



SARA NEWS

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



Founded 1930

November, 2003

K2AE Repeaters

Meeting Monday, November 3, 2003 at 7:30 PM, Niskayuna High School New Cafeteria

Public Service

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

November 9, 2003. Stockade-athon: The 28th annual Stockade-athon 15K footrace will be held starting at 10:30AM on Sunday, November 9th. The race will go from its start in Schenectady's Central Park to the Stockade area in downtown Schenectady and back again. Communication volunteers are needed. Sign up with Ken Clikeman (861-6825).

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.

October 25, 2003: SARA members provided communication for the "Runaround" held in Alplaus. Those assisting were AA2CW, WB2VJC, K2RI, and W2ODC.

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 heard from the other candidate, Stephen Mendelsohn. After hearing both candidates, please make your decision and vote.

Ballots for the Hudson Division Director election should have arrived in your mail-box around October 1. As ballots are sent bulk mail some may have taken 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.)

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November Meeting

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.

The meeting will be held at Niskayuna High School New Cafeteria at 7:30PM, November 3, 2003. Talk-in will be available on the 147.06 MHz. SARA repeater.

Upcoming Meetings

December 1, 2003:

Our annual Christmas Party will be held at Niskayuna High School starting at 7:30pm. This is a pot luck dinner party where everybody brings something yummy. Millie Gittinger has agreed to be the food co-ordinator, she will try to insure a varied menu. Let her know what you want to bring. (377-0671) Further details will be given in the next SARA NEWS.

OOPS

We goofed! Nobody told us that Niskayuna High School would be closed for the Yom Kippur holiday on the day of our October SARA meeting. We found this out on the Friday before!

Fortunately, Level heads arose for the emergency. Ray Wemple (KA2DVM) secured a new meeting location at the Schenectady Public Library conference room. Several members used every communication method available to notify people of the location change. A few hardy souls even stationed themselves at the high school to redirect those who didn't get the word.

A very interesting meeting resulted at a very satisfactory location. The club heartily thanks those who brought about the location switch.

From the Board

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

Schenectady Amateur Radio Association
Board of Directors Meeting October 2, 2003
Minutes

The meeting was called to order by President Dennis Hudson, N2LBT, at 7:07 PM in Olin Hall Rm 101 on the Union College Campus.

Attendees:

President Dennis Hudson, N2LBT
Vice President Ramsey Seielstad, KC2GMW
Treasurer George Williams, W2CSN
Secretary Tim Long, W2UI
Director Paul Siemers, WY2F
Director Gerry Crawmer, KE2JJ
Director Millie Gittinger, KB2SWR
Director Carl Lester, K2YR
Member Clark Gittinger, KG2AO
Member Jay Freud, K2QNU

Minutes: Paul Siemers, WY2F, made a motion to accept the minutes as published in SARA News. Millie Gittinger, KB2SWR, seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: George Williams, W2CSN, presented the Treasurer's Report to the Board. Gerry Crawmer, KE2JJ, made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented. The motion was seconded by Millie Gittinger, KB2SWR, and it passed unanimously.

Budget 2003-2004: George Williams, W2CSN, presented the proposed SARA Budget to the Board. After a short discussion, Tim Long, W2UI, made a motion to adopt the SARA Budget for the current year as proposed. The motion was seconded by Gerry Crawmer, KE2JJ, 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, a monthly bank statement, and a letter from the ARRL requesting that we continue to sponsor a June VHF Contest Plaque, since the last Board Meeting.

ARRL June VHF Contest Award Plaque: Tim Long, W2UI, reported that SARA had sponsored this plaque for several years now since its' creation. Tim explained that there is a waiting list for plaque sponsors and that if we ever chose to give up sponsorship, that we would probably not be given the opportunity to sponsor it again. The cost of sponsorship is \$67. Millie Gittinger, KB2SWR, made a motion to sponsor the plaque for the upcoming season. Ramsey Seielstad, KC2GMW, seconded the motion and the motion passed.

Repeater Committee: No Report. The Board is awaiting a recommendation from the Repeater Committee on the 220 meter machine.

Public Service: No Report. Upcoming events that we know of are the Stockadeathon on 11/16 and the Christmas Parade on 11/28.

Newsletter: Clark Gittinger, KG2AO, reported that duplicating was done at Leonard Communications.

Membership: Tim Long, W2UI, reported that 37 members who were paid in full through 6/2003 have not renewed yet.

Public Relations: No Report.

Programs: Ramsey Seielstad, KC2GMW, reported that Steve Mendelson was scheduled for Monday. George Williams, W2CSN, reported that a tentative program for the

May meeting might be a Special Event Station program.

VE Sessions: No Report.

RFI: No Report.

Constitution and By-Law Review: No Report.

Broughton Committee: No committee has been formed yet.

Old Business-

Box Trailer: Paul Siemers, WY2F, reported that the leaf springs had been replaced. Paul and Tim also reported that during spring replacement, it was discovered that the trailer frame side rails which are made of 4" X 2" steel box beams, were rusted and rotten. Their condition is much worse than initially thought, and they are in need of replacement within the year. Replacement steel can be obtained for approximately \$50 and another \$50 is estimated for welding materials. The Board agreed that this funding was already budgeted under Field Day Expenses and that no further approvals were required.

Dues Reminder Letter: Tim Long, W2UI, presented the format of a reminder notice that would be mailed to those SARA members who were in good standing as of 6/2003 but had not yet renewed their membership for 2004. George Williams, W2CSN, made a motion to mail the notices. Ramsey Seielstad, KC2GMW, seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

New Business:

Broadband over Power Lines: Carl Lester, K2YR, encouraged club members to support the ARRL efforts to oppose this threat to ham radio. Carl distributed CD copies of the video and PowerPoint presentation that the ARRL had composed which show how serious and devastating these signals are in test areas that exist today. Carl explained that the spectrum from 2 to 80 MHz would become almost useless. Gerry Crawmer, KE2JJ, made a motion to donate \$250 to the ARRL Spectrum Defense Fund allocated to oppose BPL. Carl Lester, K2YR, seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Master II Base Stations: Dennis Hudson, N2LBT, reported that the NYS Police Radio Warehouse in Scotia had given SARA 12 Master II base stations and that they were presently located in the Capital Digitronics site. Dennis explained that these radios would provide many years of spare parts for the current K2AE repeater systems.

Millie Gittinger, KB2SWR, made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:43 PM.

Respectfully submitted, Tim Long, W2UI, Secretary

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)

SARA web site

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

Get the latest on SARA activities

Net Control Speaks Every Sunday

Every Sunday afternoon, the Net Control Stations for Schenectady County RACES, ARES and Skywarn meet for tests of their stations. It is a good chance for local amateur radio operators to both check-in to the net and to say hello to one another. All amateurs are welcome, no memberships are required. It is a radio friendly and orderly group.

Net protocol is very different from random QSO contacts. Each of the Sunday nets is initiated by a Net Control Station. This station varies from week to week. They are lightly structured with stations following check in protocol. When the net control station calls, you respond with your call sign using proper radio phonetics, stating whether you are mobile, portable or fixed location. Once a list of stations has been assembled, the net control station will ask stations for input to the net - announcements concerning club meetings, public service events, weather reports, and general amateur radio information. Include your name, location, and power output. Stations are requested to stay on frequency until the net control station has had time to call each of the check in stations and not leave the net without first requesting permission from the net control station. Time allowing, the net control station will call stations on the list more than once, usually in the order of check in.

The Schenectady County Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Services Net is one of the few RACES nets to operate on HF high frequency without the use of a repeater. The net can last anywhere from 5 to 45 minutes depending on the number of check-in stations. Some parts of the net tend to be more formal than others. The order and control of stations on the air is exactly what makes it a net rather than just a group of amateur radio operators. Schenectady RACES has a long history, is deeply rooted with the Schenectady Amateur Radio Association and the heavy winter storms of 1930. If you are new to amateur radio or if you have been on the air since the beginning, put the ARES/RACES nets on your weekly calendar. It is a great way to meet old friends, make new ones, take pride in your station and to take part in the Amateur Radio Service. Look for times and frequencies in this newsletter.

Jay Freud K2QNU

Come Join the Sunday ARES-RACES nets. All are welcome.

- 1:00 PM - K2AE 444.200 repeater
- 1:15 PM - K2AE 224.060 repeater (Off air temporarily)
- 1:30 PM - K2AE 147.060 repeater
- 2:00 PM - 3953 KHz, 75 Meter HF Band

The Trading Post



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

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

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. You must join the e-group at <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/sara/>. (It's free).

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.

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.

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
Dir: 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

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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