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# SARA NEWS

## Schenectady Amateur Radio Association

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P.O. Box 449

Schenectady, NY 12301

### A Message from the President

Hello members and future members.

If you haven't heard enough about the virus here is more information. The board and I had a virtual meeting. We decided to cancel the in-person April SARA meeting and hold the meeting on the 06 repeater (see announcement on next page). We want all of our hams to be safe. We have not cancelled any in-person SARA meetings beyond the April meeting. Also, as of now, field day is still happening. I am looking forward to us all getting together. I am hearing about maybe some chicken wings late Saturday. I know that this time is stressful for all of us. Please try to help each other--some of you might be out of work. You might be able to take time to study for the next class of license. I am currently using hamtestonline.

73 de N2PEQ

JR Hotaling

A note from our Trustee,

As we continue through these unknown and difficult times, SARA would like to make the following reminder: as people maybe become housebound, the repeaters could see an increase in use as people look for interaction with others. Please be aware of your operations on the machine. Leave pauses between transmissions, acknowledge breaking stations, do not take over a QSO in progress without having something to add to it, and be kind to each other--tempers may become short due to the circumstances.



<https://clipartfest.com>

## Special Announcement:

The April SARA meeting will be held as a call-in meeting on the **06 repeater** (the meeting will not be held at the church).

**Date: Monday, April 6**

**Time: 7:00 PM**

**Dust off those HTs or 2-meter rigs and call in!!**

### **Cancellations:**

If Niskayuna High School cancels evening classes and activities the SARA meeting will also be cancelled. See the website below for school closing information. [www.niskyschools.org](http://www.niskyschools.org)

### **Special Notice:**

There will be a VE exam session on Thursday, April 16, 2020. The time is 6 pm. Location is the Schenectady Museum (miSci). Walk-ins are welcome, but please let James N2UZQ ([n2uzq@arrl.net](mailto:n2uzq@arrl.net)) know which exam you would like to take.

**SARA Virtual Board Meeting March 18, 2020**

**Note:** This meeting was held electronically due to the normal venue being closed by the government due to the corona virus pandemic.

**Present:**

J. R. Hotaling N2PEQ, President  
Jim Silva KC2ZVK, Vice President  
Jim Stewart K2PK Secretary  
Tim Long, W2UI, Treasurer

Skip Evans W2YJL, Board Member  
Bob Saltzman WB2ARK, Board Member  
Paul Siemers WY2F, Board Member

George Burns W2SFD, K2AE/Repeater Trustee

**Meeting opened** by President J. R. Hotaling at 7:12 PM.

**Secretary's Report:** The Board accepted the minutes of the board meeting of February 12, 2020 as published in SARA News.

**Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer Tim Long discussed the Treasurer's report previously sent to board members by email. It was moved, seconded, and carried to accept the treasurer's report as distributed.

**Repeater:** George Burns reported on the repeaters and discussed operating procedures and etiquette for use especially with the present confinement due to the corona virus. He encouraged members to use the repeater and to demonstrate what good usage is like.

**Field Day:** Tim Long reported on plans for Field Day. The corona virus may affect Field Day.

**Meetings:** It was moved, seconded, and carried to cancel the April 6 meeting due to restrictions imposed as a result of the corona virus. Board members discussed future meetings and activities with respect to the effects of curtailments due to the virus. Jim Silva will contact the April speaker and see if he can speak in May, subject to conditions allowing a May meeting. SMARA is going to conduct a virtual meeting on March 19 on the 444.2 repeater. Anyone who participates should report back on their impressions.

**Video Projector:** Bob Saltzman reported that he arranged to return the projector and found that Elfun has one new one that may be acceptable for our use. Bob will follow up with them. Pickup will have to await restrictions on people getting together being lifted.

**Trailer:** Bob Saltzman reported on his frustration with getting support from ARRL.

**SARA News:** Bob Saltzman reported that Jim Stewart is the only one who responded to his idea of addition of photos to SARA News. Skip Evans and Tim Long said they have pictures that could possibly be used. Other members with photos should submit them to Bob.

**Standing Request for SARA News Editor:** The board is still looking for a volunteer to take over this position.

**Meeting Adjourned** at 8:04 PM.

Submitted by Jim Stewart K2PK, Secretary

**Future Meeting Program Schedule**

May 4: open

June 1: Field Day and Business Meeting

***Public Service Events******None till Spring******Thank You to All Who Have Helped With Public Service Events in 2019...*****Field Day Trailer needs to be replaced**

The SARA board needs your suggestions on how to raise funds to purchase a new (or gently used) trailer for our field day operations. Please contact a board member with your suggestions. To replace the current trailer with a new unit of comparable size, the cost will be about \$3,000.

**Topics for Future SARA Meetings?**

Your suggestions are welcome!!

If you have a topic that you would like to present, or know of someone who could present a topic of interest to the club, please contact Jim Silva, KC2ZVK at [jsilva.ny@gmail.com](mailto:jsilva.ny@gmail.com).

**SARA News Editor Position Open!!**

We need a new SARA News Editor. If you can use a computer and word processing software, you are qualified!

Please contact a Board Member for more information about this important (and fun) job.

## K2AE Repeater Guidelines

**K2AE Repeaters are open and visitor friendly.**

1. There will be a control operator monitoring at all times. If there is no control operator, the repeater will be unavailable. (97.103 and 97.105)
2. Control operators will not discourage anyone from using the repeater.
3. Conduct on the repeaters should be governed by common sense and courtesy. Conversations should be in plain language and suitable for all listeners. (97.112 and .113)
4. No commercial business use is allowed.
5. Pause a few seconds between transmissions. The repeater will recycle. This gives a chance for other users or emergency traffic to call in. (Give even a longer pause in Winter.)
6. If someone calls "Break", operators will yield the frequency for emergency traffic. Yielding to a "breaking" or new station is common courtesy. New York State and Federal law prohibit interference with emergency traffic.
7. Operators are encouraged to use simplex whenever possible. Operators are encouraged to use the minimum power necessary to maintain clear contact, i.e. 50 Watts or more is not appropriate in close proximity to the repeater when 1 or 5 watts achieve full quieting. (97.313)
8. Use of the repeater for non-SARA public service events is prohibited unless permission from the Trustee is obtained. Please forward requests to: [w2sfd@arrl.net](mailto:w2sfd@arrl.net).
9. In the event of an emergency (SKYWARN, flooding, weather conditions or other emergencies) control operators will turn the repeater on if it is down.

**Board of Directors/Officers****President**

J.R. Hotaling – N2PEQ  
 Email: n2peq2002@gmail.com  
 Phone: (518) 526-5131

**Vice President**

Jim Silva - KC2ZVK  
 Email: jsilva.NY@gmail.com  
 Phone: (518) 877-8032

**Secretary**

James Stewart - K2PK  
 Email: k2pk@arrl.net  
 Phone: (518) 399-1867

**Treasurer**

Tim Long - W2UI  
 Email: tlong1@earthlink.net  
 Phone: (518) 399-7454

**Director**

Bob Saltzman - WB2ARK  
 Email: [saltzman@nycap.rr.com](mailto:saltzman@nycap.rr.com)

**Director**

Paul Siemers - WY2F  
 Email: psiemer2@nycap.rr.com  
 Phone: (518) 371-0215

**Director**

James MacMurray N2UZQ  
 Email: n2uzq@arrl.net  
 Phone: (518) 369-2298

**Director**

Skip Evans W2YJL  
 Email: ShortSkip86@gmail.com  
 Phone: 518-399-5538

**Standing Committees****SARA News**

Jim Silva – KC2ZVK  
 Email: JSilva.NY@gmail.com

**Elmer & Antenna Party**

Tim Long - W2UI  
 Email: tlong1@earthlink.net

**K2AE Trustee**

George Burns – W2SFD  
 Email: [w2sfd@arrl.net](mailto:w2sfd@arrl.net)

**Repeater**

Scott Krone - N2YCA  
 Email: n2yca@nycap.rr.com  
 Phone: (518) 273-1610

**RFI/TVI**

Rudy Dehn - W2JVF  
 Email: w2jvf@juno.com  
 Phone: (518) 372-6139

**Public Service Events**

Schenectady County ARES  
 James MacMurray N2UZQ  
 Phone: (518) 369-2298  
 n2uzq@arrl.net

**VE Team**

Vacant - Please consider volunteering for this position

**FCC Exam Registration**

Phone: (518) 604-4128

# Schenectady County Emergency Net

Schenectady County ARES 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	52.525	FM Simplex
3rd Sunday	2:00 PM	146.435	FM Simplex
4th Sunday	2:00 PM	28.350	USB
5th Sunday	2:00 PM	TBA	TBA

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!!

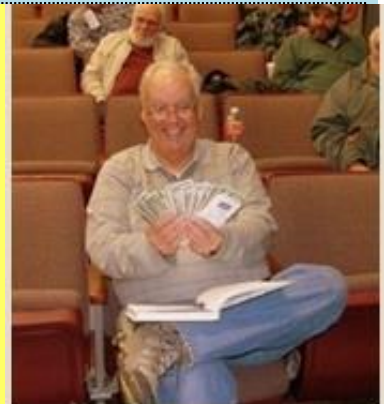
If you have any articles, information, tips, tricks or items for sale you would like to include in the SARA Newsletter, send an email to [saranews@k2ae.org](mailto:saranews@k2ae.org) with the subject "SARA Newsletter Ideas". Please include your full name and call sign.

## Do you know why "*Dues are Always Cheerfully 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 2019-2020 dues are due. Please use the form on the last page or see Tim, W2UI, our 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.