



# SARA NEWS

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

Founded 1930

May, 2002

K2AE Repeaters

Meeting Monday, May 5, 2002 at 7:30 PM, Olin Hall, Union College

## Public Service

- Up coming Public Service Events
- Crop Walk - May 5, 12:30 PM
- Niskaday - May 18, 8:30 AM
- Scotia Parade - May 22, 5:30 PM

For information and to volunteer, contact Ken, AA2CW, at 861-6825 or on one of the Sunday nets.

## RACES Drill Recap

The following are comments concerning the simulated emergency communications exercise that was held on April 7, 2002.

1. In general the exercise went well. Stations checking into the simulated emergency net and participating used good net procedure, passed the traffic effectively and no one broke into the net with unnecessary comments. About a dozen hams checked in and took part and there were four at the EOC.
2. Tactical call signs were used to identify locations and it was pointed out toward the end of the exercise that it still necessary to identify with your amateur call sign at the end of each transmission as required by FCC rules.
3. One message that was sent out was the location of a service station that was pumping gasoline for emergency vehicles only. The situation that was being simulated was a the lack of electrical power over a wide area and only a few service stations have the ability to pump gasoline without commercial electrical power available. In an actual situation the location of the service station pumping gas would not be identified over the air but public service agencies notified in some other manner.

*Continued on page 2*

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## ARRL Regulatory Affairs

**This is, perhaps, the most important subject to come before SARA in many a moon!**

Brennan Price, N4QX, Field and Regulatory Correspondent for the ARRL, will be talking about recent regulatory developments, including: Private antenna restriction preemption efforts; Spectrum defense efforts, including the SAVI Technologies grab on 70 cm and Recent proceedings in front of the FCC (5 MHz, repetitious applications, restructuring, etc.). He may also say a bit about frequency coordination, given recent developments in the New York area.

He promises to answer questions about enforcement to the degree that he is able, but will have to do so in general terms. The ARRL does not comment on ongoing cases any further than the FCC does. (Loose talk can sink cases. Ed.)

Brennan has been Field and Regulatory Correspondent at ARRL headquarters since April, 2000. He comes from a broadcast background, having previously worked as a state radio network coordinator in Atlanta. At ARRL HQ, Brennan's duties include working with the Official Observer/Amateur Auxiliary program, serving as the National Frequency Coordinating Officer, a liaison with the coordination community, administering the ARRL Monitoring System, and completing special regulatory projects. A most critical position, to be sure.

SARA News has expounded at length about the need for ALL amateurs to realize the threat to our hobby by the push to curtail ham frequencies and to restrict antennas. Without a piece of the spectrum and some means of radiating a signal, we're out of business. This meeting is a must. Learn what's happening, what is being done about it and what you can do to help.

## From the Board

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

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MARCH 21, 2002.

Present for the meeting were Brian Macherone, AB2IU; Jay Freud, K2QNU; George Williams, W2CSN; Rob Leiden, KR2L; and Tim Long, W2UI. The meeting was called to order 7:10 PM.

George gave out copies of the treasurer's report those present. He noted that SARA made \$19 dollars in the last 50/50 drawing at the last meeting. The prizes being won by KF2XY-Wendell White. There were no new members.

It was reported that one examination was given at the last VE session.

It was noted that there is still no replacement editor for the SARA News and that Phil's last SNL will be the June edition.

New business: Proposed Amendment to SARA Bylaws to delete the words "THE CHAIRMAN OF THE SCHENECTADY MUSEUM AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION SHALL BE AN EX OFFICIO MEMBER WITHOUT VOTE" shall be voted on at the next general meeting.

Tim let us all know that the lettering for the trailer will be done in black.

The meeting ended at 7:40 PM after a brief chat about antenna construction.

Jay Freud, K2QNU, Secretary

### *RACES, continued from page 1*

4. Not apparent to those not at the EOC is the need for record keeping and a means of keeping track of the assignments, messages and inquiries handled. The locations of the assignments, names of the contact person, call sign and name of the amateur operator and radio equipment available to the operator were listed on a chalk board so it would be available to everyone in the EOC. Blank ARRL message forms were used for the April 7 exercise. Two part carbonless forms would be much better for this as the original could be given to the person to whom the message was addressed while the operator could retain a copy for his follow up and records. Such two part forms would be useful for the operators assigned to field locations as well for the same reasons.

The availability of carbonless forms is listed as an item for follow up.

5. Thanks to all who participated in the exercise and to those who stood by while the exercise was being conducted.

Raleigh Keeter, K2RI, Radio Officer

## Announcing SARA Field Day 2002!

Keep these dates in mind.

6-21-02 Friday - Transport equipment and setup.

6-22-02 Saturday - Complete setup and begin operating at 14:00 EDT.

6-23-02 Sunday - End operating at 14:00 EDT, takedown & transport equipment.

For a complete Field Package go to:

<http://www.arrl.org/contests/forms/02fdpack.pdf>

Many have said they will be able to do the same tasks as they did last year. The lists will be sent out with last years names. Let me know if you can or cannot do the task and also if there may be other tasks you would like to sign up for.

If you prefer not receiving the lists and announcements please let me know. If you know someone else that would like receiving the list please send me their E-mail address.

Many regard Field Day as the most fun Amateur Radio event of the year and a great way to practice our Emergency setup and operating skills. Come and enjoy the fun!

Mike W2ARQ [w2arq@juno.com](mailto:w2arq@juno.com)



## ARRL/FCC/NYS

### FCC VANQUISHES VANITY BACKLOG

The longstanding vanity call sign application backlog that had built up as a result of mail problems last October is now history. The FCC issued another 328 vanity call signs this week. That completed the processing of applications received at the FCC's Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, office through March 25—right at the typical 18-day vanity application waiting period.

“We are back on track for vanity processing,” an FCC Private Wireless Division Licensing and Technical Analysis Branch staff member told ARRL. While not ruling out any problems down the road, she indicated that everything was working fine now and that the FCC would resume its normal nightly vanity runs.

ARRL VEC Manager Bart Jahnke, W9JJ, congratulated the FCC's licensing staff on the accomplishment. “It's been a long time coming,” he said. “A great deal of effort on the part of the FCC personnel in Gettysburg and some on the part of ARRL went into making this happen.

Among the latest happy customers was ARRL Chief Development Officer Mary Hobart, who traded in her government-issue KB1HYD for K1MMH, reflecting her initials.

At its peak, the vanity backlog was estimated at more than 2000 applications. Routine vanity processing resumed in early March. With the exception of a four-day hiatus to deal with a processing anomaly later that month, the FCC has been slowly but surely whittling away the application stack. The processing of routine Amateur Service applications was unaffected by the vanity problems.

The vanity holdup began after some two weeks of paper vanity applications sent off last October for anthrax decontamination were not returned to Gettysburg. Since FCC policy continues to give equal priority to paper and electronic vanity applications, vanity processing was halted when the paper applications didn't come back. FCC staffers—with help from the ARRL—used payment information to contact those who had filed and have them submit new applications. Last month, the FCC began receiving the applications that had been missing.

The FCC has proposed increasing the regulatory fee it charges vanity call sign applicants from \$12 to \$14.50 for the 10-year license term. Comments on the proposal are due April 23, and reply comments are due May 3. The new, higher fee likely would go into effect in September. The vanity fee is paid at the time of application for a new, renewal or reinstated vanity license.



**Join SARA on Field Day**  
Be a part of  
**Field Day Present**

## Ghost of Field Day Past



## Broughton Award

Each year, SARA bestows the Henry Primm Broughton Award to a ham that exemplifies the high ideals set by Bill Broughton, W2IR, when he set up the award in memory of his father, K2AE. Service to SARA, service to amateur radio and service to the community are the qualifying points. If you have a likely candidate, please write, email or call Rob Leiden, this year's Chair

### Henry Primm Broughton Memorial Award Recipients 2002 Committee Chairman: Rob Leiden, KR2L

1 60 Warren Ford, W2GTB	24 82 Don Bulger, WB2VJC
2 61 George Tracy, W2EFU	25 83 Dick Frey, WA2AAU
3 62 Earl Houck, W2GTC	26 84 Paul Bachorz, KB2T
4 63 Howard Lester, W2ODC	27 85 George Chapek, N2AIG
5 63 Sam Johnson, W6BS	28 86 Rudy Dehn, W2JVF
6 64 Ted Goble, K2HNV	29 87 Rich Darrah, KA2OPG
7 65 Hunt Huntington, K2ONF	30 88 Hal Post, AK2E
8 66 Bob Hall, W1DQO	31 89 Phil Bradway, KB2HQ
9 67 Frank Douglas, W2AZH	32 90 Joe Hoffman, KA2AXN
10 68 Charlie Muir, WA2CGD	33 91 Bob Janack, WA2DWU
11 69 Paul Jorgensen, WA2TAG	34 92 Dan Whelen, WB2WHD
12 70 Paul Tyner, WB2BDB	35 93 Ray Wemple, KA2DVM
13 71 Augie Weiss, WB2NYM	36 94 Tim Long, WB2SPN
14 72 Harold Hornbeck, K2DLD	37 95 Paul Mataruga, WB2MCO *
15 73 Jim Lawson, W2PV	38 95 Richard Arthur, WV2F
16 74 Doc Korn, N2XU	39 96 Don Walsh, WA2TSW
17 75 Henry Mitchell, W2CAZ	40 97 Mike Gardina, W2ARQ
18 76 Walt Schick, W2KE	41 98 Charlie Haynes, K2VNP
19 77 Raleigh Keeter, K2RI	42 99 Joe Clement, K2UF
20 78 Jim Pontius, W2CPB	43 00 Bill Patmos, W2DHT
21 79 Jack Nelson, W2FW	44 01 Rob Leiden, KR2L
22 80 Bill Schwarting, WR2L	
23 81 Dan Murray, W2PKY	

\* (posthumously)

## Driving While Distracted

*The following is from a UK Computer newsletter. While it deals with mobile phones, the concepts carry over to mobile amateur radio usage. We should be aware of two things: It's dangerous to take your eyes and attention away from the road and articles/studies like this often spur legislation. Ed*

Mobile phone use more dangerous than drink driving

Research reveals driving while talking on a mobile phone impairs driving skills more than being over the legal alcohol limit.

Tests carried out at the Transport Research Laboratory found that drivers' reaction times were 30 per cent slower while using a hand-held mobile phone than they were when over the legal limit for alcohol, and 50 per cent slower than when driving under normal conditions.

Specifically, drivers found it more difficult to maintain a constant speed and keep a safe distance from the car ahead. Reaction times were particularly affected. Using a hand-held phone resulted in reaction times extended by half a second, and a third of a second longer than drunk drivers. Hands-free mobile kits provided some improvements although users still drove more erratically than drunk drivers. Indeed the participants themselves said they felt less able to drive when using a mobile than when drunk.

Direct Line, who commissioned the research after finding that 40 per cent of drivers admitted using a mobile phone on the road. Dominic Burch, Direct Line's road safety campaign manager, said: 'We believe there needs to be a high profile public awareness campaign informing drivers of the dangers they face by using mobile phones. Eventually we would like to see the use of mobile phones when driving... become as socially unacceptable as drink driving.'

There is currently no law forbidding the use of mobile phones when driving, although accidents involving such a situation can see the mobile phone user being charged with not being in full control of the vehicle or even dangerous driving, which carries an unlimited fine, up to two years in prison and other penalties.

Mobile phone manufacturers such as Sony Ericsson are turning out ever more sophisticated in-car accessories such as a Bluetooth hands-free car kit (the HCB-30) that allows voice command of your phone and will automatically dip the volume of your car's stereo and pipe your caller's voice through the speakers so you can make and receive calls on the move without taking your eyes off the road.

While research such as this may drive the public to purchase accessories such as these, it's unlikely Nokia et al



## From the Editor's Shack Spring Has Sprung!

It's a time to take stock of the Winter's ravages and plan for the Summer's work schedule. (At least with the mild Winter, we didn't have to worry about a flood in the Schenectady Stockade.)

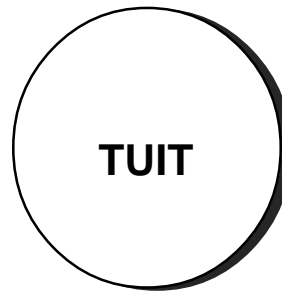
A walk around the grounds is pleasant with temperatures in the 60's and 70's. Lots of things growing: tulips, forsythia, crocus and, of course, the grass and weeds. Looking up at the towers, however is not as fulfilling! A bent boom on 6, loose coax on a number of antennas (black tape is not forever) and a bent mast, all stare me in the face. It's gonna be a fun Summer!

The bright side is the great ham radio experiences to look forward to. We have the VHF/UHF contests, with the fun of "roving" to exotic locations and of course, Field Day. We'll have a few months to store up some

good memories to carry us through the next Winter.

That's the fun about ham radio; there's always something to do, always assuming that you get around to it.

And here's your own round "TUIT," Just in case you needed one..



would agree that a total ban is necessary. Expect to see research showing how much improved driving becomes using hands-free car kits soon...

Twenty healthy, experienced drivers between 21 and 45 participated in the tests, which involved a sophisticated simulation environment. The participants were given a drink before each test, some of which were alcoholic, and others of which were alcohol-free although of similar appearance and taste. They were tested driving on a motorway with moderate traffic, maintaining a safe distance behind another vehicle, negotiating a bend and driving on a dual carriageway with traffic lights. Tests were carried out to measure driving ability while driving normally, drunk and using a mobile phone. During each test drivers answered a set of questions and conversed over a mobile phone.

22 Mar 2002 Matt Whipp

## The Mt. Beacon Hamfest Cancelled

The Mt. Beacon Hamfest, originally scheduled for Sunday April 21, 2002, has been cancelled due to circumstances beyond the club's control. Efforts are currently underway to find a new location for future shows.



*Human beings, who are almost unique in having the ability to learn from the experience of others, are also most remarkable for their apparent disinclination to do so.  
...Anonymous*

## The Trading Post

**FOR SALE  
OR TRADE**

For Sale from W2DLM.

Yaesu FT230R 2M/25watt xcvr 5/8 wave 2M  
Magmount ant. Triplett V-O-M (up to 6000 V) Bird  
Termaline wattmeter with various plug-ins.

Note that those interested should call Rudy, W2JVF,  
on 372-6139 or E-mail W2JVF@juno.com

Free - Many years worth of QST; Some Ham Radio,  
too. 1978 and 79 handbooks plus some other re-  
search material is also available. Phil, KB2HQ, 377-  
8938.

To post an ad write: [sara@e-groups.com](mailto: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](mailto:kb2hq@nycap.RR.com).

## 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](mailto: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](mailto:bleiden1@nycap.RR.com)) 399-9343  
VPres.: Brian Macherone, AB2IU ([ab2iu@arrl.net](mailto:ab2iu@arrl.net)) 374-4199  
Sec.: Jay Freud, K2QNU ([SFreud7777@aol.com](mailto:SFreud7777@aol.com))  
Treas.: George Williams, W2CSN ([williamg@tardis.union.edu](mailto:williamg@tardis.union.edu)) 377-6188  
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Bob Raffaele, W2XM ([w2xm@arrl.net](mailto:w2xm@arrl.net)) 459-8435

### Committees:

SARA News: Phil Bradway KB2HQ ([kb2hq@nycap.RR.com](mailto:kb2hq@nycap.RR.com))  
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861-6825  
VE team: Bill Mischler, KG2AC  
**VE registration: (518)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

## Get Them While They Are Young

Middle-school students at Doane-Stuart School spent some time each day for two weeks learning about various aspects of communications. W2XM was asked to give a one-hour presentation on amateur radio. The presentation included previously prepared overhead-projector transparencies, a working 2-m station, audio recordings of stateside and DX conversations, a code demonstration, a 2-m sleeve dipole and a 15/40-m dipole that students could see close up, and much more. Bob received this by e-mail the following day: "You did a great job and I want to tell you that the feedback from the kids has been really positive and excited. So you were definitely 'on their wavelength.' Sincere thanks for everything. I'll pass the High School idea on to the administrator." Bob says that if the administration likes the high school idea (starting a club), he may be looking for help! de Bob, W2XM

Dennis, N2LBT had a similar experience with a talk to the Boy Scouts, recently. There's no better way of promoting our hobby than appealing to the younger set! Ed.

### SARA web site

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

Get the latest on SARA activities

May, 2002



**Make a donation. Help save our frequencies and get a gift. See <[www.arrl.org](http://www.arrl.org)> for details.**

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