

# SARA NEWS

**SCHENECTADY AMATEUR  
RADIO ASSOCIATION, INC.**

**"SERVICE THROUGH  
AMATEUR RADIO"**

**FOUNDED 1930**

**K2AE REPEATERS**

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

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September, 2013

General Meeting, September 9th, 2013 at 7 PM, Niskayuna High School Little Theatre

## **SARA General Meeting**

*Annual Elections and Awards*

## **President's Message**

*de W2XAD, Craig M. Wood*

The September program will be presented by Fred Lass, K2TR. Fred recently retired as the Director of Engineering at WRGB and WCWN. He grew up in Niagara Falls and moved to the Capital district after going to school at RPI. Fred and his family reside in Altamont. He has been an amateur radio operator and contester since he was first licensed in 1964.

Fred told us at the September 2010 meeting about WRGB's conversion to digital television. Now that there have been several years of experience, Fred has much to say about how it has actually worked. Propagation has especially been a challenge, especially in areas subject to multipath.

The SARA meeting will be held Monday, September 9th, 2013 at 7 PM in the Little Theatre 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.

Welcome to SARA! Well, here is the ending of a wonderful summer and the beginning of the new SARA program year. I hope to see all of you on September 9th at the Little theater room in D104. The program should start at 7:00 p.m.

Jim Stewart K2PK will be scheduling the programs. One subject I wish to speak about is ELMERING the new number of hams. When I became licensed in 1993 I had many great Elmers. I can never say thank you enough to them. They may have passed but their kindness and teaching has never left me. I try to do my best to help a fellow ham achieve their goals. The time and effort does pay off when they become a DX'er or experiment to grow with the hobby!

I remember Joe, KD2DKR saying that he was new and needed help. I found his honesty and his willingness to ask questions refreshing. What Joe did next was heartwarming to me. Another new ham needed help with his antenna. Joe, who was still fairly new, helped and encouraged Ted KD2DKR to get on the air. When I had heard this I knew that Joe had listened and did what hams should do, HELP OTHERS! Those that put some-



thing into ham radio will always get good results many times over when there is success like this.

Lets keep amateur radio a teaching and learning experience. Let us all keep amateur radio going forward. Talk to you next month. de W2XAD Craig M. Wood, SARA President, 2013-2014

### **SARA Meeting and Board Meeting Dates**

Regular meeting are: September 9th, October 7th, November 4th and December 2nd. 2014 meetings are: January 6th, February 3rd, March 3rd, April 7th, May 5th and June 2nd.

Board meetings will be held on the 2nd Wednesday of the month. These dates are, Septenber 11th, October 9th, November 13th and December 11th. 2014 board meetings for 2014 are January 8th, February 12th, March 12th, April 19th, May 14th and June 11th.

Board meetings will be held at LT's Grill. All current SARA members are encouraged to attend!

### **28th Annual Saratoga HAMFEST**

Join us this weekend on Saturday Sept 7, for our annual hamfest. We will have the usual assortment of commercial vendors, and hams selling in the flea market. General admission starts at 7 AM, and goes to ? Early bird setup begins Friday night at 6:30 until 8:00 PM

Enjoy the delicious choices for breakfast or lunch at the food booth. Take an exam at 9:30 (at the solar building) to upgrade you license class.

<http://wa2umx.net>

### **Public Service**

Dear Mr. Stew & Mr. Clikeman,

On behalf of the Alplaus Fire Company, the Alplaus Residents' Association, and all the residents of

Alplaus, please extend my sincere gratitude to the members of the Schenectady Amateur Radio Association for their assistance at the July 4th Parade in Alplaus. We had great concerns this year regarding the traffic due to road closures in Glenville, but with the assistance of your members the parade went off problem-free. Thank you!

July 4th in Alplaus is a great day and a great tradition. The on-going assistance from member of the Radio Association has allowed us to keep up this tradition and we are so grateful for you.

Thank you, Mary Breslin, Parade Coordinator

For more information about upcoming Public Service events contact

Ken [AA2CW2010@yahoo.com](mailto:AA2CW2010@yahoo.com) or 861-6825

### **East Greenbush ARA minifest**

I am pleased to announce that the East Greenbush Amateur Radio Association will have a minifest/club meeting on October 9th 2013. Be there at 6:30 pm. The event will start between 6:45 and 7:00 so be there.

If you have any radio related items to sell or swap bring them to the Masonic Lodge on 710 Columbia turnpike, East Greenbush,NY.. If you plan to sell or swap please call Tom, KC2FCP at 518 272 1494 to reserve a table.

The entry price is great as it is FREE! There will be refreshments there! Go and have a great time, meet, make new friends and visit.

### **NYS DMV Issues Legal Opinion**

Given the concern that many hams in have regarding the new "Distracted Driving Law" that went into effect in New York this past July, particularly since the law increased the penalty to 5 points on a license, I recently asked the New York State Department of Motor Vehicles Counsel's office for an explanation of both the cell



phone and distracted driving laws and how they apply to hams.

The opinion, which I just received, can be found on the Hudson Division website: [www.hudson.arrl.org](http://www.hudson.arrl.org). I suggest that you read it thoroughly. It's very detailed but simply put, it says the following:

1. The use of two-way radios that are not connected to a public switched telephone service does not violate the "Cell Phone Law." Therefore, operating a ham radio does not violate the law (Section 1225-c).

2. If the equipment in the car is not capable of violating the distracted driving law (including sending text messages, pictures, e-mail, other electronic data, etc.), then the operator is not in violation of the "Distracted Driving Law" (Section 1225-d).

3. Even if the equipment is capable of violating the law (including sending text messages, pictures, e-mail, other electronic data, etc.), as long as it's not used in such a manner the operator of the equipment is not violating the "Distracted Driving Law" (Section 1225-d).

In other words, if you are just talking on your radio, you are not in violation of the law.

Please understand that the opinion carries the disclaimer that it is not binding upon prosecutors, law enforcement, or the judiciary. You may still be stopped, issued a summons, and have to appear in court to plead your case. However, the DMV opinion carries a lot of weight and should be used in preparing a defense should you receive a summons

Feel free to print out this opinion, but understand that it is not a license to be stupid! Let's hope that you never need to use it.

73, Mike N2YBB

## Equipment For Sale

For sale: MFJ-1796 vertical antenna, hardly used, \$115, owned by John Ainsworth, KD2BU in Delmar. Contact Jim K2PK if interested.

N2JJE George Bush Ham Gear for Sale  
1650 Crawford Rd. Schenectady, NY 12306-7315  
If interested please write or call 518 887 5019

item	Model	Manufact	Asking \$
1	IC2AT	Icom 2 M HT	\$85
2	NC72B	Vert Standard	\$75
3	92201	Millen Ant Tuner	
4	6A Pwr Supply		\$25
5	Straight KEY		\$20
6	OSC with KEY		\$15
7	Mobile Ant	Larsen	\$25

Note: Items have paperwork

## Silent Keys

Kenny Hickey, WB20FV SK May 21 1953-June 23 2013  
Kenny WB20FV passed on Sunday June 23 2013. He had Pancreatic Cancer. Kenny will be missed by many people who knew him. The Board and membership of the Schenectady Amateur Radio Association sends condolences to the family.

Raleigh Keeter, K2RI SK. It is with extreme sadness that I report we have lost one of SARA's most prominent members. Raleigh Keeter died at Ellis Wednesday morning, 1:30. Raleigh had been diagnosed with stage 4 liver cancer since April. He chose not to burden us with any special treatment and continued to quietly do the volunteer things that he always did. SARA had two "Life" members, Howard Lester and Raleigh. Life members were not required to pay dues. Raleigh didn't pay dues but always contributed the equivalent, and then some. The Board and membership of the Schenectady Amateur radio Association sends condolences to the family.

## Board Of Directors

Pres: Craig Wood, W2XAD, [w2xad@nycap.rr.com](mailto:w2xad@nycap.rr.com), 370-5224  
 VP: James Stewart K2PK [k2pk@arrl.net](mailto:k2pk@arrl.net) 399-1867  
 Sec: Hal Post AK2E [ak2e@arrl.net](mailto:ak2e@arrl.net) 306-6817  
 Treas: Tim Long, W2UI, [tlong1@earthlink.net](mailto:tlong1@earthlink.net) 399-7454

## Directors

Al Kozakiewicz, AB2ZY [akozak@hourglass.com](mailto:akozak@hourglass.com) 604-4128  
 Frank Simon, WB2PUH, [simonf072@strose.edu](mailto:simonf072@strose.edu), 477-5255  
 Paul Siemers  
 Jim Silva

## Standing Committees

SARA News: Antje Dirksen-Post N2OMA,  
[antje1@yahoo.com](mailto:antje1@yahoo.com), 315-483-0524  
 Elmer: Tim Long, W2UI, [tlong1@earthlink.net](mailto:tlong1@earthlink.net), 399-7454  
 Antenna Party: Tim Long, [tlong1@earthlink.net](mailto:tlong1@earthlink.net), 399-7454  
 K2AE Trustee: Hal Post AK2E [ak2e@arrl.net](mailto:ak2e@arrl.net) 381-6817  
 Rptr: Scott Krone N2YCA [n2yca@nycap.rr.com](mailto:n2yca@nycap.rr.com) 273-1610  
 RFI/TVI: Rudy Dehn W2JVF [w2jvf@juno.com](mailto:w2jvf@juno.com) 372-6139  
 Public Service Events: Ken Clikeman AA2CW  
[AA2CW2010@yahoo.com](mailto:AA2CW2010@yahoo.com) 861-6825  
 VE Team: Al Kozakiewicz, AB2ZY [akozak@hourglass.com](mailto:akozak@hourglass.com)

**FCC Exam Registration (518) 604-4128**



**SARA**  
 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*	\$ _____
Name _____	Call _____	
E-mail _____		
Street _____		
City _____	State _____	Zip _____
Phone _____		
ARRL _____	RACES _____	ARES _____ MARS _____

Send to SARA, PO Box 449, Schenectady, NY 12301  
 June, 2013 through July, 2014

## SARA/K2AE Repeaters

Status	ON AIR	ON AIR	OFF 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

## Schenectady County Emergency Net

Band	Repeater	Time	NCS
70cm	444.200Mhz+	1:00 PM	TBA
2m	147.060Mhz+	1:30 PM	TBA
75m	3953KHz	2:00 PM	TBA

### 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.