



DRUMLIN'S RUMBLINS

DARC MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2007

NEXT MEETING

Wednesday June 20, 2007

Doors open at 7:00pm

Meeting 7:30pm

New York State EMO

Route 31 Newark, NY

or try 146.745

MINUTES

THE DRUMLINS AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, LTD MINUTES

Date: 05/16/07 **call to order:** 19:30 **Adj :** 20:03

MEMBERS/GUESTS : N2RUS, WA2SOK, W2CDW, N2JC, W2EVU, KB2KBY, WA2QKM, KA2VHA, N2COJ, W4ILN, WB2QKO, WA2CER, K2MPE, Brenda Cook (K2MPE XYL) and Phil Lundy (associate member)

MINUTES: Printed in newsletter and distributed via USPS
Motion to accept as printed: W2EVU 2nd: W2CDW carried:

TREASURERS REPORT by KB2KBY: No Report due to KB2KBY's illness

PUBLIC SERVICE: *Tour de Cure* assistance for Charlie KB2SOZ, Help for the "CYCLING ERIE CANAL" bike event in JULY 9 & 10, help is needed for the Finger Lakes "Muscle Man" bike event also.

**REPEATERS: 146.745: ok 146.685:
144.950:ntr 444.950: ntr**

ACTIVITIES & CONTESTS: *Field days* event last weekend in June. KB2KBY would like to have a work party before Field Days, to hook up the 50 Amp power supply and connect the new Icom HF radios to use as a SEMO station during the field days.

W2CDW stated that we need a clarification from the State as to the type of install and power ckts available for our use. Possibly(2) 50 amp outlets for both HF amplifiers.

VE TEAM: NTR

RACES: No nets for 05/27, 07/01 and 09/02, things are going well on Sunday night nets 7 call-ins and 3 packets. Ginna drill coming up in MAY

RACES-ARES JUNE 2007

Another month has flown by! I keep looking at the calendar and say to myself I have plenty of time to type this month's article. Oops! Here it is upon me already! Hi! Guess this means the life is not boring and I am busy.

May was a busy month with the May 22nd, Tuesday, Ginna FEMA drill. The radiological communications problems at the April State drill were cleared up. WB2QKO hit the van once again with the van radiological team. WA2CER and I manned the EOC RACES position. (I told Bruce next year I'd do the van position for both drills. The old elbow surgery didn't make it possible for me to take the van either drill. Unfortunately I am still "Flipper" with the elbow. That is an endearment from N2RUS. Hi! And unfortunately I had a slight setback with "Flipper" a week before of my typing this month's article. But we are back on the mend. I thank Bruce for his patience with me.)

We did have a visitor with us at the EOC. Bill Reiter, WA2UKX, from Ferguson Corners north of Penn Yan came up to see how the operation went. Bill is actually the Section Manager for Region 5. At least I think he is! Bill is a modest gentleman and it is harder than blazes to get him to admit what the heck his position is. Hi! He is the one I send my monthly RACES reports to and my yearly ARRL report copy that I keep bugging everyone in the club with those goofy questions. So he is important. And he is a good guy! Bill has observed many drills in many counties and really knows his 'stuff.' It was interesting for him to see the changes from the past to to-

The Drumlins Leaders 06-07

President	Dave Furber, KE4VHA	315-521-0271
V-President	Doug Peeso, KB2ROP	315-587-2889
Secretary	Russ Millspaw, N2RUS	315-483-8924
Treasurer	Dave Taylor, KB2KBY	315-597-4293
Program	Charles Escriva, KB2SOZ	315-986-5779
Director 3 yr	Jim Collinworth, N2JC	315-483-8136
Director 2 yr	Steve Elliott, N2COJ	315-789-2701
Director 1 yr	Bob Wilkin, W2GIV	315-923-2620
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, W2CDW	315-331-2980

Minutes from Page 1

SKYWARN: KB2KBY will check with Judith Leven at NWS about scheduling the winter SKYWARN class on the 2nd or 3rd Saturday in OCT.

NEWSLETTER: NTR Irv promises no more large files

OLD BUSINESS: After some discussion on establishing rules for equipment being sold at the hamfest it was resolved to let the Hamfest committee (do we have one?) draft a policy to be ratified by the general membership. After further discussion this issue will be presented to the executive committee for discussion/policy. Dave, KA2VHA, requested that the executive members meet after the meeting.

Ben Fields raised \$460 at the DARC Hamfest (with our matching funds)

NEW BUSINESS: KB2KBY requested N3FJP "field days" logging program be purchased. Motion to buy N2JC 2nd by WA2SOK and carried. (\$19.00 inc s&h)

50/50 DRAWING: \$6.00 WINNER: Dave, KA2VHA

PROGRAM: None

ADJOURNMENT: Motion:W2EVU 2nd K2MPE carried:

RACES NET SUNDAYS 8:45 PM 146.685
Except for Holiday Weekends

News Letter Stuff Send To: Irv Walter, WA2SOK
2881 Macedon Ctr. Rd. Lot 57 Palmyra, NY. 14522
Tel: (315)-597-2192 E-mail: wa2sok@rochester.rr..com

CLUB ADDRESS:

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

HELP NEEDED FOR EVENTS!

In the May "Drumlins Rumlins" there was an article from Keith Freeberg, N2BEL, listing various events in the area where we as a club may be needed.

One event is the 9th annual "Cycling the Erie Canal" being held July 8 to 15. Cyclist will travel the entire length of the mostly along the Canalway Trail 40 to 60 miles each day. July 9 and 10 the event will carry cyclist through Macedon, Palmyra and the Wayne County area. I have e-mailed Keith about information of the event through Wayne County and the particulars where we could help, numbers needed etc. As of the print of the newsletter I have no information but hope to have such for the meeting. (Check a free copy of the New York Canal Times Vol.2 No.2 June 2007 you see floating about the area. It has a nice sized article about this event on p.4.)

The second event is coordinated by Rich Kingsley, KE2BV, my E.C. counterpart for Yates County. He is asking for help for the "Musselman Triathlon" July 14 and 15 and also is coordinating this through Keith. This is the event that goes around Seneca Lake the area! Rich is especially in need of operator "help Saturday morning for the shorter sprint race" and Sunday when "he can use as many radios out in Seneca County he can get." (The quotes are right from his e-mail to me. Bill, WA2UKX, said I could be of some help for him.) If you can help contact Rich: rightathome(at)bluefrog.com; home phone-315-536-8624 or 536-5092; or contact me.

I'll be at the meeting or contact me by the various means listed in the newsletter. Thanks.

88 & 73, Dave KB2KBY

Web Site: www.drumlinsarc.com

Lunch at Cross Park every Friday, Noon
We can always try other restaurants
Come join us

Races from page 1

day in our Ginna drill. And I was very impressed how he knew the whole drill scheme and even the EOC radiological guys across from our position saw his expertise. It is Bill, WA2UKX, which has been my encouragement for use of portable packet and the use of the Arrow 2m-440m handheld yagi for RACES.

Again the message handling went well. No problems. Radios presented problems. Luckily I brought one of my spare 2m rigs to replace the Radio Shack rig at the EOC. The two van 2m rigs both are on the blink as well. WB2QKO had to use a 2m HT in the van. There were times communications with that were very difficult that we resorted to our cell phones. The FEMA people liked the fact we were able to be so fluid to keep things going with alternate communications. The EOC does have to do something with the 2m Kenwood rigs for the vans as well as a new 685 repeater. Maybe this will get them to 'see the picture' more clearly. Bill, WA2UKX, even passed a question to me that for a drill the cell phone would be workable. But? But in a real emergency I said the cell tower would be overwhelmed in no time at all. That is no joke but a hard fact!

A letter from Thelma Wideman from the Wayne County EOC said the drill went well. Although the exercise showed some problems at the EOC, the various EOC teams overcame those problems. FEMA was pleased to see that all could adapt and change which was what they wanted to see. WB2QKO and the van radiological team were really put through their paces! It was interesting at one point the EOC radiological position had a problem how to tell the van team what they wanted it to do. There was no neat easy message form to use of the five specific info forms used in the drill to communicate what the EOC team wanted. There is a sixth generic form that can be used for a group text worded message like used in our WARECS net. The EOC form has spaces for 85 word groups. Never has all the groups been filled. Well near the end of the drill the EOC radiological team gave us an 83-group text message to send to the van! I am not kidding! I told WB2QKO he better get his pencil sharpened! Hi! It was the longest message I have ever done in my life of doing messages! Hi! But Bruce and I got through it. And it sure created a big bunch of laughter at the RACES position and Bruce in the van! If I sent a message like that on our WARECS net no one would ever call in for the Sunday night net again. Hi! WA2UKX recalled at a drill in the past he had the communications center break down one lengthy message into three separate messages so it could all be sent! So I guess anything is possible. Hi! We did that 83-group text message in a pretty good timely fashion. The practice paid off!

Any way WB2QKO, WA2CER, WA2UKX and I made it through the Ginna FEMA with our humor intact and with the satisfaction the job was done well. It is all over until another year. Bill, WA2UKX, thanks for the visit! It was a good rewarding time and good to see you. (Bill is the coordinator of the last Sunday of the month dinners around the Geneva area. Come out and meet him and have a good time at one of the dinners!)

See you next month! Officially summer will be here the day after our June meeting. Enjoy!

88 & 73, Dave KB2KBY

Surfin': It's Only Software

By Stan Horzepa, WAILOU

Contributing Editor from ARRL Web Site

This week, check out Web sites where radio software is eliminating some radio hardware.

This year, the buzz at the Dayton Hamvention® was SDR (software-defined radio). At the Hamvention, there were forums that focused on SDR and a variety of vendors showed new SDRs.

According to Wikipedia, "A software-defined radio (SDR) system is a radio communication system that can tune to any frequency band and receive any modulation across a large frequency spectrum by means of programmable hardware that is controlled by software.

"An SDR performs significant amounts of signal processing in a general purpose computer or a reconfigurable piece of digital electronics. The goal of this design is to produce a radio that can receive and transmit a new form of radio protocol just by running new software."

The new SDRs at the Hamvention were FlexRadio's FLEX-5000 and TAPR's [HPSDR](#) (High Performance Software Defined Radio). Not at the Hamvention, but very present on the ham SDR scene are GNU Radio and AmQRP.org's [SoftRock-40](#).

I am on the Board of Directors of TAPR. I spent most of Hamvention Friday and Saturday manning the TAPR booth, and it seemed to me that more than half of the people visiting our booth were asking about SDR. When I wasn't manning the booth and able to prowl the rest of the Hamvention, I could not help notice the crowd at FlexRadio's booth.

For more information on this fascinating cutting-edge technology, also check out the ARRLWeb's [Software Defined Radio](#) and HPSDR — High Performance Software Defined Radio Web pages.

Until next time, keep on surfen'.

Editor's note: Stan Horzepa, WAILOU, is currently looking for an SDR that matches his radio interests. To discuss SDRs, software, hardware and other cool stuff, send him an e-mail or add comments to his blog. By the way, every installment of Surfin' is indexed here, so go look it up (whatever it may be).

HAMFESTS 2007

- Jul 21**..Genesee Radio Amateurs...Alexander (Batavia), NY
http://www.geocities.com/gram_radio_club/index.html
- Jul 21**.....Utica Amateur Radio Club.....Frankfort, NY
Email: tbd2626@yahoo.com
- Aug 4**.....Tompkins County A R C Hamfest.....Ithaca, NY
<http://tcarc.compcenter.com>
- Sep 15**.....RAGS Hamfest.....Pompey Hills
www.ragsinreview.com
- Sep 29**.....32nd Elmira International Hamfest..Horsehds, NY.
Email: ka2lim@yahoo.com
- Oct 6**.....NNY Section Convention.....Lake Placid, NY
<http://www.nnyara.org>
- Oct 14**.....WNY Section Convention.....Buffalo, NY
<http://gbhamfest.hamgate.net/>

Riley Reiterates Recommendation to "Lighten Up" on Ham Bands

NEWINGTON, CT, May 31, 2007 -- FCC Special Counsel in the Spectrum Enforcement Division Riley Hollingsworth's main message at the Dayton Ham-vention® 2007 FCC Forum may not have been a new one. But it's certainly one he believes bears repeating -- at least until it starts cutting through the QRM and QRN that pervade more communication channels than our Amateur Radio bands.

"Well, you could have gone to the flea market, but you came to *church* instead," Hollingsworth quipped to his Dayton forum audience. "I've got you now."

Hollingsworth repeated what for many Riley Watchers has become a familiar refrain: That the Amateur Radio community needs to "lighten up" on the air. Acknowledging that he was repeating himself, Hollingsworth urged his audience to take his message more to heart. "All of you can learn from each other," he said, "and you need to work together more and show a little more respect for your diverse interests and for the Amateur Service as a whole. It isn't about you. It isn't about enforcement. *It's about Amateur Radio.*"

As radio amateurs take to the airwaves, he continued, they need to decide what's most important -- the best interests of ham radio or their ego, pride or perceived "rights."

"I realize I may be preaching to the choir here, but on the air you need to be more cooperative and less argumentative -- and I need you to take this message with you when you go home," he continued.

As a "homework assignment," Hollingsworth encouraged his listeners to read the "It Seems to Us . . ." editorial, "Most Effective Use," by ARRL Chief Executive Officer David Sumner, K1ZZ, in May 2007 *QST*. In his commentary, Sumner stressed that interference occurring as a side effect of legitimate Amateur Radio activities in crowded bands "is simply a fact of life" and that it's "unfair to your fellow amateurs to assume that every instance of interference you may encounter is a hostile act."

Good News/Bad News

Hollingsworth offered good news and bad news. "The good news: Nothing is wrong with Amateur Radio," he allowed. "It is a good service that is showing its value to the public on a daily basis."

The bad news, he asserted, making a comparison to "road rage," is "that there is an element of Amateur

Radio that too often reflects present society generally."

Hollingsworth urged all radio amateurs to cooperate more and depend less on the FCC to solve their operating issues.

"We live in a rude, discourteous, profane, hot-headed society that loves its rights, prefers not to hear about its responsibilities, and that spills over into the ham bands," he said.

Hollingsworth's bottom line: Be flexible in your frequency selection and make regular use of the "big knob" on the front of your transceiver to shift to any of the "thousands of frequencies and hundreds usable at any given time of day or year" as necessary to avoid problems. "The world is ugly enough -- don't add to it," Hollingsworth advised.

"We can enforce our rules, but we can't enforce kindness and courtesy or common sense," Hollingsworth concluded. "And a very wise person, who happens to be standing to my left [FCC Wireless Telecommunications Bureau staffer Bill Cross, W3TN -- Ed] once told me: 'You can't regulate stupid.' If we could, we'd be working for the United Nations instead of the FCC."

Amateur Radio Licensees Responsible for Rule Compliance

In his comments, Cross singled out the controversy that erupted recently over fears that automatically controlled digital stations would overwhelm the amateur bands, eclipsing most other modes. Cross cited §97.7 of the rules, which requires each amateur station to have a control operator and, in essence, to employ a "listen-before-transmit" protocol."

When a station is under automatic control, regardless of the transmission mode, Cross explained, the control operator need not be at the control point, but must employ station control devices and procedures while transmitting that ensure compliance with the FCC rules and does not cause harmful interference to ongoing communications of other stations.

The operational rule, Cross said, is: "Your call sign, your responsibility."

from the ARRL Web Site

June 17 - July 28, 2007

Weekly Planner

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<i>June 17</i> RACES NET 8:45pm	<i>June 18</i>	<i>June 19</i> N2MLD B'Day	<i>June 20</i> DARC Mting 7:30pm	<i>June 21</i>	<i>June 22</i>	<i>June 23</i> FIELD DAY 1800 UTC
<i>June 24</i> RACES NET 8:45pm	<i>June 25</i> KB2GYQ B'Day	<i>June 26</i>	<i>June 27</i>	<i>June 28</i>	<i>June 29</i>	<i>June 30</i>
<i>July 1</i> RACES NET 8:45pm W2MTA B'day	<i>July 2</i> WB2LJG B'Day	<i>July 3</i> KB2KJN B'Day	<i>July 4</i>	<i>July 5</i> WA2SOK B'Day	<i>July 6</i> N2SDP B'Day	<i>July 7</i>
<i>July 8</i> RACES NET 8:45pm KB2ROP B'Day	<i>July 9</i>	<i>July 10</i>	<i>July 11</i>	<i>July 12</i>	<i>July 13</i> KB2UDB B'Day	<i>July 14</i>
<i>July 15</i> RACES NET 8:45pm	<i>July 16</i>	<i>July 17</i>	<i>July 18</i> DARC Mting 7:30pm	<i>July 19</i>	<i>July 20</i>	<i>July 21</i> Hamfest Batavia, NY Hamfest Frankfort, NY KC2JAL B'Day
<i>July 22</i> RACES NET 8:45pm	<i>July 23</i> KC2AJR B'Day	<i>July 24</i>	<i>July 25</i>	<i>July 26</i> W2TJH B'Day	<i>July 27</i>	<i>July 28</i>

Irv Walter, WA2SOK
2881 Macedon Ctr. Rd. Lot # 57
Palmyra, NY, 14522

Friday Luncheon
Cross Park at noon