



# The KLARION

Newsletter of the Keuka Lake Amateur Radio Association  
Fall 2018

## **Citizen Preparedness Training**

Joel (KC2VAW) and I (KD2CZY) spent an evening at the Citizen Preparedness Training in Corning. This training was put on by New York State and our local Emergency Management Office. It was a two hour training on how to prepare for any emergency event. Many of us in amateur radio already are prepared with our radio batteries charged and our mobile radio kits ready. We probably have put more thought into the possibilities than many of our neighbors. But there are many things to consider and each individual or family may have different needs. It is worth while to spend some time considering what you would do if.....

storms isolated you at home without power or heat  
you had to evacuate your home and this area  
you are caught in an active shooter event  
all normal communication means are down

That one is easy for us, we use our “ham” radios. Tim Marshall pointed out the ham radio operators in attendance when that question was asked.

Kids are taught fire safety in school and encouraged to practice “EDITH” - exit drills in the home. Do you have two ways out of your home in case of fire and a planned place to meet when the family is out of the building?

There are certainly too many possible disasters to cover everything but I thought I would give you a little bit to think about and a few web sites for more information. If you would like an emergency preparedness topic covered monthly in this newsletter, let me know and I will share what I know.

1. Don't count on your cell phone to have all your emergency contact information, when it dies and you can't recharge it you don't have your information. Write down these things and carry it in your wallet.
  - a. emergency contact information
  - b. allergies and medical alerts
  - c. medications, dosage and frequency

Consider copying all your Emergency information: birth certificates, passports, social security cards or other personal identification, bank and investment account information, wills, other legal documents and have them held by a trusted family member in an other location.

2. Prepare an emergency “go bag” containing:

- hygiene products
- change of clothes, include a reflective vest
- medications
- water and nourishment
- flash lights
- blanket and rain tarp or poncho
- dust mask and work gloves, eye goggles
- whistle
- first aid kit and medical gloves
- crank operated emergency radio
- sanitation wipes
- Multi tool with pliers

At the training Joel and I received a back pack with a few emergency supplies already in it: whistle, flash light with batteries, rain poncho, work gloves, plastic sheeting and a mini first aid kit.

3. Be prepared to exist without outside support for 7 – 10 days you will need:

- one gallon of water per person per day (and this is just for drinking!)
- ready to eat, non-perishable foods
- manual can opener
- alternate heat source (i.e. - kerosene heaters) and fuel
- alternate means of cooking (i.e. - camp stove) and fuel

Take time to consider the “what ifs” and make plans, share your plans with your families. Don't forget your neighbors, especially if you have elderly or handicapped neighbors.

Here are websites to learn more and to sign up for emergency warnings:

**[Providing Critical Updates to Protect Lives](https://alert.ny.gov/)**

<https://alert.ny.gov/>

**[Ready Steuben Mobile App - Steuben County](https://www.steubencony.org/Files/Documents/emo/ready_steuben_mobile_app.pdf)**

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The Steuben County Office of Emergency Services has created a new iPhone and Android mobile app to keep Steuben County citizens, businesses, and visitors prepared for and alerted to emergencies. The Ready Steuben app is available free of charge from the iPhone and Google Play (Android) app stores. Download the app to receive county alerts, as well as alerts from the National Weather Service.

**[More information and on-line training](https://prepare.ny.gov/)**

<https://prepare.ny.gov/>

**[Donna Fiske \(KD2CZY\)](#)**

## **From the Early Days**

Thank you for the Certificate of Lifetime Membership. I received it yesterday.

Since I first contacted you, I have looked back at some of my experiences with HAM Radio and especially in the Hammondsport area, where I grew up. I have more time on my hands now that I am retired and living in Michigan.

I first put the 145.190 repeater together while living and working in Albany, in 1981, with Digital Equipment Corp. Another Ham friend John Michne, KM2H built a voice identifier using the votrax chip. My call at the time was N2CEH. I can still hear that computer voice, "N 2 C E H RE PEA TER"; sounded a bit like Steven Hawking; we nick named the computer voice "Steven son"!

I built the duplexers, 6 BpBr using stove pipe, electrical boxes, threaded rod, copper pipe, wire and capacitors. Tuned them by ear using an old tube dial generator and my new heathkit frequency counter, re-adjusting every 10 minutes or so due to stability issues. Ah the good ole days.

I got transferred with my job back to my home area of Hammondsport in 1984 and brought another identical repeater with me after coordinating the frequency with UNYREPCO. I was playing one weekend and there just wasn't anyone on the air, so I shouted on 146.52 and Gene Vis, WA2VVK from Branchport answered, and we chatted.

Gene introduced me to Jim White, KV2W. Jim had to get his 2m rig out of the closet and hook it up to talk to me. KLARA was pretty much idle at that time. Jim worked at Taylor Wine Co and got permission to put the 190 repeater on their tower.

I will never forget my first climb up the tower ... one of the guy legs was hanging by one strand. Jim went to the warehouse and got some rope and i carefully climbed back up and secured the bad tower leg. It was repaired and we had a nice location for the repeater.

The KLARA club came back to life. There is a lot more to this story but lets leave it there for now. I know at one time we had 85 members, 14 repeaters linked together via UHF repeater, packet radio. There were some good times and I am sure you are having fun to this day.

Thanks again for the recognition and I will keep in touch.

73's

**Dave Petrie - N2CEH now WA2KJC**

## Batavia Hamfest 2018



The Batavia Hamfest was held on July 21<sup>st</sup> 2018  
KLARA was very well represented!

*Thank you to John Babbitt (K2GQG) for the photo!*

## Geneseo Air Show



It was a busy July for members of KLARA. The month started off on July 14th with the Geneseo Air Show. Club members participated in a number of ways. A “special event” station was set up on the grounds with various members operating throughout the weekend.



*Thank you to John Babbitt (K2GQG) for the pictures and write up.*

## The Red House Picnic

The Red House Picnic was held July 28th at the home of John (K2GQG) and Sue (KD2AQR) Babbitt in Canisteo, New York. It was a beautiful day and 19 KLARA members and guests were in attendance. The chief cook of the day was Ruth Walters.

Good food, good friends, good time!



*Thank you to John Babbitt (K2GQG) for the pictures and write up.*

## KLARA Hamfest



George Folkmer (WB2OLJ) and Dave Beeman (KD2CZX) selling tickets at the gate.



A full breakfast and a lot of fun! KE2YB, JerryLynn Baker; KD2BPJ, Belinda Connor; and KD2HEM Ben Woodruff. The hamfest kitchen crew.



Glen Seiler (W3LSW) and Sue Babbitt (KD2AQR) at the flea market



We were very pleased and proud to have ARRL representatives at our hamfest this year. On the left is Laura Mueller (N2LJM) who is the Western New York section manager. On the right is Tom Abernathy (W3TOM), the Atlantic division director.

Thanks for taking the time to be with us. We do appreciate it!

**Thank you to Harold Scharmberg (N2FMS) and John Babbitt (K2GQG) for the photos!**

## **Club Officers**

At the September membership meeting the following were elected to the Board of Directors for 2018 – 2019:

**Gary Stratton (KC2YTD), Alan Whiteman (K2ADW), Belinda Connor (KD2BPJ), Donna Fiske (KD2CZY), Chris Romanchock (KD2PFE), Ruth Walters (K2RTH), Joel Fiske (KC2VAW).**

Following the membership meeting the Board held an organizational meeting, and elected the following officers for the coming year:

**Gary Stratton – President**  
**Alan Whiteman – Vice President**  
**Ruth Walters – Treasurer**  
**Joel Fiske - Secretary**

## Good Bye

This is my last edition as newsletter editor. Harold Scharmberg (N2FMS) has agreed to serve in this capacity for the coming year, and I will serve as club secretary for the coming year.

It has been a great seven years, and I have had a lot of fun with this assignment.

**However**, I am also very sure it is time for the “torch to be passed”! The club membership needs to hear a fresh voice and see a fresh perspective.

I am very confident that Harold will do a fantastic job as the new editor. Please be as generous to Harold with photos and write ups as you have been with me!

Finally, it wouldn't be a club newsletter without this:

**Our hobby is amateur radio operation, experimentation, and education. Please don't get so busy with other club duties that you don't have time to “play radio”.**

**Operate your radio in public spaces!**

**Explain what you are doing!**

**Be An Amateur Radio Ambassador!**

**Use, and advocate for, our part of the radio frequency spectrum ... all of it!**

**Because ... if we don't, someone else surely will!**

**Joel (KC2VAW)**