



SARA NEWS

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



Founded 1930

March, 2004

K2AE Repeaters

Meeting Monday, March 1, 2004 at 7:30 PM, Niskayuna High School New Cafeteria

Public Service

No Public Service events are scheduled for March. We can look forward, though, to Spring and Summer, when we provide communications for parades and races. In particular, May will bring the following events:

May 2: Crop Walk

May 19: Scotia Parade

Niska Day: Date to be determined.

As usual, our public service chairman, Ken Clickman, AA2CW, will organize our participation in these events. His phone is 861-6825.

River Watch

It's that time of year again, when the ice in the Mohawk River may go out at any time. Depending on the weather, it may go out peacefully like last year, or jam up and cause flooding in parts of Schenectady. Ice jams will likely occur if we get a big warm spell and/or a heavy rain-storm. If these conditions occur and if you would like to join a river watch, listen to the SARA 2M repeater at 147.06 MHz for river watch activity or call Raliegth Keeter, K2RI, 377-3788. All that is needed is an HT and some of your time.

For Sale

We Have a few SARA Patches available, which can be had for \$5 each at the meeting. See George Williams, W2CSN, if you want one

SARA web site

<http://k2ae.org> or <http://k2ae.net>

Get the latest on SARA activities

March Meeting

Le Secret de la Guerre

(The Secret of War)

Signal Corps Communication during the Civil War

Ray Wemple, KA2DVM, SARA member and past president, will be our speaker for the March 1st meeting. Ray is also a Civil War buff and is primarily interested in Civil War communications for both the CSA and Union armies. His interest in Civil War communications was sparked while on a field trip to Gettysburg with the round table group to which he belongs. At a stopover at Carlisle Barracks, Pa, he spent 45 minutes in the archive research library there and has been hooked ever since. His presentation will discuss the life and efforts of a Union Army officer to develop a separate "Signal Corps" with copies of some of his personal letters to his loved ones back home that you may read. Also, methods of signaling by flag, torch and "flying telegraph" will be explained. You will see a replica of an actual signal flag used during the period. Having served in the Signal Corps himself with both the 47th and 27th Division Signal Companies as a lineman and with a radio relay outfit, he has an understanding of the very difficult and dangerous work that these Civil War predecessors performed. Hoorah boys!! The Union forever!!

Upcoming Meeting

Monday, April 5, 2004:

Skywarn Basic Training Session with John Quinlan

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From the Board

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

Board of Directors Meeting January 29, 2004
Minutes

The meeting was called to order by President Dennis Hudson, N2LBT, at 7:10 PM at the home of Millie and Clark Gittinger.

Attendees:

President Dennis Hudson, N2LBT
Vice President Ramsey Seielstad, KC2GMW
Secretary Tim Long, W2UI
Director Millie Gittinger, KB2SWR
Director Paul Siemers, WY2F
Member Clark Gittinger, KG2AO

Minutes: Millie Gittinger, KB2SWR, made a motion to accept the minutes as amended. Tim Long, W2UI, seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: Dennis Hudson, N2LBT presented the Treasurer's Report for George Williams, W2CSN, who was unable to attend. Ramsey Seielstad, KC2GMW made a motion to accept the report. The motion was seconded by Paul Siemers, WY2F and it passed unanimously.

New Members: None presented.

Correspondence: Tim Long, W2UI, reported that, since the last Board Meeting, we had received a monthly bank statement, a monthly phone statement, a report of the annual Hudson Division Award Banquet, a copy of our insurance policy, and a handi-ham newsletter. No renewals were received via the mail.

Repeater Committee: No Report.

Public Service: No events are planned.

Newsletter: Clark Gittinger, KG2AO, requested that submissions be made earlier so that editing and duplication could be done at a normal pace. Clark also reminded the Board that a new SARA News Editor will be needed soon.

Membership: Tim Long, W2UI, reported that we mailed 78 copies and emailed another 45 copies. We had received one email inquiry regarding membership and one email inquiry regarding test sessions.

Public Relations: No Report. Still need chairperson.

Programs: Ramsey Seielstad, KC2GMW, reported that we need a program for the March meeting. Other venues discussed were a field trip to the NYS State Power Pool and the WRGB digital transmitter site. The consensus was that these venues would be great as

an extra activity on a weekend but should not take the place of a Monday night meeting. We will take an informal survey at the Monday night meeting.

VE Sessions: We received an email inquiry regarding a test to upgrade to General.

RFI: No Report.

Old Business-

SARA Web Site: Dennis Hudson, N2LBT, reported that we had new web addresses that are intuitive and should make finding us much easier. The new URLs are www.k2ae.org or www.k2ae.net. Either address will get you to the same site maintained by Peter Brand. The old site has a note to update your bookmark.

New Business:

K0CCC Equipment – we will pursue the storage volume requirements with Raleigh.

Hudson Division Cabinet Meeting – Dennis may attend.

Sullivan County Road Rally – this is a public service event and they're requesting ham volunteers from all area clubs. Dennis will recruit volunteers at Monday's meeting. Clark will put an announcement in SARA News.

Bob Raffaele will chair the Broughton Committee. We need to find chairmen for the Nominating Committee and for Field Day.

Paul Siemers, WY2F, made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:55 PM.

Respectfully submitted, Tim Long, W2UI, Secretary

Repeater Fund Drive

The K2AE/W2GBO repeater fund drive is continuing. Send your contribution 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.

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 Latest on BPL

(Broadband over Power Line)

Some excerpts from the ARRL Hudson Division Newsletter:

* FCC Okays BPL Proposal; ARRL Officials Express Disappointment

(Feb 12, 2004) — The FCC today agreed unanimously—with one partial dissent—to go forward with a Notice of Proposed Rule Making (NPRM) on the subject of Broadband over Power Line (BPL). The NPRM is the next step in the BPL proceeding, which began last April with a Notice of Inquiry that attracted more than 5100 comments—many from the amateur community. See <http://www.arrl.org/news/stories/2004/02/12/5/?nc=1> for further details.

ED HARE TO BE IN NNJ FOR BPL TALK

This may be your only chance to hear Ed, as he will not be making other presentations, as he will simply be too busy preparing material for ARRL's response to the FCC NPRM on BPL. See the story below on BPL.

The 10-70 Repeater Association, Inc. - Regular meeting on Wednesday, March 3, 2004.

Ed Hare, W1RFI, will give a presentation about Broadband over Power Lines (BPL) and the effect that it will have on Amateur Radio. This meeting will be held at the Bergen County Law and Public Safety Institute in Mahwah, NJ at a 7PM (special time!) Because this topic is so important to all hams (as well as many of those involved in public safety, who may have their communications impacted as well), we encourage anyone who is interested, club member or not, to attend this presentation.

Check our website: www.10-70.org or call the hotline: 201-445-5172.

KA2ANF - Joyce Birmingham, Hudson Division Vice Director KA2ANF@arrl.org

Please spread the word. Let me know if you'd like to go. 73, W2XM

The National Weather Service puts out bulletins for weather watch and weather warning which can be heard on their NOAA weather radio, 162.55 MHz. They also will send bulletins as E-Mail to those interested. For more details and to sign up, use the Internet URL below.

<http://www.EmergencyEmail.org/>

The Trading Post

FOR SALE
OR TRADE

Estate of W2WBB:

These items are available:

Dentron Clipperton "L" Linear

MFJ Antenna Tuner MFJ 962C

Alinco 2M XCVR DR150T

MFJ SWR Analyzer MFJ259B

Kenwood 520S XCVR

Contact "Jim" K2TJB, Phone 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@yahogroups.com. You must join the e-group at <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/sara/>. (It's free).

Comments about the ARRL Licence Restructuring Proposal

The ARRL licence restructuring proposal has certainly generated a lot of comment from the amateur community, both pro and con. As a result, our representative Frank Fallon has felt it necessary to explain the reasoning behind the proposal. (See the February SARA News for the proposal.) His explanation is in the February edition of the Hudson Division Newsletter, and it is far too long to reprint here. To summarize, he feels that the proposal is the best compromise the ARRL could propose to the FCC and have a chance of approval, given the anti-morse code opinions of the FCC and the international organizations.

Franks comments can be found on the web at:

<http://www.hudson.arrl.org>

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, 435-9730
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 Clikeman AA2CW (kclikema@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

March, 2004

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