



# Sparks from the Spa



A PUBLICATION OF SARATOGA COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION

## Hamfest Results—Darlene Lake

I would like to thank everyone that attended or volunteered to work to make our 27<sup>th</sup> annual hamfest the success it was.

Our attendance was down (tornado warnings, threat of rain, and other things going on that day). Last year we had 371 through the gate, this year we had 338. We made a net profit on the day of \$1415.37. The VE test session was small but successful.

Thank you TARA Club for your donation.

If we plan on continuing to hold this hamfest we need to increase our attendance and our profits. This is a very important event not only to our club, but also to the Troy club. It is a great social event and everyone that attends has a great time.

We need people attending other fests to take copies of our flyers (which I plan to make available in adobe format on the webpage. We need people to talk it up and mark the date (rather than forgetting it). Many of our members if not all, are involved in other things not just ham radio. If your wife does crafts and wants to get a table (for \$10) to sell her crafts, bring her along – there are many spouses that would love that. We have plenty of room to make this event grow. If you have an idea, let me know – the only person I have said no to is the physic (who should have known what a hamfest was if she was that good)

The date for 2013 is Saturday, September 7<sup>th</sup> – let start planning now.  
Darlene, N2XQG  
Hamfest chair

## VE exam results - Sept 8, 2012

In conjunction with the hamfest, we held a ham radio test session. We had wonderful results, with 7 candidates, all the candidates earned a new or upgraded licenses. Congratulations to the brand new hams, Dan Gealt - KD2CTQ (General); Holly Helms - KD2CTR (Tech); Marcus Lohre - KD2CTS (Tech); and Jim Palmer - KD2CTT (Tech).

Of Course, none of it would have been possible without our VE team, KA2QYE, N2ZTC, NT2B, KC2NXC, K2LM, and KG2H.

## A note from WB2NSC about the Tour De Cure.

On Tuesday evening (9-18) Tom - N2SBC, Earl - KR2L, me and our XYLs attended the ADA's Volunteer Recognition dinner. Once again the contribution of the amateur radio community got special recognition. Kathy from the ADA office will be at the Saratoga Club meeting in November. And, just a reminder next year's Tour is scheduled for 2 June - mark your 2013 calendar.

Next  
Meeting  
Oct 8  
7:30 PM



P.O. BOX 166  
518-495-5466

SARATOGA SPRINGS  
NEW YORK 12866

June 13, 2012

Jim McKnight  
Saratoga County RACES  
3 Homestead Road,  
Schuylerville, NY 12871

Dear Jim,

On behalf of the Saratoga Springs Lions Club, I wish to thank you and the Saratoga County Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Services Association for the public safety communications support during the Saratoga Springs Lions Club Duathlon held May 27, 2012.

Your clubs assistance was extremely helpful to me and the club. Each member of your team played a vital role in the success of this event. Your help with traffic control at Malta Ave Ext and Rowley Road when one of the Lions volunteers could not make the event due to an emergency was extremely helpful. Steve and Dan provided timely and helpful information to me via Peter during the event; this allowed race officials to stop an errant bike rider from entering the race course and possibly causing an accident. Tim was very helpful to two cyclists that broke their bikes and helped arrange their pickup from the course. Peter and Phil's invaluable help coordinating real-time information between the overall race director and me helped us make informed and timely decisions regarding the race.

The Lions Club received a lot of praise from race participants on how much better they liked the new bike course. This praise and the overall success of the event are in large part due to the support we receive from your organization. We are extremely thankful to have such a well organized and professional group such as RACES assist us in this event.

Once again, thank you for all you do with the Saratoga Springs Lions and the general public, and we hope to see you again next year at our 9<sup>th</sup> annual event.

Sincerely,

Peter Abreu  
Duathlon Bike Route

*Serving the Needs of Our Community*

*"WE SERVE"*

*Sight Hearing Diabetes Youth*

## Take a Break

Here are some upcoming contests which caught my eye. For more details see the sponsor link. For a more comprehensive list see the Contest Corral on the ARRL website.

Mohawk Topath Byway Duathlon - October 14 - Race starts at approximately 0900. Radio volunteers will stage at 0800. The meeting point is Krause's Grove, 2 Beach Rd, Clifton Park. 2 Meter handheld radios which are capable of 5 watt output are suggested. The net control will operate on 147.375, with a backup of 147.240.

New York QSO Party - Oct 20 1400 UTC to Oct 21 0200 UTC. Check out the details at [WWW.NYQP.ORG](http://WWW.NYQP.ORG)

## Upcoming Programs

### Anticipated Upcoming Programs

At publication time, we have no formal program scheduled for October

In November, we will have Kathy, an ADA representative come to the meeting. She will speak a little about the Tour de Cure.

If you have any suggestions for the monthly programs, please contact a member of the board, or the editor at [SparksFromtheSpa@gmail.com](mailto:SparksFromtheSpa@gmail.com)



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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 new email address :

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

## UPCOMING PUBLIC SERVICE

October 14 - Mohawk Towpath Duathlon - 8 AM - Fred Halley W2EMS