



# SARA NEWS



Schenectady Amateur Radio Association Inc.  
"Service Through Amateur Radio"

Founded 1930

May, 2003

K2AE Repeaters

Meeting Monday, May 5, 2003 at 7:30 PM, Niskayuna High School New Cafeteria

## Public Service

May 4: Annual Crop Walk: SARA will provide communication services for this event. Sign up with Ken Clikeman at 861-6825.

May 17: Niska-Day: Hopefully we wont get snowed out this year! Sign up with Ken.

May 21: Annual Scotia Parade: Sign up with Ken.

## Successful Morse Code Test!

A course that served several area clubs, the 5-wpm Morse Code course taught through Niskayuna Continuing Ed, ended with an examination on April 10.

Fifteen had enrolled in the course, and seven completed it. Only three were able to take the test on that final day; all three passed. The other four will take the test within the next several weeks, and it is expected that they will all pass.

Congratulations for their successes to Barbara Leiden, KB2TOQ; Kevin Grucella, KC2GCY; and Mike Corson (who will take his tech exam in May)! ...and good luck, Mike!

Bob Raffaele W2XM

## June Meeting Preview

The annual SARA Business meeting and election of officers for the 2003-4 year will be held at 7:30PM, June 2, at Niskayuna High School New Cafeteria. Lets have a good attendance at this meeting.

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## May Meeting

### VHF - UHF - Microwave Contesting

Anyone interested in contesting should be looking forward to our meeting on May 5th at Niskayuna High School. Our own Dick Frey, WA2AAU, who has been a major player in the award winning W2SZ effort on Mt. Graylock, and has put together experienced teams to help in that effort will be our speaker. He has rovers as far away as Maine and Ontario during these contests. His experience in VHF-UHF contesting goes back for many years and he is sure to present an interesting program.

The meeting will be held at the Niskayuna High School New Cafeteria at 7:30 PM. Talk-in will be available on the 147.06 MHz SARA repeater.

Please remember: -- Smoking is not allowed anywhere on the high school property, including the grounds!

## 2003-04 Nominations For Officers

The Nomination Committee has submitted the following slate of officers to be considered for election for 2003=2004. The election will be held during the June 2 meeting. Additional nominations may also be made at the meeting.

President: Dennis Hudson, N2LBT

Vice President: Ramsey Seielstad, KC2GMW

Treasurer: George Williams, W2CSN

Secretary: Tim Long, W2UI

Directors: Paul Siemers, WY2F

Millie Gittinger, KB2SWR

Carl Lester, K2YR

Gerry Crawmer, KE2JJ

## From the Board

Meetings - Thursday preceding the SARA meeting. All members are welcome!

Schenectady Amateur Radio Association  
Board of Directors Meeting April 3, 2003  
Minutes

The meeting was called to order by President Paul Siemers, WY2F, at 7:06 PM in the Union College "College Center"

### Attendees:

President Paul Siemers, WY2F  
Vice President Millie Gittinger, KB2SWR  
Treasurer, George Williams, W2CSN  
Secretary Tim Long, W2UI  
Director Rob Leiden, KR2L  
Director Ramsey Seielstad, KC2GMW  
Director Dan Whelan, N2UD  
Director Gerry Crawmer, KE2JJ  
Member Clark Gittinger, KG2AO

Minutes: - Millie Gittinger, KB2SWR, made a motion to accept the minutes of the Board Meeting held on February 27, 2003 as published in SARA News. Ramsey Seielstad, KC2GMW, seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: - George Williams, W2CSN, presented the Treasurer's report to the Board. Rob Leiden, KR2L, made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report. The motion was seconded by Millie Gittinger, KB2SWR, and it passed unanimously.

Correspondence: - Tim Long, W2UI, reported that we had received one membership renewal, one repeater fund drive contribution, a bank statement, and a Verizon statement since the last Board Meeting.

Public Service: - No Report, no events scheduled.

VE Sessions: - Bill Mischler, KG2AC, reported via Paul Siemers, WY2F, that no requests for exams had been received.

Newsletter: - Clark Gittinger, KG2AO, reported that duplication was done at Leonard Communications.

Membership: - Tim Long, W2UI, reported that we had approximately 140 members at this time.

Public Relations: - Rob Leiden, KR2L, stated that he would arrange for the upcoming meeting notice to be published in the Gazette.

Repeater Committee: - Paul, WY2F, reported that he had talked to Howard, W2ODC, and that Howard would reply to the Board with a single consistent voice.

RFI: - No Report.

Programs: - Millie Gittinger, KB2SWR, reported that Dick Frey, WA2AAU, is ready and that the meeting would be held at Niskayuna High School in the New Cafeteria.

### Old Business-

Raffle - Dan Whelan, N2UD, reported that ticket sales were going well. \$145 had been taken in so far with 3 months to go.

Repeater Fund Drive - Tim Long, W2UI, reported that the FCC database has been refined, sorted, and given to Howard. for use as the Repeater Fund Drive mailing list. Tim will print mailing labels when Howard has completed reviewing the list.

Membership List - Tim Long, W2UI, provided the finished master of the SARA Membership List to Clark for publication in SARA News. The present format will provide sorts by call and by name and will occupy 4 sheets total double-sided.

Special Event / Message Fair at Rotterdam Square Mall - Dan Whelan, N2UD, reported that he had received an information packet from mall officials. Dan stated that

videos, audio, and display materials are all available and that we could hold the event at any time. Dan also stated that we could deliberately schedule our event to coincide with the EMS show. Dan agreed to chair this event and Rob Leiden, KR2L, agreed to help

Nominating Committee - Paul Siemers, WY2F, reported that the Nominating Committee has selected the following slate for this years officers:

President	Dennis Hudson, N2LBT
Vice-President	Ramsey Seilstad, KC2GMW
Treasurer	George Williams, W2CSN
Secretary	Tim Long, W2UI
Director	Carl Lester, K2YR
Director	Millie Gittinger, KB2SWR
Director	Gerry Crawmer, KE2JJ
Director	Paul Siemers, WY2F

Field Day - Paul Siemers, WY2F, reported that an announcement had been made in SARA News looking for a Field Day Chairman. Still looking for a Chairman. Gerry Crawmer, KE2JJ agreed to be the Assistant Chairman

Insurance Coverage - Paul Siemers, WY2F, reported that we are still waiting to determine the appropriate levels of coverage.

501C3 Tax Status - Howard Friedman, WA2AFD, is waiting to receive an information packet from the Government.

Field Day Site - Howard Lester, W2ODC will advise us when the next fire department meeting is scheduled to be held.

### New Business:

NYS Antenna Legislation - Millie Gittinger, KB2SWR, encouraged us to write letters to our legislators. Millie contacted Dan Fiorello and Dan wrote a letter of encouragement. Millie will send an email to the SARA Reflector encouraging members to write letters of encouragement to their legislators. Clark will put an announcement in the next SARA News.

Broughton Award - Clark will put an announcement in the next SARA News asking for nominations.

Millie Gittinger, KB2SWR, made a motion to adjourn at 7:58 PM and Paul Siemers, WY2F, concurred.

Respectfully submitted, Tim Long, W2UI, Secretary

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## Important Notice: Antenna Bill

Please check the **ARRL** members only web site for important information regarding the Antenna Bill. We have been asked to write to those representatives on the Local Government Committee to get the bill out of committee and onto the floor for a vote. The senate passed the bill last year and will likely pass it again very soon this year but we need to also get it passed by the Assembly. If you don't have access to the internet, call Millie Gittinger, KB2SWR for details.

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**Come Join the Sunday ARES-RACES nets. All are welcome.**

1:00 PM - K2AE 444.200 repeater

1:15 PM - K2AE 224.060 repeater (Off air temporarily)

1:30 PM - K2AE 147.060 repeater

2:00 PM - 3953 KHz, 75 Meter HF Band

## Silent Key

This past month we lost one of the area's more active old timers, W2WBB John Ekran. A friend to all, he was regularly found on many of the nets, such as Carrier Net, Rooster Net, and 4-PM'ers. Many referred to him as "John-BB" to identify him among our old timers named "John". He surely will be missed on the air. Our sympathies go to his family. - W2ODC

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## Broughton Award Nominations

The Broughton Award Nominating Committee is looking for nominations from the SARA membership to be considered for the Broughton Award. If you wish to make a nomination, contact one of the committee members, as listed below:

John Doblewski, W2OJY, 372-5600 (Work)

Dan Whelan, N2UD, 895-2574

Tim Long, W2UI, 3997454

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## Field Day Chairman Needed

Field Day is fast approaching and SARA is still looking for a volunteer to lead this year's Field Day activities. A new face is needed! Lots of help is available from our previous chairmen, and Gerry Crawler KE2JJ has agreed to be assistant chairman. So please consider taking on this task.

Field Day dates are Friday-Sunday June 27 - 29, 2003.

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## Repeater Fund Drive

The Spring Fund Drive for the K2AE repeaters continues. Some of you have already responded, and letters are going out to inform folks of the drive. The Repeater Committee surely appreciates donations that are coming in. Make checks out to Schenectady Amateur Radio Association, and mark "repeater fund" on the check. Send to George Williams, Treasurer, SARA, PO Box 207, Alplaus NY 12008-0207. - W2ODC, Trustee.

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## Directions for Niskayuna High School New Cafeteria

Enter the school grounds at the traffic light just north of the Nott Street major intersection on Balltown Road. Drive to the road intersection in front of the main school entrance, and turn right at this intersection. Drive around to the back of the school, past a narrow point where the school and the adjacent shopping center are close together. Park in the first area of the rear parking lot that you come to. Enter the school at the entrance near a large circular fan mounted on the side of the wall of the nearby building extension. (This extension has some fenced in electrical boxes at its end.) The New Cafeteria is directly across the hall from the entrance..

For those of us who want to play with GPS units, the entrance doorway is at N 42deg. 49.070min., W 73deg. 53.325min.

# The Trading Post



**FOR SALE  
OR TRADE**

**'For sale** - Kenwood TS820 HF transceiver with MC 30 mike -

Call Rudy 372-6139 or E-mail W2JVF@juno.com

For any items to trade or sell or if you are looking for some item, contact the editor or post email to the address below.

To post an ad in the SARA News, email:

**sara@e-groups.com.**

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## Announcing the SARA Field Day "Double Header" TWO HT Give Away!

SARA will be giving away TWO Handie Talkies at this year's Field Day. The 1st grand prize will be a Yaesu VX-7 five watt four band (50, 144, 222 and 440 Mhz) HT. The 2nd grand prize will be a Yaesu VX-1 one watt dual band (144 and 440 Mhz). There will be several other station accessories and publications as door prizes. The winners will be drawn at the SARA Field Day site in June. Those winning the HT grand prizes need not be at field day to win.

Tickets went on sale at the March SARA Meeting at \$3 per ticket. The total number of tickets available will be limited and there will be some special "early bird bundles" available at reduced rates of 2 tickets for \$5 and 5 tickets for \$10 so get yours early! All proceeds from the tickets go to fund SARA's many activities like Field Day. For tickets see Dan Whelan N2UD or other SARA club officers for tickets.

So this is your chance to support SARA, Field Day and maybe be able to bring a brand new HT on vacation this summer!

Dan N2UD

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## Get SARA News by E-Mail

You can arrange to have SARA News delivered direct to your E-Mail address in PDF format, readable by a free download of the Adobe Acrobat Reader. You will get a color version of the newsletter sooner than by mail, which you can print if you desire. E-Mail delivery also saves the club time, volunteer effort, and money. If interested, contact Tim Long, W2UI at 399-7454 or longt@empireone.net.

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## SARA web site

<http://www.rpi.edu/~brandp/sara/index.html>

Get the latest on SARA activities

## Who to Contact in SARA

There are a number of ways to get in touch with the leaders of your club: contact on the air, E-mail (either direct or through sara@egroups.com) or by phone. The important thing is to let them know what you want your club to be!

### Officers:

Pres: Paul Siemers, WY2F, (siemers@crd.ge.com) 371-0215  
VPres: Millie Gittinger, KB2SWR, (gittingn@crisny.org) 377-0671  
Sec: Tim Long, W2UI, (longt@empireone.net) 399-7454  
Treas: George Williams, W2CSN (williamg@tardis.union.edu) 377-6188  
Dir: Rob Leiden, KR2L, (bleiden1@nycap.rr.com) 399-9343  
Ramsy Seielstad, KC2GMW, 377-2263  
Daniel Whelan, N2UD. 895-2754  
Gerry Crawmer, KE2JJ, 371-1797

### Committees:

SARA News: Clark Gittinger, KG2AO, (gittingn@crisny.org) 377-0671  
PIO: Rob Leiden, KR2L (bleiden1@nycap.rr.com)  
Rept./K2AE: Howard Lester W2ODC (hlester@nycap.rr.com)  
RFI: Rudy Dehn W2JVF (w2jvf@juno.com)  
Membership: Ramsy Seielstad, KC2GMW 377-2263  
Pub. Ser.: Ken Klikeman AA2CW (klikema@nycap.rr.com) 861-6825  
VE team: Bill Mischler, KG2AC

**VE registration: (518) 370-1350**

## Schenectady Amateur Radio Association Inc

### Membership Application-Renewal Form

Regular Dues	\$20.00	\$_____
Spouse	\$ 5.00	\$_____
Student	\$ 5.00	\$_____
Repeater Fund Donation		\$_____
Initiation Fee	\$ 5.00*	\$_____

\*New Members Only

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Call \_\_\_\_\_

Nickname \_\_\_\_\_ Class \_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_

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

e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

ARRL \_\_\_\_\_ RACES \_\_\_\_\_ ARES \_\_\_\_\_ MARS \_\_\_\_\_

Send to SARA, P.O. Box 207, Alplaus, N.Y. 12008-0207

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May, 2003

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