



Drumlin's Rumblins

DARC Monthly Newsletter

October 2008

Next Meeting

Wednesday, October 15, 2008

Doors open at 19:00

Meeting 19:30

New York State EMO

Route 31, Newark, NY

Or try 146.685

For assistance try 146.745

RACES-ARES October 2008

September was a busy month for the Drumlins ARC and for RACES-ARES. We participated in two very different events.

First, there was the State Ginna Drill on September 9th. Things looked like it was going pretty smooth and we were ready. But at the last minute, the EOC called and added another dose assessment van for the exercise just two days before the exercise. We were just planning on the one van. So it took a little scurrying around to find an 'op' for the second van. Luckily after a few calls, I was able to 'pull the arm' of N2MLD, my big brother Bob. Well, even though he had a chance to renege, he was kind enough to sign on for the duty.

It was Bob's first time for a Ginna Drill. Although a little leery I assured him the messages were even easier than ones copied in our Sunday night WARECS nets. He was happily surprised that in deed the Ginna exercise message forms were pretty easy to fill out. (Hopefully this will be an incentive for others to try out the Ginna exercise.) Well easy, save for the fact you could be bouncing around in the dose assessment van while trying to write. Hi! The vehicles used for the exercises are not the most comfortable riding things as far as the shock absorbers are concerned. Hi! (Sorry! I have no pictures of the Ginna exercise. I thought of it too late.)

Continued on page 2

RACES NET SUNDAYS 20:45 146.685
Except for Holiday Weekends!

Minutes

The Drumlins Amateur Radio Club, LTD
Meeting Agenda

Date: September 17, 2008 Call To Order: 1930 Adj:2020

Members/Guests: N2RUS, W2EVU, KC2JAL, KB2ROP, KB2KBY, N2QK, N2MLD, N2MKT, WD2STK, KC2TCM, N2COJ, KB2VGI, KC2QOL, N2JC AND SWL- Phil Lundy

Minutes: Correction, WD2STK did not work the Walnut Hill Driving competition as was reported last month. **Move to accept:** W2EVU **2nd:** N2QK & carried

Treasurers Report: by KB2KBY Motion to accept KB2ROP **2nd** W2EVU & carried

Repeaters: 146.745 Work is progressing. 146.685 New Repeater has been installed and working fine. 144.950- SEMO-working. WA2AAZ working. WB2QKO working again.

RACES: KB2KBY and N2MLD reported on the drill and the new 146.685 coverage. It appears the "Lake Road Dead Zone" still exists. March 24 2009 State Drill is still on the schedule.

PUBLIC SERVICE: Boy Scout Jamboree in Palmyra was discussed. Local Ham participation would be appreciated. 8 members assisted the Canal Town Parade. Some discussion by the attending hams with suggestions to eliminate the few minor problems encountered. Jim, N2JC reported some minor storm damage and power interruptions in Sodus Point from the Canal Town Day storm. Several pending events were discussed. Our "Troop T" representative will be at the October meeting for the "Great Pumpkin Patrol" event briefing. Progress on the 145.45 repeater in Ontario County was discussed.

ACTIVITIES & CONTESTS:

VE TEAM: NTR

NEWSLETTER: Thanks Irv. Anyone with articles, get them to Irv for publication.

Continued on page 4

The Drumlins Leaders 07-08

President	Jim Collinsworth, N2JC	315-483-8136
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
Program Asst	Dave Taylor, KB2KBY	315-597-4293
Director 3 yr	Bob Wilkin, W2GIV	315-923-2620
Director 2 yr	Harold Spencer, W4ILN	315-539-3819
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
Newsletter	Jon King, KS2JEK	315-524-2453
Club Trustee	Dave Taylor, KB2KBY	315-597-4293

RACES-ARES from page 1

The exercise went well for the most part on our end. Bruce, WB2QKO, proved our being there as back up communication was valuable. His van crew's county radio went dead. He was the only communication after they had started out and found the batteries of their county HT were 'kaput.' Bob found that at the very northwest part of the county and on Lake Road, getting into the 146.685 repeated was almost nil even with high power on his 2m mobile rig. Lake Road is a stretch into 685 even at best of times. Plus the road is much lower in elevation than the old Ridge Road or even Rte 104 at that extreme NW location. The line of sight to the 685 must be poor at that location. Bob's van crew could not even get into their repeater with their HTs, which is on the highest tower on Brantling. One of these days I must experiment with my van and the 5/8" mag mount antenna used for the drill and see just what is what. Plus we didn't use the donated commercial Kenwood 2m mobiles for this exercise. Those rigs should be given a test before hand to see what they can do.

At the EOC dose assessment position RACES operates, I was busy with messages. Al, the East Palmyra fireman volunteer, was getting overwhelmed with the frequency of the messages to send out to the dose assessment teams. As a result I was working with him at times getting the information out filling the correct message form later. Eventually the message forms will be done through PCs electronically at the various positions including our EOC position. (There could be a way of having electronic forms even with the dose assessment vans. Check out the article on EmComm East 2008 on page 6 of this newsletter.)

Thanks, Big Brother for your last minute volunteering for the Ginna exercise.

Second (Check out the group picture on page 3!), the Drumlins furnished the communications for the parade setup for Canal Town Days. Although this is a short commitment for the Drumlins it is quick and furious. There were 65 units in the parade this year. The 'American way' of doing things is to instinctively show up for these events at the last possible moment. The parade setup is no different. So it is a real 'famine or feast' type of thing. You know what I mean. When they start coming it is like a cloud of locust swarming down upon you! Hi! I am sure

the 'ops' will agree with my description.

Bruce and I give many thanks to the following 'ops' who helped with the parade setup: Roger, WB2BWQ, and his son, Ken, N2MXB; Steve, N2COJ; Jay, KC2TCM; Sabrina, WD2STK; and Bob, N2MLD.

With these 'ops' and Bruce and I, it is the biggest group ever to help with the parade setup. Each 'op' had a small contingent of the parade list to work with and it was more manageable as a result. This guy, KB2KBY, was most pleased. For the group of 'ops' was enough I didn't have to coordinate the communications keeping a master list and trying to keep track of my own contingent as well at the parade setup. Thank you very much all of you for being there! I could concentrate my efforts just with communication as the NCS so to speak.

Roger, WB2BWQ, was even able to leave very early to take over the communications at the reviewing stand. This meant we had the detailed and correct listing of the units in the parade and unit prizewinners in place long before their time passing the reviewing stand. With less 'ops' in the past this was not always the case. It could get pretty fanatical at the end. The veteran parade-setter-uppers know exactly what I am talking about.

Sabrina and Jay, for their first time parade setter-uppers, did a great job! If you think this is a cinch job just making sure your units appear in the lineup-think again! Sabrina had a hard time finding the whole Macedon Towpath Volunteers fife and drum corp. They were not exactly in the right spot. Yes-I mean, the whole corp. Believe me! She finally found them of course, not in their appointed spot, but it was getting a little like being in a 'Twilight Zone' episode. I saw members going in the right direction but where did the group disappear? (You remember that program-right?) Thanks for being persistent and calm, Sabrina. "You done good!"

Thanks to all that helped with the parade setup.

September was a busy month. Remember, it is Pumpkin Patrol for October coming up. Look at the special article for that in this newsletter on page 5! See you next month.

73 & 88, Dave KB2KBY
RACES-ARES

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

Friday Luncheon
Cross Park at noon

October Program:

At the October 15th meeting the program will be presented by Sgt. Robin Urbaniak of Troop T. It is Pumpkin Patrol time again and Robin will give information on the importance of guarding those Thruway bridges for Halloween. Our help is valuable!

Upcoming Public Service Events

Hike for Haccamo

Oct 12 (Needs Event Captain)

Jamboree on the Air (BSA)

Oct 18 & 19

NYS Thruway Pumpkin Patrol

Oct 30 & 31

Special Olympics, Winter Games

Feb 7, 2009

Please contact Duane Fregoe, K2SI for the events that need a captain. His email address is k2si@arrl.net.



Dave's EmComm East Pass!

Note from the editor/webmaster:

I still have yet to get control of our domain name, but in the mean time I have got the site up and running under my business domain. The current temporary web address is:

www.drumlinsarc.king-enterprises.com



Parade Setter-Uppers!

Minutes from page 1

REMEMBRANCE:

OLD BUSINESS: Thank you from the 145.110 repeater group for our donation. Thanks to the generosity of the Amateur community, their goals were met and the repeater will have Green Power capability and battery backup. A thank you and a donation were received from the Palmyra Canal Town organization.

NEW BUSINESS: The October meeting is the Election of officers. The election committee presented a proposed slate of officers, but nominations from the floor will be accepted. At the time of the September meeting, some positions were still unfilled.

ADJOURNMENT:

October Rumblins
Deadline is
November 5, 2008

PUMPKIN PATROL 2008- OCTOBER 30TH-31ST

It is that time of the year to help Troop T with guarding the bridges on the NYS Thruway. The Ontario County ARES has also been asked to help out. I am hoping we will have more volunteers to help out from that source then last year. One Ontario ARES member has volunteered so far for a bridge. I asked the Ontario RACES to get the word out.

As we did last year the Ontario County ARES communications at the county complex will be used as NCS since the Ontario County 911 is right there. The 145.110 repeated will be used once again for the communication. There are tones (110.9) on this repeater so have a rig capable of CCTS tones. (Trooper Robin of Troop T will talk at our October meeting during the program time.)

I am hoping we can get enough volunteers that each bridge watcher only needs to cover one night. We will be starting later at 7:30PM at least and maybe even 8PM. (This time must be finalized yet.) But we will be staying on station until 12 midnight. Last year as soon as we pulled out for the night at 11PM one of our bridges had 'company' and items were thrown over this fenced bridge. So the later start and finish times will start this year.

I have had 3 volunteers so far volunteer even before this newsletter's article. If you can help, please contact me ASAP. It takes awhile to organize things and coordinate them with Ontario County. More volunteers means the whole Pumpkin Patrol would be easier for all.

73 & 88, Dave KB2KBY
Pumpkin Patrol Coordinator

OCTOBER IS DUES & ELECTION TIME

October starts the fiscal year for the Drumlins 2008-2009 year. Look at the date on your club membership card and see what date the card is good for. If it says good until October 2008, then you have to 're-up' your membership starting this October meeting. Most the membership has e-mailed newsletters, so the dues are \$10. If you are a 'snail mailed' newsletter member than the dues are \$15. (Notice that the mailed newsletters are more than the added \$5.) Checks can be made out to the "Drumlins ARC." The membership form is on page 7.

Please notify the ARES EC, Dave KB2KBY, if there is a change in the ARES question sheet you filled out about your status with communications. If nothing has changed that is okay. But if you had a change in the questions answered let the ARES EC know.

It is election time again! As a member it is your duty to review the selection slate. If you have concerns this is the time to bring questions up. And it is time for you to attend the meeting to vote on the club leadership for the 2008-2009 year. Attend the October 15th Wednesday meeting!

Radio Club Contacts

Drumlins Amateur Radio Club Ltd. (DARC)

Jim Collinworth, N2JC jcollinsw@aol.com

Monroe County ARES

Jeff Wigal, WY7Q wy7q@arrl.net

Rochester Amateur Radio Association (RARA)

Frank Schramm, WB2PYD wb2pyd@arrl.net

Rochester DX Association (RDXA)

Paul Mackanos, K2DB k2db@arrl.net

Rochester Radio Repeater Association (RRRA)

Brad Allen, KB2CHY kb2chy@frontiernet.net

Rochester VHF Group (RVHFG)

Andy Flowers, K0SM aflowers@frontiernet.net

XEROX Amateur Radio Club (XARC)

Ned Asam, W2NED w2ned@frontiernet.net

Montana Ham Assists In Rescue Of Fellow Amateur 600 Miles Away

On Sunday, September 21, Bob Williams, N7ODM, of Bozeman, Montana, was just tuning around on 40 meters, giving his rig a test just before a scheduled QSO with his brother Rich, K7URU, in Spokane, when he heard a faint CW signal around 1 PM (MDT): Glenn Russell Ruby Jr, W7AU, of Corvallis, Oregon had broken his leg and was using a portable radio and Morse code to send out a call for help. Williams said he was able to understand the injured man's code even when his signal became very weak.

"He called me. He must have heard me testing out the radio. When I finished, I signed off with my call, and then I heard, 'N7ODM, this is W7AU/7,' so I answered," Williams told the ARRL. "I told him to go ahead, I had solid copy. He told me that he was a hiker that had fallen and broken his leg. He identified himself as Russ, provided information as to his GPS coordinates, the shelter, food and water on hand, as well as his detailed physical condition. He told me exactly who I needed to contact for assistance."

According to Williams, Ruby had slipped on a wet rock and broken his leg while out hiking in the Buck Creek Pass area of the high Cascades in Western Washington, 600 miles away from Williams. "Russ really had his act together," Williams said. "Before he even called for help, he set up his tent. It was raining when he fell, so he climbed into his tent and got into some warm clothes and had a snack of sunflower seeds and dried apricots. After that, he strung up a wire antenna, fired up his Elecraft K1 and called me." Williams said that Ruby told him he had a "couple of weeks worth of battery power" for the radio.

Ruby asked Williams to notify the Snohomish County Search and Rescue in Washington State. "I didn't have their number, so I called my local 911 dispatcher. All they had was the info for King County in Washington, so I called them and they gave me the number for Snohomish. When I got a hold of Snohomish County Search and Rescue, they asked me to obtain additional info from Russ, such as the color of his tent and if he was in a clear or wooded area, and remain in contact with him as long as possible," Williams said.

"Russ and I were able to maintain contact until about 8 PM on Sunday, during which time I was able to pass additional traffic between Russ and Search and Rescue, but then his signal got so weak where I couldn't copy it anymore. Before he faded, we had agreed to try and make contact in the morning. I tried, starting around 6:30, but he never heard me. I finally heard him calling me around 9 on 7.051 MHz. We kept in contact until he was evacuated from the site by Search and Rescue at about 10:35 AM," Williams told the ARRL.

On Sunday, rescue crews reached Ruby, who had set up camp on Buck Creek Pass, at about 6000 feet just west of the Chelan County line. He was taken to safety Monday on horseback. Williams said that bad weather Sunday prevented a helicopter rescue: "It was snowing all night; Russ told me that when he woke up Monday morning, his tent was all covered in snow."

"I just happened to be at the same frequency," Williams said. "It's just a stroke of luck that turned out great. It was quite an experience. I'm just glad that he was a ham radio operator and that I was able to talk to him. It made the difference for him. What I did was not anything special. I'd like to think that any ham in Montana would've done the same thing."

- News article from the ARRL Letter Mailing List

If you have an article that you would like to share with the rest of the club, please submit them to me and I'll work on getting it in the newsletter!

Email address: KS2JEK@rochester.rr.com

Snail Mail address:

6911 Furnace Rd.

Ontario, NY 14519-9704

The Drumlins Amateur Radio Club, Ltd. invites all licensed radio amateurs, those interested in obtaining amateur licenses and those who are interested in learning more about electronics, computers, and other forms of amateur radio communications to attend our monthly meetings. D.A.R.C. meets the third Wednesday of each month at 7:30PM in the NYSEMO, Rte 31East, Newark, NY - - - Please join us with application below.

New ___ Renewal ___ Call Sign _____ Class _____

Member ARRL: Yes ___ No ___

Name: _____

Birthday: Month ___ Day ___ Year ___

Address: _____

Home Phone: _____

City/Town: _____

Work phone: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____

Signed Release: I hereby grant permission for Drumlins Amateur Radio Club, Ltd. to use my personal information supplied herewith for the compiling of Club Records as required to verify my eligibility for said membership within DARC and further to list my name, call letters, and e-mail on their web page for use by other members. Sign your name in line below showing your choice of permission or denial.

GRANTED: _____

NOT GRANTED: _____

Please completely fill out this form and answer all questions - don't assume the Club has it !

Membership Dues

___ DARC General Membership -w/mailed Newsletter - - - - - \$ 10.00 / year
 ___ DARC Associate Membership (not yet licensed) -w/mailed Newsletter - - \$ 5.00 / year
 ___ DARC Member at large (out of state) - w/mailed Newsletter - - - - - \$ 5.00 / year
 ___ DARC Family Membership (list name and calls) - w/mailed News - - - - - \$ 10.00 plus
 \$ 1.00 each add't member

___ DARC General Membership - w/USPS mailed Newsletter - - - \$ 15.00 /year

NEW

___ DARC Associate Membership - w/USPS mailed Newsletter - - \$ 10.00 / year

NEW

___ DARC Member at Large - w/USPS mailed Newsletter - - - - - \$ 10.00 / year

NEW

___ DARC Family Membership - w/ USPS mailed Newsletter - \$ 15.00 plus
 one address -\$1.00 each add't member

NEW

Please attach a copy of your FCC license if you have updated/changed classification or if this is your first application for membership with Drumlins Amateur Radio Club, Ltd.

In completing this form I hereby agree to abide by all rules set forth by the governing body of the Drumlins Amateur Radio Club, Ltd.
 Dave Taylor, KB2KBY
 228 West Jackson Street,
 Palmyra, NY 14522

Make checks payable to: Drumlins A.R.C.

Signed: _____

Date: _____

October Elections For Drumlins

October is the fiscal start of the new 2008-2009 year for the Drumlins ARC. That is when we start collecting dues for the 'next' year. Yes time does fly! Hi! But more importantly it is election time for the leadership for the new fiscal year as well.

President Jim, N2JC, has appointed the following Drumlins members, as per the club bylaws, to be the 2008 Nominating Committee:

KB2ROP-Doug Pesso; Chairman
 AB2F-"Doc" Everheart
 N2COJ-Steve Elliott

The Drumlins election bylaws state that all positions for the elected club leadership are open to dues paying members as candidates for a position even if present serving members have chosen to volunteer to serve another year. So far this year the October 2008 slate is as follows:

President: OPEN

Vice President: OPEN

Secretary: N2RUS-Rus Millspaw

Treasurer: KB2KBY-Dave Taylor

Program Director: OPEN

3-year Trustee: N2JC-Jim Collinsworth (Outgoing President serves as a beginning 3-year trustee.)

2-year Trustee: OPEN

And still to serve out the last year of his 3-year trusteeship is W4ILN-"Spence" Spencer.

Any Drumlins member who wishes information and/or wishes to volunteer for a leadership position on the 2008 October election slate may contact the Station Trustee by any of the means listed below. (The Executive Committee felt this was the easiest way to communicate.)

The election slate will be brought before the membership at the September meeting as per the bylaws although nominations can be brought to the floor and added to the slate prior to the October election meeting itself.

Please, Drumlins members! This is a very important time of the club year in October and the election itself is most important to the club. We all know we are busy people. But if you can see yourself taking the time and the commitment to benefit the Drumlins ARC, this is the time to come forth. If the Nominating Committee calls you please take the time to seriously consider their request.

73 & 88, Dave KB2KBY
 Drumlins ARC Station Trustee
 (315) 597-4293: leave a message if I am not home
 kb2kby(at)rochester.rr.com
 packet: 144.950 at kb2kby-1

EmComm East 2008 St. John Fisher College

On Saturday, September 20th, Jon, KS2JEK; Bruce, WB2QKO and myself attended the first EmComm East 2008 (Emergency Communications), seminar at St. John Fisher College. The Monroe County ARES sponsored this event.

The event was attended by almost 100 different hams from as far away as Wisconsin with the majority from NY and PA. Quite a few were RACES R.O.s and/or ARES E.C.s. including Bruce and myself. The keynote speaker was Dennis Dura, K2DCD, the Emergency Preparedness and Response Manager for the ARRL. Dennis emphasized amateur radio must keep up and adapt to the modern needs of communication and show how in emergencies amateur radio can fill the gap when commercial communications fail in disasters. Dennis also stated amateurs can't have the "I don't have the time for training but call on me if you need me." attitude. We must have training and we must be ready and show we are there to support the local populations. It is this local support-local need the 75 ARES sections in the US should be ready to provide emergency communications. Amateurs must stop the RACES-ARES War and put away their bad experiences and support both areas equally. Like I have said many times we must wear both hats. Luckily we have not the bad experience of this communications war. But to help the population we must train, be prepared and keep up with the Wayne County areas communications need.

All of us attended the NVIS (Near Vertical Incident Skywave), antenna session. This idea of having most of the energy of an antenna be bounced off the F-layer to improve communications on the HF 80 and 40 meter bands in a 200-300 mile area. (The Germans in WWII invented this NVIS by the way.) Most HF communications in an emergency would be needed at a state level in this skywave area. KB2KBY has a G5RV the 15'-20' above ground as recommended and I use it quite well for the State RACES HF net. Between my location at the east end of Region 5 and the NVIS value of my antenna, I have been ANCS many times. It was good to know my portable setup of NVIS was a working model too. Two 75 meter hamsticks in a dipole fashion only 9' above ground works well. Many amateurs attending this session told of the good signal from this configuration. Food for thought here if you are thinking in this area.

Other sessions looked at APRS, IRLP, and WinLink 2000 for HF and 2m. Bruce and I on the drive home talked about the use of WinLink 2000 for the Ginna drill and its use using computers-laptops-for message sending and receiving by linking 2m and e-mailing at the EOC. I was surprised to find WinLink could be used for 2m communications. This could solve the paper trail needed and the time spent writing up paper messages. (See this month's RACES-ARES article on page 1.)

Myself personally the conference gave me an eyeball QSO with many of the voices heard on the Sunday morning HF NYS RACES net. It is always nice to actually know the person on the other end of a net from a station.

There was a lot to hear and decipher from this EmComm East 2008 conference. Who knows more may be seen about it in the Drumlins Rumblins. Stay tuned. And hopefully there will be an EmComm East 2009.

73 & 88, Dave KB2KBY

October 12 - November 22, 2008

Drumlins Amateur Radio Club, LTD

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<i>Oct 12</i> 8:45 PM RACES Net	<i>Oct 13</i> KB2ROS B'Day	<i>Oct 14</i>	<i>Oct 15</i> 7:30 PM DARC Meeting	<i>Oct 16</i>	<i>Oct 17</i>	<i>Oct 18</i>
<i>Oct 19</i> 8:45 PM RACES Net	<i>Oct 20</i>	<i>Oct 21</i>	<i>Oct 22</i>	<i>Oct 23</i>	<i>Oct 24</i>	<i>Oct 25</i>
<i>Oct 26</i> 8:45 PM RACES Net	<i>Oct 27</i>	<i>Oct 28</i>	<i>Oct 29</i> N2HSY B'Day	<i>Oct 30</i>	<i>Oct 31</i>	<i>Nov 1</i>
<i>Nov 2</i> 8:45 PM RACES Net	<i>Nov 3</i>	<i>Nov 4</i>	<i>Nov 5</i>	<i>Nov 6</i>	<i>Nov 7</i>	<i>Nov 8</i>
<i>Nov 9</i> 8:45 PM RACES Net	<i>Nov 10</i>	<i>Nov 11</i>	<i>Nov 12</i>	<i>Nov 13</i>	<i>Nov 14</i>	<i>Nov 15</i> W1YX B'Day
<i>Nov 16</i> 8:45 PM RACES Net	<i>Nov 17</i>	<i>Nov 18</i>	<i>Nov 19</i> 7:30 PM DARC Meeting	<i>Nov 20</i>	<i>Nov 21</i>	<i>Nov 22</i>