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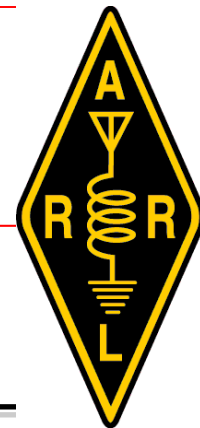
THE BULLTHISTLE BUGLE

“BLOWING OUR OWN HORN” VOL. 45

January 2007

Chenango County, NY

“We are ARRL affiliated”



Official Publication of the Chenango Valley Amateur Radio Association, Inc. Owner and operator of memorial station W2RME/ R on 146.085R/146.685T MHZ.

The President's Corner De K2DAR



By the time you're reading this copy of the “Bugle,” the year 2006 will be history, along with our many accomplishments and disappointments. The new year will present many opportunities to expand our minds and afford the time to implement new ideas and improve on those already in place.

Along those lines, a few thoughts from an excerpt of “The Rules Say ... Q&A” appearing in the current issue of the QCWA Journal written by John B. Johnston, W3BE, President QCWA. (Reproduced with permission of W3BE)

“Always operate your station as if you are demonstrating the best of amateur radio so that your listeners will be impressed with our service. Use good judgment: Just because you have a right to do something does not mean that it is right for you to do it in every circumstance.”

- Do:**
- Understand that every right carries responsibility.
 - Comprehend that you don't “own” or have preference to use any frequency.
 - Give a little ground even where you are in the right.
 - Respect our band plans so that every mode has a chance.
 - Cut our nets and testers a break.
 - Keep personal conflicts off the air.
 - Remember that the best reaction to deliberate interference often is no reaction whatsoever.
 - Keep in mind that you can save yourself trouble or embarrassment by saying nothing.

- Don't:**
- Transmit a wideband signal on a busy band.
 - Operate such that hams hearing you will be sorry they ever got into

amateur radio in the first place.

-Disgrace amateur radio just to save face.

-Act like an idiot just because you were stepped on.

A VERY HAPPY, HEALTHY AND PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR TO ALL

On a more somber note, it is with deep regret that I report the passing of a past member of CVARA, Inc. and the designer/originator of the first 2 Mtr. Repeater in Chenango County. On December 17, 2006 (one day following his 65th birthday), Marv Druskoff, K6NJ passed away at his home in Palm Desert, CA following an extended illness.

Marv came to CVARA country from N. New Jersey in the early 1970's with the call K2VIV. After settling his family just 2 miles East of the present repeater site on the road now known as Blower Hill Rd., he established a successful real estate agency (Upton Realty) in the village of Mt. Upton. He set up the testing and initial repeater operation at his home QTH which was subsequently assigned the call, WR2AFA on a frequency of 146.07/146.67 Mhz. (moved in the mid 1970's to within a few hundred feet of our present location).

Marv then moved on to be a marketing representative for VHF Engineering in Binghamton, NY (Produced some of the first commercial grade 2 meter repeaters and H.T.'s in the Northeast), then moved out to the West Coast and was employed as a marketing representative for Standard Radio and then Yaesu. He frequently traveled overseas and I was fortunate to work him several times, one remembered as

(Continued on page 4)

CVARA Meeting Notes 12/07/06 at the Norwich EMO

The word from Stan WB2PPN, There was no official business meeting conducted in December

FCC ELIMINATES MORSE CODE AS EXAM REQUIREMENT!

Early next year, the US will join the growing list of countries that no longer require Amateur Radio applicants to pass a Morse code test as the entry ticket to HF. Announcement of the pending historic rule change arrived with no fanfare December 15 in an FCC public notice. A full-blown Report and Order (R&O) in the proceeding, WT Docket 05-235, followed December 19. The best estimate of when the Morse code requirement will go away officially is sometime in February -- 30 days after the R&O appears in the Federal Register.

"We . . . believe that the public interest is not served by requiring facility in Morse code when the trend in amateur communications is to use voice and digital technologies for exchanging messages," the FCC said in its R&O. "Rather, we believe that because the international requirement for telegraphy proficiency has been eliminated, we should treat Morse code telegraphy no differently from other Amateur Service communications techniques."

The FCC says it deems the current regime of written examinations "sufficient to determine whether a person is qualified to be issued an Amateur Radio operator license."

The FCC cast aside arguments that Morse ability is advantageous in emergencies, concluding that most emergency communication is handled using voice, data, or video techniques. The Commission also turned away assertions that retaining a Morse requirement would help keep out the bad apples.

"The record is devoid of a demonstrated exus between Morse code proficiency and on-the-air conduct," the FCC observed. It concurred with

one commenter's observation that "maintaining the code requirement does not purge Amateur Radio of bad operators. Education and self-policing does."

The FCC also ordered that all Technician licensees present and future -- whether or not they've passed a Morse code test, will get privileges on 80, 40, 15 and 10 meters identical to those of Novice licensees. "In eliminating this disparity between Technician and Technician Plus licenses, we are simplifying the Amateur Service licensing structure and promoting regulatory parity," the FCC said.

The FCC took advantage of the occasion to act on the League's Petition for Partial Reconsideration in the "omnibus" proceeding, WT Docket 04-140, calling on the Commission to retain 3620 to 3635 kHz for automatically controlled digital stations by moving the Extra class phone band edge to 3635 kHz. The FCC decided instead to authorize 3585 to 3600 kHz for such operations, and leave the newly expanded phone band intact.

The Commission further amended Part 97 "to authorize Amateur Extra class privileges to all individuals who have been issued a CEPT radio-amateur license by their country of citizenship, and who satisfy other requirements in the Commission's rules."

Although the FCC's Morse code decision came as no surprise, it nonetheless revived debate on the issue. The FCC had proposed more than a year ago to drop the Morse code requirement for all license classes. The record in the proceeding, the FCC said, "reflects a division of views in the Amateur Radio community." After reviewing the more than 3500 comments and counter-proposals radio amateurs had filed, the Commission stuck with its initial proposal.

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR 2007

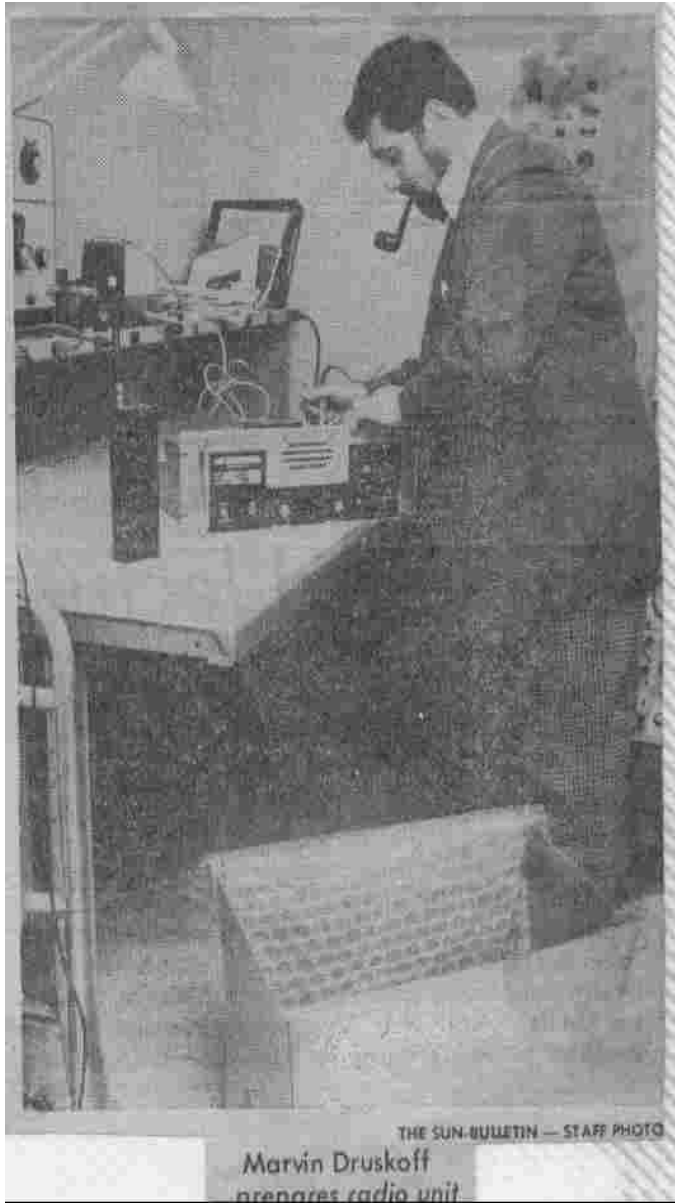
| | | | |
|------------|---|-------------|-----------------------------------|
| January 1 | Straight Key Night | | 17 - 19 ARRL November Sweepstakes |
| | 4 CIVARA Meeting 7:00 PM | (Phone) | |
| | 6 - 7 ARRL RTTY Round-Up | | 30 - 12/2 ARRL 160 Me- |
| | 13 Winterfest 2007 Skyline ARC | ter Contest | |
| | 20 - 22 ARRL January VHF Sweepstakes | | |
| | 27 Lockport ARA Marathon, NY | December | 8 - 9 ARRL 10 Meter |
| | | Contest | |
| February 1 | CIVARA Meeting 7:00 PM | | |
| 17 - 18 | ARRL International DX Contest (CW) | | |
| | 17 GRAM Winter HamFest and Com- | | |
| | puter Show, Batavia, NY | | |
| | 24 26th Annual Winterfest | | |
| | ARA of the Southern Tier New York Armory Horse- | | |
| | heads, NY | | |
| March 1 | CIVARA Meeting 7:00 PM | | |
| 3 - 4 | ARRL International DX Contest (Phone) | | |
| April 5 | CIVARA Meeting 7:00 PM | | |
| May 3 | CIVARA Meeting 7:00 PM | | |
| June 7 | CIVARA Meeting 7:00 PM | | |
| 1 - 3 | Atlantic Division Convention | | |
| | (Rochester Hamfest) | | |
| | 9 - 11 ARRL June VHF QSO Party | | |
| | 23 - 24 ARRL Field Day | | |
| July | 14 - 15 IARU HF World Champion- | | |
| ships | | | |
| | 21 RadioCom 2007 | | |
| | Utica Amateur Radio Club | | |
| August | 4 - 5 ARRL UHF Contest | | |
| | 18 - 19 ARRL 10 GHz and Up Contest | | |
| September | 8 - 10 ARRL September VHF QSO | | |
| Party | | | |
| | 15 - 16 ARRL 10 GHz and Up Contest | | |
| November | 3 - 5 ARRL November Sweepstakes | | |
| (CW) | | | |

Do not forget that every Wednesday nite at 7:30 local on the W2RME/R 146.085/146.685 The CARES net meets. If you are hungry, Saturday morning around 9:30an meet with other local hams at the Crossroads café, Just North of the City of Norwich.

If you know of, or hear about any activities that should be listed here, Please pass them on to the editor.

4U1ITU from Geneva, Switzerland, complete with QSL card.

A friend to all who knew him and true advocate of Amateur Radio establishing international relationships.



A 1974 Photo of Marv (K2VIV) working on a VHF Engineering Repeater at their plant in Binghamton, NY

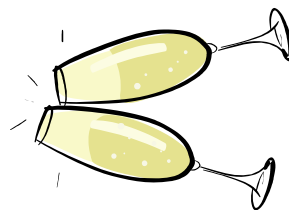
From the archives of CVARA,
Inc.
K2DAR, Trustee

ANNUAL SKYWARN TRAINING

To be held at our regular meeting night, Thursday, Jan. 4, 2007.. Short business meeting, then the Skywarn Training Presentation to start between 7:15 to 7:30. Come one and all, bring friends, neighbors, anyone that might be interested in the Skywarn Program.



*The Bugle staff and Officers of the
CVARA wish all a Happy and
Prosperous New Year*



(Continued from page 2)

ARRL President Joel Harrison, W5ZN, had this reaction: "While the Commission's decision to delete the Morse code requirement for an Amateur Extra Class license departs from the ARRL's recommendation, it is helpful to have the matter resolved so we can move forward."

ARRL CEO David Sumner, K1ZZ, expressed a similar viewpoint. "Now that the debate is over, we can focus on learning Morse code simply for its own sake," he said. Sumner pledged that the League would maintain its traditional support of Morse code as an operating mode and would continue to offer Morse training materials as well as such incentives as bonus credit for CW contacts in ARRL-sponsored operating events. ARRL's Hiram Percy Maxim Memorial Station W1AW will keep its schedule of Morse code practice and bulletin transmissions.

Since World Radiocommunication Conference 2003, the UK, Canada, Germany and other countries have dropped their Morse requirements. Sumner said other countries have successfully made the transition to a codeless testing regime, and he doesn't anticipate problems in the US.

The pending disappearance of the Morse code requirement seems to have rejuvenated the urge to upgrade. ARRL Sales and Marketing Manager Bob Inderbitzen, NQ1R, says distribution of General Class license training materials have skyrocketed in the week after the FCC announcement.

The ARRL has posted information relevant to the FCC action in WT Docket 05-235, including an FAQ, on its Web site <<http://www.arrl.org/fcc/morse/>>.

HELLO" CAMPAIGN FINALE TO SHOWCASE HAM RADIO'S PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE

Amateur Radio past, present and future will be the focus as the ARRL's "Hello" campaign <<http://www.hello-radio.org/>> concludes with on-the-air

events Friday and Saturday, December 29 and 30. Aimed at putting a friendly face on Amateur Radio, "Hello" also has celebrated "100 years of voice over radio worldwide." In 1906, Canadian experimenter Reginald Fessenden transmitted a program of voice and music -- in essence the world's first radio broadcast -- from Brant Rock, Massachusetts. His original goal had been to make voice radio contact with a station in Machrihanish, Scotland, but that plan fell through after a storm felled the Scottish station's antenna. ARRL Media and Public Relations Manager Allen Pitts, W1AGP, says, Fessenden, "in true ham radio spirit," switched to "Plan B," broadcasting a Christmas Eve program to ships at sea.

"This month ham radio operators events will complete what Fessenden was unable to do in 1906 with special event stations and a lot more," Pitts says. "Three primary centennial special events will take to the airwaves December 29 and 30, representing the past, present and future of Amateur Radio."

Special event stations W100BO/W1F at Brant Rock -- sponsored by the Peconic Amateur Radio Club (PARC) with Steve Barreres, K2CX, as team leader -- and GB1FVT in Machrihanish -- with Duncan MacArthur, GM3TNT, heading that effort -- will epitomize Amateur Radio Past (Icom UK and Icom America are supplying equipment for both events). Hiram Percy Maxim Memorial Station W1AW at ARRL Headquarters will represent Amateur Radio Future. The station will be on the air with all voice modes for the event.

"In addition to the sites showing the past and future of radio, the transmission modes used will also reflect both traditional as well as new and emerging technologies," Pitts says. "The stations will be operating AM -- an early 20th-century mode -- and SSB and FM -- both later 20th-century modes. EchoLink and IRLP plus digital voice on HF will carry us into the 21st century." The special event will commence at 2000 UTC on Friday, December 29, and continue through the next 24 hours.

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During the W1AW "Hello" event operation, ARRL Membership Manager Katie Breen, W1KRB, will run a real-time blog -- called "Hello -- Live!" -- that will include both photos and video

<<http://www.arrl.org/blog/Hello%20-%20Live%21>>.

ARRL Kids Day of the new year takes place

<<http://www.arrl.org/FandES/ead/kdrules.html>>.

ARRL Education and Technology Program Coordinator Mark Spencer, WA8SME, offers some Kids Day 2007 thoughts and suggestions on p 45 of December QST. Kids Day begins at 1800 UTC and continues until 2400 UTC. There's no limit on operating time. Suggested exchanges are first name, age, location and favorite color. Suggested frequencies are 14.270 to 14.300 MHz, 21.380 to 21.400 MHz and 28.350 to 28.400 MHz, plus local VHF repeaters with the sponsor's permission. Licensees should observe third-party traffic restrictions when making DX contacts

<<http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/regulations/io/3rdparty.html>>. These apply when unlicensed individuals communicate via ham radio.

* AO-51 "Echo" is now carrier-access: AO-51 "Echo" satellite users no longer need to transmit a 67-Hz CTCSS subaudible tone to enable the satellite's transponder. AMSAT Vice President of Operations Drew Glasbrenner, KO4MA, reports AO-51 is now a carrier-access satellite. The change was aimed at improving worldwide access to AO-51, especially from those areas where CTCSS-equipped transceivers are less common. Check the AO-51 operating schedule <<http://www.amsat.org/amsat-new/echo/ControlTeam.php>> *before* using the satellite! -- AMSAT News Service

New 2-meter EME world record claimed: Moon-bounce enthusiasts in New Zealand and Portugal are claiming a new EME (Earth-Moon-Earth) distance record on 2 meters. The December 6 contact, using digital JT65B mode, was between Nick Wallace, ZL1IU, in New Zealand (RF64vr) and Joe Kraft, CT1HZE/DL8HCZ, (IM57nh) in Portugal. Wallace was running 500 W to 4-by-12 Yagis, while Kraft

was putting 1.5 kW into 4-by-11 Yagis. The EME contact spanned a terrestrial distance of 19,685 km (12,204 mi).

* Reminder: "Beijing model 1" IRCs expire at year's end: Check any International Reply Coupons (IRCs) <<http://www.upu.int/irc/en/>> you've got on hand for an expiration date! As of January 1, 2002, UPU-issued IRCs bear expiration dates, after which the coupons *have no value*. The so-called "Beijing model 1" IRC expires on December 31. The newest IRC, the "Beijing model 2," expires December 31, 2009. Many DXers still use IRCs, issued by the Universal Postal Union (UPU) <<http://www.upu.int/index.html>>, to cover return postage for QSL cards. The UPU says IRCs are exchangeable in all member countries for the minimum postage of a priority item or an unregistered air mail letter sent to a foreign country. An IRC costs \$1.85 in the US. Although US post offices are not obliged to sell IRCs, it is mandatory for post offices in UPU member countries to *exchange* the coupons.

Dale Hatfield, W0IFO, named Spectrum Advisory Committee chairman: ARRL member Dale Hatfield, W0IFO, of Boulder, Colorado, has been named to chair the Commerce Department's Spectrum Advisory Committee <<http://www.ntia.doc.gov/advisory/spectrum/index.html>>. The former chief of the FCC's Office of Engineering and Technology, Hatfield now is an independent consultant and adjunct professor in the University of Colorado Interdisciplinary Telecommunications Program. The Commerce Spectrum Advisory Committee is part of the President's Spectrum Policy Initiative.

The preceding from:
The ARRL Letter
Vol. 25, No. 50
December 22, 2006

Sidney's Troop 88 Radio MB Field Report

Troop 88, Chartered to Sacred Heart Catholic church, Sidney, NY has 6 Scouts who have completed all field work toward their Radio merit Badge. These requirements were to carry on a 10 minute QSO, fill out a log entry for it and describe the station, naming the components, their use and licensing required.

Field work was done on their December campout at the Sidney Youth Commissin's Reservation at Cope's Corners, NY. A morning schedule was called up at 11 AM on the Norwich, NY repeater 146.685 with Troop 99 Scout Connor Hornbeck KC2JJY. He was camped with Troop 99 at the other side of the County at the Council's Camp Henderson. Scouts Carl Ayres and Seth Green were guest operators of Conner's and had QSO's with TR88 Scouts. TR99 Scoutmaster Kevin Kiel KB2EZR also represented 99 on the air. Sidney hams and troop friends Gus Mark WA2GRS and AL Mongardi K2EZK spoke with Scouts and accepted traf- fic for home. Our thanks to trustee K2DAR, Ray, for the use of the machine.

At 2 PM the group held another Schedule, this time on HF SSB on 3901 Mhz.. Again Gus and Al joined the exercise. Scouter Wayne Rogers N2WZQ [Greene, NY], friend Chuck Brumley KB2E [Saraanc Lake, NY] and TR 99 committee member son-in-law Greg Michels KC2GXV [Rochester, NY] were the "long haul" contacts for the afternoon.

Final results are that 3 Scouts now have completed the MB. Three more need the field work and 4 need to follow up with some written work.

Troops 88 and 99 would like to thank all the off-site operators who gave of their time, not only to aid the MB work but to help expose our youth to yet another facet of ham radio and technology in general.



Above Here are Paul, Kevin, Vinnie, Isaac and Eric by the main fire in front of Lean-to #2.

Below This is Shawn on the air with the WA2AIX portable Station in Lean-to #1.



CVARA CLUB OFFICERS

President: Ray Darling, K2DAR

Vice Pres: Thomas Mathewson, KA2MYD

Treasurer: Charles Davenport Sr. KC2BXO

Secretary: KC2PBP Sonja / WB2PPN Stan

Trustees: Ray Darling, K2DAR, Tom Atwell, WB2ACV, Jim Leahy, K2JL

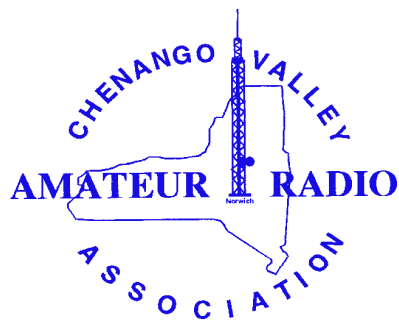
Tom, KA2MYD, editor of the Bugle is ALWAYS looking for submissions
Your views, comments, and articles will gladly be published. Send your articles to.....

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Visit the club WEB site at: <http://www.cvara.net>

Deadline for the February 2007 Bugle is January 20th



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