



# 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 K2FRY*



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As we head into our next meeting and upcoming elections, I want to be upfront: my time as president has come to an end. The last few meetings have shown that there are ongoing disagreements and complaints within this club that are not going away. There were concerns raised with blame assigned to recent leadership for problems that have existed without change since well before I joined a decade ago. There were also concerns raised about information not being shared, but we were able to find everything in the Bugle, though some of it could have been placed better. But the personal attacks, business that should have never been brought to the table, at least not without knowing all the facts first, and the growing feeling that this is no longer a fun hobby, have left several of us questioning if there is a place for us here anymore.

With elections approaching, it is the right moment for me to step aside and let new leadership take over, including those members who have been most vocal about their frustrations with the club's current position and want it to change. I will support a smooth transition and trust the club will continue forward.

I want to thank everyone who has stepped up and taken on leadership roles over the years, including our current slate of ham's! I also want to specifically thank the Secretary and Treasurer, who have been in the same roles for many years and have put in a tremendous amount of time and effort to keep things running, thank you, Matt and Emily!

73

K2FRY

## CVARA Meeting Minutes for December 4, 2025

Called to order at 1900 on January 8, 2026 by President Matthew Strong (K2FRY) held at the Grange Hall in Norwich.

### For the Good of the Membership:

#### Minutes:

Motion to accept minutes as printed in the Bugle by John Rudolph (N2YP) 2nd by Tom Mathewson (AD2TM); Motion passed

#### Treasurer's Report:

Motion to accept Treasurer's Report as presented by John Rudolph (N2YP) 2nd by Lois Strong (NK2A); Motion passed

Concerns were raised by Ray Darling (K2DAR) regarding dissemination of information and/or information lacking from the minutes as published in the Bugle. Discussion ensued.

Tom Monday (KC2SFU) raised concerns regarding alleged actions which he heard took place at the November 2025 meeting of the Association. [Secretary's note: KC2SFU was not present for that meeting] Discussion followed.

#### Committee Reports:

##### Standing Committees:

###### Membership:

**Closing:** Motion made at 20:20 by John Rudolph (N2YP), 2nd by Tom Mathewson (AD2TM).

###### **Audit:**

###### **Community Service:**

###### **Youth:**

###### **Publicity:**

**Attendees:** K2FRY, WZ2I, AD2TM, N2YP, KE2GLH, KD2SHA, KA2ZFM, N2RLH, K2DAR, WA2LFI, KC2SFU, W2BDN, NK2A, WA2LFI, N2CHD, K2WMP

**Property:** Jon Englert (W2BDN) reported that the VHF tower is still a work in progress... Will resume work in good weather.

#### Special Committees:

##### Old Business:

**Check to Grange:** John Rudolph (N2YP) made a motion to issue a replacement check to the Grange with the club "eating" the "Stop Payment" fee. Motion seconded by Don Rhodes (KB2YSI). Motion passed with 3 objections and 2 abstentions.

**Grand Prize for Hamfest:** The radio has been purchased & a bill submitted to the Treasurer.

##### New Business:

## ARES This Month

Mother Nature sure has been showing us her “cold shoulder” lately. What can we do about it? Warm up the airways! Okay, maybe it won’t really affect the weather, but there is a lot that can be done even in these cold days of winter. I know I myself have been working on my home station as well as my portable gear in preparation for a year of fun on the air.



This month we carried out a very successful SKYWARN activation during the “snow event”. Some may not think it was of value... and I know some of the public scoffed at the “hype” of the storm.

The fact of the matter is the National Weather Service is there to help protect the public. Trained weather spotters help by providing “ground truth” reports. The reports we submitted were greatly appreciated by the NWS & the county Office of Emergency Services.

Our monthly ARES/RACES training session at the Chenango County/City of Norwich EOC (2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the Norwich Police station) at 9am on Saturday, February 7<sup>th</sup>. We will be reviewing the IS-700 course.

73,  
Matthew Jenne  
Chenango County ARES EC



## ARRL Atlantic Division Leadership Change

In a message emailed to all ARRL members on January 28, CEO David Minster, NA2AA, shared news of a recent change in leadership within the Atlantic Division. Atlantic Division Director Robert B. Famiglio, K3RF, became ineligible to continue serving after voluntarily choosing not to submit an annual recertification statement, as required under ARRL By-Law 46.

As a result, the Director position was vacated in accordance with the bylaw.



The “Board Member Statement on Authority, Responsibility, and Expectations” (see [www.arrl.org/general-information](http://www.arrl.org/general-information)), confirms that Board members have read and understand their fiduciary obligations under ARRL’s governing documents and applicable law. Signed statements were completed by all 36 other Board members as well as all candidates who stood for election during 2025.

“We sincerely thank Director Famiglio for his many years of volunteer service and for his contributions to ARRL and the amateur radio community,” included Minster.

Consistent with ARRL’s succession procedures, Vice Director Marty Newingham, AG3I, has assumed the role of Atlantic Division Director effective immediately. A replacement Vice Director will be named at a later date.

Newingham lives in Greensburg, Pennsylvania, and was previously appointed Vice Director in July 2025. He is an ARRL Life Member and a Gold level contributor to the ARRL Diamond Club. He’ll serve the remainder of a term that expires December 31, 2026.

## Student Coding Competition is Underway with \$25,000 Award

ARRL is asking members to help encourage licensed youth in their communities to participate in the ARRL Student Coding Competition, an initiative focused on developing practical resources for the Ama-

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teur Radio Service. The competition, which began January 1, 2026, challenges young amateurs to create a mobile application that ARRL will use as a long-term learning resource. Rules and App Specifications (PDF) were released on January 1 and are available at [coding.arrl.org](https://coding.arrl.org).

The competition centers on building a useful, accessible FCC exam preparation app for iOS devices. The app must support Technician, General, and Extra Class license exams and use the official NCVEC question pools. Judging will focus on usability, clarity, stability, and code quality — qualities that ensure the finished product can serve as a dependable study resource for current and future radio amateurs.

Eligibility is limited to ARRL members aged 21 or younger who hold a US amateur radio license, competing individually or in teams of up to three. ARRL membership is free for full-time students, making participation accessible to students already active in amateur radio and those newly licensed. Parents, educators, and ARRL members involved in radio clubs, VE teams, and youth outreach are encouraged to share this opportunity with students who have an interest in software development or STEM learning.

Project submissions will be accepted between February 1 and March 31, 2026, with source code and documentation submitted online. Winning entries will receive national recognition, with total awards of up to \$25,000 authorized by the ARRL Board of Directors. While pre-registration is optional, it is recommended to receive competition updates and reminders. Complete information is available at [coding.arrl.org](https://coding.arrl.org).

### Register Now for HamSCI 2026, Hosted by ARRL

ARRL will host the 9th annual Ham Radio Science Citizen Investigation (HamSCI) Workshop on March 14 – 15, 2026, with primary activities held at Central Connecticut State University (CCSU) in New Britain, Connecticut, and additional events at ARRL Headquarters in Newington. The international workshop brings together radio amateurs, scientists, edu-

cators, and students to explore how amateur radio serves as a practical tool for scientific research and citizen science.

Organized by the HamSCI community, the 2026 workshop carries the theme “Discovering Science Through Ham Radio.” Presentations and discussions will highlight real-world research enabled by amateur radio, including ionospheric and space weather studies, meteor scatter propagation, radio-based sensing technologies, and the growing use of Personal Space Weather Stations. The program emphasizes how these efforts not only advance scientific understanding, but also directly inform and improve amateur radio operating and technology.

The weekend will feature oral and poster presentations, invited tutorials, and sessions designed to be accessible to both newcomers and experienced researchers. A Saturday evening banquet will include a keynote address by astrophysicist Marc Kuchner, NASA’s Citizen Science Officer. Attendees will also have the opportunity to tour ARRL Headquarters, including the ARRL Laboratory, the W1HQ Radio Laboratory, and W1AW – the Hiram P. Maxim Memorial Station, with opportunities to get on the air.

Amateur radio operators, educators, students, engineers, and citizen scientists are all encouraged to participate. A call for abstracts for presentations and posters is open through February 1, 2026, and registration is now available. While the workshop is planned primarily as an in-person event, a virtual attendance option is expected to be announced closer to the date. Additional details, including registration and abstract submission information, are available at [hamsci.org/hamsci2026](https://hamsci.org/hamsci2026).

The above from The ARRL Letter for January 29, 2026

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR 2025—2026

2/5 CVARA Meeting 7:00 PM Grange Hall, .Hale St, Norwich

02/07/2026 - Almond Groundhog Hamfest Almond, NY

2/20 Tech Nighy, Grange Hall Hale st, Norwich, NY

2/27 Exam Session Grange Hall Hale St, Norwich, NY

3/5, CVARA Meeting 7:00 PM Grange Hall, .Hale St, Norwich

3/19, Tech Nighy, Grange Hall Hale st, Norwich, NY

3/26, Exam Session Grange Hall Hale St, Norwich, NY

4/2 CVARA Meeting 7:00 PM Grange Hall, .Hale St, Norwich

4/11 Bull Thistle Hamfest St Bsrtd Parish Center, Easty

Main St Norwich, NY

4/16Tech Nighy, Grange Hall Hale st, Norwich, NY

4/23 Exam Session Grange Hall Hale St, Norwich, NY

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

5/21Tech Nighy, Grange Hall Hale st, Norwich, NY

5/28 Exam Session Grange Hall Hale St, Norwich, NY

*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.*

### February 2026

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 Exam Ses- sion	27	28

### 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: Matt Strong (K2FRY)

Vice President: John Rudolph (N2YP)

Secretary: Carrie Wallingford (KD2VTH)

Treasurer: Emily Goehner (WA2LFI)

Directors: Lois Strong, NK2A; Jon Englart W2BDN, John; Rudolph, N2YP

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.....

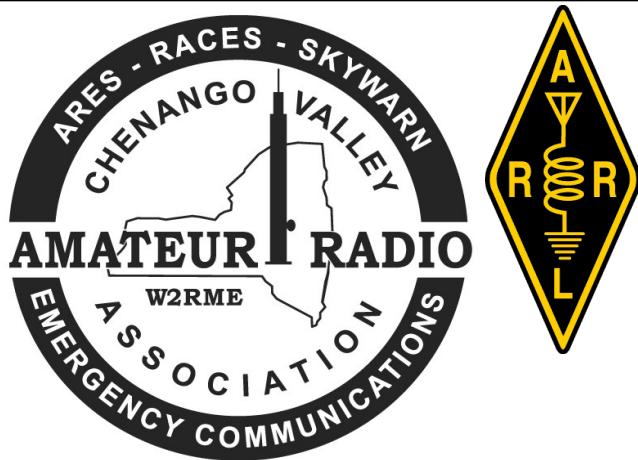
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We encourage promoting our organization and welcoming  
new members to join our group. We hope we can continue to  
grow and maintain a successful club. Your continued support  
can make this happen.

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

***Deadline for the March 2026 Bugle is February 20, 2026***



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