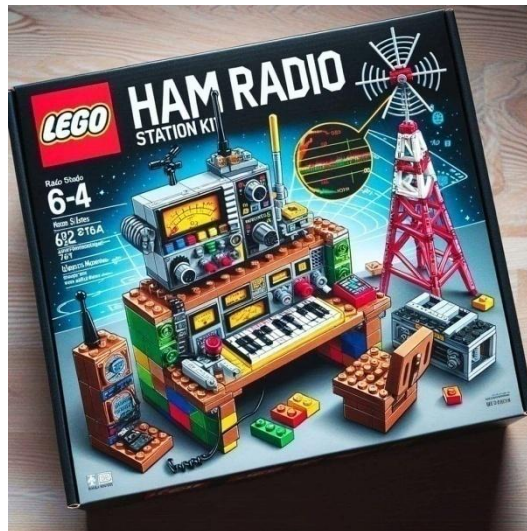
Cemetery

Ginna Drills: August 25, 2026 – State Evaluated Ginna Hostile Action-Based Exercise < - - - - new thing!

October 6, 2026 – FEMA Hostile Action-Based Evaluated Exercise < - - - - new thing!

I will be talking to George Bastedo to find out what these new “hostile” evaluations entail and get back to you.

DON'T FORGET TO READ BELOW the various PUBLIC SERVICE EVENTS from KB2NCI **STARTING JUNE 19th.**



This is a cool Lego setup

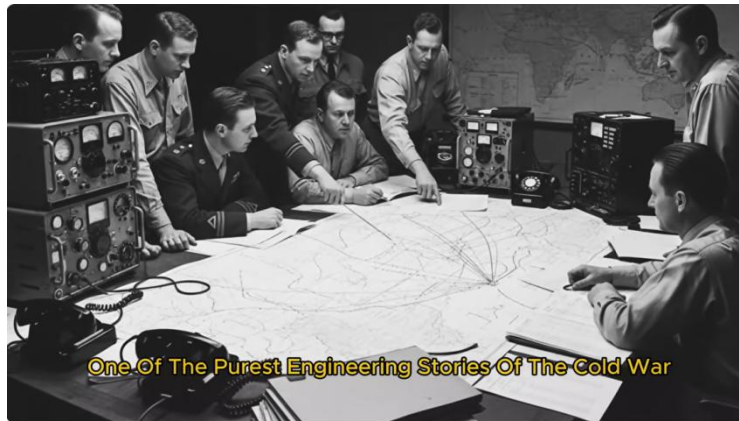
even I would like. Hi hi.

MAY PROGRAM: NUMBER STATIONS-COLD WAR (W2WC, my former Army MARS CW mentor. emailed this item and I found the YouTube interesting as I knew little about this.)

Numbers Stations: The Cold War Radio Codes Governments Never Admitted Using

During the Cold War, shortwave radios around the world picked up something unsettling: robotic voices reading endless strings of numbers through static. No station name. No explanation. Just repeating codes broadcast at specific times. These were Numbers Stations—a secret tool of radio warfare and covert military communications. While governments

rarely admitted involvement, many broadcasts are believed to have been linked to intelligence agencies operating across Europe and beyond. In this military history episode, we break down how Numbers Stations worked, why shortwave signals could travel across continents, and how spies used one-time pads to decode messages with near-perfect security. Unlike traditional code breaking, intercepting the transmission meant nothing unless you had the exact key. We'll also explore how these broadcasts fit into Cold War signal intelligence, why they were nearly impossible to trace, and why some Numbers Stations may still be active today. Subscribe to Iron Minds for more hidden war technology, engineering under pressure, and the secret communication systems that shaped history. Disclaimer: Some scenes in this video use AI-created imagery to help visualize complex wartime engineering and POW innovations. These visuals are educational aids only and are not presented as real historical photos. Every historical fact has been carefully researched and verified.



I am one of those COLD WAR Vietnam veterans. So naturally this is right up my alley. It is very interesting. Come and see for yourself.



ARMED FORCES DAY CROSSBAND TEST (9-10 May 2026)

Lloyd-KB2FSB had a fun time working this event this the weekend. Working SSB on Saturday, Lloyd managed to have QSOs with the following military sites:

AZ -U.S. ARMY FT. HUACHUCA



U.S. ARMY GARRISON



U.S. ARMY INSTALLATION MANAGEMENT COMMAND



U.S. ARMY INTELLIGENCE

←(This is home now of my debunked ASA. The “old” 98th NYS Iroquois has moved to Ft. Huachua.)

NSS-US NAVY ACADEMY



WAR- Department of War PENTAGON



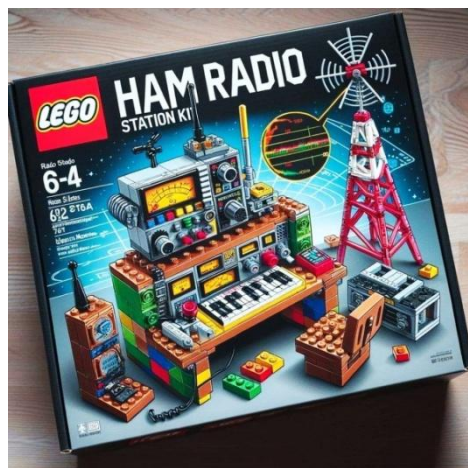
NEMM- USS ALABAMA DD-60



USS ALABAMA
Battleship Memorial Park



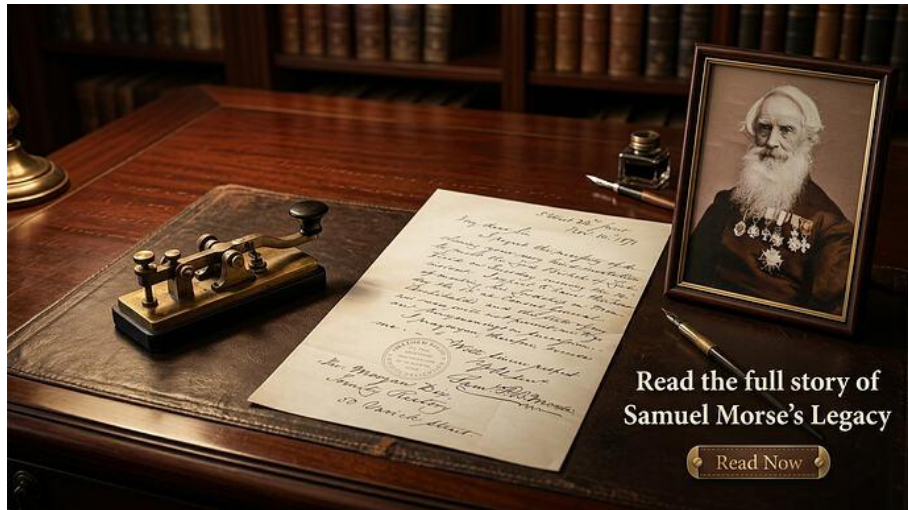
Lloyd was very excited informing me at coffee hour after church. I talked to his XYL before hand and said how much her OM (CW for a male ham op), was “thrilled” with the contacts. **TNX, Lloyd**, for your information and your excitement. DARC members, what have you been doing in the “ham world” for ham-ing????? Hint. Hint.



I don't see a

CW key however!

The Legacy of Samuel Morse and an Auction for a Piece of History [General amateur-radio, ham-radio, morse-code](#) Apr 17 (Jonathan Pierce-GigaParts Technology Superstore) [Yea, from me the CW geek.]



The Legacy of Samuel Morse and a Piece of History

He began as a painter. He ended up helping change how fast the world could communicate.

Before Samuel Morse became one of the most recognized names in communications history, he was already building a serious career in the arts. Born in 1791 in Charlestown, Massachusetts, Morse studied at Yale, trained in England, and became known as a talented portrait painter in a young nation still shaping its identity.

He was not simply a technical mind chasing an invention. He was an artist, a thinker, and an observer of people and meaning. That matters, because Morse's later work in communication did not come from nowhere. In many ways, it came from the same instinct that drives great art: the desire to connect one human being to another.

That is part of what makes his story so compelling.

The Loss That Gave Communication New Meaning

One of the most painful moments in Morse's life came in 1825. While he was away from home working on a painting commission in Washington, word was sent that his wife, Lucretia, had become gravely ill. But the message traveled slowly. By the time Morse returned, she had already died and been buried. [Editor note: Somehow in all my readings of Morse, I did not know. Oooops, again.]

It is hard to imagine that kind of delay now, but in Morse's world, distance often meant silence. News traveled only as fast as a horse, a ship, or a person could physically carry it. For Morse, that delay was not just inconvenient. It was devastating.

That experience is often remembered as one of the moments that sharpened the importance of faster communication in his mind.

The Idea That Changed Everything

In 1832, during a voyage back to the United States from Europe, Morse became deeply interested in conversations about electricity and electromagnetism. A question took hold in his mind: what if electricity could be used to send messages across great distances?

That question would become one of the most important turning points in communications history.

Morse did not work alone. With the help of Alfred Vail and others, he helped develop a practical telegraph system and the signaling method that would become forever associated with his name. The result was not just a clever experiment. It was a breakthrough that allowed information to move with a speed the world had never seen before.

Then, in 1844, came the message that would echo through history:

"What hath God wrought?"

Sent from Washington to Baltimore, those words marked more than a successful demonstration. They marked a new era. For the first time, a message had traveled almost instantly across significant distance by electrical means.

The world had changed.

The Invention That Closed The Distance

It is difficult to overstate the impact of Morse's work.

The telegraph transformed journalism, business, transportation, government, and military communication. Messages that once took days or weeks could now arrive in minutes. News could spread rapidly. Railroads could coordinate more safely. Governments could communicate more efficiently. Entire industries were changed by the simple but revolutionary idea that information no longer had to travel at the speed of human movement.

In time, telegraph lines stretched farther and farther. The expansion of the telegraph helped shrink the practical size of the world. It connected cities, regions, and eventually continents in ways earlier generations could scarcely imagine.

Samuel Morse helped open the door to the modern communications age.

Why Morse Still Matters Today

Morse's legacy did not end with the telegraph.

His name lives on most famously through Morse Code, a system that became foundational to communication history and remains especially meaningful in the world of radio. For amateur radio operators and CW enthusiasts, Morse is not just a figure from a history book. His influence still lives in practice, in skill, in heritage, and in the enduring respect for communication stripped down to timing, precision, and signal. (Underlining done by this editor.)

That is part of what makes original Samuel Morse artifacts so fascinating today.



[Editor note: Yes, this was late for the April newsletter. Duh, I should have known better. I found out after I had sent the April newsletter out. Oooooops. If you had slowed down time for me, I might have remembered in time. Hi hi.]



Me and

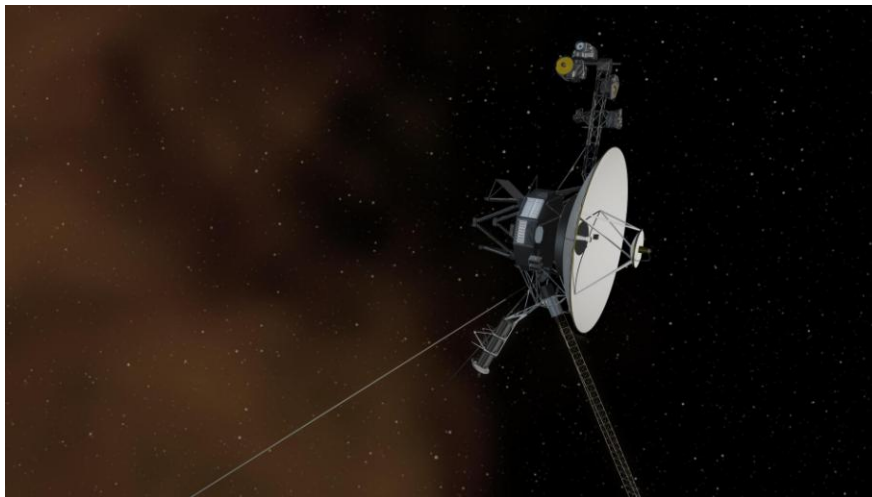
the XYL?

NASA's twin Voyager spacecraft are very low on power after nearly 50 years. How long can they keep going? [Editor note: An update of a program we've had in the past. Very new.]

[News](#)

By [Elizabeth Howell](#) May 9, 2026

NASA is gearing up for a "Big Bang" activity that could extend the lives of the Voyagers' remaining instruments.



Voyager 1, launched in September 1977, crossed over into interstellar space in 2012. (Image credit: NASA)

The pioneering Voyager probes might only have a few years left to explore interstellar space, and that's assuming a planned, risky maneuver in 2026 goes well.

NASA's twin [Voyager 1](#) and [Voyager 2](#) spacecraft, both running on nuclear power, now have access to just a portion of the [470 watts](#) of energy that they generated immediately after their 1977 launches. Originally tasked with exploring the giant planets in our solar system, the pair have long passed their expected lifespans and are still transmitting data, far from home.

Voyager 1 crossed into interstellar space in 2012, and Voyager 2 followed suit six years later. For years, NASA has been turning off the probes' instruments one at a time as their power supplies dwindled. They still lose about four watts of

power a year. But NASA's [Jet Propulsion Laboratory](#) (JPL) in Southern California has an idea, which will be tested out soon, to give them a little more time.

What's running? What's not?

Both Voyager probes launched with the same 10 operational instruments. Voyager 1 turned off its subsystem to look at [cosmic rays](#) (high-energy particles) in February, then did the same with its Low-Energy Charged Particles (LECP) instrument [in April](#).

Only two of Voyager 1's instruments appear to be on at the moment, according to [a JPL list](#): a magnetometer to look at magnetic fields, and a gas examination via its plasma wave subsystem instrument. Voyager 2 has three instruments running: the cosmic ray subsystem, the magnetometer, and the plasma wave subsystem.

JPL's list suggests that the other spacecraft instruments are off, or at least partially turned off, because of power requirements. The active instruments' days are numbered, but a spokesperson told Space.com that the mission team aims to extend their operational lives soon.

"An upcoming engineering activity — [nicknamed the 'Big Bang'](#) — on NASA's twin Voyager spacecraft will continue the agency's efforts to maximize the science output of the mission," the spokesperson said in an email.

"Voyager engineers will turn off three devices on the spacecraft that have been used to keep the thruster fuel lines from freezing — and turn on three other devices that will keep the fuel lines warm, but use a total of almost 10 watts less power," the spokesperson continued.

"If successful, this could delay the need to turn off a science instrument aboard each spacecraft by at least one year. The engineering team will test and implement the program on Voyager 2 in May and June. Based on the outcome, the mission plans to do the same on Voyager 1 sometime this summer."

JPL did not respond to follow-up questions about the possible impact on instruments that are partially shut off, the current wattage levels on both spacecraft, and how long each Voyager is expected to keep operating, among other power-related queries.

How long could Voyager keep going?

Each Voyager is so far away from [Earth](#) that it takes [nearly a day](#) to send a signal to the faraway spacecraft. Power continues to dwindle as the spacecraft approach their 50th anniversary in space next year, but it sounds like mission managers are expecting things to continue for a while.

"We don't know how long the mission will continue, but we can be sure that the spacecraft will provide even more scientific surprises as they travel farther away from the Earth," Suzanne Dodd, project manager for Voyager at JPL, said in [a 2022](#) statement from the lab.

That same year, Dodd told Space.com that there were only [five to six watts](#) of power margin available on each spacecraft. Some of the basic equipment is also power-hungry: "It takes about 200 watts, approximately, to run the transmitter on the spacecraft, to be able to send signals back to Earth," she said.

Dodd added that she was impressed by how well the remaining instruments are performing in the cold of interstellar space. "If we got really lucky, maybe doing some operating below some thresholds, we might be able to go out to the 2030s," she said.

Alan Cummings, a co-investigator on Voyager, [told an audience](#) in October 2024 that, technically, the probes' power will never run out because nuclear energy always has a half-life. But in terms of power to operate the spacecraft, he said it's

dwindling: The spacecraft might only have about 230 watts apiece to use, much of it gobbled up by the transmitting equipment.

"It's interesting because the Voyager is coming to an end in kind of a graceful way, in a sense, because there's different things trying to kill it off," he mused at a recorded event at the California Institute of Technology, where he is a senior scientist.

The Voyagers' thruster lines are close to freezing and getting clogged, he noted. Their telescopes, which already were "blasted" by radiation when flying near [Jupiter](#)'s volcanic moon [Io](#) in the 1970s, continue to degrade as deep-space particles hit them. The computers have backups, but the backups are also aging.

Cummings paid tribute to the original mission team for allowing the Voyagers to keep going for so long: "There is so much redundancy on these spacecraft. It is amazing, and they built that into it."

In August 2022, Dodd was asked during [a JPL livestream](#) how far she thought the Voyagers would go. She predicted each spacecraft would "definitely" make it to the 50th anniversary in 2027 — which still seems to be possible from the perspective of today — but added she has a "stretch goal" assuming that gets accomplished.

Ideally, Dodd said she would love to see the spacecraft reach 200 astronomical units (AU; Earth-sun distances) from our planet, which would happen in about 2035. (At the moment, Voyager 1 is about 169.8 AU from Earth, and Voyager 2 is roughly 143.1 AU away.)

"That's going to take a lot of good luck and good fortune and good engineering," she said. "But nobody would have thought that Voyager would last for 45 years [to 2022]. So what's another 15?"



[Elizabeth Howell](#) Contributing Writer

Elizabeth Howell (she/her), Ph.D., was a staff writer in the spaceflight channel between 2022 and 2024 specializing in Canadian space news. She was contributing writer for Space.com for 10 years from 2012 to 2024. Elizabeth's reporting includes multiple exclusives with the White House, leading world coverage about a lost-and-found space tomato on the International Space Station, witnessing five human spaceflight launches on two continents, flying parabolic, working inside a spacesuit, and participating in a simulated Mars mission. Her latest book, "Why Am I Taller?" (ECW Press, 2022) is co-written with astronaut Dave Williams.



There's a cemetery in the Netherlands consisting of 8,300 US veterans who died in WWII. For the past 70 years, Dutch families have come to the cemetery every Sunday to care for a grave they adopted. Hundreds of people are currently on a waiting list to become caretakers.

Did you

know?

At least they don't forget!!!

SIARC HEALTH and WELFARE NET: NOW OVER 1,500 NETS-CONGRATS !!!!!



STILL GOING STRONG!!!. Kudos, Tom! Get acquainted with some of our SIARC friends and the surrounding counties. **Thank you, Tom, for being so patient and sacrificing your time.** (Tom's XYL is a saint with his "radio.")

Tom's **SIARC health and welfare net** is open to all hams that can hit the **146.820 repeater (tone 110.9)**, either mobile or from your QTH. Just listen to Tom's or the NCS's instructions always given first as the net starts like we all know as hams and used to a SOP. So listen for the SOP at the beginning of the net. **Only the SECOND Wednesday of the month, the SIARC meeting night, there is no net.**

Odd and Ends: (TNX, Tom, for your help.) ALSO, IF YOU HAVE HELPED WITH ANY OF THESE EVENTS, PLEASE, TELL ME. [Editor note: I know KB2FSB has helped on the last two month events Tom had posted here! TNX, KB2FSB.]

<https://www.contestcalendar.com/fivewkcal.php> will give you all you do! Whew.

The **New York State RACES net** is held each Sunday morning at 9am on 7281khz LSB and members are always welcome to check in and get more training on HF net operations. The net follows the same procedures that our weekly nets do. A digital message is sent afterwards on 7081.5kHz USB using Olivia 8-500, MFSK 32 and Thor 22. Forty meters has worked very well, so for the time being, the net will remain there. We are in Region 5 (check in is by region) and we are always very well represented. Give it a try! NYS RACES is also doing testing on 60 meters. It is a great band for these regional communications, so all members should have that capability. For more information on RACES, go to [Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service \(RACES\) | Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services](#)

More info from KB2NCI: The following is a list of digital HF nets you can listen and check into. Thanks to Paul KD2DO for this information.

Here are the digital nets in our area that you can listen into and now join.

*** MID-ATLANTIC Net: @ 1000L Sunday morning on 7.068 MHz USB.

*** NJ NBEMS Net: @ 0900L Sunday morning on 3.582 MHz USB.

*** NH NBEMS Net: @ 0700L Saturday morning on 3.582 MHz USB.

*** NY NBEMS Net: @ 0800L Saturday morning on 3.583 MHz USB.

*** US East NBEMS: @ 1900L Wednesday evening on 3.536 MHz USB.

*** MIDTN Net: Tues, Thurs & Sat 1930L on 3.582.5 MHz USB.

and for a change of pace

Feld Hell 30m net, Wed 2000 ET on 10.1410, FSKH105

Feld Hell 40m net, Thu 2100 ET on 7.0890, FSKH105

Feld Hell 80m net, Fri 2200 ET on 3.5835, FSKH105

Be sure your TxID and RxID buttons are activated and green on FLDIGI, to follow the mode used.

A **new emergency and weather alert system** is now **available for New Yorkers**. Through the free 333111 system, you'll receive text alerts from the New York State Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services about severe weather, significant power outages and shelter locations in your area. To receive these alerts, text 333111 and the county you wish to receive the alerts for (do not add the word "county" or any spaces or punctuation). You can add more than one county. If you are already signed up for NYALERT, you are all set. They will be the same messages. If you no longer wish to receive these messages, text STOP to 333111.

The International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) has designated **14.300Mhz** as a worldwide center of activity frequency for emergency traffic. There are two nets that run from 7am to 10pm eastern time daily. The **Intercontinental Amateur Traffic Net**, aka Intercon, (www.intercontinentalnet.org) operates from 7am to noon and the **Maritime Mobile Services Net** (www.mmsn.org) operates daily from 12pm to 10pm ET. Please keep these frequencies clear during times of need and net times. Listen in for some interesting conversations. During Atlantic hurricane season (June 1 to November 30), you can find some interesting traffic from the **Hurricane Watch Net (hwn.org)** on 14.325Mhz days and 7.268Mhz nights, when a hurricane is within 300 miles of land.



PUBLIC SERVICE EVENTS 2026 from Tom KB2NCI

You all have either helped me with public service events in the past or expressed a desire to help. If you no longer wish to be on my list for these, let me know and I will delete you. Thanks for your consideration.

I am beginning to assemble the teams for the public service events that I have the pleasure to lead for 2026. Please consider volunteering for as many as you can so we can provide the level of safety and course communications that we have become known for. Having access to a hand held and mobile radio is helpful for all events, and I have a small supply of those to loan out if necessary. These are the events and dates I am aware of at this time:

Friday June 19 (I think)—**Parade for the Shortsville Fire Department Carnival**—we are usually there from 4pm to 8pm

Sunday July 12—**Ironman Musselman 70.3**—Geneva and Seneca County—shifts run from 6am to 3pm

Saturday August 1—**Phelps Sauerkraut Festival "Krauter" races**—Phelps—shifts run from 6:30am to noon

Sunday September 13 (I think)—**Finger Lakes Triathlon**—Canandaigua and Ontario County—shifts from 6:30am to 2pm

Friday and Saturday, October 30 and 31—**Pumpkin Patrol** on the Thruway overpasses—8pm to midnight—**Dave KB2KBY organizes this**

I will be contacting some of you directly to inquire if you can cover similar posts and times as last year.

Thanks so much for your consideration in volunteering to help with these events. **Contact TOM KB2NCI** if you have questions and let me know if you can help.



(Spring will

come, Dear.)



Don't be late for

our May meeting. Hi hi.

Final note: On April 25th, I was privileged to participate in a small way, to be small part of W2HJC's family interment at the Sodus cemetery. Josh, Harold's "harmonic," asked if I could give a "ham radio" sendoff for his Dad. For those who don't know a ham SK ritual sendoff is, it is to have a minute of "silence" over the air, especially on a net, and/or the voice calling out of the SK's callsign three times over the air with a space between each transmission, followed by a "nothing heard" and a "rest in peace." It was raining cats and dogs that Saturday, so I got out my old Yaesu "submersible" HT, put on a simplex frequency for Josh, family and friends that gathered could hear my voice transmissions. Josh asked if I could do a SK CW transmission as I did with K2MPE at our Spring Fling, which I did with my cell phone "straight key" that evening.



When Bob, K2JJT, was SK, "Doc," on out weekday morning 7:30am net on the 146.715 repeater net, asked for a minute of silence for Bob. Both are a meaningful "goodbye" to a member of our ham community. Let it be known a "memorial" SK can be done for any DARC member's family by request. (DOB)