



# 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 W2BDN*



VOL. 62 June 2026

Hi All,

By the time you read this I will be in France attending the baptism of my grand twins and KC2SFU will be presiding over June's meeting.

I am not sure what it is about our club but it seems we have been "blessed" with yet another lot of valuable donations. You are probably aware of it as Tom has been listing some of the items for sale to benefit our club. Whatever is not purchased will be going to hamfests during this summer, so take a look and make an offer.

This summer will be busy starting with the June ARRL VHF Contest. If interested in operating let me know. Contests are a great way of getting on the air and sharpening your skills. Field Day is right around the corner and Tom KC2SFU will be planning this event. July will be Snacks at the Shack, and August will be our Ham of the Year dinner. If interested in planning these events let me know.

73, W2BDN

## CVARA Meeting Minutes for May 5, 2026

Called to order at 1900 on May 7, 2026 by President on Jon Englert ( W2BDN) held at the Grange Hall in Norwich.

### Minutes:

Corrections were incorporated into the April Minutes per changes discussed in meeting. Motion to accept minutes as printed in the Bugle by Richie Volpe ( KE2GLH ); 2nd by Emily Goehner ( WA2LFI ); Motion passed

### Treasurer's Report:

Motion to accept Treasurer's Report as presented by Tom Mathewson ( AD2TM ) 2nd by Ron Haynes( N2RLH ); Motion passed

### Committee Reports: Standing Committees:

**Property:** Matt Jenne ( WZ2I ) visited the site. Tidied up. Brought StepIR antenna to site. NOTE: Discussed repeater being noisy.

**Youth and Education :** Jon ( W2BDN ) commented that examinations were held and one new ham passed.

**Field Day :** See New Business..

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

**Internal Financial Review :** Emily Goehner ( WA2LFI ) reported that the review was successful.

**Publicity & Public Relations:** Tom ( AD2TM ) asked for his "Normal" submissions to the Bugle. Discussion on club outreach like advertising in the Penny Saver.

### **Community Service:**

There will be a demonstration Saturday the ninth at he repeater site from 8am – 12pm. Looking for participants for the General Clinton Canoe Regatta at the fishing access at 12:00 noon

### Old Business:

**Hamfest:** The attempt to generate more turnout was not too successful using the "gold" idea. Tom ( KC2SFU ) commented that 25 mailings resulted in 4-5 responses. One of the demos at the hamfest was well received but another not so much! One attendee said he was going to donate equipment to the club. There was a discussion about attendees not completing information form after leaving the Entry Table.

Emily ( WA2LFI ) announced the hamfest raised between \$600 to \$700. Ritchie ( KE2GLH ) and Tom ( KC2SFU ) will work on notification lists and contact prospects for future club events

### New Business:

**Field Day:** CVARA will run class 3A at he repeater site. A motion was proposed to spend \$100 to do mailings to promote Filed Day by Jon ( W2BDN ) and 2nd by Tom ( AD2TM ). Passed. Tom ( KC2SFU ) asked for volunteers to set up Field Day

### For the Good of the Membership:

**Closing:** Motion to adjourn made at 20:07 by Tom ( AD2TM ) 2nd by Emily ( WA2LFI ) .

### Presentation:

(Continued on page 3)

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# ARES This Month

Memorial Day weekend brought one of our public service events... the Scout Races for the General Clinton Canoe Regatta. The races went on without any major issues. While more volunteers would have been appreciated, we were able to keep track of all of the canoes.



Many thanks to the operators who came out and helped... AD2TM, K2FRY, KF2X, AA2AN & W2BDN.

Our meeting and training session will be Saturday, June 9<sup>th</sup> starting at 9am. I'd like to hold it at the repeater site, if possible. We'll be "touring" one of

the Otsego County RACES trailers, checking out how they can be deployed for various service events. We will also view some of the related resources on the AREDN mesh.

73,  
Matthew Jenne  
Chenango County ARES EC



*(Continued from page 2)*

A powerful documentary on the effects of Electromagnetic Pulse ( EMP ) both man-made and by the Sun presented was presented by Ray ( K2DAR ).

## Attendees:

WZ2I, AD2TM, KE2GLH, KC2SFI, N2XWS, N2VPS, K2DAR, W2BDN, WA2LFI, KB2BYW, K2DAR, and N2RLH.

## **June Proclaimed Amateur Radio Month in New Hampshire**

New Hampshire Governor Kelly Ayotte has issued a proclamation designating June as "Amateur Radio Month" in the state. Ayotte's proclamation was issued in recognition of the valuable service that amateur radio operators provide to their communities at no cost.

Raul "Skip" Camejo, AC1LC, Public Information Coordinator for the ARRL New Hampshire Section and Public Information Officer for New Hampshire ARES®, said that, in 2025, New Hampshire ARES entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with the New Hampshire Department of Safety, Division of Emergency Services and Communications, which designates ARES® as the sole organization providing amateur radio communications support to the state.

"Everyone realized that the potential was there for bad weather communication when cellular systems and public safety radio systems can become inoperable due to infrastructure damage," said Camejo. "The use of amateur radio provides an auxiliary communication system utilizing trained and federally licensed radio operators to support

Possible new member showed up.

## Current Paid Members:

WZ2I, KC2DWE, KC2AVX, KB2BYW, K2WMP, W2CTX, W2BDN, N2VPS, N2XWS, N2KYX, KC2SFU, WA2LFI and Paul Preciado.

the missions of New Hampshire ARES and multiple government agencies across the area."

To practice their communication skills, amateur radio operators will participate in the annual ARRL Field Day June 27 - 28, 2026, including, on the same weekend, the annual Historic Delta Dental Mt. Washington Road Race, an all-uphill run that draws thousands of runners from around the globe to make the grueling climb to the summit of the highest peak in the Northeast. New Hampshire ARES will have 14 members using amateur radio to help runners and mountain-trained emergency medical teams at the base and summit. Amateur radio operators will be back in August for the annual Mt. Washington Bike Ride.

For more information about New Hampshire ARES and the ARRL New Hampshire Section, visit ARRL Sections - New Hampshire.

The above from "ARRL Letter" for May 21,2026



*And So It Should Be Written*

*By Ray Darling, K2DAR, CVARA Historian*

*Chapter 44*

*Virgil Braisland Earns “Extra” License*

*Honoring an old childhood and adult friend, from the History Files of CVARA, Inc., I have taken the liberty of re-typing a published short story about an extremely dedicated and distinguished gentleman you will find interesting.*

*Sidney, NY – Helping in a search for a downed aircraft, “meeting” people from all over the United States and “joining in” on conversations with people in foreign countries like New Zealand and Australia, is rewarding for ham radio operator Virgil Braisland. known by his callsign **KA2ICT**. At age 88 Virgil is one of the most enthusiastic ham radio operators in the area. And one who recently attained the highest level license for amateur radio operators.*

*Last December Virgil Braisland of Bundy Hollow Road, Sidney passed the exam for Extra. Because Virgil is nearly totally blind, three ARRL volunteer examiners came to his home to administer the exam orally. Successful in his quest for the “Extra” Class License, Virgil was given a certificate and will receive his certified copy from the FCC by mail in a few weeks.*

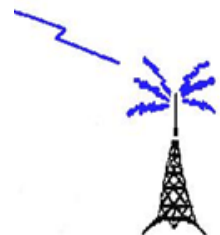
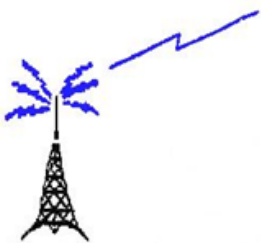
*Virgil first developed an interest in ham radio operations in 1979. Beginning at the Novice Level 1979-80 he worked his way up six levels of licensing, (Novice – Technician - Technician Plus - General – Advanced – Extra) each providing added privileges and frequencies. He has been a member of the Walton Radio Club for a number of years.*

*He expressed that one of the greatest satisfactions for ham radio operators is the opportunity to be of service, particularly during disasters such as earthquakes, floods and in search and rescue operations. It is the ham radio operators who relay vital information during emergency situations. Often it is these men and women who provide the important link with the area outside the emergency site.*

*Virgil's willingness to help others hasn't been confined just to that connected with being a ham operator. He has always been active in his church – the Sidney United Methodist Church, worked as a volunteer with the American Red Cross and was a member of the Tri-Town Retirees, a service organization.*

*Sharing Virgil's pleasure in his hobby is his wife Sara to whom he's been married for almost 67 years. They will celebrate their 67<sup>th</sup> anniversary in November. Both Virgil and Sara are from Margaretville. Before coming to Sidney, they lived in Guilford. They have made their home on Bundy Hollow Rd., Sidney since 1967. Virgil's' wife Sara and his family and friends are very proud of his accomplishment, and even more of his determination to live productively, in spite of the challenges age and blindness place on him. We add our congratulations. We are proud to recognize Virgil, not only for his attainments as a ham operator, but for the example he sets for all of us.*

***KA2ICT became a Silent Key on February 14, 1998 as an “Extra” Special Ham.***



# CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR 2026

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

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

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

**08/01/2026 - Tompkins County Amateur Radio Association Hamfest** Trumansburg, NY

6/13 ARRL June VHF Contest 1800Z, Jun 13 to 0259Z, Jun 15

**08/29/2026 - 8th Annual ROC CITY NET Hamfest** Macedon, NY

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

6/20 Rochester Hamfest, Location: Greece, 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.*

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

6/27, 28 ARRL Field Day

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

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**June 2026**

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

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**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**

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# 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.....

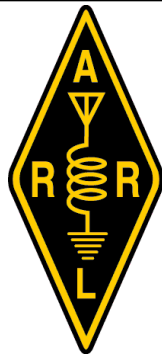
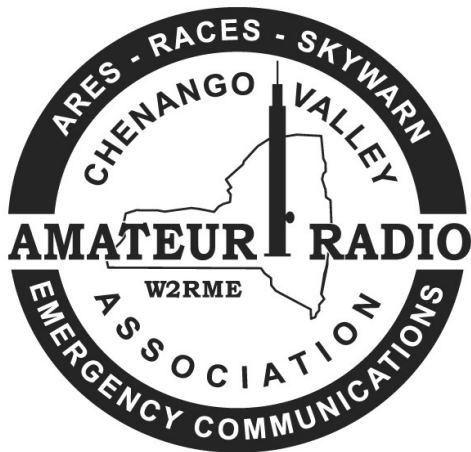
Thomas Mathewson  
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Norwich, N.Y. 13815

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 July the 2026 Bugle is June 20, 2026***



PO Box 1324  
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