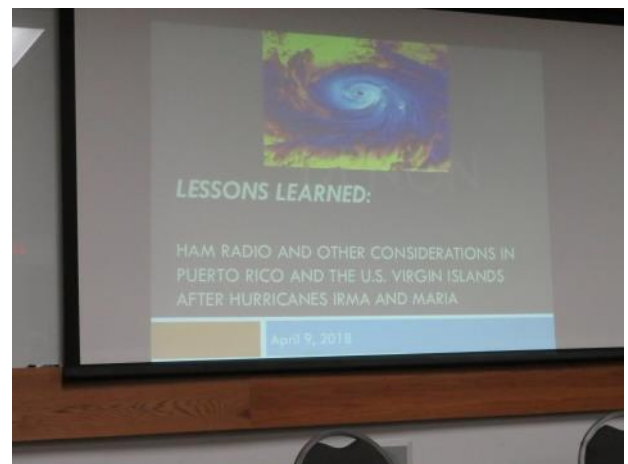


# Sparks from the Spa



A PUBLICATION OF SARATOGA COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION

## April General Meeting



Our featured speaker for the April General Meeting was Mike Levy, K2ZIP. Mike worked in Puerto Rico after the devastating hurricane Maria late last year. He was there working as his normal federal government job with FEMA, coordinating worker health and safety.

He had no direct involvement with the amateur radio operation, but he did have a chance to make observations on his own concerning the role of Amateur Radio and how they responded to the hurricane. The electrical and communications systems were virtually wiped out. The hams did manage to restore many 2 meter repeaters back to operational status which did help in the recovery efforts. Mike had a list of lessons learned, and items that we should be aware of ourselves. His biggest observation was that the volunteers needed to be qualified in disaster management. The simple matter that we as amateurs are licensed to communicate simply is not enough.

Mike's presentation was both enjoyable, and a learning experience for us all.

HELP NEEDED FOR SCARA HAMFEST SEPT 9! Peter Miller - W2BEW

At the April meeting, 12 generous attendees signed up to help with our Hamfest on September 9. I really appreciate those offers to help, but to make the Hamfest a success, we'll need some more folks - both before and during the event. It will take all of us!

Let's divide the work into functional teams, so all bases get covered and nobody gets overloaded.

I am contacting those first 12 volunteers separately to ask them to pick a Team/Function that they are willing to help with.

And I'm asking everyone else receiving this message to respond and let us know how you'd like to help. Feel free to sign on to both a pre-hamfest team AND a team during the fest. It's going to take all of us to make this 33<sup>rd</sup> annual hamfest great.

I have sent emails to 106 potential vendors asking them to either attend or to donate to our raffles. We need to follow up by telephone with the most likely prospects. Many will again say yes.

Questions? Comments? Email me at [petermil@verizon.net](mailto:petermil@verizon.net)

Peter - W2BEW

Field Day coming soon Steve WA2TTP

Field Day is June 23 and 24<sup>th</sup> and will be held as usual at the Wilton EMS building. We will need people, 7 or 8 to be safe, on Friday the 22<sup>nd</sup> to put up the tower and other antennas. Additional setup will be done Saturday morning. Times will be finalized at the club meeting. Also the tower needs to be transported from Brian's (NJ1F) house to the site and back on Sunday. We need a full size pickup to carry it. Normally this is done by Tim (N2MBX) but he is recovering from knee surgery so we need someone else to step up.

So far I have commitments for the tower, 2 extended run Honda generators, food, NYSAR RV and Peter (W2BEW) will copy the ARRL field day message. We can earn extra points by having a public official visit our site. I could use some help with that. I'm not really a PR guy! I will pass around a sign-up sheet at the next club meeting on June 11<sup>th</sup>. IF you're not going to attend the meeting please drop me an email detailing what you want to do. The more the merrier!

Steve WA2TTP Field Day coordinator  
Srosenb2@nycap.rr.com

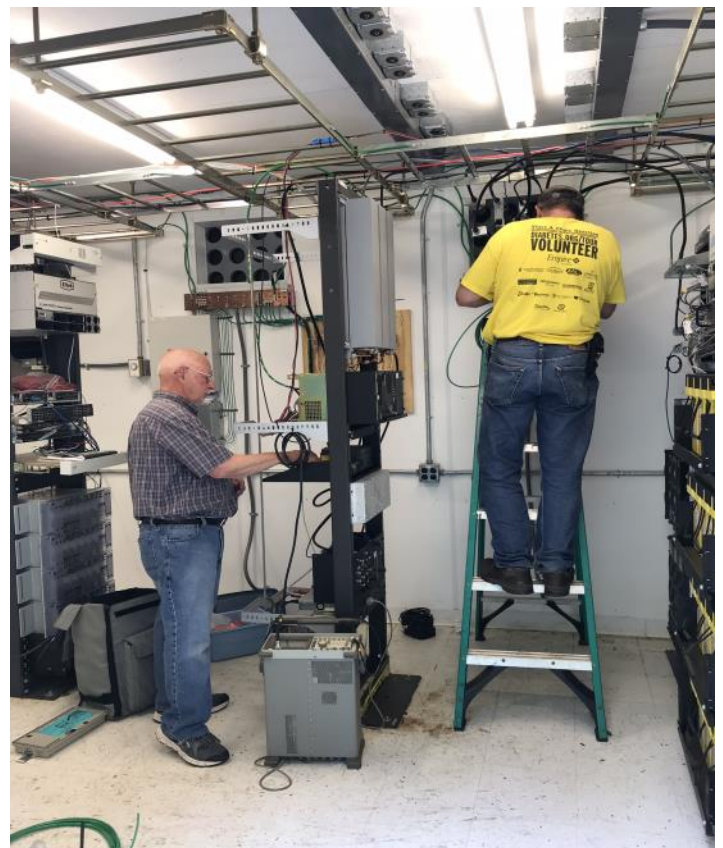
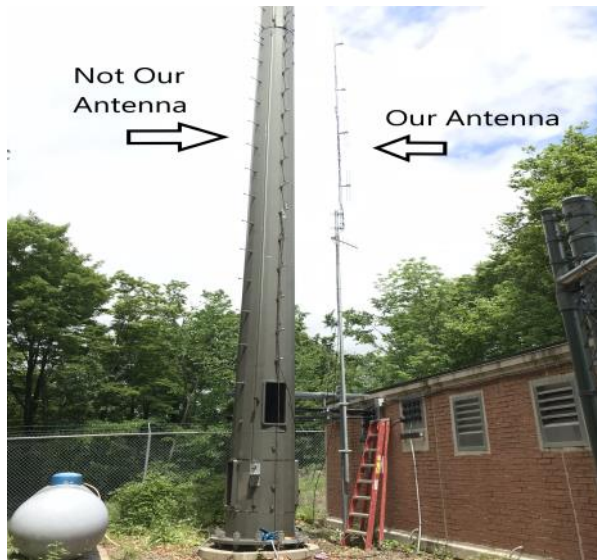
## Fraker Mountain— On the air!!

As you all know, the club has 3, 2 meter repeaters in Saratoga County to support our mission for emergency communications.. They are 147.00 in Corinth, 147.24 in Providence, and 147.36 in Lake Nancy. Because of the terrain of the northern part of the county around Sacandaga Reservoir we have never been able to reliably provide communications in that area.

The club has been given an opportunity to fill that gap in our coverage, and fill it, we have. On June 2 Jim K2LM, Frank KA2QYE, and Steve WA2TTP installed a new repeater at Fraker Mountain, at 147.03, + offset, and a tone of 91.5 just like our 147.00 and 147.24 repeaters. This new repeater is also linked via UHF to the other 2 repeaters. The repeater ID is K2DLL just like our other club repeaters.

Because of the terrain up there, you may not be able to use this repeater from your home in the southern part of the county, but if you are in the Sacandaga area, you will be able to key this up and use it successfully.

The new repeater is expected to get a workout this weekend on June 10 when the Tour de Cure is happening, and the 100 mile route runs through the Sacandaga area.



## June Meeting Agenda

June is our annual business meeting. There are only 3 things on the agenda at this point. The top priority is election of officers for next year. Any club member whose dues are current can be nominated for election to our board. We have 8 positions, President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and 4 At-Large board members. If you wish to run for any of these positions, please contact any of the officers listed on the last page of the newsletter. You can also come to the meeting and declare your candidacy before the voting.

We will also hear from Peter Miller concerning our Hamfest which is happening this September 9 (see the article on Page 2).

Finally, Steve WA2TTP will be leading a discussion of our Field Day efforts. See the article on Page 2 for a preliminary status of Field Day, occurring on June 23 and June 24.

## Tour De Cure on Sunday June 10

Our largest public service event of the year will be happening on June 10. The Tour de Cure is a national Diabetes Association event, and the Saratoga area is one of the top 3 regions for bicyclist participation and funds raised IN THE NATION. Our club has provided support for them for over 20 years now. There are 6 different routes, ranging in length from a 5 K run to a 100 mile bike route.

We expect traffic on our repeaters, 147.00, 147.03, and 147.24 to be very heavy in the morning, and tapering off in the afternoon as the cyclists finish up their rides.

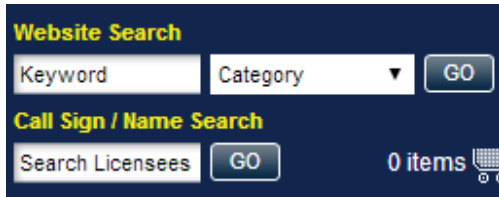
We ask that you please give priority on the repeaters this Sunday (June 10) to the Tour de Cure traffic. Thank you.

## Acknowledgement and Thanks Jim KG2H

The following renewed their dues in April and May, Many thanks go out to W1LJF, KG5JEN, and W2ZD



Have you checked the expiration date on your license? It's very easy to do. One way to do it is to go to [WWW.ARRL.ORG](http://WWW.ARRL.ORG), and just fill in your call sign in the search box on their home page. You do not need to be a member of ARRL to use this service.



K2DLL repeater system:

Corinth NY  
147.000 MHz +600KHz 91.5 Hz CTCSS encode/decode  
448.225 MHz -5.00 MHz 91.5 CTCSS encode/decode

Providence NY  
147.240 MHz +600 Hz 91.5 Hz CTCSS encode/decode.  
147.360 MHz +600 Hz (add 91.5 Hz CTCSS to connect to the NYS Network

Sacandaga Reservoir  
147.03 MHz +600 KHz 91.5 Hz CTCSS encode/decode

Middleburgh NY  
448.925 PL 107.2 WA2TTP-R Steve's Repeater is linked to ours via UHF



## Officers

### President

Fred Brown W5BN  
W5BN@nycap.rr.com

### Vice President:

Peter Miller—W2BEW  
PETERMIL@verizon.net

### Secretary:

Jim McKnight K2LM  
K2LM@nycap.rr.com

### Treasurer:

Jim Polewczak—KG2H  
KG2H@arrl.net

### Directors:

Dave Bargovic—NR2J  
Dave.Bargovic@gmail.com

Mike Levy K2ZIP  
levymike@AOL.COM

Steve Rosenberg WA2TTP  
SROSENB2@nycap.rr.com

Dennis Kagel—WA2JWO  
KADELL@mybluelight.com

Please be sure to visit our webpage for any late breaking news or newsletter archives.

[WWW.K2DLL.ORG](http://WWW.K2DLL.ORG)

Got News or information you would like to get published? How about your own projects or other things you think would be of interest to Club Members? How about (GASP), a letter to the editor? Contact us at our email address :

[SparksFromTheSpa@gmail.com](mailto:SparksFromTheSpa@gmail.com)

## Upcoming program note

We are looking for input from the membership as to what YOU would like to hear. Program suggestions are always welcome. Please let any of the Board Members know of you ideas.

Thanks