

February 1, 2003



Public Service Events:

- April 27th—March of Dimes
- June 1st—American Diabetes Bike Tour
- July 11th—New York Philharmonic Concert



Inside this issue:

American Red Cross Class Schedules	1
New General Class	1
From the President	2
ENY-ECOM	2
Space shuttle lost with three amateur radio operators	3

The WEC Agram

American Red Cross Announces 2003 Disaster Training Schedules

The American Red Cross has announced the Community Disaster Education course schedule for 2003. They would like to expose as many people as possible to the ARC Disaster Preparedness training courses. The ARC encourages you to take as many of these courses as you can. If you do not remember which courses you have taken please feel free to contact the chapter. They have a database with the current records.

If you would like to take one of these courses please call the ARC office in White Plains to sign up with either Gary or Tina. The classes are open to anyone, however you must take Intro to Disaster Services as the prerequisite to all other Disaster courses.

For those of you who have not taken Intro to Disaster Services, this is an excellent course which will give you a good overview of what the American Red Cross

does, and gives us an opportunity to understand how we fit in.

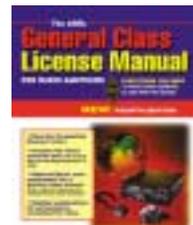
For more course descriptions and sign up information, see the WECA [web site](#) or contact [Tom Raffaelli](#), WB2NHC.

New "on the air" General Class Starts March 12th

A free "on the air" class for everyone interested in upgrading to a General Class license starts March 12th at 8:00PM—on the air at 147.060!

Sandy Fried, N2SF, and Jeffrey Steinberg, K2MIT, will be the instructors.

Sandy and Jeff request that all participants purchase the "General Class License Manual" from the ARRL. You can order it online for \$15.00 at <http://www.arrl.org/catalog/?item=8004>.



INTRODUCTION TO DISASTER SERVICES

- Saturday- March 29 9 am - 12 pm

MASS CARE OVERVIEW

- Saturday- March 29 12:30 pm – 3:30 pm

LOGISTICS OVERVIEW AND SIMULATION

- Saturday- April 5 9:00am - 4:00pm

FIRST AID FOR DAT RESPONDERS

- Thursday- April 10 7:00pm - 10:00pm

SHELTER OPERATIONS

- Saturday April 12 9:00am- 12:00

(Continued on page 4)



Help!

They need some

hams!

Not just any hams,

but us!

Please participate in

at least one public

service event in 2003!



From the President...

It seems everyone has been talking about the weather lately. That includes the WECA members who have taken part in the Skywarn Watches during our recent snowstorms. These periodic snowfalls provide us with an excellent opportunity to practice and prepare for a weather emergency that can strike at any time. Thanks to all who participated and monitored the net during the recent snows. A special thanks goes to Alessandro, N2TWN, for his fine job as Net Control for the Skywarn Nets.

Frank Fallon, N2FF, the ARRL Hudson Division Director spoke at the January meeting and brought us up to date on the happenings in Newington. Of particular interest to us, was the update he provided on the New

York State Tower Bill. The legislation has been reintroduced in the Senate. We are awaiting a sponsor for the Assembly version of the bill. Frank and others will be following the progress of the bill. Stay tuned here and in the Hudson Division Beacon for any new developments. When the time is right, you will be asked to write to your State Senator and Assemblyman for support.

Russ, N2AMP, has booked several interesting speakers for the coming meetings. Watch the WECA Web page and this newsletter for the schedule. As a reminder the next General Membership Meeting will be on Monday February 10th at the County Center. The next Board Meeting will be on Monday February 24th at the Fire Training Center. All are

welcome to both meetings.

Speaking of meetings, the minutes from the Board Meeting will be posted each month on the WECA Web Page (www.weca.org) beginning with the January 27th meeting. This is a good way for you to stay informed about what your board is doing for the club and for you.

Thanks to Grant, KC2FNU, who has made arrangements to get four computers donated to WECA. These computers will be used to upgrade the Club's digital modes operations.

See you at the meeting on the 10th.

*73's
Bob, KC2FYZ*

Invitation to Join the ENY-ECOM Discussion Group

The Eastern New York Emergency Communications (ENY-ECOM) online discussion group has been around since 1996 and we're about due for another general invitation announcement since there have been many new ARES/RACES members in the section lately.

If you are not part of this already, you are invited to join. Sign up at: <http://mailman.qth.net/mailman/listinfo/eny-ecom>

Everyone is welcome; this is not restricted to just ARRL ENY.

ENY-ECOM works just like other

online discussion groups such as YAHOO. Members have been encouraged to take advantage of it to publicize ARES/RACES nets, meetings, web sites, ask for volunteers for public service events & emergencies, as well as share useful information, ask questions, and have open discussions on ARES/RACES topics with other hams in this area who have interests in emergency communications. This has been part of an ongoing effort over the past several years to bring the ENY ARES/RACES community closer together.

I will be making a few announcements on this group shortly.

If you know of anyone who may be interested in joining, please feel free to distribute this invitation to them.

If anyone has any questions regarding this, please don't hesitate to give me a shout.

*Thanks & 73,
Ken Akasofu KL7JCQ
ARRL Eastern New York
Section Emergency Coordinator*

Three Amateur Radio Operators Lost in Space Shuttle Accident

(Feb 3, 2003 ARRL, Newington, CT) -- The flags of the United States, the ARRL and the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) fly at half staff today at ARRL Headquarters as the Amateur Radio community has joined the rest of the world in mourning the loss of the seven shuttle *Columbia* astronauts. Through the Space Amateur Radio Experiment (SAREX) and--more recently--the Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) programs, amateurs have enjoyed a special relationship with the astronaut corps, many of whom are licensees. Three of the *Columbia* astronauts were Amateur Radio operators. The ARISS program is a joint effort of AMSAT, ARRL and NASA



We're on the web!
www.weca.org

New Year of Public Service Activities

WECA's Public Service Director, Robert, N2TSE, has been working hard organizing support for a number of public service activities in 2003.

We start off the year with the March of Dimes walk in April, followed by the American Diabetes Bike Tour (the Tour de Cure) in June.



The highlight of the summer will be the New York Philharmonic Concert in July. It's a great event, and a great opportunity to show amateur radio in operation. Last year, WECA demonstrated ATV (amateur television)



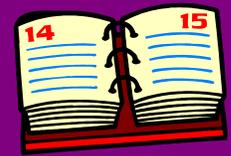
with great success.



The fall brings the American Heart Association, JOTA (Jamboree on the Air), the Mamaroneck Turkey Trot and the New York City Marathon. We wrap up the year with Santa Claus at Blythedale Children's Hospital.

Robert asks that you participate in at least one, preferably more, public service events. You'll find it rewarding, and a great way to spend time to spend with fellow hams and promote amateur radio.

If you're interested in getting your new license laminated, contact Robert, N2TSE. He has the lamination equipment and will do it for a nominal charge.



Mark your calendars!

Next member meeting--Monday, February 10th at the Westchester County Center, 7:00PM. The featured speaker will be our own Gene Skopal, AE2F who will discuss the challenge of Ham Radio Contesting.

The social half hour starts at 7:00PM and Gene's presentation begins at 7:30PM.

See you there!

February Board meeting February 24th at 8 PM Valhalla Fire Training Center



WESTCHESTER EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS ASSOCIATION

P. O. Box 831
Sleepy Hollow, New York
10591-0831

Phone: 914-741-6606
Email: wecagram@weca.org
<http://www.weca.org>

Editor:
Lyle Anderson, K2LCA
K2LCA@weca.org

The WECAGRAM is the official newsletter of the Westchester Emergency Communications Association, Inc., a Special Service Club affiliated with the ARRL, ARES, the Westchester County Office of Disaster and Emergency Services, RACES, and the American Red Cross, and is a member of the Westchester County Emergency Medical Services Council.

Any questions, comments, items for Swap and Shop, commercial advertising, suggestions, contributions and letters for inclusion should be sent to the editor at wecagram@weca.org or via postal mail at 45 Hamilton Road, Chappaqua, NY 10514. Submissions via e-mail to wecagram@weca.org would be greatly appreciated. Submissions may be edited for style and space.

The deadline for inclusion in the newsletter is the third Monday of the preceding month. Timely publication relies on prompt submissions.

All submissions are expressly the opinion of the authors, and do not necessarily reflect the official position of WECA, its officers, directors or the editor.

Copyright © 2002 Westchester Emergency Communications Association, Inc. The WECAGRAM may be quoted without prior permission, provided proper credit is given to WECA, the WECAGRAM and the author of the quoted article. WECA would appreciate receiving a copy of all publications that include quotes from the WECAGRAM.

WECA wishes to exchange newsletters with other clubs. All clubs wishing to receive the WECAGRAM in exchange for copies of their publications should contact the editor.

WECA gladly accepts donations of equipment in new or used condition (e.g. from estates). Please contact WECA by e-mail, postal mail or telephone for further information.

WECA operates the following repeaters under call sign WB2ZII/R. All repeaters use PL 2A (114.8 Hz).

**147.060(+), 224.400(-) and
447.475(-) MHz**

Officers and Directors 2002-3

President	Bob Muller	KC2FYZ
Executive VP	Russ Stevenson	N2AMP
General Counsel	Michael Weitzner	N2EJI
Treasurer	Andy Farber	N4OOX
Secretary	Milt Galamison	KC2GWK
Trustee	Paul Vydareny	WB2VUK
Director-at-Large	Stan Rothman	WA2NRV
Digital Modes	Rich Benda	WB2QJA
Public Service	Robert Kantor	N2TSE
Membership	Ron Devenuti	N2TJE
Public Relations	Efrem Acosta	W2CZ
Newsletter	Lyle Anderson	K2LCA
Education	Jeffrey Steinberg	K2MIT
Emergency Services	Tom Raffaelli	WB2NHC
Engineering	Robert Wilson	N2DVQ
County Liaison	Raymond Albanese	N2FXU
Repeater Operations	Dwight P. Smith	N2FMC
Activities	Jim Faulkner	N2WQG

(Continued from page 1)

SHELTER SIMULATION

- Saturday- April 12 1 pm - 4 pm

CPR FOR DAT RESPONDERS

- Thursday- April 24 7:00pm –10:00 pm

DISASTER HEALTH SERVICES: AN OVERVIEW

- Saturday - April 26 9:00am –5:00 pm

FAMILY SERVICE (Entire course-Part I & II in a 1-day format)

- Saturday, May 3 9 am - 5 pm

DISASTER MENTAL HEALTH (New required course for D.A.T members)

- Tuesday, May 6 7 pm - 10 pm

PREVENTING DISEASE TRANSMISSION (Required course for D.A.T members)

- Thursday, May 15 7:00 pm – 10:00 pm

E.R.V. TRAINING

- Saturday, May 17 9 am - 4 pm

DISASTER ACTION TEAM ORIENTATION

- Saturday, May 31 9 am – 12:00 pm