

SPURIOUS EMISSION

ORLEANS COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB (OCARC)
14064 West County House Road Albion, New York 14411
OCARC Newsletter April 2014
News Editor Steve Maier (KZ2R) Email kz2r@rochester.rr.com

Meeting Time

The Orleans County Amateur Radio Club (OCARC) meets at 7:30 p.m. on the 2nd Monday of the month at the Orleans County Emergency Management Office at 14064 West County House Road in Albion, New York except in September when we have a dinner meeting. The next meeting will be April 14, 2014 at the EMO office.

Refreshments provided by Paul KD2PTM and Howard KC2EZJ.

Club Officers

President: Terry Cook K2EYS

Vice President: Chuck Lind N8CL

Secy: Jeff Strickland KD2CKS

Treas: Wayne King N2WK

Dir: Bruce Sidari WA2TMC

Net Mgr: Joe Gangi KD2DTK

Contest Mgr: Wayne King N2WK

Programs: Bruce Sidari WA2TMC

ORLEANS CO. AMATEUR RADIO CLUB 2-METER NET

WA2DQL repeater 144.67 MHz in/145.27 MHz out with a tone of 141.3. Every Tuesday night at 9:00PM

We will be calling for officers first then anyone else that wishes to join in.

We also have a simplex net once a month on the Third Monday at 9:00PM on 145.270.

Upcoming net control stations are:

Apr 1	KD2DTK	Joe
Apr 8	KD2DTK	Joe
Apr 15	KD2DTK	Joe
Apr 21	KD2DTK simplex	Joe
Apr 22	K2EYS	Terry
Apr 29	KD2CKS	Jeff

OTHER 2-METER NETS

2 Meter Sideband Net 144.260 USB 9:00 Mondays

Lara (Lockport Amateur Radio Club)

Sunday 8 p. m. 146.820

Swapnet after regular net Sept- May

From The Editor

Congratulations are in order for Ed, K2EDW, and Joe, KD2DTK, both took and passed their Extra class exams. Ed is keeping his old call, while Joe has put in for a new call. I'm sure both of you will enjoy your new privledges. If you hear these members on the air, please join me in telling them CONGRATS.

I have two new Wouxun KG-UV3D 2/440 hand helds for sale. These units are 99.99999% brand new. The only thing done with these units has been to charge them and program them with Western NY repeaters. These are for sale for \$50 each. I will bring them to our next meeting. If interested in them sooner please get in touch with me.

Terry, K2EYS and I attended the WNYSORC repeater council meeting on April 6. The attendance at this meeting was VERY slim. I will give a report at our next meeting.

I am still looking for someone to take over the job of newsletter editor.

I have been doing it for about three years now and feel that I need a break. If anyone is interested, please contact me and/or Terry and let us know. A new editor would be greatly appreciated.

73 Steve - KZ2R

THIS EMPTY SPACE
RESERVED FOR YOUR
ARTICLE SUBMISSION

OCARC

March 10, 2014 Meeting

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm by president Terry Cook, K2EYS. Following the Pledge to the Flag the February secretary's report, with the correction that NR2C was not the Field Day chair, was approved on a motion by W2ODY seconded by N2VDR. The treasurer's report was not given.

Old Business: None

New Business:

FD is chaired by N8CL and W2ODY. N8CL gave an update on this year's plans.

WF2S asked if there was interest in establishing a Mousetrap Jones Special Event.

KZ2R reported that the Repeater Council was to be held April 6 in Cheektowaga, and WB2GLU moved to OK \$10 payment.

Terry announced that he was giving a ham radio presentation Wednesday T 7:00 pm at the Orleans County Health Office, and that all were invited.

WB2GLU reminded the group of the April 5 Drumlin Hamfest.

A hearty round of applause was given for NR2Cs newly acquired DXCC award.

The split club was won by N2VDR, who returned the \$32 to the club treasury.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm on a motion by N2VDR seconded by WA2HNA.

Following bountiful refreshments, a program on modern CW practice, with a focus on CW Get software, was given by KZ2R, who made his best effort to bring us all out of the spark-gap era.

73, N8CL

My First CQ WPX Phone Contest

Just spent my first weekend working the WPX Phone contest, semi-seriously. I reached my target of 1000 qso's plus a few extras to hopefully cover my typos and bad ears. I found it much more cut-throat as far as people being rude in tuning up on top of you and trying to push you out of your frequency, when you finally find somewhere clear to call from. Luckily, I was running the amp and while they would make it rough for a bit, they would usually give up after a few minutes and move on, themselves.

Here are my preliminary results. I know I have several dupes, but as Wayne pointed out, there is no penalty for a few dupes and if the other person doesn't think it is a dupe, it usually means that the first conversation will be voided with some error or missing in the other person's log, so at least you still get credit for A contact with them. I also know I made typos and realized that with accents, many phonetics used can sound like the wrong letter. Also, for some reason, my fingers want to associate "Sierra" with the letter "C".

Thanks to those club members who found me and gave me points/multipliers when I was calling CQ. Even a local contact was worth 1 pt. times 629 prefixes or 629 points. Steve's KZ2 gave me a multiplier times my 1000 contacts so it was worth over 1600 points to me!

I think, the next time, if I wanted to truly reach for a trophy, I would start a conversation on 20, before the contest starts and use the frequency to start calling cq at the bell. I get far more contacts per hour calling cq than searching and pouncing. Handling a pile-up was a new experience, also for me. I spent about an hour and a half, Sunday morning, calling cq on 10M, just as it opened, and averaged well over 100 QSO's/hour. I learned that unless the bands are dead, it is better to move on to a stronger station than spend 5 minutes trying to pull out the contact from the QRP station in the pile-up. Another lesson learned was that I NEED a mic on a headset, a quiet environment so the VOX will work, and both hands free to type. All in all, I had a great time but do admit to quitting a few hours early when I had already reached my goal, new stations were getting hard to find, and finding a place to politely call cq from was impossible. 33 hours is a long time to spend in the same chair.

I hope others will join me, next year and look forward to the next big RTTY contest where there are no accents and little room for typos.

73,

Chuck Baker
NR2C

An Accident Report

I am writing in response to your request for “additional information.” In block number 30 of the accident report form, I put “poor planning” as the cause for my accident. You said in your last letter that I should explain more fully. I trust that the following detail will be sufficient.

I am an amateur radio operator. On the day of the accident, I was working alone on the top section of my new 80-foot antenna tower. When I completed my work, I discovered that I had, over the course of several trips up the tower, brought about 300 lbs. of tools and spare hardware. Rather than carry the now unneeded tools and materials down by hand, I decided to lower the items in a small barrel by using a pulley, which fortunately was attached to the pole at the tip of the tower. Securing the rope at ground level, I went up to the top of the tower and loaded the tools and materials into the barrel. Then I went back to the ground and untied the rope, holding it tightly to insure a slow descent of the 300 lbs. of tools.

You will note in block number 11 of the accident report form that I weigh 155 lbs. Due to my surprise at being jerked off the ground so suddenly, I lost my presence of mind and forgot to let go of the rope. Needless to say, I proceeded at a rapid rate up the side of the tower. In the vicinity of the 40-foot level, I met the barrel coming down. This explains my fractured skull and broken clavicle.

Slowed only slightly, I continued my rapid ascent, not stopping until the fingers of my right hand were two knuckles deep into the pulley. Fortunately by this time I had regained my presence of mind and was able to hold tightly on the rope in spite of the pain. At about the same time however, the barrel hit the ground. The bottom fell out of the barrel. Devoid of the weight of the tools, the barrel now weighed 20 pounds.

I refer you again to my weight in block number 11. As you might guess, I began a rapid descent down the side of the tower. In the vicinity of the 40-foot level, I met the barrel coming up. This accounts for the two fractured ankles and the lacerations on my legs and lower body.

The encounter with the barrel slowed me enough to lessen my injuries when I fell into the pile of tools, and fortunately only three vertebrae were cracked. I am sorry to report, however, that as I lay there on the tools in pain, unable to stand, and watching the empty barrel 80 feet above me, I again lost my presence of mind.

I let go of the rope...