

# NEW MEETING PLACE

# Rip's Report

September 2013



## Happy Birthday

Dan-KC2JTM  
George-KE2EB  
Pete-NX2X  
Carl-WA2UJX  
Tom-WE2G

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



*2014 dues are \$25.00 per individual \$30.00 for family \$5.00 for students and active Military are free.*

## 2014 Dues

Mail to:  
Stan Engel, WA2UET  
PO Box 153  
Ghent, NY 12075  
Or bring with you to meeting  
Make checks Payable to RVWARS

**2014 DUES CAN BE PAID!**



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  
Sept 16  
7:00 PM  
Churchtown  
Firehouse  
Information  
inside!**



# We have a new meeting place! It is a great location and hopefully will be our permanent home from now on!

See photos and past Newsletters and much much more club information at: [www.w2jsn.com](http://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](http://www.rvwars.com)

[Join our Yahoo Group at the bottom of the web page. Simply enter your email address.](#)

## 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/GCNYARESACES/>  
Echolink Node #6269  
IRLP Node #4207

## WE HAVE A NEW CLUBHOUSE!!!

Rip Van Winkle Amateur Radio Society will be meeting at the Churchtown Firehouse from now on!

The Firehouse was offered by a member and we met with the board members and everyone seems happy to have us.

The Churchtown Firehouse is set up as a Red Cross shelter and we will fit in with our Emcomm expertise.

We thank John for all the time and effort he has donated to RVWARS. Now we to will move on.

PLEASE help us to make a good showing at our first meeting at the Firehouse on September 16th at 7:00 PM. There is a map on page 6 and if you have any questions please ask.

## RVW WORK PARTY

The "GOOD" weather has not shown up yet. I cannot work in this incredibly HOT Humid weather. It has to break sometime, then I will schedule something.

Good weather is upon us! I will post a date on the Yahoo Group. The little refrigerator in the shelter needs scrubbing after a couple of soda cans froze and exploded in it. AND we need to bury the service to the old shelter deeper sometime soon. If anyone has a small trencher or knows someone that does maybe we could borrow it. Otherwise I will see what it cost to rent one for a day. We only need to get it down about 12"...

## SOME FUN 147.210 REPEATER DTMF CODES

Site Info:  
228-Outdoor Temp  
229-Indoor Temp  
230-DC Volt Bat 1  
231-AC Volt read  
232-DC Volt Bat 2  
Daily Highs and Lows for the above readings: 900 through 940  
450-To check your input to the repeater. Key up type 450, when it says "ready" QUICKLY key up and record your short message , un-key and it will play it back as it heard it.  
WEATHER RADIO  
310-ON  
325-OFF  
These codes will work on 449.925 as well.  
I would like to add a basic weather station sometime as well so we could access wind speed etc. up there.  
Feel Free to try them!





## Taking a dose of my own medicine

By Dan Romanchik, KB6NU

Last week, I wrote a blog post on preventive maintenance for one of my writing clients.

Afterwards, I decided to take a dose of my own medicine and do a little preventive maintenance around the shack. I started with the Astron RS-35M, which provides the DC power that runs HF transceiver and my VHF/UHF transceiver in my shack. I had started noticing a few little things, such as the voltage adjustment being a little fussy, that I wanted to correct before the supply failed on me.

After removing the cover, I vacuumed all the dust out of the supply. The RS-35M wasn't very dirty, but even so, getting the dirt out of a piece of equipment is probably the first thing you'll want to do when performing preventive maintenance. Dirt impedes air flow. That can lead to higher operating temperatures, and as the lab manager that I interviewed for my blog post said, "Heat kills."

Not only should you vacuum any dust out of a cabinet, you should also clean the fan filters, if your gear has them. Dusty filters prevent air from flowing smoothly through equipment, and that means the fans don't cool as well as they should.

Once that was done, I did a visual inspection. One thing that you want to look for are components that look like they're getting too hot. Another thing to look for is evidence of arcing. Whatever is causing the overheating or arcing will eventually cause a unit to fail. Fortunately, I found neither.

Next, I checked to see that the components mounted to the enclosure were securely screwed down. In the RS-35M, the transformer, the bridge rectifier, and an electrolytic are mounted to the enclosure. Oddly enough, the bridge rectifier was quite loose, so I tightened it down. Also loose were the output terminals. I tightened these down as well.

Finally, I squirted a little cleaner and lube into the voltage adjustment pot and worked it back and forth. That seemed to do the job. That pot now works smoothly and cleanly.

I put the cover back on, reconnected the power cable, and got back to making QSOs. It should be good for another couple of years.

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When he's not keeping the gear in his shack in tip-top shape, Dan, KB6NU enjoys working CW on the HF bands and teaching ham radio classes. For more information about his operating activities and his "No-Nonsense" series of amateur radio license study guides, go to [KB6NU.Com](http://KB6NU.Com) or e-mail [cwgeek@kb6nu.com](mailto:cwgeek@kb6nu.com).

**I NEED IN-  
PUT FROM  
OUR  
READERS!  
THE  
NEWSLET-  
TER SEEMS  
TO GET  
SMALLER  
ALL THE  
TIME IN-  
STEAD OF  
BIGGER.**

## MUSING OF A CURMUDGEON



A few weeks ago everyone in the hobby was talking about restructuring, either rabidly against the Leagues proposal or happy because they could get a free ride to General. After a few days nothing more was heard even though the FCC posted a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) that proposes a thirteen word per minute entry level for HF privileges. The silence is deafening! I can understand those that already have HF ability and who feel that it should be earned not commenting but over half the current licensees are effected by the proposed rules and no one seems concerned.

It is hard for those of us who have been in the hobby for a while to believe that there is little interest in the lower bands for many of the newer members. How can anyone resist the opportunity to talk to folks in other lands, chase DX or simply ragchew with others many miles away? That is the heart of the hobby and still silence reigns.

If ever the hobby need to be discussing its future the time is now. If we all maintain this silence the FCC will act on the feedback they receive from a vocal few and historically there will be the hard liners opposed to any change.

The structure as we know it is going to change and it will probably happen within the first half of next year. The FCC gave us until the end of the year to respond to their proposal. Let's take the next few weeks to talk with others both in and outside our local group so that we can all make our decision and respond by the December 31 deadline in an informed manner. If we don't the decision will be made anyway but without the voice of the majority being heard.

Dave Watrous, WD2K—9/98

## Antique Radio Club of Schenectady Informal Meeting Notes of December 23, 2012

Meeting at St Rose College, 997 Madison Ave, Albany NY

14 Members were present who braved the cold 20 degree weather two days before Christmas.

**Tailgate Highlights:** 11:30 AM. Free Antique Radio Magazine. A large assortment of Radio and TV test equipment for sale a reasonable prices. Ex a VTVM and Substitution box was offered for \$7.

**Formal Highlights:** Dilemma with local vendors when procuring replacement parts resolved. Several crystal sets exhibited and their operation discussed. A brass variable capacitor was exhibited and questions were raised as to its application and use. A Crosby 8 radio was brought in by a new member who was seeking advice on rehabbing it. A radio listener gave us a trip down memory with an account of a program aired on Dec 7 retelling famous broadcasts of WW2. Trouble in disassembling a frozen knob and tuning sleeve was investigated on a Westinghouse H198. A bull horn was displayed. A member displayed a multiband radio in mint condition and told how it was purchased for \$10.

**Events:** Report on Dec 1, Antique Radio Club of Conn were favorable.

**Tips:** When installing a new component in place of an old one, just cut the leads of the old component and remove it. Take the new component, make a pig tail at each end and insert it over the old lead and solder. The trick is to get a nice tight pigtail. I used to try doing this with a soldering aid but the pigtail was not a tight fit and it did not give me a good "mechanical" fit before soldering. I approached a parts vendor for help and he recommend you use a paper clip as a "mandrel" to wrap the wire around. This idea worked.

**Laments:** Waiting for February when the Balston Spa mini sale comes.

**Refreshments:** Good comments on the eggnog, DD coffee and donuts.

**Looking for:** Found a Knob for Halicrafters S38E. Looking for a pair of 6SJ7s. Found Documentation on Westinghouse H-198. Found a National NC-98? Transformer.

**Quote:** "It's a great life, if you don't weaken" Edison

**Next meeting:** I believe January 27, 2013

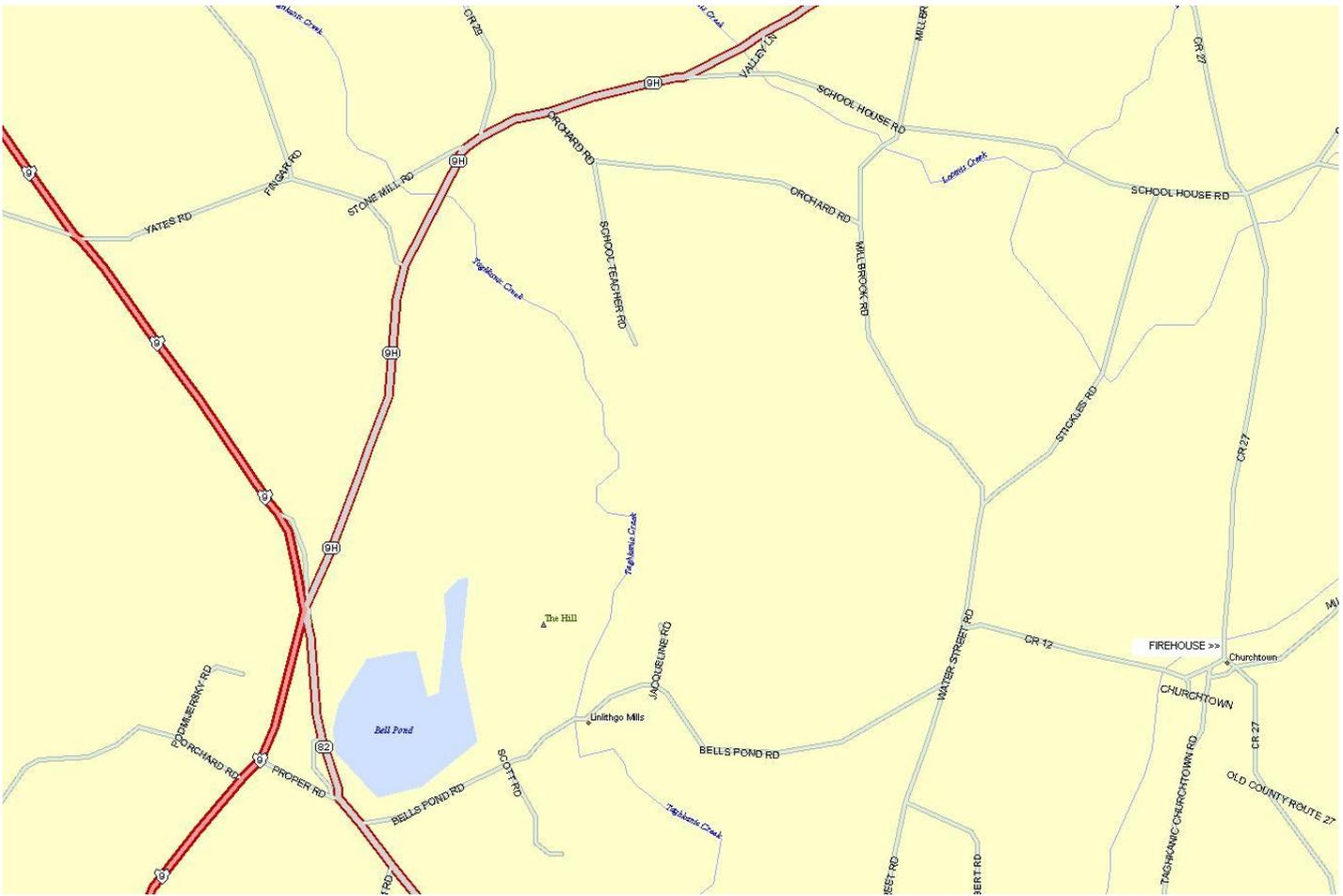
**Antique Radio club meetings 4th Sunday each month 11:30 AM, 998 Madison Ave, Albany NY, St Rose College Media Center**

*I only have a few of Daves columns left. It would be really neat to have someone take this column over. It makes great reading! PLEASE! There must be a curmudgeon out there!*

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NEVER HAD,  
THEN YOU'VE  
GOT TO DO  
SOMETHING YOU'VE  
NEVER DONE.

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From the West RVW Bridge or 9G take Rt 23 to the 9H intersection and either go North to School House Rd and to Churchtown Firehouse or go through the light and take Bells Pond Road to the Firehouse. From the North or from Hudson go south on 9H from the traffic light in Claverack to County Route 27 and to the Firehouse.

Park in the lot to the right of the Firehouse and enter through the Main Entrance. Someone will be listening to the repeater and will help you if need be.

“FIREHOUSE” is indicated on the right side of the map.

### The Amateur's Code

Originally written by Paul M. Segal, W9EEA (1928)

The Radio Amateur is:

#### CONSIDERATE

Never knowingly operating in such a way as to lessen the pleasure of others.

#### LOYAL

Offering loyalty, encouragement and support to other amateurs, local clubs and the American Radio Relay League, through which Amateur Radio in the United States is represented nationally and internationally.

#### PROGRESSIVE

With knowledge abreast of science, a well built and efficient station and operation beyond reproach.

#### FRIENDLY

With slow and patient operation when requested, friendly advice and counsel to the beginner, kindly assistance, co-operation and consideration for the interests of others. These are the hallmarks of the amateur spirit.

#### BALANCED

Radio is an avocation, never interfering with duties owed to family, job, school or community.

#### PATRIOTIC

With station and skill always ready for service to country and community





**"KC2PWO finally says Yes to N2JVE.  
They will be Married on Sept 14,2013  
at Christian Community Church out-  
side of Kinderhook at High Noon!!"**

## 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

**If your ad is no longer valid please let me know.**

## FOR SALE

For the news letter

Anyone interested in this package.

MFJ 962 tuner  
Ten-Tek HF rig  
Forty foot crank up tower  
CDR rotor & cable  
Coax cable  
Tri Beam Ant

You have to take it down  
Price total-----\$550.00

Wa2uyy  
Ron Coons Sr.  
518-945-3731

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INSURED  
TOWER CLIMBER  
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ANTENNAS - FEED LINES  
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CALL  
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518-965-9299**

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## 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

I have about 16 -120 volt pan cake fans plus protective guards if you know of any one 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

I have a new recently purchased in box, never used: KT 100 auto tuner. This tuner is for Kenwood 'newer' rig's via antenna connection.

I Would like to swap/exchange either or auto tuner with SO239 connectors, or else trade this tuner for a HT or mobile 2, or 2/440 FM rig of compatible cost. This KT-100 was \$199.99 s+h added. This antenna Tuner is Kenwood Only!

I purchased this tuner for a Kenwood TS440S..Not knowing it was not adaptable, for easy operation. I 'decided' I did not wish to pursue 're inventing' any other recourse in making tuner work for my TS440S. So.. I now wish to 'trade' this new KT-100 tuner, as it isn't 'needed' at this time for my personal usage. If this is acceptable for listing with our club rvwars, I'd like to recommend this item for possible 'trade/exchange' resource. thank you. vy 73!-ke2eb george call. 518-731-9854