

**FIELD DAY JUNE 23-24**

**WEB SITE: WWW.RVWARS.COM**

**Packet BBS N2LDR-1 223.440**



*Happy  
Birthday*

**Bob-KB2SOJ  
Greg-KC2FRW  
Glen-WB2FOB  
Carl-WB2TCV**

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**GOD BLESS  
AMERICA**

Please join us on the Tuesday night nets, 2M and 75M  
ALL are welcome!

**PACKET BBS  
"K2RVW-1"  
ON 145.030—Try it!**

**Dues for 2008**  
Mail to:  
Stan Engel, WA2UET  
PO Box 153  
Ghent, NY 12075  
Or bring with you to meeting

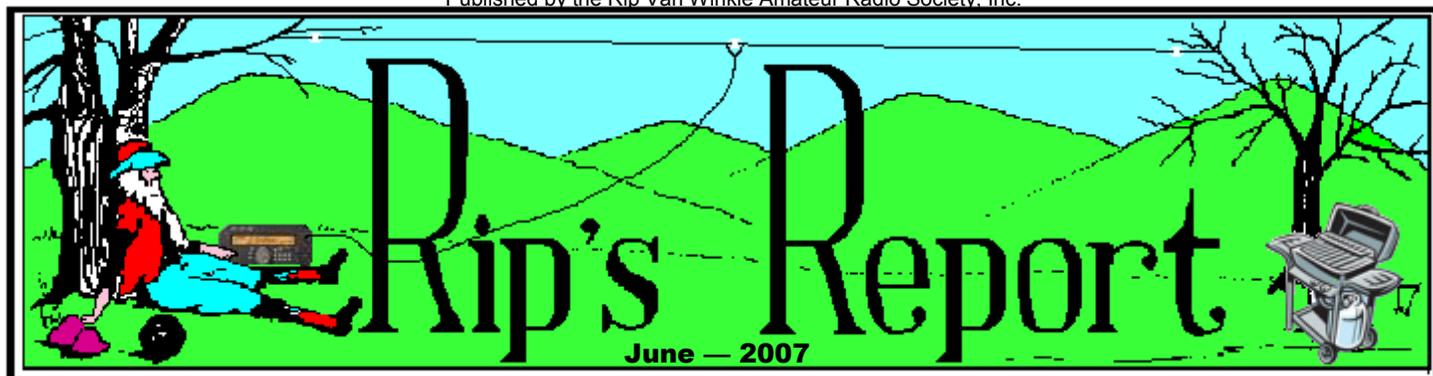


**AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY**



**Meeting  
June 18  
7:00 PM  
FD Plans!  
Noecker  
"Club House"  
Talk-in 147.09**

As always PLEASE let us know if you have a problem with this News-  
letter. My email address is: wa2uet@taconic.net  
  
Any problems or suggestions are more than welcome.  
Thanks



# Field Day 2007

Field Day 2007 is set for the weekend of June 23-24 at the Claverack Town Park. Carl, WB2TCV, and Tom, N2NZD, are the guys in charge of getting the operation up and running for the RVWARS version of the annual 24 hour contest.

Field Day has been part of the Amateur Radio scene for 74 years. Local hams have probably participated for same period of time. Documents in the RVWARS archive tell of various locations and equipment. There are pictures of some of the more recent Field Days.

Field Day has always had the emphasis of operating under emergency conditions using generators or batteries for power.

The RVWARS Field Day will demonstrate these

conditions by going a step further. Several RACES/ARES members will set up their "Go Kit" QRP stations at the Field Day site and will take turns operating for an hour at a time.

RVWARS has planned to operate Field Day in the 3A category: 1 phone station, 1 CW station, 1 "special" station. The Novice GOTA station may be set up this year.

Final plans for Field Day will be discussed at the June 18th meeting to be held at the 'Clubhouse' at Noecker's, Hudson.

Plan to attend this meeting and plan to participate in Field Day.

This event is one of the most "pure" Ham radio activities that anyone can experience!



## Girl Scouts Enroll in Spring Tech Course

The Spring term of the RVWARS Technician Class Course got under way on Wednesday, May 16 at the 'Clubhouse' with Marty, N2LDR, the Club's Education Chairman, as the lead instructor.

After the successful Boy Scout class it is now the Girl Scouts' turn as Troop 8 of Ghent has registered and several girls and their adult leader are looking forward to gaining their Technician license.

Helping out Marty with the instructional duties are Bob, WB2DUW; Dana, N2KN and John, N2JSN. Other RVWARS members will be called upon from time to time to present certain topics and projects.

The class will be constructing simple circuits and building antennas.

## MS Walk-a-thon

Stan, WA2UET; Bob, WB2DUW; Jim, KC2OGK; Fred, WA2MMX; Tom, N2NZD; Bernie, KC2RHV; and Tom, WE2G, participated in the MS Walk-a-thon on Sunday, May 13.

The net was run on 147.57 simplex with the 147.21 auto-patch ready for any possible 911 emergencies. Thankfully the event went smoothly and there were no emergencies. However we did test the auto-patch into the 911 center and it worked perfectly.

*Tom, N2NZD, Col. Cty EC*





## Upcoming Events

**June 4 — 7:00 p.m. ARES/RACES Meeting, Clubhouse**

**June 6, 13, 20, 27 — 7:00 p.m. Tech Class, Clubhouse**

**June 18 — 7:00 p.m. RVWARS Meeting, Clubhouse. Final plans for Field Day**

**June 23-24 — 2:00 p.m.-2:00 p.m. FIELD DAY Claverack Town Park**

**No RVWARS Meetings During July and August.**

**August 5 — 11:00 a.m. 'til —? Annual RVWARS Family Picnic at the Claverack Town Park, Philmont**

## RVWARS Weekly Nets

**The Nets Continue Throughout the Summer!**

**Tuesday — 7:00 p.m. ARES/RACES Emergency Training Net. 147.21 Repeater**

**Tuesday — 7:30 p.m. ARES/RACES Emergency Training Net: 3.980 LSB**

### Rip Van Winkle Amateur Radio Society VITAL STATISTICS

President — David Clapper WA2FTI  
Vice President — Tom Gutierrez N2NZD  
Secretary — Shelly Evans AA2Y  
Treasurer — Stan Engel WA2UET  
Historian — Stan Engel WA2UET  
Safety Officer — Stan Engel WA2UET  
Newsletter — David Clapper WA2FTI  
E-mail — dclapper@mhicable.com  
Repeaters — 147.21 224.280 449.925  
Club Call — Kilo 2 Rip Van Winkle  
Web Page — <http://www.rvwars.com>  
RVWARS E-mail — [wa2fti@yahoo.com](mailto:wa2fti@yahoo.com)  
<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/RVWARS/>

## RVWARS History . . . Hudson Ham, W2BM Was a 'Pioneer'

Recently, while doing research on another project at Columbia Greene Community College, Georgette Turner, XYL of Bob, WB2DUW, came across the article, pictured at the right, printed in the Wednesday, October 10, 1962, issue of the *Hudson Register-Star* now on microfilm roll number 192.

Several RVWARS members will remember Silent Key Earl Hermance, W2BM, as he operated from his State Street, Hudson, home. Using a home brew 6L6 rig and war surplus equipment, Earl was heard and worked world-wide.

Georgette transcribed the article as follows:

### City 'Ham' To Be Honored In NYC

Earl Hermance of 523 State St. Hudson, will be among 70 early radio pioneers being honored at a dinner Saturday at the Statler-Hilton Hotel in New York City.

It celebrates the 50th anniversary of the issuance of amateur radio licenses by the U.S. government.

The Hudson man is a holder of an original 1912 license.

Prior to 1912, anyone who could acquire sufficient knowledge and equipment to set up a station was "on the air." Commercial, government and amateur stations were similarly equipped and used the same frequencies with the result that conditions were chaotic.

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On Aug. 13, 1912, the 62nd U. S. Congress passed the Radio Act of 1912, which was the first domestic general registration of radio communication and provided for federal licensing. It is this legislation which initiated the existence of the federally licensed radio amateur of today.

Sponsoring organizations include the Hudson Amateur Radio Council, American Radio Relay League, Single Sideband Amateur Radio Association, Institute of Radio Engineers, Quarter Century Wireless Association, Armed Forces Communications, Electronics Association and Radio Club of America.

The principal speaker at the banquet will be Herbert Hoover Jr., long a prominent amateur radio operator and president of the nationwide organization of radio amateurs. A representative of the Federal Communications Commission, present licensing body of the U. S. government, will share the date with representatives of each of the sponsoring units.

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# Hallicrafters S-38: 60 years of service!

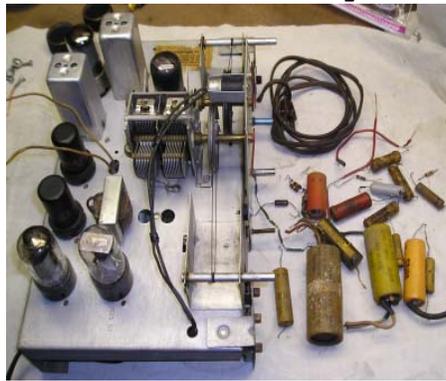
By Carl J, Verderber WA2UJX

After a recent RVWARS Club meeting, I was asked to look at a receiver that the owner purchased new with paper route money back in 1946 or '47. This caught my attention because I never had my hands on a receiver that old with a single owner history. The owner said he cherished listening to this receiver and lately (and probably for the last 20 years) it had a hum and needed a tune-up. Well of course I said yes! I told him I would get that rig running correctly. I put it in the car and couldn't wait to get my hands on it.

That was my first encounter with an "Authentic" 6 tube first version of the famous S-38 receiver. It receives from 540Khz to 30Mhz in 4 bands. I own "A" and "B" versions plus I have repaired a "C" version within the last 15 years but they pale in comparison to the original because all A through D versions do not have a true Beat Frequency Oscillator (BFO) circuit. For cost reduction, the BFO was changed to a regenerative Intermediate Frequency (IF) function and sets of this type have only 5 tubes.

Plugging the set in confirmed a loud hum coming from the speaker. Also, station tracking in the Broadcast (BC) band was not correct. After disassembly, a good inspection of the main chassis and cabinet showed nearly perfect but very dusty parts.

After a good soap and water wash for the chassis, cabinet and knobs, I started replacing dial cords, AC power cord, chassis isolation grommets, most of the tubular capacitors and 6 resistors.



Tubes were tested with all showing good emission. The chassis and other parts were as bright and shiny as when they were new. Taking the built-in speaker off the cabinet exposed a 1 inch thick 60 year old dust mat which, when removed, displayed a perfect cone.

455Khz IF alignment was made quickly but BC band tracking proved to take a little longer. The three other High Frequency (HF) bands finally came into specification after tweaking the end plate of the main tuning cap. Connecting a long wire antenna to the terminal made me smile. I heard familiar voices on the 75M and 160M AM, and at the correct point on the dial. BC band and bands 3 and 4 were also terrific. But during BFO testing and alignment, things fell short. There was not enough oscillator injection in the IF which failed to produce good CW and SSB signals. I went over the schematic and verified that the original BFO circuit was "correct to print" but wasn't working. Taking a chance I moved the injection point from the detector anode to the input of the second IF stage. Wow! It worked great! CW was clear as a bell and SSB was easily tuned.

I'll never know if I solved a problem that the Hallicrafters Engineering Department was not aware of or if this particular set needed this modification. I'll never know because I'm 60 years too late!

As with any AC/DC radio, like the S-38 series of receivers, caution **MUST** be used when using the unit. Because the radio is powered directly from the AC wall outlet, the chassis can be at 120 VAC potential. Directly grounding the chassis can blow the circuit breaker on that line and cause damage to the radio – as well as yourself. Also, rubber "Isolation Grommets" were used to isolate the chassis from the cabinet. If the grommets have degraded and have not been replaced, the cabinet can become a shock hazard! The safest way to use a set of this design is to power it through an Isolation Transformer (a simple 1:1 ratio transformer whose output voltage duplicates its input voltage).

Looking at the first picture, I still can't figure out how I replaced so many parts in such a small set. The second picture is the radio and it's owner W2JSN (John Noecker), happy together and hopeful for another 60 years of successful listening.



## New Technician Class Course Underway

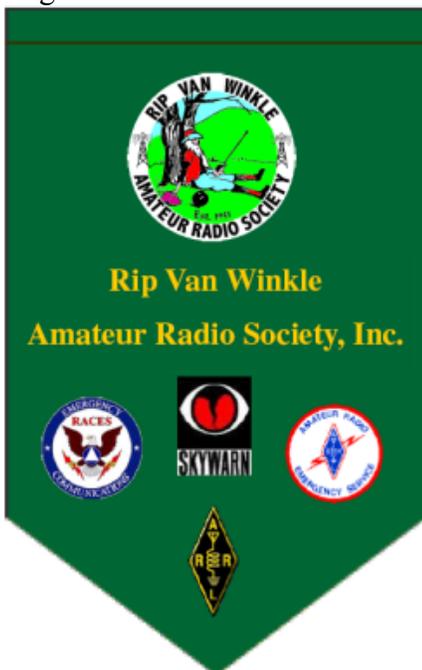


Education Chairman and instructor Marty Miller, N2LDR, rings the bell to mark the start of the Spring Session of the RVWARS Technician Class Course. We're pleased to report that Girl Scouts and their Adult Leader have joined the class and will soon join the recent Boy Scout graduates as new Hams.

*Photos by John, W2JSN*

## New Banner Proposed For Public Events

A new Banner that would be displayed whenever RVWARS participated in public events has been suggested. The accompanying picture shows one idea as to how the banner might look. Input from the members with design ideas is requested. Send an email to [dclapper@mhccable.com](mailto:dclapper@mhccable.com). Include a drawing or description of your design.



## RVWARS buys IC-706 For EmCom EOC

Rip has a new rig! The RVWARS members voted at the May 21st meeting to purchase a used IC-706 for use at the EmCom (911 Center) EOC.



Stan received the rig the next day and reported that "It looks great! It has the Nomic interface and a nice large keypad and I think it has the DSP unit installed and also a "tune" device that plugs in the back and a homebrew computer interface and powerpole connector. A very nice package."

It has been suggested that we give the rig a try-out at the upcoming Field Day. The '706' series represents one of the most popular transceivers in amateur radio history. It's an all-mode transceiver providing 100 watts on HF and 6 meters and 50 watts on 2 meters.

## Repeater 911 function For Columbia/Greene

Users of the 147.21 repeater should be aware that the 911 auto-patch should only be used within Columbia and Greene Counties.

There has been some confusion about that lately and Repeater Chairman Bob, WB2DUW, asks that it be used only in emergencies when land-line and cell phone service isn't available. If it is used, remember that the communication is simplex, and to identify yourself by name and call sign.

**16th ANNUAL  
HAMFEST**  
Southern Berkshire A.R.C.  
Goshen, CT Fairgrounds  
150 Old Middle St., Goshen, CT  
**Sat., June 16**  
8:00 a.m. — 1:00 p.m.  
**Admission \$3**  
**VE Session at 9:30 a.m.**