

# Sparks from the Spa



A PUBLICATION OF SARATOGA COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION

## 25th ANNUAL HAMFEST

SARATOGA COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS  
BALLSTON SPA, NY

**Saturday — SEPT 11, 2010**  
7 am—3 pm

**VE Exam at 9:30 am**

**Cooperative Extension (Solar) Bldg.  
50 West High St. Ballston Spa 12020**

Believe it or not, this will be the 25th time we've put on a hamfest at the County Fairgrounds. Al Margadonna has procured several hundred commemorative pens that will be handed out to attendees as they buy their tickets.

As usual, there'll be a great doorprize (Yaesu FT-857D), hourly drawings and lots of ham gear to be bought, sold or traded. Quicksilver, KJI Electronics, and Kensto Products are expected.

**You won't want to miss this event. See you there!!**



## Board of Directors Meeting June 14, 2010

Meeting convened at 6:33 pm.

Board Actions:

- Minutes approved
  - AI-KA1IEG submitted the treasurer's report: Opening bal.— \$10,965.37; Closing bal.— \$ 9,773.61 after approx. \$456 for 147.36 repeater power supply and battery and approx. \$765 for FT-857D door prize.
  - K2LM requested funds to purchase two new antennas for club beacon station. Approved.
  - Board approved \$200 for Field Day supplies. Dave—NR2J and AI—KA1IEG will shop on Friday.
- Meeting adjourned at 6:57 pm

## General Meeting

Meeting convened at 7:33 pm.

Meeting topic was club's planning for Field Day on 6/26 & 27:

- NEMSAR van and generator again available
  - Will operate 3 stations plus GOTA and PSK
  - Fred—W2EMS will supply logging computers
  - Club will again earn points for PR and message handling during FD event.
  - Club needs volunteers to help with communications during Fair Week, 7/20-25.
  - Club needs a volunteer to act as Program Director to arrange for program topics at monthly meetings
- Adjourned at 8:25 pm



## From Dennis—WA2JWO:

The following is an email message from Dennis—WA2JWO to many of his ham friends. The subject line on the email was: ***I'M STILL ALIVE!***

Hi all! I bet that subject line got your attention. If not, stick with the rest of the e-mail and you will understand.

FIRST: This is the first time in my computer experience that I have sent a note to everyone in my address book - AND SECOND: I am aware that many of you are already aware of my experience during the past several weeks. If you are among the Family / Friends who already know the story—OH WELL—maybe this note will add to what you already know.

During the past month or so, I noticed that I was becoming very exhausted doing very little yard work, etc., and I would have to come inside the house to rest for 10 or 15 minutes before I could continue for another 5 minutes or so. NO, THE SYMPTOMS DID NOT INDICATE HEART TROUBLE, NOR A CALL TO 911, SINCE I HAD AN APPOINTMENT WITH MY PRIMARY CARE DOCTOR SCHEDULED ON WEDNESDAY, JULY, 29th.

At that appointment, my doctor arranged for an immediate EKG, Blood Test, Chest X-Ray, and a Stress Test the following Monday, August 2. As an educator, I hate to admit of myself failing tests, HOWEVER - I FAILED EACH AND EVERY ONE IN SEQUENCE.

After the Monday Stress Test, they immediately scheduled a "CATH" on Wednesday at St. Peter's Hospital. BINGO -- ANOTHER FAILURE, and a scheduled bypass surgery for 3 blockages on Thursday morning, (August 5).

I remember everything up to 8:30 AM on Thursday as I was prepared for surgery, HOWEVER, the rest of that day no longer exists for me as everyone tells me I had a full blown attack on the table as they began to cut me open. YES, I KNOW IT SOUNDS BAD -- BUT CONSIDER HOW LUCKY I WAS NOT TO HAVE HAD IT HAPPEN WHILE HIKING THE ADIRONDACK MOUNTAINS OR FLYING BACK FROM NORTH CAROLINA.

When I woke up that evening, (NO NOT THURSDAY), I couldn't figure out how the whole family got there inside of several hours. (REMEMBER, IT WAS REALLY FRIDAY EVENING, BUT MY BODY/MIND STILL THOUGHT IT WAS THURSDAY EVENING).

Well here we are a week later, (REALLY THURSDAY, AUGUST12), sleeping in my own bed, playing with my computer and ham radio, eating Chris' great food, and walking down the road with Chris and our dog Molly. (This morning I reached close to a half mile for a total walk).

Can't drive for another 3 weeks, but stopped pain medicine after 2 days home, and the worst is now coughing with my sternum stapled together.

The messages here -- don't always rely on the so called "standard symptoms", and keep your family and friends close.

Without all of you, I am positive Chris and I would have had a very difficult time in this period of our lives.

As always, please feel free to pass this info on to anyone you think might be interested.

LOVE TO YOU ALL --

from -- DENNIS (WA2JWO) and CHRIS KAGEL  
(Dennis WILL be at the Hamfest — Ed)

## Weekly Radio Net

Please join us on the air each Sunday evening at 7 PM for our weekly net. The 147.00 and 147.24 repeaters are linked by the 448.225 MHz machine during this net, so feel free to check in on any of these repeaters. PL tone is 91.5 Hz. We are looking for volunteer Net Control Stations for this net.

You may also check into the Warren County RACES Net for practice in message handling on Tuesday evenings, 7 PM, on 146.73 (PL 100) or 147.135 (PL 123.0).

## Public Service Help Needed

### Bike Event—Sept 12, Double H Ranch

Contact Jeff KC2SDS at 696-5675 or via email (jjarchambeault@gmail.com)

## Field Day 2010

Field Day has come and gone — another great success! Thanks to all who came to help set up, tear down or to operate.



## It's what we do!

Left: Dave, NR2J, manning the Communications Room during Saratoga County Fair Week in July. It's fun, and you never know what'll happen next. You might go from zero to sixty to zero again in 10 minutes.

Below: Several images from the SCARA 2010 Field Day operation at Wilton EMS HQ: Dave and Walt at the high-frequency cooking station; Tim posing with the luxurious NEMSAR van; Jeff and Dan engaging in some high-intensity digital communications next to the Warren County van.

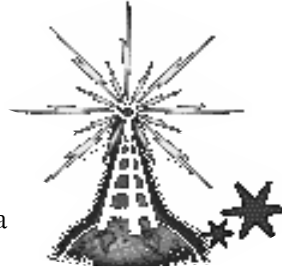
Were you there?





### K2DLL ON THE INTERNET

The club has a website at:  
**<http://www.k2dll.net>**.  
Here you will find the latest club news and events.



The club operates two 2-meter repeaters. The 147.24 repeater is located 15 miles west of Saratoga Springs at Lake Nancy. This repeater has a members-only phone patch. The 147.00 repeater is located 10 miles north of Saratoga Springs on Spruce Mountain, near Corinth, NY. This repeater offers an “emergency” phone patch. These two machines, in combination, offer excellent North to South and East to West communications far beyond Saratoga County. These repeaters are now linked together full-time by the club’s third repeater on 448.225 MHz.

**PL Tone for all club repeaters is now 91.5 Hz.**

## OFFICERS

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