



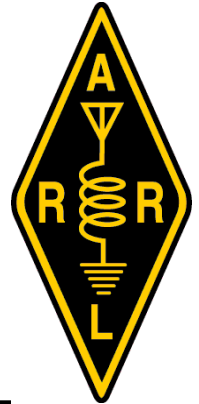
Published Monthly by the HAMS of CVARA

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.



The President's Corner de KC2SFU



VOL. 60 November 2024

Preparations for tower replacement are nearly complete. Our contractors are scheduled to begin work on November 6th with completion by November 8th. Please do not visit the site during this time. For safety reasons we cannot allow it. Those who are required to be there have said they will take plenty of pictures.

Plans to celebrate completion of this project are being made and will most likely be incorporated into our holiday gathering. More information to follow.

While there are still hurdles to overcome, I find myself reflecting on how we got here. I know some didn't think a total tower replacement was necessary. Personally, I thought cost would have made the project impossible. Without a doubt we have faced personal disagreements along the way. I think it is safe to say we have lost members due to these disagreements. Many of whom I would call a friend. I would like to make this my invitation for them to come back.

For any organization to succeed there needs to be a balance of both ideas and temperament. While this balance will by its nature create conflict at times, without it any success will be short lived. Please come to our meetings, participate and help restore that balance.

Tom KC2SFU

CVARA Meeting Minutes for September, 2024

Called to order at 1902 on October 3, 2024 by President Tom Monday (KC2SFU) held at the Grange Hall in Norwich.

Minutes:

Motion to accept minutes as printed in the Bugle by Tom Mathewson (AD2TM) 2nd by Mike Barnard (KD2CDU); Motion passed

Treasurer's Report:

Motion to accept Treasurer's Report as presented by Jon Englert (W2BDN) 2nd by Mike Mathewson (N2SAS); Motion passed

Committee Reports:

Standing Committees:

Membership:

Audit:

Community Service:

Publicity: Always looking for contributions of articles (with print authorizations) or pictures! The annual edition of the Bugle is available for anyone who wants some to hand out, put out in community locations, etc. Also, "half-sheet" flyers have been made so we can start promoting Hamfest 2025.

Property: Jon (W2BDN) reported that he finished loosely assembling the new tower. Matthew Jenne (WZ2I) reported that the guy wires, antennas, coax & connectors have all arrived. The mast has been ordered from Steel Sales. WZ2I will contact W2RE & Payne's Cranes to schedule an installation date.

Special Committees:

Field Day:

Old Business:

Equipment: It was suggested to have a "mini-hamfest" at our next meeting to try and get rid of the last of the remaining equipment.

Tom Mathewson (AD2TM) made a motion to offer the remaining equipment to the membership list for a donation. Dave Stearns (KD2ERR) seconded the

motion. Motion passed.

New Business:

Electric Upgrade: Tom Monday (KC2SFU) reported he had an electrician at the shack to look at the electrical service drop. The electrician claims that everything would need to be replaced and would cost an estimated \$3-4,000.

Jon Englert (W2BDN) made a motion to allocate up to \$3,000 to complete the underground service entrance to the pedestal. Motion seconded by Dave Stearns (KD2ERR). Motion passed.

New Member: N2SGQ applied to be a member. Motion was made by Matthew Jenne (WZ2I) and seconded by Dave Stearns (KD2ERR) to accept his application. Motion passed.

For the Good of the Membership:

Closing: Motion made at 19:07 by Emily Goehner (WA2LFI), 2nd by Carrie Wallingford (KD2VTH).

Attendees: KC2SFU, AD2TM, KD2CDU, KD2ERR, N2SAS, N2SGQ, N2XWS, K2HJ, W2BDN, WA2LFI, WZ2I



And So It Should Be Written

By Ray Darling, K2DAR, CVARA Historian

Chapter 27

Welcome To – November 2024

For most of us, the mid 1980s to the mid 1990s saw continuing changes and downsizing in the electronics industry and unfortunately for many of us, the companies we worked for. In amateur radio it was the decade of no-code and computerized everything.

Packet radio was entering the hobby's mainstream, virtually all new radios were completely solid-state and everything was getting smaller and smaller. Amateur radio equipment was also becoming too complex for the average ham to troubleshoot and repair, let alone design and build. Unfortunately, the traditional ham radio hobby of builders and tinkerers was quickly being replaced by a hobby of communicators. And those communications skills would be called on time and time again in the years to follow.

1985 – PRB-1 was adopted by the FCC – Said the FCC has preeminence in regulating antenna installations, and that state and local ordinances affecting antenna construction would have to comply with FCC regulations.

1985 – Hams gained access to two new WARC bands – 24 Mhz and 902 Mhz. In the same action the FCC made permanent the ham authorization on 10 Mhz. Additionally, this year the FCC authorized the use of Mode L (uplink on 1269.05–1269.85 Mhz) for satellite communications and authorized FAX and TV transmissions on 160 meters.

What were some events and or projects realized by CVARA during this decade?

January 1986 – Received ARRL re-affiliation

Resolved coordinated Repeater Frequency problems

Special Event station at Red Cross “Undisaster Day” with Gil, KA2NKD and Tom, KI2Y as acting net control and logger during this exercise.



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February 1986 – Announced 1st VE exam of the year scheduled for April 19.

March 1986 – New Novice to the fold – KA2ZYW – Thomas P. Livingston.

April 1986 – New Club Officers – CVARA supports March of Dimes "Walk-A-Thon."

May 1986 – The old "Newsletter" becomes the new "Bull Thistle Bugle" – Hams support Chenango County with Operation "S.O.B.E.R." and participates in the Clinton Canoe Regatta.

June 1986 – Hams attend Skywarn meeting in Binghamton – KI2Y appointed Chenango County E.C. – Skywarn activated by severe weather watch – Field Day activity a success.

July 1986 – Hams toured Link Field Control Tower and Weather Radar Station – New Club T-shirts – New DX column in the "Bugle" – Subscribing to ARN Service – First ARES meeting a success – New Packet Committee organized.

August 1986 – Severe Weather Watch activated; – New ARES Telephone Tree distributed – ARES membership total 21

September 1986 – Club held picnic at Gen. Clinton Park – Skywarn Training program – ARES participated in operation "EMO '86" supporting Chenango County

October 1986 – ARES telephone tree activated.

November 1986 – ARES SET conducted with WA2EYH-7 on Air; Packet demo at county EOC.

Then during 1987, the FCC proposed "privatizing" the issuance of some call signs. The "on-again, off again" proposal took on several forms, with the last version being the private issuance of club calls. (The proposal was ultimately withdrawn by the FCC in 1993, when it introduced a still-pending plan to issue "vanity" calls.

1988 reported a few silent keys – General Loren G. Windom, W8GZ, who developed the antenna named after him – Bob Henry, W0ARA, of Henry Radio – and Ambassador Bill Porter, who was U.S. Ambassador when Israel became a nation and later was a U.S. Ambassador to Vietnam. During the latter assignment Porter held the call XV5AA.

Here's an interesting note – Gus Browning, W4BPO, noted Dxer and Dxpeditoner became a silent key. Before the days of the keyboard and computerized logging, Gus taught himself



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how to write with his left hand so that he could simultaneously send with one hand and write with the other - multi-tasking at its finest!!

1989 the last of the WARC-79 bands, 17 meters, became available in January. - The ARRL celebrated its 75th anniversary. Amid growing calls for a code-free, entry level amateur radio license, and signs that the FCC intended to create one with or without the ARRL's cooperation, the League appointed a committee to study the feasibility. Later in the year, the ARRL petitioned the FCC for a code-free license. Back to the table

1990, the beginning of the year saw a major operation from Bouvet Island (3Y5X). While thousands of hams made contact with the Dxpedition, hundreds caused interference to the operation and 240 U.S. Hams were cited for out-of-band phone operation. The "success" of the operation was treated to mixed reviews in the amateur radio community.

By the end of the year, hams were participating in Operation Desert Shield through MARS operations with the military in the mid-east. Yes, several CVARA members were involved with this operation and as I recall, well over 120 messages were collected, processed and passed for local individuals, veterans and family members to their loved ones serving during Desert Shield.



**From one Veteran to another, its' an honor to be in your Company. Thank you for your service!
Veteran's Day - Monday - November 11, 2024**

ARES This Month

I believe that over the past few years the nature of ham radio emergency communications has changed dramatically. While voice nets are still important and play their part, data networks are needed more and more to manage modern disasters.

Currently in amateur radio the technology used to provide these data networks is Amateur Radio Emergency Data Network (AREDN). AREDN uses off the shelf data equipment on amateur frequencies and specialized software written by amateurs.

This month's ARES Training will be an introduction and demonstration of AREDN given by Matt. We will meet at the Norwich Police Station at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday November 9th.

I look forward to seeing you there.

Tom KC2SFU
Chenango County EC.

Morse code practice

Hello All in the CVARA family,

If anyone is interested in morse code practice, on the air or on the Internet, please email me at KB2YSI@GMAIL.COM and we can figure out what works for us!

--... ---

Don, KB2YSI

All Treats, No Tricks, in ARRL November Sweepstakes

Halloween is here, which means ARRL Sweepstakes is knocking at the door. No tricks, though, said ARRL Contest Program Manager Paul Bourque, N1SFE. "If the band conditions are as good as they were this last weekend, we're in for a real treat."

The CW weekend of ARRL Sweepstakes is November 2 — 3. ARRL Sweepstakes is the "oldest domestic contest, beginning in 1930," with competition at the individual, multi-operator, and school club levels.

In this contest, multipliers are the 85 ARRL and RAC Sections; each may be worked once in the contest, regardless of band. The exchange is daunting for contest first-timers, but familiar to those who have operated it before. Contacts may be made on 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, and 10 meters, but because multipliers may only be worked once, activity tends to cluster on the bands that are open and populated.

Phone weekend will be November 16 — 18.

See the full rules and additional information at www.arrl.org/sweepstakes.

From the e-mail ARRL Letter for October 31, 2024



CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR 2024—2025

Nov 7, CVARA Meeting 7:00 PM Grange Hall, .Hale St, Norwich

Nov 21, Tewch Night

Dec 5, CVARA Meeting 7:00 PM Grange Hall, .Hale St, Norwich

Dec 19, Tech Night

Jan 3, 2025, CVARA Meeting 7:00 PM Grange Hall, .Hale St, Norwich

January 11, SARC Winterfest, Marathon , NY

Jan 17, Tech Night

Jan 24, Exam Session

Feb. 6, CVARA Meeting 7:00 PM Grange Hall, .Hale St, Norwich

Feb. 20, Tech Night

Feb, 27, Exam Session

March 6, CVARA Meeting 7:00 PM Grange Hall, .Hale St, Norwich

March 20, Tech Night

March 23, Exam Session

Dont 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 2024					1	2
3	4	5	2	7 Meeting	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	250	21 Tech Night	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.....

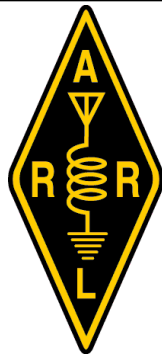
Thomas Mathewson
680 Plymouth N. Norwich Rd
Norwich, N.Y. 13815

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 December 2024 Bugle is November 20, 2024



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