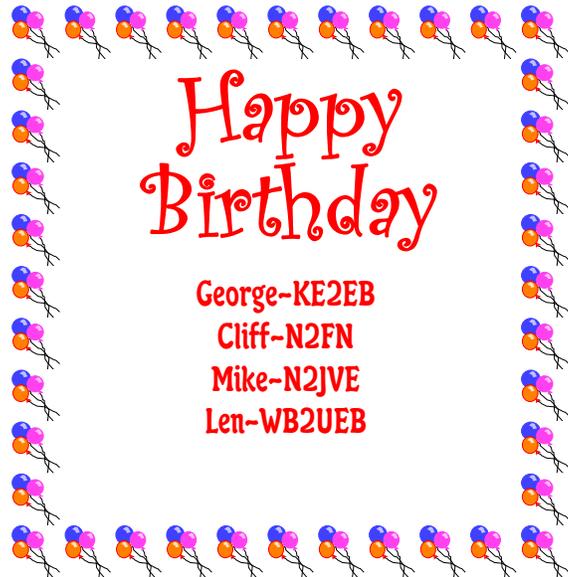




March 2012



Happy Birthday

- George-KE2EB
- Cliff-N2FN
- Mike-N2JVE
- Len-WB2UEB

**OUR REPEATERS ARE BACK ON THE AIR!
GIVE THEM A TRY.
REPORTS ARE WELCOME!**

2012 dues are \$25.00 per individual \$30.00 for family \$5.00 for students and active Military are free.

Please Pay Your 2012 Dues!
 Mail to:
 Stan Engel, WA2UET
 PO Box 153
 Ghent, NY 12075
 Or bring with you to meeting
 Make checks Payable to RVWARS

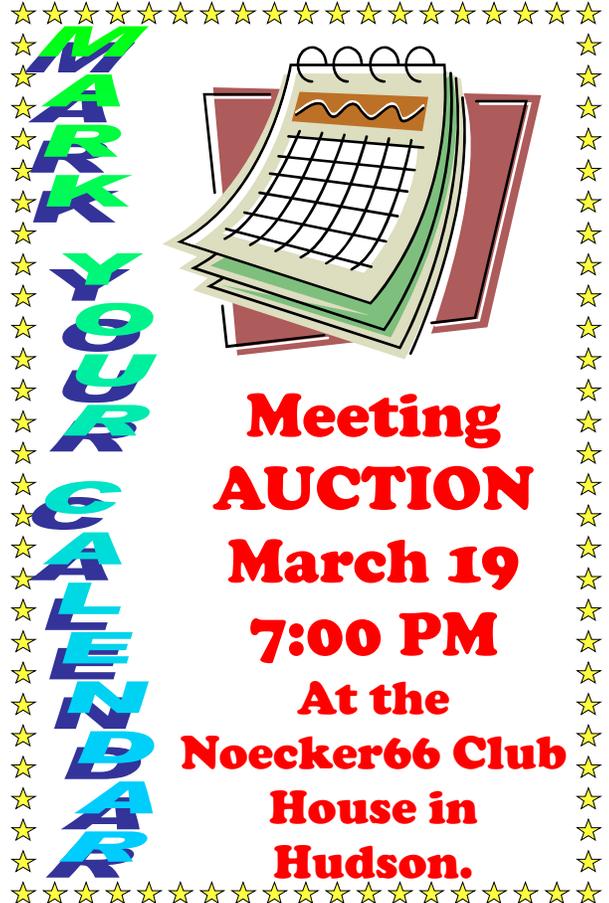
PAY YOUR DUES!

PLEASE



GOD BLESS AMERICA

Please join us on the Tuesday night Roundtable on 147.210 at 7:00 PM. ALL are welcome! Use the EchoLink (K2RVW-R) if need be.



MARK YOUR CALENDAR



**Meeting AUCTION
 March 19
 7:00 PM
 At the Noecker66 Club House in Hudson.**

MARCH MEETING AND AUCTION

NOECKER66 CLUB HOUSE

3/19/2012

PLEASE bring all your good stuff to sell.

I called Bob's wife Sunday evening and she said that Bob, WB2DUW, is coming along good and they are shooting to let him go home around March 15. Bob is at the Pines in Catskill New York.
Jim, KC2OGK

See photos and past Newsletters and much much more club information at:
www.w2jsn.com

RVWARS WEB PAGE

The Web Page has been updated! We added some info on the main page to try to keep folks aware of events. Comments and suggestions are welcome. We will keep Dave Clappers design at least for now. Let me know what you think.
www.rvwars.com

N2LEN Repeaters

The N2LEN Repeater Network:
147.150 114.8hz East Windham, NY
449.025 114.8hz New Baltimore, NY
448.275 114.8hz Colonel's Chair Ridge
442.050 114.8hz Sam's Point, NY 2200'

Yahoo Groups

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/N2LENREPEATER/>

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/ECHOLINK/>

[http://groups.yahoo.com/group/GCNYARES/RACES/
Echolink Node #6269
IRLP Node #4207](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/GCNYARES/RACES/Echolink Node #6269 IRLP Node #4207)

REPEATER REPORT

We are still using the spare 2 meter antenna at 100'. The tower crew came up on 2/8 with their sweep gear and have determined that we have a bad antenna.

I have not heard from them since. They left me believing that the antenna would be covered under warrantee and I am just waiting to see how they made out.

If I can get some 1/2" heliax jumpers made up for the bottom of the antennas the crews said they will install them the next time they go up there.

The repeaters seem to be working fine but of course there is a diminished signal to the south and east with the 100' antenna mounted on the northwest side of the tower.

I have been starting and running the generator on occasion and it is working fine.

There have been two failures of the old DC breakers so far so I finally bypassed them all. So at this point I need to do a complete overhaul of the power panel. New DC breakers are expensive. So I am thinking that I will replace them with fuses and toggle switches.

RVW WORK PARTY

The next work party will be in the spring. Maybe we can spray some weed killer around the old shelter. And if the stone is still there we could spread that around some of the rough spots near the old shelter. We should try to keep it looking nice for the Village and us. I am looking forward to Spring!!!

The easiest way to notify everyone of the time is with the RVW Yahoo group. If you are not a member please go to the club web page www.rvwars.com and scroll to the bottom of the home page for the link. Simply enter your email address.

ARRL Status

If you are a RVWARS club member we need to know if you are a member of the ARRL. We are updating our ARRL affiliation and need to know how many members are ARRL members. Please let me know. wa2uet@taconic.net

We never really grow up,
We only learn how to act in public.

GCARC NEWS

Starting March 1st the GCARC net will be on the N2LEN 147.150 repeater at 19:00. Then as soon as that net is closed down, I will call up the ARES/RACES net, this will be every Thursday night. I want to try it this way, to get some ARES/RACES activity going with out having too many different nets to deal with. I would like to thank everyone for the use of the RIPERS 147.210 that we were using.

We are also in the process of repairing a Andrew DB264-A exposed dipole antenna, that Len N2LEN acquired. The previous owner had cut the top half of the antenna in half along with the feed line and removed the top element. Thanks to August Freemann, owner of Unlimited Metalwork in Cairo, N.Y., we had the mast reinforced with a sleeve and re welded, the hole in the mast repaired where the top element mounts. He did a fantastic job for us. This is going up on the 147.090 repeater at High Hill that will be used for ARES/RACES. I will keep you up to date on the progress.
73 Claude/WT2C



Upcoming Events

ARES/RACES Meeting
first Monday of the month
at CC EOC
WB2DUW-RO
N2NZD-EC

RVWARS Meeting
Monday March 19
7:00 p.m.

Noecker66 Clubhouse, Rt 66
& Graham Avenue, Hudson

Weekly Nets

EVERY TUESDAY at 7:00 p.m.

Informal Roundtable on the
147.210 repeater ALL are
welcome.

1st Wednesday of the Month

Columbia Greene-Emergency Net
on the N2LEN 147.150 Repeater
7:00 PM

Repeaters

BACK ON THE AIR!!!

147.210/147.810 no PL tone
449.925/444.925 no PL tone
224.280/222.680 no PL tone

Vital Statistics

President — Mike Alecksynas N2JVE
Vice President — Tom Gutierrez N2NZD
Secretary — Tom Cody WE2G
Treasurer — Stan Engel WA2UET
Historian — Stan Engel WA2UET
Safety Officer — Stan Engel WA2UET
Repeaters — 147.210 224.280 449.925
Club Call — K2RVW
Club Special Event Call—WD2K
Web Page — <http://www.rvwars.com>
NEWS E-mail — wa2uet@taconic.net
Yahoo Group
<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/RVWARS/>

RVWARS Meeting 2/20/2012

- Meeting called to order at 7:06pm by President. N2JVE. Attendance 21
- Secretary's report read. Motion to accept by KC2YKM, second by WA2KLP.
- Treasurer's report Checking \$1347.19, Savings \$1011.12, Petty Cash, \$50.00, Total \$2408.31.
- **Repeater**

Tower people determined the 2 meter antenna at the top of the monopole was defective. They are checking on the warranty information. They are difficult to contact. Stan will keep trying. Stan and Jim insulated the antenna port holes on the building. It makes a difference with the heat. Stan started the generator. It starts right up.

- **ARES/RACES**
Columbia County

The MS walk at Lake Taghkanic is not listed this year on MS Society's e-mails. The only possible event might be the Spring Mayhem at the college.

Greene County

The 147.090 repeater may soon be back on the air.

- **Old Business**

Constitution and By Laws: amendment from November to Section 4 of the Constitution as follows:

The treasurer may at his/her discretion, spend up to \$100.00 without prior authorization for RVWARS business expenses. For expenditures greater than \$100.00, a proposal will be submitted to the membership, in writing, at a regular business meeting. It will then be tabled, submitted to the membership, then voted upon at the next regular business meeting. In case of an emergency, a proposal will be submitted to the officers. The secretary will immediately submit the proposal to the membership via e-mail. A "yes" or "no" vote will then be submitted to the secretary within 48 hours. The secretary will then submit the results to the officers for further action.

Motion by AA2Y, second by WB2TCV to adopt, carried.

- **New Business**

Jumpers needed on the antennas at the repeater site. The cost will be over \$100.00.

When the antennas were installed, the connectors from the feedline were installed directly on the antennas. CSX has waterproofing kits for us for use on the antenna installation. CSX is also hiring qualified radio people. Info on their web site. Motion to purchase the jumpers. Tabled. Motion to change the previously approved amendment to constitution by AA2Y second by WB2TCV to up the limit to \$200.00. Carried. Now read as:

The treasurer may at his/her discretion, spend up to \$200.00 without prior authorization for RVWARS business expenses. For expenditures greater than \$200.00, a proposal will be submitted to the membership, in writing, at a regular business meeting. It will then be tabled, submitted to the membership, then voted upon at the next regular business meeting. In case of an emergency, a proposal will be submitted to the officers. The secretary will immediately submit the proposal to the membership via e-mail. A "yes" or "no" vote will then be submitted to the secretary within 48 hours. The secretary will then submit the results to the officers for further action.

Stan explained the alarm system at the repeater site.

Auction: AA2Y wants to step down as auctioneer. K2WG cannot do it this year.

After 31 years, Shelly would like to be able to enjoy the auction. If needed, he will do it, but he needs help.

Field Day

Will be held June 23, 24 at the Claverack Town Park. Router and Windows 7 laptops will be needed. Co-chair is needed.

Dues are due.

Jim, KC2OGK gave an update on Bob, WB2DUW. He's at The Pines in Catskill and is doing much better. Discussion on ARES in Columbia County. KM2O, the new Section Emergency Coordinator will be invited to the April meeting. Red Cross shelter at Churchtown Firehouse discussed. Chris, N2PBN, is heading it up. Perhaps a Red Cross rep could speak at a meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 7:35. Motion by WB2TCV, seconded by KC2YKM.

50-50 won by W1SWM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Thomas J Cody
WE2G, Secretary



Rippers 2012 Auction



The Auction will be held right after the 7:00 PM meeting on 3/19. PLEASE bring some good stuff to sell and lots of cash to buy the GOOD stuff. All are welcome. Shelly will be the auctioneer and as always he does not want to get dirty from handling Junk. The boxes of useful parts are not however junk! Computer gear is also popular. We need some good HF gear and HT's and mobile radios for the new hams and those who will be upgrading soon. And all those accessories that you have tucked away not used anymore.

Since 1978 we have been having the RVWARS auction. In those days it featured tube sets which are now not so easily available. The purpose was secondarily to make some money but primarily to have a good time. AAHH-- memories-- Dick and Ellen Retus(deceased) used to run the kitchen at the Hudson High School and all had a good time. For those items not auctioned often deals were made on the side from which all benefited.

We used to meet in John Edwards School, later Questar III on Route 66 and more recently at Noecker's also on Route 66. While much water has run over this dam since 1978, the idea of having a good time has not. Good gear still is needed, as well as stuff for guys like Carl, the preservationist. He does good restoration work and you can too with the proper interest.

So bring your stuff to the auction and plan on having fun. I usually find something myself even though my station is complete; you can also. Our club starts the auction season in March every year and we invite people from all over to join us. Shelly-AA2Y



RVWARS Auction Procedures

1. **Seller**--callsign on card and minimum price. If bid not reached, the auctioneer will ask you if final bid is acceptable. If item is not sold, please come up and pick it up.
2. **Buyer**--if you buy an item, please give your callsign so we can record it. We will not go on until the treasurer has the information he/she needs for bookkeeping.
3. The club receives 10% of the selling price to a maximum of \$20.
4. If you decide you want an item that did not sell during the auction, you may work out a deal with the seller. If you do, please ask the seller to remit the 10% to the club.
5. Please pay attention to all bidding on your item in order to prevent misunderstandings. Bidders, if the auctioneer does not see your bid, we will restart bidding from that point. If there are any disputed bids, we will have a do-over.
6. We ask buyers to pay at the conclusion of bidding on the item which was won, and to promptly remove it if possible, in order to aid in keeping the auction moving smoothly.

Greene County ARES & RACES News: March 21st Meeting & Presentation!

On Wednesday Evening March 21st 2012 at 7:00 PM, Everyone is invited to attend a very interesting presentation about "N V I S" (Near Vertical Incident Skywave (NVIS) antenna)

This presentation discusses emergency radio and antenna building techniques. Our guest speaker will be: Charles Alfano, WA2GUG. Charles is a full time New Your City resident. He will be making a special trip up to Catskill for the evening. So we are hoping for a big turnout.

NVIS, is a radio-wave propagation method that provides usable signals in the range between groundwave and skywave distances (usually 30 to 400 miles, or 50 to 650 km). It is used mainly for military and paramilitary communications and by radio amateurs. The radio waves travel upwards into the ionosphere, where they are refracted back down and can be received within a circular region up to 650 km from the transmitter. If the frequency is too high, refraction fails to occur and if it is too low absorption reduces the signal strength.

The address for the presentation if you would like to attend is:

Greene County Emergency Services
25 Volunteer Drive
Cairo, New York 12413

Thank you,
Warmest Regards,
Len Signoretti, N2LEN



MUSINGS OF THE CURMUDGEON

A reprint from 11/2000



Recently I have been following a discussion begun by a "small pistol" who began by complaining about not being able to work Kingman Reef because he could not get heard above the signals of the "big guns". This of course was the wrong group to whine to as it numbers among its members many of the most prominent DXers in the world.

DXers by their nature are both competitive and helpful. In this case they suggested that he study the art, learn propagation and all the many things that a dedicated DXer needs to know. They also pointed out that no one is born a Big Gun and that it takes most folks years to assembly a station and learn how to use it correctly. Also pointed out was that many of the members worked QRP or low power by choice so a two hundred foot tower, monobanders and legal power were not the only way it could be done.

After reading all this I began to think about our mighty band of DXers and realized that we have it all wrong. Sure, we are all competitive and enjoy rubbing a contact with a rare one into the others and yes we do have a few guys who dim the lights in the neighborhood when they key up but we are not like those guys. Yeah, we may make a "few" insurance contacts or work a country again that is already in the log before one of the others get the country but that's OK. It's OK because very often my phone will ring or someone will call on the repeater to let me know that a rare one is on the bands. It's ok because we help with antennas, tower and whatever else we can do so everyone can get a rare one.

Wait a minute, we sound and awful lot like those guys who offered the whiner help and information. Our big guns are quick to spot for us little pistols and when any of us makes a contact the others are quick to offer congratulations.

We are part of an international group of Hams who enjoy the competitive sport of chasing and capturing a 59 from a reef in the South Pacific. Yes, the jamming happens and the DX police need to turn in their badges but as for the real DXers as Pogo said "We have found them and they is us".

Oh yes, one last tip. If you are a little pistol work the rare one and THEN tell the big guns about it. Real DXers are competitive.

By Dave Watrous, WD2K Nov 2000

The Extra Class Question of the Day

by Dan Romanchik, KB6NU

As many of you already know, I have written study guides for the Tech and General Class license exams (www.kb6nu.com/tech-manual). Until now, however, I've shied away from writing an Extra Class study guide. The two main reasons for this is that the material is much more complicated and there's a lot more of it.

This year, however, the NCVEC is updating the Extra Class question pool, and I've decided to bite the bullet and do it. So, I'm now in the process of writing a No-Nonsense Extra Class Study Guide.

After I got started on this, I had a D'oh! moment. It occurred to me that instead of just publishing this material in the study guide, I could also post some of it to my blog (www.kb6nu.com). So, now I have the "Extra Class question of the Day" feature on KB6NU.Com.

In reality, it's usually more than just a single question because many of the questions are on the same topic. That's OK, though, because in reality, I don't post these every day. So, it all works out. Having said all that, here's an example. The correct answer to the question is in bold.

Extra Class question of the day: meteor scatter

Amateur radio operators use many different ways to get signals from one spot to another. Perhaps one of the most interesting is meteor scatter propagation.

Meteor scatter propagation is possible because when a meteor strikes the Earth's atmosphere, a cylindrical region of free electrons is formed at *the E layer* of the ionosphere. (E3A08) **28 - 148 MHz** is the frequency range that is well suited for meteor-scatter communications. (E3A09)

Unfortunately, these ionization trails are relatively short-lived, so to communicate via meteor scatter, you need to either be able to detect when these paths are available or be transmitting when the paths are available. **All of these choices are correct** when talking about good tech-

niques for making meteor-scatter contacts (E3A10):

- 15 second timed transmission sequences with stations alternating based on location
- Use of high speed CW or digital modes
- Short transmission with rapidly repeated call signs and signal reports

For more information on meteor scatter, go to:

- G3WZT's Meteor Scatter page (www.qsl.net/g3wzt/g3wzt_ms.html)
- RSGB's Meteor Scatter page (www.rsgb.org/psc/meteor-scatter.php)

For more Extra Class questions of the day, go to www.kb6nu.com.

When he's not trying to figure out how he'll be able to finish writing the No-Nonsense Extra Class License Study Guide, Dan, KB6NU is station manager at WA2HOM (www.wa2hom.org), the ham radio station at the Hands-On Museum in Ann Arbor, MI. If you have a particular question that you'd like him to make a "question of the day," e-mail him at cwgeek@kb6nu.com



The below changes to the By-Laws have been voted on and changed. 2/20/12

The treasurer may at his/her discretion, spend up to \$200.00 without prior authorization for RVWARS business expenses. For expenditures greater than \$200.00, a proposal will be submitted to the membership, in writing, at a regular business meeting. It will then be tabled, submitted to the membership, then voted upon at the next regular business meeting. In case of an emergency, a proposal will be submitted to the officers. The secretary will immediately submit the proposal to the membership via e-mail. A "yes" or "no" vote will then be submitted to the secretary within 48 hours. The secretary will then submit the results to the officers for further action.



Items for sale de K2WG

- Two Decibel UHF base station antennas. 20 years old but have not been in use since 2002. Exact model no longer manufactured but similar to current model ASP-705K 10 dB gain, 450-470, 500 watts, N female connector. Asking \$250.00 each or \$400.00 for both.

Contact: wayneg1231@fairpoint.net
Phone: 392-5704

**PROFESSIONAL
INSURED
TOWER CLIMBER
DISCOUNT RATES FOR HAMS
ANTENNAS - FEED LINES
INSTALLED & REMOVED
CALL
ARNIE CAVALLARO
518-965-9299**

Trade/Sale/In Search Of

I have some 'used condition' amateur rig's I purchased in the past 'new' eg. -1 Alinco DR-605 2/440 mtr fm dual band'r, 6 mtr fm mono band'r, 2 mtr fm mono band'r some 'cb' rig's (am), 1 is a ssb/am. These rig's either DO or Do Not function! Mostly all are easy/cheap 'radio repair' issues eg. internal 'fusing' maybe final or a digital led 'quirk' whatever! My Quest is to swap/trade (barter?) whatever it 'takes from my 'rig collection' to acquire a simple mono mode cw or better if (Lucky:-) cw/ssb 2 MTR rig. Not qrp but qrp 5w or better. This can be Any 'working' stable rig, transverter, completer kit rig, (the mfj-2mtr is an example). If Anyone is Interested in 'trade' or trade/cash 'barter' I am open ears. :-)
I've had much 2 mtr fun with fm now to go on with cw, and/or ssb. :-)-ke2eb George H. Call West Coxsackie, NY 518-731-9854 bubby-call@yahoo.com

WANTED

If anyone has a decent P4 desktop computer that they don't want any more we could use one at the repeater site. I am using a laptop but a desktop would be handier if you have one. I don't really need a keyboard but a LCD monitor would be nice.

Reminder from: TARA-N2TY Yahoo! Group

T.N.T. TRADER NET

Date: Thursday September 29, 2011
Time: 8:00 pm - 10:00 pm

Repeats: This event repeats every week.
Next reminder: The next reminder for this event will be sent in 1 day, 12 hours, 4 minutes.

Location: TARA REPEATER SYSTEM: 145.17/R & 447.075/R

Notes: This is a reminder for our weekly TARA - T.N.T. Trader Net which dedicated towards buying, selling or trading your amateur related items. All are welcome to come join us at 9:00 PM on the TARA repeater system 145.17/R & 447.075/R, plus Echolink #1774 or IRLP #4151.

Get reminders on your mobile, Yahoo! Messenger, and email.
Edit reminder options

I have about 16 -120 volt pan cake fans plus protective guards if you know of anyone that needs one and 2-12volt 6watt.

- 10-- 10 watt fans----- \$4.00 @
- 1--12 watt-----\$5.00 @
- 3-- 20 watt-----\$5.00 @
- 2-14 watt-----\$\$5.00

\$5.00 for the 12 volt fans @

Contact Ron, WA2UYY
wa2uyy@aol.com

ANTENNAS FOR SALE

Comet GH50 6 meter vertical—\$50.00

Diamond X50A Dual Band 2 meter 450MHz \$50.00

Call Martha at 828-5282

KENWOOD TS-850S

With PS-52 Power Supply and Kenwood MC85 Desk Microphone. It's in excellent condition since it was not used very much. \$599.

Call Len Sawicky, WB2UEB after 5PM at 828-0791

**MT. BEACON
AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
SUNDAY, APRIL 29th, 2012
HAMFEST**

Location
Tymor Park LaGrangeville
Dutchess County, New York 12540
Talk-in on 146.97 -600 (tone 100)
249 Duncan Road GPS N41 39.240, W73 41.818

Admission
\$7.00 for buyers
Indoor tables: \$12.00 Prepaid or \$15.00 at the Gate
Tallgating: \$9.00 per space or \$14.00 for two

Doors open
8am to 2pm
Sellers 6am
Buyers 8am

For More Info Contact
David Ruth KC2AFK
(845)677-5079
kc2afk@optimum.net

HOT FOOD & BEVERAGES
Breakfast Sandwiches
Hot Dogs and Hamburgers
Hot Coffee-Cold Soda-Water

Directions
From the North take Taconic State Parkway South to Rte 55 East
Go to RT 21 (Ohrwald Rd) and make Left Then right on Duncan Rd
From Newburgh take I-84 east to Taconic State Parkway North to Rte 55 East
Go to RT 21 (Ohrwald Rd) and make Left then right on Duncan Rd

FCC Exams—All License Classes!
Registration: 9am to 10am
Bring photo ID, original & photo copies of both your
A/R license and any CSCE's

Large Indoor & Outdoor Location!
Non-Ham Spouses & Kids FREE!

**NORTH JERSEY
HAMFEST**

**March 24, 8:00 AM, \$7.00
Roxbury Senior Center
72 Eyland Ave.
Succasunna, NJ**

The American Legion Amateur Radio Club is going to operate a special-event station on March 15-17 to mark the 93 birthday of the American Legion. The tentative operating hours are 10 AM to 4PM EST, on or about 14.270 megahertz.

www.legion.org/hamradio
KC2OGK JIM

GET YOUR OFFICIAL FCC AMATEUR RADIO LICENSE



FREE 2 DAY CLASS

Sponsored by the Rip Van Winkle Amateur Radio Society, Inc.

Saturday April 21—8 AM to 5 PM

Saturday April 28—8 AM to 5 PM

**FREE Lunch and soda and coffee will be served
License exams given at the end of the class on the 28th.**

**Held at the Noecker66 Dealership
Route 66 and Graham Avenue, Hudson**

For more information and to register call

*The License Manual is required and we will furnish it for \$30 payable when you register.
(walk-ins are welcome but you will need to purchase your own manual available on the ARRL web site)*

Stan at 518-392-4559—leave a message

John at 518-828-7628—8 AM to 5 PM M-F

More details on our web site-www.rvwars.com