



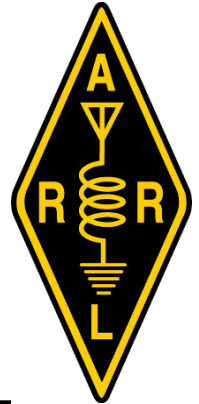
Published Monthly by the HAMS of CVARA

# 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 W2BDN*



VOL. 62 May 2026

Hi All, By what I'm hearing I think we're off to a good start. The hamfest went off pretty well, not perfect, but not bad. We will need to discuss the good and the bad after we get Field Day out of the way. I have presentations lined up until July and thanks to those who have volunteered so far. The programs, in my opinion, are an important part of our meetings, so bring your ideas, or better yet, your presentations.

The shack and property need some attention. I plan on getting up there on Wednesday mornings to do some work, usually around 8 or 9 am. Join us if you can. If I'm going to be there I will put something on the club Facebook page on Tuesday.

I suspect Field Day will dominate May's meeting, so be ready for that.

73, Jon Englert W2BDN

## CVARA Meeting Minutes for March 5, 2026

Meeting started at 1900 April 02, 2026

### Presentation:

The history of the development of the radio receiver by Tom Monday ( KC2SFU ).

Called to order at 1928 on April 2, 2026 by President on Jon Englert (W2BDN) held at the Grange Hall in Norwich.

### Minutes:

Motion to accept minutes as printed in the Bugle by Thomas Mathewson (AD2TM); 2nd by Ron Haynes (N2ROH); Motion passed

### Treasurer's Report:

Motion to accept Treasurer's Report as presented by Richie Volpe (KE2GLH) ; 2nd by Conner Kline ( KF2X ) ; Motion passed

### Committee Reports:

#### Standing Committees:

**Membership:** Jon (W2BDN) asked is someone would be interested in leading this committee.

**Internal Financial Review:** Emily Goehner (WA2LFI); Emily explained that the review report would be due in May. Members will be Dave (KD2ERR), Tom (KC2SFU), and Jon (W2BDN). Meeting scheduled for Thursday April 16 at 7PM.

**Community Service:** Matt Jenne (WZ2I); No ARES meeting this month. Have a GO-KIT show and tell at the hamfest. Request bring yours for display. Matt participated on March 24<sup>th</sup> with the Upstate Medical University CNY Regional Training Center Search Drill. Operated from the radio room at the hospital.

**Youth:** Jon Englert (W2BDN); Two classes for Technician Class run by John Rudolph (N2YP) had 2 candidates.

**Publicity & Public Relations:** Tom Mathewson (AD2TM); Tom asks for his "Normal" submissions to the Bugle. Tom requested that you contact him directly if you don't receive the newsletter.

**Property:** Matt Jenne (WZ2I); Matt gave site tour to Dave Stearns (KD2ERR), Conner Kline( KF2X), Greg Dean ( N2VPS ), and Richie Volpe (KE2GLH).

Matt did a quick inventory of tower supplies. Reviewed plan discussed about building an ice bridge for coax and stuff. Want to order supplies ( base plate from DX Engineering @ \$358.98 ) under already approved authorization.

#### Special Committees:

#### Old Business:

**Hamfest:** Tom ( KC2SFU ) First I like to thank N2IP for getting list of attendees from the Corning Hamfest and created a database spreadsheet which I sent it to Richie ( KE2GLH ).

Richie sent out over 360 emails to these attendees. Only 30 reserved tables up to now. Please come help setup the Hamfest Friday night before the Hamfest. Door prizes donated were:

PowerPole connectors, Power Pole monitoring device, and RF switch. People can bring their gear to donate to be sold or donate it to the club to be sold.

#### New Business:

**Calendar:** Jon Englert (W2BDN) created a preliminary 2026-2027 calendar for activities CVAR would be interested in. Not complete so please if you know of something of interest to CVARA members please let us know in enough time to get it into the newsletter.

*(Continued on page 3)*

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ARES THIS MONTH

May brings the first of our public service events. May 23rd is the General Clinton Canoe Regatta. The races begin at 1pm. I will be seeking operators to help with this endeavor. Anyone able to help cover checkpoints, please let me know. I'll have a list of checkpoints & other tasks at the meeting. Anyone not able to attend the meeting who would like to participate in the Regatta, please email me & let me know.



In addition to the Canoe Regatta event, this month's ARES/RACES meeting will be held Saturday, May 9th at the club shack & will be an "Open House" and demonstration

day. Demonstrations will begin at 8am and include various modes, bands & technologies. All are welcome to attend.

~Matthew Jenne  
WZ2I  
Chenango County EC/RO



*(Continued from page 2)*

**Records and Storage:** Need to take care of archive records and need place to store them. Need climate controlled area. Let know if people have ideas.

**NETS:** Dave (KD2ERR) has been discussing with Matt(WZ2I) and Jon(W2BDN) on setting up digital access net on one or two nights during the month.

**SHOW and TELL:** If you want to bring in something you built or bought that you might think the club might be interested in. Maybe 2 or 5 minutes long.  
Tom (AD2TM) Two weeks ago on 15 meters Tom worked a new country Benin next to Nigeria.

**GROUND RULES:** Start using ELMO – enough lets move on  
We will start each meeting with the pledge of allegiance.

Look into ID Badges. Maybe CVARA designed. Buy from HAMCALL International or local business in Norwich.

Discussed that net control could ad-lib the preamble since it really is an informal net.

**NET CONTROL:** Matt() suggested we have a schedule to be net control for the CARES net.

**For the Good of the Membership:**

**Closing:** Motion to adjourn made at 20:20 by Don (KB2ISY) 2nd by TomAD2TM) .

**Attendees:**

W2BDN, N2KYX, KB2YSI, KE2GLH, KD2ERR, AD2TM, WA2LFI, W2CTX, KC2SFU, KA2ZFM, K2DAR, N2RLH, N2VPS, KF2X, AND WZ2I



*And So It Should Be Written*

*By Ray Darling, K2DAR, CVARA Historian*

*Chapter 43*

**REPORT FROM A HAM AT "GROUND ZERO" NYC**

*Fred Stevens, K2FRD - "Boots On The Ground"*

The surrounding buildings still standing show the effects of the attack; many will have to be demolished (the 24 September TIME shows the status of all the area's buildings). The building directly across the street from me had a huge 15- or 20-story gouge out of it and will eventually come down. Thousands of windows farther out are shattered. The streets are clogged with emergency, construction, and service vehicles, but the emergency personnel are well-organized and disaster traffic passes; no private vehicles are allowed within the perimeter. The streets are also only one-way since temporary water and electric lines, emergency equipment such as generators and police weapons vans, control barricades into secure buildings such as mine, and the emergency and service vehicles themselves line the streets. No cameras are allowed because this is a crime scene and we were told hair-raising stories about those who attempted to take photos within the perimeter and were caught (think of Braveheart's end); similarly, no souvenirs such as pieces of rubble are allowed to be taken. Not a single person of the hundreds with whom I came into contact questioned the need for these measures. Indeed, not a dissenting word was ever heard by anyone who viewed the remains of the area. As an editorial aside, I along with every single person present on the site are of one mind regarding our mission, our Nation's task, and our President's goal to bring the terrorists to swift justice, and will continue to make whatever personal sacrifices are necessary to achieve these ends. It is a horrible evil which has been done to us and the sub-humans who did it WILL pay!

I will not go into detail at this time about some of the experiences suffered by some of the police and firemen with whom I've worked and conversed. Suffice it to state that much has not been, and probably should not be related within the newspapers nor TV, and there has been and will continue to be incredible emotional suffering and turmoil among the surviving emergency personnel, rescue workers, and virtually everyone else who has worked in and around "The Pile". Nevertheless, the morale of all is incredibly high; and a group resolve is so firmly established that nothing will ever, can never cause it to diminish.

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Radio operations are strictly portable using two-band (2m and 440MHz) mobile rigs, but with power supplies instead of batteries. Mobile mag-mount antennas are placed on the power supplies for ground planes and I had little difficulty transmitting through the cement walls and buildings to reach the repeaters. More details, I cannot provide because of security reasons.

Turnover of ham operators is high - some can work only a few hours, others only a day, some for several days due to personal time considerations. A few hams of whom I've become acquainted and are contributing greatly at considerable personal sacrifice include Simone KALYVF, Bob N1DOA (who has been subjected to some black humor kidding, perhaps in poor taste under the circumstances - but he is a

The hours are long, the situation is grim, and the disaster defies credible description. However, the people with and for whom I work are wonderful, and my efforts, small as they might be, seem appreciated. And, everyone's spirits are high! We are proud to sacrifice a little, or a lot of sleep, plus downtime from our jobs and families. I should also mention that I am referring only to those amateur radio operators working through the American Red Cross of whom I have personal knowledge; I have no information regarding hams working with other disaster relief agencies.

In my estimation, the thousands of relief workers, especially the police and firemen who are "in the trenches" are the real heroes together with the American Red Cross workers, mostly unpaid volunteers. My admiration for them all knows no bounds. And, for what it's worth, the Red Cross has been unjustly maligned for many years: it does NOT charge one single penny for its efforts during a disaster, relying solely on the generous donations of Americans everywhere!

I need to thank those who have personally supported my with my ability to do my job: Ray Darling K2DAR who generously loaned me his 2m/440 Kenwood rig and 2/440 antenna (I had only 2-meter gear) and Dave Hatch N2ZDT who would have driven from Wisconsin to bring me needed equipment. And my wonderful "niece" Margaret Weisbrod, her husband Jonathan Morris, and baby Ruby Anne who provided me with a Brooklyn apartment for the duration. There are dozens of others who have provided me with moral support. It is deeply appreciated.

I doubt I'll have a chance to send another email report while down here; I will not be given a similar long period of rest time. I'll get off another, more complete report after my return home sometime later this week or later.

God Bless America!

73, 88, and love to everyone,  
Fred  
K2FRD



*Sadly, Fred passed away September 7, 2013 at age 67 in Phoenix, Arizona, his home of choice following his lifetime of commitment, service to his country, his family and friends. He fought a frustrated battle with several cancers and complications of exposure to Agent Orange and wounds suffered in Vietnam. A strong and dedicated man! God Bless!!*

*73 de K2DAR*

# HAM RADIO DEMONSTRATION DAY

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<b>AREDN MESH (PRIVATE INTERNET)</b>  Amateur Radio Emergency Data Network	<b>FL-DIGI SOFTWARE</b> 	<b>WINLINK</b>  Global Radio Email®	<b>PACKET</b> 	<b>APRS AUTOMATIC PACKET REPORTING SYSTEM</b> 	<b>DMR DIGITAL MOBILE RADIO</b> 
<b>DIGITAL PERSONAL HOTSPOTS</b> 	<b>FT-8</b> 	<b>PSK-31</b> 	<b>AMATEUR RADIO SATELLITES DEMONSTRATION</b> 	<b>HAM OVER IP – VOIP NETWORK</b> 	

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# CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR 2026

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

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

5/9 Amateur Radio Demo Day

6/27, 28 ARRL Field Day

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

**07/11/2026 - Roger's RAGS Hamfest Location:** Camillus, NY

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

**07/18/2026 - Batavia Hamfest Location:** Alexander, NY

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

**07/25/2026 - RadioCom 2026 Utica NY Hamfest Location:** Clark Mills, NY

6/13 Cortland Hamfest & Technology Fair, Cortland, 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.*

6/18 Tech Night, Grange Hall Hale st, Norwich, NY

6/20 Rochester Hamfest, Location: Greece, NY

May 2026					1	2
3	4	5	6	7 Meeting	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21 Tech Night	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

**Permanent committees**

ARES/RACES: **WZ2I**

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: Jon Englert (W2BDN)

Vice President: Tom Monday (KC2SFU)

Secretary: Ron Pfeiffer (W2CTX)

Treasurer: Emily Goehner (WA2LFI)

Directors: Jon Englert W2BDN, John; Rudolph,, N2YP , Don Rhodes KB2YSI

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.....

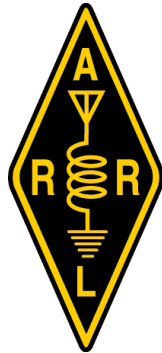
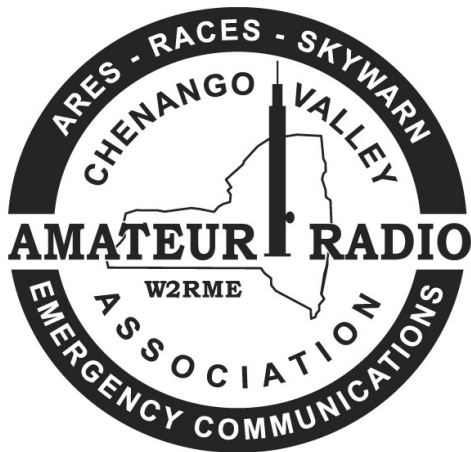
Thomas Mathewson  
680 Plymouth N.Norwich Rd  
Norwich, N.Y. 13815

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 June 2026 Bugle is May 20, 2026***



PO Box 1324  
Norwich, N.Y, 13815