



SARA Meeting October 5

Non-Geographic Clubs

Many hams are members of non-geographic clubs that have been formed as associations to promote special interests such as CW, contests, or DX. These clubs covers regions, countries, or the entire world and do not compete with local clubs like SARA. Terry Hatton W1QF from Schoharie will give us a presentation on non-geographic clubs, specifically the FISTS Club that he belongs to. These non-geographic clubs can open new operating horizons and may give some revitalized operating interest to some of our members.

Location: SARA meetings are held in Niskayuna High School in the "Little Theater" Room D-104. Due to construction access is from the rear parking lot, off Nott Street. Turn onto Nott Street from Balltown Road and drive past the shopping mall on the left. The entrance is on the left side of the road and marked.

Cancellations: If Niskayuna high School cancels evening classes and activities the SARA meeting will normally also be cancelled and possibly rescheduled. Listen in on the SARA 147.060 repeater for meeting status information and whether it is to be rescheduled.

Programs: For the 2009-2010 meetings, Jim, K2PK, is scheduling programs in four different areas to have something of interest for everyone in the club: General Interest in September and December, Operating in October, Technical in November, and Emergency Preparedness in January and February (see table below for details). Of course, like all schedules these are could change. We're looking for ideas for programs or people who have something they would be willing to present. If you have an idea for a program, something you'd like to learn about or speak about, contact Jim, K2PK. Watch this section for future program listings.



Meeting	Program
Oct 2009	FISTS Club--non geographic clubs by Terry Hatton W1QF
Nov 2009	Solar Power by Phil Barker (former ham)
Dec 2009	Dinner Location TBA
Jan 2010	Traffic and Emergency Nets by Larry Eaton NT2B
Feb 2010	Mohawk River Flooding by Tim Long W2UI

Board Meeting

September 16, 2009, 7 to 8:20 PM

Present:

President	Dan Fiorillo KC2MER	Board Members	Bob Saltzman WB2ARK
Vice President	Jim Stewart K2PK		Bill Mischler KG2AC
Secretary	Hal Post AK2E		Frank Simon WB2PUH
Treasurer	Tim Long W2UI		

Agenda:

Secretary's report accepted as published.

Treasurer's report accepted.

Old Business:

Field Day Generator: Failed to function due to rodent related problems. Cost estimate of repair needed to evaluate repair or replace. Hope to have the estimate by next Board meeting.

News Letter: Need an editor – temporarily being filled by Larry, NT2B.

This is the last fiscal year that the SARA Newsletter will be available in printed format.

Repeater: John, N2OJY, Scott, N2YCA and Hal, AK2E, will work on getting the 220 repeater back on the air. They will also explore purchasing a new repeater controller as we're currently using one that belongs to Scott..

Membership: Discussed ideas on getting more members interested in joining SARA.

Schoharie County Hams: Have dropped interest in joining SARA.

New Business:

Board seat open due to N2UD's passing. Dan was running for the 4th Board seat. Anyone interested in filling the Board position, please notify any Club officer of your intent.

Tim, W2UI, will open a Facebook page for SARA.

Tim also volunteered to chair the SARA Elmer and Antenna Party committees.

Secretary Hal Post AK2E



Broughton Award 2009



The Henry Primm Broughton Award, named for a founding member and past president of SARA whose call sign the Club now holds, is made to SARA members who have distinguished themselves through their service to SARA and the Amateur Radio community over a long period of time. This year the Broughton Award was presented to Mike Adams, KB2KXC. Mike has served SARA, amateur radio, and his community in a variety of active ways including service on the SARA Board of Directors and his tireless efforts on Field Day. We celebrate and applaud his contribution to SARA and that of all the prior Broughton Award recipients (listed below). Paul, WY2F, Tim, W2UI, and George, W2CSN, were the 2009 Broughton Award Committee members.

1	1960	Warren Ford, W2GTB	28	1986	Rudy Dehn, W2JVF
2	1961	George Tracy, W2EFU	29	1987	Rick Darrah, KA2OPG
3	1962	Earl Houck, W2GTC	30	1988	Hal Post, AK2E
4	1963	Howard Lester, W2ODC	31	1989	Phil Bradway, KB2HQ
5	1963	Sam Johnson, W6BS	32	1990	Joe Hoffman, KA2AXN
6	1964	Ted Goble, K2HNW	33	1991	Bob Janack, WA2DWU
7	1965	Hunt Huntington, K2ONF	34	1992	Dan Whelan, N2UD (WB2WHD)
8	1966	Bob Hall, W1DQO	35	1993	Ray Wemple, KA2DVM
9	1967	Frank Douglas, W2AZH	36	1994	Tim Long, W2UI (WB2SPN)
10	1968	Charlie Muir, WA2CGD	37	1995	Paul Mataruga, WB2MCO posthumous
11	1969	Paul Jorgensen, WA2TAG	38	1995	Richard Arthur, W2RWA
12	1970	Paul Tyner, WB2BDB	39	1996	Don Walsh, WA2TSW
13	1971	Augie Weiss, WB2NYM	40	1997	Mike Gardina, W2ARQ
14	1972	Harold Hornbeck, K2DLD	41	1998	Charlie Haynes, K2VNP
15	1973	Jim Lawson, W2PV	42	1999	Joe Clement, K2UF
16	1974	Doc Korn, N2XU	43	2000	Bill Patmos, W2DHT
17	1975	Henry Mitchell, W2CAZ	44	2001	Rob Leiden, K1UI (KR2L)
18	1976	Walt Schick, W2KE	45	2002	John Doblewski, N2OJY
19	1977	Raleigh Keeter, K2RI	46	2003	Bob Raffelle, W2XM
20	1978	Jim Pontius, W2CPB	47	2004	Dennis Hudson, N2LBT
21	1979	Jack Nelson, W2FW	--	2005	No Award
22	1980	Bill Schwarting, WR2L	48	2006	Ken Clickman, AA2CW
23	1981	Dan Murray, W2PKY	49	2006	George Williams, W2CSN
24	1982	Don Bulger, WB2VJC	50	2007	Bill Mischler, KG2AC
25	1983	Dick Frey, WA2AAU	51	2008	Paul Siemers, WY2F
26	1984	Paul Bachorz, KB2T	52	2009	Mike Adams, KB2KXC
27	1985	George Chapek, N2AIG			



Silent Key

Dennis (Den) Connors, KD2S, of Pepperell, MA, passed away September 3 at age 58, a victim of lymphoma. Den had been active in amateur radio in the Capital Region before moving to Arizona. Hal Post, AK2E, remembered his first meeting with Den at the GE Crawford Hill site at a meeting of the 1980 Olympic Torch Relay Team and thought he might have been a member of SARA before moving to Arizona. He commented that Den is one of the few friends that he was able to keep contact with through the years and that he will be greatly missed. Den co-founded the Tucson Amateur Packet Radio club, was its first president, and was involved in leading TAPR becoming an international organization.

Two New SARA Committees Formed

Antenna Party Committee: This committee will attempt to match up those with a need for help and those with a talent and knowledge. If you are interested in becoming a member of this committee, contact committee chairman, Tim Long, W2UI. If you are in need of antenna help, contact Tim. No job too big or too small. Advice and labor freely given.

Elmer Committee: This committee is intended to help newcomers to our hobby with the time proven experience only an Elmer can provide. If you are interested in joining this team and are willing to share your trials and tribulations, contact committee chairman, Tim Long, W2UI. You only need to have made a mistake and remember why. Perhaps you don't have a next door neighbor or a buddy close by. You can save money and remain safe. Contact Tim

SARA Facebook Page Created

Are you on Facebook? There is a new page entitled Schenectady Amateur Radio Association. We had three new members literally within minutes. Membership is open. You should check it out.

Editor and Authors Needed for SARA News

SARA is looking for an editor for the SARA News. If you are interested in being editor of the SARA News please contact any SARA Officer or Director and let them know. If you would like to write for the SARA News, have an article ready for submission, or have a story idea, contact a club officer, director, or the interim editor. We're particularly interested in stories about the club, it's members, and their amateur radio related activities.

SARA Repeaters

Status	ON AIR	ON AIR	OFF THE AIR	ON AIR
Band	6-Meters	2-Meters	1.25-Meters	70-Centimeters
User TX	52.570 MHz	147.660 MHz	222.460 MHz	449.200 MHz
User RX	53.570 MHz	147.060 MHz	224.060 MHz	444.200 MHz



SARA Picnic

The SARA Picnic was held in Greenfield Town Park in Middle Grove on Saturday, September 19th, with a 1:00 PM start time. Antje, Millie, Clark, Rudy, Hal, and some of Hal's family attended the picnic on Saturday. 14 attended all together from ages 2 to 90.

The weather was clear, breezy and almost 55 deg F. Everyone brought a dish to pass and all the food was plentiful and delicious. Don't believe anyone was hungry at the end of the day.

Glad I brought the gas Grill! The charcoal was started about 11:30AM and was ready for use, about the time everyone left around 4 PM. (Charcoal absorbs water and with the moisture in July and August, it was just about saturated.).



(Starting at left) Hal, AK2E, Millie, KB2SWR, Antje, KC2DTP, Rudy, W2JVF, & Clark, KG2AO

Had a great time chatting with everyone and all the food was tasty. Paul had a set of horseshoes so a few games were played to work off some of the food. Thanks to all that attended to make a real fine picnic.

Hal, AK2E

SARA Public Service Events

SARA members have been asked to participate in a Bikethon, to be held September 27. Watch the SARA website for more details. The 34th Stockade-athon will be in November. SARA provides communications support for these two events. If you're interested in participating in any of the PSEs, contact Ken, AA2CW. His contact information is on the last page or see him at a Club meeting.

Coming Events

Contest / Hamfest / Event	Location / Website	Date	Time
Bikethon	Altamont	Sep 27	TBD
SARA Meeting	Niskayuna High School		7:00 PM
SARA Board Meeting	Niskayuna Friendly's		7:00 PM
34th Stockade-athon	Schenectady	Nov 8	9:30 AM

SARA Dues Reminder

The SARA membership year runs from July to June and the 2009-2010 dues are due. Please use the form on the last page or see Tim, W2UI, Treasurer at the meeting.





Schenectady County Emergency Net

SARA members act as Net Control Stations for the Schenectady County Emergency Net (SCEN) on Sunday afternoons. The nets are open to all amateurs; ARES RACES membership is not required to participate. The purpose of the nets is to train, pass any traffic that you might have and any announcements of general interest.

With repairs underway on the 220 repeater we'll be looking to get that net going again and the 6-Meter repeater is just waiting for a Net Control Station to get things going there. If you're interested, get in touch with Raleigh or Larry for a Net Script and you'll be good to go.

Section	Frequency	Time (Local)	Net Control
440	444.200 Repeater	1:00 PM	Raleigh K2RI
2-Meter	147.060 Repeater	1:30 PM	Raleigh K2RI
HF	3953 KHz	2:00 PM	Larry NT2B

Volunteer Examiner Team

SARA FCC Exam Sessions SARA conducts Volunteer Examiner (VE) sessions at 6:00 PM on regular meeting nights, the first non-holiday Monday of each month except July, August, and December. Those interested in taking an exam are encouraged to contact Bill, KG2AC, a few days prior so he can arrange for sufficient VEs to be present. You can find Bill's contact information on the last page.

Becoming a VE If you're interested in becoming a VE it's not too difficult but does take some effort. To qualify you must be at least eighteen years of age, never had your amateur station or operator license suspended or revoked, and hold a valid General, Advanced, or Extra Class license. If you qualify to become an ARRL certified VE simply follow the steps shown on the ARRL website and summarized below.

Credentialing To be certified you must complete a training program and submit an application to ARRL. Start by reading the manual, available as a free download on the ARRL website or for purchase through ARRL, and then complete the open-book review. The open-book review verifies that you have read and understood the manual. Then complete the application, attach a photocopy of your license and submit it with your self-assessment. You should receive your credentials within a couple of weeks. VEs accredited through other Voluntary Examiner Coordinators will follow a slightly different process.



Not an Extra? Amateurs are limited as to what examinations they can administer if they don't hold an Amateur Extra Class license (see below).

License Class	May Administer
General or higher	Element 2 (Technician)
Advanced or higher	Elements 2 (Technician) and 3 (General)
Amateur Extra	All Elements



While some VE Teams discourage General and Advanced Class VEs from participating, not all do. And, as more Technician exams are given than any other the odds are in your favor that you will have an opportunity to use your new credentials.

Where to Participate Once you receive your credentials contact Bill, KG2AC, and let him know that you are available to serve on the SARA VE Team. There is no obligation, being a member simply places your name on the list for participation.

If you're willing to participate as a VE for other organizations let them know, membership is generally not required and credentialed VEs are usually welcome to participate. While the minimum number of VEs required for an examination session is three, there is no maximum. VE groups generally want to have more than the minimum number of VEs available in case someone can't make it.

Locally, the Saratoga Club holds session at their Swapfest in the spring, Field Day in June, and at their Hamfest in September. Contact them in advance to let them know you're available. In the past, walk-ins have been welcomed. There are other opportunities available with groups and for sessions set up to accommodate candidates. Once you're known as a VE willing to help you may be contacted to participate in sessions.

It is best to check with the VE Team in advance if you want to participate with them. They are not required to use your services.

What to Bring VEs only need to bring and clearly display their credentials at each session. This is an ARRL requirement and is taken seriously. Generally someone will also bring a VE manual in case there are questions that can't be immediately answered.

Getting Started While there is nothing difficult about the VE process, it's a good idea to attend a few sessions to learn the ropes. Observing how sessions are conducted can be an excellent learning experience. When given the opportunity, take different assignments at the VE sessions. It will help you with your overall understanding of the process.

Why Become a VE Amateurs have been preparing and administering licensing examinations since the mid-1980s on a voluntary and unpaid basis. If new people are to get into the hobby and amateurs are to upgrade, it is up to the VEs to provide that opportunity. Since 1984 amateurs have administered nearly 100,000 exam sessions and more than 1.25 million exam elements.

Earning your VE credentials is a way to learn about another aspect of the hobby and to give something back. VEs participate for a variety of reasons but perhaps the best thing about being a VE is seeing candidates be successful in their quest for a license or upgrade, and the majority of candidates are successful. Frequently amateurs will remember their VEs, even though you may not remember them.

Larry, NT2B

SARA's 80th Year

This is the eightieth anniversary of the Schenectady Amateur Radio Association and it is appropriate to commemorate the occasion. Let an Officer or Director know if you have any ideas of what we can do to mark this occasion.

SARA's Board of Directors 2009-2010

President: Dan Fiorillo, KC2MER, fiorillo.dan@verizon.net, 356-3595

VicePres: Jim Stewart, K2PK, K2PK@arrl.net, 399-1867

Secretary: Hal Post, AK2E, AK2E@arrl.net, 306-6817

Treasurer: Tim Long, W2UI, tlong8@earthlink.net, 399-7454

Directors

Bill Mischler, KG2AC, KG2AC@juno.com, 370-1350

Bob Saltzman, WB2ARK, saltzman@nycap.rr.com, 370-2222

Frank Simon, WB2PUH, simonf072@strose.edu, 477-5255

Standing Committees

SARA News Editor:

Antenna Party: Tim Long, W2UI, tlong8@earthlink.net, 399-7454

Elmer: Tim Long, W2UI, tlong8@earthlink.net, 399-7454

K2AE Trustee: Hal Post, AK2E, AK2E@arrl.net, 584-6441

Repeater: Scott Krone, N2YCA, N2YCA@nycap.rr.com, 273-1610

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

Public Service: Ken Clikeman, AA2CW, free2aa2cw2000@yahoo.com, 861-6825

VE Team: Bill Mischler, KG2AC, KC2AC@juno.com, 370-1350

FCC Exam Registration: 370-1350



SARA
Schenectady Amateur Radio Association, Inc.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION/RENEWAL FORM

Regular Dues	\$20.00	\$ _____
Spouse	\$5.00	\$ _____
Student	\$5.00	\$ _____
Mailing&Printing	\$5.00 (Email is free)	\$ _____
Repeater Donation		\$ _____
Initiation Fee	\$5.00 (New Members)	\$ _____

Name _____ Call _____

E-mail _____

Street _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

ARRL _____ RACES _____ ARES _____ MARS _____

Send to SARA, PO Box 449, Schenectady, NY 12301
July, 2009 through June, 2010