



The Longwire



March 2007

PUBLISHED BY THE LIVERPOOL AMATEUR REPEATER CLUB

Changes to the Longwire.

Lee Badman, KC2IYK

Please bear with the formatting changes to the Longwire as we work through some transitions. We'll continue to strive to put out the same high caliber of newsletter that the club has come to be accustomed to over the years, but the look and feel may change over the next few issues before we stabilize. Thanks for your patience!

Camillus VE Team

Steve Auyer, N2TKX

The weather was a little snowy on February 1st but we had a good complement of both VEs and applicants.

Shawn Rinaldo of Camillus, New York had been studying for the exam for some time. He finally called Jim Mozley-W2BCH on January 31st to inquire about test sessions. Jim suggested that Shawn give Steve Anyer-N2TKX a call. When he did and was told that the next test session would be the next day in Camillus, Shawn gulped a little at that but said that he'd try to make the session. Shawn came in, only took about five minutes to fill out the answer sheet, and scored a perfect 35/35 to become licensed as KC2QXG.

VE Team, continued...

William Coons of Syracuse is a 16-year old high school student at Westhill Senior High. He had taken the amateur radio course at the Museum of Science & Technology in the fall of 2006 but hadn't quite gotten around to coming to a VE exam. He finally came in to this test session, passed the Element 2 exam and is now licensed as KC2QXH. We hear rumors that an amateur radio club may be in the making at Westhill.

Christine Speck of Auburn comes from a family of hams: Her father Mike is K2MJS, and her older brothers are Michael KC2PMO and Peter-KC2PMP. Christine took the amateur radio course at the Most in January of 2007 and was a bit nervous about taking the test, but several days before the February 1st session, she told her father that she wanted to "... go for it!" So K2MJS brought Christine in to the session and waited outside in the corridor while she took the test. Now, both Christine and William took their time in filling out the answer sheet - like about 45 minutes. So K2MJS was anxiously pacing back and forth in the corridor, occasionally peeking in through the window to see what was taking so long. But not to worry, Christine passed and is now

licensed as KC2QXF. K2MJS reports that KC2QXF has already had her first on the air QSO. KC2OXF, by the way, is thirteen years old.

We had several Technician class hams come in and take the Element 3 (General) exam and walk out with their CSCE which, with another \$14, will allow them to upgrade to general at the March VE session. **(Remember- code testing is now a thing of the past!)**

KC2IYK of Jordan came in to take the Element 4 (Extra Class) exam. Now most of the VEs know KC2IYK either through his participation in amateur radio activities or through his bi-weekly amateur radio column in the Sunday STARS Magazine. But of course, we didn't want to make it too easy on him so we went over his answer sheet a number of times, looking for enough incorrect answers to fail him. Unfortunately, KC2IYK had an excellent score of 52/55 so we reluctantly issued him the CSCE that is proof of his upgrade.

Two days later, on February 3rd, **the Camillus team** (calling themselves the "Syracuse Team" on this occasion) reassembled at the MoST to administer the test to the group that had recently completed the amateur radio course. Well, to most of them anyway, as we noted above that KC2QXF couldn't wait and had talked her father into taking her to the session two days earlier in Camillus. Present as VEs were: **John Patchett-KB2ERJ; Dave Widrick-N2KLH; John Soergel-WA2DGC; John Rockdashil-WB2DVE and Steve Auyer-N2TKX.**

Jane Librizzi, now licensed as KC2QXR, works at WAER and is

already planning on getting involved with local amateur radio activities.

Dan Webb of Chittenango did very well on the test and is now licensed as KC2QXS.

Lee Herrington is a Professor at SUNY ESF and held an amateur radio license in his youth. But he let it lapse and in anticipation of all the extra time that he will have when he retires shortly, he wanted to become licensed again. So he took the Element 2 exam, passed, is now licensed at KC2QXU, and is trying to decide whether he wants to apply for his old call under the vanity program.

John Soldan of Liverpool let us know that he had been interested in radio for many years - building a two-tube regenerative receiver using type 30 tubes back in the mid-30's. But somehow he never got his license. John, now 85 years old, retired from Crouse Hinds 20 years ago. A little bored in retirement he learned how to play the organ at the age of 70 and now has a concert class organ in his home. When he saw the advertisement for the course he decided that maybe now was the time to get licensed. Well, he passed the exam with a near-perfect score and now carries the call of KC2QXT.

The father-daughter team of **Thomas and Jillian Carafa** of Syracuse took the course and came in to the exam. Now, Tom had been practicing on www.qrz.com and www.aa9pw.com and was getting excellent scores so he wasn't nervous for himself. But Jillian had only logged on to QRZ once and then just barely passed. But two nights before the VE session she settled down and ran through a number of practice sessions,

generally doing pretty well. Turns out that neither Tom nor Jillian had to worry as they both had excellent scores on the test and are now licensed as KC2QXW and KC2QXV respectively. Jillian is ten years old and a fifth grade student at Ed Smith School. Her mother reports that she is planning to use amateur radio as a science fair project.

Congratulations to all- hope to hear you on the air!

Wappingers Falls' Ham Makes it Big in QST Magazine

Steve Auyer, N2TKX

The June 2006 QST had an article on a power monitoring device called a Kill-A-Watt. The March 2007 issue has a follow-up to that article on page 67 that describes the Kill-A-Watt's internal power supply, and how this device can be destroyed when used on a non-sine-wave source.

I thought it was a good article and interesting reading. Then you get to the end of the article and find that it was written by our own **Doug Falcon-N2JOM**.

Good job, Doug!

Changing your email address? Update us or miss out on the Longwire!

How "Fresh" is Your QRZ Profile?

Lee Badman, KC2IYK

Many of us provide a profile on QRZ, so contacts can find out a little bit about who we are during or after a QSO. It's easy to forget about this profile, but stale information- including an outdated email address- doesn't provide much value for anyone. Check your profile on occasion-keep it fresh and accurate.

Got Club Information or Pictures?

Lee Badman, KC2IYK

...or a good radio story? Did you buy a new radio or receiver that you just gotta tell the world about? Have an antenna project that others might find value in? Perhaps you found some good radio activity while traveling...

The Longwire could always use content, whether you'd like to write a small piece yourself or just provide the fodder for someone else to write-up. LARC has a diverse group of members, who probably are up to all sorts of interesting things.

For example- I know of one Ham of Good Breeding that regularly runs an HF net on 7272. That's news!

Then there are all the radio goings-on at the MoST... and the new Jack's Reef-area ham who's trying to figure out what his new antenna farm might look like at the new digs... it's ALL newsworthy- don't be shy with your submissions. The more we get, the better informed our members will be.

Photos- Barry Bates, KC2MPH, Gets Inside Our Heads.



From the February 2007 LARC Meeting

Photos- QCWA Meeting

(W2AK, and several others, mark impressive milestones- sincere congratulations to all on your longevity and accomplishments.)



Reminder- Public Service

As mentioned in the last newsletter, and ongoingly on the RAGS website at ragsinreview.com, there are a number of Public Service events coming up in Spring, Summer, and even Fall with Pumpkin Patrol. Mark your calendars, lend a hand, and get some fresh air...

Please- send all information about public service events to Lee Badman, KC2IYK at lhbadman@syr.edu for possible coverage in the Stars Section of the Syracuse Post Standard.

Field Day- It's Not too Early to Plan

As a reminder, Field Day is the on the fourth full weekend in June, which is on June 23-24 this year. Much more will be said about Field Day in upcoming newsletters and meetings, but we should all be starting to think about it. See the ARRL's pages for this year's event at

<http://www.arrl.org/contests/announcements/fd/>

Do you what DX country is TF ?

(Iceland)

Some Fun Stuff...

Quick Quiz:

Which radio gear maker is based in Starkville, MS?

Which manufacturer is based in Sevierville, TN?

Who makes the TH series of hand-held amateur radios?

Fill in the blanks for this manufacturer:

__ L I __ C __

(MFJ, TenTec, Kenwood, Alinco)

Name the Classic Radios:



(Zenith TransOceanic R-7000, Collins KWM-2A)

Recommended Radio Reading and References



Signor Marconi's Magic Box
by Gavin Weightman

- *I give it two thumbs up! An easy to read, not-too-technical, interesting biography on Marconi and his rivals of the period.*
-KC2IYK
-

Off the beaten path- DUBUS radio magazine/website out of Germany:

DUBUS- “the *serious* magazine for VHF and up amateur radio” at

www.dubus.org

Local Radio Web Site – if you haven’t seen KB2ERJ’s web site yet, you should.

www.kb2erj.com

March 2007

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
25 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CQ WW 160-Meter SSB Contest • North American RTTY QSO Party 	26	27 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7:30pm—Madison-Oneida ARC Meeting, Verona • 8:00pm—"This Week In Amateur Radio", 147.18R (KB2FAF) 	28 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7:00pm—Swap Net, 147.00R • 8:30pm—5WPM CW Practice, 147.00R (K2JMA) 	1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7:00pm—Camilus VE Team Meeting (KB2ERJ) 	2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7:00pm—Rome ARC VE Session (K2GVI) 	3 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ARRL International Phone DX Contest
4 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ARRL International Phone DX Contest • Lancaster ARC Hamfest, Williamsville, NY (N2GDU) 	5 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6:30pm—LARC Board Meeting (N2MRE) • 7:30pm—OCREC Net, 147.30R (WA2PUU) 	6 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8:00pm—"This Week In Amateur Radio", 147.18R (KB2FAF) 	7 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7:00pm—Swap Net, 147.00R • 7:00pm—Rome Radio Club Meeting, Griffiss • 8:30pm—5WPM CW Practice, 147.00R (K2JMA) 	8 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7:30pm—RAGS Meeting (W2BCH) 	9	10
11 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Daylight Savings Time Begins • North American RTTY Sprint 	12	13 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7:00pm—Central District Emergency Net, 147.00R, (N2IK) • 8:00pm—"This Week In Amateur Radio", 147.18R (KB2FAF) 	14 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7:00pm—Swap Net, 147.00R • 7:30pm—Skyline ARC Meeting, Cortland (K2BQZ) • 8:30pm—5WPM CW Practice, 147.00R (K2JMA) 	15	16 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7:00pm—MOARC VE Session (K2DI) 	17 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • St. Patrick's Day Public Service Activity
18	19 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7:30pm—OCREC Net, 147.30R (WA2PUU) 	20 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8:00pm—"This Week In Amateur Radio", 147.18R (KB2FAF) 	21 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1st Day of Spring • 7:00pm—Swap Net, 147.00R • 8:30pm—5WPM CW Practice, 147.00R (K2JMA) 	22 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7:00pm—LARC Meeting (N2IK) 	23	24 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CQ WW WPX SSB Contest
25 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CQ WW WPX SSB Contest 	26	27 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7:30pm—Madison-Oneida ARC Meeting, Verona • 8:00pm—"This Week In Amateur Radio", 147.18R (KB2FAF) 	28 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6:30pm—Fulton ARC VE Session (N2QPS) • 7:00pm—Fulton ARC Meeting (W2TQF) • 7:00pm—Swap Net, 147.00R • 8:30pm—5WPM CW Practice, 	29	30 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shriner's Circus Public Service Activity • 11:30am—QCWA Luncheon, Weber's Restaurant (WB2PEM) 	31 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shriner's Circus Public Service Activity

The LongWire February, 2007

Liverpool Amateur Repeater Club
Web Page:
www.LiverpoolAmateurRepeaterClub.org
Club Call: W2CM

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Material may be submitted electronically to any of the club officers through the club web site. Articles may be on any subject of general interest to radio amateurs. The deadline is generally about the end of the month. This allows us to meet our goals of having the electronic edition to members by the end of the first week of the month with the hard copy edition following within a week.

The April deadline is March 31 st

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