



www.k2ae.org

Copyright 2007 SARA Inc.

September 2007

SARA General Meeting, Monday September 10, 2007 at 7:00PM at Niskayuna High School
NEW MEETING ROOM - we are now in "Little Theater" Room D-104.

LIGHTNING!



Our speaker will be Tom Short of the Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI). Tom has worked in the power industry for 17 years and is the author of the "Electric Power Distribution Handbook" and is very familiar with the lightning phenomena and trying to minimize its damage causing potential..

Topics will include:

- * Basics of lightning
- * Lightning impacts on overhead and underground power lines
- * Protection of structures and communications
- * Lightning detection and location technologies
(including do-it-yourself technologies)

IMPORTANT INFO ABOUT SARA MEETINGS THIS YEAR

This year the meeting location within Niskayuna High School has changed to the "Little Theater" Room D-104 which is on a cross hallway between the two wings in the rear of the school. This is about 150 feet down the hall and to the right of the old meeting location in "new cafeteria". Also due to construction at the school there will be some changes in parking and access to the rear parking lot. Access to the school's rear parking lot can be gained by entering from Nott Street which crosses Balltown just south of the school at the light. Go past shopping mall and the entrance will be marked on the left and it will bring you to the High School parking lot. As always SARA meetings are only held when Niskayuna High School has classes so if there is inclement weather check the K2AE repeater and with one of the club officers. There is no smoking on school premises.

SARA News Has A New Editor

After a number of years of being the SARA News editor Dennis Hudson N2LBT has stepped down from the editors chair and our special thanks for a job well done. Beginning this month with the September 2007 issue of SARA News Dan Whelan N2UD will be stepping into the editors shoes for a while.

SARA Has Changed its Mailing Address

Effective now the new SARA mailing address for all correspondence including membership renewals is:

Schenectady Amateur Radio Association Inc.

P.O. Box 449

Schenectady, NY 12301

HOW BIG IS YOUR SARA NEWS?

This month's email SARA news is over 30 pages long! See the article on page 4 about this new SARA News Extra feature.. It also helps support the SARA club by saving postage and trees!

ARRL Field Day 2007

Once again the SARA Field Day K2AE operation was a success with 50+ SARA members participating for some part of the event. The club was operating class 5A which means up to 5 simultaneous transmitters all operating on emergency power. The submitted scores and bonus points were as follows.

Power Source(s): Generator, Solar

Power Multiplier: 2X

Bonus Points:

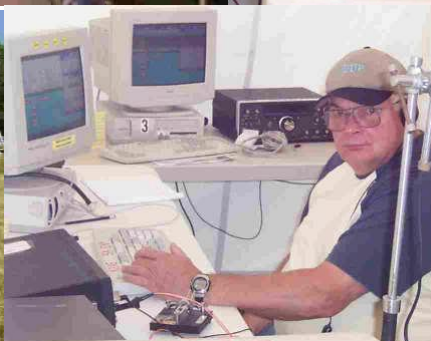
100% Emergency power	500
Media Publicity	100
Set-up in Public Place	100
Information Booth	100
W1AW Field Day Message	100
Natural power QSOs completed	100
Site Visit by invited elected official	100
Site Visit by invited served agency official	100
Youth participation	60
Youth operators=3 Youth participants=3	
Submitted via the Web	50
Total Bonus Points	1,310

Score Summary:

	CW	Phone	Total	
Total QSOs	581	389		
Total Points	1162	389	1551	Claimed Score = 3,102

Band/Mode QSO Breakdown:

	CW		Phone	
	QSOs	Pwr(W)	QSOs	Pwr(W)
160m				
80m	106	100	100	100
40m	208	100	127	100
20m	242	100	142	100
15m	25	100	16	100
10m				
6m			2	50
2m			2	30
TOTAL	581		389	



FIELD DAY 2007 CONTINUED



Special thanks to all who helped out with setting up, operating, attended or brought visitors to learn about ham radio from the Field Day Chairs/Coordinators W2CSN and WB2PUH and W2UIs.

PROPER USE OF HAM REPEATERS

The SARA Board and K2AE trustee get comments from time to time from SARA members regarding inconsiderate use of the K2AE and other repeaters. All hams should be considerate in their use of any repeater since club repeaters like K2AE are not for individual exclusive use but for the use of the club as a whole as well as emergency use and for the local amateur community. The SARA club is a part of the repeater coordinating group for this part of the country and they have some very useful recommendations for repeater use as follows:

UNYREPCO - Upstate New York Repeater Council

General (Repeater) Practices

- Use simplex wherever possible freeing the repeater for necessary uses. (FM nationwide simplex calling frequencies include: 52.525, 146.52, 223.50, 446.0 plus additional 2M simplex frequencies of 146.49, 146.55, 146.58)
- Monitor the repeater (listen) or determine if the repeater is in use, and if there are any peculiarities in its operation. After listening for a few seconds, identify, un key and listen to see if it was quiet for a reason, and to allow someone to let you know if there is a reason not to continue (low audio, low signal strength, etc). Then, if all OK, proceed.
- Don't break into a contact unless you have something to add. Interrupting is no more polite on the air than it is in person. Interruption without identification constitutes malicious (and illegal) interference.
- Use the minimum power to key up the repeater. To make contact, simply indicate that you are on frequency. For example "N2AAA monitoring". Do not kerchunk.
- Remember amateur radio transmissions are being monitored by many non-hams with scanners. Watch your language and your manners. Please don't bring disrepute on the Amateur Radio Service.
- Repeaters are intended to facilitate mobile and portable operation. During rush hours, base stations should relinquish the repeater to commuting mobiles. Some repeater owners have strict rules requiring this.
- Keep transmissions short and thoughtful. Do not monopolize the repeater. Pause between transmissions to allow other amateurs to identify themselves if they wish to use the repeater. Pausing also allows the timer to reset, avoiding a "time-out."
- Identify legally. (When using the K2AE / SARA repeaters it is recommended that you give your FCC call sign on each transmission or at least once every few short exchanges.)
- Repeaters are installed and maintained at considerable expense and inconvenience. Regular users of a repeater should financially support the individual or club owner in their efforts to keep the repeater working properly.

SARA NEWS "EXTRA" E-MAIL VERSION

For the last five or so years SARA News has been available to all our members in an electronic version sent via email. As all of you know the U.S. Post Office raised its rates and changed some of the mailing rules which have increased the costs to SARA as well as requiring some other changes. Today many groups send out their newsletters via the Internet including the ARRL. The reason to do this is that it insures that the newsletter will arrive on time and the quality can be assured. But increasingly the cost is the reason, it also limits the size of newsletters. In fact each and every printed copy of SARA news that must be delivered by U.S. mail eats up about 30% of the annual dues paid by that member. So to put it simply, those that take the electronic version of SARA News are really helping the club by contributing substantially more to the operation of the club as well as making less work for those volunteers. In the last few years SARA News delivered electronically has had some enhanced features such as color, beginning this issue the electronic SARA News will also have additional content. The "SARA News Extra" is available as a bonus and will not be in the printed version due to the cost. The basic printed version of the SARA news will still delivered to those who do not have computers and can only use the printed version. However we are encouraging everyone who can, to take the electronic version for the improved content. If you would like to sign up for the electronic delivery of SARA News let our treasurer George Williams W2CNS know when you send in your renewal or if you are up to date send him an email to get SARA News Extra.

Are CW Operations Actually Increasing Now that the FCC Doesn't Require it for Licensing?

The September issue of CQ Magazine has some interesting observations about CW operation this month. The first comment comes from their review of the Dayton "Hamvention" this year in which they note that the demand for CW hardware has apparently increased since the FCC took action on the elimination of CW license requirements. Vibroplex in particular was quoted and apparently this high end CW equipment maker has a new product for people starting out in CW. The other comment in CQ Magazine comes in another article by John Dorr K1AR from an analysis of trends in various contest operations. Seems that CW contest submissions are strong and not declining. He goes on to note that "Indeed, there has been significant growth in virtually every CW contest measured by this analysis, not just the granddaddy CQ WW event. In fact CW growth over the past 10 years has exceeded SSB by nearly a factor of two!" All this is very interesting indeed. Further information on CQ magazine can be found on their website www.cq-amateur-radio.com

OLD FRIENDS AND QSOs PAST

The passing of several hams we all know is reason to begin to think about ham radio in terms a little different than just a hobby about radios, contests and band openings. Beyond all the technology, beyond the hardware, propagation conditions and contests it seems that ham radio is really something quite a bit more than just a hobby. It is a gathering of friends. These friendships we make over the radio through the years are certainly something well beyond just people who share a common interest in radio and electronics with. Through the magic of radio we are transported not only though the ether but into the hearts and minds of those friends we gain along the way. This years passing of Howard Lester W2ODC and several others we know in the last few months has reminded many of us of the ways that these dear friends of club and each of our lives on the radio. Many SARA members who were at this years Field Day operations recalled the names and calls of dozens of other recent SARA Silent Keys from years past in the course of our conversations Let us not forget that the human side of ham radio is really what is at the core of this hobby. The technology and challenges of operating draw us into the hobby but it is those friendships that keep us in it. And the friendly outgoing personalities of those willing to share their knowledge, share their hearts and of course share a frequency from time to time. Perhaps the next time you hear a new ham or perhaps an old friend be sure to remember to say your hello, signal report and 73s but also remember to be thankful for these fine friends and wonderful intellects that so intrigue and enrich our lives through this hobby of ours. And perhaps beyond the QSO exchange you might actually talk with that person and learn a little about them as well. / Dan Whelan N2UD - Editor

THE 2007 BROUGHTON AWARD



SARA President Hal Post AK2E (left) and 2007 Broughton Award recipient Bill Mischler AG2AC (right)

This past June 2007 the Broughton Award was given for the 50th time to Bill Mischler KG2AC. This award was started by the late Bill Broughton in memory of his father Henry Primm Broughton (SK) and the original holder of our clubs callsign K2AE. He was one of radio's early pioneers, one of the earliest founders of SARA and long time ham. This award is given to recognize

significant contributions to the hobby of amateur radio and promotion of the highest ideals or technical state of the art. Over the years the list of Broughton recipients has grown and below you can see who they have been:

BROUGHTON AWARD RECIPIENTS 1960- 2007

#	Year	Name	Callsign (Original Call)	#	Year	Name	Callsign (Original Call)
1	1960	Warren Ford *	W2GTB	26	1984	Paul Bachorz *	KB2T
2	1961	George Tracy *	W2EFU	27	1985	George Chapek *	N2AIG
3	1962	Earl Houck	W2GTC	28	1986	Rudy Dehn *	W2JVF
4	1963	Howard Lester *	W2ODC	29	1987	Rick Darrah *	KA2OPG
5	1963	Sam Johnson	W6BS	30	1988	Hal Post *	AK2E
6	1964	Ted Goble *	K2HNW	31	1989	Phil Bradway *	KB2HQ
7	1965	Hunt Huntington	K2ONF	32	1990	Joe Hoffman	KA2AXN
8	1966	Bob Hall	W1DQO	33	1991	Bob Janack	WA2DWU
9	1967	Frank Douglas *	W2AZH	34	1992	Dan Whelan *	N2UD (WB2WHD)
10	1968	Charlie Muir	WA2CGD	35	1993	Ray Wemple *	KA2DVM
11	1969	Paul Jorgensen	WA2TAG	36	1994	Tim Long *	W2UI (WB2SPN)
12	1970	Paul Tyner	WB2BDB	37	1995	Paul Mataruga	WB2MCO <i>posthumous</i>
13	1971	Augie Weiss	WB2NYM	38	1995	Richard Arthur *	WV2F
14	1972	Harold Hornbeck	K2DLD	39	1996	Don Walsh *	WA2TSW
15	1973	Jim Lawson	W2PV	40	1997	Mike Gardina	W2ARQ
16	1974	Doc Korn *	N2XU	41	1998	Charlie Haynes	K2VNP
17	1975	Henry Mitchell	W2CAZ	42	1999	Joe Clement	K2UF
18	1976	Walt Schick *	W2KE	43	2000	Bill Patmos *	W2DHT
19	1977	Raleigh Keeter *	K2RI	44	2001	Rob Leiden *	K1UI (KR2L)
20	1978	Jim Pontius	W2CPB	45	2002	John Doblewski *	N2OJY
21	1979	Jack Nelson	W2FW	46	2003	Bob Raffelle	W2XM
22	1980	Bill Schwarting *	WR2L	47	2004	Dennis Hudson *	N2LBT
23	1981	Dan Murray *	W2PKY	48	2005	Ken Clickman	AA2CW
24	1982	Don Bulger	WB2VJC	49	2006	George Williams	W2CNS
25	1983	Dick Frey	WA2AAU	50	2007	Bill Mischler	KG2AC

* Denotes also served as past SARA President

SARA's Board Of Directors 2007-2008

President: Frank Simon WB2PUH simonf072@strose.edu 477-5255
VicePres.: James Stewart K2PK k2pk@arrl.net 399-1867
Sec: Hal Post AK2E ak2e@arrl.net 584-6441
Treas: George Williams W2CSN williamg@tardis.union.edu 377-6188

Directors

Dan Fiorillo KC2MER fiorillo.dan@verizon.net 356-3595
Bill Mischler KG2AC kg2ac@juno.com 370-1350
Bob Saltzman WB2ARK saltzman@nycap.rr.com 370-2222
Dan Whelan N2UD n2ud@arrl.net 895-2754

SARA's Standing Committees

SARA News: Dan Whelan n2ud@arrl.net 895-2754

PIO:

Rptr: Scott Krone N2YCA n2yca@nycap.rr.com 273-1610

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

Public Service: Ken Klikeman AA2CW

free2aa2cw2000@yahoo.com 861-6825

VE Team: Bill Mischler KG2AC kg2ac@juno.com 370-1350

VE Registration (518) 370-1350



SARA Dues Regular Member \$20 _____ Family Member \$5 _____ Student \$5 _____ Repeater Fund \$ _____

Name _____ Callsign _____

Email _____ SARA News Email _____ or Mail _____

Street _____ Member ARES ___ RACES ___ ARRL _____

City _____ Zip Code _____ Telephone _____

Mail to: Schenectady Amateur Radio Association Inc.; P.O. Box 449; Schenectady, NY 12301

Schenectady Amateur Radio Association Inc.
P.O. Box 449
Schenectady, NY 12301