

April 2004



**Upcoming Public Service Events:**

- **Sunday, April 25<sup>th</sup>—**  
**March of Dimes Walk**
- Sunday, May 23<sup>rd</sup>—  
Salute to Israel Parade,  
New York City
- Sunday, June 13<sup>rd</sup>—  
American Diabetes  
“Tour de Cure”
- Sunday, September 26<sup>th</sup>  
Golden Apple Bike Tour
- Friday, October 1<sup>st</sup>—  
Leukemia/Lymphoma  
walk, White Plains
- Saturday, October 16<sup>th</sup>—  
Jamboree on the Air  
(JOTA)/Thunderbird  
Games for the Boy  
Scouts of America,  
Croton Point Park.
- *If you have an APRS  
setup, you are  
encouraged to bring it  
to events! Want to  
learn more about APRS?  
Please join for a public  
service event!*



Table of Contents

- 1 Thank you NX2T!  
April—July Events
- 2 Thank you KL7JQC!  
WECAWear  
Welcome New Hams!  
ARES/RACES Training  
From Our Activities Director
- 3 From Our President  
BPL Primer  
New Licensing Proposal  
From Our Director at Large
- 4 WECA Officers & Directors

# The WEC Agram

Thank you to Dr. Starke, NX2T!

We'd like to thank Dr. Charles Starke, NX2T, for his presentation at our March 2004 membership meeting! Dr. Starke narrated pictures from his trip to Antarctica, including his working a historic station there!



## April – July Events Calendar

- April 1 – 8:30 P.M. ARES/RACES Training Net, 147.060
- April 4–8:30 AM – Yonkers Amateur Radio Club VEC Session, Yonkers, New York
- April 8–7PM-WECA VEC Session, Valhalla, New York
- April 10–9 AM–Larkfield Amateur Radio Club VEC Session, Huntington, New York
- April 17 – 8AM–Roseland Amateur Radio Club Hamfest, West Orange, New Jersey
- April 18–8AM-Mount Beacon Amateur Radio Club Hamfest, Poughkeepsie, New York
- April 19–6:30 PM–Columbia University VE Team Amateur Radio Club VEC Session, New York, New York
- April 23–7 PM–Bergen ARA VEC Session, Washington Township, New Jersey
- May 2–8:30 AM–Yonkers Amateur Radio Club VEC Session, Yonkers, New York
- May 6 – 8:30 P.M. ARES/RACES Training Net, 147.060
- May 13–7PM-WECA VEC Session, Valhalla, New York
- May 17–6:30 PM–Columbia University VE Team Amateur Radio Club VEC Session, New York, New York
- May 18–7:30 PM–W5YI Pelham VEC Session, Pelham, New York
- May 21–7 PM–Bergen ARA VEC Session, Washington Township, New Jersey
- May 22– TBA–East Greenbush Amateur Radio Club Hamfest, Rensselaer, New York
- May 23-8AM-Great South Bay Amateur Radio Club Hamfest, Massapequa, New York
- May 29-8AM-Bergen Amateur Radio Association Hamfest & VEC, Washington Township, New Jersey
- June 6–9AM-Hall of Science Amateur Radio Club Hamfest, Kew Gardens, New York
- June 6–8:30 AM – Yonkers Amateur Radio Club VEC Session, Yonkers, New York
- June 10–7PM-WECA VEC Session, Valhalla, New York
- June 13-9AM-Long Island Mobile Amateur Radio Club Hamfest, Patchogue, New York
- July 4–8:30 AM – Yonkers Amateur Radio Club VEC Session, Yonkers, New York
- July 8–7PM-WECA VEC Session, Valhalla, New York
- July 11-8AM-Sussex County Amateur Radio Club Hamfest, Augusta, New Jersey

Please note: Hamfest and VEC information from the ARRL website, Hudson division. *Many VEC sessions require a call-ahead.* Would you like to see an event added to this calendar? Please e-mail [wecagram@weca.org](mailto:wecagram@weca.org).

## Get your official WECA wear!

If you haven't already, please consider getting your official WECA wear! They're good to have for public service events, ARES/RACES events, and meetings!

The following are the current prices for WECAwear items. For more information, please contact Grant, KC2FNU, or check out

[http://www.weca.org/wecawear\\_order\\_form.pdf](http://www.weca.org/wecawear_order_form.pdf)

Item	Price
Long Sleeve Polo	\$ 18
Short Sleeve Polo	\$ 23
Short Sleeve Dress Shirt	\$ 20
Long Sleeve Dress Shirt	\$ 25
WECA Cap	\$ 9
Firefighter workshirt	\$ 40
Work Jacket	\$ 60
Three-Season Jacket	\$ 50
Vermont Parka	\$ 65
Call Sign/WECA embroidery on a garment you provide	\$7

## Upcoming WECA Membership meetings:

April—Peter Brandenberg, K2MMT, QRP

May—To Be Announced

June—Jim Faulkner, N2WQG, Field Day

## Congrats and welcome to our new hams!

Congratulations to:

Maryann Halbwachs	KC2MOZ
Olivia Ford	KC2MPA
Gilbert Simpkins	KC2MPB
Stuart Bethel	KC2MPD
Greg Lange	KC2MPE
Irene Taliaferro	KC2MPF
Phil O'Keefe	KC2MPH
John Miller	KC2MPI
Dick Knight	KC2MPJ
Frank Morganthaler	KC2MPK
Manuel Acuna, Jr.	KC2MPL

It was my pleasure to teach WECA's latest Technician Licensing Course held each Thursday for five weeks in January and February. Twenty three students started the course, fourteen took the exam and eleven passed the Technician exam. Two even passed the General written exam. It was a great class, most of whom are Red Cross disaster services volunteers. They will use their new privileges to communicate at disaster scenes. Please give them a WECA welcome when you

hear them on the repeater. We finished up with a New Ham Seminar where we demonstrated the latest radio gear, showed off our jump bags and even held a mock drill to get the newcomers trained in emergency communications.

73s,  
Tom,  
WB2NHC

## Thank you Ken Akasofu, KL7JCQ!



Thank you, Ken, KL7JCQ, for your presentation to us in our March meeting on emergency communications!

*Upcoming Red Cross Emergency/Disaster Training Courses:*

Family Service – April 3, 9AM-5PM

Human Resources in Disaster – April 20, 6PM-10PM

E.R.V. Training – April 24, 9AM-2PM

Shelter Operations/Shelter Simulation – May 8, 9AM-4PM

Disaster Health Services: An Overview May 15, 9AM-12PM

Disaster Health Services: Simulation, May 15, 12:30-4PM

Mass Casualty Disasters – May 22, 9AM-5PM

First Aid / CPT for DRT Members– TBA

## From our Activities director...

*The nominating Committee members are:*

*Jim Faulkner N2WQG*

*Jim Miller WA2UMP, and*

*Ann-Marie Rodier KC2MFF*

*We are seeking nominations for:*

*President*

*Executive Vice President*

*Vice President- General Counsel*

*Treasurer*

*Director at Large*

*Even numbered Year positions*

*Public Service*

*Digital Modes*

*Membership Services*

*Public Relations*

*Emergency Services*

*If anyone is interested in running for these positions, or has any questions, please email us at our WECA.org addresses!*

*On an other note, please remember that **Field Day** is just around the corner, and we'd like as much participation as possible! Dana has volunteered to deliver the tents and antennas for the event. so WECA needs you!!!!*

*All volunteers who participate will have a menu item named for them, and all Captains (Yes, you can be one!) will get an autographed recipe book of emergency rations such as "Field Day Filet Migion". and "RF Shrimp" and of course, "Radiating Pizza!"*

## ARES/RACES Training

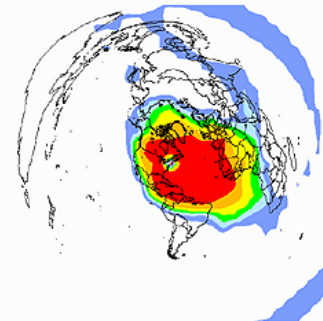
The Westchester County ARES / RACES net meets on the first Thursday of each month on the WECA repeater. The net starts at 8:30 pm on 147.06 (PL 114.8, +600 kHz). The next training net will be on Thursday, April 1st at 2030 hrs. All are welcome and anyone looking for more information and other details, please contact Dennis Hanlon at KB1ISO@weca.org.



## A BPL Primer

Please visit the ARRL website for more information about this proposal. This is a must read article for all ham operators! Recent RFI tests in Briarcliff reported 20 over 9 readings from 2 MHz to 80 MHz with hash-like sounding noise. Needless to say, this has the potential to disrupt and/or prevent outright our ability to communicate via HF throughout Westchester!

<http://www.arrl.org/bpl>



## From our president...

Congrats again to our eleven new hams! We're also in the movie business - Jim Faulkner and I videotaped the course - we're planning on packaging it up on DVD, and we'll have it available for members and others in the future.

The public service events for 2004 are starting to flow in. Robert has several starting in April - they're great for training and help out the community as well. See the Wecagram for more information and make sure you at least participate in one event this year!

Let's all hope for some warm weather!

73's  
Lyle, K2LCA



## License Restructuring...

The ARRL will ask the FCC to create a new entry-level Amateur Radio license that would include HF phone privileges without requiring a Morse code test. The League also will propose consolidating all current licensees into three classes, retaining the Element 1 Morse requirement - now 5WPM - only for the highest class.

The ARRL Board of Directors overwhelmingly approved the plan January 16 during its Annual Meeting in Windsor, Connecticut. The proposals, developed by the ARRL Executive Committee following a Board instruction last July, are in response to changes made in Article 25 of the international Radio Regulations at World Radiocommunication Conference 2003 (WRC-03).

FAQ: <http://www.arrl.org/news/restructuring2/faq.html>

(reprinted in part from the ARRL website)

## From our director at large...

I am happy to announce that the WECA ELMER program is working well. Currently or within the last few months we have had several members take advantage of the ELMER program. If you need assistance with a radio-related problem, or just want someone to work with you as a second pair of eyes, contact Fran-N2OLU or any board member.

Along the same lines, the WA2NRV loan closet for WECA members has a couple of radios, power supplies and assorted equipment out in the field.

Our VE sessions are now being given monthly, on the second Thursday evening. The start time is 7:00 PM at the Fire Training Center Dana Road Valhalla, NY. Contact Sandy-N2SF or Stan-WA2NRV for details. During the last few months, N2SF-Sandy, K2ZVI-Nick, KC2CLZ-Dana, K4ZGE-Les, W2NR-Mike, and WA2NRV-Stan were VEs, and we had over a dozen test takers become amateurs or upgrade their license class. If you would like to participate as a VE, contact N2SF or WA2NRV.

Remember, if you have any questions or projects for WECA, please let me know!

Tom completed the Tech course, and at the last VE session we had nineteen test takers, most of whom either upgraded or came away as a new hams. Congratulations to all, and to the 6 VE's who provided the opportunity for them!

73s,

Stan WA2NRV



Mark your calendars!

Next member meeting - April 12th at the Westchester County Center, 7:00PM. The speaker will be Peter Brandenburg, K2MMT, about catching the QRP bug!

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

See you there!

**Board meetings:**  
**April 26th—8PM**  
**May 24th—8PM**  
**June 28th—8PM**

**Fire Training Center**  
**4 Dana Road**  
**Valhalla, NY 10595**



**WESTCHESTER EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS ASSOCIATION**

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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](mailto:wecagram@weca.org) or via postal mail at 45 Hamilton Road, Chappaqua, NY 10514. Submissions via e-mail to [wecagram@weca.org](mailto: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.

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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 2003-2004**

President	Lyle Anderson	<a href="#">K2LCA</a>
Executive VP	Russ Stevenson	<a href="#">N2AMP</a>
General Counsel	Michael Weitzner	<a href="#">N2EJ</a>
Treasurer	Andy Farber	<a href="#">N4OOX</a>
Secretary	Milt Galamison	<a href="#">KC2GWK</a>
Trustee	Paul Vydareny	<a href="#">WB2VUK</a>
Director-at-Large	Stan Rothman	<a href="#">WA2NRV</a>
Digital Modes	Rich Benda	<a href="#">WB2QJA</a>
Public Service	Robert Kantor	<a href="#">N2TSE</a>
Membership	Ron Devenuti	<a href="#">N2TJE</a>
Publicity	Efrem Acosta	<a href="#">W2CZ</a>
Newsletter	Michael E. Legatt	<a href="#">KB2PMD</a>
Education	Jeffrey Steinberg	<a href="#">K2MIT</a>
Emergency Services	Tom Raffaelli	<a href="#">WB2NHC</a>
Engineering	Robert Wilson	<a href="#">N2DVQ</a>
Repeater Operations	Dwight P. Smith	<a href="#">N2FMC</a>
Activities	Jim Faulkner	<a href="#">N2WQC</a>
Information Technology	Peter Johnson	<a href="#">N2TFC</a>
County Liason	Liam Murphy	<a href="#">KC2MFG</a>
President Emeritus	Bob Miller	<a href="#">KC2FYZ</a>

**Time has run out !**

If you did not renew your WECA membership for 2003/2004, then your WECA online roster listing and "WECA" email address have been dropped from our website at [www.weca.org](http://www.weca.org). If you would like to continue your WECA email forwarding, then please renew your membership with Ron / N2TJE by calling him at 914.723.6289 or email at [membership@weca.org](mailto:membership@weca.org).

73, Peter Johnson / N2TFC