

Finger Lakes  
Chapter #29  
Founded March 29, 1966  
W2PPS



August  
2011  
Newsletter

## Chapter Information

President	John McKee-WB2YGN	62 Pulsifer Drive	Auburn, NY 13021	252-8178
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[www.qcwa.org/chapter029.htm](http://www.qcwa.org/chapter029.htm)

## July Meeting

The 27 present at Denny's restaurant for the July meeting of QCWA Chapter 29 included: Joe McClusky-NW2A and his XYL Marie; Jim O'Keefe-W2SY; Roger Hamilton-WA2AEW; Chuck Silva-KB2DIO; Al May-WA2KFV; Tim Colson-N2VZD; Rita Colson-KC2GFT; Gerry Storrs-K2QJB; John Soregel-WA2DGC; Ike Hathaway-W2IH; Fred Herbs-WB2PEM; Harold Ferguson-KE2FV; Joe Molinaro-W2FUU; Jack Roubie-K2JDD; John Rockdashil-WB2DVE and guest Doug Bracy; Sharon May-KA2TNK; Ken Blume-K2UPI; Steve Auyer-N2TKX; Al Obrist-N2AO; Bob Goettel-WA2LBG; John McKee-WB2YGN; Gerry Voorhies-KA2DDN; Bill Kimbell-W2TYO; and Fran Waddington-KA2IVK and his daughter Deborah Herbold.

Getting off to a fast start, we ordered our meals at 11:15am and WB2YGN called the meeting to order at 11:25am. We were glad to have KA2IVK back with us after his hospitalization and the presence of his daughter was an added "bonus." It was also a pleasure to see W2IH again as it's a pretty long haul from his QTH in Ithaca. W2TYO let us know that he had talked to W2AK on the phone before the meeting and Charlie told Bill that he had just returned home from the hospital where he had been treated for pneumonia. He's feeling good but decided to take a pass on this month's meeting.

The passing of Bob Arnold-N2JEU was mentioned (his obituary is included in this newsletter). Several members remembered how Bob had been a pioneer in

packet radio and other digital modes prior to "the Internet."

KA2IVK told us that he has been off the air because the antenna on his 2M radio, an HTX-202, is broken. WA2AEW immediately volunteered to drive over to Fran's house and fix the antenna. Way to go Roger! WB2YGN then told us that he needs a panel meter – 0-150VAC with a 2"x2" case. No one volunteered one of those.

**Nets:** The Wednesday night net on the 146.910 repeater is going well – a recent net had 28 check-ins. The Chapter 29 6M net on Tuesdays is also going well – WB2YGN is trying to get additional net controls to share the work.

WB2PEM let us know that he had been driving along Route 11 between Pulaski and Sandy Creek and came upon a permanent flea market that offered antique dry cells and C-cells, dry batteries and a 1920's era tube type radio and suggested that if you're in that area, you might want to check the place out. Fred also passed around a dried water chestnut that looked sort of like a weapon designed by the CIA and which would penetrate even someone's water shoes. No wonder water chestnuts are hated by folks using our lakes and rivers.

**Show-and-Tell:** K2JDD brought in two interesting items that he is in the process of restoring. The first was an Edison Battery, circa 1920's. It was interesting to examine as it consisted of 140 individual cells wired so as to produce a number of B+ and C voltages. A

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question was raised as to what chemistry the battery used. An internet search revealed that each cell has an iron anode and a nickel oxide/hydroxide cathode in a potassium hydroxide electrolyte solution.



Also on display was a homemade receiver built from a kit. These were common in the early days of broadcast radio and a homeowner who wanted a radio but couldn't afford to buy a factory-assembled unit would often



buy a kit and pay an enterprising local youth (a local ham) to assemble the kit. This kit contained the front panel, parts and an optional cabinet. The circuitry consisted of a regenerative detector followed by three transformer-coupled audio stages.

KA2DDN brought a carbon microphone to the last meeting. Internet-Steve did a search to try to determine its characteristics but was only able to find a picture of it. N2TKX and K2JDD had gotten into a discussion of vacuum tubes and their availability. N2TKX circulated several pages from the latest Antique Electronic Supply catalog showing some of their "boutique" vacuum tubes. Some examples:

- A 12AU7 sells for \$20; a "special" 12AU7 with a "spiral filament and long plate" sells for \$24.75. (In 1953 Sylvania sold a 12AU7 for \$2.40.)
- A 6L6GC sells for \$24.75; one that has been "cryogenically treated and burned in for 24 hours" costs \$41.25. (In 1953 Sylvania sold a 6L6G/GA for \$3.00.)

K2JDD reminded us that the Antique Wireless Association is having their World Convention at the RIT Inn and Conference center in Rochester, NY from August 16<sup>th</sup> through the 20<sup>th</sup>. Details may be found at [www.awaconference.com](http://www.awaconference.com) but some of the highlights are:

- August 16<sup>th</sup> – Registration, International Dinner
- August 17<sup>th</sup> – Technical presentations, Pizza/Dance
- August 18<sup>th</sup> – Flea Market Opens, technical presentations, Buffet Dinner
- August 19<sup>th</sup> – Technical presentations, contest viewing and judging, Member's Banquet
- August 20<sup>th</sup> – general auction

Also during the convention, all of the buildings of the AWA's Electronic Communication Museum will be open to the public.

WA2DGC reminded us that amateur radio operators are exempt from the new NYS law prohibiting the reception or transmission of digital data (texting) while driving. It's helpful to carry a copy of the law in your car with you.

KA2IVK was asked to pick the winning ticket in the 50/50 raffle and guess who won the \$24 – his daughter

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Deborah! Other items raffled off were: 1985 ARRL Handbook won by WA2AEW; 1979 ARRL Handbook won by K2UPI; "Circuit Building for Dummies" won by KC2GFT and the July issue of CQ Magazine won by W2SY.



## SK

Robert D. "Bob" Arnold-N2JEU, 58, of 3024 Tag Road, Canastota, died Sunday, July 10, 2011. Bob was actively involved in many projects that combined computers, software and amateur radio. He hosted the Internet Remote Base Project at [www.n2jeu.net](http://www.n2jeu.net). His Random Access Labs site at [www.ralabs.com](http://www.ralabs.com) hosted a real-time lightning strike detector covering the central New York area as well as a web-controlled receiver. Bob was webmaster for the Cumbre DX online shortwave listener newsletter and listserv from 1994 until his death, and also did technical support for the group's radio program, DXing with Cumbre. He was also responsible for Information Technology at Onondaga Community College until he retired for health reasons in 2003. Bob was a published science-fiction author, and also did editing, blogging and web hosting related to sci-fi. Services: 3 p.m., Friday at the J. Homer Ball Funeral Home, Inc., Canastota. Calling hours: Friday, 1 to 3 p.m. at the funeral home, 201 James Street. Contributions: Special Olympics New York, 6315 Fly Road, East Syracuse, NY 13057.



## Birthdays

### August

- 10<sup>th</sup> – Sharon May-KA2TNK
- 12<sup>th</sup> – William Kimbell-W2TYO
- 12<sup>th</sup> – Michael Lang-W2ANL
- 12<sup>th</sup> – Joseph Molinaro-W2FUU

### September

- 13<sup>th</sup> – Steve Auyer-N2TKX
- 21<sup>st</sup> – John McKee-WB2YGN
- 22<sup>nd</sup> – Gerry Storrs-K2QJB

- 26<sup>th</sup> – James Murphy-WA2MUX
- 29<sup>th</sup> – Howard Clark-K2AN

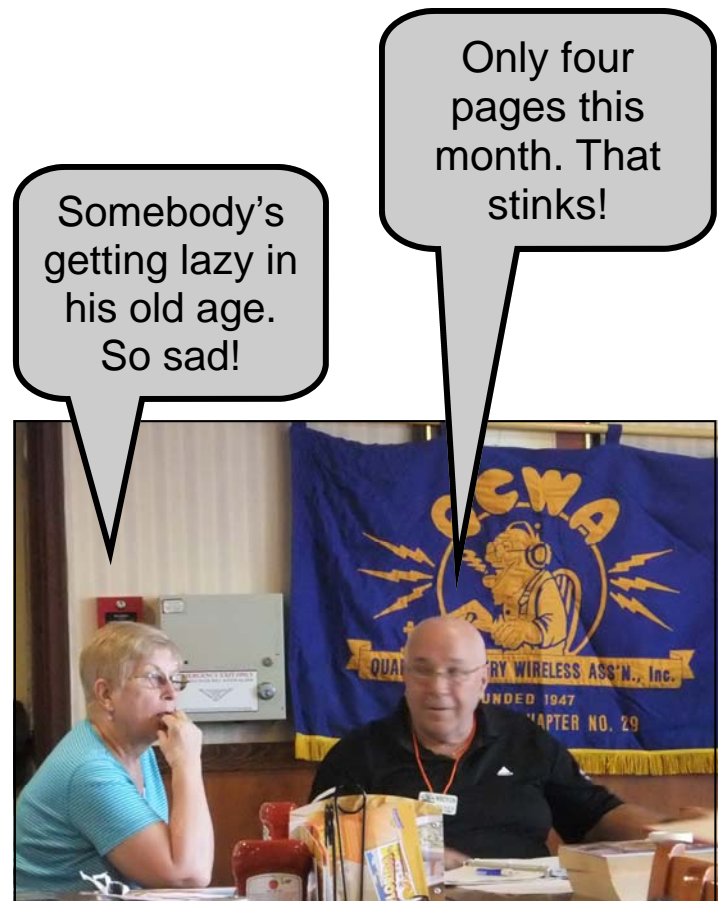
## October

- 1<sup>st</sup> – Fran Waddington-KA2IVK
- 9<sup>th</sup> – Mark Chamberlin-WB2PKO
- 26<sup>th</sup> – Bob Jackson-WB2BJW
- 26<sup>th</sup> – John Storsberg-WA2U



## New Hamfest

On September 10th. RARA will be sponsoring the first annual 'Fall Fest Fleamarket/Tailgate Party' (Benefit the Damascus Shriner's Hospital for Children). Starting @ 8 AM to 4PM at the Shrine Center, 979 Bay Rd (off Rt.104), Webster,NY. Advertised as a miniature version of the Rochester Hamfest. Acres of fleamarket spaces etc. Cheap (inexpensive) food, Fish Fry, Sausage, hamburgers, hot dogs, salt potatoes, fries, etc, etc... \$5 donation to the Shriners.



# August 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
31	1 ●7:30pm—OCREN Net, 147.30R (1st)	2 ●7pm—QCWA Net, 53.05R ●8pm—"This Week In Amateur Radio", 147.18R	3 ●7pm—Swap/Info Net, 146.91R	4 ●7pm—Camillus VE Session (1st)	5 ●7pm—Rome ARC VE Session (1st)	6 ●Tompkins County ARC Hamfest, Trumansburg (KC2OYN) ●ARRL UHF Contest ●North American CW QSO Party
7 ●ARRL UHF Contest ●North American CW QSO Party ●9am—Communicator Breakfast, Ramada Inn (1st & 3rd)	8	9 ●8pm—"This Week In Amateur Radio", 147.18R	10 ●7pm—Swap/Info Net, 146.91R ●7:30pm—Skyline ARC Meeting (2nd)	11	12 ●Perseids Meteor Shower	13 ●Orleans County ARC Hamfest, Medina (KC2JKU) ●Rome ARC Hamfest, Westmoreland (AC2DB) ●Keuka Lake ARA Hamfest, Howard (KB2WXV)
14	15 ●7:30pm—OCREN Net, 147.30R (3rd)	16 ●8pm—"This Week In Amateur Radio", 147.18R ●AWA World Convention, Rochester	17 ●7pm—Swap/Info Net, 146.91R ●AWA World Convention, Rochester	18 ●AWA World Convention, Rochester	19 ●7pm—MOARC VE Session (WF2V) (3rd) ●AWA World Convention, Rochester	20 ●CNY ARA Hamfest, Deerfield ●12N—LARC Picnic, Clay Central Park ●ARRL 10GHz and Up Contest ●North American Phone QSO Party
21 ●12N—RAGS Picnic (N2SER) ●9am—Communicator Breakfast, Ramada Inn (1st & 3rd) ●ARRL 10GHz and Up Contest ●ARRL RTTY Rookie Roundup	22	23 ●8pm—"This Week In Amateur Radio", 147.18R	24 ●6pm—Fulton ARC VE Session ●7pm—Fulton ARC Meeting (4th) ●7pm—Swap/Info Net, 146.91R	25 ●NY State Fair opens	26 QCWA ●NY State Fair ●11:30am—QCWA Luncheon, Denny's Restaurant	27 ●7pm—SSTV Net, 146.91R ●NY State Fair
28 ●NY State Fair	29 ●NY State Fair	30 ●Madison-Oneida ARC Meeting (last) ●NY State Fair ●8pm—"This Week In Amateur Radio", 147.18R	31 ●7pm—Swap/Info Net, 146.91R ●NY State Fair	1 ●National Preparedness Month Begins ●NY State Fair ●7pm—Camillus VE Session (1st)	2 ●NY State Fair ●7pm—Rome ARC VE Session (1st)	3 ●QCWA Fall QSO Party ●7pm—SSTV Net, 146.91R ●NY State Fair