

SARA NEWS

**SCHENECTADY AMATEUR
RADIO ASSOCIATION, INC.**

**"SERVICE THROUGH
AMATEUR RADIO"**

FOUNDED 1930

K2AE REPEATERS

<http://www.k2ae.org/>

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December, 2004

Holiday Party, December 6th, 2004 at 6:30PM, Niskayuna High School New Cafeteria

Next Meeting Monday December 6th SARA Holiday Party

This year's SARA holiday party will be held in the usual place, the New cafeteria at Niskayuna High School. This month's meeting will start a little earlier than usual at 6:30 pm since there will be food. The atmosphere will be informal, so it will be a great time to catch up with old friends. As in past years, we ask that each of you bring a food item to share or alternatively a small donation to cover some of the costs. The club will be providing coffee and tea and some other refreshments. Millie Gittinger KB2SWR is coordinating the food and refreshments so please contact her to find out what would be good to bring along at 377-0671 or email gittingn@crisny.org

George Williams has setup a website that lists which items are still needed, it is linked from k2ae.org

In addition, N2UD Dan Whelan has put together a little "silent slide show" that will run during the party with pictures of vintage ham radio equipment from decades past. The term "classic" usually includes anything over 20 years old. It was kind of strange to realize that classic radios like Drake "Twins", WW2 vintage receivers, Collins rigs, "Harvey Wells" rigs, Gonset "Goony Boxes", Hammarlund receivers and Heathkit "Sixers" are now being joined by more "recent radios" such as Regency HR-2 FM mobile rigs, Drake TR-22 2 meter portables, FT-202 and Icom

IC-2AT handy talkies, which are now all well past the 20 year mark. Even the radios like the Kenwood TR-2500 HT and Kenwood TS-430 HF rigs are now over 20 years old. How time flies! And if you have vintage rig you are proud of, please feel free to bring it in to show off, if your back is able to bear the strain of carrying it! We might even have picture of it up on the big screen.

So, come prepared for some nice goodies and to see a glimpse of some of the "dream rigs" of yesteryear. And who knows, if we are lucky, there might even be some music makers or carolers among us. See you Monday December 6th at 6:30 pm.

RACES Nets

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 Lower SSB

SARA Board Meeting

The SARA Board meeting will be this coming Thursday, December 2nd, 2004 at 7:00pm, Union College Campus, in the Lab Room N-106, next to the W2UC Room, N-106A. SARA Members and invited guests are welcome to attend, please RSVP to President Ramsey Seielstad vze2n6jv@verizon.net 377-2263.



Board Meeting

Schenectady Amateur Radio Association
Board Meeting October 28, 2004 Minutes

The meeting was called to order by President, Ramsey Seielstad, KC2GMW, at 7:02 PM in lab room N106 just outside the W2UC shack on the Union College Campus.

Attendees: President, Ramsey Seielstad, KC2GMW
Vice-President, Dan Whelan, N2UD
Treasurer, George Williams, W2CSN
Secretary, Tim Long, W2UI
Director, Millie Gittinger, KB2SWR
Director, Carl Lester, K2YR
Member, Rudy Dehn, W2JVF
Member, Raleigh Keeter, K2RI

Minutes: Tim Long, W2UI, noted that the following corrections to the published minutes were necessary: The meeting was called to order by President, Ramsey Seielstad, KC2GMW and not by Vice-President, Dan Whelan, N2UD. The meeting was started at 7:06 and not 7:03. George Williams, W2CSN, made a motion to accept the minutes as published in SARA News as corrected. Millie Gittinger, KB2SWR, seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Correspondence: Tim Long, W2UI, reported that, since the last Board Meeting, we had received 1 monthly bank statement, a Verizon statement, membership renewals, a QSL card from Field Day, an email announcing ARRL membership renewals through affiliated clubs, and various club newsletters.

Treasurer's Report: George Williams, W2CSN, presented the Treasurer's Report. Millie Gittinger, KB2SWR, made a motion to accept the report. The motion was seconded by Tim Long, W2UI, and it passed unanimously.

New Members: No new member applications were received.

Membership The membership database query filters were changed to 2005. Hardcopy mailings and emails are down significantly. We anticipate a lot of renewal activity.

Public Service: See the events listed in SARA News for planned upcoming events. No other events are planned. No new requests were received.

Programs: The November meeting will be Low Band Antennas and Skywave Propagation by Dan Whelan, N2UD. The December 6th meeting will be the traditional Holiday Festival and will start at 6:30PM. Millie Gittinger, KB2SWR, has agreed to organize this program. Dan Whelan will compose a silent slide show of antique radios for entertainment.

Public Relations: No chairman. No report.

Newsletter: Dennis continues to welcome articles and other items for publication. Electronic format by email is preferred.

RFI: Rudy Dehn, W2JVF, reported that no complaints had been received.

Repeater Committee: No report

VE Sessions: No requests received. A test session is planned for prior to the November meeting.

Anniversary Committee: An informal survey taken at last month's meeting indicates that we could anticipate 25 to 50 people attending an SARA Anniversary Dinner. More details to follow. Possible formats for an on-the-air special event were also discussed.

Constitution and By-Laws: No report.

Old Business: Budget – Treasurer, George Williams, W2CSN, presented a proposed budget for this 2004-2005 year. Millie Gittinger, KB2SWR, made a motion to drop the bulk mailing permit at a cost of \$185 per year. The motion was seconded by Carl Lester, K2YR, and it passed unanimously. Millie Gittinger, KB2SWR, also made a motion to create a new line item in the amount of \$185 for Programs. The motion was seconded by Dan Whelan, N2UD, and it passed unanimously. Millie Gittinger, KB2SWR, made a motion to accept the budget as amended. The motion was seconded by Carl Lester, K2YR, and it passed unanimously.

New Business: Dan Whelan, N2UD, made a motion to continue to maintain and fund the domain names of k2ae.org and k2ae.net at a cost of \$8.95 per year. The motion was seconded by Carl Lester, K2YR, and it passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:22 PM.

Respectfully submitted, Tim Long, W2UI, Secretary

SARA NEWS

WINTER HAMFESTS

Just because it is wintertime, it doesn't mean there aren't any hamfests around. Hams are a hearty lot so here is a list of 2005 Winter hamfests coming up within a couple hundred miles of here. Of course, the weather might give "tailgating" a whole new meaning if a Northeaster hits. But here are the details of some of the upcoming ARRL recognized hamfests. See you there.

Jan, 9 2005 NYC/LI Section Convention/Ham Radio University
Briarcliffe Amateur Radio Club, Long Island Mobile Amateur
Radio Club

<http://www.hudson.arrl.org/nli/hru2005.htm> n2ga@arrl.net

Talk-In: 146.85 MHz with 136.5 PL

Contact: George Tranos, N2GA 631-286-7562

Briarcliffe College 1055 Stewart Ave, Bethpage, NY 11714

Jan, 15 2005 Skyline Amateur Radio Club

<http://www.skylineradioclub.org> kc2bqz@verizon.net

Talk-In: 147.180 (+)

Contact: Patrick Dunn, KC2BQZ 315-488-3499

Marathon Civic Center Route 221, Marathon, NY

Jan, 29 2005 Lockport ARA

<http://lara.hamgate.net> w2dlr@arrl.net

Talk-In: 146.820 (PL 107.2)

Contact: Duane Robinson, W2DLR 716-791-4096

South Lockport Volunteer Fire Company Transit and Ruhlman
Roads, Lockport, NY

Feb, 19 2005 Algonquin ARC

<http://n1em.org> ka1pon@amsat.org

Talk-In: 146.61 (PL 136.2), 449.925 (PL 88.5)

Contact: Ann Weldon, KA1PON 508-481-4988

Marlborough Middle School, 25 Union Street Marlborough, MA

Feb, 26 2004 ARA of the Southern Tier

<http://www.arast.org/> n2syt@arast.org

Contact: Randy Viele, N2SYT 607-732-2822

Horseheads, NY

Feb, 26 2005 Vermont State Convention

Radio Amateurs of Northern Vermont

<http://www.RANV.org> w1sjt@arrl.net

Talk-In: 145.15 (146.67 Bulletins)

Contact: Mitchell Stern, W1SJ 802-879-6589

Milton High School Route 7, Milton, VT

Mar 6th, 2005 Greater Buffalo Winter Hamfest
Lancaster Amateur Radio Club

<http://gbhamfest.hamgate.net> wv2ny@adelphia.net

Talk-In: 147.255 + pl 107.2

Contact: Joe Gearhart, WV2NY 716-892-2760

Main Transit Fire Hall 6777 Main Street Williamsville, NY

Mar, 19 2005 Eastern Connecticut ARA Hamfest

<http://www.qsl.net/k1muj/> KE1LI@arrl.net

Talk-In: 147.225/147.825 pl 156.7 & 146.52 simplex

Contact: Paul Rollinson, KE1LI 860-928-2456

Pomfret Community School Rts 101 and 169, Pomfret, CT

2004 Skywarn Recognition Day

Skywarn Recognition Day 2004 will begin at 7:00 pm on Friday December 3rd, and end at 7pm on Saturday December 4th. SRD is a Special Event co-sponsored by the ARRL and National Weather Service to celebrate the contributions of the amateur radio community to the SKY-WARN program nationwide. This year, nearly 100 NWS and Canadian Weather Service offices will participate.

WX2ALY is planning on being on the air. We will operate HF, 10 through 80 meters, and are planning on running several local VHF/UHF nets as well, including Echolink and IRLP links. Contact format will include your call sign, name, QTH and brief weather report (i.e. "cloudy with light snow, 25 degrees, 2" of snow since 7pm").

For those amateurs near the Albany office, we are looking for operators. If you are interested in operating, please contact Steve, W2FXJ at w2fxj@aol.com or (518)435-9570

For more information before and during the event, including frequency plans and local net times and repeaters, please go to <http://hamradio.noaa.gov/>



SARA NEWS

Does Anyone Really Know What Time it is? The NIST's radio station WWV Does

By Dan Whelan - N2UD

Being a ham radio operator we have some very interesting things to talk about and show our family and friends. One of them is the ability to listen directly to the broadcasts of the official U.S. Government time signals broadcast by the National Institute of Standards and Technology (formerly known as the National Bureau of Standards) from the national laboratory and transmitter site near Boulder Colorado. This shortwave station, radio callsign WWV has been on the air for well over half a century and has gone through many improvements over the decades and it is directly linked to the official U.S. Government time atomic clock and frequency standards. Actually WWV's signals are considered a part of the those standards and one of the key ways the standards can be accessed by the public and industrial users..

The WWV transmitters and audio announcements are tied to an array of the our nations most accurate atomic clocks which are in turn directly coorelatable to the worldwide standard Coordinated Universal Time. Coordinated Universal Time is also known to many as "Greenwich Mean Time", GMT, "Zulu Time", UTC or just UT; and it is 5 hours ahead of Eastern Standard Time. During Eastern Daylight Savings Time it is only 4 hours ahead of us. Actually if you look carefully into the science of time keeping you will find that there are several variants of this time, but that is beyond the scope of this article.

You can tune in these voice broadcasts announcements of time every minute, time "ticks" every second as well as periodic radio propagation condition and storm information on your HF rig. These transmissions are made on 2.5, 5, 10, 15, 20 and 25 Mhz on AM mode but they can also be received on sideband. It is also useful to note that these transmissions are on these precise frequencies and as such will be the most precisely controlled HF frequency signals you can receive. They are so accurate that you can check the accuracy of your rigs frequency calibration well. Please don't write to WWV to tell them they are slightly "off frequency". They really are the Official U.S.

Frequency Standard so they are never wrong. The accuracy of the AM carrier of the WWV signal is for all practical purposes, exactly on frequency, not even a thousandth of a RF cycle (Hertz) off. As for the exact time and "ticks" the only issue is the time delay at the speed of light from Boulder to your hamshack, or less than about twenty miliseconds here on the east coast of the US.

Because these signals are located in Boulder Colorado and are on the air nearly all the time, they will also give you a good way to do a check on what the propagation conditions are. By the way the WWV time signals in Colorado are broadcast with a male voice. If you hear a female voice on the time signals and identification as WWVH, that is the other NIST transmitter in Hawaii and that means the propagation is good to that part of the world. Information on extreme weather, propagation and solar flare conditions are also broadcast each hour.

For more detailed information on these fascinating U.S. Government broadcasts go to www.nist.gov and you will find lots of information on many of NIST's programs as well as their time and frequency standards and the history of WWV. So put these standard time signal frequencies into your HF rig memories and show it off to family and friends who visit your ham shack. Now you can also set your watch more accurately than you ever dreamed. On New Years Eve you can tune in WWV and really know exactly when the year changes and if the Times Square ball was actually on time!



WWV 2.5mhz and 20mhz transmitters



College Scholarship is available.

All SARA members should pass the word to all of the local college bound hams that they know that there is a SARA sponsored scholarship available. Here are the details.

Henry Primm Broughton, K2AE Memorial Scholarship Terms of Reference

Established in 1997 by the Schenectady Amateur Radio Association, Inc., this scholarship is intended to honor the memory of Henry Primm Broughton, K2AE, whose early work with Nikola Tesla exemplified the pioneering efforts of early radio experimenters and Amateurs, and who was a distinguished member of the Club.

To further the intention of his son, the late Bill Broughton, W2IR, also a distinguished member of the Club, SARA has generously established this award.

Applicant Requirements

- A. Applicants must be accepted at or attending a 4 yr. college or university or in a college or university graduate program.
- B. Preference shall be given to students whose home residence is within 70 miles of Schenectady, New York.
- C. Applicant must be enrolled in a course of technical studies such as engineering, sciences, or similar disciplines.
- D. Applicant must hold a valid FCC General Class or higher amateur radio license.
- E. Academic excellence, without consideration to financial need, and a demonstrated interest in organized Amateur Radio will be considered highly important in selecting a recipient.

Selection & Award

The ARRL Foundation shall consider all qualified applicants. Selection of the applicant by the Foundation Scholarship Committee is final. The scholarship is an annual award of \$1000. More than one scholarship award may be made if earnings permit. Awards are granted from the earnings on the principal of funds on deposit with The ARRL Foundation, Inc.

<http://www.remote.arrl.org/arrlf/>

SWAP

Attention All Hombrewers -There are parts available, such as composition resistors of various wattages, some electrolytic caps, 3 boxes of power transformers and filter chokes of different inductances, some air variable caps and some coils. All items are available for only nominal fees.
George, N2JJE 887-5019

FS: Crushcraft 3 element yagi. 10-15-20 meters - best offer
Astron power supply 35 watts - best offer
Wendell KF2XY 371-2305

WANTED - Nixie tubes - any type, numeric or alphanumeric. Specifically interested in the large 14-segment Burroughs B-7971 Nixie tubes. Also looking for surplus or non-working equipment that contains Nixie tubes. Information or leads about possible sources of Nixie tubes is also desirable.
Bob Saltzman, WB2ARK, 370-2222 saltzman@nycap.rr.com



Schenectady Amateur Radio Association, Inc.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION/RENEWAL FORM

Regular Dues	\$20.00	\$ _____
Spouse	\$5.00	\$ _____
Student	\$5.00	\$ _____
Repeater 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, PO Box 207, Alplaus, NY 12008-0207
 July, 2004 through June, 2005

Board Of Directors

Pres: Ramsey Seielstad, KC2GMW,
vze2n6jv@verizon.net 377-2263
VPres: Dan Whelan, N2UD n2ud@arrl.net 895-2754
Sec: Tim Long, W2UI, tlong2@nycap.rr.com 399-7454
Treas: George Williams, W2CSN,
williamg@tardis.union.edu 377-6188

Directors

Millie Gittinger, KB2SWR, gittingn@crisny.org 377-0671
Dennis Hudson, N2LBT n2lbt@n2lbt.com 435-9730
Carl Lester, K2YR k2yr@nycap.rr.com 893-7609
Paul Siemers, WY2F, siemers@crd.ge.com 371-0215

Standing Committees

SARA News: Dennis Hudson, n2lbt@n2lbt.com 435-9730

PIO: We need a volunteer!

Repeater: Scott Krone, N2YCA

n2yca@nycap.rr.com 273-1610

K2AE: Howard Lester, W2ODC hlester@nycap.rr.com

RFI: Rudy Dehn, W2JVF w2jvf@juno.com 372-6139

Public Service: Ken Clikeman, AA2CW

free2aa2cw2000@yahoo.com 861-6825

VE Team: Bill Mischler, KG2AC 370-1350

VE Registration (518) 370-1350

Activity Calendar

December

2-5 [ARRL 160 Meter Contest](#)
3-4 [Skywarn Recognition Day](#)
4-5 [ARRL International EME Contest](#)
6th [SARA Holiday Party 6:30pm](#)
11-12 [ARRL 10 Meter Contest](#)
25th [Christmas](#)

January 2005

1st [New Year's Day](#)
3rd [Sara Meeting](#)
28-29 [CQ WW 160M CW Contest](#)

February

4-5 [Vermont QSO Party](#)
7th [Sara Meeting](#)
14th [Valentine's Day](#)

March

4-5 [ARRL Int'l DX Contest, SSB](#)
7th [Sara Meeting](#)
17th [St. Patrick's Day](#)

Schenectady Amateur Radio Association, Inc.
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