



# 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 KC2SFU*



VOL. 59 November 2023

believe replacing the club's repeater tower is our number one goal. Funding this goal will be a great challenge.

Among a long list of other activities, we will need to apply for grants from charitable foundations. We need to communicate our intent and determination to these foundations in the most straightforward way possible.

At our upcoming November meeting I would like the membership to consider moving funds from other reserved monies into our tower fund.

I would suggest the following:

Move \$500 from the general fund to the tower fund. This would leave approximately \$1400 for our yearly expenses

Move \$250 from each of our equipment and building funds (\$500 total). Money in both of these accounts has gone unused for years.

Making these changes would move \$1000 into our tower fund bringing our total to nearly \$14000. I understand not all will agree with me on making these changes. I encourage all members to come and take part in the discussion.

73, Tom KC2SFU

Editors Note: Emily informed the members at Tech Night on October 26, 2023 That she had reserved the side room at the Wild Owl for December 10, 2023 at 2PM for our holiday dinner. She also informed us that reservations for 20 people had been made. Order off the menu

## CVARA Meeting Minutes for October 5, 2023

Called to order at 1903 by President Tom Monday (KC2SFU) held at the Grange Hall in Norwich and via Zoom

### Minutes:

Motion to accept minutes as printed in the Bugle by Jon Englert (W2BDN) 2nd by Tom Mathewson (AD2TM); Motion passed

### Treasurer's Report:

Motion to accept Treasurer's Report as presented by Lois Strong (NK2A) 2nd by Jon Englert (W2BDN); Motion passed

### Committee Reports:

**Youth/Education:** The fox hunt at Richfield Springs Community Center is scheduled to take place on October 15th. Tentative schedule is 8-11 antenna building, break for lunch until 12 Noon. 12-3pm is the Fox Hunt.

**ARES/RACES:** Special Event station at the Historical Society on 10/7 between 10am & 4pm. Will be on 10, 20 & 40 meters.

**Tech Night:** All projects welcome! Public welcome... Bring a project along! We will be dedicating one night soon to assembling the camera kits. We will also have a guest this month from the boy scouts to work with us on paperwork & such needed so we can assist scouts on getting some of their merit badges.

**Bugle:** Keep the good material & pictures coming!!!!

**Repeater:**

**Building & Grounds:**

**Membership:**

**VE Team:**

**Grants & Fundraising Committee:**

**Committee for Procedures:**

### Old Business:

### New Business:

**Tower Project Plan:** A motion was made by Tom Mathewson (AD2TM), seconded by Jon Englert (W2BDN) to approve of the Tower Project Plan as proposed by Tom Monday (KC2SFU). Motion Passed.

### For the Good of the Membership:

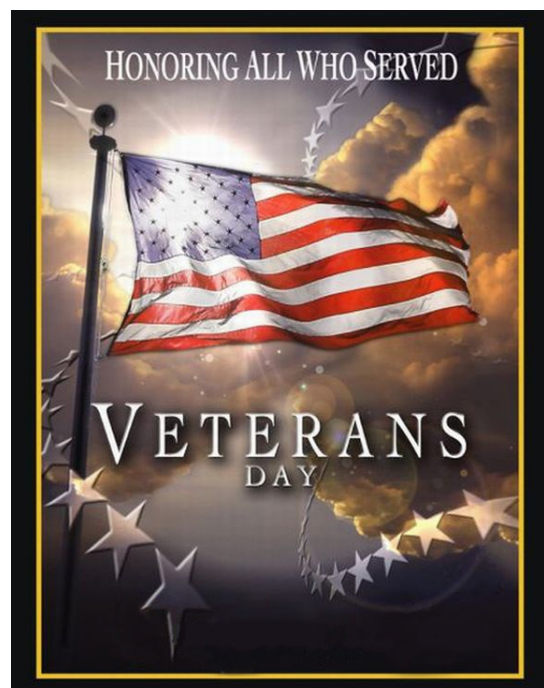
**Special Event Station:** October 7 at the Chenango County Historical Society. 10am to 4pm

**NWS SKYWARN:** December 14 Time and Location to be determined.

**Holiday Party:** December 10 at the Wild Owl Cafe in Norwich. 2pm

**Closing:** Motion made at 20:15 by Tom Mathewson (AD2TM).

**Attendees:** AD2TM, WZ2I, NK2A, KC2SFU, WA2LFI, W2BDN



## ARES This Month

This years SET is just around the corner on November 4th. Officials from the Chenango County Emergency Management Office will be in attendance so please consider joining us and helping to make this year's SET a success.

I would like to see at least a couple of portable APRS stations available to us. Please contact me if you have

portable APRS. If you do not and would be willing to help please let me know. I have 2 portable APRS stations that just need an operator.

In addition to APRS we will need portable NVIS and 2 meter stations. Any and all help we can get would be very much appreciated.

Please let me know if you can make it on November 4th.  
73, Tom

## 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](mailto:KB2YSI@GMAIL.COM) for details.---... ..-- Don, KB2YSI

If you want to attend the meeting via Zoon

Time: October 5, 2023, 07:00 PM Eastern Time  
(US and Canada)

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84435172692?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84435172692?pwd=MmNBaHlFZWpCK2ZCY240SHZ0NUw1dz09)

[pwd=MmNBaHlFZWpCK2ZCY240SHZ0NUw1dz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84435172692?pwd=MmNBaHlFZWpCK2ZCY240SHZ0NUw1dz09)

To dial in via phone:

+1 (929) 436-2866

Meeting ID: 844 3517 2692

Passcode: 712861

## CVARA Youth Committee Antenna Build and Fox Hunt

On Sunday, October 15, CVARA members Tom Monday KC2SFU, Jon Englert W2BDN, and John Hysell K2HJ met at the Richfield Springs High School with 12 members of the Richfield Springs Community Youth Group, ranging from 8th-12th grade, and their advisors Rick, Tonya, Roger and FJ for a tape measure antenna build and foxhunt. We began the antenna build early at 8 AM with a quick lesson on yagi antennas and video on fox hunting. The antenna build went very smoothly and this was a great group of interested and motivated participants. All antennas were finished and tested(every antenna passed the analyzer test immediately) and with some time left before lunch we decided to give the foxhunt a quick run out in the athletic field behind the school. After arming the participants with radios(some with attenuators) and giving the participants a brief lesson on fox hunting KC2SFU went out and hid one of the foxes and the group proceeded to go out to find the fox. After about 20 minutes of searching two participants working together located the fox. I must say this was one enthusiastic group! We went back to the classroom, had lunch and discussed plans for the afternoon hunt. We hid two foxes in opposite directions of the village and unleashed our group of hunters. They were determined and they didn't let a couple of rain showers discourage them. They were successful in finding both foxes and because of the weather we retreated back to the classroom to discuss what they did and talk more about radio. In the span of an hour the questions kept coming and it was all Tom and I could do to answer them. Many in the group were interested in ham radio as were the adults. We talked about doing a future radio project with the group and discussed sources they could explore to get their ticket. We offered to bring in a VEC group if there were enough interested youths. All and all there was a lot of enthusiasm and the youths enjoyed the experience. We all agreed this was a fun and interesting event and we are looking forward to the next time we can get together. -Jon Englert W2BDN

---

**Some pictures from the build and hunt:**



*And So It Should Be Written*

*By Ray Darling, K2DAR, CVARA Historian*

*Chapter 15*

*Welcome To - November 2023*

While thinking of an opening for this chapter, I realized that I have been planning, composing my thoughts, and sharing many memories of my involvement with ham radio and CVARA. I certainly don't feel I qualify as an aspiring author and cannot do everything, but I can do something. If you have been following the past 14 chapters, a brief story of this writers past has been included, with questions still unanswered from my perspective.

I figure it's time that I reflect upon, remember and treasure, many of the good times, places and people that I have come across in my life which have allowed me to continue on the remainder of my journey.

Although with many differences in opinion and actions/reactions to life in general, my family was an inspiration in facing the challenges and roadblocks that have, and continue to be, presented as we go forward. I was privileged to have had family members who served in the Military since the Revolutionary War. Some were Educators, Ministers/Pastors, Medical Professionals, Public Service Officials, Patent Holder-Inventors, Musicians, Printers, Electricians, Photographers etc. A great cross-section of categories I was introduced to and invited to pursue should I desire. Some have been discussed in previous chapters of this narrative.

With some reservations and imperfections, I give thanks for being a citizen of the United States. I served in the U.S. Air Force from 1960 to 1966, achieving the rank of Buck Sergeant (E-4). While America is not without her bruises and blemishes, she is still, by far, the best when it comes to freedom, opportunity and progress. For example: As discussed in Chapter 1, my own father, and best friend, ventured off to Chicago (1931-1932) to attend Coyne Electrical School earning degrees in both "Practical Electricity" and "Radio-TV Sound Reproduction". To help offset his college expenses, he played saxophone and piano in a dance band on weekends at what were called speakeasy's in the day. (My grandparents insisted that my father and all his siblings learn and become proficient in playing a musical instrument - very diverse group, as we had Violin, Piano, Organ, Trumpet, Cornet, Trombone, Saxophone, Clairnet etc). Obviously, insistence paid off!

Passing down that insistence to my generation inspired my love of music, in all its genres. I grew up listening to Big Band and Contemporary Jazz Sounds. Over the years I have played Trombone, Rhythm & Bass Guitar, Contemporary Jazz Organs (Hammond B-3 Style & Wersi Digital Series)

*(Continued on page 6)*

---

---

*(Continued from page 5)*

During the 1980's, I played many gigs at local venues and did demos for local Organ/Keyboard Dealers in the Unadilla, Binghamton, Cortland & Ithaca areas. I had the opportunity to meet and compare notes with many outstanding Professional Musicians, Organ and Keyboard Artists of their times. I still enjoy listening to the recorded Studio Sessions I was invited to attend with Wersi Recording Artists Rick Iannone and Dave Cooper (Graduates of The College of Performing Arts in Philadelphia and Berkeley School of Music respectively). Awesome days of music including product evaluation, advanced education in analog/digital electronics & performances from the pro's!

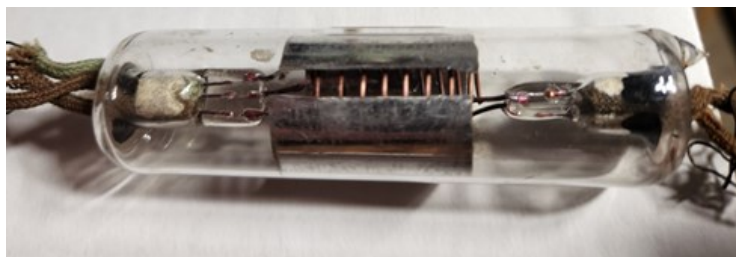
I no longer accept any gig opportunities, but do own and continue to play, for personal use and enjoyment, a full 66 keyboard–Roland Intelligent Synthesizer and an 88 keyboard–Yamaha Digital Grand Piano Synthesizer. When the ham bands propagation charts seem to be non–existent or unusually quiet, my mind does a reboot to the fascination of musical instruments, music composition and arrangements. So many things to accomplish, so little time to pursue all.

\*\*\*

Let me introduce you to some of my acquaintances over the years whose names you may or may not recognize. One of the earliest coming to mind came as a result of my own father's interest in Radio–TV Sound Reproduction. While I can't remember the actual name on the store–front on Main Street in Sidney, NY (late 1940's–early 1950s), I'll call it "Wandelt's Radio–TV Shop." My father and the owner became friends early on and we were soon introduced to the world of B&W television! Being used to nothing but AM news broadcasts, listening to comic book, wild west, mystery book characters read over the air on our old Philco, a TV was a remarkable piece of equipment. A 10–12" B&W screen, with limited programming at first. WNBF–TV (Binghamton) was the only station we were able to receive in Sidney – air time only 1–2 hours of very fuzzy, snowy picture quality as I remember.

The owner of the Radio–TV Shop was a gentleman named Paul A. Wandelt. Paul was born on/about 24 March 1903 in Jersey City, NJ, son of a German immigrant. A curious young man, Paul, as I have

been told, sought work and was employed by the well known Lee De Forest. Inventor and electrical engineer, Lee De Forest held nearly 180 patents, but is best known by far for his 1907 improvements to the vacuum tube invented by John Ambrose Fleming. De Forest's innovation was a three–electrode vacuum tube, or triode, which he trademarked as the Audion, Capable of detecting, controlling and even amplifying electrical signals. The Audion revolutionized electronics and formed the basis for subsequent technologies including telephone, television, radar and early computer systems until the development of transistors in the late 1940's. See photos of an actual Audion Tube I have at home.



# CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR 2023 -2024

November 2; CVARA Meeting 7:00 PM Grange Hall, .Hale St , Norwich as well as online via Zoom

November 4, SET

November 16; Tech Night

December 1; CVARA Meeting 7:00 PM Grange Hall, .Hale St , Norwich as well as online via Zoom

**December 10, 2pm Wild Owl... Holiday Party... ordering individually off the menu.**

December 15;Tech Night

January 4; CVARA Meeting 7:00 PM Grange Hall, .Hale St , Norwich as well as online via Zoom

January 18; Tech Night

January 25; Exam Session

February 1; CVARA Meeting 7:00 PM Grange Hall, .Hale St , Norwich as well as online via Zoom

February 15; Tech Night

February 22; Exam Session

*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.

---

**November 2023**

---

			1	2 meeting	3	4 SET
5	6	7	8	9	10	11 Vattern's Day
12	13	14	15	16 Tech Night	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

---

**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**, : **WZ2I**, **K2DAR**
  - TECHNICAL: **WA2IZB**
  - VE TEAM: **K2DAR**: **WZ2I**
  - HAM OF THE YEAR: **WZ2I**
  - Club Station/ Shack: **K2DAR**, **N2YP**, **KC2SFU**
  - Repeater Trustee: **WZ2I**
-

# CVARA CLUB OFFICERS

President: Tom Monday KC2SFU  
 Vice Pres: Tom Mathewson, AD2TM  
 Treasurer: Emily Goehner WA2LFI  
 Secretary: Matt Jenne, WZ2I  
 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.....

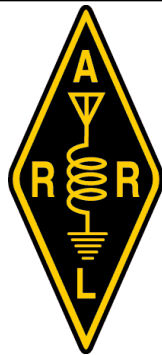
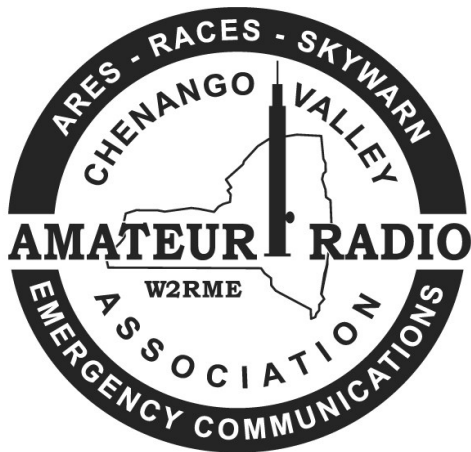
Thomas Mathewson  
 680 Plymouth N. Norwich Rd  
 Norwich, N.Y. 13815

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 October 2023 Bugle is September 20, 2023**



PO Box 1324  
 Norwich, N.Y, 13815