



SARA NEWS

Schenectady Amateur Radio Association Inc.
"Service Through Amateur Radio"

Founded 1930

June, 2001

K2AE Repeaters

Meeting Monday, June 4, 2001 at 7:30 PM, Olin Hall, Union College

Electronic SARA News

It appears that the shift toward electronic distribution is mostly successful. The feed back has been positive, especially regarding the introduction of color (black & white only in the print version) into SARA News. To really make it a winner, we need more of the members on the e-mail distribution list.

All it takes is an e-mail address that will accept attachments and Adobe Acrobat software to read and/or print it. The software is free from many sites on the web or directly from the adobe site <www.adobe.com>.

With the software installed, you only have to double click the PDF file and SARA News will come up on the screen. What could be easier.

If you'd like to test the process, you can get a sample copy of SARA News by contacting

Tim, W2UI <longt@empireone.net> or

Phil, KB2HQ <kb2hq@nycap.RR.com> by e-mail.

Give it a try! You'll get a more interesting newsletter and the club will save some bucks in postage—they are going up again soon.

Elections Slate

Nominees for the 2001-2002 year slate are:

President: Rob Leiden, KR2L

Vice President: Brian Macherone, AB2IU

Secretary: Jay Freud, K2QNU

Treasurer: George Williams, W2CSN

Directors: Paul Siemers, WY2F - Director as Past President;
Tim Long, W2UI; Bob Raffaele, W2XM and Emanuel
Shulman, AA2TT.

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Annual Meeting, Broughton Award and Field Day

Rob, KR2L says that our June meeting will be a busy one. We will hold our annual Business meeting, we will elect next year's officers, have an intensive overview of field day preparations, and time permitting, we will see a movie about Kenwood's newest and greatest device, the new HF rig 2001.

As long time members know, SARA conducts its business during the year at the Board of Directors meetings (open to all members), leaving the regular meeting for the enjoyment of the program. Once a year, however, at the Annual Meeting, the entire club participates.



Its also a great time to get fired up for Ham Radio's premier event, Field Day!

Come and join us to honor this years Henry Primm Broughton Award recipient, too. Its always the highlight of the

evening's agenda.

And, of course, we always like to drool over new gear! Hopefully we'll have time for the movie about the TS 2000.



From the Board

Meetings - Thursday preceding the SARA meeting.
All members are welcome!

SARA Board Meeting Minutes for May 3, 2001

1. The meeting was called to order by Paul, WY2F, at 7:08 PM. Those present were: Jay, K2QNU; Dennis, N2LBT; Bob, W2XM; Bill, W2DHT; Rob, KR2L; George, W2CNS and Tim, W2UI.
2. The SARA bylaws call for all new member applicants to be first published in the SARA News prior to review by the Board of Directors. The membership committee is happy to present the following applicants for membership: Richard Apple, K2UTI, R. David Axton, KC2HFY, Frank Frizone, KA2QUE and Todd Langston, KC2CGN.
3. The treasurer's report was given. The SARA Fleet checking account has \$9559, as of 5/2/2001. The Broughton Fund has the Fleet CD for \$5000 and the Schwab money market account balance at \$4165 as of 3/31/2001. The Broughton fund also holds 126 shares of stock. SARA now has 152 members paid through June 2001.
4. The minutes of the previous Board of Director's meeting were accepted as published in SARA News.
5. Public Service - The Public Service Coordinator is AA2CW, Ken Clikeman. You can hear him on the 2 meter Sunday RACES/ARES nets on Sundays at 1:30 PM as he gives the details of upcoming Public Service Events, places to meet, and how long the events will be. Anyone wishing to participate in an event should listen for AA2CW on the 147.060 MHz SARA repeater.
6. VE Sessions - Bill, KG2AC, reports that VE sessions are being run at each monthly SARA meeting in a room near to Olin Hall at the Union College Campus. Please call for registration.
7. Programs - Rob, KR2L, says that our June meeting will be a busy one. We will hold our annual Business meeting and elect next year's officers. Plus, we'll have an intensive overview of field day preparations and, time permitting, we will see a movie about Kenwood's newest and greatest device, the TS 2000.
8. Nominations Committee - Committee report was given by Bill, W2DHT as follows: President - Rob Leiden, KR2L; Vice President - Brian Macherone, AB2IU; Secretary - Jay Freud K2QNU; Treasurer - George Williams, W2CSN and Directors - Paul Siemers, WY2F; Tim Long, W2UI; Bob Raffaele, W2XM, and Emanuel Shulman, AA2TT.
9. Elections Committee - Chairman is to be Dennis Hudson, N2LBT. Dennis will organize a committee to run the election proceeding. Per the SARA bylaws, nominations from the floor will be accepted prior to the balloting, upon the submission of a petition signed by five members in good standing.
10. Field Day - Meeting is to be held at FD Chairman QTH, on Tuesday following the board meeting, KR2L to outline Field Day plans.
11. Broughton Award - Nominations have been solicited. The

Continued on page 4

The Trading Post

**FOR SALE
OR TRADE**

FOR SALE - Hallicrafters Model S-94 receiver (30-50 MHz.), Commodore VIC-20 computer, Gonset Communicator 2 meter AM rig, Hallicrafters HT-37 HF CW & SSB transmitter, Heathkit Audio Generator, Oscilloscope, SWR meter and other items too numerous to mention. Prices and terms are negotiable. Contact Stan Israel, WA2BAH@webtv.net or 631-0419.

Mirage 2 meter amplifier, 144 to 148 MHz, 10 W in - 80 W out (1 in/15 out), like new. \$50. Walt, W2KE, 346-2997.

Classic gear. Sonar Radio Corp SRT 120 80-10 m xmtr; RME VHF152A 11/10,6,2 meter converter; 2m am transmitter with 832 final; power supply; Hallicrafters speaker; Eico 352 bar generator; Sylvania 134Z polyster; Sola constant v transformer; dynamotor. Jim, K2PK, 399-1867.

WANTED

The scouts of KA2BSA are looking for 2 laptop computers with Windows 95 or 98 for their next amateur project. Anyone willing to donate or knows someone willing to donate such items to our scouting educational ham radio program, please contact me at ka2bsa@nycap.RR.com or by calling 765-2069 evenings. Thank you in advance. Ray Ginter, N2ZQF.

A dry cell battery case(EDH-5) for an ALINCO model DJ-F1T. If any one can help please call 399-3464 or rhomic@juno.com
Ray Homic KB2VUS

FREE

Hardline, 7/8, 1/2 & 3/4; Various lengths. Some 50 ohm, some 75 ohm. Microphones (both mobile and base) & speakers from Mastr Pro rigs. Repeater pole mount cabinet with what's left of the SARA Prog Line repeater (bring a friend when you move this one). Low band mobile antennas (can be cut for 6 meters) with body mounts and heavy duty springs. Misc. enclosures, racks, odd-ball power supplies, old test gear, cooling fans, etc. Call ahead and bring a truck! Phil, KB2HQ, 377-8938.
kb2hq@nycap.RR.com

NOTE: All ads will expire with this issue. If you wish to post any new ones for the September issue send them in by August 15.

To post an ad write: sara@e-groups.com, or call Phil, KB2HQ, 377-8938 -- *before 9:30 PM, please*. You can also send direct to kb2hq@nycap.RR.com.

ALERT!

To Licensed Amateur Radio Operators in the Capital District!

It seems that one of our fellow "hams" was stopped and arrested this past weekend for possessing a "receiver capable of receiving police frequencies." Seems that Police Officer Randy Pastore of the North Greenbush Police Department decided to pull our colleague over for driving with his driving lights on and forgetting to turn on his headlights, a fair stop I would say from my own years in law enforcement.

The officer decided to grill our colleague on whether he had a scanner. The ham explained that it was a 2-way radio. Then Officer Pastore saw a handy talkie in the back seat which was not even turned on, and asked about it. When our colleague showed him how it worked and that it was on a local ham frequency the officer grabbed it and started fiddling with it. When he discovered that it in fact, had a police frequency in it, our colleague was summarily arrested and placed in the back of Officer Pastore's patrol car while his vehicle was searched, without a search warrant! Officer Pastore also took the portable radio, not even providing a receipt for it!

Officer Pastore's attention was called to the section of the New York State Vehicle & Traffic Law that refers to duly licensed hams and the officer's response was "we'll see about that in court."

It sounds like this officer needs to review the Vehicle & Traffic Law and understand why that section of law was passed in the first place. Our colleague now must bear the stress and expense of going to court. I wonder if the hams who now assist local law enforcement, like on the yearly pumpkin patrol, should be concerned about also being arrested.

I send this out just as an alert as to what is going on. There are many good cops in the Capital District but it seems that there are a few who are bored with traditional law enforcement. Forewarned is forearmed. de Bill Roth, WA2PVV. Thanks to Stan, WA2BAH, for the posting

*There are three types of people
in this world... The
Optimist, who sees the glass
as half full, the Pessimist who
sees the glass as half empty,
and the Engineer who sees the
glass as too big.
...Anon*

Antennas and weather

Continued from last month

The question was: "What seems to work best toward waterproofing connectors?" The replies continue.

Brad Pioveson, W9FX: My career was spent as an underground bituminous coal mine maintenance manager. Our insulating materials of choice for cable jacket repairs included Scotch 130C self vulcanizing tape and Scotch 33+. The 130C, if properly applied, will form a barrier impenetrable by water. By itself, however, it won't stand up to much abuse. Therefore, the outer jacket of the repair is made by applying the plastic 33+ material as an abrasion resistant material. The method used involved a double layer wrap of 33+ over the exposed connection. This prevents the 130C from becoming impossible to remove, should the need ever arise. Follow with a double wrap layer of 130C making certain that, a) the 'sticky' side is up when you apply it and, b) stretching the tape at least 33% when applying it (it'll tolerate up to 50% of stretch). Finally, the outer coating is another double wrap layer, also applied under tension, of 33+.

Rick Abbott, KB0LGB: I use the brush-on liquid electrical tape made by star brite. Two coats with 30 minutes between applications will do it.

Stan Laine, WA1ECF: I use SCOTCH #88 black electrical tape and the SCOTCH putty tape. After the connectors are mechanically mated and snugged up, wrap the putty tape, stretched thin, over the metal connectors and at least 1" above and below the connectors. The putty tape is used to fill in voids and to make the joint smoother. Wrap the #88 tape around the joint starting in the middle, wrap to one side with a 1/2 overlap, then wrap to the other side, then back to the middle. Cut with a knife or scissors, with 2" remaining. Do not stretch out the last 2", just wrap it up.

Ian White, G3SEK: I don't use the putty tape to fill in voids in in-line connectors, but do sometimes use the glue-lined heat-shrink sleeving to cover the join between the connector and the cable. Sometimes I wrap it as well, sometimes not. Whatever, I never rely only on the waterproofing of the connector itself - not even for a single weekend. Cheers from rainy England!

Jay Kesterson, K0GU: Everyone seems to have their own plan. I wrap the connection in Scotch 33, spray Krylon clear coat over the tape and onto adjacent surfaces, let dry, add another layer of 33 and Krylon, let dry, then finish with another layer of tape. On a hot day I also include one beer each time the Krylon is drying :-).

de: Joe, K1JT

Ya pays yur money and takes yur choice. Ed.

ARRL/FCC/NYS

ONLINE QSLING COMES CLOSER

The ARRL Membership Services Committee (N2FF is Chairman) is developing a plan to implement electronic QSL verification for all ARRL Awards including DXCC. Dave Patton, NT1N, QST cover-boy for April 2001 and Assistant to Dave Sumner, is the staff person detailed to implementing the project is currently working with consultants to specify the software that will need to be written to implement the program. While exact details are still to be worked out there are NO plans to accept laser or ink jet printed QSL cards for ARRL awards. When implemented ARRL expects to be able to accept logs from expeditions and DX stations the way it currently accepts contest logs via e-mail. Those wishing credit for awards such as DXCC will eventually be able to check the status of their QSOs and apply for awards on line. The project has been dubbed "Log Book of the World." No firm date has been yet set for implementation as the software still has yet to be written and tested but it could happen within a year.

NYS Ham Plates

Shortly prior to the recent SARA meeting, a few of us met informally and one of the topics we discussed was the new NY license plates being issued and how it would effect our special ham plates. The day following our discussion the paper work arrived at WR2L. Following the written instructions because we had a ham plate, we went to the Schenectady Motor Vehicle office which now is on lower State Street just below Erie Blvd. There is easy parking off Liberty Street. As a believer in "a picture is worth a thousand words," I took the present plate off the van and carried it into the office rather than try to explain what plate I had and what design I wished to retain. No problem. The ham plates with the tower and antenna logo are all new enough that the state is not replacing them. Just sign the paper work, arrange for the payment and it is all over. They are not providing new plates at this time for the stylized ham plate. If you have one, you keep it. That's the answer we received here in Schenectady. de: Bill, WR2I

Delegation Promotes NYS Antenna Bill

A delegation of four from the ARRL Hudson Division recently trekked to the state capital of Albany on April 17 to garner support for New York's Amateur Radio antenna bill. Hudson Division Director Frank Fallon, N2FF, reports the group met for nearly five hours with Assembly and Senate members and staffers as well as with Gov. George Pataki's ass't counsel, Greg Allen.

An effort to incorporate the wording of the limited federal preemption known as PRB-1 into New York's statutes fell short of its mark last year. Fallon says he's more optimistic this time around, now that companion bills have been introduced in the Assembly and Senate, designated A 1565 and S 2893. Accompanying Fallon on the visits were Assistant Hudson Division Directors Gerry Agliata, W2GLA, and Diane Ortiz, K2DO, and Eastern New York Local Government Liaison Ray Wemple. There has been some movement on the bills. de: N2FF



From the Editor's Shack Another Season

It's been an interesting year for ham radio: nationally, regionally and locally. On the national scene, we have a new FCC Chairman that seem to have some smarts. No track record as yet, but the early reports are that he plans improvements in the agency.

We can hope the improvements are to our advantage.

On the state front, much progress has been made on a NYS PRB-1 law. It's not there yet but things look good for action this session. There is some concern with the proposed "hands free" cell phone bills. Exemptions for hams are being explored and will most likely be included in whatever is finally passed.

Locally, the Saratoga tower case moves on to Federal Court. The City of Saratoga is adamant that there won't be a tower in Randy Palmer's back yard, despite PRB-1. They gave no accommodation, much less a reasonable accommodation! SARA also moves forward. The clubs new meeting place, Union College, has received mixed reviews. On one hand, the facilities are great for presentations and the meeting room is free. The difficulty of finding the meeting room and the lack of refreshments are on the down side. The trashing of the SARA reflector sure hasn't been a high point of the year! Guess we'll just have to chalk it up to some small minds with too much time on their hands.

Thanks for the opportunity to edit SARA News! And much thanks to the in-house proof reader, Bette, KA2AME for keeping things in English. Dennis Hudson, N2LBT and Tim Long, W2UI, deserve a round of applause for their, not inconsiderable, efforts in getting the publication to you, both by mail and electronically.

See you all in September, or hopefully sooner. de: Phil, KB2HQ

Minutes

Continued from page 2

missing key has been found and will be transferred from N2OJY to Don Walsh, WA2TSW. The May meeting will be the last chance to nominate a deserving ham for the Broughton Award. This year's presenter of the Award will be Phil, KB2HQ.

12. Club Archives - Jay has still not picked this dated material, but he has spoken to Bob Janack and has promised to have some work up on the Web page before long.

13. Club dues will be requested from members in June of each year. A QSL type bill will be sent to each member during the summer. The goal is to have all of our members paid up in full by each September. The by laws state that our "fiscal year shall be from July 1st to July 1st of the following year." This has been an on going topic of discussion for over a year. It has also been a September nightmare for the Treasurer.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 PM

Jay Freud, K2QNU, Secretary,



Bring the kids

Bring your appetite



ARRL and REACT



The ARRL announced that ARRL and REACT will Sign Memorandum of Understanding. Representatives of the

ARRL and REACT will meet in Dallas, Texas, May 16 to sign a memorandum of understanding. The agreement is intended to promote joint coordination of the resources of the two organizations and to facilitate the flow of information to and from the public during emergency situations.

Here in Schenectady County, we are seeing an increase in cooperation between RACES/ARES and REACT as evidenced in the recent telephone emergency and also in the long term emergency planning process. A good portion of the credit goes to Larry, KB2WZT, a staunch REACT operative and RACES member.

The ARRL, of course, has other Memorandums of Understanding with disaster relief agencies, including the American Red Cross and the Salvation Army.

Emergency communications and public service are ham radio's pay-back for the frequencies we use, the special NYS Ham Plates and the other perks we enjoy. Please do your part!

Who to Contact in SARA

There are a number of ways to get in touch with the leaders of your club: contact on the air, E-mail (either direct or through sara@egroups.com) or by phone. The important thing is to let them know you want your club to be!

Officers:

- Pres.: Paul Siemers, WY2F (siemers@crd.ge.com) 371-0215
- VPres.: Rob Leiden, KR2L (bleiden1@nycap.RR.com) 399-9343
- Sec.: Jay Freud, K2QNU (SFreud7777@aol.com)
- Treas.: George Williams, W2CSN (williamg@tardis.union.edu) 377-6188
- Dirs: Dennis Hudson, N2LBT (n2lbt@n2lbt.com) 435-9730
- Tim Long, W2UI (WB2SPN) (longt@empireone.net) 399-7454
- Scott Krone, N2YCA (n2yca@juno.com) 273-1610
- Bob Raffaele, W2XM (w2xm@arrl.net) 459-8435

Committees:

- SARA News: Phil Bradway KB2HQ (kb2hq@nycap.RR.com)
- PIO: Rob Leiden KR2L (bleiden1@nycap.rr.com)
- Rept./K2AE: Howard Lester W2ODC (hlester@nycap.RR.com)
- RFI: Rudy Dehn W2JVF (w2jvf@juno.com)
- Membership: Bob Raffaele, W2XM (w2xm@arrl.net)
- Public Service: Ken Klikeman AA2CW (kklikema@nycap.rr.com)
- 861-6825

VE team & registration: Bill Mischler, KG2AC 370-1350

Schenectady Amateur Radio Association Inc

Membership Application-Renewal Form

Regular Dues	\$20.00	\$ _____
Spouse	\$ 5.00	\$ _____
Student	\$ 5.00	\$ _____
Repeater Fund Donation		\$ _____
Initiation Fee	\$ 5.00*	\$ _____

*New Members Only

Name _____ Call _____

Nickname _____ Class _____

Street _____

City _____ State ____ Zip _____

e-mail _____

Phone _____ Signature _____

ARRL _____ RACES _____ ARES _____ MARS _____

Send to SARA, P.O. Box 207, Alplaus, N.Y. 12008-0207

June, 2001

VHF QSO Party

The June VHF contest is slated for June 9-11. There's usually a fair amount of activity, locally and it's a good opportunity to try some of those long distance shots on the upper frequencies. There will be FM contacts to be had, as well as the usual narrow band stuff.

FM frequencies:

2 meters - 146.49, 146.55, 146.58

222 - 223.50

440 - 446.00

903 - 903.250

1296 - 1296.250

The times are 2:00 PM Saturday to 11:00 PM Sunday (EDST). If you plan on submitting a log, see the May QST, page 114. Jump in and have some fun!

HaS aNyOnE sEeN mY cApSIocKs KeY?

SARA web site

<http://www.rpi.edu/~brandp/sara/index.html>

Get the latest on SARA activities

June, 2001

Hams Are Appreciated

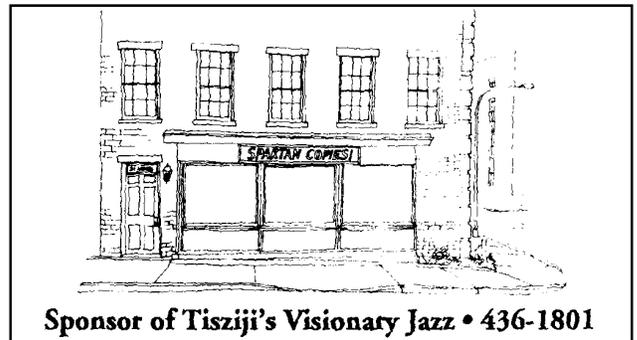
The following note to Raleigh, K2RI, was received recently from Marianne Comfort of the Schenectady Inner City Ministry.

Dear Mr. Keeter,

Please pass along my heart felt thanks to the ham radio volunteers for your support of the Crop Walk. Your quiet presence in the back ground gives us peace of mind that we have communication along the route, if needed. We appreciate your consistent efforts year after year.

Regards, Marianne Comfort

We thank **Spartan Copies** for the help with printing, etc., of SARA News. It is appreciated.



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Schenectady Amateur Radio Association Inc.
P.O. Box 207
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