



## **Troy Amateur Radio Association - N2TY**

PO BOX 1292 - Troy, New York - 12181-1292

**145.170/R \* Troy's Full Service Repeaters \* 447.075/R**

*(Use a PL Tone of 127.3 Hz on BOTH INPUT/OUTPUT)*

*Repeaters are now Yaesu Fusion running in automatic mode*

Autumn 2019

## 2019 ARRL Eastern NY Section Luncheon

Save the date!!! As an alternative to the annual Hudson Division Luncheon, an Eastern NY Division Luncheon is scheduled for this December.

- When: December 7th, 2019
- Where: Red's Restaurant, 12005 State Rt. 9, Coxsackie, NY 12192
  - ◊ Off of the NYS Thruway (I87) Exit 21B in Northern Greene County.
- Time: 11:30AM to 3:30PM
- Price: Yet to be finalized, appox. \$30 per person
- Menu: Yet to be finalized but it will be a buffet
- 

Here is a link to the Restaurant's website:

<http://www.redsrestaurant.com/index.php?page=index>

REASON: As there is no Hudson Division luncheon this year, I think it would be nice if we as a section can get together enjoy some camaraderie and recognize those Amateur's who have contributed to the hobby this year. Certainly if you know anyone in NLI or NNJ that would be interested in attending feel free to give them the heads up!

If anyone is interested in helping, it would be appreciated: Perhaps putting together a brochure as in previous years. Taking reservations and payments. Perhaps suggesting or acquiring some door prizes.

Suggestions welcome!! Look for details in the next couple weeks!

My contact info:  
 John Fritze K2QY  
 401 261 4996 (cell) texts preferred  
 e-mail: [k2qy@arrl.org](mailto:k2qy@arrl.org)

### **In This Issue:**

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## Field Day 2019 Recap

### Field Day 2019!!!

This year's Field Day went well, thank you to everyone who participated and I hope you had as enjoyable of a time as I did. A special thanks to all those who spent the entire weekend on the hill and to Ray Ginter N2ZQF for the tireless culinary service and for the phenomenal idea to suggest and prepare a steak dinner for all who attended. I would be lying if I said the steak wasn't my favorite part but overall in total I thought Field Day went well and I hope to see just as many (and hopefully more) participants next year to make it a resounding success and a great time.

The club's score information is below:

- Club Call: NY2U
- Class: 4A
- # of Members in attendance: 25
- QSO's: 275
- Overall Score: 1918

Our score this year was a decent one (1918) but I think next year we could easily surpass 2000 points if we have more participation from our appreciated members. Please consider planning ahead now to participate in Field Day, If you haven't ever attended or know someone who is looking to attend please do not hesitate to join the TARA Field Day team for a weekend of fun, wonder, and amusement!

Below are some photos from Field Day this year. If you would like to learn more about Field Day, check out the Field Day tab on the club's website: <http://n2ty.org/>



Logging



A veteran assisting a newcomer



CQ Field Day, CQ Field Day from NY2U



Feeding Time



## Storm Watch Continues Along Southeastern US Coast

Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES®) teams from Florida to Virginia went on alert this week, even before Hurricane Dorian left the Bahamas and started making its way up the southeastern US coast. As of 1800 UTC on September 5, Dorian was back to a Category 2 storm, with maximum sustained winds of 110 MPH. It was 115 miles south-southwest of Wilmington, North Carolina, moving north-northeast at 8 MPH.

The Florida ARES Net and the statewide SARnet repeater system were to remain activated until Florida emergency managers considered the storm no longer a serious threat. The three ARRL Florida Sections conferred daily this week to assess the situation and coordinate support.

In Georgia, an ARES Emergency Net activated on HF, with a variety of coastal, hospital, emergency operations center (EOC) on frequency, and other stations with Georgia's Emergency Management Agency (GEMA). ARES Mutual Assistance Teams are standing by.



ARES operators were deployed to two GEMA sites to listen for assistance calls on HF and monitor several frequencies as well as the D-STAR and \*Georgia\* *EchoLink* conference node 4544. They were also accepting assistance requests via Winlink.

In South Carolina, ARES has been at the ready. The South Carolina Emergency Management Division ([SCEMD](#)) radio room was operating 24/7, and Section leadership has been having regular conference calls.

In North Carolina, emergency managers are anticipating the worst effects of the storm on Thursday and Friday. Evacuation routes have been established, and North Carolina National Guard personnel activated, along with high-water vehicles and aircraft.

Rain and storm surge have been the primary threats, with extensive flooding reported in coastal counties of Georgia and the Carolinas, coupled with high winds that downed trees and caused power outages.



FEMA announced earlier that channels 1 and 2 of the 60-meter band are available, as necessary, for interoperability between federal government stations and US Amateur Radio stations involved in Hurricane Dorian emergency communications. Channel 1 (5332 kHz channel center) is reserved for primary voice traffic on the 5332 kHz channel center, 5330.5 kHz USB, and channel 2 (5348 kHz channel center) for digital traffic, 5346.5 kHz USB with 1.5 kHz offset to center of digital waveform.

The ARRL Emergency Response Team remains activated in monitoring mode, as is W1AW.

[WX4NHC](#) at the National Hurricane Center (NHC) announced formal activation plans for Thursday and Friday. The [VoIP Hurricane Net](#) activated Thursday in support. The net asked radio amateurs in affected areas, or who can relay traffic from affected areas, to provide surface weather data and damage reports for relay to WX4NHC.

[Visit](#) the National Hurricane Center website for the latest official storm information.

Article provided curtesy of the ARRL.



## 144 - 146 MHz Removed from French Proposal for Additional Aeronautical Applications (Potential Interference)

The 144 - 146 MHz Amateur Radio segment has been removed from a French proposal to study additional spectrum for Aeronautical Mobile Service (AMS) applications. France had included the band, which comprises the entire 2-meter band in ITU Region 1, for consideration as a European Conference of Telecommunications and Postal Administrations (CEPT) position for World Radiocommunication Conference 2019 (WRC-19). Heading into a CEPT Conference Preparatory Group (CPG) meeting in Turkey last week, France was holding firm on the proposal to have AMS share 144 - 146 MHz with Amateur Radio. The CPG meeting considered CEPT ECC positions on this and other issues for WRC-19.



The International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) had called the French proposal for 144 - 146 MHz "unsound" and contended that sharing of the current amateur allocation with AMS radio systems would not be possible "without a significant likelihood of mutual interference."

The French spectrum study proposal would have had to gain approval from at least 10 CEPT countries at the CPG meeting -- with not more than 6 opposing -- to appear on the agendas of WRC-19 and WRC-23, where a final decision would be made.

Other Amateur Radio-related issues addressed at the CEPT CPG included:

- Agreement to a European Common Proposal (ECP) on allocating 50 - 52 MHz to the Amateur Service in Region 1 (Europe, Africa, and the Middle East) on a secondary basis, with a footnote listing those countries where the Amateur Service will have a primary allocation in the band at 50 - 50.5 MHz (WRC-19 Agenda Item 1.1).
- Agreement to an ECP on spectrum to be considered for International Mobile Telecommunications (IMT), which does not now include the primary Amateur Radio band at 47 - 47.2 GHz (WRC Agenda Item 1.13).
- No change in the *Radio Regulations* to address the question of operating frequency for wireless power transmission for electric vehicle charging (WPT-EV), leaving open the question of spurious emissions from WPT-EV (WRC Agenda item 9.1.6).
- CEPT is one of the six regional telecommunications organizations and is viewed as the most influential. The issues now move to WRC-19 in Egypt this fall for final resolution. IARU will be represented at the international gathering, which gets under way in late October.

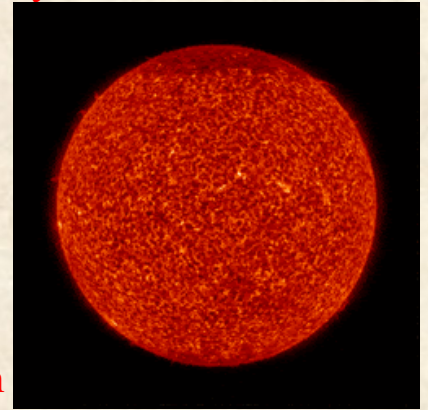


## Flares

### The K7RA Solar Update:

Tad Cook, K7RA, Seattle, reports: Cycle 24 sunspots returned this week, but only for 2 days -- Sunday and Monday -- for a sunspot number of 12. Average daily solar flux increased from 66 last week to 67.4 this week.

Radiation from a coronal hole increased the average planetary A index from 5.7 last week to 19.9 this week, with the level on Saturday and Sunday at 38 and 45. The Fairbanks, Alaska, College A index reached 59 and 86, and at one point on Sunday the K index was 8. Measured every 3 hours, and used to calculate the daily A index, the K index had not previously reached 8 since August and September in 2018.



Predicted solar flux is 69 on September 5 - 11; 67 on September 12 - 22; 68 on September 23 - October 6, and 67 on October 7 - 19.

Predicted planetary A index is 8 on September 5 - 8; 5 on September 9 - 22; 8 on September 23; 5 on September 24 - 25; 10, 35, 44, 24, and 8 on September 25 - 30; 5 on October 1 - 3; 8 on October 4 - 5, and 5 on October 6 - 19.

I will be giving a talk at the [Western Washington DX Club](#) in Seattle on Tuesday, September 10.

Sunspot numbers for August 29 - September 4 were 0, 0, 0, 12, 12, 0, and 0, with a mean of 3.4. The 10.7-centimeter flux was 65.9, 66.5, 66.4, 67.1, 68.8, 68.6, and 68.6, with a mean of 67.4. Estimated planetary A indices were 3, 10, 38, 45, 21, 10, and 12, with a mean of 19.9. The middle latitude A index was 4, 10, 29, 33, 19, 11, and 11, with a mean of 16.7.

A comprehensive K7RA Solar Update is posted Fridays on the ARRL website. For more information concerning radio propagation, [visit](#) the ARRL Technical Information Service, [read](#) "What the Numbers Mean...", and [check out](#) K9LA's Propagation Page.

A propagation bulletin [archive](#) is available. [Monthly charts](#) offer propagation projections between the US and a dozen DX locations.

[Share](#) your reports and observations.



## 5G vs. NOAA

### Concerns Aired that 5G Spectrum Expansion Could Affect Weather Data Collection

An April [report](#) in *Nature* magazine says the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and NASA are asking the FCC to work with them to protect frequencies used for Earth observation from interference as 5G rolls out. The FCC in April auctioned the first block of 5G spectrum with minimal protection to other users. The sale reaped nearly \$2 billion. Some of the 5G-bound frequencies are close to those used by satellites for Earth observations, and meteorologists have expressed fears that 5G transmissions could interfere with their data collection.

The worry is that NOAA won't be able to detect concentrations of water vapor in the atmosphere accurately. Meteorologists rely on those data to feed into their models, and without it, weather forecasts worldwide could suffer.

"Because the United States is such a large communications market, the decisions the government makes about how to deploy 5G are likely to influence global discussions on how to regulate the technology," the *Nature* article said. The article noted that telecommunications regulators will gather in Egypt in October and November for World Radiocommunication Conference 2019 (WRC-19), where delegates will "hammer out international agreements for which frequencies companies will be able to use for 5G transmissions, and what level of interference with Earth-observation frequencies is acceptable," the magazine said.

"Astronomers, meteorologists and other scientists have long worked to share the spectrum with other users, sometimes shifting to different frequencies to prevent conflicts," the article points out. "But 'this is the first time we've seen a threat to what I'd call the crown jewels of our frequencies -- the ones that we absolutely must defend come what may,'" said Stephen English, a meteorologist at the European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasts in the UK.

The recent FCC auction focused on two bands of spectrum -- between 24.25 and 24.45 GHz and between 24.75 and 25.25 GHz. Wireless equipment transmitting near the lower end of that range could interfere with the 23.8 GHz water-vapor measurement. *Nature* said the FCC did not respond to its request for comment on the matter.



The FCC auction set a noise limit on the US 5G network of -20 dBW, much noisier than thresholds under consideration most other systems around the world. The European Commission has settled on -42 dBW for 5G base stations; the World Meteorological Organization ([WMO](#)) is recommending -55 dBW.

"NOAA and NASA have reportedly finished a study on the effects of differing levels of noise interference, but it has not been made public, despite at least one formal request from Congress," *Nature* reported. The Department of Commerce, which oversees NOAA, "strongly supports the administration's policy to promote US leadership in secure 5G networks, while at the same time sustaining and improving critical government and scientific missions."



Article provided courtesy of the ARRL.



# TARA Committees:

In case you didn't know, one of the things that makes TARA so successful in the area with membership from the entire Capital District, is the committees that are set up and managed by members to keep the club running smoothly and allowing its members to have a more rewarding experience.

Below is a list of the 12 Committees of TARA and the current members of each one. We always encourage members to become part of a committee to benefit themselves as well as the group to improve TARA as a whole:

<u>Packet Radio:</u> Mike Styne K2MTS	<u>Contesting:</u> Ray Ginter N2ZQF	<u>Field Day Team:</u> Steve Kopecky KF2WA Ray Ginter N2ZQF Karen Smith KS2O	<u>Repeater Manager:</u> Randy Stein KL7TJZ	<u>Technical Advisors:</u> Robert Isby N2LUD  James McKnight K2LM	<u>Equipment Manager:</u> Roy Warner N2OWC
<u>Food/Refreshments:</u> Pat Decker KB2SRC  Margaret Warner N2PEK David Jaeger, Jr. K2DEJ	<u>Public Service Events:</u> Mac Smith W2VLT  Karen Smith KS2O	<u>Radio Direction Finding:</u> Dick Neimeyer W2ABY	<u>Newsletter Team:</u> David Jaeger, Jr. K2DEJ	<u>VE Liaison:</u> Chris D'Allaird AK2CD	<u>Webmaster:</u> Randy Stein KL7TJZ

## 2019 Public Service Events:

Arsenal City Run  
Sunday September 22 at 10:00 AM  
Watervliet, NY

Pumpkin Patrol  
Wednesday & Thursday  
October 30 & 31 - 6-10 PM

Hudson Mohawk Marathon  
Saturday October 19 at 8:00 AM:  
Schenectady & 1/2 at 8:00 AM:  
Colonie Town Park

Stockade-A-Thon  
November 12 at 8:00 AM  
Schenectady, NY

If you have any questions about TARA's Public Service Team:  
Please contact Karen Smith, KS2O, at 518-273-6594 or [ksmithkb2uuc@aol.com](mailto:ksmithkb2uuc@aol.com).





## How Clever...

Genius hid a Morse code message in song lyrics to prove Google was copying them

By Chris Smith:  
June 17th, 2019

Did you ever notice how you tend to Google the lyrics of a song and then you don't bother clicking through to Genius's website because Google displays them right on the search results page? Well, Genius alleges that Google has been copying its lyrics for years and posting them directly on Google Search, thus preventing visitors from going to its own site. And here's the best part: Genius says it hid a Morse code message within some lyrics on its site to prove Google has been stealing them and reposting them word for word.

Genius first suspected Google of wrong-doing in 2016 when a software engineer discovered that Desiigner's *Panda* song lyrics on Google matched the ones on Genius. The song has lyrics that are very difficult to understand, [\*The Wall Street Journal\* reports](#), but Genius had the error-free version of the lyrics straight from the artist.

"We noticed that Google's lyrics matched our lyrics down to the character," Genius's chief strategy officer Ben Gross told *The Journal*. Genius notified Google in 2017, and then again in April of this year that copied transcriptions appeared on Google Search.

"Over the last two years, we've shown Google irrefutable evidence again and again that they are displaying lyrics copied from Genius," Gross said.

To catch Google, Genius *watermarked* lyrics with the help of apostrophes, alternating between straight and curly single-quote marks in exactly the same sequence for every song. When turned into dots and dashes, the apostrophes spell the words *Red Handed*, which is a smart trick.

Google claims that the lyrics found inside those "information panels" on its site are licensed from partners and not created by Google.

"We take data quality and creator rights very seriously and hold our licensing partners accountable to the terms of our agreement," Google told *The Journal*. Moreover, Google issued a second statement to say it's investigating the issue and will terminate its agreements with partners that aren't "upholding good practices."

The report notes that Google partnered with LyricFind in 2016, but the company's chief executive Darryl Ballantyne told *The Journal* that it doesn't source its lyrics from Genius, relying on its own content team for the lyrics.

Article originally posted on: [bgr.com](#).



# The Capital District Commuter Assistance Network:

The Capital District Commuter Assistance Network – why YOU should check in (even if you don't commute)

By Jock Elliott, KB2GOM

In 1996, I was suddenly thrust into being net control for the Capital District Commuter Assistance Network. The net was started by Ed Barnat, N2RKA, but he changed jobs and couldn't continue. The net struggled for a while, and then one day the repeater controller (Hugh . . . I've forgotten his call sign) said, in essence: "If you want the net to continue, you're the guy."

Boom! . . . instantly, I was net control. Talk about learning by doing! For a while, I tried to operate the way N2RKA had: monitoring CB 9 as well as two meters and listening to scanners for traffic related info. Over the years, though, I have continued to simplify and pare the net down to the absolute bare essentials. Now I simply operate on 2 meters and count on net participants to share relevant information.



Jock Elliott, KB2GOM

So here are the basics. The net operates from 6 am to 8:15 am every work day morning. In case of an imminent emergency – ice storm, big snow storm, etc – the net runs longer. The main frequency is 146.94 (no tone) with a backup frequency 147.27, pl 94.8. The first purpose of the net is to detect problems on the roadways and report them to the proper authorities, which usually means the Department of Transportation Traffic Management Center in Latham, NY (TMC also shares information with the net). The second purpose is to share that information with net participants.

The net has two rules: (1) Don't cause anything. (2) When in doubt, report anyway. The net also has a motto: Boring is our friend. The net has operated for over two decades without dues or bylaws and only three casual meetings for pie-and-coffee and shake-and-howdy.

I owe a huge debt of gratitude to the (estimated) 100-200 hams who have participated over the decades, to N2LUD and K2LM who maintain the 146.94 machine and keep it on the air with its awesome footprint, and to W2EMS who has graciously supported me in making presentations about the net to the various ham clubs in the area.

Here's why you should check in, even if you don't commute. At the request of ARRL leadership in the area, I keep track of raw numbers of checkins and incident that occur weekly during the net. This information get passed along (eventually) to Washington, where it helps to justify hams' use of the frequencies. So, check in!

Finally, if you have an incident to report, here's what you need: where (what route, what direction . . . nearest cross street, landmark or highway mile sticker), what (disabled vehicle, accident, debris, animal carcass, etc.), in traffic or not, how many vehicles, and any injuries.

PS – I have an interest in setting up an "emergency response station" – one that would be useful in a lights-out emergency – at the home QTH. If you have any expertise, info, or references you could share, please reach out to me at [jock.elliott@gmail.com](mailto:jock.elliott@gmail.com)



## In Memoriam

Unfortunately we must once again say farewell to a fellow Ham and good friend, John Tutein. We will miss him dearly and will always remember the good times we shared.

Rotary Scout Reservation lost a family member, beloved friend and mentor, and a truly kind spirit on July 12, 2019. John "Tute" Tutein of West Albany, NY was a graduate of Christian Brothers Academy. He later graduated from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute with a BS in chemical engineering. John had participated in ROTC at RPI with plans of becoming an army engineer. For health reasons, John was unable to do this. As such, he began working for Factory Mutual as a fire protection engineer. While he traveled many places with this company, he spent much of his time inspecting the various General Electric plants in the Capital Region. He focused his service aspirations toward firefighting, riding ambulance (John was one of the original Town of Colonie Paramedics), and Scouting.

John's Scouting career began with Troop 40 in Albany. With his troop, John attended Stratton Mountain Scout Reservation each summer and managed to earn the extremely rare Hornaday Award for conservation. In 1966, this distinction got the attention of Rotary Scout Reservation's Camp Director, so John was recruited and began his 53 year summer camp staff career. In addition to being the Nature Director, John also served as the Rifle Range Director, Health Officer, and Assistant Ranger during his tenure. Even when John was working full time, he found a way to come out during the summer and work at camp. This usually meant using all his vacation time as well as taking unpaid time.

Mentioning John's name at camp brings up a multitude of images:

- the jingling of change in his pockets when he was riled up
- the constant warm Diet Coke and cigarettes in his earlier years
- his inability to use an "indoor voice" or any kind of filter when speaking
- struggling to decide which of his many fire extinguishers would work best to extinguish the Camp Office fire
- carrying around every tool known to man in his truck
- mangling a pie trying to get out the first piece
- laughing uncontrollably

In his years at Rotary, John earned the Vigil Honor and a Silver Beaver among other awards and recognitions, but that's not what he will be remembered for. Rotary was John's home, and we will never be able to fully thank him for the mark he left upon us all. He forever changed everyone who knew him. John had a story for everything, and no one could match his delivery. But even more importantly, John could find the good in anyone and anything. While he touched all our lives, he made it his personal mission to really reach out to those who everyone else had dismissed.

John has gone home now, and he will be sorely missed. He will, however, live on in all of us because John is the embodiment of everything that makes Rotary a second home to so many of us.





## Krimskrams:

### Build Your Own HF Rig!!!!

From Bob Bownes KI2L:  
Folks,

Someone I know just bought a really nice little kit HF transceiver, the  $\mu$ BitX, a SSB/CW, 10W out that pretty much anyone who can solder a wire into a hole on a PCB can build for the princely sum of \$139 w shipping.

Of course I said 'Cool! I want one!' and then thought it might make a good group buy/community project for TARA and the Center of Gravity (since they have a class room and all the tools needed).

So, this is a no commitment required call to see how many folks would be interested in getting together and building some together. If there is enough interest, I'll make a formal call to those expressing interest and ask for commitment.

So, if you're interested, drop me an email at: [bownes@gmail.com](mailto:bownes@gmail.com)

Thanks!  
Bob

### HF Rigs for Sale:

#### Radios:

Elecraft KPA500, Elecraft K3, Elecraft KX3

Icom IC-7800, Icom 7600

Yaesu FTDX-5000MP, Yaesu FTDX-3000

Kenwood ts 990s, kenwood ts 2000.

Flex 5000A, Flex 6500, Flex 6700.

#### Amps:

Icom PW-1

Acom 2000

Ameritron AL82.

Alpha 87A

Email Ruby Garcia KE5MKG for pictures and prices. [ruby73garcia@gmail.com](mailto:ruby73garcia@gmail.com) Phone: 818 538 5017.

#### Radios:

Icom IC 7700, Icom IC-7800, Icom IC-756 PRO III .

Yaesu FT-1000MP, Yaesu FTDX-5000MP.

Kenwood ts 990s, kenwood ts 2000.

Flex 5000A, Flex 6500, Flex 6300.

TenTec OMNI VII

#### Amps:

ICOM PW-1 HF AMPLIFIER

Alpha 9500 and

Acom 2000

Alpha 87A

Email Shirley Bethel KB5SIN for more information. [sbesthel@gmail.com](mailto:sbesthel@gmail.com)

I hope you enjoy the Newsletter —David.

