



THE TARA NEWS

Affiliate of the American Radio Relay League

Volume 19 © Issue 01 January 2009

BEAUTIFUL BUT DEADLY !!!!



Ice Storm Postpones Christmas Party until January 20th

Division Newsletter of the Month

Awarded to Troy Amateur Radio Assn.

The December 2008 award goes to "The TARA News" of the Troy Amateur Radio Association for their December 2008 Issue. Congratulations once again to the large group that puts this club newsletter together.

Editor-in-Chief: Perry White (Perry has been working with Clark for years to get his license)

Editor: Ken "Chief" Davis, .. KB2KFV

Co-Editors: Marilyn Davis...KB2JZI and Karen Smith KS2O

Design/Layout: Ken Davis, KB2KFV

Columnists: Joe Pasquini N2NOU and Steve VanSickle WB2HPR

Cartoonist: Dave Leavenworth WB2TGN

Clubs please make sure that you continue to send a copy of your pdf files to n2ff@arrl.org. I have been missing some issues in the last few months. Not every division club is submitting each month. It's like Lotto, if you don't buy a ticket or send a PDF you can't win!

<http://www.hudson.arrl.org/pages/newsletterawards.htm>



More than a Club



We're a Family



Upcoming Amateur Radio Events



TARA Christmas Party Rescheduled to January 20, 7:00 PM

I don't know about you, but even though winter isn't even officially a month old yet, I have had enough of Ice and Snow to get me through the rest of this Season.



In the meantime, there is a Gift Box still sitting up at Mr. Bill's House awaiting some lucky TARA MEMBER who has his dues paid.

Can anyone guess just what might be inside this gift box? If not; you'll just have to wait until January 20 at the TARA Christmas Party in order to find out. That's when "one" lucky club member will be chosen to receive this very special holiday gift from TARA. As we told you last month we are doing something a little bit Special for our Club members in the form of this Holiday Gift.

But, in order to receive this gift you must attend the Christmas Party on January 20th at 7:00 PM over in Green Island. Plus, you must have your dues for 2008/2009 "PAID IN FULL." If you're not sure if your dues are paid you're still in luck. If you act right now you'll have plenty of time to check with Howie, N2HIC, at hic2@verizon.net to make sure your dues are taken care of. Also, you'll have time at the meeting but let's take care of things here and now. After all, Howie wants to visit with his friends & family and enjoy the party too!

So...make sure you do the following:

- 1.) **MAKE SURE YOU ATTEND THE JANUARY 20TH RESCHEDULED CHRISTMAS PARTY**
- 2.) **MAKE SURE YOUR DUES ARE PAID FOR 2008/2009**
- 3.) **AND IF WOULD LIKE TO BRING A HOT OR COLD DISH TO SHARE, PLEASE CALL KAREN SMITH, KS20 AT 273-6594 AND SHE WILL LET YOU KNOW WHAT SHE NEEDS ☺ ...**

24 Hour Feld Hell Sprint January 17, 2009 at 00:00 Hrs.

From 0000Z to 2400Z January 17th, the goal is to Work All States in Hell. And when it's over, you can use our easy on line autologger to submit your scores. All the rules are on the Feld Hell Club web site at <http://sites.google.com/site/feldhellclub/Home/contests> (This page also lists all upcoming Hell Sprints through August.)

Here's a bonus: working in Hell counts towards your TRIPLE PLAY Award from the ARRL (<http://www.arrl.org/news/stories/2009/01/08/10550/?nc=1>)

So from all of us in the Feld Hell Club, we hope to see you in Hell this Saturday!

David - WB2HTO
Feld Hell Club Contest Manager



KC2SKI Earns Top Honors



I'm proud to announce that Robert E. Dillon, Jr., KC2SKI has just received his 20 Word Per Minute Morse Code Proficiency Certificate from the American Radio Relay League. He has been working on this award for many months now and it sure wasn't easy. It's great to see someone that still wants to earn such an honor as this.
FIRST CLASS JOB, ROBERT!!

Since that time, Bob has started working towards his 30 WPM and during the interim Bob is extremely busy passing Traffic via the National Traffic System and the Capital District Traffic System.

We Really Need Your HELP!!



On January 20th, We are going to need several good hands to assist with setting things up on Tuesday afternoon and again after the party to clean things up. As always, the more hands that we have, the easier things are for everyone.

We are still are having a problem on the Repeater with people either sitting on their microphones or getting it stuck on transmit down in the seat in the car.

PLEASE GET A MIKE CLIP AND HANG YOU MIKE UP, BEFORE YOU COST SOMEONE THEIR LIFE because they couldn't make an EMERGENCY CALL on the repeater. !!

Obama to Select Genachowski to Lead F.C.C.



Julius Genachowski at a Conference in Tel Aviv in 2006

President-elect Barack Obama intends to nominate Julius Genachowski, an adviser on technology issues and longtime friend, to become the next chairman of the Federal Communications Commission, advisers to Mr. Obama said.

During the campaign, Mr. Genachowski shaped many of Mr. Obama's telecom policies. He advocated an open Internet in the debate over so-called "net neutrality," and media-ownership rules that promote a diversity of voices on the airwaves.

He was chief counsel to Reed Hundt, a chairman of the Federal Communications Commission, during the Clinton administration. He then worked for eight years as a senior executive at Barry Diller's IAC/Interactive Corporation. He also founded an investment and advisory firm for digital media companies and co-founded the country's first commercial "green" bank

Mr. Genachowski, 46 years old, is a former Harvard Law School classmate of Mr. Obama. He previously worked at the FCC during the Clinton administration. More recently, he co-founded LaunchBox Digital, a Washington, D.C.-based venture capital firm. He worked at Barry Diller's IAC/InterActive Corp. in various executive positions for eight years after leaving the FCC. He worked for the commission at a time when they were better disposed to listening to the problems of Amateur Radio during the period when Riley Hollingsworth was appointed.

Mr. Genachowski couldn't be reached for comment. A spokeswoman for the Obama transition team declined to comment. During the campaign, Mr. Genachowski served as the top technology adviser to Mr. Obama, putting together a detailed technology and innovation plan that expressed support for open Internet or "net neutrality" protections; media-ownership rules that encourage more diversity; and expansion of affordable broadband access across the country.

An early supporter of the president-elect, Mr. Genachowski also served as a bundler for the campaign, raising more than \$500,000 in donations.

If confirmed, Mr. Genachowski will take over an agency that has had rocky relations with Congress and major companies in the telecommunications industry under current FCC Chairman Kevin Martin. The agency may also still be coping with the U.S.'s transition to digital-only television, which is scheduled to take place Feb. 17 but could be pushed back to the summer.

While at IAC, Mr. Genachowski served several roles at the media and e-commerce conglomerate, first as general counsel and later as head of business development and part of the top core of executives.

—Shira Ovide contributed to this article.

Write to Amy Schatz at Amy.Schatz@wsj.com and Laura Meckler at laura.meckler@wsj.com

Earthquake Strikes Costa Rica, Emergency Ham Frequency Declared

On Thursday, January 8 at 1921z, an earthquake measuring 6.2 on the Richter scale struck the Central American country of Costa Rica. The earthquake, with an epicenter located about 22 miles northeast of San Jose, comes after a series of almost 60 seismic events that have rocked the country since early this week.

The Radio Club de Costa Rica (RCCR) -- that country's IARU Member-Society -- is monitoring local repeaters and 7090 kHz. IARU Region 2 Emergency Communications Coordinator Cesar Pio Santos, HR2P, requests that 7090 kHz be kept clear of non-essential traffic due to possible emergency communications dealing with the earthquake. The ARRL encourages all amateurs to be aware of the emergency operations on this frequency. US amateurs should avoid interfering with Spanish language SSB while using digital modes.

A Helpful Solder Technique **W1AW 2009 Winter Operating Schedule**

Where I work, the employees have a few processes we have to become familiar with. Mine is wood working. One of my bosses specializes in voicing and solder together pipes for the pipe organs that we build and refurbish. Among the many different materials that need to be solder are lead, tin, zinc, spotted zinc, and a few others I can't think of right now. In any case, the soldering irons and hatchets he uses require a very clean and tinned heated soldering tool. In order to keep the tool tinned, he uses a block of something called "Sal Ammoniac".

It is used by people who assemble stained glass, professionally. It's a block of a white substance that creates a considerable amount of smoke when a very high temperature impure soldering substance hits it. It seems that its main goal is to keep your soldering tool tinned and clean. A drop of melted solder is applied to the block, then a hot ironing tip is rolled into this drop. the block makes sure that the iron is cleaned and evenly tinned. If rubbing your hot soldering iron in a wet sponge just doesn't cut the mustard, you might want to try this "Sal Ammoniac".



Below is a web site where my boss purchases his from....

<http://www.tracysworkshop.com/p-4941-sal-ammoniac-tinning-block.aspx?affiliateid=10050>

Keep on enjoying your hobby and try some home brewing of any kind.

73,

Dave Leavenworth, WB279M

Morning Schedule:

Time Mode Days

1400 UTC (9 AM EST) CWs Wed, Fri

1400 UTC (9 AM EST) CWf Tue, Thu

Daily Visitor Operating Hours:

1500 UTC to 1700 UTC - (10 AM to 12 PM EST)

1800 UTC to 2045 UTC - (1 PM to 3:45 PM EST)

(Station closed 1700 to 1800 UTC (12 PM to 1 PM EST))

Afternoon/Evening Schedule:

2100 UTC (4 PM EST) CWf Mon, Wed, Fri

2100 " " CWs Tue, Thu

2200 " (5 PM EST) CWb Daily

2300 " (6 PM EST) RTTY Daily

0000 " (7 PM EST) CWs Mon, Wed, Fri

0000 " " CWf Tue, Thu

0100 " (8 PM EST) CWb Daily

0200 " (9 PM EST) RTTY Daily

0245 " (9:45 PM EST) VOICE Daily

0300 " (10 PM EST) CWf Mon, Wed, Fri

0300 " " CWs Tue, Thu

0400 " (11 PM EST) CWb Daily

Frequencies (MHz)

CW: 1.8175 3.5815 7.0475 14.0475 18.0975 21.0675 28.0675
147.555

RTTY: - 3.5975 7.095 14.095 18.1025 21.095 28.095 147.555

VOICE: 1.855 3.990 7.290 14.290 18.160 21.390 28.590 147.555

Notes:

CWs = Morse Code practice (slow) = 5, 7.5, 10, 13 and 15 WPM

CWf = Morse Code practice (fast) = 35, 30, 25, 20, 15, 13 and 10

WPM CWb = Morse Code Bulletins = 18 WPM

CW frequencies include code practices, Qualifying Runs and CW bulletins.

RTTY = Teleprinter Bulletins = BAUDOT (45.45 baud) and AMTOR-FEC

(100 Baud). ASCII (110 Baud) is sent only as time allows.

Code practice texts are from QST, and the source of each practice is given at the beginning of each practice and at the beginning of alternate speeds.

On Tuesdays and Fridays at 2330 UTC (6:30 PM EST), Keplerian Elements for active amateur satellites are sent on the regular teleprinter frequencies.

A DX bulletin replaces or is added to the regular bulletins between 0100 UTC (8 PM EST) Thursdays and 0100 UTC (8 PM EST) Fridays.

In a communications emergency, monitor W1AW for special bulletins as follows: Voice on the hour, Teleprinter at 15 minutes past the hour, and CW on the half hour.

All licensed amateurs may operate the station from 1500 UTC to 1700 UTC (10 AM to 12 PM EST), and then from 1800 UTC to 2045 UTC (1 PM to 3:45 PM EST) Monday through Friday. Be sure to bring your current FCC amateur radio license or a photocopy. <http://www.arrl.org/w1aw.html>

One Weekend Technician Course

March 7 & 8, 2009 sponsored by EGARA

The East Greenbush Amateur Radio Club will be providing a one weekend Technician course on March 7 & 8, 2009 at the Masonic Temple in East Greenbush. Now is a great time to get you your family members and friends who are interested in amateur radio a license of their own. More information can be found at www.k2ck.us.

The class fee is \$25 which includes the test fee, lunch, and snacks; the current version of the Gordon West Technician Guide is required and the cost of text book is not included in the test fee. Feel free to contact Glenn (WB2FOB) at wb2fob@egara.org or Scott (K2CK) at k2ck@arrl.net to register or for more information. Please pass the message along. Class flyers will be available at the next EGARA meeting.

Best 73's
Scott Haller - K2CK

Polar Bear Club

Special Event Station

Look for WA3WSJ and K3YTR operating Special Event Station Polar Bear MOC! The MOC stands for the Mohican Outdoor Center located in the Delaware Water Gap, NJ. The qth will be in a cabin at the foot of where the Appalachian Trail passes by on top of the ridge. We will arrive at the MOC on Friday around noon or so and start setup. By Friday afternoon we should be on the air. We will operate SSB, CW and PSK31. Speaking of PSK31, the GIC- 2009 is also running so I'll send out a special GIC-2009 QSL card to any PSK31 op that works me and sends out a SASE to WA3WSJ or W3PBC. I have around 100 W3PBC cards left.



The call stands for "W3 Polar Bear Club." If any op works W3PBC and sends a SASE to WA3WSJ, you will receive a gorgeous Polar Bear QSL Card. Look for us on 80m,40m,30m,20m,6m and 2M.

To view all cards and for additional information, click on the link.

p.s.----- Look for W3PBC (WA3WSJ) on the AT Saturday afternoon operating cw in the PBMME.

<http://wa3wsj.homestead.com/>

72/73,
Ed, WA3WSJ
GORC # 001
PB # 2

The Wrath of Winter Both Ice and Wind



Cliff, N2FN, suffered severe damage to his tower and antennas from the recent ice storm that hit the area. While the house itself was spared serious damage, the power line was ripped from the house. It looks like an Antenna Party will be scheduled for Spring!



This was the result of the Windstorm on Christmas Morning when winds gusted over 60 m.p.h. in the Town of Waterford, NY



As a result of the Ice Damage, which occurred in the Troy area, many people were without power for as long as a Week. Due to intermittent power at our TARA repeater site, everyone was asked to consider that we were operating on Emergency battery back-up and try to keep transmissions to a minimum for the first three days after the storm until we were sure that our power was not going to be interrupted at the Repeater site. As a result, the TARA repeater never went down.



The two photo's on the right were taken at the home of Dave Stark, NF2G in Waterford, N.Y., after the ice storm. Although there was a great deal of icing on his vertical antenna's, he suffered no ill effects from the ice storm, but the wind got him on Christmas Eve, a week later.

Top Right Photo courtesy of Rip's Report, Jan 2009
All other photo's courtesy of Dave Stark – NF2G

THE ICE STORM OF 2008



Tree's and power line's hung down everywhere. They were overburdened with ice and snow, often to the breaking point causing widespread power outages throughout the Northeast.



The resources of National Grid were stressed beyond saturation. At which time, they immediately called in the Calvary from Power subcontractors from anywhere they willing to respond from as is exhibited from this photo One of our club members caught on Route 7 in Niskayuna. **(Photo's courtesy of Craig Wood - W2XAD)** Two photo's from the Town of Brunswick. **(Photo's courtesy of Mike Styne- KC2JCJ)**



From the Family of Dick Carter, WA2CO9 -SK

Dear TARA Members,

Thank you so much for the beautiful flowers, but mostly for your friendship and support of our father. He loved being a "HAM" and we have fond memories since our childhood of his being on the "AIR". It really meant a lot to him being part of the club-even though he didn't attend a lot of meetings.

Please extend our thanks to the entire membership for their kindness!

Ed Carter
Cathy Carter
Barbara & Don De Lopp

Dear Members of Tara,

We wanted to Thank you all so very much for all the prayer's and support you showed our family over the loss of our father, Dick Carter. Our Dad always told us how much The Tara Members meant to him and how you all filled his lonely days and nights with warmth and friendship, and for this we are eternally grateful.

We are sure that my Dad is where he always wanted to be next to his beloved wife. I am sure he is telling her all about his kids and telling her all about his friends at TARA. You are a tremendous group of people.

Thank you from the bottom of our hearts.

Barbara, Don, Ed and Cathy (The family of Dick Carter)



Rensselaer County ARES/RACES Net Meets on the First Thursday of the Month at 7:30 PM on 145.17 Repeater

Rensselaer County RACES/ARES will conduct a Radio Net on The First Thursday of the Month on the 145.170 /447.075 TARA Repeater System at 7:30 PM. The purpose of this net will be to advise all members and listeners as to potential events for the month and times and locations for our monthly Simplex nets & meeting location.

Our monthly meeting usually takes place at the North Greenbush Town Office Building, which is located at the intersection of Douglas Avenue and Main Street in Wynantskill, N.Y., on the third Thursday of the month.

At our January meeting, we had our Annual Election of Officers for 2009, as follows:

President: Kenneth Davis – KB2KFV

Vice President: Thomas Stewart – KC2FCR

Secretary: Scott Haller – K2CK

Treasurer: Ridge MacDonald – KB2HWL

Our next Simplex Net will be on Wednesday, January 28, 2009 at 7:30 P.M. on 146.550 Mhz.

CLUB OFFICERS – 1 YEAR TERM

President: Bill Eddy, NY2U.....273-9248
Vice President: Karen Smith, KS2O.....273-6594
Secretary: Marilyn Davis, KB2JZI.....272-0112
Treasurer: Howard Cummings, N2HIC... 786-3622

TARA DIRECTORS - 2 YEAR TERMS

Ken Davis, KB2KFV.....(06-08)..272-0112
Mac Smith, KB2SPM.....(06-08)..273-6594
Roy Warner N2OWC.....(07-09)..283-8485
Steve VanSickle WB2HPR.....(07-09). 461-2354
Ken Smith WA2TQK..... (07-08)...233-7055

REPEATER MANAGER:

Roy Warner, N2OWC.....283-8485

Asst Manager

William "Doc" Kelley, KC2JDW.....235 -5063

REPEATER TECHNICAL ADVISORS:

Robert Isby, N2LUD (Our Main Man)

John Pritt, N1JP..... 753-6231

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE: NEW

Membership Manager & Greeting Chairman

Craig "SHREK" Wood –W2XAD...370-5224

REFRESHMENT COMMITTEE:

Karen Smith, KS2O.....273-6594

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THE TARA NEWS

Troy Amateur Radio Association, Inc.

P.O. Box 1292

Troy, New York, 12181-1292



Visit us on the Internet

At <http://www.n2ty.org/>

Regular monthly Meeting

Tuesday, January 20, 2009

6:30 p.m.

Green Island Municipal Center

Intersection of

George St. & Hudson Ave.

Green Island, New York

Ample Parking

Parking Lot on Hudson Ave.

RDF COMMITTEE:RDF Manager -

Richard Neimeyer – W2ABY.....489-0799

EQUIPMENT MANAGER:

Roy Warner, N2OWC.....283-8485

TARA WEBMASTERS:

Bill Eddy, NY2U.....273-9248

TARA HF CONTESTING:

Bill Eddy, NY2U.....273-9248

HF DX & Contest Manager - NY2U

Desperately Seeking a replacement ☺

TARA VHF/UHF CONTESTING:

Contest Manager - Ray Ginter, N2ZQF

PUBLIC SERVICE EVENTS:

Karen Smith, KS2O..... 273-6594

Mac Smith, KB2SPM.....273-6594

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT:

Ken Davis. KB2KFV..... 272-0112

TARA HISTORIAN:

Karen Smith, KS2O..... 273-6594

N2TY-“ N2TY-“TROY” NODE

DEPARTMENT:

Russ Greenman – WB2LXC

N2TY-BBS SYSOP:

Mike Styne KC2JCJ... 518-330-7592

ATVET (ALB/TROY) VE TEAM:

Gerry Murray WA2IWW...482-8700

FIELD DAY 2008 CHAIRMEN:

Bill Eddy, NY2U..... 273-9248

Steve Kopecky, KF2WA 674-4150

Karen Smith, KS2O..... 273-6594

Ken Smith, WA2TQK.....233-7055

VHF/UHF EQUIP. CHAIRMAN

Hollins Meaux, N2YQW...465-7678

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Steve VanSickle WB2HPR

Cartoonist:

Dave Leavenworth WB2TGN

PLEASE SEND ELECTRONIC CORRESPONDENCE TO E-MAIL

KB2KFV@aol.com or

KB2JZI@aol.com or

www: <http://www.n2ty.org/>

Troy's Full Service Repeaters

145.170/R

447.075/R