



## **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*

Spring 2020

## Happy Birthday TARA!!!!

Once again it is time to celebrate the birthday of our beloved radio club. Every year in April the members of the Troy Amateur Radio Association celebrate the founding of their club. This year TARA turns 29, and it still looks as youthful as ever! As always, there will be a gathering at our normal meeting location in Green Island at the Water Plant at: 14 Hudson Ave, Troy (Green Island), NY 12183.

The date for the event is TENTATIVELY April 21, 2020. It is TENTATIVE due to the current level of concern regarding Coronavirus. Club President: Randy Stein, KL7TJZ will email club members closer to the date to confirm it's occurrence/cancellation.

The party is a "Pot Luck" style, so please consider bringing a dish to share. Entrees will be provided, but sides, snacks, and desserts are brought in by those in attendance. If you are planning on bringing a dish to share, please contact Karen Smith at (518) 273-6594 or by email at: [ksmithKB2UUC@aol.com](mailto:ksmithKB2UUC@aol.com) to let us know what you plan to bring. Thank You!



Also, please remember; this newsletter is completely created by David Jaeger, Jr. K2DEJ. Any interesting articles, facts, upcoming events, or random comments you'd like to see in an upcoming edition of the newsletter (published quarterly). Please email them to: [davidjaegerjr@gmail.com](mailto:davidjaegerjr@gmail.com), they are appreciated and requested, thanks.

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## A Word from our President:

From our President, Randy Stein KL7TJZ:

3/16/2020

Hello everyone,

A lot to talk about this newsletter.

First, our meetings are on hold until Green Island says we can use the meeting room again.

Next month should be our anniversary party, but it will probably have to be celebrated well after the anniversary date.

This past weekend a technician course and several VE sessions were cancelled.

Today, I found out the Dayton Hamvention is cancelled.

Rensselaer County is asking for volunteers for a phone bank, details have been put out on the TARA groups.io group.

We are going to have our first ever on-the-air club meeting this month, since we can't meet in person.

We will get through this virus pandemic and get things back to normal soon. Please be patient and stay safe.

Let me know if you have any questions/suggestions during this situation.

Since you'll be spending a lot more time home, fire up the hf rig or get on the repeater and do some hamming.

73,

Randy Stein  
KL7TJZ  
TARA President

## Dayton 2020 Cancelled!!!!

The Hamvention committee has decided to cancel Hamvention.

See this note:

<https://hamvention.org/committee-cancels-hamvention-2020/>

The Hamvention Executive Committee has been monitoring the COVID19 pandemic. We have worked very closely with our local and state health Departments.

It is with a very heavy heart the Hamvention Executive Committee has decided to cancel Hamvention for this year. This decision is extremely difficult for us but with around two months until the Great Gathering we felt this action necessary. More specific details regarding the closure will soon be posted here. Thank you for your understanding in this time of International Crisis.

Jack Gerbs  
General Chairman HV2020  
JackWB8SCT@gmail.com  
73

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ARRL Hudson Division  
Director: Ria Jairam, N2RJ  
n2rj@arrl.org



## 03/14/2020 UPDATE - ARRL HQ Closed to public, more COVID-19 updates

From ARRL Hudson Division Director, Ria Jairam, N2RJ:

Hello everyone,

The cancellations are rolling in and we'd like to update you on where things stand. As a reminder, we are under a National State of Emergency declared by the President this past Friday and the States of New York and New Jersey have also instituted States of Emergency. This has the main effect of giving special powers to local and state authorities to handle COVID-19 events. As always, follow the advice of your local health officials and the CDC. If in doubt, canceling an event may be the safer bet.

### ARRL HQ CLOSED TO PUBLIC EFFECTIVE 03/16 DUE TO COVID-19 CONCERNS:

ARRL interim CEO Barry Shelley, N1VXY has instructed staff to temporarily close HQ to public tours and guests.

The following notice was posted on the ARRL website:

<http://www.arrl.org/news/arrl-suspending-tours-and-guest-visits-to-headquarters-w1aw>

"As part of efforts under way to help protect the health and safety of ARRL Headquarters employees and volunteers from the impacts of the coronavirus, ARRL has decided to suspend all tours and guest visits to Hiram Percy Maxim Memorial Station W1AW and ARRL Headquarters, effective Monday, March 16. Out of an abundance of caution, this suspension will be in effect until further notice. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause to our members and their guests who had been planning to visit us in Newington, Connecticut. We feel, however, that this is a necessary precaution and is in keeping with the guidance being provided by federal and local health professionals. We appreciate everyone's patience and understanding as we all endeavor to deal with this difficult public health situation."

### SPECIAL WEBSITE FOR CANCELLATIONS:

ARRL has set up a special website to list cancellations of events:

<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/search/canceled>

This website lists ARRL sanctioned hamfests and conventions, and not club meetings, VE sessions nor public service events.

If you have a hamfest that you would like to cancel, or that is already canceled, please email [hamfests@arrl.org](mailto:hamfests@arrl.org). The events department will add it to the list. If you have a local event that you'd like to announce cancellation of, email to [n2rj@arrl.org](mailto:n2rj@arrl.org) and we'll announce them periodically.

### VARIOUS EVENT CANCELLATIONS IN THE DIVISION:

LIDXA Meeting 03/17 - CANCELED

BARA VE session 03/20 - CANCELED

MORRIS Radio Club meeting 03/16 - CANCELED

FLARC Speaker Series -03/20 - CANCELED

W2LI TCRA Meeting 03/16 - will be held on the W2LI repeaters

This list is by no means comprehensive, but you can always email [n2rj@arrl.org](mailto:n2rj@arrl.org) with your cancellation notice if you'd like to have it sent out.

73

ARRL Hudson Division Director:

Ria Jairam, N2RJ

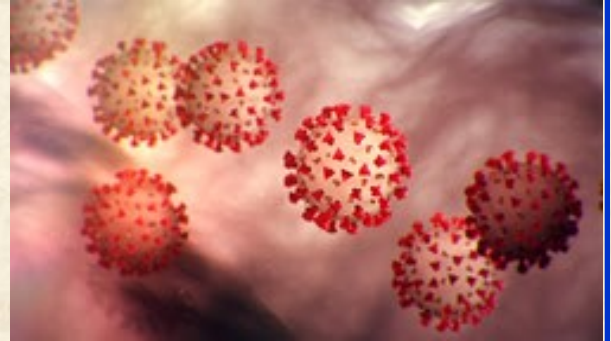
[n2rj@arrl.org](mailto:n2rj@arrl.org)



## Visalia International DX Convention, Other Events, Canceled Due to Coronavirus Concerns

Concern over COVID-19 has led to the cancellation of the 2020 International DX Convention ([IDXC](#)) and of several other amateur radio-related events here and abroad. The IDXC was to be held April 24 - 26 in Visalia, California.

"We send out our apologies to all our prospective patrons of the 2020 International DX Convention," IDXC Co-chairs Cathy Gardenias, K6VC, and Kris Jacob, K6TOD, said on behalf of the convention committee. "Due to concerns, health and well-being of our amateur radio family, our age group, and possible compromised health issues, we are taking the side of safety and canceling the convention. "They conceded that, although the number of COVID-19 cases remains low, it only takes one person to pass the virus. IDXC is processing refunds.



On March 11, the Dayton Hamvention® Executive Committee, said, "As of now we plan on holding Hamvention unless otherwise directed. It is our intention to follow the orders of the State of Ohio and the Greene County Health Department." On March 12, Ohio Governor Mike DeWine issued an executive order barring public participation in sporting events and other large gatherings (defined as 100 or more attendees). Ohio has reported four confirmed COVID-19 cases. <<<**NOW CANCELLED AS OF 3/15>>>**, K2DEJ

An in-person version of the [HamSCI workshop](#), set for March 20 - 21 at the University of Scranton, has been canceled because of the coronavirus situation. HamSCI's Nathaniel Frissell, W2NAF, who's organizing the event, said alternative plans are in play to hold a virtual workshop.

The Gulf Coast Amateur Radio Club Spring Hamfest on March 14 and the Great Lakes Convention on March and the March 15 Toledo Hamfest in Ohio have been canceled. Also cancelled: [Communications Academy 2020](#), due to be held in Seattle, Washington, April 24-26.

ARRL has created a [URL](#) that will search the ARRL Hamfest and Convention Database for canceled events.

FCC Headquarters has barred the door to visitors, employees, and contractors who have been in any country subject to a COVID-19-related CDC Level 3 Travel Warning. It also has suspended until further notice any FCC involvement in large, non-critical gatherings involving national or international participants. Read [more](#).



## ARRL to Argue for Continued Access to 3 GHz Spectrum as FCC Sets Comment Deadlines

At its annual meeting on January 17 - 18, the ARRL Board of Directors instructed Washington Counsel Dave Siddall, K3ZJ, to prepare a strong response to protect amateur access to spectrum in the 3 GHz range. In its *Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM)* in WT Docket 19-348, the FCC proposed to relocate all non-federal operations, including amateur uses, to spectrum outside the 3.3 - 3.55 GHz band.

The Commission anticipates auctioning this spectrum to expand commercial use of 5G cellular and wireless broadband services, if agreement can be reached on relocation of—or sharing with—the federal incumbents that operate in the same band.



The ARRL Board met January 17-18 in Windsor, Connecticut.  
[Michelle Patnode, W3MVP, photo]

The FCC has requested comment on the uses radio amateurs make of the spectrum and appropriate relocation options. Complicating matters is the fact that radio amateurs must consider the possibility that the immediately adjacent 3.1 - 3.3 GHz band is included in the spectrum that Congress has identified for similar study.

FCC Commissioner Michael O'Rielly, in a December statement, referenced the fact that the lower band may also be considered for non-federal reallocation, potentially limiting relocation possibilities.

Amateurs make substantial use of the 3.3 - 3.5 GHz band that would be hard to replicate elsewhere, and they had filed more than 150 comments before the designated comment period even began. Among users looking at options are those who use this spectrum for Earth-Moon-Earth (moon bounce) communication, mesh networks, experiments with communication over long distances, radio-sport, and amateur television. A portion of the band is also designated for use by amateur satellites in ITU Regions 2 and 3 (the Americas and Asia/Pacific).

A report is due by March 23 from the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) evaluating the feasibility of having federal users share all or part of the 3.1 - 3.55 GHz band with commercial wireless services. This report is required by the Making Opportunities for Broadband Investment and Limiting Excessive and Needless Obstacles to Wireless (MOBILE NOW) Act. The results of the NTIA report will impact how much spectrum ultimately may be re-allocated for auction to wireless providers.

ARRL urges amateurs who comment to inform the FCC about the uses they make of the 3 GHz spectrum. Short comments and longer statements may be filed electronically. Visit the FCC "[How to Comment on FCC Proceedings](#)" page for more information. Commenters should reference WT Docket 19-348.



## "Team Exuberance" Aims to Lower the Average Age of Contesters

Seven of the world's top youth CW operators will convene at the western Pennsylvania superstation of Tim Duffy, K3LR, in late May, in an effort to lower the average age of contest operators -- especially CW operators. "Team Exuberance (TE)," comprised of teens and early 20-somethings, gained a reputation during the CQ WPX phone event in 2019. This year, they will tackle the CQ WPX CW contest on May 30 - 31. The young operators have been raising money to minimize the cost of the adventure for the participants and their families.

"The average age of today's CW operator is 67," the group asserted. "Team Exuberance CW 2020 (TE CW 2020) is out once again to take a swing at the radiosport establishment, disprove the adage that old age and treachery will always beat youth and exuberance, and bring down the average age of the contesting community." They also want to prove "that youth contesters are legit contenders" in the radiosport arena



Violetta Latham, KK8AT, led the first [Team Exuberance contest operation](#), which took first place in North America in the Multi-Two category, racking up a score of 22 million points and logging 5,700 contacts. The team will stick to the Multi-Two format for the WPX CW this year.

The TE CW 2020 team will include David Samu, VE7DZO; Marty Sullaway, NN1C; Philipp Springer, DK6SP; Bruce Yang, KN8U/BH4EPL; Tomi Varro, HA8RT; Mathias Acevedo, CE2LR, and Bryant Rascoll, KG5HVO.

The team has mounted a [GoFundMe campaign](#) to raise the projected \$8,000 necessary to cover airfare, hotel, transportation, and meals for the duration of the contest. Any excess funds will be donated to the David Kalter Youth DX Adventure.

"Your donation will not only help our team achieve the goal of participating in the CQ WPX CW 2020 but also keep the momentum of bringing more youth into the hobby and ultimately bring down the average age," the team said in its pitch.

TE CW 2020 says its operators were handpicked for this contest and are all highly skilled and experienced. Varro, who is 21, was the 2014 High-Speed Telegraphy (HST) competition champion, while Yang, also 21 and a student at Georgia Tech, was the World Rookie champion for the 2019 CQ WPX CW event.

"While amateur radio is not a mainstream hobby for today's youth, finding skilled youth CW operators is even rarer," TE CW 2020 said in a news release. "They do [CW] because it's fun and challenging."



## New Features in ENY ARES Connect

From: [d4star@gmail.com](mailto:d4star@gmail.com)

To: [k2qy@arrl.org](mailto:k2qy@arrl.org), [km2o@arrl.net](mailto:km2o@arrl.net)

Sent: 2/26/2020 1:57:52 PM Eastern Standard Time

Subject: New features in ENY ARES Connect

ENY ARES Leaders,

I am pleased to announce some new features that have been introduced to ENY ARES Connect.

As of today, two new fields have been added to everyone's user profile: "Emergency Contact" and "Emergency Contact Phone"

I urge everyone to visit their user profile and enter this information which could prove vital. This has been added to ARES Connect nationwide and is the direct result of passing a suggestion from Orange County AEC Andy Weyant N2CE to ARRL HQ. Thanks Andy!

I also want to point out a way that has been added for users to enter their hours for an event they participated in. At the top of the page you will see your name. That is also a drop down menu. Open the menu to "View Hours." If there is an event you participated in that has not yet had its hours recorded, you will be asked to self approve those hours. Otherwise this will show you a list of hours and events that you have attended.

More is coming as enhancements are being added to make this system even more useful to ARES leaders and more user friendly to members.

Thanks

Dave KM2O

David Galletly KM2O

Section Emergency Coordinator

ARRL Eastern New York Section

[km2o@arrl.net](mailto:km2o@arrl.net)

518-421-8324

HH 4076

[enyares.org](http://enyares.org)

ARES Connect: <http://vhub.at/aresconnect-eny>



## 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 Karen Smith KS2O David Jaeger, Jr. K2DEJ	<u>Public Service Events:</u> 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

## 2020 Public Service Events:

CDPHP Corporate Challenge  
Thursday May 21st, 2020  
6:00 PM

Watervliet Memorial Day Parade  
Monday May 25th, 2020  
10:00 AM

Friehofers Run for Women  
Saturday May 30th, 2020  
9:00 AM

Arsenal City Run  
Sunday September 20th, 2020  
<<<Time TBA>>>

Hudson-Mohawk Marathon  
Sunday October 11th, 2020  
8:00 AM

Pumpkin Patrol  
Fri & Sat October 30th-31st, 2020  
6:00 PM-10:00 PM

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).





## Krimskrams (Odds and Ends):

### Rigs for Sale:

Call or text Peter Harvey W2FW at (518) 729-0325 for more information.

#### Radios:

Uniden BCD436HP Scanner

Many HF radios for sale , please contact Peter W2FW at the number above via phone or text message.

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

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

#### 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

I hope you enjoy the Newsletter —David.

