

SARA NEWS

**SCHENECTADY AMATEUR
RADIO ASSOCIATION, INC.**

**"SERVICE THROUGH
AMATEUR RADIO"**

FOUNDED 1930

K2AE REPEATERS

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

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December, 2006

SARA General Meeting, Monday December 4th , 2006 at 7:00PM, Niskayuna High School Cafeteria

Holiday party December 4th

The meeting will be held in our usual meeting room. SARA will furnish a party platter, beverages, plates and cutlery. Members will be asked to bring a covered dish or dessert of choice. SARA will appreciate donations from those choosing not to bring a dish to pass. Hal Post may be contacted for information. phone 518-584-6441 or email ak2e@arrl.net Please let Hal know if you will be attending and bringing a dish to pass or just planning on being there. The meeting will be at 7 PM at the Niskayuna High School in the new cafeteria toward the rear of the building. Use the parking to the right and toward the rear of the school as you come in from Balltown Road.

"Omnibus" Amateur Radio Report and Order Takes Effect December 15

With publication in the Federal Register November 15, the long-awaited changes to the amateur rules are set to take effect 30 days later, at 12:01 AM EST December 15. The highlights: * For Amateur Extra class licensees, the 75 meter phone band will start at 3600 kHz, while Advanced class licensees start at 3700 kHz and Generals at 3800 kHz. The high end of the CW/RTTY/Digital band is now 3600 kHz (although CW is allowed on the entire band). * On 40 meters, Amateur Extra and Advanced licensees will be able to operate phone beginning at 7125 kHz, while Generals

start at 7175 kHz. The top end of the CW/RTTY/Digital band will be 7125 kHz (although CW is allowed on the entire band). * There are no changes to the 20 meter band. * On 15 meters, the General class phone band now starts at 21275 kHz. * On 10 meters, Novice and Technician Plus licensees can now operate CW, RTTY Digital from 28000 kHz to 28300 kHz. * In addition, Novices and Tech Plus licensees can use CW only on the same frequencies as General and Advanced licensees on the 80, 40 and 15 meter bands: 3525 kHz-3600 kHz; 7075 kHz-7125 kHz and 21025 kHz-21200 kHz. The Report&Order as published in the Federal Register clarified two items that had raised some concerns when it was first released October 10: That the 80/75 meter band split applies to all three IARU Regions, and that FCC licensees in Region 2, which includes North America, can continue to use RTTY/data emissions in the 7075-7100 kHz band. Several controversial aspects of the proceeding are still to be resolved, although the FCC is working on an erratum for the inadvertent elimination of J2D emissions of more than 500 Hz bandwidth. The Commission intends to release the erratum by the December 15 effective date.

Public Service

W2EWY, K2RI, WB2FLX, W2XAD, W2SID, W2CJO, KC2GMW, KB2TSA and AA2CW participated as communication volunteers for the Stockade-athon.

-Ken AA2CW



Board Meeting

Schenectady Amateur Radio Association
Board Meeting, November 15, 2006

Attendees:

President, Hal Post, AK2E
Vice President, Dan Whelan, N2UD
Treasurer, George Williams, W2CSN
Secretary, Rudy Dehn, W2JVF
Director, Bill Mischler, KG2AC
Director, Bob Saltzman, WB2ARK
Director, Frank Simon, WB2PUH
Director, Jim Stewart, K2PK

Secretary's Report: Minutes of the October meeting were approved as written. Several renewals of membership were received.

Treasurer's Report: Income and expenditures are on target.

Programs : Programs for January through April 2007 are essentially finalized. December 4th meeting will be the annual Holiday party to be at the usual meeting room at Niskayuna H.S. SARA will furnish a party platter, beverages, and plates and cutlery. Members will be asked to bring a covered dish or dessert of choice. Hal Post may be contacted for information. Phone 518 584 6441 or email ak2e@arrl.net Please let Hal know if you will be attending and bringing a dish to pass or just planning on being there.

New Members: Garrett and Loretta Harris were welcomed as new members at the Nov. 6 meeting. They are both working to receive first calls.

Nominating Committee: A three member committee consisting of Dan Whelan, chair, Rudy Dehn, and Jim Stewart was appointed to start the process .

Old Business:

Broughton Scholarship: Dan Whelan will draft a letter to send to ARRL informing them of the changes in qualifications for the award

Name Badges : Dan Whelan did make name badges for officers and directors which were used at the meeting Nov. 6.

Field Day : Preliminary plans are under way in order to avoid last minute crunch. The board is seeking a member volunteer to coordinate the activities

New Business : No new business items were considered.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM

Respectfully submitted by Rudy Dehn, W2JVF

SARA Special Operating Event

SARA will have an on the air special operating event celebrating the 77 Club anniversary. We are looking for large membership participation. Members whom do not enjoy their own operating facility (Ham Shack) are encouraged to use another hams station as a guest operator. The same goes for those whom have a Novice or Tech privileges. Participants will use the club call sign K2AE. We will provide a brief written description of SARA's history. We will endeavor to work on cw and phone on each Band i.e. 80, 40, 20, 15, and 10 meters. Actual operating frequencies will be chosen in accordance with the new frequency/band plan to go into effect on 15 Dec 2006. The number of participants will determine the duration of the event. We are trying to operate from 7AM to 5PM. This will give all the states and some dx stations a chance of contacting us. AK2E has volunteered to coordinate the event. He can be contacted by email ak2e@arrl.net. (Please include special event in subject line) or by phone at 518-584-6441. If you have a preference of time, band, mode, or have a station available for use by a guest operator, or want to be a guest operator please contact Hal. This is a fun event giving all members a chance to get on the air for a common cause, get to learn HF operating procedures, and get to know your fellow club members.

REMINDER ARRL SCHOLARSHIPS

This is to remind all of our members to pass the word along to family and others that the ARRL offers college scholarships to licensed hams who are planning to attend an accredited college or university for undergraduate or graduate level programs. The main

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requirements to be considered is to have an FCC ham license and to submit an application to ARRL. Typically these scholarships are for \$1000 a year or more and some are earmarked for certain areas of the country and many times there is little competition for qualified ham applicants. Among the many scholarships is the Broughton K2AE Scholarship sponsored by SARA which is applied for through the ARRL. For those of you with young people in the family who have thought about becoming hams this is just one more reason to consider taking the plunge and getting a ham ticket. The application deadline for Fall 2007 is this coming February 1st. Full details about all of the ARRL scholarships, applications and procedures can be found at the ARRL website at <http://www.arrl.org/arrlf/scholgen.html>

W1AW COMPLETES "THE BIG (ANTENNA) PROJECT"

From the ARRL Letter Vol25 no46

Can you hear us now? W1AW's typically strong signals may be pushing S meters a tad higher now, following the recent replacement of nearly every one of the station's antennas. The last major upgrade was in 1989. Despite wear and tear inflicted during numerous New England winters, the old antennas installed on four towers at the W1AW site adjacent to ARRL Headquarters had been getting the job done reliably. Even so, replacing the aging aluminum had been on the agenda for a while. W1AW Station Manager Joe Carcia, NJ1Q, says the loss of one-half of a director on a 20-meter rotatable Yagi at the very top of the 120-foot tower pushed the project to top priority.

"Instead of just piecemealing it, we decided to do the major antenna replacement now," he explained.

"Antenna for antenna, they're essentially the same capability or better." Interest from the W1AW Endowment Fund

<http://www.arrl.org/endoww1aw.html>, which depends on members' contributions, covered the nearly \$24,000 project cost. All of the new antennas are manufactured by M2.

The W1AW antenna farm includes both fixed-direction "bulletin" Yagis as well as several rotatable Yagis that can serve to fill in "holes" in W1AW's coverage pattern and are available for use by radio amateurs who visit W1AW to operate.

While the new antenna farm may mean "a few dB" of additional signal during bulletin and code practice transmissions, Carcia says, visiting ops will be the primary beneficiaries. A five-element 20-meter Yagi replaced the old three-element unit available for visitors.

Replaced were all 14 of W1AW's HF Yagis as well as Yagis for 2 meters and 70 cm. The 120-foot tower alone supports two Yagis for 40, three for 20, two for 15 and one for 10 meters. The project included changing out a lightning-damaged rotator on the big tower. Project photos and details on the W1AW antenna farm accompany our Web site news story <http://www.arrl.org/news/stories/2006/11/01/100/>.



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, 2006 through June, 2007

Board Of Directors

President: Hal Post AK2E ak2e@arrl.net 584-6441
VicePres Dan Whelan N2UD n2ud@arrl.net 895-2754
Sec: Rudy Dehn W2JVF w2jvf@juno.com 372-6139
Treas: George Williams W2CSN
williamg@tardis.union.edu 377-6188

Directors

Bill Mischler KG2AC kg2ac@juno.com 370-1350
Bob Saltzman WB2ARK saltzman@nycap.rr.com 370-2222
Frank Simon WB2PUH wb2puh@arrl.net 477-5265
James Stewart K2PK k2pk@arrl.net 399-1867

Standing Committees

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

PIO: We need a volunteer!

Rptr: 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 kg2ac@juno.com 370-1350

VE Registration (518) 370-1350

Activity Calendar

December

1-3 ARRL 160 Meter Contest
4 SARA Meeting
9-10 ARRL 10 Meter Contest

January 2007

1 Straight Key Night
6-7 ARRL RTTY Round-Up
8 SARA Meeting
20-22 ARRL January VHF Sweepstakes

February

1-3 ARRL International DX Contest (CW)
5 SARA Meeting

Sunday SCESN Nets

12:30PM - K2AE 53.57 repeater
1:00 PM - K2AE 444.200 repeater
1:30 PM - K2AE 147.060 repeater
2:00 PM - 3953 KHz, 75 Meter Lower SSB

Schenectady Amateur Radio Association, Inc.
P.O. Box 207 • Alplaus, NY 12008

