

Sparks from the Spa



A PUBLICATION OF SARATOGA COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION

Important information, Do Not Miss This !!!

If you read nothing of the rest of this newsletter mark you calendars for the following information.

Starting with the September meeting, our meeting location will be the Saratoga County Fire Training Facility located at 6010 County Farm Road in Ballston Spa. (This is where the Sheriff's office is located). The second Monday of September is September 9. The building is located behind the animal shelter

This is the same location where we held Field Day this year. Do not show up at the Wilton EMS building because we will not be there.

New Officers Elected

At the club's June 10th annual meeting a new slate of officers were elected for the next year. Congratulations to the new officers.

President: W5BN - Fred Brown
Vice President: W2BEW - Peter Miller
Secretary: K2LM - Jim McKnight
Treasurer: KG2H - Jim Polewczak

Directors:

WA2TTP - Steve Rosenberg
WA2JWO - Dennis Kagel
K2ZIP - Mike Levy
NJ1F - Brian Szewczyk

*Saratoga County Amateur Radio Association
presents our 34th annual*

HAMFEST 2019

Sunday, September 8th; Gates open at 7:00 am

Saratoga County Fair Grounds, 162 Prospect St, Ballston Spa, NY 12020

Only \$6 per person includes hourly door prize drawing, plus 8'x8' "tailgate" space

MAKE IT A HAM'S DREAM WEEKEND – 2 HAMFESTS!

**BRING YOUR TICKET STUB FROM BOXBORO ON SATURDAY AND
GET INTO OUR FEST FOR HALF PRICE !! – ONLY \$3 !!**



- Many hourly prizes **PLUS HIGH-END BUCKET PRIZES!!**
- VE exam to be held at 8:30 am (off site)
Cornell Co-Op Ext. (Solar Bldg); 50 W. High St / Rt 67 west
Ballston Spa, NY 12020
- Lots of **NEW AND USED** gear and accessories to haggle over
- Fox-hunt on the fairground property
- Under-cover tables available for \$10 each
- Delicious Food served all day

Directions:

- I-87 to Exit 12
- West on Rt 67 to Ballston Spa
- At intersection of Rts 50 & 67, follow
50 North; look for HAMFEST signs
- In village, turn left at Citgo station on
Prospect Street; up hill on left

Talk-In

K2DLL Repeater System
147.000 or 147.240

PL = 91.5 Hz.

GPS Coordinates

43.007438 ° -73.855821 °

For Information or reservations contact: Jim Polewczak - KG2H
231 Northline Road, Ballston Spa, NY 12020. Email: kg2h@arrl.net

Phone: 518-703-9558

SEE US AT www.K2DLL.ORG

Field Day 2019

Field Day this year was a bit unusual, it didn't rain! Things went great and everyone had fun.

We held field day at a new site, the county complex on Fairground Ave in Ballston Spa. We ran a 3A setup, and had at least 16 participants for operating and set up. We had a significant increase in QSO's this year, making me wonder if we want to run as a 4A operation next year. I'm thinking that we could use a dedicated digital station, we could get a significant increase if we did that.

K2DLL Field Day Summary 2019

band	CW	DIG	SSB	Grand Total
6	1		88	89
10	14		5	19
15	138		1	139
20	74		116	190
40	110		82	192
80	0		162	162
160	0		0	0
2019 Grand Total	337	0	454	791

K2DLL Field Day Summary 2018

band	CW	DIG	SSB	Grand Total
6		18	16	34
10				
15	28		21	49
20	200	4	8	212
40	70		138	208
80			55	55
160			2	2
2018 Grand Total	298	20	240	560



OK, What's the next step?



After they figured out the next steps.



You can't see it but there is a dipole hanging from the fire tower.



6 meter operating position inside NEMSTAR van. Good view of the pond and geese



Inside the fire training classroom, the main operating positions. Three Stations and a GOTA station.



Yes, we can do
this again next
year !!

The Toy Exchange September 2019

We have instituted a newsletter column "item for sale" column for club members who want to sell a piece of Ham Radio equipment they own.

This is for club members to sell personal items they own. It is not a forum for you to run a business. Send a description of the item which may or may not include a price. It is imperative for you to have a method for a potential buyer to contact you. The club and / or the newsletter WILL NOT be involved as a contact or negotiator, this is your responsibility.

If you send a picture of the item, the picture may or may not be published depending upon conditions of the picture, space in the newsletter, or other unspecified condition.

Send your copy to SparksFromTheSpa@gmail.com. Allow it to arrive at least 2 weeks before the scheduled club meeting. Your copy will be cut and pasted into the newsletter, no corrections will be edited, so check you spelling.

Ultimately the issue of the whether the item is published is subject to the discretion of the newsletter editor.

These rules are subject to change.

I recently splurged and bought myself a new Elecraft KX-3. Because of that I need to reduce the surplus of QRP rigs in my collection. I am offering my Elecraft K2 and my Wilderness Radio Sierra/

The K2 is a 5 W (more on some bands) 160-10 rig. It is 8" wide X 3 1/4 tall by 8 1/4 deep. It has both CW and SSB modes, and is wired for a Kenwood 8 pin mic connector. I honestly only used it on CW and it worked great on that mode. I am not a SSB operator, but it does work with voice. It has built in antenna tuner for 2 antennas, and also a separate 160 receive antenna input, if you wish to use it there. In addition it has multiple bandwidth filters and a built in memory keyer. I would like \$300 for this radio.

The Sierra is a nominal 3 W CW rig, with plug in modules for 80, 40, 20 and 15m. It has a built in keyer, and variable bandwidth audio filter. I would like \$75 for this radio.

If you're interested, please contact me at KG2H@ARRL.net with your phone number. Thanks



FOR SALE

K5WZ 80M TO 6M HORSE FENCE DIPOLE ANTENNA

For description, see e-Bay site. New, still in box. \$60.00

W1NXB, Peter Ruby, 518.792.5607 Glens Falls

Amateur RadioTest Session Requirement.

If you are going to take a test session for either a new or upgraded ham license, here are a few things you **MUST** bring along.

A copy of your current FCC license. We need to attach the license copy to the paperwork when you upgrade. If you are unlicensed, the FCC form 605 requires a FRN. You can obtain a FRN in just a few minutes before the exam session by visiting <https://www.fcc.gov/wireless/systems-utilities/universal-licensing-system> You simply apply for the FRN on line, and you will have it with you when you come to the test session.

Another form of ID, a driver's license is great, or any other form of ID. If you don't have a driver's license, (perhaps you are too young for the DMV) the ARRL suggests something as simple as a library card, or even a piece of mail addressed to you at your residence.

A pen and pencil (with a good eraser). The pen is for filling out the FCC form 605, and the pencil is to fill out the bubble answer sheet.

The proper testing fee. Currently it is \$15.

Your WITS. It is not a hard exam, so don't get too anxious about it.

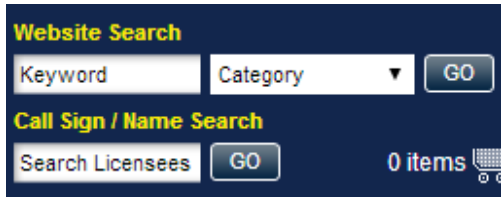
Please arrive at least 15 minutes before the exam start time in order to fill out the paperwork, and for the VE's (Volunteer Examiners) to review it.

Another thing to bear in mind, is that for many of the testing sessions, the VE team will have alternate versions of the various exam elements available for you to try a retake of the exam. If you do desire to take an alternate version, we must you charge you an additional testing fee. If you **DO NOT NEED** to take any alternate versions, you may take the next higher level of exam for **NO** additional costs. For example, if you take and pass the Technician exam, you may take the General exam if you so desire, and there will be no additional fees. I have witnessed a few people who have come into the session unlicensed, and walk away with the Extra Class license.

GOOD LUCK.



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, 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

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

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

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