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# SARA NEWS

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

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## A Message from the President

2014 was a great year! I am still in awe of the participation of many numbers of hams that had gotten involved with the ARRL centennial celebration.

I heard so many hams helping each other on the 147.060 that I am impressed.

The centennial created much needed ham chat and participation and it was great to work section managers, division directors, and folks that were handing out and taking the "points" on HF!

The last I heard is that K2HAT was the points leader.

Another thing that happened and I hope will continue will be the many number of hams who went to W1AW and warmed up the league radios. I bet they burned those radios in real good.

That shows a real Amateur Radio spirit.

Let all of us try to keep that Amateur Radio spirit alive for 2015. It would be so sad to lose the fun and camaraderie that was 2014! Let's keep it going.

73 to all de W2XAD

# SARA General Meeting

Monday January 5, 2015, 7:00 pm, Niskayuna High School

## “Telegraphers During the Civil War”

This presentation will explore the experiences of military telegraph operators during the Civil War. Telegraphers with the U.S. Military Telegraph Corps experienced many of the same dangers and hardships as front-line troops. However, the Telegraph Corps was not part of the Army's chain of command. Telegraphers indulged in legendary feats of drinking and pranks that no military commander would have tolerated.



### Our Speaker: Dave Hochfelder

Dave Hochfelder is an associate professor of history at University at Albany, SUNY. He is the author of “The Telegraph in America: 1832-1920”.

Before returning to graduate school for history, he was an electrical engineer in the electric power industry. He is also an Extra Class amateur, call sign N2HTA, though he is not active on the air due to space limitations at home. When he was active, his favorite band and mode was 30 Meters CW. He still does broadcast band and longwave DXing.

Dave will also have copies of his book for sale at the meeting.

### Meeting Location

SARA meetings are held in the Little Theatre of the Niskayuna High School on Balltown Road unless otherwise noted.

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.

### Cancellations

If Niskayuna High School cancels evening classes and activities the SARA meeting will also be cancelled.

[www.niskyschools.org](http://www.niskyschools.org) for school closing information.

# SARA Board Meeting

## December Meeting

Due to the weather and limited attendance, it was voted to move the December Board meeting to January.

## November Meeting Minutes

November 12, 2014

### Present:

Craig Wood, W2XAD President  
Tim Long, W2UI Treasurer  
Jim Silva, KC2ZVK Vice President  
John Comanzo, KD2FVN Board Member  
Paul Siemers, WY2F Board Member  
James MacMurray, N2UZQ Board Member  
Visitors: David Wilkinson, KD2CDH (SMARA president)

**Meeting opened** by President Wood at 7:04 PM.

**Treasurer's Report:** Reported by Treasurer Tim Long and accepted by the board.

**Secretary's Report:** The Board accepted as published.

**Contact New Member:** None

### Old Business:

#### November meeting in Niskayuna High School Cafeteria:

The November meeting was held in the cafeteria of Niskayuna High School (Room D267) instead of the Little Theater. The coffee and cookies were appreciated by those in attendance.

### New Business:

**Field Day Planning:** Plans for field day were discussed.

**Meeting Adjourned** 8:21 PM.

Submitted by Vice President Jim Silva

### Calendar of Events

#### January

January 5 at 7PM  
SARA General Meeting

January 14 at 7PM  
SARA Board Meeting

### Website

Visit the club's website at:  
<http://www.k2ae.org>

### SEND IN YOUR IDEAS

If you have any articles, information, tips, tricks or items for sale you would like to include in the SARA Newsletter, send an email to [KD2FVN@arrl.net](mailto:KD2FVN@arrl.net) with the subject "SARA Newsletter Ideas". Please include your full name and call sign.

## SARA Party Dec 1, 2014

The almost perfect event. By Hal Post AK2E

December is not usually one of the kinder months regarding weather. Monday evening Dec 1st there was no snow, rain or sleet or icy surfaces to traverse!

On the way to the meeting I stopped and filled the car fuel tank with gas. Paid for my meal and had a great evening chatting with friends.

There was a very good turnout for the party and some folks had to sit outside the meeting room.

About the time I'd finished my meal the club had their 50/50 drawing. Thanks to SARA for the meal, a very pleasant evening chatting with friends and gas for the car!

**Happy New Year, Hal AK2E**

## Looking for a fun project?

Submitted by John Comanzo KD2FVN

I came across this kit on the web and thought some of you might find this interesting. I am sure you all have some old AA batteries laying around and it might come in handy in an emergency.

HumanaLight is an easy-to-build kit for a bright, long-lasting LED mini-lamp that's powered by a surprising, but ubiquitous, resource: **the residual energy in depleted AA batteries.**

This simple light source is powered by a single AA cell and can last up to 5 weeks! The simple circuit dramatically extends the life of the AA cell. You can even insert a "dead" AA cell, and it will light for days.



<http://www.earstoourworld.org/humanalight/>

### A Special Thank You!

Thank you to Antje Dirken-Post N2OMA for her past service as SARA News Editor.

### Congratulations

Congratulations to Hal Post AK2E.

He was the winner of the December Social Event 50/50 Raffle.

## Board of Directors/Officers

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### President

Craig Wood - W2XAD  
Email: w2xad1@verizon.net  
Phone: 370-5224

### Vice President

Jim Silva - KC2ZVK  
Email: jsilva.NY@gmail.com  
Phone: 877-8032

### Secretary

James Stewart - K2PK  
Email: k2pk@arrl.net  
Phone: 399-1867

### Treasurer

Tim Long - W2UI  
Email: tlong1@earthlink.net  
Phone: 399-7454

### Director

Paul Siemers - WY2F  
Email: psiemer2@nycap.rr.com  
Phone: 371-0215

### Director

James MacMurray - N2UZQ  
Email: n2uzq@hotmail.com  
Phone: 772-9851

### Director

John Comanzo - KD2FVN  
Email: kd2fvn@arrl.net

### Director

Hans Olsen - KD2FJL  
Email: olsenh625@strose.edu  
Phone: 632-1093

## Standing Committees

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### SARA News

John Comanzo - KD2FVN  
Email: kd2fvn@arrl.net

### Elmer & Antenna Party

Tim Long - W2UI  
Email: tlong1@earthlink.net

### K2AE Trustee

Hal Post - AK2E  
Email: ak2e@arrl.net  
Phone: 306-6817

### Repeater

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

### RFI/TVI

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

### Public Service Events

Tony Pazzola - W2BEJ

### VE Team

Al Kozakiewicz - AB2ZY  
Email: akozak@hourglass.com

### FCC Exam Registration

Phone: (518) 604-4128

# Schenectady County Emergency Net

SARA members act as Net Control Stations for the Schenectady County Emergency Net (SCEN) on Sunday afternoons.

**Emergency Coordinator: James MacMurray - N2UZQ**

DAY OF WEEK	TIME	FREQUENCY	MODE
Every Sunday	1:00 PM	444.200	K2AE Repeater
Every Sunday	1:30 PM	147.060	K2AE Repeater
1st Sunday	2:00 PM	3.953	LSB
2nd Sunday	2:00 PM	50.400	AM
3rd Sunday	2:00 PM	146.430	FM Simplex
4th Sunday	2:00 PM	28.325	USB
5th Sunday	2:00 PM	223.500	FM Simplex

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.

# SARA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Dues are gladly accepted (Please print legibly)

New Member

Renewal

Donation to the Repeater Fund. Amount: \_\_\_\_\_

**Membership Class:**

Full (Licensed Amateur) - Dues: \$20.00/year

New Member Initiation - \$5.00/one time fee in addition to Full dues  
(Initiation fee is used to fund the Henry Primm Broughton Memorial Fund)

Spousal - Dues: \$5.00/year. Call sign of regular member: \_\_\_\_\_

Student (K-12 and full-time undergraduate college) - Dues: \$5.00/year

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Call Sign (if licensed): \_\_\_\_\_ License Class: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

(Newsletters will be distributed via email unless otherwise specifically requested)

Are you a member of  ARRL  ARES  RACES  NTS

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Please use a separate form for each member at your address.

Make checks payable to: Schenectady Amateur Radio Association

Mail your check and this completed form to:

**Schenectady Amateur Radio Association**  
**PO Box 449**  
**Schenectady, NY 12301**

You may also bring this form and your membership dues to the next SARA General meeting.

