

DUES ARE DUE!!!

**You need to pay your dues by April 1st
Or you will lose your voting rights for 2008**

**Happy
Birthday**

- Dave-K2C0I
- John-K2DVF
- Dan-KC2MZV
- Patti-KC2PWO
- Ben-N2ROQ
- Tad-N2TAD
- Ann-WA2KCU

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Please join us on the Tuesday night net and Roundtable
On 147.210 and the 75 Meter Net on Thursday Nights.
ALL are welcome!

Tech Classes Start Feb 20th!

**Tell your friends and
neighbors!**

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Dues for 2008

Mail to:
 Stan Engel, WA2UET
 PO Box 153
 Ghent, NY 12075
 Or bring with you to meeting

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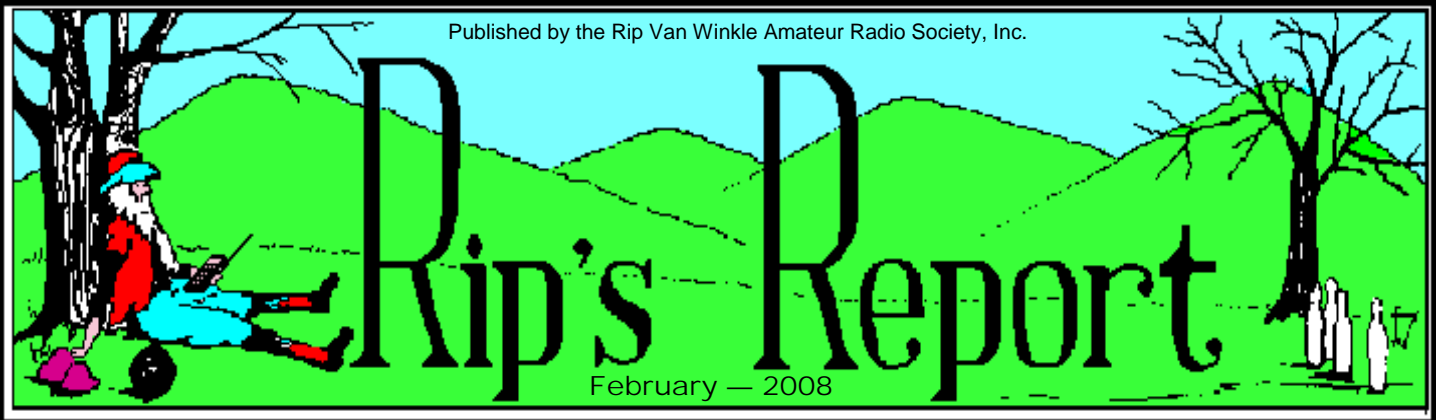
**Meeting
Feb 18
7:00 PM**

**Noecker
"Club House"
Talk-in 147.21**

**D
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As always PLEASE let us know if you have a problem with this News-
letter. My email address is: wa2uet@taconic.net

Any problems or suggestions are more than welcome.
Thanks



Echo Link Discussed

The inclusion of Echo Link on the RVWARS 147.21 repeater was proposed at the January Club meeting. The proposal was sent to the Repeater Committee for discussion and investigation into what would be required to make Echo Link available or if it should be recommended at all.

Foremost in the minds of the committee is the “power budget” of the available DC at the repeater site. The requirements of the additional equipment needed will have to be assessed to see if the present batteries can handle the extra load.



The repeater committee will meet again before the February meeting with representatives from other nearby repeater systems to get a better picture of what equipment is needed and its cost.

If the Repeater Committee gives its approval, the installation of Echo Link could be voted upon at the February RVWARS meeting.

Those who were at the January meeting saw a presentation on Echo Link given by Len, N2LEN. It was also the first time that the Club's new computer projector was used. The projector was purchased from funds the Club received from a Hudson City Bank and Trust Company grant.



Tech Ham Class Starts Feb 20

The 2008 Technician Class course offered each year by RVWARS will begin 7:00 p.m., Wednesday, February 20, at the Noecker RVWARS Clubhouse at the corner of Rte. 66 and Graham Ave. in Hudson.

The class will be given over a 10 week period and will conclude with a VE session provided by the RVWARS VE Team.

Marty, N2LDR, is the chief instructor and will be assisted by several RVWARS members who presented various lessons during the Tech Course last year. Anyone who hasn't taken part in the instruction is welcome to join in. Contact Marty to see what is needed.

Registration is open to all who have an interest in Ham radio. The course is free but there is a charge for the text book.

meeting

Monday
February 18
7:00 p.m.
Noecker Clubhouse

Annual Auction Set for March 17

Once again it will be Auction time! If you haven't already been poking through all your gear looking for stuff to sell off, now is the time to dig deep and get things ready to bring to the Noecker Club House on March 17.

We're always looking for good used equipment... low band as well as VHF/UHF rigs, antennas, power supplies, amplifiers, tuners, coax, ladder line, what-have-you!

Computer stuff hasn't done well in past years, so unless you have an older, serviceable laptop that will run PSK, it would be better to leave it at home.

Again this year we hope to have the magic duo of Shelly and Wayne as our auctioneers.

Don't forget to label your junk, er... equipment with at least your call sign and the lowest price you will accept.

The Auction is one of the Club's biggest fund raisers, so bring things to auction and bring lots of cash to buy!

With the addition of many new hams to our ranks, good used rigs are needed.

The coffee pot will be on with some goodies to munch on while you are bidding! Bring a friend or two!





Upcoming Events

Feb. 18 — 7:00 p.m. RVWARS Meeting, Noecker Clubhouse, Rt 66 & Graham Ave., Hudson

Feb. 20 — 7:00 p.m. Tech Course Registration & 1st Class. Noecker Club House, Rt 66 & Graham Ave., Hudson

March 3 — 7:00 p.m. ARES/RACES Meeting, Noecker Clubhouse, Rt 66 & Graham Ave., Hudson

March 17 — 7:00 p.m. RVWARS Meeting, Noecker Clubhouse, Rt 66 & Graham Ave., Hudson

RVWARS Weekly Nets

Tuesday — 7:00 p.m.
ARES/RACES Emergency
Training Net. 147.21 Repeater

Roundtable following net sign-off

Tuesday — 7:30 p.m.
ARES/RACES Emergency
Training Net: 3.980 LSB



Rip Van Winkle Amateur Radio Society VITAL STATISTICS

President — Tom Gutierrez N2NZD
Vice President — Steve Walsh W2SXX
Secretary — Shelly Evans AA2Y
Treasurer — Stan Engel WA2UET
Historian — Stan Engel WA2UET
Safety Officer — Stan Engel WA2UET
Newsletter — David Clapper WA2FTI
E-mail — dclapper@mhicable.com
Repeaters — 147.21 224.280 449.925
Club Call — Kilo 2 Rip Van Winkle
Web Page — <http://www.rvwars.com>
RVWARS E-mail — wa2fti@yahoo.com
<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/RVWARS/>

ARES provides Race Communications

Several ARES members under the direction of Columbia County EC Tom, N2NZD, braved the cold temperatures to provide safety communications for a foot race at Columbia-Greene Community College on January 6, 2008.

While the runners braved the cold in their abbreviated running costumes, the Hams observed the race from several vantage points in the relative comfort of their heated vehicles. Fortunately, there were no problems and all the runners completed the race safely.

The ARES members participating were: Tom, N2NZD; Stan, WA2UET; Bob, WB2DUW; Jim, KC2OGK and Ed, N2XPW.



T.N.T. TRADER NET

Every Thursday from 9:00 pm to 10:00 pm on the TARA Repeater System: 145.17/R & 447.075/R

This is a reminder of the weekly TARA - T.N.T. Trader Net which dedicated towards buying, selling or trading your amateur related items.

All are welcome to come join on the TARA repeater system plus Echolink #1774 or IRLP #4151.



Propagation de K7RA

After a solid week of sunspots (January 29 to February 4), the following three days have been blank. February 2 was an active geomagnetic day, with a solar wind stream spewing from a coronal hole near sunspot 982.

Another solar windstream from a coronal hole is expected to strike Earth on Sunday, February 10, causing unsettled conditions. The predicted planetary A index for February 8 through 15 is 8, 12, 15, 10, 10, 10 and 5. That was from NOAA and the U.S. Air Force, and Geophysical Institute Prague predicts unsettled conditions February 8, unsettled to active February 9-10, and unsettled again on February 11-14. The Australian Space Forecast Centre's geomagnetic forecast expects mostly unsettled to active conditions with storm periods possible at high latitudes on February 9, and mostly unsettled with isolated active periods and storm levels at high latitudes on February 10. Following this weekend, NOAA predicts the next active conditions around February 28-29. Their prediction for solar flux is flat at 70 for each of the next 45 days, and this probably indicates little or no sunspot activity.

The Bootlegger 😊

A bootlegger walks into a radio store and tells the salesman that he would like to buy the new HF rig over in the corner. The salesman says, "Sorry, we don't sell to bootleggers". He leaves, goes home, puts on a brown wig and sunglasses and goes back to the store and tells the salesman he wants to buy that new rig over in the corner. Sales guy says, "Sorry, we don't sell to bootleggers". Old boot asks, "How do you know I'm a bootlegger?" and the salesman replies, "Because that's not a rig, it's a microwave oven."

For Sale

by

WB2SPD

Located in Stone Ridge, NY



**Cable Design
Technologies X Mark CDT
Electronic Enclosures (2)**
Overall Height with
Casters 86"
Depth 24" Width 30"
Rack Mounting 23.5"

\$250 each

Or Best Offer

(845) 687-9174

haasie@localnet.com

OPS NEEDED FOR BOSTON MARATHON



The 2008 Boston Marathon needs you. The Marathon Amateur Radio Communications consortium, is looking for ham radio operators to assist at the marathon which is held annually on Patriots Day. This year that's Monday, April 21.

According to recruitment coordinator Bob De Mattia, K1IW, radio amateurs are needed to provide communications support at the start line, along the course and at the finish. If you plan to be in Boston for the race and interested in volunteering to the communications effort, please sign up at the Marathon Amateur Radio Communications website. Its in cyberspace at marc.amateur-radio.net.

Say What???

UR 59 here. What was your call again?

Name here is George. That's George Echo Oscar Radio George Echo

FOR SALE

**2 METER AND 440
SATELLITE ANTENNA**

**With Duplexer Installed
SMA Connector**

\$125

BRUCE W2BAR

Field Day 2008 Rules and Forms Available

It's that time of year again -- time to start gearing up for Field Day, ARRL's flagship operating event. Field Day, held the fourth full weekend in June, brings together new and experienced hams for 24 hours of operating fun. ARRL Field Day Manager Dan Henderson, N1ND, says there are several rules changes this year, mainly concerning "Get on the Air" (GOTA) stations and the elimination of the Demonstration Mode Bonus Category. The complete Field Day Packet can be downloaded from the ARRL Web site <<http://www.arrl.org/fieldday>>. A full 2008 Field Day page on the ARRL Web site will be coming in the next few weeks

For Sale

Dual Band Handheld



**With AA Battery Backup
Manual**

**Software on Disc and
Programming Cable
Manual and Charger
for Regular Battery Back**

\$200

BRUCE W2BAR



You're never too young or too old for Ham Radio!

Free Evening Classes Start Wednesday, Feb. 20, 2008
Classes held at the Noecker Auto Showroom, Rt 66 & Graham Ave.

- **No Morse code required**
 - **Short 35-question multiple-choice test**
 - **Free 10-session step-by-step class**

*In an emergency, when cell phones and the Internet screech to a halt,
Ham Radio is still on duty to help provide communication.*



Ham Radio Operators assist with:
Storm & Severe Weather Spotting
Community Service Activities
Emergency & Disaster Operations



To reserve your free spot in the class,
contact the Rip Van Winkle Amateur Radio Society, Inc.:
Register at the First Class: Wed., Feb. 20, 7:00 p.m. at Noecker's
Call: Marty Miller N2LDR — 672-7344 — n2ldr@verizon.net