



SARA NEWS

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

Founded 1930

October, 2001

K2AE Repeaters

Meeting Monday, October 1, 2001 at 7:30 PM, Olin Hall, Union College



SK

Jim Pontius, W2CPB: Silent Key

– by W2ODC

Ham Radio has a vacant space left by long time SARA member, officer, and benefactor. For this writer it is hard to think of Schenectady and Ham Radio without Jim. A solid worker and leader from the days after World War II, he helped reorganize SARA to fit into the rapidly changing ham radio of the following decades. Others knew him as a leader in education with the expanded Niskayuna Board of Education, but we knew him as an enthusiastic ham and leader in SARA. Working with Irv Mickey W2LCP he helped Bill Broughton W2IR formulate the SARA Broughton Fund; the Broughton memorial exhibit and station at the Schenectady Museum; plus the Broughton Foundation. He was the President of that Foundation up to his becoming a Silent Key. Along with SARA's Ted Goble K2HNW and the museum project group at SARA, he was instrumental in forming a Museum club to allow the FCC to assign the station a unique club call. An early repeater user, along with his xyl, Kay, W2ZFP, they were often heard on 2-meters in those early days. Jim was a giant and will be missed greatly. We extend SARA's sympathy to Kay and the family.

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Swap Meet and Auction

The October meeting of SARA will feature the annual swap meet and auction, a resumption of a long standing SARA tradition. Auctioneers will be available to present items for sale. In addition, table space will be available for direct sale items. Come one and all to find that item you have been looking for or turn that rig or equipment into cash.

A lot of fun is in store! It will also be a great way to clean out the cellar and garage.

Late Breaking

The Schenectady Gazette (Friday, September 21) profiled the ham radio volunteers contributing their time to the World Trade Center efforts. Dennis Hudson was featured with a large picture on page B1. If you do not get the Gazette, check your local library. It's nice that our hobby is recognized!

Fall Sprints

The 222 Mhz Sprint will be from 7 PM to 11 PM local time on Tuesday September 25, 2001.

The 432 Mhz Sprint will be from 7 PM to 11 PM local time on Wednesday October 3, 2001.

2.4 The Microwave (902 Mhz and above) Sprint will be from 6 AM to 1 PM local time on Saturday October 13, 2001.

From the Board

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

SARA BOARD MEETING SEPTEMBER 6, 2001

1. Those present for the first meeting of the Schenectady Amateur Radio Association Board of Directors were: W2UI-Tim Long, Rob Leiden-KR2L, AB2IU-Brian Macherone, W2CSN-George Williams, K2QNU-Jay Freud, WY2F-Paul Siemers, W2ODC-Howard Lester. The Meeting was called to order by our president for the 2001-2002 year, Rob Leiden at 7:00PM.
2. Minutes of the last meeting and the June general meeting were reviewed and accepted as published in SARA News. Motion by Paul and seconded by George, carried.
3. The Treasurer's report was given by George. It showed the last three years, in-coming money and out-going money, field day expenses, refreshments, generator repairs, telephone bills for the repeater, postage and associated publishing costs, Insurance, etc. George put forth a proposed budget that we thought we could work with. Paul made a motion to adopt this budget and Brian seconded the motion; the motion was carried with all in favor.
4. There were no new members recommended to the Board.
5. Howard Lester, W2ODC, the K2AE repeater trustee discussed repeater repairs. He described how Scott Krone, N2YCA made mid-summer repairs to the repeater by removal of dendrites that had formed.
6. The newsletter committee was made aware that Dennis Hudson, N2LBT will need 4 days for the printing process. The minutes will be issued promptly to help.
7. Some K2AE QSL cards have been located. W2ODC will turn over a supply of old K2AE QSL card to K2QNU who will send out QSL cards received for the K2AE Field Day operation.
8. The Simulated Emergency Test (SET) will take place during mid-October. Rob noted that previous activity was on 75 meters on 3953 kHz, 3925(for passing traffic), and 3993 kHz (the NYS RACES frequency).
9. SARA participation in the Jamboree on the Air (Boy Scouts of America) was discussed. George will contact N2PEQ, J.R.Hotaling, for information about the Scouts and the possibility of taking part in the October 2001 Jamboree.
10. A (Field Day and other remote activity) trailer has been purchased by Tim Long. Tim requested \$150 to refurbish the trailer and another \$100 for lettering. The Board agreed with Tim's course of action for the refurbishment and will wait to see if corporate sponsorship can help with the lettering.
11. A Technician class is to be held at the Cross-Gates Mall. Radio Shack has the text "Now You're Talking" in stock and W2XM has already secured a supply. W2XM requested and received permission for a small advance to prepare for the class.
12. Brian discussed the Programs planned for 2001-2002 and

The Trading Post

**FOR SALE
OR TRADE**

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.

License Classes

This amateur radio licensing class is a joint effort of the Albany Amateur Radio Association and the Schenectady Amateur Radio Association. Over a ten week period, a student in this class should learn enough to pass the exam to earn his or her Technician-class ham radio license.

The class meets Tuesday evenings from 7:00 PM to 9:15 PM. The venue is the Community Room in Crossgates Mall, which is located adjacent to the security office near the top of the escalator that leads to Hoyt's Cinema 12.

The cost of the course is \$10, the cost of the required text is about \$20, and the examination fee (payable the day of your exam) is \$10.

The course fee is payable at the first class. The required text (Now You're Talking, fourth edition) is available from ARRL, at Radio Shack, or via any one of several amateur radio dealerships.

Our classroom meeting dates are: Oct. 16, 23, and 30; Nov. 6, 20, and 27; and Dec. 4 and 11. Nov. 13 is an optional review day (somewhere other than our regular meeting place) or a teachers' meeting day.

The exam will be administered December 18, but anyone in the class may opt to take it at another time and place.

For further information, contact Bob Raffaele at 459-8435 (before 9:30 PM) or via w2xm@arrl.net.

See www.timesunion.com/communities/hamradio

Note that the class is offered each and every Tuesday from October 16 to December 11 EXCEPT for November 13, when we may meet at a different location. (The test is given December 18.)

Interested students should contact W2XM as soon as possible; class size is limited to 18.

will provide them to Phil, KB2HQ, for publication in SARA News when finalized.

13. The board noted and expressed sadness at the passing of Otto Brand-KA2ZBR (SK), Bill Hackert-W2MTE (SK), (ex-WA2SRP). Jay sent cards of condolence. The families have expressed their thanks. The Board also noted the passing of Phil KG2LC (SK) Jay will send a note of condolence to Phil's family.
14. The meeting was adjourned at 8:58 PM

Jay Freud K2QNU Secretary

ARRL/FCC/NYS

Message from Frank Fallon, N2FF, Hudson Division Director

The nation and Amateur Radio were severely tested with the shocking terror attack on the World Trade Center buildings and the Pentagon on Tuesday September 11th. Both have come through with shining colors. Since then most of the nation has been glued to television sets watching the horror unfold. The outpouring of volunteers, contributions and blood donors has been amazing as New York City and the nation rally around the recovery effort. The nation has changed in a matter of hours for nearly everyone has been touched by these tragic events. Most of us know someone who has been killed or is still missing or know someone who has. Many of us are suffering and will be for some time. Some of us have post-traumatic shock syndrome and do not yet realize it. A number of Amateur operators are on the list of missing - Steve Jacobson, N2SJ; Bill Steckman, WA2ACW; Bob Cirri Sr., KA2OTD; and Michael Jacobs, AA1GO.

In the Hudson Division this has certainly been Amateur Radio's finest hour. The response was instantaneous, tremendous and professional. I am extremely proud of how ham radio responded. This is what ARES trains for and now we have had a chance to show what we can do in a very serious emergency. All of us can be extremely proud of how ham radio volunteers performed often putting themselves in danger. It is my hope that the media will eventually begin to cover our performance and tell our story. I know there will eventually be a detailed article in QST. There is already coverage on the ARRL web site, which you should visit. I have asked Jim Haynie, W5JBP, to come to New York City to see the job we are doing here and to personally thank some of the volunteers involved. He should be here before the week is out.

The story is still unfolding and it is far from over. Ham radio operators responded to EOC, Red Cross and Salvation Army sites in Manhattan, Queens, Nassau, Suffolk and Westchester Counties in New York. There were even shelters covered in Northern New Jersey where survivors and those stranded when

Newark Airport was shut down were housed. In all hams responded to more than thirty shelters and sites. In Manhattan alone 12 or 13 Red Cross Shelters were manned. Charles Hargrove, N2NOV, NYC DEC and John Kiernan, KE2UN, Manhattan EC did a fantastic job of organizing the ham volunteers under very difficult and frequently dangerous conditions. Tom Carabua, KA2D, New York City - Long Island SEC, has spent untold hours working out the overall NLI assignments which includes NYC. Shelters were manned in Valley Stream and Howard Beach for stranded JFK passengers and the Red Cross headquarters in Mineola was manned as was Queens Red Cross. By Sunday the Long Island shelters were closed down as was the Mineola Red Cross HQ net. In Westchester WECA responded and supplied a number of operators to the NYC effort using their repeater for coordination. NNJ did the same thanks to Steve Ostrove, K2SO, NNJ SEC, where four shelters were manned and more than 50 operators responded and helped overcome spotty telephone service. I want to thank you all and to give you a collective pat on the back for job more than well done.

Over 200 area ham volunteers have responded so far, but more will be needed, as this will be a commitment for the foreseeable future. I am sure that number will be closer to 500 before all the recovery efforts are complete. It will certainly be weeks and could even be months before we are no longer needed. The emergency area is now contained to Manhattan. Currently there are two shifts daily with 30 to 50 operators needed for each shift. Over time those now doing the job will need to be relieved. Volunteers must be willing to make a very serious commitment. This is a much more difficult situation than the typical ARES situation or the New York City Marathon. To see what is involved, and any changes in shift times, check into the Division web site and the NLI page at <http://www.arrludson/nli> There is a real need for operators but please use the web site as it takes the burden off the NLI SEC, KA2D and the NLI Section Manager, N2GA. Please do not attempt to contact them directly as they have both been overwhelmed by the task and are using the web site set up by former NLI resident Joe Tomosone, AB2M, to assign operators.

Eventually there will be a long list of those who did respond and we will be able to give them all a BIG thanks!

All of us should be aware of what we say on the air these days as there are a lot of people using scanners to listen in. We want to get the most positive exposure we can for ham radio. I know that many of us are hurt, angry and outraged and want to strike back but we must self monitor what we say on air. We should not allow our anger to get out of control and come out in the form of racist anti-Moslem rhetoric. That's not the American way. That's not ham radio!

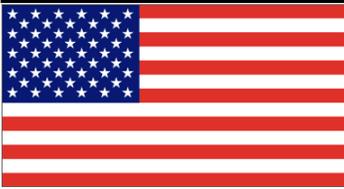
Please do what you can to ensure that this is indeed Amateur Radio's finest hour.

Thanks and 73,

Frank Fallon.....N2FF..... ARRL Hudson Division Director

Wherever there is degeneration and apathy, there also is sexual perversion, cold depravity, miscarriage, premature old age, grumbling youth, there is a decline in the arts, indifference to science, and injustice in all its forms.

Anton Pavlovich Chekhov



OFFICIAL FLAG ETIQUETTE

When displayed from a staff projecting horizontally or at an angle from the window sill, balcony, or front of a building, the union (white stars on blue field) of the flag should be placed at the peak of the staff unless the flag is at half-staff.

When displayed in a manner other than by being flown from a staff, it should be displayed flat, whether indoors or out. When displayed either horizontally or vertically against a wall, the union should be uppermost and to the observer's left.

Display the flag only from sunrise to sunset on buildings and on stationary flagstaffs in the open. However, when a patriotic effect is desired, the flag may be displayed 24 hours a day if properly illuminated.

Do not display on days when the weather is inclement, except when an all-weather flag is displayed.

Do not allow the flag to touch the ground.

Display daily on or near the main administration building of every public institution.

When displayed over the middle of the street, it should be suspended vertically with the union to the north in an east and west street or to the east in a north and south street.

When flown at half-staff, it should be first hoisted to the peak for an instant and then lowered to the half-staff position. The flag should be again raised to the peak before it is lowered for the day.

Do not drape over the hood, top, sides, or back of a vehicle or of a railroad train or a boat. When the flag is displayed on a motorcar, the staff shall be fixed firmly to the chassis or clamped to the right fender.

When used to cover a casket, it should be so placed that the union is at the head and over the left shoulder. The flag should not be lowered into the grave or allowed to touch the ground.

It should be at the center and at the highest point of a group of flags when displayed with other flags of States or localities or pennants of societies.

Source: U.S. Code, Title 4, Section 1.



From the Editor's Shack Tragedy!

September 11, 2001, quite a day! Most of us spent days glued to the TV, shuddering with the thought that the world had changed.

Frank Fallon, N2FF, reported that hams were in the middle of things, some as volunteers and some, unfortunately, as victims (see elsewhere in this issue).

A number of local ARES/RACES folks packed up their gear and went down to NYC to help with emergency communications. Others coordinated efforts from this end. Others complained that their repeater was being used by people trying to help in the disaster. Well, I suppose that was to be expected!

I've commented in the past, that, like it or not, today's ham radio exists only because its ability and willingness to step in in emergency situations. There's no way that our other operating practices could justify our use of the valuable RF spectrum!

Ham radio has its own form of "terrorism," too, the little people that get their kicks out of fouling the community nest. The FCC is attacking the radio maniacs, nationally, much the same as the Federal Government is going after the WTC perpetrators. Terrorists of all sorts should take notice!



In lazy apathy let stoics boast.....

Alexander Pope

And the Tower Issue Continues

WA2MMX Tower Zoning ISSUE
Town of Kinderhook, New York
Columbia County

To recap, I recently moved residences back in June. My old QTH actually bordered by new QTH. My 60 foot Universal self supporting tower was lowered back in May in anticipation for the move next door.

Originally back 12 years ago when I move there, no zoning regulations existed at all regarding any type of tower. It existed for 12 years with no complaints at all. I recently applied for a variance to the current zoning law to re-erect the tower, at a height of 50 feet instead of 60, at my new QTH. The exact relocation distance is 300 feet.

All the usual things took place. The Town took my \$250 for the application, they notified every neighbor within 500 feet of any of my property lines,..... and 36 neighbors signed a petition against my application and almost 18 showed up at the zoning board "hearing" to tell why their kids would contract cancer to why I should rely on my "mobile license" and operate out of my Ford Explorer. It was both ugly and comical! The crux of the entire proceeding is that they feel hams should reside in light

industrial zones and that NO TOWERS should be allowed in residential areas, AT ALL.

Now the usual stonewalling begins for me. I have been asked to complete a New York State Environmental Quality Assessment. The ZBA has requested technical and legal briefs. Looks like it is time for an attorney and there is a very good possibility this may go to court.

This is not what Terry and I had in mind when we were looking for our retirement home, however the choice is to move again (ugh). I have met with Frank Fallon our Hudson Division Director and have a phone call scheduled for today with Chris Imlay (W3KD) the ARRL General Counsel to seek some assistance in proceeding with the case.

If you have not yet sent a letter to the New York State Legislative contacts in Frank's recent flyer. PLEASE DO SO. I did back in the spring and again sent correspondence this past week. It is imperative that we as New York HAMS push for the passage of the New York Antenna Bill. We must stick together on this issue. Please support Frank and the others who have worked so hard to get this bill before the proper legislators. I am personal friend with a legislative staffer and am going to attempt to see if he can help getting this bill moved through the process.

73's,

Fred WA2MMX / NNN0FEF / NNN0GBJ-7 / NNN0ASI-14

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.: Rob Leiden, KR2L (bleiden1@nycap.RR.com) 399-9343
- VPres.: Brian Macherone, AB2IU
- Sec.: Jay Freud, K2QNU (SFreud7777@aol.com)
- Treas.: George Williams, W2CSN (williamg@tardis.union.edu) 377-6188
- Dirs: Manny Shulman, AA2TT
 - Tim Long, W2UI (WB2SPN) (longt@empireone.net) 399-7454
 - Paul Siemers, WY2F (siemers@crd.ge.com) 371-0215
 - 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)
- Pub. Ser.: Ken Clikeman AA2CW (kclikema@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, 2002

Field Day Wrap-up

The following were physically present at the SARA 2001 Field Day site on Friday and/or Saturday and/or Sunday (June 22, 23, 24):

AA2TT AB2FZ AB2GN AB2IU K1OMJ K2AAD K2DL
K2QNU K2RI K2UF K2UYK K2YR KA1OKG KA2VBI
KB2HQ KB2KXC KB2NAV KB2TSA KB2WZT
KC2AJG KC2APP KC2BLD KC2EYB KC2GMW
KC2HIY KN4VU KR2L N2EKU N2KAE N2LBT N2UD
N2UZQ N2XKF N2YQZ W2ARQ W2BXC W2CAZ
W2CSN W2DHT W2DXY W2JVF W2ODC W2UI
W2XM W3HHN WA2AFD WB2EAR WB2PUH
WB3CUF WO2V WY2F (Fifty licensed hams!) two guests
of W2DXY Dan Fiorillo, Schen. County Emergency
Services Matt Potter Skip Potter Kristen Long Steve Stewart
several non-ham Guard members and KB2KXC's son.

SARA gives a hearty thanks to KA2DVM and N2OJY, who were unable to be present Friday, Saturday, or Sunday; they did, however, contribute significantly to the FD effort.

SARA web site

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

Get the latest on SARA activities

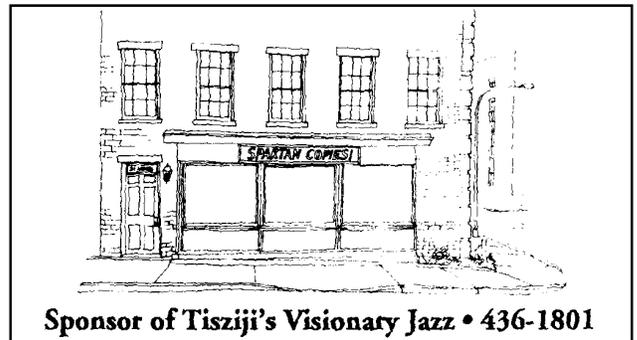
October, 2001

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Check the label!

If it doesn't show June 2002, this is your
last copy of SARA News

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Schenectady Amateur Radio Association Inc.
P.O. Box 207
Albans, N.Y. 12008