



# SARA NEWS

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



Founded 1930

October, 2003

K2AE Repeaters

Meeting Monday, October 6, 2003 at 7:30 PM, Niskayuna High School New Cafeteria

## Public Service

October 19, 2003: The Hudson-Mohawk Road Runners Club will be needing communications help with it's annual marathon. Call Ken Clikeman (861-6825) to volunteer and find out details for this event.

November 2, 2003: New York City Marathon: See page 2 for details.

November 28, 2003: Annual Christmas Parade. This year the communications effort will be run by the Schenectady Museum Amateur Radio Club. SARA volunteers are still needed. Call Ken Clikeman for details and to sign up.

## 2003-4 Dues are Due!!!

Dues for the 2003-2004 season are now due. See page 4 of this newsletter for the annual rate and where to send your dues. You may also pay up at the October meeting, see Treasurer George Williams W2CSN.

**NOTICE:** The October newsletter will be the last you will receive if your dues are not paid up!.

## Please Vote

At the September SARA meeting, we heard a presentation from Frank Fallon, one of the candidates for ARRL Hudson Division Director. At the October meeting, we will hear from the other candidate, Stephen Mendelsohn. After hearing both candidates, please make your decision and vote.

Ballots for the Hudson Division Director election will begin arriving in your mail-box around October 1. As ballots are sent bulk mail some may take weeks to dribble out to you. Please make your decision and send your ballot back in time to be counted in late November. If you have not received a ballot by November 1, please contact HQ for a replacement. (From ARRL Hudson Division Newsletter.)

## October Meeting

Stephen Mendelsohn, W2ML, will be the October speaker. Mr. Mendelsohn is a candidate for Hudson Division Director and has served as a former ARRL First Vice President; Hudson Division Director and Vice Director

Mr. Mendelsohn indicates his presentation will include talking about ARRL matters and a 20 minute powerpoint presentation on the technical side of producing/presenting the 2003 Super Bowl where he was one of the managers.

The meeting will be held at Niskayuna High School New Cafeteria at 7:30PM, October 6, 2003. Talk-in will be available on the 147.06 MHz. SARA repeater.

Let us give Mr. Mendelsohn a good turnout and have questions ready.

## Upcoming Meetings

November 3, 2003:

The annual SARA Swap-Fest and mini-HamFest will be held at Niskayuna High School New Cafeteria. Bring your stuff, but remember, If nobody takes it, you must remove it yourself after the meeting.

December 1, 2003:

Our annual Christmas Party will be held. Details will be given in the next SARA NEWS.

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## From the Board

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

Schenectady Amateur Radio Association  
Board of Directors Meeting September 4, 2003  
Minutes

The meeting was called to order by President Dennis Hudson, N2LBT, at 7:11 PM in the Classroom at the Schenectady Police Station.

### Attendees:

President Dennis Hudson, N2LBT  
Vice President Ramsey Seielstad, KC2GMW  
Secretary Tim Long, W2UI  
Director Paul Siemers, WY2F  
Director Gerry Crawmer, KE2JJ

**Minutes:** Tim Long, W2UI, noted that the minutes of the Board Meeting held in June, 2003 published in SARA News should have included Dennis Hudson, N2LBT, as an attendee. Paul Siemers, WY2F, made a motion to accept the minutes as amended. Ramsey Seielstad, KC2GMW, seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**Treasurer's Report:** Dennis Hudson, N2LBT, presented the Treasurer's Report to the Board. After a short discussion, Paul Siemers, WY2F, made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report. The motion was seconded by Ramsey Seielstad, KC2GMW, and it passed unanimously.

**New Members:** None presented.

**Correspondence:** Tim Long, W2UI, reported that we had received several membership renewals, several repeater fund drive contributions, monthly bank statements, monthly Verizon statements, a bill for our safe deposit box, and a copy of the ARRL publication, YASME, since the last Board Meeting.

**Repeater Committee:** No Report.

**Public Service:** No Report. Dennis Hudson, N2LBT, reported that Ken Klikeman, AA2CW, agreed to continue as Chairman of this committee. Thank you, Ken.

**Newsletter:** Clark Gittinger, KG2AO, agreed to continue as Editor of SARA News. Thank you, Clark. Clark reported that Leonard Communications will continue to provide duplication services. Thank you, John & Wendy.

**Membership:** Tim Long, W2UI, reported that we mailed 95 newsletters and emailed newsletters to another 49 members this past month. We agreed that this next October issue of SARA News will be the last issue for members whose dues are not current (must be paid through June 2004). Clark will put a notice in SARA News. Tim stated that there are currently 44 members who are paid through June 2003 and who will be dropped if payment is not received. Tim agreed to draft a document that resembles a "bill" for Board approval that we would send to these 44 members. Tim also reported that there are another 78 past members who became inactive in the last 3 years. Dennis will draft a letter for Board approval which we will send to these 78 past members. Ramsey Seielstad, KC2GMW, will continue as Chairman of this committee.

**Public Relations:** No Report. Since Rob Leiden, K1UI (ex KR2L), retired and moved to Cape Cod, we are in need of a Chairman for this important post.

**Programs:** Ramsey Seielstad, KC2GMW, provided a handout of the programs planned so far this year. Suggestions for meeting programs were solicited. Meetings will be held at the Niskayuna High School in the New Cafeteria.

**VE Sessions:** No Report.

**RFI:** No Report.

### Old Business:

**Constitution and By-Law Review:** Dennis Hudson, N2LBT, will chair this committee to evaluate and suggest possible changes for consideration.

**Broughton Review:** Dennis Hudson, N2LBT, will ask a member to become Chairman of this committee.

**Board Meeting Location and Time:** We agreed that the Thursday before the general meeting at 7:00 PM was the optimal schedule. The location is to be determined.

### New Business:

Paul Siemers, WY2F, reported that SARA's box utility trailer was discovered to have a broken spring at the August tower painting party at Ray's farm. A set of replacement springs is on order at a cost of approximately \$58. The work will be done on 9/13 or 9/14 by Paul and Tim. Gerry Crawmer, KE2JJ, made a motion to authorize up to \$100 for repair materials. Ramsey Seielstad, KC2GMW, seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

The discussion of Broadband over Power Lines was tabled awaiting Carl Lester, K2YR, to attend and lead the discussion.

Paul Siemers, WY2F, made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:42 PM.

Respectfully submitted, Tim Long, W2UI, Secretary

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## 27th NEW YORK CITY MARATHON - November 2nd

Once again The New York Road Runners Club will host the 27th annual New York City Marathon on November 2nd. And, for the 27th year, Amateur Radio operators are being asked to provide communications

This race is the largest "people's" event that the city hosts each year and requires over 400 Amateur Radio operators to fulfill the unique requirements set forth by the race officials. This is the largest public service event in America each year. Come and be part of a world class event while helping over 30,000 runners achieve their dream.

Operations will take place on Staten Island from 4 AM to 11 AM, Brooklyn, and Queens from 6 AM to noon and in Manhattan and the Bronx from 7 AM to 3 PM. We are looking for those who have done public service events for years and those who have never been involved before.

Everyone receives training and a manual to help prepare for the day. If you have never done an event like this before you will be surprised at how much fun it is. The tee shirts will make you the envy of your club.

For further information, to get questions answered or to volunteer please contact the Communication Coordinator, Steve Mendelsohn, W2ML, at: w2ml@arrl.org.

(From the ARRL Hudson Division Newsletter)

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### SARA web site

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

Get the latest on SARA activities

## The Amateur Licence Plate Problem

The NYS Department of Motor Vehicles is running extremely late in issuing new "Ham" licence plates to those who have applied for them. Since the old style plates are now expired, those hams who continue to use them are at risk of inconvenience or even arrest, through no fault of their own.

The Department is directing these individuals to physically appear at their local Motor Vehicles office, pay for a "standard Issue" licence plate, and then turn that plate in when the "Ham" plate finally arrives. This is obviously a tremendous potential burden for the motorists, and is also a very expensive solution for the Department, which must go through multiple cycles of paperwork for the plates and associated items such as insurance renewals.

The local officials are well aware of the situation and will usually try to help motorists who are stopped for using the old plates. In addition, Senator Hugh Farley has written a letter to The Honorable Raymond Martinez, Commissioner of New York State Department of Motor Vehicles, asking his aid in arriving at a reasonable resolution of the problem.

So stay tuned for updates on the situation.

Editors Note: The above contains excerpts from Sen. Farley's letter.

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## Mobile Radio Legalities

Here are directions for getting to the NYS law which covers "extended receive" capabilities. This is not easy and obvious but if you follow the directions you will get there.

For the NYS law go to: <http://www.senate.state.ny.us/> and select "Bills and Laws" which is the third item down on the left side. Then under Legislative Session Information select Laws of New York which is the fifth item in the list. Under "Consolidated Laws" select VAT (for Vehicle and Traffic Laws) and scroll then down to section 397 which is the specific law and print a copy of New York State Vehicle and Traffic Laws Title 3 Article 12 Section 397.

You will need to do the same for the hands free bill. It is on the same site under Article 33 "Miscellaneous Rules" and is Section 1225C, which is the provision covering the use of mobile telephones. The operative word you will see is telephone.

You will now feel like a legal scholar. Print out both sections and put them in your glove compartment.

(From the ARRL Hudson Division Newsletter)

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## Get SARA News BY E-Mail

You can arrange to have SARA News delivered direct to your E-Mail address in PDF format, readable by a free download of the Adobe Acrobat Reader. You will get a color version of the newsletter sooner than by mail, which you can print if you desire. E-Mail delivery also saves the club time, volunteer effort, and money. If interested, contact Tim Long, W2UI at 399-7454 or [longt@empireone.net](mailto:longt@empireone.net).

## The Trading Post



**FOR SALE  
OR TRADE**

FOR Sale:

Kenwood TM211A 2m 50W mobile (tilt head) with manual and TT mike - \$60;

ICOM IC02-AT handy talky with manual (\$75);

Mirage 12V amp/preamp which will take any input from 200 mw to 15W and puts out up to 80W - \$50;

Palomar Engineers M-827 Automatic SWR and Power meter, AC powered, 20-200-2000 W (the one with the red lights) - \$25.

Paul, W2PZ, 346-3850. [pzonderman@earthlink.net](mailto:pzonderman@earthlink.net)

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From the estate of John, W2WBB:

Dentron Clipperton L Linear Amplifier w/Instr Book, \$400

ICOM IC706GMKIIG XCVR w/Instr Book, \$650

MFJ 962C Antenna Tuner w/Instr Book, \$110

ALINCO DR150T 2 MTR XCVR w/Instr Book, \$180

MFJ259B SWR Analyzer w/Instr Book, \$200

KENWOOD TS520S XCVR w/Instr Book, \$300

Contact Jim, K2TJB Ph: 869-5720

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For any items to trade or sell or if you are looking for some item, contact the editor or post email to the following address: [sara@yahoogroups.com](mailto:sara@yahoogroups.com). You must join the e-group at <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/sara/>. (It's free).

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## LogBook or LoTW has ARRIVED

On Monday September 15, 2003 Logbook of the World opened for business. It will eventually offer a new way to get credits for awards like DXCC, WAS and the DXCC Challenge. October QST has information about the program on page 46.

Step by step instructions are found on the Getting Started section, <http://www.arrl.org/lotw/getstart.html>.

(From the ARRL Hudson Division Newsletter)

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## Repeater Fund Drive

The K2AE/W2GBO repeater fund drive is well underway, and contributions are coming in. Send yours now to SARA, George Williams W2CSN – treasurer, PO Box 207, Alplaus, NY 12008. Make out the checks to Schenectady Amateur Radio Association, and mark them "Repeater Fund". Also indicate if you wish other than 50/50 allocation to the 146.94 W2GBO and 147.06 K2AE repeaters.

## 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 what you want your club to be!

### Officers:

Pres: Dennis Hudson, N2LBT, 865-3181  
 VPres: Ramsey Seielstad, KC2GMW, 377-2263  
 Sec: Tim Long, W2UI, (longt@empireone.net) 399-7454  
 Treas: George Williams, W2CSN (williamg@tardis.union.edu) 377-6188  
 Dirs: Paul Siemers, WY2F, (siemers@crd.ge.com) 371-0215  
 Millie Gittinger, KB2SWR, (gittingn@crisny.org) 377-0671  
 Carl Lester, K2YR,  
 Gerry Crawmer, KE2JJ, 371-1797

### Committees:

SARA News: Clark Gittinger, KG2AO, (gittingn@crisny.org) 377-0671  
 PIO: Open  
 Rept./K2AE: Howard Lester W2ODC (hlester@nycap.rr.com)  
 RFI: Rudy Dehn W2JVF (w2jvf@juno.com)  
 Membership: Ramsey Seielstad, KC2GMW 377-2263  
 Pub. Ser.: Ken Klikeman AA2CW (klikema@nycap.rr.com) 861-6825  
 VE team: Bill Mischler, KG2AC

**VE registration: (518) 370-1350**

October, 2003

## 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 \_\_\_\_\_

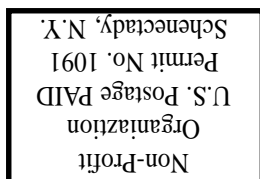
e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

ARRL \_\_\_\_\_ RACES \_\_\_\_\_ ARES \_\_\_\_\_ MARS \_\_\_\_\_

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

June, 2003



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