

DUES ARE DUE!!!

WEB SITE: WWW.RVWARS.COM-UP AND RUNNING AGAIN!

Packet BBS N2LDR-1 223.440

*Happy
Birthday*

Shelly-AA2Y
Jackie-KA2GAD
Dave-N2CHI
Bob-N2KAC

Scott-N2VHJ
Fred-WA2MMX
Ron-WA2UYY
Frank-WB2T



**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!**

2007 DUES

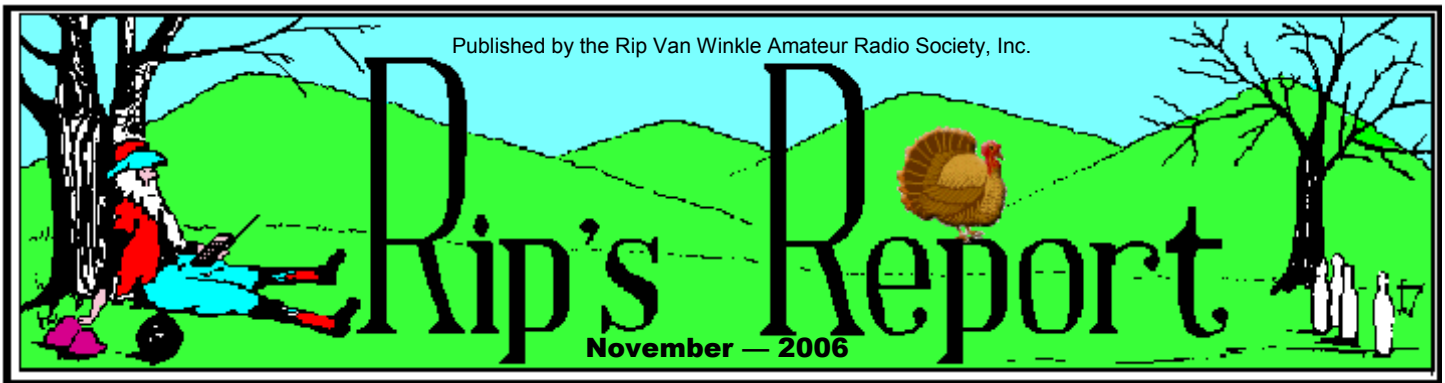
Mail to:
Stan Engel, WA2UET
PO Box 153
Ghent, NY 12075
Or bring with you to meeting

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

AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY

**Meeting
Nov 20
7:00 PM
Noecker
"Club House"
Talk-in 147.21**



November Meeting, SkyWarn Training At Noecker's

The November 20th RVWARS meeting will be held at the Noecker's "Club House". SkyWarn training will be given following the meeting.

RVWARS has received a donation of five 8' collapsible tables from the Athens Reformed Church. The church had listed the tables on the Columbia County FreeCycle forum that gives people a place to post items that are available for free. <http://finance.groups.yahoo.com/group/columbiacountyfreecycle/>

The tables were repaired and "spruced up" by Noecker employees. Our thanks to both the Athens Reformed Church and the guys at Noecker's for our "new" tables.

The chairs were bought from the East Chatham Grange and we extend our thanks to them.

If you haven't paid your dues for the new RVWARS year, Stan will be happy to relieve you of \$15 for an individual or \$20 for a family membership.

The SkyWarn training will be the advanced class which assumes that you have had the basic SkyWarn training. Since the SkyWarn class is open to the general public, there will be quite a few non-hams present. Make them welcome and talk up Ham Radio!

RVWARS Receives 501(c)(3) Tax Exempt Status

RVWARS has received notification from the IRS stating that "We are pleased to inform you that upon review of your application for tax exempt status we have determined that you are exempt from Federal Income tax under section 501 (c)(3) of the internal revenue code."

Now that the Club has been granted this status we can apply for grants and solicit large donations for the ARES/RACES EmComm Trailer.

Bob, WB2DUW, RACES RO, said "The recent acceptance of our tax exempt status (501(c)(3)) has opened a whole new way that RWVARS, ARES, and RACES will be operating!

We are now in a position to actively seek funds from lenders to support our activities and projects.

This means that we will be able to fund the large projects which we otherwise would not have been able to do without the 501(c)(3). Hopefully we should be able to start seeking out lenders who will support our projects before the end of this year."

The ARES/RACES meeting on Nov. 6 will give a quick review and status report on the EmComm Trailer project, GO KITS, Vests, and more...

New Batteries Installed at Repeater Site

The old "stand-by" batteries at the RVWARS repeater site were reported as dead at the September Repeater Work Day. Recently, Bob WB2DUW and Stan WA2UET installed two new deep-cycle batteries that will keep our repeaters on the air if (and when!) the commercial AC power fails.

While the batteries won't power the equipment for a long power outage, they will suffice until a portable generator can be brought to the site.

The Cavities in the 2-meter repeater's transmission line were brought down for recalibration. Upon testing the output of the repeater it was discovered that the 15 watts out of the transmitter had dropped to 7.5 watts at the output of the cavities! In the meantime, a spare set of cavities are being used. Some problems may appear on the repeater until the old "cans" can be tuned up and put back in service.

A picture showing the canisters in the repeater building appears on page 2 of this Newsletter.





Upcoming Events

Nov. 20 - 7:00 p.m. RVWARS Meeting, Noecker's Showroom, Rt. 66 & Graham Ave., Hudson
SkyWarn Training

Dec. 4 - 7:00 p.m. ARES/RACES Meeting, Noecker's Showroom, Rt. 66 & Graham Ave., Hudson

Dec. 18 - 7:00 p.m. RVWARS Meeting, Noecker's Showroom, Rt. 66 & Graham Ave., Hudson
Annual "Goodie Fest"



RVWARS Weekly Nets

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

Tuesday — 7:30 p.m.
ARES/RACES Emergency Training Net: 3.977 LSB

Thursday — 7:00 p.m.
Packet Net. 224.280 Repeater and 223.440 Simplex.

**DUES
are
DUE!**

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://wa2fti.tripod.com/rvwars.html>
RVWARS E-mail — wa2fti@yahoo.com
<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/RVWARS/>

DE WA2FTI

Many years ago when most of us were a lot younger and prone to make funny mistakes... most often on the air with quite a few club members listening... a few of us got together and created a special award to honor the "stupid" mistake. This was, of course, done with tongues firmly planted in our cheeks. As it turned out, the award name was rather impolite and not one to bring up before mixed company. Some of us have decided to bring back the award (with a more politically correct name) because we have discovered that growing older doesn't guarantee that we won't make stupid, boneheaded mistakes. So, be aware that you too may be the recipient of a "Bonehead Award" for some silly, stupid, careless, boneheaded goof-up action that has brought all of us some joy and glee that it wasn't us who goofed up. This time!

Repeater Canisters



This picture shows the canisters (the 3 brass tubes at the bottom) that required tuning.

American Red Cross Wants Personal Information On HAM Volunteers

If you plan to volunteer your communications services to the American Red Cross, be aware that the organization wants to know everything about you. It even wants to know about your personal finances and that has the ARRL warning hams to be careful of what information you provide.

The American Radio Relay League was among the first to sound the alarm on this one after members involved in emergency communications activities with the Red Cross began questioning the need for extensive background checks for all volunteers.

Volunteers began receiving letters in the last several weeks from Red Cross chapters around the country instructing them if they wished to continue serving, they would have to submit to a mandatory criminal background check by Oct. 31. That deadline has since been moved to the end of December.

The letters directed volunteers to go to the website: www.mybackgroundcheck.com.

While the Red Cross chapter letters insisted there was only interest in whether someone had a criminal background and a valid driver's license, it was the disclosures and instructions on the website that alarmed ham radio operators around the country.

Bob Josuweit, WA3PZO, writes the Public Service column for CQ Magazine.

"There is concern that the background checks that the site is requiring is much more extensive than many county background checks for RACES operation."



DX CALENDAR

This week's bulletin was made possible with information provided by NC1L, QRZ DX, the OPDX Bulletin, DXNL, 425 DX News, The Daily DX, Contest Corral from QST and the ARRL Contest Calendar and WA7BNM web sites. Thanks to all.

TANZANIA, 5H. Giovanni, I5JHW will be QRV as 5H1HW from Zanzibar Island, IOTA AF-032, from November 7 to 22. QSL to home call.

MALDIVES, 8Q. Michele, IK5ZUI is QRV as 8Q7LM for the next year.

ANDORRA, C3. Mike, K9MW will be QRV as C33IU on November 4 and 5. He will be active using 2 meters in the IARU contest, and on 40 meters as well. QSL via G00YH.

ANTARCTICA. Adam, K2ARB is QRV as CE8/K2ARB until November 8. Activity is on 40, 30 and 20 meters CW on his days off. He will also try to check into the Antarctic SSB nets when possible.

NORTH COOK ISLANDS, E5. Bill, N7OU and Bob, W7YAQ will be QRV as E51NOU and E51YAQ, respectively, from Penrhyn Atoll, from November 4 to 18. Activity will be on 80 to 10 meters using mostly CW with some SSB and RTTY. QSL to home calls.

ITALY, I. Members of the Italian Naval Old Rhythmers Club are QRV using only CW as IY1SP/500KCS from Mount Parodi until November 5. This operation marks the first hundred years since the signing of the Berlin International Wireless Telegraphy Convention agreement. QSL via IISAF.

MARIANA ISLANDS, KH0. Look for RZ3AA, UA3AB and RA3AUU to be QRV as KH0/NP2KY, KH0/KB7YHQ and KH0/K3UY from November 5 to 9.

PUERTO RICO, KP4. Rich, KE3Q will be QRV as WP3R in the ARRL CW Sweepstakes.

BELGIUM, ON. UBA Radio Club stations in Belgium may use the ON60

callsign prefix until February 10, 2007 to mark the 60 years of the UBA, the IARU Society for Belgium.

DENMARK, OZ. Norbert, DL1HTW will be QRV as OZ/homecall from Langeland Island, IOTA EU-172, from November 4 to 11. Activity will be on 80 to 10 meters using SSB and SSTV. QSL to home call.

BONAIRE, CURACAO, PJ2. Bob, K0NR is QRV as PJ4/K0NR from Bonaire, IOTA SA-006, until November 9. Activity is on 30 to 6 meters using SSB and PSK31. He will also be active on the various FM OSCAR satellites from grid FK52. QSL to home call.

CORSICA, TK. Kazik, DL2SBY and Tomi, HA4DX are QRV as TK/homecalls from the small village of Sisco until November 11. Activity is on all HF bands using CW, SSB and digital modes. QSL to home calls.

NAMIBIA, V5. Vlad, UA4WHX is QRV as V51VV using CW and SSB. His length of stay is unknown. QSL to home call.

MICRONESIA, V6. Operators JA1KJW, JA1JQY, JI1FOP and JA8VE will be RV as V63JQ, V63JY, V63OP and V63VE, respectively, from Pohnpei Island, IOTA OC-010, from November 7 to 9. QSL to home calls.

BERMUDA, VP9. Paul, G4BKI is QRV as VP9KF using only CW from Hamilton Parish, IOTA NA-005, until November 15.

CAMBODIA, XU. John, KF0RQ is QRV as XU7ACQ until November 28 in his spare time. QSL to home call.

TRISTAN da CUNHA, ZD9. Brian, ZD9BCB is QRV from Gough Island, IOTA AF-030, until September 2007. In addition, Andy, ZD9BV is QRV from Tristan da Cunha, IOTA AF-030, and is normally active starting around 1730z on 20, 17 and 15 meters. QSL direct.

OPERATION APPROVED FOR DXCC CREDIT. The following operation is approved for DXCC credit: Albania, ZA/IK7JWX, operation from July 10 through July 30, 2006.

The K7RA Solar Update



SEATTLE, WA, Nov 3, 2006 -- Sunspot numbers rose over the past few days. Although the average sunspot number for the past reporting week (Thursday through Wednesday) was about the same as for the previous week, the emergence of sunspots 921 and 922 brought the daily sunspot number from October 29 through November 2 to 0, 15, 34, 46 and 59. This number will probably rise through the weekend, when the ARRL November Sweepstakes (CW) takes place.

The increased sunspot numbers may correlate with some activity observed for the past few days on the higher bands. A glance at the Near Realtime Propagation Data site Thursday evening showed that during the day, Asian Far East stations on 10 and 12 meters were hearing and working the XF4DL expedition on Socorro Island (in the Pacific Ocean, roughly 300 miles south of Baja California on roughly the same latitude as Mexico City). Also North American stations were hearing and working E51QMA in the North Cook Islands on 10 and 12 meters.

Heliopause detects a new spot emerging on the far side of our sun. It should rotate to face us in a few days -- around November 7. Why this when we might be only months away from sunspot minimum, predicted to occur some time around April 2007? Attribute it to the many large short term variations we see in solar activity during any cycle.

October is over, and we now know the average sunspot number for the month (14.7) and the average solar flux (74.3).

November Meeting
At
Noecker's Auto Showroom
Graham St/ & Rt. 66
November 20 — 7:00 pm

The Columbia/Greene Emergency Services Net

NET CALL UP

PREAMBLE

1. This is(*your call*)..... Net Control Station calling the Columbia/Greene Emergency Services Net. This Net meets at 1900 hours local time each Tuesday evening for the purpose of emergency training and traffic handling. This is a directed Net. Stations not joining are requested to clear the frequency until the conclusion of the net. - OUT
(Pause 6 seconds)

2. This is(*your call*)... Net Control Station. Stations with traffic other than "routine" please call(*your call*).... And list your traffic at this time. - OVER
(List all Traffic)

3. Stations with or without traffic please call(*your call*).... At this time. - OVER
(List all stations in order of call-in)

4. Appoint an Alternate Net Control Station

5. Order of Business:

- Message Traffic
- General Bulletins and Information
- Check for any other check-ins
- Training
- Informals
- Check for any other check-ins
- Critique
- Close Net

6. On behalf of the Columbia/Greene Emergency Services Net, I want to thank the Rip Van Winkle Amateur Radio Society for the use of the 147.21 repeater, and the Greene County RACES organization for the use of the N2SQW 147.090 repeater, when the 147.21 repeater is not available. This is(*your call*).... Net Control closing the Columbia/Greene Emergency Services Net and returning the frequency to normal amateur use at(*time*).... Hours. - OUT

NOTE: Items in **BLUE** type can be spoken verbatim Items in **BLACK** are procedural.