



# THE BULL THISTLE BUGLE



“BLOWING OUR OWN HORN” since 1965

Chenango County, NY

“We are ARRL affiliated”

Official Publication of the Chenango Valley Amateur Radio Association, Inc. Owner and operator of memorial amateur radio station W2RME/ R on 146.085T/146.685R MHZ, PL Tone 110.9, to the late Duncan “Dunc” Copley.

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of CVARA



*The President's  
Corner de KC2SFU*



VOL. 60 May 024

I'm on vacation this week so my comments will be short.

Thank you to all who helped with this year's Hamfest. Obviously we did not get the turn out we would like this year. As I understand it, that is at least partially because of other hamfest schedule that day. This will be something to look at and work out for next year.

A number of interesting and positive things have happened in our tower replacement project. First, it looks like we have found a vendor that can work within our budget. Second, financially I think our appeal to membership is doing quite well. We have a long way to go but good progress has been made. Thank you to all that have lent a hand.

73, Tom KC2SFU

## CVARA Meeting Minutes for April 10, 2024

Called to order at 1904 by President Tom Monday (KC2SFU) held at the Grange Hall in Norwich.

### Minutes:

Motion to accept minutes as printed in the Bugle by John Rudolph (N2YP) 2nd by Tom Mathewson (AD2TM); Motion passed

### Treasurer's Report:

Motion to accept Treasurer's Report as presented by John Rudolph (N2YP) 2nd by Lois Strong (NK2A); Motion passed

### Committee Reports:

**Youth/Education:** Looking into getting study materials that can be shared with the Richfield Springs Youth.

**ARES/RACES:** KC2SFU reported about last month's drill. This month's training will be held in the EOC on Saturday at 9am.

**Tech Night:** All projects welcome! We will be dedicating the next few official Tech Nights to the manufacturing & assembly of the camera projects.

**Bugle:** Always looking for contributions of articles (with print authorizations) or pictures!

### **Repeater:**

**Membership:** Matthew Jenne (WZ2I) updated the club with the progress being made. It was at the printers to be finished by the weekend.

**Tower:** Matthew Jenne (WZ2I) has been in contact with W2RE and working out potential options for us. Hopefully we will have a more solid plan for the next meeting.

**Hamfest:** Door prizes have been rolling in!!!

**Field Day:** Tom Mathewson (AD2TM) handed out copies of the rules. Looking for help to get as many bonus points as possible.

### Old Business:

### New Business:

### For the Good of the Membership:

**Dues:** As a reminder, dues are due as of April 1 for the 2024-2025 fiscal year. Somehow already submitted their dues... If you have not done so already, please submit your dues and/or consider a donation to the club. We have many expenses & need to cover our obligations.

**Closing:** Motion made at 20:20 by Tom Mathewson (AD2TM), 2nd by Jon ENglert (W2BDN).

**Attendees:** WZ2I, AD2TM, W2BDN, NK2A, KC2SFU, K2FRY, WA2LFI, N2YP, KD2CDU, KE2BID

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**Local On The Air CW Practice**

Hello All in the CVARA family,  
I know this has been done before, but I am trying to drum up participants for On The Air CW Practice, OTACWP; let's agree to never say or use that. One change this time around is that we will have Zoom as a fallback / coordinating room so we know what is going on other than hearing static. Ideally we will use 2m or 6m, I have a vertical for both, but we could switch to a few HF bands if people want/need to venture that direction. If anything this is a decent way to try out a simplex net, even though it is not on FM. If you are interested please email me at [KB2YSI@GMAIL.COM](mailto:KB2YSI@GMAIL.COM) for details.---... ..-- Don, KB2YSI

**ARES This Month:**

May is **General Clinton** month for the **Chenango County ARES Group**. As always we will need your help. While details are still being worked out, I believe this year's efforts will only involve the Saturday Scout races using the 685 for operations. I will forward details as soon as they are available. I look forward to see any who can make it.

73, Tom KC2SFU



**Sixth ANNUAL  
CVARA BULLTHISTLE HAMFEST**

**Saturday, April 5, 2025**

**0700 - 1200**

<https://cvara.net/hamfest>



Grand Prize?



Vendors  
Tailgating  
Presentations  
**PRIZES!!!**

**50/50 RAFFLE!**

**VE TEST SESSION**

*And So It Should Be Written*

*By Ray Darling, K2DAR, CVARA Historian*

*Chapter 21*

*More Bits & Pieces*

Public Service and emergency communications continues to be a major part of ham radio. Hurricanes. Forest Fires, Earthquakes, Tornadoes all brought out many emergency teams of ham radio operators, whose effectiveness was enhanced by preparedness drills conducted in cooperation with the Red Cross and the ARRL National Traffic System and Emergency Corps. For better or worse, hams responded to emergency situations through the formative years of post-war amateur radio. The 1960's amateur had better equipment, more experience in emergency service and was better trained than his 1940's counterparts. As amateur radio grew and expanded, so did the ham's ability to live up to the doctrine of "Public Interest, Convenience or Necessity," upon which the existence of amateur radio was based.

Amateur Radio had come a long way since the healthy and lively days following the end of World War II. It had become well accepted internationally for the most part. New and exciting VHF bands, plus a 15 meter band. Transforming to SSB had been accomplished and TVI was no longer a formal threatening factor. The transition to solid-state equipment was underway and American manufacturers of ham gear seemed to be taking the small influx of imported equipment in stride. Very few anticipated the next momentous changes in communication, the domination of the Japanese equipment manufacturers and the introduction of the phase-locked loop in the matter of frequency control. These developments, as well as the FCC decision on "incentive licensing," were to fall in the far future.

Two Meter FM and repeaters were catching on nicely. The amateur satellite program received a big boost in June 1969 when AMSAT (The Radio Amateur Satellite Corporation) was formed in Washington, DC to advance various Oscar projects that would require a nonmilitary launching platform. No one could foretell the rapid growth of AMSAT and the worldwide interest in amateur satellites to come in the future.

The next few years became more intense and the pace continued to quicken. The Dxers were excited with the new prefixes that had sprung up on the air. UZ0, C3, C21, JD1, 4L0, CW3

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*(Continued from page 4)*

Wow!! Things were looking good on the DX bands. And the new Delta Loop antenna might just be the sky-wire to snag some of this good stuff.

In the Spring of 1970, the Signal-One transceiver was advertised. It had a nixie-tube readout to 100 Hz and was all solid-state except for the output tube; it foretold of equipment advances on the horizon. I learned that my friend Paul Wandelt (W2AU) had purchased this beautiful piece of equipment, was invited to his home station, viewed this outstanding unit and was allowed to operate long enough to make a short CW contact using the straight key shown below. As a relatively new ham, dealing with my General Class license privileges, was in awe and enjoyed the amazing experience offered.



The Galaxy R-350 receiver featured a novel phase-locked loop (PLL) that provided exceptional frequency stability. The Inoue FDFM 2 Meter, 6 channel FM transceiver signaled the introduction of the Japanese manufacturers into the VHF region.

The Japanese equipment continued to be a strong force in the market. Henry Radio introduced the Tempo-One transceiver, the Yaesu FT-101 appeared on the market. Among the domestic manufacturers, Heath announced the SB220 linear amp. And Ten-Tec caught the fancy of the QRP group with the APM-1 CW transceiver (2 Watts on 80 and 40 meters) for \$49.95. At the close of the year, Heath featured the HW-100 a traditional tube-type SSB transceiver plus the IB-101 frequency counter, good to 15 Mhz. Dxers were happy when the sunspot numbers peaked once again, providing outstanding DX on 10 and 6 meters.

APM-1 Transceiver

*(Continued on page 6)*

(Continued from page 5)

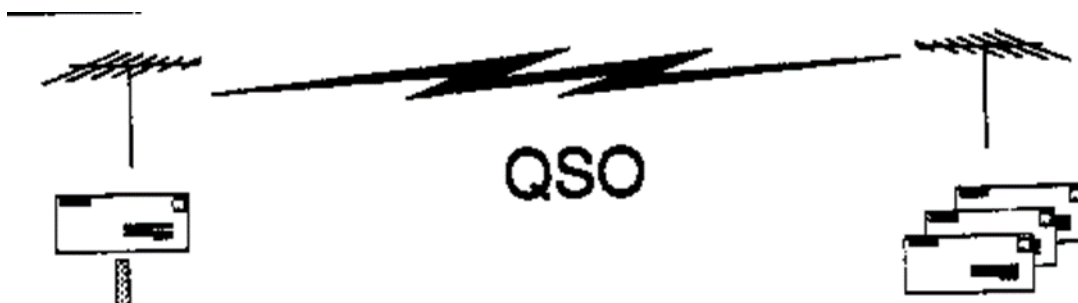


### The Stand Up and Be Counted Department

A piece presented in the February 1974 CVARA Newsletter by Tom McConnell, WB2YME

We must take exception to that letter from Abigail Van Buren to "Dear Haunted," which appeared in an issue of the "Press" from Binghamton, NY on/about January 2, 1974. We didn't realize that Abby was a qualified Electronic Clairvoyant. The statement "He is using improperly shielded equipment..." may qualify her for something, but certainly not an armchair electrical engineer. The part that really raised the hairs on our back was to wit "The FCC is reluctant to crack down too hard on offending ham operators..." In this respect, we find it hard to believe that the stiff fines and possible prison confinement imposed by the FCC for unlawful operations wouldn't make even a hardened criminal shudder. We are sure that this statement has put Ms. Van Buren in good standing with the FCC. We should point out to "Dear Haunted" that some manufacturers of TV, stereo and broadcast radio sets are reluctant to provide shielding to guard against sources of electromagnetic radiation other than short wave transmitters simply because it costs too much and cuts down on profits. The only pat on the back to be drawn from this article was ".....in times of emergencies and disaster, these hams provide a wonderful public service(gratis)when all other communications fail." I guess we should be thankful for small favors but according to Abby, the only ones who operate in times of disaster are the "offenders." Maybe Abby has us confused with that other group known as CB which stands for Citizens Band, but from some reports could mean "Crude Broadcasters." There is a difference Abby and we are sure that if you look again you will find all of those bad apples don't belong in the same basket. A sign of the times!!

What the future holds ultimately depends on our collective willingness to push the envelope of personal communications to new horizons. What horizons do you see in our future??



# CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR 2024

May 2, CVARA Meeting 7:00 PM Grange Hall, .Hale St, Norwich

May 16, Tech Night

May 23, Exam Session

June 6, CVARA Meeting 7:00 PM Grange Hall, .Hale St, Norwich

June 8, - Cortland Hamfest & Technology Fair, Cortland, NY

June 8,- LARA Outdoor Summer HamFest, Lockport, NY

June 20, Tech Night

June 22—23 Field Day , General Clinton Park , Bainbridge

June 27, Exam Session

July 11. CVARA Meeting 7:00 PM Grange Hall, .Hale St, Norwich Normal meeting night is July 4

July 13,- Roger's RAGS Hamfest, Camillus, NY

July 18, Tech Night

July 20, - Batavia Hamfest, Alexander, NY

July 25, Exam Session

*Do not forget that every Wednesday night at 7:30 local on the W2RME/R 146.085/146.685 PL 110.9. The CARES net meets.*

If you know of, or hear about any activities that should be listed here, Please pass them on to the editor.

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## May 2024

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			1	2 meeting	3	4
5	5	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	.16 Tech Night	17	18
19	20	21	22	23 Exam Ses- sion	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

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### Permanent committees

- ARES/RACES: **KC2SFU**
- AWARDS: **AD2TM**
- BUGLE: **AD2TM** Chairman
- COMMUNITY SERVICE;
- NEW Ham development **K2FRY**
- FIELD DAY: **K2FRY** Chairman
- MEMBERSHIP: **K2FRY** Chairman

- PACKET:/ Digital: **KC2SFU** Chairman, **N2SPI**
  - PUBLICITY/PUBLIC RELATIONS:**AD2TM**, **N2YP**, : **WZ2I**, **K2DAR**
  - TECHNICAL: **WA2IZB**
  - VE TEAM: **K2DAR**: **WZ2I**
  - HAM OF THE YEAR: **WZ2I**
  - Club Station/ Shack: **K2DAR**, **N2YP**, **KC2SFU**
  - Repeater Trustee: **WZ2I**
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# CVARA CLUB OFFICERS

President: Tom Monday KC2SFU  
 Vice Pres: Tom Mathewson, AD2TM  
 Treasurer: Emily Goehner WA2LFI  
 Secretary: Matt Jenne, WZ2I  
 Directors: Lois Strong, NK2A; Tom Monday, KC2SFU; Jon Englart W2BDN

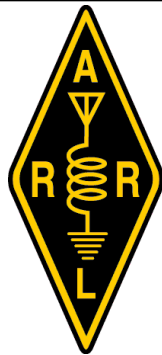
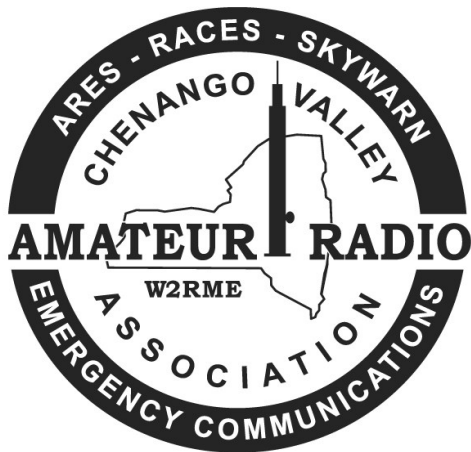
Tom, AD2TM, editor of the Bugle is ALWAYS looking for submissions  
 Your views, comments, and articles will gladly be considered for publication.  
 Send your articles to.....

Thomas Mathewson  
 680 Plymouth N. Norwich Rd  
 Norwich, N.Y. 13815  
 Internet...ad2tm@arrl.net

We encourage promoting our organization and welcoming new members to join our group. We hope we can continue to grow and maintain a successful club. Your continued support can make this happen.

Visit the club WEB site at: <http://www.cvara.net>

**Deadline for the June 2024 Bugle is May 20, 2024**



PO Box 1324  
 Norwich, N.Y, 13815