



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 N2YP



VOL. 62 March 2026

Moving Forward Together

Over the past several months, our association has experienced some disagreement and internal tension. It’s important to acknowledge that openly. Organizations like ours are built on passion — passion for amateur radio, public service, and fellowship. Passion can sometimes lead to differing opinions. That’s normal. What matters is how we move forward. One thing that has become clear is that we cannot expect a small handful of members to carry the full weight of the club. If members would like to see specific programs, guest speakers, technical workshops, contests, or operating events, those ideas need champions. Good ideas are welcome but they need volunteers willing to help plan, organize, and follow through. Many hands make light work.

It is discouraging when members put in hours of effort planning activities and very few people attend. We’ve seen this with contests, Field Day, and ARES/RACES meetings. These are opportunities not only to operate and train, but to strengthen our readiness and fellowship. When participation is low, it places an unfair burden on the few who consistently show up.

If we want a vibrant club, we must all contribute, not necessarily in the same way, but in some way. That means volunteering to coordinate programs, helping set up and tear down events, attending club-sponsored activities, supporting public service efforts, and encouraging new operators to participate. No organization can thrive when the workload falls on just a few shoulders. Shared responsibility builds shared pride. This is not a criticism of any one individual — it is a reminder that we are strongest when we act as a team.

Preserving Our History

Another matter that deserves our attention is the protection of our historical records.

At present, we have approximately six to seven full filing cabinet drawers worth of documents — meeting minutes, incorporation records, membership information, photographs, and other materials that represent the history of the Chenango Valley Amateur Radio Association. Currently, these materials are split between space

(Continued on page 3)

CVARA Meeting Minutes for February 5, 2026

Called to order at 1930 on by Vice President John Rudolph (N2YP) held at the Grange Hall in Norwich following a presentation by Tom Monday (KC2SFU) about his refurbishing of an “All American Five” radio.

Minutes:

Motion to accept minutes as printed in the Bugle by Tom Mathewson (AD2TM) 2nd by Richard Volpe (KE2GLH); Motion passed

Treasurer’s Report:

Motion to accept Treasurer’s Report as presented by Jon Englert (W2BDN) 2nd by Ron Haynes (N2RLH); Motion passed

The Treasurer also reported that she received a bill for the rental of the propane tank. This bill also showed a credit. She will check out “What’s the deal” and take care of it.

Committee Reports:

Standing Committees:

Membership:

Audit:

Community Service: Chenango County ARES meeting on Saturday, February 7 at 9am at the joint City of Norwich/Chenango County Emergency Operations Center

Youth: Jon Englert (W2BDN) brought up the idea of conducting a “workshop” type session to build an oscillator prior to one of our upcoming meetings.

John Rudolph (N2YP) reported that he and Jon Englert (W2BDN) plan to hold a Technician license study class over the course of several Thursday evenings. Dates are 3/12, 3/19, 3/26, 4/9, 4/16, 4/23.

Publicity: Tom Mathewson (AD2TM) asked for his

“Normal” submissions to the Bugle. He also reported that he had a mailer copy returned back to him.

Property:

Special Committees:

Nomination Committee: Jon Englert (W2BDN) reported that the Nomination Committee had no nominees and requested the floor be opened for nominations. The following nominations were made from the floor:

President:

Jon Englert (W2BDN)
John Rudolph (N2YP)

Vice President:

Tom Monday (KC2SFU)
John Rudolph (N2YP)

Secretary:

Ron Pfeiffer (W2CTX)

Treasurer:

Emily Goehner (WA2LFI)

Director (3 year term):

Don Rhodes (KB2YSI)
Lois Strong (NK2A) - Declined nomination when contacted

Old Business:

New Business:

Ray Darling (K2DAR) made a motion which was seconded by Ron Haynes (N2RLH) to remove the address which was reported by the Bugle editor that’s being returned. It is believed that that person is no longer a paid member. Motion passed.

Matt Strong (K2FRY) stepped down as President of the association in an email prior to the meeting. Tom

(Continued on page 3)

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 (2nd floor of the Norwich Police station) at 9am on Saturday, February 7th.

We will be reviewing the IS-700 course.

73,
Matthew Jenne
Chenango County ARES EC



(Continued from page 1)

at the County EOC which is undergoing changes and a member’s basement. While we appreciate the accommodations that have been provided, both situations carry risk. We should be considering options such as a climate-controlled storage unit, dedicated secured space at the club property, or a structured digitization project to scan and back up critical documents. I encourage members to bring forward ideas, contacts, and suggestions so we can determine the best long-term solution together.

The Path Forward

We are an organization built on communication, technical skill, service, and resilience. Those qualities apply internally just as much as they do on the air. Let’s reset, step up and help, support our events, protect the legacy that others built before us. If we move forward together, with shared effort and mutual respect, the future of this association will be strong.

(Continued from page 2)

Mathewson (AD2TM) made a motion that we suspend the associated bylaw related to the vacancy of the President as we will be holding elections anyway. Motion was seconded by Mike Barnard (KD2CDU). Motion passed with one abstention.

For the Good of the Membership:

Tom Monday (KC2SFU) volunteered to chair the Hamfest event committee.

Field Day was brought up, but planning will be left to the new slate of officers.

Jon Englert (W2BDN) volunteered to make a

presentation at the March meeting.

A short discussion was had regarding CVARA archive documents. Some “stuff” is at the EOC, some is at the Grange Hall and some at Ray’s (K2DAR) home. Discussion tabled & to be picked up next month.

Closing: Motion made at 20:10 by Tom Mathewson (AD2TM), 2nd by Emily Goehner (WA2LFI).

Attendees: N2YP, AD2TM, KD2CDU, WZ2I, KE2GLH, KE2HLO, KD2ERR, WA2LFI, N2RLH, K2DAR, W2BDN, N2KYX, KA2ZFM, N2VPS, W2CTX



And So It Should Be Written
By Ray Darling, K2DAR, CVARA Historian

Chapter 41

The year 2026 continues a transition in lifestyles of the inhabitants of the United States of America. Celebrating the 250th Anniversary of our founding should be a celebration of growth and prosperity. Yet our young people, when asked who they thought were the most influential and important people of our day, the response was overwhelmingly directed toward entertainers and sports figures. Obviously this seems to show that society has conditioned young people to judge success on outward appearance and activities and not on inward character qualities.

Look closely around you. There are people out there that you have contact with whom you admire and respect. You might admire how well they treat you or how much they seem to accomplish in their lives. They rise to the occasion and always stick to their values, doing what is right and giving their best shot when less would be sufficient. People often look to them for inspiration. An interesting person such as just described, came into our area with his family during the late 1950's to early 1960's making a lasting impression in Chenango County and the Village of Oxford specifically. Let's take a look!

Joseph L. Marso, Born in 1919 and raised in Buffalo, NY. Enlisted in US Army attaining the rank of Staff Sergeant, US Army Med. Dept. Det., 62 Sep. Bn. Following active duty, remained serving in the NY Nat'l Guard. Surviving WW2 and the Korean War, Joe's future brought him to Oxford, NY.

In 1968, the Superintendent (the title typically used for the director) of the New York State Woman's Relief Corps (W.R.C.) Home in Oxford, NY was Joseph Marso. Joe served as the administrator of the facility during the late 1960s, overseeing its transition as a state-run home for veterans and their families. In 1968, the home provided care for aged dependent veterans and their wives, mothers, daughters and widows, as well as army nurses.

During his tenure, Joe was in a Nat'l Leadership Position: serving as the President of the Nat'l Assoc. of State Veterans Home, where he played a role in advocating for veteran care facilities nationwide. Community Involvement: while serving as the President of the Chenango County ARC Chapter. Advocacy: He was instrumental in the modernization and construction of the NYS Veterans Home facility in Oxford as we know it today. See before/after photos below..

He was married to **Patricia "Pat" Marso**, who remained an advocate for the facility. She was born in 1922 and raised in Buffalo as well. She graduated from Mount St. Joseph Academy, the Edward J Meyer Memo-

(Continued from page 4)

rial Hospital School of Nursing in 1943 and received her BS in Nursing from Canisius College in 1956. Pat was sworn in as a 2nd Lt. in the US Army Nurse Corp., serving in the 2nd Service Command at Ft. Dix Station Hospital and Thomas M. England Hospital. On April 7, 1945 Pat married Joseph L. Marso in NY City. After the war Joe & Pat made their home in Buffalo NY until Joe's employment brought them to Oxford, NY. - Pat was also quite active in local community, county, state and national organizations. Active in the ARC, serving as Nursing Services Chairperson for 20 years, also active in the American Cancer Society. Expansive activity in the American Legion Organization, serving on local, state and national levels. Her commitment to veterans led her to actively promote the NYS Veterans Home through the years as a volunteer and served on its Board of Visitors.



While juggling his valuable time in administration duties, Joe was also very involved in the Ham Radio hobby. He was a founding member of CVARA (1965-66), serving as publicity coordinator. Licensed in 1957, Joe held the callsign K2JVE helping guide CVARA and providing that little something extra into the average task. (ie: making the auditorium in the WRC Building available for a period of time for CVARA monthly meetings). Couldn't have asked for a more convenient place to hold our meetings. A welcome gesture and greatly appreciated by all members. No question, a valuable asset to CVARA and its membership.



Joe Marso - K2JVE - Home Station - 1968 Joe Marso - QSL Card 1968

(Continued on page 6)

(Continued from page 5)



K12Y & K2JVE



WA2EYH & K2JVE

**** Honored Guest – “Ham of the Year 1990 “ – K2JVE ****
Old Jericho Tavern – Bainbridge, NY

Unfortunately, “Joe”, K2JVE passed away on August 4, 1996 at 77 years of age.

“Pat” passed away on March 8, 2015 at 93 years of age.

Their combined dedication and commitment to our area was / is truly inspirational!

The NYS Veterans Home has been in operation since 1896. In November 2009, they moved into their new “State of the Art” facility which is operated by the NY State Department of Health for veterans and their dependents. The 242 bed facility provides long and short term rehabilitative care, as well as supervised medical and nursing services.

De Ray/K2DAR

Hi All, In a week, March 5, is our club meeting. We will be electing club officers. We have only two races, for President and Vice President. For President, Jon Englert W2BDN and John Rudolph N2YP; Vice President Tom Monday KC2SFU and John Rudolph N2YP. All other officers are running unopposed; Secretary, Ron Pfeiffer W2CTX; Treasurer Emily Goehner, WA2LFI; Director, Don Rhodes KB2YSI. If you have a bona fide reason: disability, out of town for employment reasons, in a nursing/rehab facility, military deployment, not allowing you to attend March's meeting, a member in good standing and wishing to vote, you still may be able to vote. If you wish to vote by proxy, please provide your proxy with a signed letter, naming your proxy, and stating your reason for not being able to attend before March's meeting. Any questions please let me know.

Jon Englert W2BDN Chair, Nominating Committee

CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR 2026

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 Bsrts Parish Center, East-Main St Norwich, NY

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

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

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

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

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

6/4 CVARA Meeting 7:00 PM Grange Hall, .Hale St, Norwich

6/13 Cortland Hamfest & Technology Fair, Cortland, NY

6/18 1 Tech Nighy, Grange Hall Hale st, Norwich, NY

6/25 Exam Session Grange Hall Hale St, Norwich, NY

6/27, 28 ARRL Field Day

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.

March 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
29	30	31				

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.....

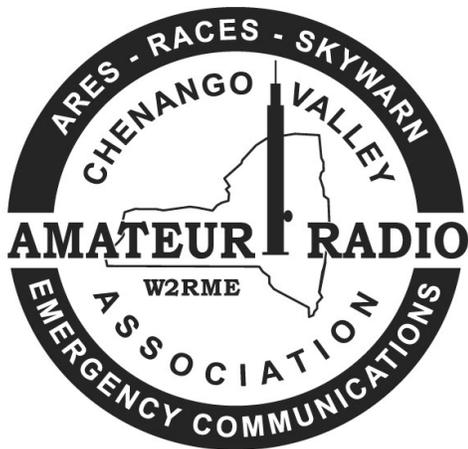
Thomas Mathewson
680 Plymouth N.Norwich Rd
Norwich, N.Y. 13815

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 April 2026 Bugle is March 20, 2026



PO Box 1324
Norwich, N.Y, 13815