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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

Years ago there were folks who didn't get their ham licenses because they did not want to take the CW test in order to get a license.

Years later you did not need to pass the CW exam to get your technician class license but to go to tech+ or general you still had to pass the CW tests.

When CW was no longer required there was a large influx of new upgraded hams. Then something happened, some folks who avoided the CW now started to learn CW.

If anyone has listened you would have heard talks of learning CW on the 060 and on 146.550 MHz.

It is odd that after years of the loss of CW exams this is the new excitement in ham radio. I love this. Their enthusiasm is infectious so listen in.

Even if you are an old timer listen and enjoy. Do not be afraid to join in and help. This could spread further with a little help and bring back an efficient and lid free mode of communication.

There are other modes of communication but remember that this is the first digital mode and it still works best!

### **BROUGHTON AWARD ANNOUNCEMENT**

As all members of SARA should know the Henry Primm Broughton Memorial Award is up and coming.

If any one can think of a ham who is deserving of this award of service please let me or any of the Board at SARA know who your nominee would be.

Remember that this is your club and all of your voices matter to all of us.

I expect to hear from you by person, phone or email.

73 all! de W2XAD

# SARA General Meeting

Monday February 2, 2015, 7:00 pm, Niskayuna High School

## “The 22 Pound DXpedition (or SOTA for Geezers)”

How little equipment is necessary to make contacts (on HF)? Typically, as hams we think we need 100 watt transmitters at a minimum and huge antennas. How do we power transceivers for portable work? In this talk, we will compare power density for various batteries, discuss selecting a transceiver and an antenna for portable operations. A key trade-off is weight vs. power...just how much do you want to schlep? We will discuss various portable operations and DXpedition basics (e.g., foreign licensing, and operations, remote operating opportunities).

### Our Speaker: John Fritze, K2QY

Prior to his Amateur Radio “career” John was involved with Albany County REACT, and served as Vice President.

He was first licensed in 1978 as Novice (WA2TQW), became General, then Advanced within the year. He became Extra Class in 1981. His call has been KB2CR since about 1980, and K2QY since 2003.



He has served as president and director AARA multiple times since the early 1980s. He was one of the first VEs in the country (1984).

He is currently on the board of directors of the AARA and president of ACACES. He has conducted ARRL, FEMA & NWS training, and is the Northern District Emergency Coordinator (ENY Section).

### 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

## January Meeting Minutes

January 14, 2014

### Attendees:

Jim Silva, KC2ZVK, Vice-President  
 Tim Long, W2UI, Treasurer  
 Paul Siemers, WY2F, Board Member  
 James MacMurray, N2UZQ, Board Member  
 John Comanzo, KD2FVN, Board Member

**Meeting called to order** at 7:03 PM by Vice-President Jim Silva.

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

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

**New Members:** The Board approved two new members, Andrew Tomlinson KD2HUS and James Piambino KD2HUT.

**Old Business: None**

**New Business:**

**SARA News:** Discussed articles for the Newsletter. We are looking for articles/pictures for SARA News.

**General Meeting Topics:** Discussed meeting topics/speakers and ideas for upcoming meetings.

**Field Day 2015 Planning:** Plans for field day were discussed.

**Meeting Adjourned at 8:25 PM.**  
 Respectfully submitted by John Comanzo, KD2FVN

### Calendar of Events

**February 2 at 7PM**  
 SARA General Meeting

**February 9-13**  
 ARRL School Club  
 Roundup

**February 11 at 7PM**  
 SARA Board Meeting

**February 21-22**  
 ARRL International DX –  
 CW

### Upcoming Hamfests

**March 14**  
 Saratoga Swapfest  
 8 am to 12 pm  
[www.w2wcr.org/events/saratoga-swapfest-2015](http://www.w2wcr.org/events/saratoga-swapfest-2015)

**May 9**  
 East Greenbush Amateur  
 Radio Association  
 8 am to 1 pm  
[www.w2egb.org](http://www.w2egb.org)

**September 13**  
 Saratoga County R.A.C.E.S  
 Association  
 7 am - 2 pm  
[www.wa2umx.net](http://www.wa2umx.net)

### Website

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

## Broughton Award 2015 Nominations

The Broughton Award Committee is accepting written nominations for this year's Henry Primm Broughton Memorial Award.

The award was established in the fall of 1959 and has been given every year since 1960 (with the exception of 2005) at the June Annual Business meeting. This award is named for founding member and past SARA president Henry Primm Broughton K2AE whose call sign the Club now holds.

The award is given for individual achievement, or for outstanding service to SARA, to amateur radio in general or to the community.

Prior Henry Primm Broughton Memorial Award winners are listed below.

1	1960	Warren Ford, W2GTB	31	1989	Phil Bradway, KB2HQ
2	1961	George Tracy, W2EFU	32	1990	Joe Hoffman, KA2AXN
3	1962	Earl Houck, W2GTC	33	1991	Bob Janack, WA2DWU
4	1963	Howard Lester, W2ODC	34	1992	Dan Whelan, N2UD (WB2WHD)
5	1963	Sam Johnson, W6BS	35	1993	Ray Wemple, KA2DVM
6	1964	Ted Goble, K2HNV	36	1994	Tim Long, W2UI (WB2SPN)
7	1965	Hunt Huntington, K2ONF	37	1995	Paul Mataruga, WB2MCO*
8	1966	Bob Hall, W1DQO	38	1995	Richard Arthur, W2RWA
9	1967	Frank Douglas, W2AZH	39	1996	Don Walsh, WA2TSW
10	1968	Charlie Muir, WA2CGD	40	1997	Mike Gardina, W2ARQ
11	1969	Paul Jorgensen, WA2TAG	41	1998	Charlie Haynes, K2VNP
12	1970	Paul Tyner, WB2BDB	42	1999	Joe Clement, K2UF
13	1971	Augie Weiss, WB2NYM	43	2000	Bill Patmos, W2DHT
14	1972	Harold Hornbeck, K2DLD	44	2001	Rob Leiden, K1UI (KR2L)
15	1973	Jim Lawson, W2PV	45	2002	John Doblewski, N2OJY
16	1974	Doc Korn, N2XU	46	2003	Bob Raffelle, W2XM
17	1975	Henry Mitchell, W2CAZ	47	2004	Dennis Hudson, N2LBT
18	1976	Walt Schick, W2KE		2005	No Award
19	1977	Raleigh Keeter, K2RI	48	2006	Ken Clickman, AA2CW
20	1978	Jim Pontius, W2CPB	49	2006	George Williams, W2CSN
21	1979	Jack Nelson, W2FW	50	2007	Bill Mischler, KG2AC
22	1980	Bill Schwarting, WR2L	51	2008	Paul Siemers, WY2F
23	1981	Dan Murray, W2PKY	52	2009	Mike Adams, KB2KXC
24	1982	Don Bulger, WB2VJC	53	2010	Clark KG2AO/Millie KB2SWR Gittinger
25	1983	Dick Frey, WA2AAU	54	2011	Dan Fiorillo, KC2MER
26	1984	Paul Bachorz, KB2T	55	2012	Jim Stewart, K2PK
27	1985	George Chapek, N2AIG	56	2013	James MacMurray, N2UZQ
28	1986	Rudy Dehn, W2JVF	57	2014	Craig Wood, W2XAD
29	1987	Rick Darrah, KA2OPG			
30	1988	Hal Post, AK2E			

\*posthumous

Last year the Henry Primm Broughton Memorial Award was presented to Craig Wood, W2XAD, and consequently Craig is this year's award committee chairperson. Craig will be selecting two other past Henry Primm Broughton Memorial Award recipients to serve with him on the committee.

In the meantime please submit your written nominations to Craig. Nominations should include candidates name, a brief biography, and reasons why the nominee should receive the award.

Please send nominations to Craig by the middle of April, this will allow enough time to prepare the award for presentation.

Send your nominations to:

Craig Wood, W2XAD

[w2xad1@verizon.net](mailto:w2xad1@verizon.net)

(518) 370-5224

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## Who was Henry Primm Broughton, K2AE?

### A BRIEF HISTORY

Henry Primm Broughton, was born July 7 1865. He was one of the earliest pioneers in the field of radio and he was an enthusiastic radio amateur. He married Jane Tinkham and had a son William.

Henry graduated from Cornell University in 1890 as an electrical engineer and went to work for the Municipal Electric Light & Power Company in St Louis.

Perhaps one of his greatest moments was when he was assigned as an assistant to renowned scientist Nikola Tesla during a public lecture on high-voltage high-frequency phenomena sponsored by the National Electric Light Association in St. Louis. Tesla and Broughton demonstrated wireless communication using electromagnetic waves. A wireless message was transmitted across the stage and wireless was born!



Henry died in 1959 at the age of 94. At the time of his death he was believed to be the oldest active ham operator in the world and was known as the "Dean of Amateur Radio".

In the next couple of Newsletters I will be posting more articles and photos of Henry. I hope this will give you an insight into who Henry Primm Broughton was and what a remarkable man he was.

A special thank you to John Dilks K2TQN at <http://www.k2tqn.com>, Tom Roscoe K8CX at <http://hamgallery.com>, Bob Green W8JYZ at <http://www.oldqslcards.com> and QST Magazine for reprint and photo permission for these upcoming Newsletters.



K2TQN

## VINTAGE RADIO

# The Mighty Purple Pajama No 3

Henry P. Broughton, K2AE (SK), loved to claim he was the first ham, stating he started in ham radio in 1893. Known to his friends in later years as the “Dean of Amateur Radio,” he truly was one of ham radio’s earliest pioneers.

Now before you think too deeply, let me explain how this came about. 1893 is extremely early and ham radio wasn’t generally known until after 1910 and not licensed until 1912. So let’s liken this to the first person who built a boat. There weren’t any boat builders, so he did it and became the first one. Later many followed but someone had to be first.

Henry was born July 7, 1865, attended

Cornell University and graduated in 1890 as an electrical engineer. He went to work for the Municipal Electric Light & Power Company in St Louis and was the assistant to Mr James I. Ayer, general manager. The company and Mr Ayer were members of the National Electric Light Association, which was scheduled to have a meeting in St Louis. Mr Ayer persuaded Nikola Tesla to attend and put on a demonstration.

### Tesla’s London Lecture

Arriving on February 28, 1893, Henry Broughton was assigned by his boss as an aide to Tesla during this visit and to “render him all possible help in preparing for the

lecture, as well as during the lecture itself.” The lecture would become known as the “London Lecture.” It was delivered on the night of March 1, 1893.

During the lecture experiments Tesla and Broughton demonstrated wireless communication using electromagnetic waves across the auditorium stage, a distance of several yards. Unfortunately, those in the audience were unable to realize the significance of what they just witnessed. Later, others would receive credit for accomplishing the same thing.

On the day of Tesla’s departure, March 4, Henry dined at the Southern Hotel with Nikola Tesla, Mr Ayer, Mr Porter Bragg and Miss Billings.

A short time later, on March 11, the *St Louis Dispatch* printed an account of the meeting of the Electric Club of St Louis where Henry gave a talk on his experience with Tesla.

#### THE ELECTRIC CLUB.

##### A Balance Left to Start a Library—Tesla’s Lecture.

The first general meeting of the Electric Club since the National Convention was held last night. President Robert McCullough reported that the funds provided by the people of St. Louis for entertaining that body was \$3,310, and he had great pleasure in announcing that the expenditures had been kept within that sum with a few dollars to spare. He thought that the contributors would have no objection if the balance were to be applied in starting an electrical library for the club. The President also stated that the lunch-counter was paying expenses.

By invitation Mr. Harry Broughton gave his impressions of Tesla, and explained at length, and interestingly, the apparatus which he employed in his lecture in St. Louis. Mr. Broughton assisted Tesla in preparing for the lecture, and was therefore able to describe the conditions under which he performed his great experiments. Mr. Wagner, who was present at Dr. Wellington Adams’ dinner to Tesla, spoke of Tesla’s fascinating powers of conversation, not only in electricity, but in whatever subject was broached.

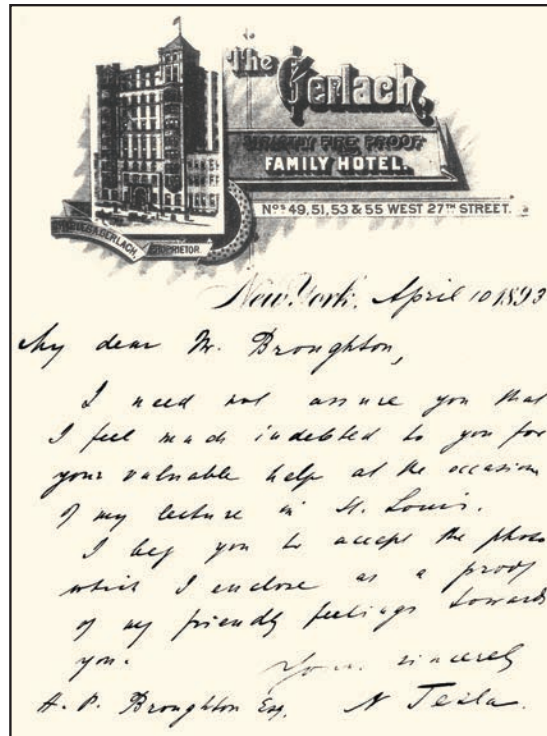
Prof. Nipher discussed the scientific significance of some of Tesla’s experiments, especially those in which phosphorescent effects were the feature. The problem is to produce a great amount of light with little energy—conditions that are found to perfection in the firefly—and Tesla seemed to be working along in that direction. The firefly’s light is certainly produced in atmospheric air, and Tesla’s idea of producing a similar light is not at all visionary.

A discussion then ensued over Tesla’s receiving as he does, without injury, such enormous voltage of electricity, and various theories were proposed. Prof. Nipher suggested that the current did not pass through the lecturer’s body; in fact, with such rapid alterations, the current was diffused over the surface. It was a well understood law that the greater the frequency the greater the resistance.

About a dozen applications for membership were approved.

The March 11, 1893 *St Louis Dispatch* article about the meeting of the Electric Club of St Louis.

Tesla’s letter thanking Henry Broughton for assisting him during the “London Lecture.”



John Dilks, K2TQN ♦ 125 Wharf Rd, Egg Harbor Township, NJ 08234-8501 ♦ k2tqn@arrl.org

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Here is Henry, K2AE, at his microphone for an early morning session of the "Pyjama Club."

On April 10, 1893 Tesla wrote a letter to Henry from his residence at the Gerlach Hotel in New York:

My dear Mr Broughton,

I need not [amuse] you that I feel much indebted to you for your valuable help at the occasion of my lecture in St Louis.

I beg you to accept the photo which I enclose as a proof of my friendly feelings toward you.

Yours sincerely,  
N Tesla

### Family Life

Henry moved on and married Jane Tinkham and on February 22, 1902 a son, William, was born. During 1903, according to Cornell's alumni news, Henry was employed as assistant sales manager by the Fort Wayne Electric Works of Fort Wayne, Indiana.

### William G. Broughton, W2IR (SK)

It would be William who brought Henry into ham radio. William first became inter-

ested in "wireless" during the summer of 1914, at the age of 12. He wrote a letter to his father about his new hobby. In the letter he said,

Dear Father: — John Allman and I became interested in a pamphlet [sic] that showed how to make a 'Wireless' without any expense. Well, we put up a 'Wireless' that was much better than this pamphlet [sic] told how to make, however, this pamphlet is guilty for our sets. The sets we have are so much better than this pamphlet [sic] described that we think we have might good stations. We have been pretty busy lately so we haven't had time to talk much but the fever is not dying by any means and am hearing Lake Boats all the time and pretty soon I expect to be able to read the messages they send out. I think my station's a little better than John's but we both have a good amount of fun. Yours truly, Bill.

At the beginning of the next summer, William received his Amateur Radio Operator's License, Second Class and his First Class license by the end of the summer — the first of many radio licenses he'd receive as time went on, such as 9SD, W9SD, 9JM, 8NJ and W2IR.

It would be years before Henry would be licensed by the FCC due to his being born in a rural area in 1865 and his birth was not documented. (FCC licensing required proof of citizenship.) But Henry was involved in ham radio with his son from the beginning, helping design and build homebrew equipment.

After college William went to work for General Electric in Schenectady, New York and Henry moved there and perhaps also worked for General Electric. (Henry's letterhead proudly proclaimed he was a "Self-Employed Independent Contractor since 1893 in home modernization.")

William and his father had a very close relationship with each other and with ham ra-

dio to the point that when they corresponded they referred to each other by call sign. This would continue by William even after his father became an SK in 1959.

An interesting online document titled *William G. Broughton: One Radio Ham* by Joseph "Jofish" Kaye was prepared while a student at Cornell University in 2004. Look for a link from my web page [www.k2tqn.com](http://www.k2tqn.com). "Jofish" digs into William's documents located in Cornell's library and examines his life, his family relationship and his ham radio logbook entries. I will leave it to the reader to examine this 52 page document for more information.

### The Mighty Purple Pajama No 3

Henry, well-known for his purple pajamas, was the head of "The Pyjama Club" [sic] and could be frequently found operating on the 75 meter band in the very early hours of the morning. He was also an active member of the Old-Old-Timers-Club (OOTC), the Professional Loafers Club and the Schenectady Amateur Radio Association. Henry and William were the first father-son team who were members of the Old-Old-Timers-Club.

### Silent Keys

Henry became an SK in 1959 at the age of 93 and his call sign, K2AE, was transferred to the Schenectady Amateur Radio Association ([www.k2ae.org](http://www.k2ae.org)) per his wishes.

William became an SK in 1994 and his call sign, W2IR, was donated to the Schenectady Museum Amateur Radio Association ([www.smara.com](http://www.smara.com)). His Collins radio equipment was also donated to the Schenectady Museum in memory of his father. The station is known as the Henry Primm Broughton Memorial Station. It is manned by the members of SMARA and is located inside the Schenectady Museum & Suits-Bueche Planetarium. The station can be visited by appointment.

William also set up a trust fund for a scholarship administered by the ARRL. The Henry Broughton, K2AE, Memorial Scholarship, presents a \$1000 scholarship to any ham having a General class license or above, who lives within 70 miles of Schenectady, New York and is in a baccalaureate or higher course of study in engineering, sciences or a similar field at an accredited 4 year college or university. See [www.arrl.org/scholarship-descriptions](http://www.arrl.org/scholarship-descriptions) for more information.

For those wishing more information on Tesla and his experiments, I will post a PDF document on my website, [www.k2tqn.com](http://www.k2tqn.com) containing William's letter to the OOTC requesting proper recognition for his father. The letter is in great detail with exhibits and references to books written about Tesla.

— K2TQN

Photos by John Dilks, K2TQN, unless otherwise noted.

JAMES MAC MURRAY, N2UZQ



William's Collins equipment in the Schenectady Museum Amateur Radio Association station, W2IR.

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## 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 NEEDS YOU!

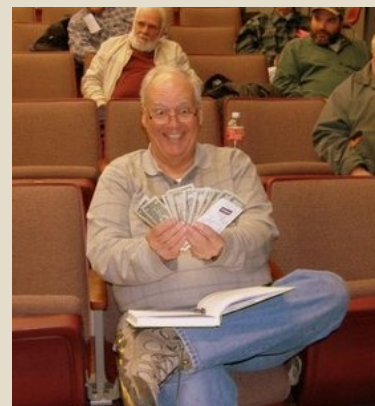
If you have any articles, information, tips, tricks or items for sale you would like to include in the SARA Newsletter, send an email to [saranews@k2ae.org](mailto:saranews@k2ae.org) with the subject "SARA Newsletter Ideas". Please include your full name and call sign.

## Do you know why "*Dues are Gladly Accepted*"?

Because it makes Tim happy!

### SARA DUES REMINDER

Have you paid your dues yet? The SARA membership year runs from July to June and the 2014-2015 dues are due. Please use the form on the last page or see Tim, W2UI, Treasurer at the next meeting.



# 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

.....  
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

.....  
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.