



# 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. 60 December 2024

With the exception of a few odds and ends, the CVARA tower replacement project is complete! To my knowledge these odds and ends include improved grounding, an ice bridge to protect feedlines, closing out the paperwork, and celebrating the accomplishment.

That celebration and our holiday party will be held at Taylor's Country House on Sunday December 8, 2024 from 4-6pm. Please join us, we have a lot to be thankful for this year and even more to look forward to next. Please let us know if you plan to attend.

It is that time of year again where we need to start planning for this years election of officers. As always, all four officers and one director are up for election. I encourage each of you to consider serving our club by volunteering for one of these positions. I believe the club functions better when more members participate in this way. To volunteer, contact either Jon W2BDN or Tom AD2TM as soon as possible.

Ham radio can be a very individual activity. If you want you can be that guy back in the back bedroom talking to people all over the world and enjoy the hobby for years. That's perfectly okey, but consider this, you will have shard it with no one and no one will have your story to tell. Patricianly around this time of year I think of the stories told to me by people like WA2QQF, N2GVB, and AA2FG and realize how much they have helped me. Consider being the type of Elmer for someone else.

Merry Christmas and 73

Tom KC2SFU

**Election Committee: Nominations are open As Tom stated above nominations are open for club officers. As Tom stated above nominations are open for club officers. The offices of President, Vice President & Secretary currently have no nominees. All offices are vital. Without a complete set of officers, the corporation cannot exist. Your organization needs you!**

**Convey your nominations to either Jon, W2BDN or Tom, AD2TM**

## CVARA Meeting Minutes for November, 2024

Called to order at 1902 on November 7, 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 Jon Englert (W2BDN); Motion passed

### Treasurer's Report:

Motion to accept Treasurer's Report as presented by Jon Englert (W2BDN) 2nd by Carrie Wallingford (KD2VTH); Motion passed

### Committee Reports:

#### Standing Committees:

##### Membership:

##### Audit:

##### Community Service: (ARES/RACES)

Training session Saturday, 9am at the City/County EOC. Matt Jenne (WZ2I) will be presenting about AREDN and programming nodes.

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:** Matt Jenne (WZ2I) reported that the old tower has been taken down and the new tower is up! All antennas & 7/8" heliax feedline has been installed. All that is left is to make temporary connections to get the repeaters on air (once power is turned back on).

### Special Committees:

Old Business:

Electric Upgrade: Tom Monday (KC2SFU) reported that the electrical upgrade has been completed, but we are waiting on NYSEG to reconnect the power lines. Apparently they are waiting for our check to "clear" their processing department.

### New Business:

Hamfest: General discussion about the 2025 Bullthistle Hamfest was had including watching out for & ordering the grand prize radio. A motion was made and seconded to allocate up to \$500 (same as last year) for the purchase of a grand prize for the hamfest. \*\*Secretary's notes did NOT include who made or seconded the motion. Sorry.

**Holiday Party:** The CVARA Holiday Party will be held at Taylor's Country House on Sunday, December 8th 4-6pm. We will be ordering off the menu.

**Election Committee:** Tom Mathewson (AD2TM) and Jon Englert (W2BDN) were appointed to the election committee.

### For the Good of the Membership:

Closing: Motion made at 19:38 by Emily Goehner (WA2LFI), 2nd by Carrie Wallingford (KD2VTH).

Attendees: KC2SFU, AD2TM, W2BDN, WA2LFI, KD2VNE, KD2VTH, NK2A, K2FRY, N2XWS, WZ2I, Marc (guest & interested in an exam in the near future)



## ARES This Month

Ham radio organizations making up the emergency services sector of our hobby can be more than a little confusing to not just new hams. With an alphabet soup of acronyms and some rather nuanced responsibilities being confused is completely understandable. This month's ARES, RACES, AUXCOM meeting will discuss all of them and more.

Due to a death in the family, I will not be able to make it this month. John, N2YP has volunteered to lead the training, which will include Served agency

Relationships, Incident command system and Emergency Communications organizations.

Thanks you very much for taking this for me John. 73, Tom KC2SFU

## 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](mailto:KB2YSI@GMAIL.COM) and we can figure out what works for us!

--... ---

Don, KB2YSI

## How to Let Kids Talk with Santa Over Ham Radio This Holiday Season



Santa Claus will be on the amateur radio airwaves again this year.

The 3.916 Santa Net will be on the air every night at 7:00 PM CST from November 29 through December

24. Reserve a spot with Santa by making a pre-net check in. You can check in each night starting at 6:30 PM CST online at [www.CQSanta.com](http://www.CQSanta.com).

Santa and Mrs. Claus will also be on the air,

together, thanks to special arrangements with the Cowley County Amateur Radio Club in Kansas. They will be on the air on the 147.000 repeater and the Sunflower Net system, between 10 AM and noon CST on November 30 and beginning at 10 AM until band conditions change on December 14 and 21. In addition to the local repeater, the Sunflower Net offers connection options to Allstar, DMR, Dstar, Echolink, Fusion, Hamshack Hotline, M17, and P25. The club is also setting up a radio link at the local library to talk to Santa. A special effort is being made to give children who are hospitalized or otherwise unable to visit personally an opportunity to reach out to Santa.

*(Continued on page 4)*

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*(Continued from page 3)*

Also, for the 4th year, Santa has sent Elf Chucky and his team of amateur radio operators to northern Colorado, to help make sure children of all ages can talk to Santa on station NØP from the North Pole. Thanks to the Longmont Amateur Radio Club and the Northern Colorado Amateur Radio Club, children can get into the holiday spirit by talking to Santa on the radio. Both are ARRL Affiliated Clubs. Get the details on that operation at <https://w0eno.org/santa>.

### ARRL 2023 Annual Report Now Available

ARRL® has published its 2023 Annual Report, which includes a summary of the year's program activities, along with the 2023 and 2022 financial statements and an independent auditor's report.

ARRL marked 2023 as the Year of the Volunteers, recognizing the nearly 57,000 volunteers who contribute to supporting the organization and the wider amateur radio community. "The future of amateur radio rests on the shoulders of volunteers, and every one of us can be a volunteer," said ARRL President Rick Roderick, K5UR, in his message in the annual report. The report highlights the involvement of volunteers across program areas, including ARRL Volunteer Examiners and Amateur Radio Emergency Service® (ARES®) volunteers.

"It seems right for an organization like ours, which is fueled by volunteers, to take a moment to recognize the countless individuals who share their time, talent, and treasure with ARRL to advance the hobby we all love," said ARRL Chief Executive Officer David A.

Minster, NA2AA, in his included report. Minster also noted the celebration of the ARRL Foundation's 50 years in 2023. Its work has benefited the charitable, educational and scientific efforts of the amateur radio community. Minster recognized the generous contributions from Amateur Radio Digital Communications (ARDC), which renewed commitments amounting to more than \$2.1 million to support club grants, education programs, and scholarships. "This represents the largest single commitment ever for our organizations," said Minster.

Also included in the annual report is ARRL's Report to America, which references the involvement of amateur radio operators during natural disasters that occurred in 2023, in addition to formal partnership agreements with served agencies including the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). In May 2023, ARRL entered into an updated Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with FEMA, to enhance cooperation between ARES® and FEMA in providing disaster communications -- When All Else Fails®.

The ARRL 2023 Annual Report is available for download at [www.arrl.org/annual-reports](http://www.arrl.org/annual-reports).

The above from the ARRL Letter for November 27, 2024 via e-mail

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR 2024—2025

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

December 8, Taylors Country House, Holiday Dinner, Order off menu, Time 7PM

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 Election of officers

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 237, 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.

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## December 2024

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1	2	3	4	5 Meeting	6	7
8 Holiday party and tower completion	9	10	11	12	15	14
15	16	17	18	19 Tech Night	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

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### 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**

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# 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.....

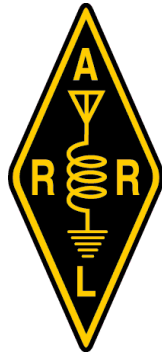
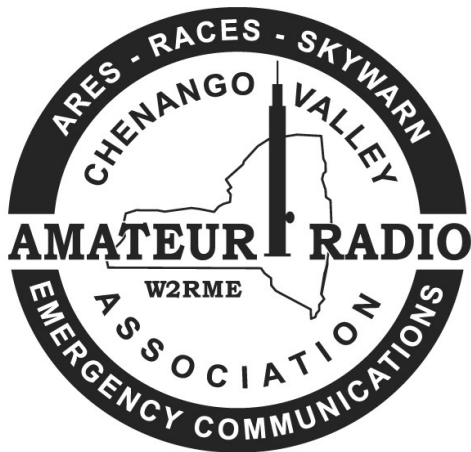
Thomas Mathewson  
 680 Plymouth N. Norwich Rd  
 Norwich, N.Y. 13815

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***



PO Box 1324  
 Norwich, N.Y, 13815