



# Sparks from the Spa



A PUBLICATION OF SARATOGA COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION

## 25th ANNUAL HAMFEST A BIG SUCCESS!



Our 25th annual hamfest on September 11 was a great success. Attendance was up slightly from last year at 421 people through the gate (last year = 413). Net profit after expenses was up nearly \$300, and revenue from the food both contributed greatly.

There were several vendors who called at the last minute to say they were not able to come, but those who did attend were delighted with their sales. All said they would return next year. Hams who attended also had very positive feedback.

At the VE test session held at the Solar Building in Ballston Spa, nine people passed their exams to obtain or upgrade their ham radio licenses. Congratulations!

You'll see some photos of the event later in this newsletter.

## Public Service Events

Mohawk Towpath Byway Duathlon

Sunday—October 17, 2010

**Operators:** Need 10—12 ham volunteers

**Start:** Event starts at 0900 hrs; Radio volunteers stage at 0800 hrs. Event last approximately 3 hours

**Location:** Krause's Grove; 2 Beach Road, Clifton Park (N 42° 48.174'; W 73° 45.255')

**Frequencies:** Net freq: 147.375

Backup freq: 147.240

HT with 5-watt capability recommended

**Duathlon Website:** <http://www.mohawktowpath.org/duathlon.html>

**Contact:** Fred Halley - W2EMS (fhalley@hanys.org)

• On September 18, the Diabetes Association held its 11th annual **Rosie's Walk**, which has raised more than \$125,000 over those years. 150 walkers and runners and great weather. The following members participated: Bob N2WDY, Dan KC2TOG, Tom N2SQO, Bill KC2NXC, Larry NT2B, Dave N2FEP.

• On Sept. 12, **Double H Ranch** held a 62-mile bike run through Warren and Saratoga Counties. Jeff, KC2SDS now reports a good turnout and great event.

## Program Note

**Ward, KC2QKA**, will present a program at our Oct. 11 meeting about Winlink2000 WL2K and Airmail (email by radio as used by MARS)

[www.winlink.org/](http://www.winlink.org/)



## Board of Directors Meeting Sept 13, 2010

Meeting convened at 6:33 pm.

Board Actions:

- Minutes approved
- Board discussed successful 25th Hamfest
- Al-KA1IEG submitted the treasurer's report: Opening bal.— \$10,965; Closing bal.— \$ 13,337. \$4080 deposit from Hamfest/dues income less expenses
- Board voted to give \$25 gift cards to three non-ham kitchen helpers who worked all day for us. THANKS to all who volunteered in kitchen
- Tim—N2MBX agreed to serve as Public Service Coordinator— Hooray!
- Board was notified that the power supply we purchased for the 147.36 repeater has resulted in a saving of more than 30% on N2QFT's power bill!!

Meeting adjourned at 7:20 pm

### General Meeting

Meeting convened at 7:33 pm.

- Meeting topic was general discussion of club's 25th annual hamfest
- Feedback was very positive
- Discussed future meeting programs — October 11 will be presentation of WinLink 2000 and Airmail as used in the MARS network—Ward, KC2QKA
- Club still needs a volunteer to act as Program Director to arrange for program topics at monthly meetings

### Nine New or Upgraded Licensees at VE Test Session

The following people passed their amateur exam at the September Hamfest. Congratulations!

<u>Name</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>Call</u>
Erin Doane	Tech	KC2ZDD
Matt Delaney	General	W2MRD
Ronald Roberts	General	KC2PSA
Dan Henderson	General	KC2VOH
Richard Boyer	General	KC2WVB
James Pertell	Extra	KC2TYJ
John Norray	Tech	KC2ZDC
Craig Cummings	Tech	KC2ZDE
Les Lodge	Tech	KC2ZDB

FROM THE ARRL —

## Dissolution of Netherlands Antilles

To clarify the changes to the two existing Netherlands Antilles DXCC entities, ARRL has determined that at 0400 UTC on October 10, 2010, the two Netherland Antilles DXCC entities will be deleted. Commencing at that time, operation from the islands of Curacao, Bonaire, Saint Maarten, Saba and St Eustatius will count for a yet-to-be-determined number of new entities under the DXCC Rules. When the Awards Committee determines what rules apply, it will announce the final disposition of the entities on the DXCC list. The DXCC desk will not accept confirmations for these new entities until after January 1, 2011.

## 2010 Atlantic Hurricane Season is Busy

So far, with nine tropical storms and four hurricanes, the 2010 Atlantic hurricane season has indeed been a busy one. Beginning with Hurricane Alex in June, hams at WX4NHC -- the Amateur Radio station at the National Hurricane Center in Miami, Florida -- and weather spotters around the country have kept an eye on these storms. Hurricane Earl came in late August and early September, Hurricane Karl in September and now Hurricane Igor is making its way across the Canadian Maritimes. The 2010 Atlantic hurricane season officially began on June 1 and will continue through November 30.

## Solar Update

Conditions have been good for the past two weeks. Despite dire predictions of another Maunder Minimum, Solar Cycle 25 continues to progress.

## 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).

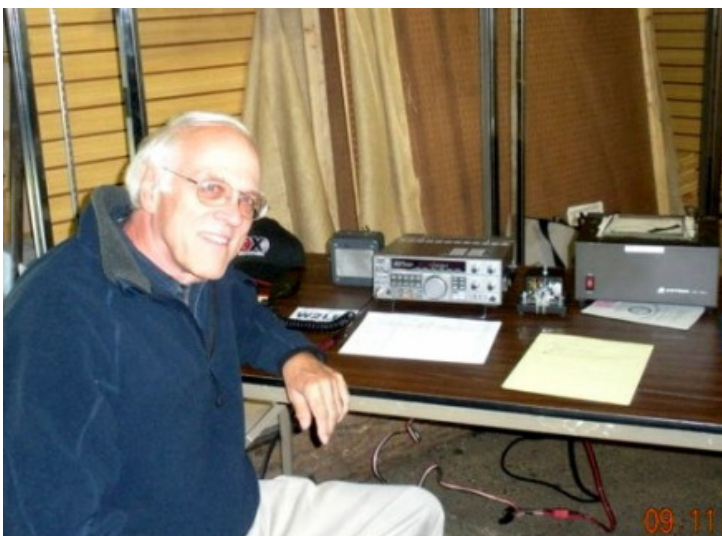




## HAMFEST 2010

A great time was had by all.

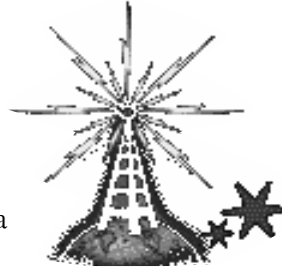
- Great weather
- Great bargains
- Great fellowship
- Great prizes
- Great VE Test Session
- Great DX ?





### 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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