

# GOODY/PIZZA FEST!

DEC 17, at the Club House

Bring your Family and Friends!

Happy  
Birthday

Russ-W2FSL  
Tom-N2NZD  
Bob-W2QDUW

D  
U  
E  
S



GOD BLESS  
AMERICA



Please join us on the Tuesday nightnet and Roundtable  
On 147.210 and the 75 Meter Net on Thursday Nights.  
ALL are welcome!

WELCOME NEW MEMBER  
MIKE SEIFE, K2AVX  
From Catskill

A  
R  
E  
D  
U  
E

Dues for 2008

Mail to:

Stan Engel, WA2UET  
PO Box 153

Ghent, NY 12075

Or bring with you to meeting

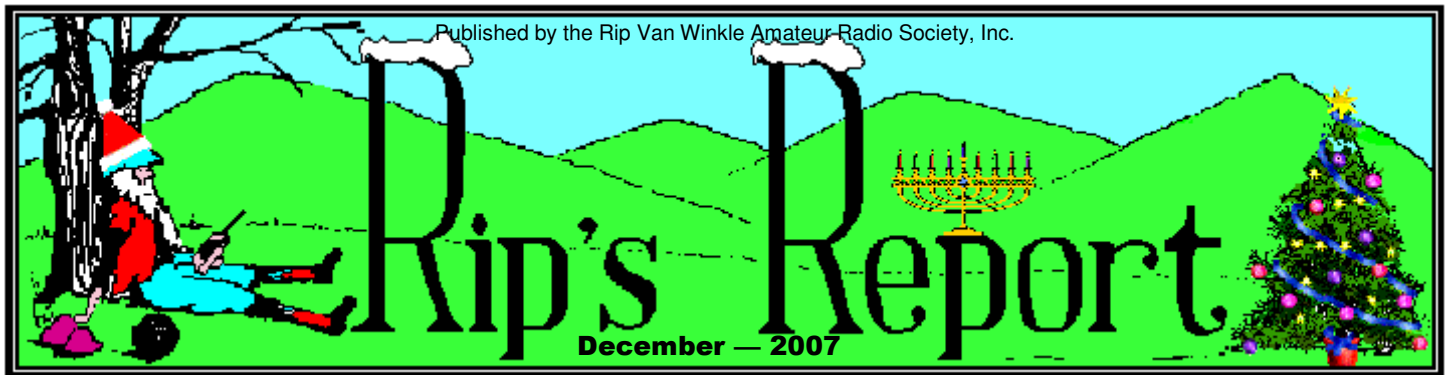


Meeting  
Dec 17  
7:00 PM

Noecker  
"Club House"  
Talk-in 147.21

Go to <http://www.w2fsl.com> for more information if you have a problem with this form or  
if you have any questions, e-mail [stan@w2fsl.com](mailto:stan@w2fsl.com)

Any problems or suggestions, we want to hear from you.  
Thanks



## It's 'Goodie Fest' Time!

It's December and Holiday time once again — and that means that it's time for all “Rippers,” their spouses, spouses and SO's (Significant others) to join together at the RVWARS Clubhouse for our annual “Goodie Fest!”

Traditionally, the ‘Goodie Fest’ has featured high calorie sugary goodies in the desert class of foodstuffs, but this year, in a departure from tradition, Rip is going to dig into his spare change and provide pizzas and soda for the multitudes! Rumor has it that there will be plain, pepperoni, sausage and the “works” pizza to choose from and an assortment of sodas to choose from. Of course, there will also be coffee.

That doesn't mean the high calorie sugary goodies have to be ignored. Rip (and many others) would be pleased to have everyone bring the usual goodies to satisfy everyone's sweet tooth!

The festivities will take place at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, December 17th at the RVWARS Clubhouse at the corner of Graham Ave. and Route 66, Hudson. There will be the usual Talk-in on the RVWARS 147.21 repeater.

Invite a friend who might have an interest in Ham Radio. Our friends in TARA land, (The “Evil Empire”) as well as other neighboring Ham Clubs, are also invited to join in in the festivities.

**Happy Holidays!**

## Greetings and Thoughts From The Club's VP

Hello to everyone from Steve Walsh, W2SXX, your club VP. I just wanted to wish everyone a Happy Holiday season and hope everyone is safe on the road while traveling this holiday season.

I would like to share a few of my thoughts with you. I've been in close contact with Tom - N2NZD the RVWARS president, and brainstorming various ideas. It is a difficult task and I don't want to step on anyone's toes. I want to keep the communication lines open with everyone and not have things a big secret. I have just started working on e-mails and trying to generate feedback from the group as well as from perspective new recruits on what they would like to see within the club and the future of the club

Whether with activities, events, recruitment, etc. to stir up some renewed interest and participation among the members and to generate an interest from others who may or may not be hams.

Many of you have different tastes and opinions on what you like or dislike. Some like to take more of a social stance as far as club involvement is concerned and some like to actively participate in various activities. I would like to actively participate and exercise the office for which elected and work with you to

*(Continued on Page 2)*

## Constitution & By-Laws to be Amended

A Committee was appointed at the November RVWARS meeting to study the Club's Constitution and By-Laws and suggest several fixes and changes to bring the document up to date.

The committee consisted of Dave, WA2FTI, retiring President; Shelly, AA2Y, Secretary; and Stan, WA2UET, Treasurer.

The Committee met in person and online and discovered that there were several versions of the Constitution in print and online. Unfortunately, none of them were exactly the same.

The Committee consolidated all of the versions into one and then tackled a few other problems. The proposed Constitution and By-Laws is printed in this Newsletter on pages 3 and 4. Please read it carefully. The vote to amend the document will be held at the December meeting. This will be the official announcement to the membership about the upcoming vote. Only paid up members may vote.



## Upcoming Events

**Dec. 17 — 7:00 p.m.** RVWARS Meeting. "Goodie Fest". "Clubhouse" Corner of Graham & Rt 66, Hudson

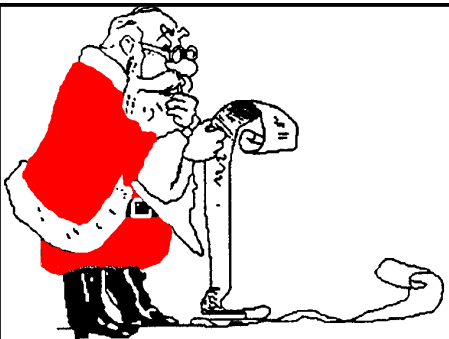
**Jan. 7, 2008 — 7:00 p.m.** RACES/ARES Meeting at the Clubhouse, Corner of Graham & Rt 66, Hudson

**Jan. 21 — 7:00 p.m.** RVWARS Meeting at the Clubhouse. Corner of Graham & Rt 66, Hudson

### RVWARS Wee4kly Nets

**Tuesday — 7:00 p.m.**  
ARES/RACES Emergency Training Net. 147.21 Repeater  
**Tuesday — (After the Net)**  
Round Table Discussion  
147.21 Repeater

**Thursday — 7:00 p.m.**  
ARES/RACES Emergency Training Net: 3.980 LSB



...and a new Rig for....

#### Rip Van Winkle Amateur Radio Society VITAL STATISTICS

President — Tom Gutierrez N2NZD  
Vice President — Steve Walsh W2SXX  
Secretary — Shelly Evans AA2Y  
Treasurer — Stan Engel WA2UET  
Historian — Stan Engel WA2UET  
Safety Officer — Stan Engel WA2UET  
Newsletter — David Clapper WA2FTI  
E-mail — dclapper@mhccable.com  
Repeaters — 147.21 224.280 449.925  
Club Call — Kilo 2 Rip Van Winkle  
Web Page — <http://www.rvwars.com>  
RVWARS E-mail — wa2uet@taconic.net

## SkyWarn Class Presented at November Meeting



Photo by John, W2JSN



A good crowd of about 20 people gathered at the RVWARS Clubhouse for the November Meeting and the SKYWARN class that followed a short business meeting. Several non-hams attended for the SKY-WARN class and were welcomed by RVWARS President, Tom, N2NZD.

(Continued from Page 1)

### Greetings and Thoughts From the Club's VP

bring you what you want in a club. Of course we cannot please everyone but we can make it as friendly as possible and try our best to accommodate the group as a whole but not re-invent the wheel. Tom and myself have been floating ideas around and like to present some of these to you such as:

- Quarterly Foxhunts.
- Recruiting drives at the local schools and other locations and events.
- Technical presentation at monthly meetings "Kit building technics, Antennas, Echolink demo, Net operations, etc"
- Campouts and Portable Operations.
- Emergency communication training and net control station operations
- Contesting

These are just a few things but also like to see some feedback from you. There is a host of many more things as well plus I look to educate

myself on the interest of the group as a whole and to get to know some of you better who I may not have met personally or spoke with. Even though the holidays are here, it is not too early to look too the spring and summer and begin planning now. In the late spring we have a swap/flea market that we do. Field Day in late June, as well as a host of other activities. Other clubs ask us if any of our members can help at their events or in return we can host activities and invite other groups or clubs to participate in ours. I also recently sent out an e-mail to some members of the club looking for input of their thoughts and ideas and their interest in the club. I didn't have a complete e-mail list but will try to reach out to everyone in someway or fashion. These are some of my thoughts and I look forward to hearing from each and everyone of you. Have a good one and again Happy Holidays.  
73, Steve W2SXX  
w2sxx@yahoo.com

This is a proposed amendment to the Constitution and By-Laws of The Rip Van Winkle Amateur Radio Society, Inc. to be voted on at the December meeting. Please read this carefully! All changes are indicated in the left column.

Constitution and By-Laws  
of  
The Rip Van Winkle Amateur Radio Society, Inc.  
As Amended [December 20, 2005]

Change date of  
Amendment

**Preamble:**

We, the undersigned, wishing to secure for ourselves the pleasures and benefits of an association of persons commonly interested in Amateur Radio, constitute ourselves as The Rip Van Winkle Amateur Radio Society, Inc. and enact this constitution as our governing law. It shall be our purpose to further the exchange of information and cooperation between members, to promote radio knowledge, fraternalism and individual operating efficiency, and to so conduct club programs and activities as to advance the general interest and welfare of Amateur Radio in the community.

**Membership: Article I**

All persons interested in Amateur Radio communications shall be eligible for membership. Membership shall be by application and election upon such terms as the club shall provide in its By-Laws.

**Officers: Article II**

**Sec. 1.** The officers of this club shall be President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Historian and Safety Officer.

**Sec. 2.** The officers of this club shall be elected for a term of Two years by ballot of the members present, [provided there be a quorum,] at the [annual] meeting in [December.]

**Sec. 3.** Vacancies occurring between elections must be filled by special elections at the first regular meeting following the withdrawal or resignation.

**Sec. 4.** Officers may be removed by a three-fourths vote of the membership.

**Duties of Officers: Article III**

**Sec. 1.** The President shall preside at all meetings, and conduct them according to the rules adopted. He/she shall enforce due observance of this Constitution and By-Laws; decide all questions of order; sign all official documents adopted by the club, and perform all other duties pertaining to the office of President.

**Sec. 2.** The Vice-President shall assume all the duties of the President in his/her absence. In addition, he/she shall organize club activities, plan and recommend contests for operating benefits, and advance club interest and activity as approved by the club. He/she shall maintain close liaison with the ARRL Section Emergency Coordinator to further club participation in the Amateur Radio Emergency Service.

**Sec. 3.** The Secretary shall keep a record of the proceedings of all meetings, keep a roll of members, submit membership applications, carry on all correspondence, read communications at each meeting, and mail written meeting notices to each member. At the expiration of his/her term he/she shall turn over all items belonging to the club to his/her successor.

**Sec. 4.** The Treasurer shall receive and receipt for all monies paid to the club; keep an accurate account of all monies received and expended; pay no bills without proper authorization (by the club or its officers constituting a business committee). At [regular meetings] he/she shall submit an itemized statement of disbursements and receipts. At the end of his/her term he/she shall turn over everything in his/her possession belonging to the club to his/her successor.

**Sec. 5.** The Historian shall keep all past records, photographs, newspaper clippings, etc. that pertain to the club and its activities and archive them in such a way that the ongoing history of the club can be made available to those interested in researching it. At the end of his/her term he/she shall turn over everything in his/her possession belonging to the club to his/her successor.

**Sec. 6.** The Safety Officer shall develop and implement on-site safety rules and procedures based mainly on common sense, conduct on-site investigations of accidents or incidents regardless of severity and prepare a report and recommendations for necessary changes, monitor and inspect any equipment that could be hazardous and make sure that no one uses any equipment considered unsafe, and attend any club activities where there are any safety issues. At the end of his/her term he/she shall turn over everything in his/her possession belonging to the club to his/her successor.

Delete text in  
brackets,  
Change month to  
"December"

Change from  
"Quarterly" to  
"regular meetings"

**Meetings: Article IV**

The By-Laws shall provide for regular and special meetings. [At meetings, a minimum of one-third of the membership shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.]

*Delete all in brackets*

**Dues: Article V**

The club, by majority vote of those present at any regular meeting, may levy upon the general membership such dues or assessments as [may] be deemed necessary for the business of the organization. Non-payment of such dues or assessments [may] be cause for expulsion from the club within the discretion of the membership.

*Change "shall" to "may"*

**Membership Assistance: Article VI**

The club, through designated Interference, Public Relations, and Operating Committees will provide technical advice to members concerning equipment design and operation to assist in frequency observation, clean signals, uniform practice, and absence of spurious radiations from club member-stations. The club shall also maintain a program to foster and guide public relations.

**Amendments: Article VII**

This constitution or By-Laws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the total membership. Proposals for amendments shall be submitted in writing at a regular meeting and shall be voted on at the next following regular meeting, provided all members have been notified by [email and by regular mail for those that do not have email capabilities] of the intent to amend the Constitution and/or By-Laws at said meeting.

*Add wording in brackets*

Roberts Rules shall govern proceedings.

This Constitution and By-Laws shall supersede and replace any other Constitution and By-Laws drawn up at an earlier date.

**By-Laws:**

**1. Secretary.** It shall be the duty of the Secretary to keep the constitution and By-Laws of the club and have the same with him/her at every meeting. He/she shall note all amendments, changes and additions on the constitution and shall permit it to be consulted by members upon request.

*Add wording in brackets*

**2. Membership.** Full membership is open to licensed amateurs [with their dues paid for the current year.] Associate membership is open to those actively engaged in a class leading to an Amateur Radio license and all other interested persons. Full membership includes all club privileges as well as rights to hold a club office and to vote for club officers. Associate membership includes all club privileges except for the right to hold office and vote for club officers. Applications for membership shall be submitted at regular meetings.

**3. Meetings.**

**A.** Regular meetings shall be held on the third (3rd) Monday of each calendar month. Special meetings may be called by the President upon the written request of any five club members. Notices shall be sent to members concerning special meetings and the business to be transacted. Only such business as designated shall be transacted. Such notices shall be sent so that they arrive not less than 24 hours before the meeting.

*Change "October" to "January"*

**B.** The annual meeting of the Corporation shall be held on the third (3rd) Monday of [January] concurrent with the regular meeting. Election of Officers shall take place at the [December] meeting.

*Change "October" to "December"*

**4. Dues.** [The Dues Structure is: **A.** Single Member, \$15 per year. **B.** Family Membership, \$20 per year. **C.** Student Member, \$5 per year until he/she graduates. **D.** Any unlicensed member of a RVWARS sponsored License Class who successfully passes the VE exam shall be awarded a free one year membership in RVWARS for the balance of the current year and the following year. **E.** New members joining the club after April 1st will be consider paid up for the balance of the current year and the following year. Membership is from January 1st to December 31st. Members that pay dues after April 1st will be paying for the following year and will not have full membership privileges for the current year.]

*Replace original paragraph with new.*

**[5. Technical Committee.** This committee shall consist of members appointed by the club President. This will be a technical support group for helping club members deal with problems that they might not fully understand or have the necessary test equipment to correct the problem.]

*New Tech. Committee*

**6. [Repeater Committee.]** This committee shall consist of members appointed by the club President. The committee is responsible for maintaining the repeaters and associated equipment located at the repeater site.

*Renaming of the former Technical Committee to create a Repeater Committee*

**7. Education Committee.** This committee shall consist of members appointed by the club President. The committee is responsible for scheduling and teaching the club sponsored classes.

**8. Other Committees.** Other committees may be appointed by the club President as the need arises.