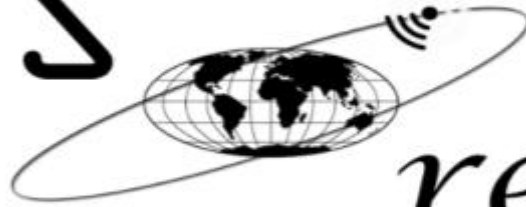


RAGS



review

PUBLISHED SEPTEMBER THRU JUNE BY THE RADIO AMATEURS OF GREATER SYRACUSE

SEPTEMBER 2026

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

- October 8, 2026
BOUVET ISLAND AND OTHER
DXPEDITIONS
Presentation by Adrian Ciuperca, KO8SCA
- October RAGS Portable Party
Location and date still in discussion
- November 12, 2026
A U.S. ISLANDS POTA ROVE
Presentation by Matt Brown, K2EAG
- December 12, 2026
ANNUAL RAGS/LARC HOLIDAY PARTY
Save The Date!!
- January 14, 2027
ELMER'S PANEL DISCUSSION

SEPTEMBER PROGRAM

***A BASIC LOOK AT THE
ICOM IC-905
ALL MODE
VHF/UHF/MICROWAVE
TRANSCEIVER***

Steve Mussi, KD2ETP

PLEASE JOIN US!!

NEXT MEETING – Thursday, September 10, 2026

IN PERSON AT 7:00P

Coffee is always on!

CHECK THE 31/91 REPEATER AFTER 3P FOR WEATHER CONCERNS



**Dewitt Community Room
148 Sanders Creek Parkway
East Syracuse, NY 13057**





John Perkins

K2VTT

Jp96166@gmail.com

315-399-8175

FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Greetings:

It's been a fun and active July and August. September is here and our meeting will be on September 10 at the Dewitt Community Room on Sanders Creek Parkway (attached to the Fire Station). Coffee is on at 6:00 PM, meeting starts at 7:00 PM.

I'm looking forward to the presentation by Steve Mussi KD2ETP on Satellite Operations with his new IC-905.

With the approach of fall, we will have a few more Public Service Events we have been asked to assist at. Please signup as they are posted on our website.

Looking forward to an active fall. Get involved and have fun.

73

John K2VTT

NEWS FROM LAST MONTH'S MEETING

Our June Installation Dinner was at the Empire Buffet. It is always a fun affair. This year we were able to award a \$500 scholarship to Zack Lloyd, KE2DIM. He will be attending Clarkson University in the Fall. Incoming officers for the 2026-2027 Year are John Perkins, K2VTT, President; Chuck Sanborn, KD2YUY, 1st Vice President; Doug Falcon, N2JOM, 2nd Vice President; Jerry Wright, NK2C, Treasurer; and Jeff Plumb, KD2CPT, Secretary.

FIELD DAY 2026

The club had a very successful and fun Field Day this year. We operated 4A with an active GOTO. We had stations up on CW, SSB, and Digital modes. Our location is challenging for antenna installations, but we still manage good results. We finished a bit behind last years totals with 1414 QSO points and 2185 Bonus points, however the event was a real club event success with over 60 folks dropping by. In addition we eat well and have tons of fun. Special thanks to Dave and Ann Rice and Kathy Mastrocola and Andriy Gronau for their organizing and food prep.



PLAN ON ATTENDING NEXT YEAR!!!

2026 Field Day Electrical Power

Doug Falcon, N2JOM

2026 field day was powered by a 1190 amp hour LiFePO4 battery bank and a 2000W sinewave inverter. 755.7 amp hours were used to deliver 8.33 KWH to the equipment. (63.5% of available battery bank power.) Inverter efficiency was 91.9% A UPS with 3.072 KWH capacity was also on tap as backup but never was needed. This UPS used 0.461 KWH of its own batteries to keep its inverter idling and available for instant backup leaving 2.611 KWH available at the end of field day for backup if needed. This would be good for 5 to 6 hours or somewhat more of backup power--plenty of time to get another power source available. No noise or exhaust fumes were generated as the entire event was run on battery power. Previous years used combinations of battery power and generators or generators alone.

Much better data collection was done this year compared to previous years. In previous years only the total power used by all stations was monitored. This year each station was monitored individually as well as total power used by all stations. In addition, this year equipment on emergency power was verified to be only those items that needed to be on emergency power. No fans, desk lights, or computers only used for logging was on emergency power. In one previous year two fans were known to be on emergency power. Reviewing the yearly data shows that on another previous year fans were also again most likely used on emergency power.

Previous year summaries:

- 2023 field day 13.1 KWH used (what equipment was on emergency power was not checked). Reviewing all of the data in this report, fans likely were on emergency power this year
- 2024 field day 8.7 KWH used (what equipment was on emergency power was not checked).
- 2025 field day 12.92 KWH used (2 fans WERE known to be on emergency power) . WE did not check if desk lights or radios used only for logging were on emergency power.

2026 Field Day Power Usage—Some Of The Nitty Gritty Details

Much better monitoring of power used was done this year compared to previous years. Total power as well as power used by each station was monitored. Also, no un-necessary equipment was on emergency power and this was verified. Grid power used until start of event, then switched to battery-inverter 5 minutes before 2PM, power measurements include grid power before event started and grid power usage was subtracted out of total usage readings at the end of the event. We verified, no fans, desk lights, or logging-only computers were used on emergency power

A LiFePO4 battery bank and a 120 VAC 2KV sinewave inverter was used for power with a 30A 250 VAC RF filter and a kill-a-watt power monitor in the main feedline. Batteries--all LiFePO4: 2x 12 V 300 AH 3.6 KWH each; 2x 12 V 200 AH 2.4 KWH each; 1x 12 V 190 AH 2.28 KWH. So, 14.28 KWH of battery power available at battery voltage (less at 120VAC with inverter losses). In addition – a 2kw pure sinewave inverter, an Ecoflow Delta 3 Ultra as UPS backup with relay switch-over. This unit never kicked in, as the battery-inverter ran the whole event. 3.072 KWH was available in the UPS with 3600 W sinewave output. 0.461 KWH was used by UPS staying on idling for 24-27 hours (not sure when it was turned on). 17--19 watts was used to keep 3600 W sinewave inverter idling. 2.611 KWH left in UPS at the end of field day - (enough for 4.5-6 hours).

ROGER'S RAGS HAMFEST 2026

Roger was clearly in charge of the weather this year. We were blessed with a very pleasant sunny day. Many folks arrived, tailgaters were prevalent, and the inside was full of many smiling attendees. The Elks staff did a fine job with breakfast and lunch. They even roved the fleamarket with breakfast sandwiches! They have invited us back for next year. The date is July 10



Public Service & Emergency Preparedness News



We have a new event: The Strength To Serve Challenge at Green Lakes State Park on 9/13. This is a physical fitness run over obstacles. Following that is the "Loop The Lake" NYS Marathon on 10/18. We need volunteers for each event. Please email Walt, n2ikwkb@gmail.com or Andriy, kd2kub@proton.me or sign-up on the website, www.ragsclub.org.

To join the P/S gang, you can sign-up online on the Rags website, www.ragsclub.org or you can give Walt, n2ikwkb@gmail.com, or Andriy, kd2kub@gmail.com a shout and volunteer!

73, Walt, N2IK
Public Service Chair

ARES/RACES QUARTERLY TRAINING

The next training session date is still tbd, however the activity will involve attendees bring their Go-Boxes and trying out the newly intalled EOC antennas.



International Lighthouse & Lightship Weekend



Fred, W2LGA, again operated this event in August. He reported that the Lighthouse event was great! Best weather that he had ever had!! (He was nearly blown off the dock one year and was injured!) Temperature was in the low 70's with a good breeze but not super windy. Bands were good overall. 143 total contacts with many CW contacts. Over 20 other lighthouses with France, Italy, Germany, among the list. Charlie, K2IWQ, was up for a bit Saturday. We look forward to doing the event again next year!

SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL CLUBS

LARC

Liverpool Amateur Repeater Club

4th Thursday of each month – 7P
N. Syracuse Community Center
700 South Bay Rd, N. Syracuse

QCWA

Quarter Century Wireless Assoc.

Last Friday of each month – 10A
Denny's Restaurant, 6591 Thompson Rd,
Syracuse, NY 13206
ALL ARE WELCOME

Yay!!! - Upcoming Hamfests – Yay!!!!

- Bear Bait – 09/16
- Elmira – 909/26



Nets Of Note

OCTEN Traffic Net - Nightly at 8:00P
Oneida 145.17- MHz, Auburn 147.00, Syracuse 147.30

CNY Amateur Radio Swap and Information Net
Weekly, Wednesdays at 7:00PM

Auburn 147.00 +, 71.9 tone Cortland 147.225 +, 71.9 tone
Remsen 145.33 -, 71.9 tone Ithaca 146.97 -, 103.5 tone
Lafayette 145.15 -, 123.0 tone Syracuse 53.67 -, 103.5 tone

Rock City Net - Weekly, Wednesdays @ 8P
3.986, SSB

RAGS Chat Net – Sunday Nights at 7:00PM
75 Meters - 3.986 MHz – LSB

CNY Fireside Chat Net
Weekly, Monday, 7P 146.670 -, 103.5 tone

CNY Information Net
Weekly, Monday, 8P 146.670-, 103.5 tone

QCWA Social Net
Weekly, Tuesday, 7:00P, 53.050-, 71.9 tone
(linked to 53.67 -, tone 103.5)

220 VHF Net
Weekly, Friday, 7P 224.12-, 103.5 tone

Easy-Pal Digital Slow Scan
Weekly - Saturday Nites 146.67-, 103.5 tone
Daily – 3.857 HF
Note that 147.390 is an ECHOLINK Repeater

General Ham Info
www.upstateham.com and www.kd2sl.com

Yum! Yum!

Apple Fritter Pancakes



- 1 cup flour
- ¼ tsp salt
- 2 tsp baking powder
- 1 egg, beaten
- 1 cup milk
- 1 Tbl oil
- ½ cup applesauce
- ½ tsp nutmeg
- 1 tsp cinnamon – sugar garnish ; butter, powdered sugar

Combine all ingredients except garnish in a bowl; mix well. Drop batter by ¼ cupfulls onto a greased griddle set over medium heat. Flip pancakes when top starts to bubble. Continue to cook until golden on both sides. Serve with butter and powdered sugar.

Apple topping

To cook up a delicious topping for pancakes and waffles (and ice cream) melt 2 Tbl butter in a skillet over low heat. Stir in ¼ cup brown sugar and 2 cups thinly sliced apples. Cook & stir until tender.

Slow Cooker Cheesy Bacon Strata

- 10 eggs
- 2 ½ cups milk
- ½ tsp black pepper
- 1 (8oz) pkg Kraft shredded triple cheddar cheese, divided
- 16 slices French bread, toasted, cubed
- 10 slices bacon, cooked crumbled
- 4 green onions, sliced

Whisk eggs, milk and pepper in large bowl. Reserve ½ cup cheese. Add remaining cheese to egg mixture with remaining ingredients; mix well. Cut 3 (30 inch) of foil. Fold 1 sheet lengthwise in half twice; repeat with second sheet. Fold remaining sheet to fit inside back edge of slow cooker; place in slow cooker. Crisscross foil strips; use to line bottom and sides of cooker. Spray inside with cooking spray. Add egg mixture. If necessary press toast cubes into egg mixture with back of spoon to completely moisten toast cubes. Cook on low 4 hours, sprinkling with reserved cheese for the last 15 mins. Cool slightly. Use foil handles to transfer strata from slow cooker to platter; discard foil.

Ways Hams Enjoy The Hobby – Different Strokes!

Numerous Anonymous Sources!

- I like the capabilities it opens up for me. I can have a radio transceiver and use it to legally communicate with people all over the world, without being dependent on public or private infrastructure like phones or the Internet. If I want to, I can learn about the technology of radio and build my own equipment, so I'm not even dependent on radio manufacturers or the whims of international trade and supply chains. (In the U.S. building equipment without a license is legal so long as one doesn't transmit, but it's not that way everywhere.) I can also conduct research and try to develop new technologies for wireless communication. Most of the digital modes that are popular among hams today were unheard of 50 years ago. Many of them were developed by hams, for hams. I can talk to like-minded people around the world and share technical and other kinds of knowledge, and learn about how they live and what sort of things cause them joy or concern. I can provide assistance to others by helping people in disaster areas communicate with the outside world to request aid, or to pass info to family members about loved ones in the stricken area. (This requires training, practice, and an established group of hams with procedures already in place to give this kind of support. These are best done before disaster strikes.)

- I always say it's great hobby for those with short attention spans. There are so many rabbit holes to pursue and then circle back to that have been mentioned. A lot of it shares the same hardware, unlike other hobbies, like sports. Hard to use those golf clubs on the big camp out in the woods. There is also the element of meeting new people. Cell phones didn't fully replace ham radio, you can't call CQ on a cellphone and talk to/meet some random person.

- I like being able to throw a piece of wire up in a tree with relatively low power and talk halfway around the world . I like the challenge of making my own antennas on the cheap and do the same things guys pay boo coup bucks to do . I like ham radio because there is something for everybody be it digital, phone , CW , whatever there's always something to tickle one's fancy.

- It is the only communications technology available to the (licensed) public that will still work “off the grid” - without internet, phones, and even power out with our battery power radios. And most of us take pride in our operating skills with personal communications and public service needs.

CLUB INFORMATION

Website:

www.ragsclub.org

Mailing Address:

Box 88, Liverpool, NY 13088

President >> John Perkins
Vice President >> Mark Sloan
Vice President >> Doug Falcon
Secretary >> Jeff Plumb
Treasurer >> Jerry Wright
Hamfest Contact >> Jerry Wright
Public Service >> Walt Bordett
Health and Welfare >> Jerry Wright
Field Day >> Dave Rice
Membership >> Jerry Wright
Newsletter Editor >> Jerry Wright
Webmaster >> OPEN
Historian >> OPEN
Nominating Chairman >> Mark Eckert

>> k2VTT
>> KD2YVB
>> N2JOM
>> KD2CPT
>> NK2C
>> NK2C
>> N2IK
>> NK2C
>> KC2HO
>> NK2C
>> NK2C
>>
>>
>> K2MTE

Meetings:

2nd Thursday of month from Sept. to June

>> 315-399-8175 >>
>> 315-415-7789 >>
>> 315- 677-5124 >>
>> 315-755-8964 >>
>> 315-488-5383 >>
>> 315-727-2762 >>
>> 315-445-8161 >>
>> 315-488-5383 >>
>> 315-469-6009 >>
>> 315-488-5383 >>
>> 315-488-5383 >>
>>
>>
>> 315-672-5605 >>

Common email for all

is auto forwarded to each
Officer and Committee Head

w2aerags@gmail.com

REV. 09.05.2020

About Us

RAGS Review is our official newsletter.
We are a non-profit organization incorporated
by NYS in 1975.
Dues are payable yearly on April 1st
To join or renew, membership applications are available
at meetings and online.
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NEXT MEETING:
MAY 14, 2026 @ 7P

RAGS
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13088