



The ARRL Hudson Division

ARRL HUDSON DIVISION BEACON

February 2012

Number 128

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

ARRL Field Day 2012 Information Now Online	2
New Amateur Rules for 60 Meters Announced	2
Celebrating 100 Years Of Amateur Radio	2
Hudson Division Speakers and Presentations Listings Now Available On Website	2
Notes from NLI	3
Notes from ENY	3
Notes from NNJ	3
Director Birmingham On ARRL Representation	4
ARRL Video Streams Live Guided Tour Of W1AW	4
A Study Of Amateur Radio In Passed US Legislation	5
FEMA Think Tank Highlights Amateur Radio	5
MIT Offers A Free Electronics Course Online	5
Director Birmingham Now Able To Go To Club Meetings Digitally	6
Send Twitter Messages Using A Morse Key	6
More Answers To Your Submitted Questions	6
Education Opportunities Abound in ENY Section	7
Local ARRL Hamfests	8



A MESSAGE FROM HUDSON DIVISION DIRECTOR JOYCE BIRMINGHAM—KA2ANF



I hope everyone has been on the air enjoying the great band conditions lately. I was actually on the air, as I was writing this and marveling at the signals on 10 meters. It's CQ WPX RTTY weekend, and I am operating RTTY, but I couldn't resist the chance to run up to 28400.00 SSB and listen for the West Coast. Well, what a nice treat I had when I heard VK4QH 59+ working into Phoenix, Arizona. Great conditions! Then, I went back down to 28082.00 and worked ZM3T from New Zealand on RTTY from NJ. It never ceases to amaze me what you can work when the bands are open! I guess that's part of the magic. Amateur Radio does indeed bring us together.

How many of you were able to catch the live tour of W1AW on Sunday February 12, 2012 at 5:00 pm EST? The hosts were Geoff Fox - K1GF along with Joe Carcia - NJ1Q. They did a great job giving a live tour of the W1AW facility (Pg 4), complete with operators! After the tour, I hosted a Google+ Hangout (an Audio and Video Live Internet chat) with several members of a local Amateur Radio Club to discuss their own visits to W1AW and the live W1AW tour we had all just seen!

Visiting ARRL HQ and W1AW is a great trip, doable in one day from just about anywhere in the Hudson Division. It's a great place to learn about the history of Amateur Radio!

This week I received a phone call from a gentleman in Alabama, a John Birmingham, KK4GGV who is a newly licensed Amateur. He called to find out if we were related. I had a nice chat with this gentleman on the phone and we decided that while we are not related by blood, we are related by Radio. It's a great hobby that we have chosen, one that takes us on many adventures.

The Big question is – 'Is Field Day a Contest, an Emergency Preparedness Exercise, or a fun way to get on the air?' The answer is – Field Day is ALL of these things! Remember, Field Day is always the fourth full weekend in June and is a 24-hour event. It's not too early to start your planning. More info is at: www.arrl.org/field-day and also on Pg 2!

Upcoming in the next few months are many exciting Club events – like HAMFESTS and CLUB AUCTIONS (See Pg 8 for some of these). Also, the Hudson Division Awards Nomination Program will start soon; I've already received a nomination! Now's an excellent time to start thinking of nominations for the three awards! Hope to hear from you all soon.

73 and enjoy getting on the air! Joyce, KA2ANF

A MESSAGE FROM HUDSON DIVISION VICE DIRECTOR BILL HUDZIK—W2UDT



As Joyce mentioned in her column last month she has already been in the Director's position for a year. Well, the end of January completed my year as the appointed Vice Director. Both of us are up for election later this year and will be among the first divisions to utilize the new electronic voting system which was demonstrated and approved for use at the annual Board of Directors meeting in January.

The paper balloting will not disappear as that will continue to remain an option for those members who prefer that method. What impressed me was the high level of security being used and the ability to provide checks through out the process. The final review and

oversight will still remain with the Ethics and Elections Committee.

The requests for both of us to meet with clubs throughout the Hudson Division continues to grow as is evidenced by the rapidly filling open dates on the calendar! Also, it appears that solicitations for speakers from the Beacon list are growing as well. That's good news, which means the list is being looked at and used. As always, the Speaker's list can use more volunteers. As I've stated before I know the talent is out there based upon what I see from the various club newsletters. So, don't be shy, let me know you would like to be added to the list. Don't forget that the speaking times are dependent on your availability.

Beacon readers may remember my tale of restoring HF antennas damaged by the October snow event in time for the November Sweepstakes contest.

[Continued Page 4](#)



ARRL Breaking News

The ARRL Board Of Directors Meeting Was January 13-14 2012

Director Birmingham, KA2ANF and Vice Director Hudzik, W2UDT were both in attendance

[CLICK HERE to Read The Meeting Minutes](#)

Your ARRL In Action

What Have We Been Up to Lately?

[CLICK HERE To Read A Summary of Recent ARRL Actions and Activity](#)

ARRL Now Has Online Discussion Forums

If you are an ARRL Member...you're already setup to Read And Talk!

www.arrl.org/forums

All Past Editions Of The ARRL Hudson Division Beacon Are Online At: www.hudson.arrl.org



ARRL Field Day 2012 Rules and Information Are Now Available!!!

[From the ARRL Website](#)

Field Day 2012 is June 23-24

ARRL Field Day is the single most popular on-the-air event held annually in the US and Canada. Each year over 35,000 amateurs gather with their clubs, friends or simply by themselves to operate.

ARRL Field Day is not a fully adjudicated contest, which explains much of its popularity. It is a time where many aspects of Amateur Radio come together to highlight our many roles. While some will treat it as a contest, most groups use the opportunity to practice their emergency response capabilities. It is an excellent opportunity to demonstrate Amateur Radio to local elected community leaders, key individuals with the organizations that

Amateur Radio might serve in an emergency, as well as the general public. For many clubs, ARRL Field Day is one of the highlights of their annual calendar.

And...Are you or your club already clamoring for Field Day shirts, hats and other gear? Don't worry! ARRL will have these items up at the ARRL store shortly, so you and your club can attend Field Day 2012 in style!

Do you have any operating or other questions about Field Day? If so, you can directly contact ARRL Field Day Manager Dan Henderson, N1ND at fdinfo@arrl.org or you can call him on the by phone at: (860) 594-0236



The 2012 Field Day Rule Package Is Now Available At:
www.arrl.org/files/file/Field-Day/2012/2012-FD-Packet-V2.pdf

The 2012 ARRL Field Day Locator Webpage Is Now Available To List Your Site Or to Find Other Sites
[CLICK HERE To Access](#)

New amateur radio rules for 60 meters issued by FCC

On November 18 2011, the FCC released a Report and Order (R&O), defining new rules for the 60 meter (5 MHz) band. These rules are in response to a Petition for Rulemaking (PRM) filed by the ARRL more than five years ago and a June 2010 Notice of [Proposed Rulemaking \(NPRM\)](#).



In the February 3 edition of the Federal Register, the FCC announced that these new rules will go into effect on March 5, 2012.

[CLICK HERE to read the complete FCC document](#)

[More information is also on the ARRL Website](#)

HAM RADIO CELEBRATES 100 YEARS!!!



From <http://www.dxcoffee.com>

"...Certainly, a lot of things had to happen to lead to this momentous year.

And whether or not this is a year that hams of other nations should choose to celebrate, well, that's certainly a matter of choice and national pride. Nevertheless, none of us would have little to celebrate, were it not for the great sacrifices of so many great spirits from all over the globe.

Work of the world's brightest scholars and experimenters paved the way for studies in electromagnetic theory, like that of Guglielmo Marconi and Nikola Tesla who were able to present their groundbreaking theories, ultimately giving birth to ham radio and putting our hobby on the map..."

[CLICK HERE To Read the Complete Article](#)

ARRL HUDSON DIVISION NOW HAS AN ONLINE LISTING OF AVAILABLE SPEAKERS & PRESENTATIONS THAT ARE AVAILABLE FOR CLUB MEETINGS

We're listing Speakers and their Presentations that are available for Club Meetings in the Hudson Division.



Club's should direct contact the Speakers (email addresses are provided) for complete information as well as any items or services the Club needs to provide

If you, or someone you know, has a Presentation, and are able to take it to area meetings, in all or parts of the Hudson Division, please send your and

your presentation's info: (your Name/Callsign, your Email Contact, the Subject of Presentation, Estimated Time Needed for the Presentation, Which of the Division's Sections (ENY, NLI, NNJ) you would be able to travel to, What facilities/hardware is required to be supplied locally for the presentation (LCD projector) etc) to Vice Director Bill Hudzik W2UDT at W2UDT@arrl.net

The Speakers and Presentations Webpage is on the ARRL Hudson Division Website at: www.hudson.arrl.org/pages/speakers.htm

NEWS AND NOTES FROM THE ARRL NEW YORK LONG ISLAND SECTION:

I am still in need of someone to fill the position of Public Information Coordinator for the NLI Section. I am looking for someone with experience in public and/or press relations, an ability to write press releases in the correct and accepted format as well as the ability to talk to the press (when and if needed), to obtain information from Club PIOs, and represent the SM and disseminate Section news and information. Not a huge time commitment, but a very necessary job. If you are interested (and qualified), please contact me at n2ybb@arrrl.org

Bill Pasternack, WA6ITF, of ARNewsline will be the Guest Speaker at the February 21st meeting of the Kings County Repeater Association (KCRA).

The KCRA meets at the School For Exceptional Children 268 68th St. Brooklyn at 7:00 PM, all are welcome to attend. Limited off-street parking is available.

On February 4th and 5th, the Kings County Repeater Association's new Educational and VE team held a free Technician class/VE Session for soldiers of the New York Guard. This class was held at the historic Manhat-

tan Armory and Nine soldiers passed the free VE Exam. The KCRA has several more training classes in the works for these soldiers More Info – www.kc4a.org

Hamfest season is nearly upon us! Save the date: Sunday, March 4th is the LIMARC Hamfest - www.limarc.org

Kit Building at Great South Bay ARC is weekly on Saturday mornings in the radio room at Town Hall in Babylon - www.gsbarc.org

73, Mike N2YBB
n2ybb@arrrl.org



Contact Information For ARRL Hudson Division Leadership Officials

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NEWS AND NOTES FROM THE ARRL EASTERN NEW YORK SECTION:

Adam Nowik, KC2DAA was presented a Life Saving Award for his actions in evacuating residents of over 65 apartments from the structure fire on August 12, 2011 at the Kings Apartments in Poughkeepsie, NY. He was witnessed carrying children out of the burning building by passers-by. Adam is the Vice President of The Mount Beacon Amateur Radio Club - Way to go Adam!

News from Scott Haller, K2CK and Glen Cooper, W2BK, ([more on Pg 7](#)) the Education team in

ENY is that they completed their 8th technician class during Superbowl weekend and have passed three new hams - two techs and one general. Out of fifty people who have come through their classes, 46 are now licensed hams. Their next class is set for March 3rd and 4th at the RPI Campus in Troy, NY. There are already 15 people signed up. They have also started a new organization called CARE (Capital Area Radio Enthusiasts - www.hamsthatcare.com).

The very first "CARE Academy" will be held on Saturday, March 31st. The purpose of the CARE Academy is to provide a means of continuing education & training for amateur radio community. Plans to hold the Academies on a quarterly basis are in the works. Congratulations! Information on the nightly Hudson Valley Net can be found at: www.hvnet.org There's some really great stuff at their website - *Be sure to Check It Out!*

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ARRL Hudson Division's Section Managers:

NLI: Mike Lisenco-N2YBB
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ENY: Pete Cecere-N2YJZ
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NNJ: Richard Krohn-N2SMV
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NEWS AND NOTES FROM THE ARRL NORTHERN NEW JERSEY SECTION:

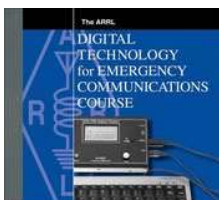
Are you thinking about going to [Dayton Hamvention](#) this year and don't have a ride? Why not try a bus trip. NAXDA and the JCDXA Chapter 1, decided to sponsor this fun trip to the worlds largest ham gathering in May of 2000. This trip includes transportation to and from Dayton, from the Central Jersey and PA area, motel accommodations, Admission to the event and local transportation around the [Dayton Hamvention](#) area. This trip has been named Lucky Bus Trip 2012! [CLICK HERE For More!](#)

The New Providence ARC Auction is Friday, February 24th at 7:00pm (Snow date March 2nd), in the New Providence Municipal Center Gym. This is a great auction! Hope to see you all there! More Info is at: www.nparc.org

This month the BARA club had two important date changes this month, one is that their Monthly meeting that has been changed to Sunday, February 19th at 7:30pm at the Township of Washington, Borough Hall.

The speaker for that evening is Bill Hudzik, W2UDT, ARRL Vice Director – Hudson Division. The second change is to the date of their [Annual BARA Auction](#), which is now on Sunday, March 11th at the Westwood Regional High School, starting time around 12:00 noon.

ARRL Hudson Division Awards Nominations are coming soon! Take the time now, to work on your submission. We know there are many out there in NNJ who are deserving of this award.



ARRL Digital Technology For Emergency Communications Course

"This course is a great starting point for anyone interested in the public service applications of digital communications technology." -- Steve Ford, WB8IMY, course author and QST Editor/ARRL Publications Manager

In this course, the student will be introduced to all the ways Amateur Radio operators are using digital technology as a valuable emergency communications tool. The topics discussed during the course include: Packet radio; APRS; Winlink 2000; IRLP; EchoLink and WIRES-II; D-STAR; APCO25; HF sound card modes; Automatic Link Establishment (ALE).

[CLICK HERE To Learn More or to Purchase the CD](#)



DIRECTOR BIRMINGHAM ADDRESSES THE ISSUE OF ARRL BOARD OF DIRECTORS REPRESENTATION

Several people asked very similar questions in the recent ARRL Hudson Division Online Survey (see more answers on [Pg 6](#)) concerning how different areas of a Division apparently are or are not represented on the ARRL Board of Directors. Specifically, in the Hudson Division, wherein both myself (KA2ANF) as Director, and Bill (W2UDT) as Vice Director, live in New Jersey.

In order to better understand how your ARRL Board works, and how you all are represented, I'd like to start with the note that for all of the 50 United States, American Samoa, Guam, Saipan Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico and US Virgin Islands, there are just 15 Divisions (with 1 Director and 1 Vice Director per Division). What this means, is that in all cases, Directors and Vice Directors are representing the interests of amateur radio and its operators in more than one State; certainly not just the State where they live happen to live.

In our Hudson Division, Bill and I are very pleased to represent amateur radio interests within the New York Long Island Section, the Eastern NY Section and the Northern New Jersey Section. Our neighboring Atlantic Division, the Director (a Pennsylvania resident) and Vice Director (a Maryland resident) also represent operators in both NY and NJ (Northern New York, Western New York and Southern NJ) as well as covering Delaware, Maryland and Pennsylvania! Also, just like in our Hudson Division, in a total of 6 of the 15 ARRL Divisions, both Director and Vice Director live in the same State, and represent hams in multiple states! [CLICK HERE for the List](#)

One of the very first things a new ARRL Director or Vice Director learns, is that they are part of a large picture and that they have a responsibility to represent the interests of more than just their own Division (let alone the State they happen to live in). We, as the collective Board of Directors, represent all US amateur radio interests (ARRL—the national association for amateur radio). Each one of us, considers not just local but national interests when we deliberate and vote on matters before the Board. I am very happy to report to you all, that not only are you directly represented by your own Director and Vice Director, be assured that all other Directors and Vice Directors have you and all amateur radio operators in their hearts and minds all the time.

If you have any concerns at all, no matter how little or large, about your representation on matters that are of a concern to you, please do not hesitate to contact me or Bill. We can always be reached via Email or Phone ([Pg 3](#)). We are here for you, all of you, each and every one of you, Novices, Technicians, Generals, Advanced and Extra operators...let us know your concerns!!!

VICE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE: [CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1](#)

One of the HF Yagis, the Cushcraft 12/17 antenna was really mangled as it took the brunt of a falling limb hitting the tower.

This was actually the first time I used my ARRL equipment insurance to make a damage claim. The process of filing a claim was easier than I thought. I initially wrote stating what the damage was and included my policy number. Within a few days I heard back from an adjuster assigned to my case. He requested some photos of the damage and a cut sheet listing the current price. After submitting the needed information I received my claim check minus the deductible with a week. I'm mentioning this because the insurance agreement with the provider is just another service the ARRL provides to its members. The information is no longer on the front page of the ARRL website but you can use the search function and type in "insurance". You will be led to the proper link and one can even apply on line. One final item.

Affiliated Clubs can also get insurance coverage as well. If your club does not have insurance look into the benefit it is worth the effort.

73, Bill W2UDT

ARRL VIDEO STREAMS LIVE TOUR OF W1AW

Did you see the live, internet streamed broadcast of the guided tour of W1AW on February 12th! If not, you will soon be able to see a recording of the Tour's Live Broadcast!!! (as of press time, a Link has not yet been announced by the ARRL...stay tuned for an announcement at www.arrl.org !

Joe Carcia, ARRL's staff station manager for W1AW commented that: "We wanted viewers of this live Internet tour to feel as if they are actually at W1AW". He went on and added "If you come to W1AW in person, you would see the same things that we covered during the live show"

Places and things seen in the Video included: the 3 operating stations, the W1AW workshop, the transmitter racks used for bulletins and code practice transmissions, & of course, "Old Betsy," legendary Hiram Percy Maxim's personal spark gap transmitter (on the right is a picture of Joyce, KA2ANF with 'Old Betsy').



For More Info On W1AW Go To:

www.arrl.org/inside-w1aw

PAYROLL TAX BILL INCLUDES PROVISION FOR AMATEUR RADIO STUDY [FROM ARRL WEBSITE](#)



A bill that passed both the House and the Senate on February 17 2012 includes a provision for a study of the uses and capabilities of Amateur

Radio Service communications in emergencies and disaster relief.

If passed into law, Section 6414 (see the link below for access to the full text) of the Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2012 mandates the completion of the amateur radio study, with a report of the findings to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce & the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

This study would “use the expertise of stakeholder entities and organizations” to recommend how to best use radio amateurs in emergency communications and disaster relief efforts, and how to best utilize the Amateur Radio Service in coordination with the federal government in these efforts. In addition, the study would also discuss the effects of unreasonable or unnecessary private land use restrictions on residential antenna installations and recommend ways to remove such impediments.

The Bill passed the House with a 293-132 victory. In the Senate, it passed by a 60-36 vote. As of press time, President Obama is expected to sign the Bill quickly.

[CLICK HERE to Read the Full Text of 1614](#)

A RECENT FEMA THINK TANK CONFERENCE FOCUSES ON AMATEUR RADIO

On Friday, February 17th, over 500 people took part in a FEMA sponsored Think Tank



Phone Conference Call, lead by FEMA’s Deputy Director Richard Serino, that focused on Amateur Radio’s role in disaster response. During the call, Deputy Director Serino clearly stated “They’re not Amateurs but they are very much professionals.”

FEMA’s pre-call information stated the call would cover in part: “How to communicate with disaster survivors and distribute information to mass audiences if cellular and on-line communications are unavailable immediately following a catastrophic disaster.”

“In particular, we will discuss how existing communications tools, such as amateur (ham) radio operators, can be leveraged and linked to other forms of mass communications following a disaster. We’d also like to hear your ideas on how we can ensure these communications are accessible to the whole community.”

On the Conference Call, representing amateur radio were Mike Corey, K1IU from ARRL HQ as well as local ARES Section Emergency Coordinators (including some from the Hudson and New England Divisions) as well as a few Section Managers. FEMA, through its Regional Offices, encourages State and local emergency management officials to interact with ARRL officials to establish local relationships.

[CLICK HERE for more Info On FEMA’s Think Tank Conferences](#)



The Hudson Division Awards

Its not to early to begin thinking of people from the Hudson Division that you feel are worthy of this prestigious recognition

Nomination Forms will soon be included in the Hudson Beacon newsletter as well as being made available for download from the Hudson Division Website

More info on last years (2011) and previous Hudson Division Awards (including a listing of all previous Award Recipients) is available by

[CLICKING HERE](#)

MIT Now Offering Online (Free) Courses!!! [From ARRL Website](#)
Here’s One That May Be Of Interest: Course 6.002x: Circuits and Electronics

Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) -- which has had an open courseware initiative for several years -- is now taking the next step and making courses available online. Called MITx, this initial effort should be of interest to a lot of hams: An online course in introductory circuits and electronics that’s free to anyone who is interested. And best of, it’s free!

Circuits and Electronics (Course 6.002x) is the course title; it is adapted from Course 6.002, which serves as a first course in an undergraduate electrical engineering (EE) and electrical engineering and computer science (EECS) curriculum. This is an experimental on-line adaptation of MIT’s first undergraduate analog design course: 6.002. This course will run, free of charge, for students worldwide from March 5, 2012 through June 8, 2012

The course covers topics such as “resistive elements and networks; independent and dependent sources; switches and MOS transistors; digital abstraction; amplifiers; energy storage elements; dynamics of first- and second-order networks; design in the time and frequency domains, and analog and digital circuits and applications. Design and lab exercises are also significant components of the course.”

To access the course, registered students will log in at mitx.mit.edu, where they will find a course schedule, an e-textbook for the course and a discussion board... [CLICK HERE for more information from the MIT Online Learning Initiative website](#). Note: there are prerequisites before taking this course!





**Director Birmingham
Announces
2 More Ways For
Hudson Division Clubs
To Connect With Her
And Share Information**



If your Club has access to an internet connection, SKYPE and/or Google+ Hangouts at your Meeting site, Director Birmingham is now able to come and participate at your Meeting, digitally!

If your Club would like more information on how to go about setting up such an event, contact her directly at:

KA2ANF@arrl.org

Club Members will be able to ask questions and share items of their concern with their Director.

Both Video and Audio or just an Audio connection can be arranged



How To Use A Standard Morse Key To Send Twitter Messages:

[From the Google Code Website](#)

An open design exercise in interface archaeology, that decodes the input from a classic Morse key to send twitter messages.



The Tworse Key is a standalone device that connects through a standard LAN cable, the Morse signals are decoded by the built-in Arduino Ethernet board, which delivers the final message through the Twitter API. Please follow [@tworsekey](#) on Twitter to read some example tweets sent from the actual device

This project is fully documented in order to illustrate the Open Design process for beginners, who are aiming to realize a simple but appealing Arduino project. Apart from reading the input from the Morse switch, the device also provides basic auditory and visual feedback, which have been integrated using a very elementary circuit. The source code, hardware schematics and building instructions are therefore available under the according free licenses.

[CLICK HERE for more information, including a Parts List and Schematics](#)

THE HUDSON DIVISION ONLINE SURVEY— DIRECTOR BIRMINGHAM, KA2ANF CONTINUES ANSWERING QUESTIONS SUBMITTED DURING THE RECENT ONLINE SURVEY (SEE [JANUARY 2012 BEACON Q&A 1-6 & FULL SURVEY RESULTS](#))

Also see Director Birmingham's [Article on Page 4](#) about ARRL Board of Directors Representation

Question 7: How can our Club have an ARRL official visit for a Meeting or an event like Field Day? Bill and I, and the Division's Section Managers, are available to come to your events and meetings. The best way to set this up, is to send us an email, with 2 or more possible meeting dates and we'll get back to you ([contact info for all of us is on Pg 3](#)). Field Day travels are something we also like to do, and Bill and I try to cover different parts of the Division each year. (In 2011, I went to several Field Day sites in NJ, (in 2010, several in NY) while in 2011 Bill covered several Long Island sites). We'll be making our 2012 FD visiting plans soon so be sure to list your Site on the [ARRL Field Day Site Locator](#) so we can find your operations!

Question 8: How can I get news and pictures of some events taking place with my Club into the Hudson Beacon and also to other hams? We are always looking for articles and pictures to add to the Beacon each month (such as on [Pg 7](#)). Just send me an Email (KA2ANF@arrl.org) with a short note about what your Club is doing, include some digital pictures too if you can (with info on who or what is in the pictures please!). Be sure to copy your Section Manager on these things as well, so they can not only know what you group is up to, but they can spread the word too! Also, have you tried using Social Media to spread the word? If you Club has a Twitter, Facebook or Google+ presence, let me know so I can Follow your group!

Question 9: How can we setup a "Help Needed" service for those hams who might need assistance with antennas or other items requiring more resources than a single person can handle? Let's try this, send me an email (KA2ANF@arrl.org) with what it is you, or someone you know, might need help with. If we get lots of

these, we'll look into setting up a list either in the Beacon or on the Website. Even if I only get one request or just a few requests, I will pass them on to others who might be able to help! We can all use the help of fellow hams from time to time!

Question 10: How can our club find more people to come and give presentations on things interesting to amateur radio operators? Well, this one is very easy to answer...just [CLICK HERE](#) and take a look at the Hudson Division's Listing of Speakers and Presentations (thanks to Vice Director Hudzik for coordinating this online resource)

Question 11: The Hudson Division Beacon now comes in to me as only a Link in an Email, how can I read it? Just before the Email announcing that a new Hudson Division Beacon is released goes out, the current edition is uploaded to the Hudson Division Website (that's where the Link in the Email takes you). You can also go directly to the Hudson Division Website (www.hudson.arrl.org) for not only the current edition, but also all past editions are archived there as well ([CLICK HERE for all Hudson Division Beacons, going back to April of 2001!](#)) BTW...we started using a PDF format for the Beacon with the February 2011 edition, so that we could include pictures and more each month

Question 12: Why isn't there a major amateur radio event in the Division? This one comes down to the simple fact that being a large metro area, the costs to put on events are also large. Many conventions no longer come to the NYC metro area due to the high cost of doing them here. But even with that, we have [Ham Radio University](#) on Long Island, and in the last 2 years, a New Jersey State ARRL Convention, was held just a few miles south of the NNJ Section! On the local social gathering side of ham radio, don't forget the annual [Hudson Division Awards](#) event!

**LOOKS WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE ALBANY AREA:
HAMS HELPING HAMS AND HAMS HELPING MORE PEOPLE BECOME
HAMS...WHAT A GREAT IDEA TO SPREAD ACROSS THE DIVISION!**

Reported to the Beacon by Scott, K2CK: "We just finished out 8th technician class during Superbowl weekend. Three students and three new hams, two techs and one general. Overall over fifty people have come through our classes and there are about 46 licensed hams as a result."

"Our next class is set for March 3 & 4. We have 15 people signed up and will be held on the RPI Campus. We've spun the classes out of the auspices of the East Greenbush Amateur Radio Association. Glenn and I wanted to go from two to six classes per year. Unfortunately there just wasn't sufficient support through EGARA. Plus we needed to be able to recruit additional instructors from other parts of the community and a neutral organization was more palatable. The new organization is called CARE (Capital Area Radio Enthusiasts – www.hamsthatcare.com). It's not a club, but acting as an umbrella organization for our educational activities."

"So now to something exciting. We are liberating a great idea from the Rochester Amateur Radio Association and will holding our first CARE Academy on Saturday, March 31 (see the info below). The purpose of the Academy to provide a means of continuing education & training for amateur radio community. We plan to hold the Academies on a quarterly basis; but will increase the frequency if there is sufficient demand. There are more than enough technical topics to last us a very long time!"



CARE ACADEMY #1

CAPITAL AREA RADIO ENTHUSIASTS

Open to all ham radio operators, new and old. Bring a friend. ALL FREE.

Date: Saturday, March 31, 2012

Time: Doors open at 8AM – Program starts at 9AM

Location: RPI Campus – Academy Hall – 3rd Floor
110 8th Street, Troy, NY 12180-3522

RSVP: Please send your name, call sign if you have one, and email address to Scott Haller
K2CK@arrl.net.

VE Testing will be available. Please email Scott, K2CK@arrl.net for more details.

SCHEDULE:

8:00AM – 9:00AM Registration and Radio Check-up

Come early for conversation and a chance to check your radio. Ensure your HT or transceiver is on frequency and deviating appropriately. Equipment will be available to test radios from HF to 2 GHz.

9:00AM – 9:45AM High Altitude Ballooning

Greg Pitner, KD2ABA, will share his experiences in designing, constructing, launching, and recovering a high altitude balloon experiment carrying amateur radio launched from the RPI campus on January 28, 2012. Greg's presentation is sure to include some of the amazing video captured during the flight.

9:45AM – 10:00AM Break

10:00AM – 10:45AM Fox Hunting 101

Randy Stein, KL7TJZ, will discuss the basics of Fox Hunting. Randy has real life experience radio-locating downed airplanes during his time with the Civil Air Patrol.

11:00AM – Noon Fox Hunt

Put Randy's talk to the test with a real Fox Hunt on the RPI campus. Nothing more than a 2M HT is required. I'm buying lunch for the first person to find the 10 milliwatt Fox.

Noon – ? Lunch

Everyone is welcome to join the group for lunch down the hill at the famous BBQ joint located on the River. The conversations over lunch are guaranteed to be lively. The catch is that everyone (except the winner of the Fox Hunt) must pay their own way.

This event is sponsored by W2SZ, The Amateur Radio Club of RPI (w2sz.union.rpi.edu), with support of the Capital Area Radio Enthusiasts (www.hamsthatcare.com).

The idea for this event was liberated from the fine folks at the Rochester Amateur Radio Association (RARA) and K2GXT, the RIT Amateur Radio Club.



Are You On Facebook?

facebook

The ARRL Facebook presence has over 18,000 people accessing it as of early July 2011

You Can See It At:

www.facebook.com/ARRL.org

YouTube

Did you know the ARRL has their own YouTube Channel?

They do and its at:

www.youtube.com/ARRLHQ

Are You On Twitter?

twitter

The ARRL has Twitter Feeds for these groups

[@arrl](https://twitter.com/arrl), [@ARRL_EMCOMM](https://twitter.com/ARRL_EMCOMM)
[@ARRL_PR](https://twitter.com/ARRL_PR), [@ARRL_DXCC](https://twitter.com/ARRL_DXCC)

[@ARRL_Youth](https://twitter.com/ARRL_Youth)

AND....

Director Birmingham

has one too!

[@ka2anf](https://twitter.com/ka2anf)

(www.twitter.com/ka2anf)



LOCAL ARRL HAMFESTS AND OTHER GATHERINGS AS OF: FEBRUARY 2012



**More ARRL Hamfests
can be found using
the Search Tools at:**

www.arrl.org/hamfests



NPARC's Annual Auction

02/24/2012

Location: New Providence Municipal Center

360 Elkwood Avenue

New Providence, NJ 07974

Website: <http://www.nparc.org/auction.htm>

Sponsor: New Providence ARC

Talk-In: 147.255 (PL 141.3)

Public Contact: Barry Cohen, K2JV

39 Cromwell Court Berkeley Heights, NJ 07922

Phone: 908-464-1730

Email: bgcohenusa@verizon.net

Long Island Hamfair

03/04/2012

Location: Levittown Hall

201 Levittown Parkway

Hicksville, NY 11801

Website: <http://www.limarc.org>

Sponsor: Long Island Mobile ARC

Talk-In: 146.850 (PL 136.5)

Public Contact: Richard Cetron, K2KNB

198 Haypath Road Old Bethpage, NY 11804

Phone: 516-694-4937

Email: k2knb@arrl.net

BARA Spring Auction

3/11/2012

Location: Westwood Junior/Senior High School

701 Ridgewood Road

Township of Washington, NJ 07676

Website: <http://www.bara.org>

Sponsor: Bergen Amateur Radio Assn

Talk-In: 147.19/146.79 (PL 141.3)

Public Contact: James Joyce, K2ZO

286 Ridgewood Blvd. North Township of Washington, NJ 07676

Phone: 201-664-6725

Email: k2zo@arrl.net

37th Annual Cherryville Hamfest

03/17/2012

Location: North Hunterdon High School
1445 Route 31

Annandale, NJ 08801

Website: <http://www.qsl.net/w2cra>

Sponsor: Cherryville Repeater Association II

Talk-In: 147.375 (PL 151.4)

Public Contact: Tony Ploski, W2HW

PO Box 308 Quakertown, NJ 08868

Phone: 908-256-9568

Email: aploski@comcast.net

North Jersey Hamfest

03/24/2012

Location: Roxbury Senior Center

72 Eyland Avenue

Succasunna, NJ 07876

Website: <http://www.splitrockara.org>

Sponsor: Splitrock Amateur Radio Assn

Talk-In: 146.985/146.385 (PL 131.8)

Public Contact: Greg Mohr, W2GCM

551 Route 10 Randolph, NJ 07869

Phone: 973-945-5191

Email: W2GCM@arrl.org

OCARC Hamfest

03/31/2012

Location: Town of Walkill Community Center

2 Wes Warren Drive

Middletown, NY 10940

Website: <http://www.ocarc-ny.org>

Sponsor: Orange County Amateur Radio Club

Talk-In: 146.760 (PL 100)

Public Contact: Neil Shubert, AC2O

16 Pioneer Trail Monroe, NY 10950

Phone: 914-490-2001

Email: carmic7@gmail.com

FLEA MARKET / HAMFEST

04/14/2012

Location: Conlon Hall

19 North William Street

Bergenfield, NJ 07621

Website: <https://sites.google.com/site/boyscouttroop139bergenfield>

Sponsor: Boy Scout Troop 139 / Venture Crew 7373

Talk-In: 146.955/146.355 (PL 141.3) &

146.52 Simplex

Public Contact: J Gordon, W2TTT

c/o Boy Scout Troop 139 29 N. Washington Avenue Bergenfield, NJ 07621

Phone: 201-314-6964

Email: w2ttt@arrl.net

OMARC Tailgate Hamfest

04/21/2012

Location: Project Diana Site Infoage Learning Center

2300 Marconi Road

Wall, NJ

Website: <http://www.omarc.org>

Sponsor: Ocean-Monmouth ARC Club

Talk-In: 145.110 -600 (PL 127.3)

Public Contact: Jeff Harshman, N2LXM

5 The Arborway Ocean, NJ 07712

Phone: 732-996-0637

Email: n2lxm@juno.com

Mt. Beacon ARC Hamfest

04/29/2012

Location: Tymor Park

249 Duncan Road

LaGrangeville, NY 12540

Website: <http://www.wr2abb.org>

Sponsor: Mt. Beacon ARC

Talk-In: 146.97 -600 (PL 100)

Public Contact: Dave Ruth, KC2AFK

48 Hoof Print Road Millbrook, NY 12545

Phone: 845-677-5079

Email: kc2afk@optimum.net