



SARA Meeting Monday, October 4th, 2010

SARA Amateur Radio Meeting

The Schenectady Amateur Radio Association (SARA) will hold its October meeting with a presentation by Ray Wemple (KA2DVM) on Thaddeus Lowe and the use of balloons for communications during the Civil War. Ray will also talk about the world's first aircraft carrier. Ray's talks remind us of the importance of communications and are an inspiration about what can be done with relatively simple equipment

Ray is a retired Schenectady Police Sergeant with a deep interest in 19th century military communications and has given several interesting historical presentations to SARA on communications during the Civil War which included the use of signal flags and the signal stations at Gettysburg.

The SARA meeting will be held Monday, October 4, 2010 at 7 PM in Cafeteria of the Niskayuna High School on Balltown Road.. Attendees should enter the school through the cafeteria entrance located on the side of the school, adjacent to the Nott Street Extension school parking lot.

Amateur radio operators and any interested individuals are invited to attend.

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

SARA President Dan Fiorello also submitted this Public Service Announcement to the Daily Gazette for publication in their Community Notes/News section.



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: Meeting programs are scheduled in four different areas: General Interest, Operating, Technical, and Emergency Preparedness. While this year's calendar is set, we're always looking for ideas for programs or people who have something they would be willing to present. If you have a suggestion for a program, something you'd like to learn about or speak about, please contact Jim, K2PK (see contact information on the last page).

| Meeting | Program |
|----------------|---|
| October 2010 | Ray Wemple KA2DVM on the use of balloons during the Civil War |
| November 2010 | Tbd |
| December 2010 | Holiday Party |





SARA Board Meeting 15 September 2010 LT's Restaurant

Present:

| | | | |
|----------------|---------------------|--------------|--------------------|
| President | Dan Fiorillo KC2MER | Board Member | Frank Simon WB2PUH |
| Vice President | Jim Stewart K2PK | Board Member | Sid Wolin K2LJH |
| Secretary | Hal Post AK2E | Board Member | Craig Wood W2XAD |
| Treasurer | Tim Long W2UI | | |

Called to order at 7:05 PM by President Fiorillo

Agenda:

- Secretary's report – Given and accepted as published.
- Treasurer's report - Given and fiscal budget given and accepted.
- New Members – The board approved and welcomes:
 - Angelo Ferraro AC2BC
 - Burton Sharp WA2WPQ

Old Business:

220 Repeater – Antenna now has two (2) new coats of epoxy paint. Equipment is being gathered, so building the system can be completed.

(Scott was absent from the Board meeting. Out of town for Daughter's wedding this weekend.)

The new controller will be ordered shortly. The new controller will accommodate all 3 repeaters in a single unit.

Howard Lester Award – Frank WB2PUH, reported that he is making progress.

SARA News Editor – The Board is very pleased with the newest SARA Newsletter editor, Antje Dirksen-Post N2OMA.

Antje would like to receive any news items etc. to be submitted at least two weeks before the end of the month. (Earlier submission is encouraged). E-mail: antje1@yahoo.com

Field day. Frank and Tim are writing a report for next month's SARA News.

New Business:

Meeting Location for 2010 – 2011. Niskayuna High School Cafeteria until renovation of the Auditorium is completed.

Meetings start at 7 PM. Please be there before the start.

Amateur Radio class for: Air National Guard.

Sid K2LJH is setting up instruction schedule for the guard. He may request SARA members to help with teaching some of the classes.

Meeting adjourned at 8:03 PM

Submitted by: Hal Post AK2E Secretary



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The next Board Meeting will take place at 7 PM Wednesday, October 13 at **LT's Restaurant** at Balltown and Nott Street





Report from the Hudson Division of the ARRL

Hudson Division "Beacon" September 2010

Friday, September 24, 2010 10:06 AM

FROM THE HUDSON DIVISION ARRL TEAM

Frank Fallon, N2FF, Director, Hudson Division, ARRL

30 East Williston Avenue, East Williston, NY 11596

(516) 746-7652 n2ff@arrl.org

n2ff@arrl.org>

Joyce Birmingham, KA2ANF, Vice Director, Hudson Division, ARRL

235 Van Emburgh Avenue, Ridgewood, NJ 07450-2918

(201) 445-5924 ka2anf@arrl.org ka2anf@arrl.org>

and <http://www.ka2anf.com>

Hudson Division Home Page - <http://www.hudson.arrl.org>

+++ 2010 Hudson Division Award Recipients Selected ++++

The 2010 Hudson Division Awards Committee consisting of the following

Assistant Directors:

Roberta Keis, N2RBU

Jim Jackson, NS2K

Steve Saposnik, KB2ENF

Bob Chamberlain, N2KBC

Walter Lange, AE2AA

Met via the ARRL Tele-Conference Bridge on Thursday evening, September

9, 2010 and selected the following as recipients for the 2010 division-

wide awards:

Amateur of the Year - Nancy Rosner, N2TKA - (NLI)

Grand Ole Ham - Jerry Jankowitz, NO2T - (NNJ)

Technical Achievement - Julius Jones, W2IHY - (ENY)

Congratulations to the recipients and a BIG thanks to those who made



the decision and also to those who took the time to make the nominations.

We hope many of you will be present on Sunday, November 14th when the awards will be presented.

==> The East Coast DX Association will host the ARRL Hudson Division 2010 Awards Luncheon

On Sunday - November 14, 2010 from 12:00 Noon - 4:00 PM the 2010 ARRL **Hudson Division Awards** event will be held at Biagio's Restaurant in Paramus, NJ. The key note speaker will be **ARRL President Kay Craigie, N3KN**. At least five awards will be presented this year for Amateur of the Year, Technical Achievement, and Grand Ole Ham.

In addition President Craigie will present the ARRL Board awards, the 2010 ARRL Technical Service Award to Richard Knadle, K2RIW, of Dix Hills, New York, for his service to Amateur Radio, serving as Net Control Operator for 27 years for the Technical Net on the Long Island Mobile Amateur Radio Club's repeater.

The George Hart Distinguished Service Award honoring longtime ARRL Communications Manager W1NJM, retired; and awarded to amateurs who have a long history of public service communications, and who have accrued lengthy exemplary records in multiple facets of public service communications work. The ARRL Board of Directors conferred the inaugural George Hart Distinguished Service Award upon George W. Hippisley, W2RU, William M. Smith, W7GHT and David Struebel, WB2FTX. David, the only Hudson Division recipient, will be on hand to get his award. Note: David was the recipient of the ARRL Hudson Division Technical Award in 2009.

See <http://www.hudson.arrl.org/#HudsonAwards> for details on journal ads and tickets.





SARA Dues Reminder

Have you paid your dues yet? The SARA membership year runs from July to June and the **2010-2011 dues are due**. Please use the form on the last page or see Tim, W2UI, treasurer at the meeting.





Volunteer Examiner Session

SARA conducts 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 Mischler, KG2AC, several days prior so he can arrange for sufficient VEs to be present. You can find Bill's contact information on the last page. Non-members who successfully complete the exam will be given SARA membership for the physical year (June – June.)

SARA News Publicizing VE Session Results

SARA News will follow the ARRL Guidelines.

Reference: ARRL VE Manual - 9th Edition Page 64 (see below).

Publicizing Your Examination Activity Statistics

Your team's test session activities will gradually mount up to some impressive numbers. Many examinees will be grateful for the service your team has provided. Yet, the ARRL/VEC has been asked what parts of this information can be shared?

You and your team can share any numerical statistics that relate to your past test sessions. You should not, however, publicize the names of any persons who were tested by your team--unless these persons have given you their expressed written consent.

Although information from the FCC's records is public information, unless the FCC receives, processes and publicizes applicant data, an examinee's information is not considered public.

If you are concerned with sharing information about one of your past test sessions that includes session information other than numerical statistics, don't share it. It's nobody else's business other than yours, the ARRL/VEC's and the FCC's.





SARA Facebook Page

Join the SARA members on the Schenectady Amateur Radio Association Facebook page. To join the SARA Facebook group, navigate to facebook.com, enter "Schenectady Amateur Radio Association" in the Search box, and click on Join Group. Quick and easy!

Buy, Sell or Swap

If you have items you would like to sell or trade, or are looking for something, we'd be glad to list them in the SARA News (non-commercial only, subject to space limitations). To do so, please contact the SARA News editor. If you prefer, you could also post them on the SARA Yahoo Reflector at sara@yahoogroups.com. To post on the reflector you'll have to join the e-group at <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/sara/>. It's easy and it's free.

SARA News Archive Project

We initiated a project to complete the online SARA News archive from year 2001 forward as we were missing 25 issues. Paul Siemers, WY2F, was able to provide all but one of the missing issues and Tim Long, W2UI, was able to provide the last issue. Dennis Hudson, N2LBT, updated the website and that part of the project is now complete.

We're still looking for past issues of SARA News (prior to 2001) so that we can add to the online archive. Ideally this would be with electronic files. However, if we can't obtain electronic files, we can scan paper issues to create PDF files.

If you have any issues of SARA News older than those noted above (2000 or earlier), and would be willing to either loan or donate them for this project, or, if you own or have access to a scanner that can scan to PDFs, and would like to assist with this project, please contact the SARA News Editor. Loaned copies will be borrowed when the project is ready and returned as soon as they have been scanned and the file is reviewed.

Contact the SARA News Editor at antje1@yahoo.com or 518-306-6817.



SARA Public Service Events

SARA provides communications support for a number of events throughout the year. 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

| Ham fest and Flea Markets: Sep / Oct 2010 | Location / Website | Date | Time |
|---|--|-----------|---|
| Nutmeg Hamfest (CT) | www.nutmeghamfest.com Mountain Ridge Resort 300 High Hill Road, Wallingford, Conn. | 10 Oct | 8AM - 2PM |
| Nearfest | Deerfield Fairgrounds, Deerfield NH www.near-fest.com | 15-16 Oct | 9 AM Friday through 3 PM Saturday |





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.

| 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 |

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 |





SK Reports

W2USN Paul Bachortz, SK, died September 1, 2010

KC2GMW RAMSAY SEIELSTAD SK Sept 16 2010

Ramsay Seielstad, 51, of Schenectady, passed away unexpectedly on Thursday, September 16, 2010 at Ellis Hospital in Schenectady. Born in Elyria, OH, on September 7, 1959, he is the son of H. Douglas and Mary (Shriner) Seielstad. Moving to Schenectady as a child, Ramsay was a lifelong area resident and attended local schools.

Ramsay was employed by the City of Schenectady for over 22 years as a public safety dispatcher with an impeccable knowledge of NYSPIN and computer aided dispatch.

He was a HAM Radio Operator using the call sign KC2GMW. He was an avid Detroit Tigers fan and a railroad enthusiast. Ramsay will be truly missed by his family, friends and colleagues as they remember him for his resounding voice and heart of gold.

His presence will be greatly missed, but his spirit will remain with them forever. In addition to his parents, H. Douglas and Mary of Sparks, NV, he is survived by three brothers, Donald (Janice) Seielstad of Frankfort, IL, Erik (Marlene) Seielstad of Albion, NY, and Roger (Allison) Seielstad of Redmond, WA; nieces and nephews, Leah, Joel, Alexandra, Morgan, Riley and Molly Seielstad.

Funeral services will be private and held at the convenience of the family. Memorial contributions may be made in his memory to GBS/CIDP Foundation, The Holly Building, 104 ½ Forest Ave., Narberth, PA 19072.

To express condolences please visit <http://scott-barbieri.com/>
<http://forums.qrz.com/showthread.php?t=264806>

Many of our fellow Amateur Radio Service operators expressed an interest in attending services for deceased Schenectady Police Dept. public safety communicator Ramsay Seielstad (KC2GMW - SK) silent key. Although family services were private, his fellow public safety communicators at Schenectady PD are arranging a brief ceremony to honor him.

The ceremony will take place on SATURDAY MORNING, OCTOBER 9, 2010 AT 10:00 A:M. LOCATION IS THE FLAG POLE AREA IN FRONT OF THE SCHENECTADY POLICE HQRS., 531 LIBERTY STREET, SCHENECTADY, NY 12305. As many of you know, Ramsay served as President of the Schenectady Amateur Radio Association and worked very hard helping to further the goals of the Amateur Radio Service. He also participated in many public service events and did so with our fellow Ham operators in the southern tier in NY State.

Everyone is welcome to attend and may God Bless him and his family.





October Board Meeting Announced

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2010 Field Day a “Success”

In spite of mostly dry weather, warm temperatures, a new generator, and a good turnout, SARA managed once again to conduct a successful Field Day effort. With about 45 participants we were able to rack-up a score of just under 6300 total points. This total included just over 1500 contacts and nearly 1700 bonus points. Contacts were almost evenly split between CW and SSB, with the largest number by far being on 40 meters. 80, 20, and to a lesser extent 15 meters, accounted for almost all of the remainder, with a few being made on 160 and 10 (due to a lack of antennas or band conditions). As we have for many years, we operated up to five transmitters simultaneously (class 5A).

Our nearly 1700 bonus points were the result of a number of efforts including, “yute” participation (that’s youth for those of you from north of Yonkers), sending message traffic, digital contacts, visits by elected public officials, a Get-on-the Air (GOTA) station, solar/ bio-powered contacts, etc.

Field Day marked the first real test for our new 10 KW “portable” generator, which worked flawlessly for the entire weekend. The old 25 KW “green beast” was literally put-out-to-pasture last year after having survived over 45 years of use. The club hasn’t decided what to do with it yet, but as of about two years ago the 6 cylinder Ford engine still ran, but the generator part needed significant repairs. Unlike the old





generator which had to be towed by a substantial size pickup truck, our new unit can actually be placed in the back of an average size pickup with 2 or 3 people.

Our Glenville Hills Fire Dept. (F.D.) site again proved quite adequate (and much dryer than last year), and the food and drink was good and plentiful. A special thanks to Millie and Clark for stepping forward to handle this critical task, as our regular chef Rob Fox had family commitments and couldn't participate this year.

The wire antennas and one tribander on our crank-up tower trailer worked pretty well, at least once the beam was properly assembled- the elements adjusted to the proper lengths and placed in the proper locations on the boom. (Sometimes you really do need to look at the instructions!) Due to the great amount of time and manpower needed for assembly in the past, we no longer use any other towers or beams. Antennas are now wire types (dipoles or loops), and are supported on 35 to 40 foot sectioned fiberglass poles. It now only takes 4 or 5 people about 20 minutes to put up each of the poles and their associated antennas. No climbing needed and storage is much easier.

In addition to our regular participants, we had a few newcomers and long missing returnees participate. We even had some out-of state visitors from Pennsylvania.

Extra operators and set-up/ tear-down people are always needed and welcome. We especially need overnight operators.

Preliminary planning for next year has begun. I am hoping to find a way to entice more "young" people (under 25?) to get involved; perhaps a group of scouts, school club, youth group- ideas are welcome. I am also attempting to document and compile in one place the layout and setup/ operating info.

Many people contributed to our success this year. Not wanting to neglect anyone, I just want to thank Field Day "Chairman Emeritus" Tim Long-W2UI for guiding me through the process for the first time. I'll have to fly solo if I get "volunteered" next year. Thanks to all- Frank Simon WB2PUH





SARA Website Changes

We've continued making changes to the SARA Website. The calendar on the Home page now shows General and Board meetings, Public Service and other events, SARA Licensing Exam sessions, and the publication dates for SARA News. The SARA News archive has been completed from 2001 to present and is updated monthly. The Licensing Exams page has been changed to reflect SARA Licensing Exam sessions as well as linking to the ARRL Licensing Exam page. The People & Contact information is current and updated as needed, the Monthly Meeting Info is routinely updated, and the Public Service Event and Field Day information is updated as needed. Let us know if you see something that needs to be updated. If you think something should be added to the SARA website contact an Officer or Director. All suggestions will be given due consideration.



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

Craig Wood, W2XAD, w2xad@nycap.rr.com, 370-5224

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

Sid Wolin, K2LJH, K2LJH@arrl.net, 312-1122

Standing Committees

SARA News Editor: Antje Dirksen-Post N2OMA, antje1@yahoo.com, 315-483-0524

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, 306-6817

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, AA2CW2010@yahoo.com, 861-6825

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



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) | \$ _____ |

Name _____ Call _____

E-mail _____

Street _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

ARRL _____ RACES _____ ARRS _____ MARS _____

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

FCC Exam Registration: 370-1350

SARA Web: www.K2AE.org



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