



MORE THAN A CLUB, WE ARE FAMILY!

THE TARA NEWS

Affiliate of the American Radio Relay League



January/February 2013

ARRL HUDSON DIVISION HAS NEW DIRECTOR

Lisenco Defeated Birmingham



Mike, N2YBB

On November 16 2012, ballots were counted in the races for Director in the Hudson Division and for Director and Vice Director in the Northwestern

Division. This year, there were only three contested races for Director or Vice Director in the five Divisions holding elections. In the Hudson Division, **Mike Lisenco, N2YBB**, defeated **Joyce Birmingham, KA2ANF**.

Click to <http://tinyurl.com/arccdlc> for full story.

AMATEUR RADIO SATELLITES

Contacts to and from manned and unmanned orbiters

On December 12, 1961, Amateur Radio entered the Space Age when **OSCAR-1** was launched. Since then, amateurs from more than 22 different countries have launched over 70 satellites, exploring both digital and analog satellite technology. Many of the latest birds have been school experiments,

training scientists and engineers. But, you don't need to be a rocket scientist to participate -- Some satellites operate FM and can actually be worked using a dual-band



handheld transceiver. An excellent place to start is the [AMSAT-NA FAQ](#) page. AMSAT, or the Radio Amateur Satellite Corporation, has played a key role in building, launching, and using amateur satellites. Occasionally, Radio Amateurs can talk with the astronauts on the



Contact on the International Space Station

International Space Station. For more information check out [ARRL](#).

MANY PAST TARA NEWSLETTERS NOW AVAILABLE

Thanks go to **Jack Culliton, N2LBZ** who scanned back issues of our newsletters. Available now in the newsletter area of the N2TY website (<http://www.n2ty.org>) we hope many of you will go down memory lane and review our club history over the past couple of decades.

TIDBITS FROM THE FIRST EVER ISSUE OF "TROY AMATEUR RADIO NEWSLETTER" August 1991

- On finding a name for the newsletter. Ruled out were **Rip's Report**, **B Minus**, **The NY2U Report** and **QZZ**.
- **TARA** initiated two packet bulletin boards. **KA2HRM** put together a PMS (Personal Mailbox System) used for various items of **TARA** business including meeting notices and other club events. **WA3RKB** setup a system on 145.03 to automatically take all outbound packet mail into the network via the WA2UMX PBBS.
- The **CDARC** Bulletins were added on the 147.27 repeater just after **TARA** joined **CDARC** in April (1991). The bulletins were broadcast Mondays at 7:45 pm and Thursdays at 5:45 pm.
- **KB2JZJ** purchased an old 10

element 144 MHz wide-spaced beam at a recent Saratoga hamfest. It was pressed into immediate use by converting an old 11 meter vertical antenna as a mast, proving its true usefulness.

• *"Those RVWARS guys think they knew a thing or two about contesting, eh? What gaul, what gumption! (What lousy gumbo they serve at their meetings!)"*

- A new novice licensing class was held in Amztuz Hall at **Hudson Valley Community College** in Troy. This was a traditional novice course that offered both theory and CW instruction. They met 10 times over 11 weeks. Instructors were **KA2AXN**, **WA2GY** and **KA2HTU**.

RVWARS/TARA RUMBLE BRINGS TOGETHER MANY HAMS

50 people showed up for food and conversation



On the evening of January 20, 2013 members and family members of the Rip Van Winkle Amateur Radio Society and the Troy Amateur Radio



Association gathered at the Four Brothers Restaurant in Valatie, NY for a couple of hours of good food and conversation otherwise known as the second annual renewal of...

The Rumble



Many thanks have to go to **Karen, KS20** and **Tom, WE2G** for making the arrangements.

Go to this URL for photos from this event:

<http://www.w2jsn.com/rumble.htm>



OFFICERS:

President – Karen Smith, KS20

Vice-president – Randy Stein, KL7TJZ

Secretary – Beth Whiting, KC2BSC

Treasurer – Tom Remmert, N2TR



BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Mac Smith, W2VLT '13

Roy Warner, N2OWC '13

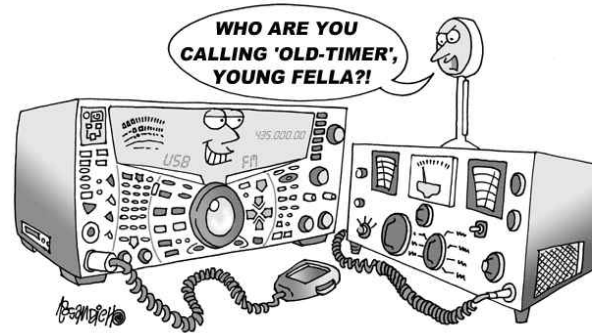
Steve vanSickle, WB2HPR '13

Steve Kopecky, KF2WA '14

Mike Styne, K2MTS '14

Newsletter Editor – Dick Neimeyer, W2ABY

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STAR TREK STYLE COMMUNICATORS MAY HAVE INSPIRED CELL PHONE DESIGNS

<http://electronics.howstuffworks.com/10-star-trek-technologies.htm#page=2>

Whenever Captain Kirk left the safe confines of the Enterprise, he did so knowing it could be the last time he saw his ship. Danger was never far away. And when in distress and in need of help in a pinch, he could always count on Bones to come up with a miracle cure, Scotty to beam him up or Spock to give him some vital scientific information. He'd just whip out his communicator and place a call.



Fast forward 30 years and wouldn't you know it, it seems like everyone carries a communicator. We just know them as cell phones. Actually, the communicators in "Star Trek" were more like the push-to-talk, person-to-

person devices first made popular by Nextel in the mid to late '90s. The "Star

Trek" communicator had a flip antenna that when opened, activated the device. The original flip cell



phones are perhaps distant cousins. Whatever the case, the creators of "Star Trek" were on to something because you'd be hard pressed to find many people without a cell phone these days.



TARA FEBRUARY MEETING RESCHEDULED

This month's TARA meeting will be on Tuesday, Feb. 26th.

The village needs the room on our regular meeting night of Feb. 19th.

CAPITAL DISTRICT'S "TOP 5" NAMED IN THE MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS MOVEMENT

Albany, NY - The National MS Society Upstate New York Chapter has announced five individuals or groups were recognized for their contributions to the MS movement at the 2012 Annual Meeting on Tuesday, October 9. Winners honored and the categories were:

- **The Norman Cohn Hope Award (Program Volunteer of the Year) - Randall Stein**
- **Special Event Volunteer of the Year** - Sylvia D'Aprile
- **Corporate Supporter of the Year Award** — Wilson Elser Moskowitz Edelman & Dicker LLP
- **Legion of Courage Award** - Brenda Breyette
- **DIY Fundraising Champion of the Year** — Thorpe Electric Supply Company

CONGRATULATIONS
RANDY!!!!

CHOOSING YOUR FIRST HAM RADIO

<http://www.arrl.org/buying-your-first-radio>

Which radio will you purchase for your first Amateur Radio station? The answer isn't as easy as it seems. Do you want a large, full-featured transceiver for the HF bands? Perhaps a mobile radio for operating on VHF+ or even a tiny handheld transceiver?

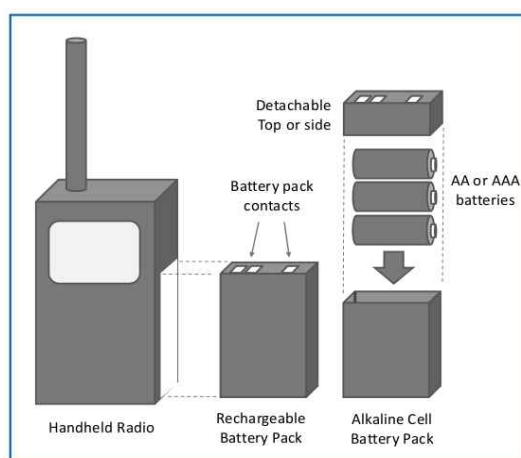


Figure 1 — Handheld radios use sealed and rechargeable multi-cell battery packs that fit a specific radio and are rarely interchangeable between models.

Obviously, price is a big concern, so you'll want to make sure that your radio will give you the best value possible for your money. Begin by downloading...

Choosing a Ham Radio.

Before you decide on your purchase, review the advice offered to help you focus on the features and functions you will need for the operating activities you plan.

Remember that your first radio doesn't have to be brand-spanking new. There are many older transceivers that have years of useful service left in them. These transceivers ("rigs," as hams call them) are often available for sale at online auction sites such as eBay.