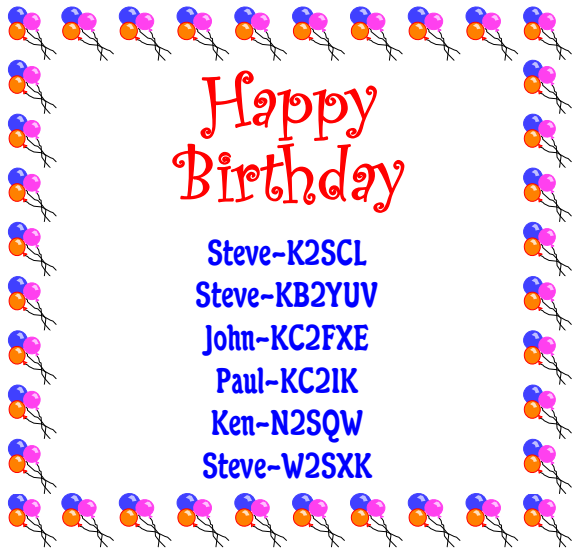


**ELECTIONS THIS MONTH!**

**147.210 ANTENNA IS REPAIRED!!!**

**REPEATER IS BACK TO NORMAL OPERATION**



**Happy Birthday**

- Steve-K2SCL
- Steve-KB2YUV
- John-KC2FXE
- Paul-KC2IK
- Ken-N2SQW
- Steve-W2SXX

**DUES**



**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

**ARE DUES**

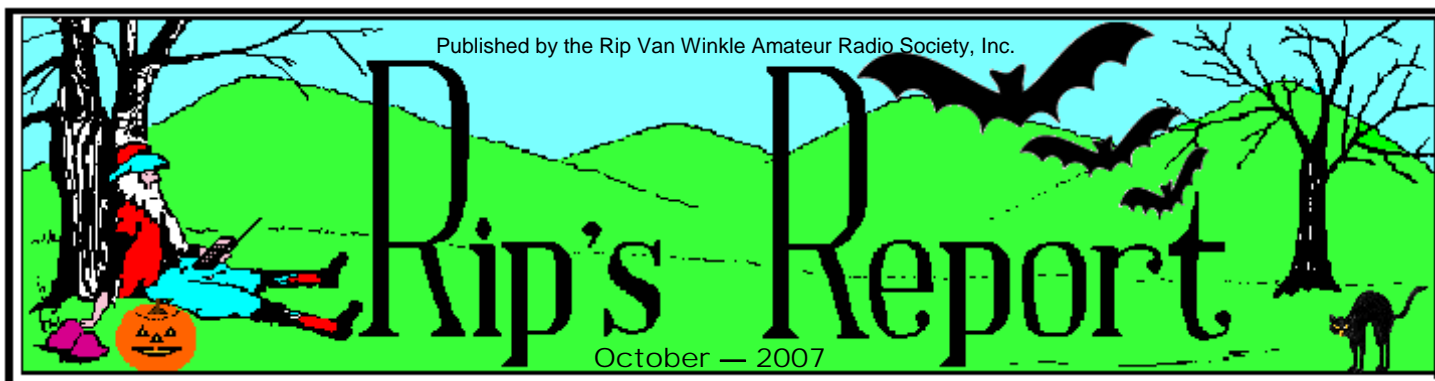


**Meeting  
Oct, 15  
7:00 PM**

**Noecker  
"Club House"  
Talk-in 147.21**

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



## GET READY FOR JOTA

Jamboree on the Air will celebrate its 50th year this year when it gets on the air October 19-21. Normally a 48 hour event, this year's JOTA will be 50 hours long in recognition of the anniversary. The fun begins at 2200 (local time) October 19 and ends at midnight (local time) October 21.

An on-the-air operating event sponsored by the World Scout Bureau, JOTA was founded in 1958 by Les Mitchell, G3BHK. It has grown to become the largest international Scout event. More than half a million Scouts and Guides in more than 100 countries participate in JOTA, involving as many as 10,000 Amateur Radio stations.

The event relies on the Amateur Radio community and local hams for its success. Getting Boy and Girl Scouts (including Cubs and Brownies) on the air to talk with other Scouts around the world provides a great opportunity to expose youth to Amateur Radio. Some troops and clubs team up to make a big splash with lots of activities, radios and antennas, offering a variety of modes to experience. For others, JOTA provides an opportunity to coach a smaller group of Scouts and to just have fun talking on the radio. Scouts usually enjoy communicating by speaking into a microphone, but some radio amateurs are able to provide other modes, such as slow-scan TV or amateur TV,

## October Meeting Next Monday; Election of Officers to be held

### Donations to RVWARS are still Needed

Several RVWARS members have responded to the call for donations to the club, but more donations will help to put RVWARS on a sound basis with enough funds in reserve to meet any unexpected repairs to the repeater site.

The club is faced with ongoing monthly expenses: insurance, electric and telephone bills are covered by Dues and the income from the Annual Auction and other fund raisers such as the recent Tag Sale.

Since RVWARS now has a 501(c)(3) status as a non-profit organization, donations to the club are tax deductible.

satellites, packet radio, RTTY or even EME!

For more information on the 2007 Jamboree on the Air, please visit the ARRL JOTA Web site <<http://www.arrl.org/scouts/jota>> where you can find general rules, suggested exchanges and recommended frequencies. There will also be a place on the ARRL Web site to tell your JOTA stories at <<http://www.arrl.org/scouts/jota/Stories/>>.

The October meeting of the Rip Van Winkle Amateur Radio Society, Inc. will be held at the "Clubhouse" at the corner of Graham Ave. and Rte. 66 next Monday, October 15, at 7:00 p.m. This is also the legally required Annual Meeting of the RVWARS Corporation. Elections of Officers will be held at this meeting.

If you have not paid your Dues be sure to see Stan WA2UET, Treasurer, when you arrive at the meeting to pay your Dues. The recently licensed hams from the two classes of this year are eligible to vote as they have a Complimentary membership.

The Scout Jamboree on the Air (JOTA) scheduled for Saturday, Oct. 20, will be discussed. A station will be set up at the Clubhouse and all Scouts are invited to take part, with and without a Ham License.

As always, the coffee pot will be on with donuts available to take the edge off appetites!

Talk-in will be on the 147.21 repeater for anyone who has not been to the Clubhouse before.

**DUES ARE DUE!**



## Upcoming Events

**Oct. 15, 7:00 p.m.** — RVWARS, Inc. Annual Meeting. Election of Officers. Clubhouse, Graham Ave. & Rt 66, Hudson

**Nov. 5, 7:00 p.m.** — ARES/RACES Meeting. Clubhouse, Graham Ave. & Rt 66, Hudson

**Nov. 19, 7:00 p.m.** — RVWARS Meeting. Clubhouse, Graham Ave. & Rt 66, Hudson

### RVWARS Weekly Nets

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

**Tuesday — 7:30 p.m.**  
ARES/RACES Emergency



### 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@mhccable.com  
Repeaters — 147.21 224.280 449.925  
Club Call — Kilo 2 Rip Van Winkle  
Web Page — www.rvwars.com  
RVWARS E-mail — wa2fti@yahoo.com

## ARES SET Scheduled for Sat. Morning Oct. 20

Tom, N2NZD, Columbia County EC, has announced that the ARES Simulated Emergency Test will be held Saturday morning, October 20 from 8:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Stations will be set up at Columbia Memorial Hospital and at the "Clubhouse."

America was abruptly reminded of the critical role of Amateur Radio in 2005 as Amateur Radio operators came from all over the country to provide emergency communications when other systems failed during Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. In 2007, Amateur Radio operators continued to provide lifesaving services in many floods and wildfires around the country. Because of the complexity of today's normal communications systems, they are often overwhelmed in a disaster. These painful lessons are being tested again this October as Amateur Radio operators around the country conduct their annual Simulated Emergency Test.

This year, Amateur Radio operators will be replicating many scenarios that have crippled normal communications in the recent past. These include flooding, wildfires, bombings, ice storms, hurricanes and earthquakes. Something new for this year are plans for responses in case of pandemic flu and the probability that large populations will need to shelter at home and not be able to go out.

Using emergency powered radios and working with local agencies, hams will establish radio communications networks that can be used should there be a failure or overload of normal services.

## Cellphone Ban in Cars

from George Tranos N2GA,  
State Government Liaison

Recently we had several inquiries about operating ham radio while mobiling. Please read the following and drive safe.

Cellphone laws: Here is a link to the New York State law regarding cellphone usage:

<http://www.nysgtsc.state.ny.us/phonvt.htm>

Amateur Radio, while not specifically exempted from the law, does not meet the definition of a "cell phone" as described in the statute:

(a) "Mobile telephone" shall mean the device used by subscribers and other users of wireless telephone service to access such service.

(b) "Wireless telephone service" shall mean two-way real time voice telecommunications service that is interconnected to a public switched telephone network and is provided by a commercial mobile radio service, as such term is defined by 47 C.F.R. S 20.3. Use of mobile Amateur Radio transceivers is not precluded by this law.

**Conclusion and recommendations:** Many people operate mobile radios on a daily basis in New York State including myself. I would suggest you go ahead and operate but that you carry a copy of your Amateur Radio License with you at all times and print out and keep a copy of both the cellphone law and scanner law with you in your glove compartment to show to any police officer that might stop you.

Hope this helps! Please contact me if you have any further questions

George Tranos, N2GA, ARRL State Government Liaison NYC/LI Section n2ga@arrl.net

## “The Box” – A Home Assembled RF Amp

By David Griffin N2CHI

I have a few QRP transmitters and old rigs around the shack that I run at low power, but I often want to boost up the output during summer evenings of QRN and low solar flux here at the bottom of the solar cycle. After checking out the price of small linear amps available commercially, I decided I could do better by assembling my own. (Or at least have more fun.)

Not wanting to start from scratch, it occurred to me that there are lots of old transceiver parts available on eBay that I might assemble into a useable amp. I envisioned three main pieces of work in doing so: an attenuator, the actual RF amplifying device and an output filter. These comprise what I call “The Box.” Attenuation: This is often necessary if the exciter’s output is going to be a little on the high side or if your amplifier section is a little “squirrely,” such as with the cheap Italian “CB” amps. (These have what I call a “latching” operation and are anything but linear, especially on a low band like 80 meters.) Knowing I wouldn’t have to deal with inputs of more than ten watts, I got out an old textbook to review attenuator circuits and designed a multi-step attenuator out of 2 watt resistors (NOT wire wound, so that they are pure resistance). You can review attenuator principles at:

<http://www.electronicstutorials.com/basics/attenuators.htm>

Physically my attenuator is a bunch of resistors soldered up on a couple of rotary switches, the combinations of which provide



me attenuation levels of from 2 to 10 db. Amplifier: They’re everywhere. The one I bought for \$38 on eBay was the bolt-on booster amp (100+ watts) from an old Yaesu FT 301 transceiver. As a bolt-on, it even provided the convenience of BNC connectors! But you can also use a cheap CB type of amp with some mods, which I won’t go into here for lack of space. These days, transceiver final amps are all very broadband and pretty much the same (except for quality) and they’re easily modifiable. My FT 301 booster amp needed no mods since it was designed for 80 through 10 meters. Filter: You need to filter the output of these amps for two reasons: 1) reduction of harmonics that could wind up in the bands above you, and 2) I noticed that without proper filtering, the SWR runs pretty high and I suspect it’s because the antenna is dealing with so many harmonics. With the addition of a good filter (at least 7 elements or order), the SWR I get is pretty low, usually below 1.2:1. Here I’m speaking of a good quality filter in addition to any built into a booster amp or a cheap

stand-alone amp. In most transceivers today, a separate 7 order filter section usually follows the amp. For a single 80 meter filter section, I played with the Elsie Filter Design program that came on the CD in my latest ARRL Handbook. For information on the program, see the November, 2007 QST. Elsie provided a cheap and easy-to-build filter design for 80, but I later decided I’d rather have a multi-filter for all the bands. So I went back on eBay and bought a switchable filter output section for a Kenwood TS450 (\$51, so it must be popular. You can also buy a switchable filter kit from HF Packer for about the same price.)

So the system’s logical flow is from the transmitter’s output through the Attenuator to the Booster Amp to the Band-Switchable Filter to the Antenna Tuner to the Antenna. I housed “The Box” (Attenuator-Booster Amp-Filter) in an old TBS50 cabinet (eBay, \$18) to match my TBS50D transmitter. For an exciter/transmitter I often use my Central Electronics 20A or the TBS50D that I run at low voltage/power. I usually attenuate the input to about 5 watts and put 50 watts on the air from “The Box.” I’ve included a picture of the box on the left of the TBS50D. Yes, I use the old knife switch to insert and take the box out of the transmit chain. Part of the finishing up process was a coat of primer and then black wrinkle paint. The meter is for another project that will also go in the box. There’s plenty of room in the there because, as you can see, I have the Yaesu Booster Amp sitting on top, above the digital clock and connected to SO 239 connectors on the front panel. I have a couple of inexpensive booster amps of this sort and I wanted to be able to quickly swap them in and out.

The next step will be to put in an RF sense switch with a go-around for receive so that I can use QRP transceivers as well as transmitters with “The Box.”

# 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.

**EQUATORIAL GUINEA, 3C.** Operators KH7Y, EA5BRE, EA5YN and EA5BYP are QRV as 3C7Y from Bioko Island, IOTA AF-010, until October 14. Activity is on all bands and modes with two stations. QSL via EA5BYP.

**TANZANIA, 5H.** Pat, W8FV will be QRV as 5H9PD from October 6 to 9 from the southern lake front of Lake Victoria. QSL to home call.

**BURUNDI, 9U.** A group of operators are QRV as 9U0A until October 9. Activity is on 160 to 6 meters using CW, SSB, RTTY, SSTV and PSK31. QSL via DL7DF.

**TEMOTU ISLANDS, H40.** Mike, KM9D and Jan, KF4TUG will be QRV as H40MY from Tikopia Island, IOTA OC-178. Their length of stay is unknown. QSL via OM2SA.

**SWITZERLAND, HB.** Special event station HB9SPACE is QRV from Payerne until October 10 in celebration of 50 years of space flight. QSL via HB4FR.

**ITALY, I.** Members of the ARI Ivrea are QRV as IU1ARI until the end of October in celebration of the 80th anniversary of the Associazione Radioamatori Italiani. QSL via IQ1IV.

**LEBANON, OD.** OD5NF has been active using RTTY on 20 meters from around 0800 to 1900z at various times. QSL via HB9CRV.

**PAPUA NEW GUINEA, P2.** Operators SM6CVX, G3KHZ, G4EDG and CT1AGF will be QRV possibly as P29VLR from Kilinalau Island, IOTA OC-256, from October 6 to 9. Activity will be on all HF bands, with three to four stations running simultaneously. QSL via SM6CVX.

**SWEDEN, SM.** A group of operators will be QRV as SM7DAY/7, SD7W, SE7T and SD7V from Ven Island, IOTA EU-137, from October 7 to 13. Activity will be on all HF bands using CW, SSB and RTTY. QSL SD7W via DL2SWW, SE7T via DL2RTK, SD7V via DL2VFR and SM7DAY/7 to home call.

**DODECANESE, SV5.** Andy, DL4OK is QRV as SV5/NX1S from Kos Island, IOTA EU-001, until October 13 while on holiday. If possible he will also activate the Akra Ayios Foukas Lighthouse, LH 1730. Activity is on 20 meters using QRP power. QSL to home call.

**CAMEROON, TJ.** Lionel is QRV as TJ3SL and has been active on 20 meters around 0830z and 17 meters around 1400 to 1600z. QSL via F5PSA.

**CORSICA, TK.** Mike, DL3VTA and Wolfgang, DL1DVP will be QRV as TK/homecalls from October 7 to 14. Activity will be on all bands using CW, SSB, RTTY and PSK. QSL to home calls.

**KAZAKHSTAN, UN.** Members of the editorial staff of the journal "Radio Work" are QRV as UP50SAT from the Baikonur territory during the month of October to celebrate the 50th anniversary of

Sputnik. QSL via RV3AR.

**LORD HOWE ISLAND, VK9L.** Jack, HB9TL will be QRV as VK9CLF from October 8 to 18. Activity will be on 80 to 10 meters using SSB. QSL direct via HB9QR.

**ST. HELENA, ZD7.** Tom is QRV as ZD7X and has been active on 20 meters using SSB around 2130z. QSL via W0MM.

**CHATHAM ISLANDS, ZL7.** Operators SP5EAQ, SP9PT and SP9BQJ are QRV as ZL7/home calls until October 18. They are accompanied by Jozef, SP9-31029. Activity is on all HF bands using CW, SSB and RTTY. QSL to home calls.

DX Bulletin 41 ARLD041  
From ARRL Headquarters  
Newington CT

## FOR SALE



I have a Yaesu FT-101E for sale, it has the optional cooling fan, and works on AM, and SSB.

I will include a Nice looking D-104 Silver Eagle, already wired for the radio.

I have not been using the radio since buying a newer one, and with the other New Amateur operators, coming on the radio thought I would offer this one for sale.

**\$300.00 US Money**

73's. Lee K2HAT  
K2HAT@N2TY.ORG  
or: Lehat2@nycap.rr.com