



DRUMLIN'S RUMBLINS

DARC MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2006

NEXT MEETING

SATURDAY

January 21, 2005

Breakfast 7:30am

Cross Park Restaurant

Meeting 9am

New York State

EMO

Route 31 Newark, NY

or try 146.745

RACES-ARES JANUARY 2006

Happy New Year 2006! For the start of this New Year I have all the info in for the survey sent to the members for my ARES yearly report. I thank all of you for taking the time and filing the report out for me. Here is the info:

	<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>
1. Do you operate CW?	1. <u>14</u>	/ <u>30</u>
2. Do you operate VHF?	2. <u>43</u>	/ <u>1</u>
3. Do you have HF emergency-power at home?	3. <u>19</u>	/ <u>22</u>
4. Do you have VHF emergency-power at home?	4. <u>33</u>	/ <u>10</u>
5. Do you operate HF mobile?	5. <u>10</u>	/ <u>34</u>
6. Do you operate VHF mobile?	6. <u>40</u>	/ <u>5</u>
7. Are you active on packet?	7. <u>10</u>	/ <u>34</u>

I am very glad I thought of this questionnaire. The results have surprised me pleasantly. I for one didn't realize there that many members who were into CW as I. Plus I underestimated the number of members who had HF emergency power drastically in the past. I am impressed with the number of members who are VHF emergency power! You have been "listening" to the articles on that one. Hi! Thank you for the accurate report I

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MINUTES

**The Drumblins Amateur Radio Club, LTD.
Secretary Notes**

Date: December 21, 2005 **Call to Order:** 19:32
Attendance: KB2ROP, WA2SOK, WB2QKO, KB2SOZ, KE4VHA, N2COJ, N2MLD, W2EVU, K2MPE, Brrrenda Cook, N2COJ, N2RUS, W2CDW, KD2NJ, KB@KBY
Minutes: Reading waved and approved as published
Treasure's report: Accepted as given:
Public Service: No report
Repeaters: 146.745 OK, 146.685 OK, 144.950 OK, User port is back but isn't working that great. 444.95: OK Still on Jeff's bench
Activities and Contests: Charlie KC2SOZ is again starting classes for new Hams. Classes on Saturday mornings beginning on January 7 at 10:00 at the Walworth Library. Please feel free to stop by and share your love for the hobby.
VE Team: No report
RACES/ARES:
Public Relations:
Newsletter: No report.
Remembrances/Concerns:
Pete Pagnattaro, K2MD, James Delyser, N2AIJ. Cards sent.
Old Business: The Drumblins ARC annual Holiday Dinner will be At VFW Palmyra, on February 4, 2006. There will be a mailing.
New Business: The 2006 Hamfest will be here sooner then we think (April 1). We will start the planning at the January meeting. January meeting will be on Saturday the 21st.
50/50 Drawing: N2JC
Program: Charlie, will double ckeck but there may there may Be a program By Bill Kasperkoski, WB2SXY. Topic, Co-operation and participation between clubs.
Adjournment: 2000 hrs
Respectfully submitted: Douglas Peeso KB2ROP

Silent Keys:

Peter P. Pagnattaro, K2MDN
Dec. 14, 2005
James DeLyser, N2AIJ
Dec. 28, 2005

The Drumlins Leaders 05-06

President	Doug Peeso, KB2ROP	315-587-2889
V-President	Jim Collinsworth, N2JC	315-483-8136
Secretary	Irv Walter, WA2SOK	315-597-2192
Treasurer	Dave Taylor, KB2KBY	315-597-4293
Program	Charles Escriva, KB2SOZ	315-986-5779
Director 3 yr	Russ Millspaw, N2RUS	315-483-8024
Director 2 yr	Bob Wilkin, W2GIV	315-923-2620
Director 1 yr	Steve Elliott, N2COJ	315-789-2701
Sysop .745	Jeff Jenson, N2MKT	315-483-1537
Sysop .685	Bruce Blair, WB2QKO	315-597-9731
News Letter	Irv Walter, WA2SOK	315-597-2192
Club Trustee	Dave Taylor, KB2KBY	315-597-4293
Web Master	Doug Wakeman, KC2BMI	315-331-2980

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may now make to the ARRL and my Section Manager. (By the way this is the tally with about 60% return from members.)

Also I have the info ready for the WARECS Sunday night net for 2006. We had 40 nets and the average number for check-ins was 6.45/ net for the year. That is the third highest with 2002 and 1997 respectively for second and first. That does not seem like a lot with the number of members we have on VHF above but it is in actuality. My Section Manager in Penn Yan says he is lucky to get an average of three out for a RACES net. We are averaging double that. Of course I have "bugged" a lot of you for just listening and/or not reporting in at least a couple times a year in this column. It is all in good fun even though I am honestly trying to encourage you. Even for all the amateurs in New York State the state HF net averages around 15-20 for check-ins. New York is in the top five most populated states with amateurs! I am always going to "tickle" you a little to check in the net. Hi!

Well that is it for this month. Short! Hi! It took me long enough to get all this info tallied up. The gray cells are reading "enough" for the night. Hi! Thank you for your answers to the questionnaire, helping with the various events through the year, reporting on the nets and at least reading this column. Hi! A New Year why not do a new thing. Keep the "gray cells" titillated. Hi!

73 & 88, Dave KB2KBY

**NEXT MEETING:
9AM SATURDAY JANUARY 21, 2006**

News Letter Stuff Send To: Irv Walter, WA2SOK
2881 Macedon Ctr. Rd. Lot #57 Palmyra. NY. 14522
Packet: DARC thru Newark 144.95
E-mail: wa2sok@rochester.rr.com

**RACES NET SUNDAY
8:45 PM 146.685**

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Fellow Amateur Radio Operators:

Well another year has started. I know I enjoyed that extra leap second. I will resist the temptation to spin the past year in good or bad terms, for it was what it was. Instead I prefer to look to the future and hope for the best of times to come. Winter will chill, Spring will abound, Summer will sizzle and Fall will descend, and Drumlins will be there throughout the year. Soon we will be having our annual dinner and before you know it the Hamfest will be here. With Rochester hosting the Empire Games there will be plenty of options to dust off that HT and join the fun. "Let us then be up and doing with a heart for any fate," Longfellow once wrote. With that I wish for you all a year full of good things and happy times.

If at first you don't succeed move up a few kc and call again.

Doug Peeso, KB2ROP

**Meeting Saturday Jan. 21, 2006
Breakfast at Crosspark 7:30am**

Hamfests 2006

Jan 28.....Lockport, NY
<http://lara.hamgate.net>
Feb. 01.....Batavia, NY
<http://www.hamgate.net/~gram/>
Feb 28.....Horseheads, NY
<Http://www.arast.org>
Mar 25-26.....Timonium, MD
<http://www.gbhc.org>
Apr 1st.....Newark, NY
<http://www.drumlinsarc.com>
Mar 5th.....Williamsville, NY
<http://gbhamfest.hamgate.net>

CLUB ADDRESS:

Dave Taylor KB2KBY Club Trustee
228 W. Jackson St. Palmyra, NY 14522
Packet: Kb2kby-1 thru Newark Node
Email: kb2kby@juno.com

Web Page: <http://www.drumlinsarc.com>

"It Seems to Us . . ." Entry Level

By David Sumner, K1ZZ
ARRL Chief Executive Officer
January 1, 2006

Tens of thousands of today's most devoted and active radio amateurs got their start as Novices. From its inception in the early 1950s until the Morse code was dropped from the Technician exam in 1991, the Novice license was the gateway of choice into Amateur Radio.

Most of those who entered via that route regard the Novice license as a great success. The written exam was short and simple--in retrospect, perhaps *too* simple for an activity that in those days routinely involved playing with 600-volt power supplies. The Morse code exam wasn't regarded as much of a barrier--not, at least, by those who passed, got on the air and eventually upgraded. We don't know much about prospective Novices who were frustrated by the code and never earned a license, nor about Novices who never upgraded.

Indeed, for the first Novices it was "up or out." Initially the license was a one-time learner's permit with a one-year term. If you didn't upgrade, after a year you were off the air. The operating emphasis was on Morse code training, in subbands that could accurately be termed ghettos. It's impossible to describe what the Novice bands sounded like on the simple receivers then in use, especially when crystal control was required. An interference-free QSO was a rarity. It often took several tries--if it was possible at all--just to exchange the basics of signal report, location, and name. Still, those of us who emerged from the Novice crucible tended to become lifelong, dedicated hams.

While Novice licenses continued to be issued until 2000, the Technician became the more popular entry-level license by far once its Morse requirement was eliminated in 1991. Today we continue to call parts of 80, 40, 15 and 10 meters the "Novice bands," but few Novices are to be found there even though it is now a renewable license. The FCC has proposed in WT Docket No. 04-140 to implement an ARRL proposal to make better use of these band segments, but as 2005 draws to a close final action is still pending.

A belief that we could--and should--recapture some of the magic of the Novice license led the ARRL Board in early 2004 to propose a new entry-level license in a petition to the FCC, RM-10867. As reported on this page in September 2005, the FCC declined to include this in its Notice of Proposed Rule Making (NPRM) in WT Docket No. 05-235. Instead, the FCC proposes simply to drop the Morse code examination element for the General and Extra, which can now be done because of changes in the international regulations adopted in Geneva in July 2003. No changes in the privileges of Technicians are included in the FCC proposal, even though the only difference between Technicians who have Novice HF privileges and

those who do not is the Morse exam that the FCC itself says is no longer relevant.

Entering Amateur Radio with VHF-only privileges is an entirely different experience from entering as a Novice. The amateur community has developed extraordinary ways of utilizing our frequency resources above 30 MHz, including FM repeater coverage that is more pervasive than any cellphone provider can deliver to its paying customers. Many local repeaters link to a wider world by providing a VoIP interface; you can literally talk to the world with your handheld. Still, the experience of setting up your own station in your own home that can reach around the world *without any artificial assistance* is unique to HF and teaches lessons that cannot be learned any other way. It is an experience that is not available to Technicians--but it should be available to all new amateurs today, as it was for us as Novices.

There are two ways to solve this problem. The solution proposed by the ARRL in RM-10867 was to create a new entry-level license and to maintain the number of available license classes at three by rolling Technician licensees into General. This would involve one-time upgrades of present licensees, a concept that received a chilly reception at 445 12th Street SW. The other solution is to change the Technician license so that it is a more appropriate entry-level license. In comments filed in response to the NPRM, that is what the ARRL now proposes.

As suggested earlier, adding Novice privileges to the Technician license--privileges that are now granted upon passing a Morse exam--would seem obvious as a minimum. Those privileges will change when the FCC takes final action in WT Docket No. 04-140, but as currently proposed will not include voice, RTTY or data privileges except, as now, in parts of the 10-meter band. In RM-10867 the ARRL proposed a different set of HF entry-level privileges, with lower power and slightly different frequency limits but including an opportunity for new licensees to experience the full range of HF modes: phone, image, RTTY and data in addition to telegraphy. In our comments on the NPRM in WT Docket No. 05-235 we renew this proposal, but for the Technician rather than for a new entry-level license.

We implore the FCC to act quickly to restore HF privileges at the entry level to Amateur Radio. It is a proven concept that served the public interest well for 40 years, and is as valid today as ever.

from the ARRL WEBSITE

DRUMLINS ANNUAL HOLIDAY DINNER

**Time & Place: Feb. 04, 2006, VFW Hall Rte. 31, Palmyra, NY
Gather at 6pm. Dinner served near 7pm**

**Buffet: Chicken, Roast Beef, Roasted Potatoes, Veg, Tossed Salad,
Roll, etc. with Coffee and Desert Cost, \$10.00 per person**

RESERVATIONS AT LEAST ONE WEEK EARLY

**Music furnished by our own Rob Escreva of Piranha Music.
Put you requests in early at < www.pmdj.com >**

Next Saturday Meeting January 21, 2006

January 15 - February 25, 2006

The Drumlins Amateur Radio Club, LTD.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<i>Jan 15</i> WARECS 8:45 pm	<i>Jan 16</i>	<i>Jan 17</i> N2EAW B'Day N2HLQ B'Day	<i>Jan 18</i> DARC Mting 7:30pm <u>Meeting will</u> <u>be at 9am Sat.</u> <u>Jan. 21st</u>	<i>Jan 19</i>	<i>Jan 20</i>	<i>Jan 21</i> DARC Mting 9am N2TKR B'Day
<i>Jan 22</i> WARECS 8:45 pm	<i>Jan 23</i>	<i>Jan 24</i> W2GIV B'Day	<i>Jan 25</i> KB2GZN B'Day	<i>Jan 26</i>	<i>Jan 27</i> N2OMS B'Day	<i>Jan 28</i> AA2XG B'Day N2LPO B'Day
<i>Jan 29</i> WARECS 8:45 pm WA2MV B'Day	<i>Jan 30</i>	<i>Jan 31</i>	<i>Feb 1</i>	<i>Feb 2</i>	<i>Feb 3</i>	<i>Feb 4</i>
<i>Feb 5</i> WARECS 8:45 pm	<i>Feb 6</i> KA2KXL B'Day	<i>Feb 7</i> N2FXM B'Day	<i>Feb 8</i>	<i>Feb 9</i> KE2OX B'Day	<i>Feb 10</i>	<i>Feb 11</i> Winter Fest Batavia, NY
<i>Feb 12</i> WARECS 8:45 pm N2IZV B'Day	<i>Feb 13</i>	<i>Feb 14</i>	<i>Feb 15</i> DARC Mting 7:30pm	<i>Feb 16</i>	<i>Feb 17</i>	<i>Feb 18</i>
<i>Feb 19</i> WARECS 8:45 pm	<i>Feb 20</i>	<i>Feb 21</i>	<i>Feb 22</i>	<i>Feb 23</i>	<i>Feb 24</i>	<i>Feb 25</i> Hamfest Horsehds NY

Next Meeting: Saturday January 21, 2006

“PLEASE TAKE NOTICE”

**The date on the Dinner mailing was incorrect!!
It should read Saturday February 4th.**

**Breakfast at Alton Coffe Shop, Rte.14
Saturday Mornings 7:00 am.
Check in on 146.685**

**Lunch at Cross Park
Rte. 31 Newark
Friday Noon**