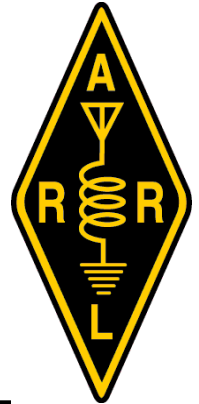




THE BULL THISTLE BUGLE



“BLOWING OUR OWN HORN” since 1965

Chenango County, NY

“We are ARRL affiliated”

Official Publication of the Chenango Valley Amateur Radio Association, Inc. Owner and operator of memorial amateur radio station W2RME/ R on 146.085T/146.685R MHZ, PL Tone 110.9, to the late Duncan “Dunc” Copley.

Published
Monthly by
the HAMS
of CVARA



*The President's
Corner de KD2HKB*



VOL. 58 May 2022

Another busy month has passed. During the month of April we had lots of activities. Besides our regular meetings & get-togethers... we held an extra exam session to get ahead of the new fees being charged by the FCC for new licenses. I, as a representative of the Chenango County ARES/RACES group, answered some questions from our ARMY MARS liaison.

With making contact with ARMY MARS, it has opened up an opportunity to participate in the upcoming COMEX (Communications Exercise) to take place May 3-7. At Tech Night, we watched a presentation via Zoom which gave some details. If you would like to see that presentation, check it out here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OX88D0Xtq_w

There is also another video I found by another ham explaining the exercise. That video will be the featured video in the email edition of the Bugle. The basics is MARS will be requesting information via 60m channel 1 roughly at 10pm... the information is to be returned to MARS during another net the following day at about Noon.

Looking forward to what will be coming up, Scouts race at the Canoe Regatta, Ham of the Year & Field Day. Plenty to get excited about!!!

73,

Matt KD2HKB

CVARA Meeting Minutes for April 7, 2022

Meeting held at the Grange Hall in Norwich and via zoom video conference.

Called to order at 7:02pm by President Matt Jenne. 10 members present and 3 via Zoom.

Minutes:

Motion made to accept prior month minutes as printed in the Bugle by John Rudolph
2nd by Tom Mathewson. PASSED

Treasurer's Report: Presented by Treasurer Emily Goehner.

Motion made to accept Treasurer's Report as presented by John Rudolph
2nd by Lois Strong. PASSED

Committee Reports:

ARES/RACES: Matt Strong will be leading a drill for the layout for the General Clinton Canoe Regatta at the park in Bainbridge at 9am. Matt Jenn will set up his mobile repeater and other members will be deployed along the canoe route to test reception. Matt will send an email reminder to members. Matt Jenn reported on the US Army's MARS exercise. He hopes it will be a monthly exercise and will continue to work with them.

BUGLE: "Nothing to report" per Tom Mathewson.

YOUTH/SCHOLARSHIP: "Nothing to report" per Jon Englert.

V.E. TEAM: Matt Jenne read Ray Darlings report from the session held at the Hamfest. Matt Jenne reported that there will be a session here, at the Grange on April 14th and one in Oneonta on the 18th. These will be the last sessions before the FCC new license fee goes into effect.

HAM FEST: Emily reported that she deposited \$1,307 from proceeds from the event. Matt reported that one of the Grange tables was damaged so the club will have to purchase a replacement. John Rudolf commented that he had heard a number of good comments from attendees and that the additional space was welcome. He suggested that we will want to improve parking signage next year. Classes were not overly attended. John also reported that general attendance was lower than previous years but that vendor participation was higher.

There was general discussion about future plans, parking and dates. The consensus was to hold it at St. Bart's again next year and that we need to save next year's date now. Easter and two weeks prior are not available. The President has directed the HamFest Committee to research issues and report back to the membership next month.

Old Business:

- Discussion about Doug's Fish Fry and how the proceeds from Doug's are divvied between CVARA and the Grange.

- Motion by John Rudolph, second by Jon Englert to donate \$150 to the Grange for the use of their building over the last year. Passed.

New Business:

- Motion by John Rudolph, second by Tom Mathewson to reimburse the Treasurer for the purchase of stamps. PASSED

- Motion by John Rudolph, second by Tom Mathewson to pay the Post Office Box renewal of \$70 either by check from the Treasurer or to reimburse the President for charge to his personal credit card. PASSED

- Bill Pratt submitted a By-Laws change proposal to raise the Treasurers pre-authorized spending limit from \$50 to \$100. It was read by President Matt Jenn as per Bylaws. Considerable discussion ensued.

- President Matt Jenn appointed an Audit Committee made up of John Rudolph, Jon Englert and Tom Mathewson to perform the annual audit of the Treasurers books and report their findings at the May regular club meeting.

- Rob DeClue suggested that we send "Thank You" cards to the Grange and St. Bartholomew Church for the use of their facilities. Matt Jenne has cards and will do that.

- John Rudolph reported that the \$25 gift card donated by Price Chopper was used to buy soap for the Ham Fest and donated the left-over supply to the church as a sign of good will.

Tom Mathewson moved to adjourn at 8:57pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Bill Pratt

CVARA Secretary

If you want to attend the meeting via Zoon

Time: May 5, 2022 07:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84435172692?pwd=MmNBaHlFZWpCK2ZCY240SHZ0NUw1dz09>

To dial in via phone:

+1 (929) 436-2866

Meeting ID: 844 3517 2692

Passcode: 712861

ARES This Month

Over the years that I have been a ham, I have come to understand that there is no substitute for on the air time. In my opinion, it is not enough to just talk about it, you need to spend some time in the seat.

While the exact type of operating is less important, in my experience some will get you on the learning curve faster than others. In some cases there is also a natural progression of activities that will help move you up that learning curve. So let me talk about just a few of them.

First, and I think most important is our weekly CARES net. I know it seems easy but gathering on the air at a routine time and frequency is an important skill and habit to acquire. You get to see how other experienced operators act and how to work as a team. I don't see how anything could be more important. You also have the opportunity to act as the Net Control Station. Acting as NCS routinely will give you a sense of confidence that is difficult to acquire in other aspects of the hobby. Everyone feels nervous at first but that nervousness soon fades. Becoming an NCS was without a doubt a turning point in my development as a ham. I cannot encourage you enough to work and master NCS.

The second skill I would encourage you to master is simply operation. I have seen many times when even experienced operators have had a difficult time maintaining communications when the repeater is suddenly not available. It has happened to me and it is safe to say most of us at some point. Don't become addicted to the repeater. Make and take every opportunity to work simplex. It will add depth and confidence to your operating.

Third, operate as many different modes as possible. Each one has its place in your tool box. Each one works a little better in some situations. Try them and get to know where each works better than another. Lastly, I think it is important to find a congested place on the airwaves to operate. It has a tendency to teach you to be brief and concise. You will learn first hand why good operator techniques are so important. Personally, I learned these skills first by running a frequency during field day and secondly by operating low earth orbit satellites. To this day LEO satellite operating is the most difficult thing I have done in ham radio. I strongly urge you to use it as a training aid.

So get on the air. Do something outside your comfort zone. Do something difficult. "We do these things, and the others, not because they are easy but because they are hard" JFK.

73, Tom KC2SFU

ARRL Youth Licensing Grant Program



The ARRL Youth Licensing Grant Program, in effect since April 19, 2022, will cover the one-time \$35 application fee for new amateur radio license candidates younger than 18 years old for tests administered under the ARRL Volunteer Examiner Coordinator (VEC) program.

"We are thrilled that we are able to provide this opportunity to our youth candidates," said ARRL VEC Manager Maria Somma, AB1FM.

The \$35 Federal Communications Commission (FCC) application fee will be reimbursed after the ARRL VEC receives the completed reimbursement form and after the new license has been issued. The reimbursement check will be mailed to the fee payer. Also, candidates younger than 18 years old would pay a reduced exam session fee of \$5 to the ARRL VEC team at the time of the exam. The \$5 fee is for all candidates under the age of 18, regardless of the exam level taken. Proof of under 18 status is required at the session.

The ARRL Board approved the Youth Licensing Grant Program at its July 2021 meeting in Hartford, Connecticut, expanding on the scope of the original motion proposed by ARRL Southeastern Division Director Mickey Baker, N4MB.

The Board believes the recruitment and training of young amateur radio operators is a necessary and proper mission of the ARRL and subsidization of the \$35 fee will reduce the number of new amateurs that would otherwise be lost from these groups. Initially the new program would serve up to 1,000 new license applicants under 18 years old. The program length is indefinite; it may be renewed or terminated by the Administration and Finance Committee or by the Board of Directors.

Visit the ARRL website for the program instructions and reimbursement form at www.arrl.org/youth-licensing-grant-program.

Robert Wassili, M0RWX, from Wiltshire, earned **Mountain Goat status** for reaching 1,000 activator points in the popular Summits on the Air (SOTA) award program. Wassili, who grew up in the Netherlands listening to aircraft and utility transmissions, earned his amateur radio licenses in Chippenham and Bath, and discovered SOTA. His Mountain Goat activation occurred on Moel Siabod (GW/NW-010) in Snowdonia, where he operated on HF and VHF. For more information about the SOTA program, www.sota.org.uk.



The 2022 Virtual Amateur Radio Workshop from the National Hurricane Conference has been posted to YouTube, according to ARRL Eastern Massachusetts Section Emergency Coordinator Rob Macedo, KD1CY. "We appreciate everyone who attended the workshop live," said Macedo. "The attendance was higher than last year." Macedo added, "Thanks to all for their continued support of the Amateur Radio Hurricane Program led by WX4NHC, the Amateur Radio Station at the National Hurricane Center; Hurricane Watch Net; VoIP Hurricane Net; SATERN; ARRL; National Hurricane Center and Canadian Hurricane Center, as well as all the local [and] regional SKYWARN/CANWARN programs in the United States and Canada, and the various local groups that support us internationally." Watch the [YouTube](#) recording. Contact Macedo at kd1cy@voipwx.net for additional information about the VoIP Hurricane Net.

Orlando HamCation® reported attendance of over 19,000 people for its 2022 event held in February. Sponsored by the Orlando Amateur Radio Club, their 75th anniversary event also played host to the 2022 ARRL National Convention. HamCation is held annually at the 87-acre lakefront Central Florida Fairgrounds and Expo Park in Orlando, and it is one of the largest annual gatherings of radio amateurs in the US. Planning is underway for next year's HamCation, February 10 - 12, 2023. More information is available at www.hamcation.com.

Items this page from the ARRL Letter for April 28, 2022

CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR 2022

· May 5 CVARA Meeting 7:00 PM Grange Hall, Hale St , Norwich as well as online
 May 20, Tech Night, Norwich Grange Hall

June 2, CVARA Meeting 7:00 PM Grange Hall, Hale

St , Norwich as well as online

June 4, [Rochester Hamfest 2022](#)

June 11, Dougs Fish Fry, Grange Hall, Norwich

June 11, Cortland Hamfest

June 16 Tech Night

June 23, Exam SAession, Norwich Grange Hall

June 25-26, Field Day

*Do not forget that every Wednesday **night** at 7:30 local on the W2RME/R 146.085/146.685 PL 110.9. The CARES net meets.*

If you know of, or hear about any activities that should be listed here, Please pass them on to the editor.

May 2022

1	2	3	4	5 Meeting	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19 Tech Night	20	21
22	23	24	25	26 Normal Exam session	27	28
29	30	31				

Local On The Air CW Practice

Hello All in the CVARA family,

I know this has been done before, but I am trying to drum up participants for On The Air CW Practice, OTACWP; let's agree to never say or use that. One change this time around is that we will have Zoom as a fallback / coordinating room so we know what is going on other than hearing static. Ideally we will use 2m or 6m, I have a vertical for both, but we could switch to a few HF bands if people want/need to venture that direction. If anything this is a decent way to try out a simplex net, even though it is not on FM.

If you are interested please email me at KB2YSI@GMAIL.COM for details.---... --- Don, KB2YSI

Permanent committees

ARES/RACES: **KC2SFU**

AWARDS: **AD2TM**

BUGLE: **AD2TM** Chairman

COMMUNITY SERVICE;

NEW Ham development **K2FRY**

FIELD DAY: **K2FRY** Chairman

MEMBERSHIP: **K2FRY** Chairman

PACKET:/ Digital: **KC2SFU** Chairman, **N2SPI**

PUBLICITY/PUBLIC RELATIONS:**AD2TM**, **N2YP**, **KD2HKB**, **K2DAR**

TECHNICAL: **WA2IZB**

VE TEAM: **K2DAR**, **WN2WNC**

HAM OF THE YEAR: **KD2HKB**

Club Station/ Shack: **K2DAR**, **N2YP**, **KC2SFU**

Repeater Trustee: **KD2HKB**

CVARA CLUB OFFICERS

President: Matt Jenne, KD2HKB
Vice Pres: Matt Strong K2FRY
Treasurer: Emily Goehner WA2LFI
Secretary: Bill Pratt K2WMP
Directors: Lois Strong, NK2A;;Tom Monday, KC2SFU; Jon Englart W2BDN

Tom, AD2TM, editor of the Bugle is ALWAYS looking for submissions
Your views, comments, and articles will gladly be considered for publication.
Send your articles to.....

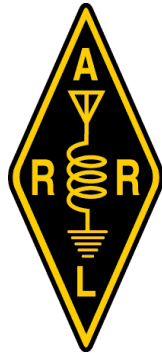
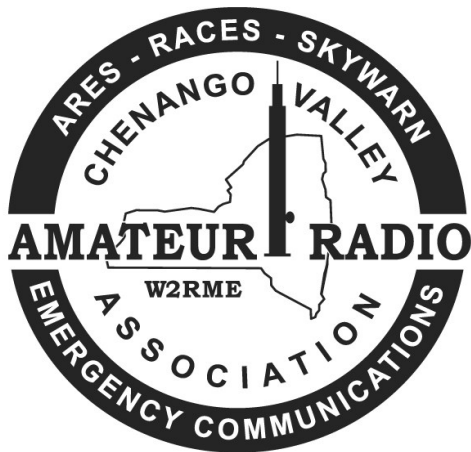
Thomas Mathewson
680 Plymouth N.Norwich Rd
Norwich, N.Y. 13815

Internet...ad2tm@arrl.net

We encourage promoting our organization and welcoming new members to join our group. We hope we can continue to grow and maintain a successful club. Your continued support can make this happen.

Visit the club WEB site at: <http://www.cvara.net>

Deadline for the June 2022 Bugle is May 15 2022



PO Box 1324
Norwich, N.Y, 13815