



[www.k2ae.org](http://www.k2ae.org)

Copyright 2008 SARA Inc.

September 2008

SARA General Meeting, Monday September 8<sup>th</sup>, 2008 at 7:00PM  
in "the Little Theater" Room D-104 at Niskayuna High School

## SEPTEMBER IS A "DOUBLE HEADER" MONTH FOR SARA! SARA PICNIC

Sunday September 7<sup>th</sup> @ 1 PM – at Greenfield Town Park

## SARA Meeting

Monday September 8<sup>th</sup> @ 7 PM – at Niskayuna H.S.

This month's SARA meeting will feature an *interesting* program TBA ... (speaker being confirmed as of press time) The SARA Meeting will begin at 7 PM in Room D-104 "the Little Theater" which is the same location as last year's regular meetings.

### About The SARA Meeting Location

The normal SARA meeting location for 2008-09 is in Niskayuna High School's "Little Theater" Room D-104 which is on a cross hallway between the two wings in the rear of the school. Due to major school construction at the front main entrance of the school there are changes once again this year in parking and the traffic pattern for 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 where Friendly's is a few hundred yards on Nott Street and go into the Niskayuna High School rear entrance which is marked on the left. This entrance leads to the parking lot on the side/rear of the school. Also remember there is no smoking on school premises.

### SEPTEMBER IS NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS MONTH

Visit the Department of Homeland Security's website at [www.dhs.gov](http://www.dhs.gov) or [www.ready.gov](http://www.ready.gov) for useful information on all kinds of potential disasters and disruptive events. Also see September issue of QST.

### FCC Vanity Call Sign Fees to Increase September 25, 2008

(From ARRL Special Bulletin #8) On August 11, the Federal Communications Commission announced that the cost of an Amateur Radio vanity call sign will increase 60 cents, from \$11.70 to \$12.30. Now that notice of the increase has been published in the Federal Register, the increase will take effect in 30 days, September 25, 2008. The FCC is authorized by the Communications Act of 1934, As Amended, to collect vanity call sign fees to recover the costs associated with that program. The vanity call sign regulatory fee is payable not only when applying for a new vanity call sign, but also upon renewing a vanity call sign for a new 10 year term. More information is available at, <http://www.arrl.org/news/stories/2008/08/11/10257/?nc=1>.

Don't Forget: SARATOGA R.A.C.E.S. HAMFEST on Sat. Sept 13 at County Fairgrounds in Ballston Spa

# SARA PICNIC SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 7, 2008

Location: Greenfield Town Park in Middle Grove, NY 12850 starts at 2 PM

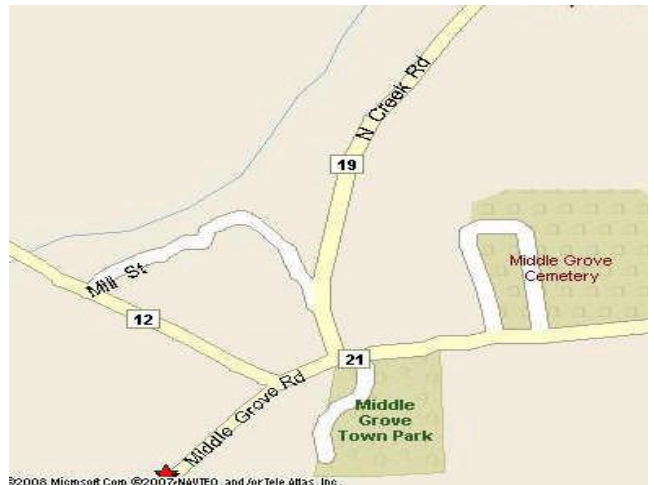
Please RSVP to [ak2e@arrl.net](mailto:ak2e@arrl.net) and [w2csn@arrl.net](mailto:w2csn@arrl.net) by 4 Sep.

Bring a dish to pass. The club will furnish, charcoal, cutlery, paper plates, condiments and beverages. (NO Alcohol allowed in park)

## Directions

Murray Rd (right off of rt 29)

Follow to end and take right onto Middle Grove Rd  
Park is opposite North Creek Rd (2<sup>nd</sup> left turn).



## **SARA Board Meeting**, 11 June 2008, Niskayuna HS

Attending: Bill Proctor KC2NXC; Bob Saltzman WB2ARK; Dan Fiorillo KC2MER, Raleigh Keeter K2RI; George Williams W2CSN; Jim Stewart K2PK; Dan Whelan N2UD; Frank Simon WB2PUH; Hal Post AK2E; Bill Mischler KG2AC

**Meeting called to order at 7:23 PM:** Secretary report given and accepted. Treasurer report given and accepted. Edison Exploratorium – No report  
W2ODC Remembrance – Frank working on plaque design. Presentation to coincide with Alplaus 4<sup>th</sup> of July festivities.

### **Old Business:**

The board will try to enhance the SARA Website with more information and on a timelier basis.

### **New Business:**

Arrangements for meeting place next year.

The board seeking a new K2AE trustee ASAP.

Meeting Adjourned.

/ Hal Post - AK2E Secretary

## The New 2008-2009 SARA Slate of Officers

At the June Annual SARA Business Meeting our latest SARA board was elected:

President: James Stewart K2PK

V. President: Frank Simon WB2PUH

Secretary: Hal Post AK2E

Treas.: George Williams W2CSN

Director: Dan Fiorillo KC2MER

Director: Bill Mischler KG2AC

Director: Bob Saltzman WB2ARK

Director: Ivan(Bill) Proctor KC2NXC

## ARRL Field Day 2008 !

The SARA Field Day 2008 operation is now history but here are some of the photos with more to be posted on the SARA Website in the future. The December QST carries the Field Day results and SARA News will carry more info on FD 2008 too.



### **S.A.R.A. Sponsored RACES/ARES Weekly Nets on S.A.R.A. K2AE Repeaters**

Sunday 1:00 PM 444.200 MHz + offset FM

1:30 PM 147.06 MHz + offset FM

2:00 PM 3953 MHz +/- QRM LSB

Plus any other times as needed for actual emergency operations or due to severe weather.

### **Team USA Forming for 2008 ARDF World Championships Sept. 2 - 7, 2008**

Every two years, hams from around the world gather to see who is best at on-foot hidden transmitter hunting. USA has been represented at every one of these ARDF World Championships since 1988, and 2008 will be no exception. Team USA is now training for the 14th World Championships, which will take place near Hwaseong City in the midwest region of South Korea from September 2 - 7. There will be separate events on separate days for each competitor on eighty meters and two meters, each with up to five transmitters scattered in a forest that might encompass 1000 acres or more. Each country may send up to three competitors in each of nine age categories, five for males and four for females, in accordance with [rules of the International Amateur Radio Union](#). Invitations to join Team USA were issued in May, based on performances and standings in the [Seventh USA ARDF Championships](#) (California, September 2007) and the [Eighth USA ARDF Championships](#) (Texas, May 2008). For more about the 2008 ARDF World Championships, visit their website at: <http://www.homingin.com/farsnews.html>

#### **International Morse Code**

1. A dash is equal to three dots.
2. The space between parts of the same letter is equal to one dot.
3. The space between two letters is equal to three dots.
4. The space between two words is equal to seven dots.

A	• —	U	• • —
B	• • • —	V	• • — •
C	• — • —	W	• — — •
D	• — • •	X	• • — —
E	•	Y	• — — •
F	• • — •	Z	• — — • •
G	• — —		
H	• • • •		
I	• •		
J	• — — —		
K	• — • —	1	• — — — —
L	• — • •	2	• • — — —
M	• — —	3	• • • — —
N	• — •	4	• • • • —
O	• — — —	5	• • • • •
P	• • — — •	6	• — — • •
Q	• — — • —	7	• — — • • •
R	• • — •	8	• — — • • •
S	• • • •	9	• — — • • •
T	• —	0	• — — — —

## **International Q Signals**

A "Q" signal followed by a ? asks a question. A Q signal without the ? answers the question affirmatively, unless otherwise indicated.

QRA--What is the name of your station?

QRG--What's my exact frequency?

QRH--Does my frequency vary?

QRI--How is my tone? (1-3)

QRK--What is my signal intelligibility? (1-5)

QRL--Are you busy?

QRM--Is my transmission being interfered with?

QRN--Are you troubled by static?

QRO--Shall I increase transmitter power?

QRP--Shall I decrease transmitter power?

QRQ--Shall I send faster?

QRS--Shall I send slower?

QRT--Shall I stop sending?

QRU--Have you anything for me? (Answer in negative)

QRV--Are you ready?

QRW--Shall I tell \_\_\_\_\_ you're calling him?

QRX--When will you call again?

QRZ--Who is calling me?

QSA--What is my signal strength? (1-5)

QSB--Are my signals fading?

QSD--Is my keying defective?

QSG--Shall I send \_\_\_\_\_ messages at a time?

QSK--Can you work breakin?

QSL--Can you acknowledge receipt?

QSM--Shall I repeat the last message sent?

QSO--Can you communicate with \_\_\_\_\_ direct?

QSP--Will you relay to \_\_\_\_\_?

QSV--Shall I send a series of V's?

QSW--Will you transmit on \_\_\_\_\_?

QSX--Will you listen for \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_?

QSY--Shall I change frequency?

QSZ--Shall I send each word/group more than once? (Answer, send twice or \_\_\_\_\_)

QTA--Shall I cancel number \_\_\_\_\_?

QTB--Do you agree with my word count? (Answer negative)

QTC--How many messages have you to send?

QTH--What is your location?

QTR--What is your time?

QTV--Shall I stand guard for you \_\_\_\_\_?

QTX--Will you keep your station open for further communication with me?

QUA--Have you news of \_\_\_\_\_?

## **Emergency Power, Generators & Generator Safety**

Compiled by Dan Whelan – N2UD

***Here is a listing of website information from the most popular generator manufacturers.***

Briggs&Stratton - <http://www.briggsandstratton.com/display/router.asp?DocID=76373>

Coleman - <http://www.colemanpowermate.com/>

Generac - <http://www.generac.com/>

Homelite - [http://www.homelite.com/products/select\\_5.htm](http://www.homelite.com/products/select_5.htm)

John Deere - [http://www.deere.com/en\\_US/parts/homeandworkshop/products/generators/cat\\_generators.html](http://www.deere.com/en_US/parts/homeandworkshop/products/generators/cat_generators.html)

Kohler - <http://www.kohlerpower.com/index.htm>

Honda - <http://www.hondapowerequipment.com/gen.asp>

Onan - <http://www.cumminsonan.com/>

Yamaha – [http://www.yamaha-motor.com/outdoor/products/modeloverview/cat/2007/55/model\\_overview.aspx](http://www.yamaha-motor.com/outdoor/products/modeloverview/cat/2007/55/model_overview.aspx)

***Here are some web links that will provide advice on storm electric and generator safety.***

National Grid - [http://www.nationalgridus.com/niagaramohawk/safety\\_electric.asp](http://www.nationalgridus.com/niagaramohawk/safety_electric.asp)

- [http://www.nationalgridus.com/niagaramohawk/storm/safety\\_generators.asp](http://www.nationalgridus.com/niagaramohawk/storm/safety_generators.asp)

NY State Electric and Gas - <http://www.nyseg.com/UsageAndSafety/electricalsafety/default.html>

<http://www.nyseg.com/UsageAndSafety/electricalsafety/generatorsafety.html>

***Other sources of information about emergency generators and operations.***

Cornell Extension - [emergencypreparedness.cce.cornell.edu/data/Emergency%20Generators.pdf](http://emergencypreparedness.cce.cornell.edu/data/Emergency%20Generators.pdf)

FEMA Link for Emergency Generators - <http://www.fema.gov/plan/prevent/howto/how2022.shtm>

ARRL Link Emergency Operations - <http://www.arrl.org/tis/info/emergency.html>

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Dates	Contest / Hamfest / Event	Location / Website
7 Sept 2008	<i>SARA Picnic 1 PM to 5 PM</i> <i>Talk-in: 147.06 K2AE</i>	<i>Greenfield Town Park located on Saratoga County Rt. 21 Middle Grove Rd.</i>
8 Sept 2008	<i>SARA Meeting – 7 PM (First meeting of 08-09 yr.)</i>	<i>Rm.D-104 Niskayuna High School</i>
13 Sept 2008	Saratoga County RACES Association Hamfest <a href="http://wa2umx.net">http://wa2umx.net</a> <b>Talk-In:</b> 146.40/147.00 (PL 91.5)	Ballston Spa, NY Ballston Spa Fairgrounds
13-14 Sept 2008	ARRL Fall VHF Contest runs 2pm Sat. until 11pm Sunday and will be on all bands above 50 Mhz.	See <a href="http://www.arrl.org">www.arrl.org</a> for contest details
14 Sept 2008	Western Connecticut Hamfest <a href="http://www.danbury.org/cara">http://www.danbury.org/cara</a>	Edmond Town Hall <a href="http://www.danbury.org/cara">45 Main Street</a> , Newtown, CT
27 Sept 2008	Amateur Radio Assn. of the Southern Tier <a href="http://www.arast.org">http://www.arast.org</a>	Chemung County Fairgrounds <a href="http://www.arast.org">Grand Central Ave.</a> , Horseheads, NY
28 Sept 2008	Hamarama 2008 Mt. Airy VHF Club (Packrats) <a href="http://www.packratvhf.com/Hamarama/hamarama.html">http://www.packratvhf.com/Hamarama/hamarama.html</a>	Middletown Grange Fairgrounds #684 <a href="http://www.packratvhf.com/Hamarama/hamarama.html">576 Penns Park Road</a> Wrightstown, PA
6 Oct 2008	<i>SARA Meeting – 7 PM</i>	<i>Rm.D-104 Niskayuna High School</i>
10-11 Oct 2008	Near-fest (Fall) Hamfest/Swapfest Fri-Sat 9:00 – all day (Tentative date)	Deerfield NH Fairgrounds <a href="http://www.near-fest.com">www.near-fest.com</a>

Be sure to check out the ARRL Hamfest calendar for more detailed information on these and other upcoming hamfests. Go to <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests.html>

## K2AE Repeater Guidelines:

From Hal Post AK2E – SARA's K2AE Trustee

- 1 There will be a control operator monitoring at all times. If there is no control operator the repeater will be unavailable.
- 2 Control operators will not discourage anyone from using the repeater.
- 3 Conduct on the repeaters should be governed by common sense and courtesy. No off-colored remarks will be tolerated or any remarks that can give Amateur radio bad connotation. A remark of this nature gives any listeners an unfavorable impression of Amateur Radio.
- 4 No commercial business use is allowed.
- 5 Pause a few seconds between transmissions. The repeater will recycle and gives a chance for other users or emergency traffic to call in. (Give even a longer pause in Winter.)
- 6 If someone calls "Break" operators will yield the frequency for emergency traffic. It is common courtesy. NY state and Federal law do not allow interfere with emergency traffic.
- 7 Operators are encouraged to use simplex when ever possible. Further operators are encouraged to use the minimum power necessary to maintain clear contact. IE 50 Watts or more is more than necessary when in close proximity to the repeater where 1 or 5 watts achieve full quieting.
- 8 Use of the repeater for non-SARA public service events are prohibited unless permission from the Trustee is obtained.
- 9 In the event of an emergency ( Skywarn, Flooding , weather conditions or other emergencies) control operators will turn the repeater on if is in the off state.

## SARA's Board Of Directors 2007-2008

President: James Stewart K2PK k2pk@arrl.net 399-1867  
VicePres.: Frank Simon WB2PUH simonf072@strose.edu 477-5255  
Sec: Hal Post AK2E ak2e@arrl.net 584-6441  
Treas: George Williams W2CSN w2csn@arrl.net 377-6188

### Directors

Dan Fiorillo KC2MER [fiorillo.dan@verizon.net](mailto:fiorillo.dan@verizon.net) 356-3595  
Bill Mischler KG2AC [kg2ac@juno.com](mailto:kg2ac@juno.com) 370-1350  
Bob Saltzman WB2ARK [saltzman@nycap.rr.com](mailto:saltzman@nycap.rr.com) 370-2222  
Bill Proctor KC2NXC

## SARA's Standing Committees

**SARA News Editor:** Dan Whelan [n2ud@arrl.net](mailto:n2ud@arrl.net) 895-2754  
**K2AE Trustee:** Hal Post AK2E ak2e@arrl.net 584-6441  
**Rptr:** Scott Krone N2YCA [n2yca@nycap.rr.com](mailto:n2yca@nycap.rr.com) 273-1610  
**RFI:** Rudy Dehn W2JVF [w2jvf@juno.com](mailto:w2jvf@juno.com) 372-6139  
**Public Service:** Ken Clikeman AA2CW  
[free2aa2cw2000@yahoo.com](mailto:free2aa2cw2000@yahoo.com) 861-6825  
**VE Team:** Bill Mischler KG2AC [kg2ac@juno.com](mailto:kg2ac@juno.com) 370-1350

## VE Registration (518) 370-1350



SARA Dues: Regular Member \$20 \_\_\_\_\_ New Member Initiation \$5 \_\_\_\_\_ Repeater Fund \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Family Member \$5 \_\_\_\_\_ Student Member \$5 \_\_\_\_\_ SARA News US postal delivery Add \$5 \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Callsign \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ (SARA News is sent via Email)

Street \_\_\_\_\_ I belong to ARRL \_\_\_ ARES \_\_\_ RACES \_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

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

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