

SARA NEWS

Schenectady Amateur Radio Association

P.O. Box 449
Schenectady, NY 12301-0449

Message from the President:

I hope all of you, your families, and friends enjoy the Thanksgiving Holiday this week. As mentioned earlier, we have reinstated our Holiday gathering at United Buffet for the December meeting. Please note that the meeting is on **Thursday at 6 pm**, December 2, 2021. Masks are required by United Buffet while browsing the serving tables, but not required while eating.

The SARA board of directors has reinstated the Broughton Award. Please nominate a club member who has contributed to Ham Radio and the club. Nominations can be submitted to Jim Stewart, Tim Long, or myself.

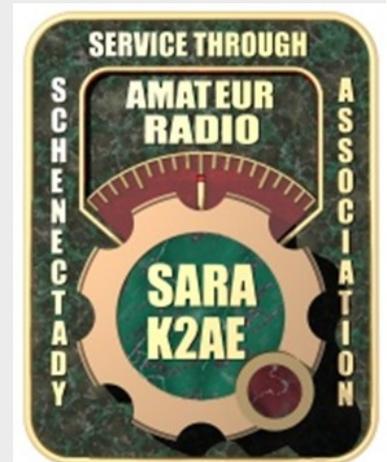
'73, Paul WY2F

Field Day Results:

Field Day results have been published and the Broughton Memorial Field Day Group did very well! Our aggregate score was 15,990 points and we had 16 total entries that contributed to the aggregate. We ranked 30th overall. I don't know how many aggregate scores are listed, but there are many and 30th is darn good! Congratulations to all. We should all be proud!

Field Day 2022 will be on June 25th and 26th and we have secured the Rexford Firehouse pavilion and field for the event. We were there 2 years ago and it is an excellent facility and location. We will operate class 6A. There has been no ARRL announcement but I suspect that the ARRL will discontinue the special rules for 1D and 1E stations that have been in effect for the past 2 years, and will also discontinue the club aggregate scoring. We are planning on doing Field Day as a group. What a party it will be! Mark your calendars.

73, Tim W2UI



SARA General Meeting

Thursday, December 2

6:00 PM

“December Social Event”

December’s meeting will be held at the United Buffet,

2320 Watt Street, Schenectady NY.

Get out of the “Shack” for a night and come join us for an all-you-can-eat buffet and great company!

Place: United Buffet, 2320 Watt Street, Schenectady
(we have reserved the “back room”)

Time: 6:00 p.m.

Cost (Meal, drink, tax, and tip):

\$17.94 for Seniors

\$19.66 for non-seniors

Please pay as you arrive (mention that you are with SARA), and head to the “back room”. Masks are required by United Buffet while browsing the serving tables, but not required when eating.

Since the dinner format is a buffet, members are welcome to arrive at 6:00 p.m. (or any time after 6:00 p.m.), and stay as long as they want. No speeches, but plenty of time to share your latest stories with your amateur radio friends!!

Happy Holidays from SARA!!

SARA Board Meeting November 10, 2021**Present:**

Paul Siemers, WY2F President
Jim Silva KC2ZVK, Vice President
Jim Stewart K2PK, Secretary (by Zoom)
Tim Long W2UI, Treasurer
Skip Evans W2YJL, Board Member
Terry Saunders N1KIN, Board Member
J. R. Hotaling N2PEQ, Board Member

Call to Order: Meeting opened by President Paul Siemers at 7:06 PM.

Secretary Meeting Notes: The Board approved the minutes of the meeting of October 13, 2021 as published in SARA News.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Tim Long discussed the treasurer's report presented at the meeting and screen-shared to Zoom. It was moved, seconded and carried to approve the Treasurer's report as presented.

Programs: Jim Silva reported that the November SARA meeting program is Neil Goldstein W2NDG "Today's Kit Industry: Build your own Radios!" The December social meeting is scheduled at the United Buffet at 6:00 PM on Thursday December 2 because the United Buffet is closed Mondays.

Repeater: No report.

SARA Web Site: No report.

Public Service Events: The November 20 Schenectady Holiday Parade needs additional volunteers.

Trailer Outfitting: Tim Long reported he will be sending out the sketches of proposed inside layouts.

Hybrid Meeting Format: Terry Saunders presented data on available microphone solutions to improve the audio for Zoom contact in SARA meetings. Discussion concluded that solutions are available, but we need to try some different approaches at SARA meetings to enable a decision in the future

Broughton Award: The President reported that the Broughton Committee consists of Jim Stewart (chairman), Paul Siemers and Tim Long. Paul will put out a request for nominations at the Monday meeting and in the President's column in SARA News. The pins and medallions should be shipped to us in about three weeks.

SK Lansingburg Estate Sale: Jim Silva has tried to make contact but has not succeeded. This item will be set aside unless Jim finds some reason to bring it up again as New Business in a future board meeting.

New Business: None.

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

Meeting Adjourned at 8:00 PM.
Submitted by Jim Stewart K2PK, Secretary

Program Schedule

Date	Speaker	Call Sign	Topic
September 20, 2021	Ria Jairam	N2RJ	ARRL Update and Ham Radio in Trinidad and Tobago
October 28, 2021	Bryan Jackson	W2RBJ	Impact of Radio During the Titanic Disaster
November 15, 2021	Neil Goldstein	W2NDG	Today's Kit Industry: Build Your own Radios!
December 2, 2021 6:00 PM	Holiday Dinner		Dinner at the United Buffet Restaurant
January 17, 2022	Lauren Libby	W0LD	Trans World Radio: A Million Watts of RF !!
February 21, 2022	Carl Luetzelschwab	K9LA	Sunspot Cycle 25 and HF Propagation
March 21, 2022	Dom Mallozzi	N1DM	An Introduction to Satellites for the Radio Amateur
April 18, 2022	Tom Perera,	W1TP	Spy Radio Operations and CIA Bugs
May 16, 2022	Open		
June 20, 2022	Tim Long & James MacMurray	W2UI, N2UZQ	Elections and Field Day Planning

Schenectady Amateur Radio Association

Finances:

Managing SARA's finances has been a challenge in recent years. Declining dues-paying membership, and fixed and sometimes increasing recurring expenses have been the most consistent contributing factors.

The Board of Directors has studied and addressed these issues in an on-going manner over the past several years. Well thought out and responsible decisions have been made that are in the best interests of the club and its members in an effort to survive these challenges and meet our fiduciary responsibilities. Some of the decisions that we have had to make have been difficult and sometimes unfortunate. We looked at and evaluated every income and expense line item before making them.

The budget was revised to reflect the reality of our financial situation, and we have steadfastly adhered to it.

For example, the Board decided to postpone granting the Broughton Award for the past several years, as this is an expensive discretionary expenditure that we could simply not afford. We also researched and determined that we no longer need the telephone line used for repeater control.

We recently determined that we could save a great deal of money by changing our liability insurance to an ARRL sponsored program.

However the club's income has unexpectedly changed in recent years – unfortunately as the result of the passing of some members, and their amateur radio possessions being bequeathed to SARA. A great deal of work went into gathering, cataloguing, pricing, and selling this items. With the permission of the deceased members' families the generated funds from these sales have been donated to the SARA general fund.

We are truly saddened by the death of these members, and are sincerely grateful to have been able to benefit from parts of their estates. In the context of the reduction of expenses and the increase in income, it was decided to move our limited assets to a more appropriate financial management firm. The result has been that SARA has been steadily benefiting from the conservative investments that have been made, providing a steady modest additional income (which of course can never be absolutely predictable).

The anonymous donation of the trailer and the generous GoFundMe contributors have also helped out significantly.

One positive outcome is that after considerable analysis and discussion, the Board has just revived the Broughton Award program by approving, with the concurrence of our financial advisor, the acquisition of award medallions and pins for the next twenty-five years (based upon significant cost savings for purchasing in quantity). It was fortuitous that the award design data and casting dies were tracked down at the current incarnation of the original minting company, affording SARA significant additional savings.

In summary, SARA is in a much more financially stable situation than it has been in recent years – the direct result of the Board of Directors and the treasurer's responsible, transparent, and diligent handling of the ongoing situation.

As with the trailer, information about club finances and related decisions are reported monthly in the SARA Newsletter. Financial details and the budget are always available to members upon request.

If you have any questions, please contact a member of the Board of Directors.

Bob Saltzman, for the SARA Board of Directors

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 97.113)
4. Commercial or business use is not 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 the wintertime.)
6. If someone calls "break", operators should 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, and 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.
9. In the event of an emergency (SKYWARN, flooding, extreme weather conditions, or other emergencies) control operators will turn the repeater on if it is down.

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
The nets are open to all amateurs. ARES or RACES membership is not required to participate. The purpose of the nets is for training, passing any traffic that you might have, and any announcements of general interest.

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

SARA Board of Directors/Officers

President

Paul Siemers - WY2F

Email: psiemer2@nycap.rr.com

Phone: (518) 371-0215

Vice President

Jim Silva - WA2JMS (new call)

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

Directors

Skip Evans - W2YJL

Email: ShortSkip86@gmail.com

Phone: (518) 399-5538

JR Hotaling - N2PEQ

Email: n2peq2002@gmail.com

Phone: (518) 526-5131

Bob Saltzman - WB2ARK

Email: saltzman@nycap.rr.com

Phone: (518) 370-2222

Terry Saunders - N1KIN

(Please see www.qrz.com for contact information.)

SARA Standing Committees

SARA Newsletter

Jim Silva - WA2JMS

Email: JSilva.NY@gmail.com

Phone: (518) 877-8032

Elmer and Antenna Party

Tim Long - W2UI

Email: tlong1@earthlink.net

Phone: (518) 399-7454

K2AE Repeater Trustee

George Burns - W2SFD

Email: w2sfd@arrl.net

Repeater

Scott Krone - N2YCA

Email: n2yca@nycap.rr.com

Phone: (518) 273-1610

RFI/TVI

Vacant—please consider volunteering for this position

Public Service Events

Schenectady County ARES

James MacMurray - N2UZQ

Email: n2uzq@arrl.net

Phone: (518) 369-2298

Volunteer Examiner Team

Vacant - please consider volunteering for this position

FCC Exam Registration

Phone: (518) 604-4128



Schenectady Amateur Radio Association Membership Application

(Please print legibly)

- New member (some eligibility requirements apply)
 Renewing member
 Donation to the Repeater Fund. Amount: \$ _____

Membership Class:

- Full: \$20.00 per year dues
 New member initiation: \$5.00 one-time fee in addition to full dues
 (The initiation fee is applied to the Henry Primm Broughton Memorial Fund)
 Spousal: \$5.00 per year dues. Name or call sign of full member: _____
 Student (K-12 and full-time undergraduate college): \$5.00 per year dues

Call Sign (if licensed): _____ License Class: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: _____ Cell phone: _____

Email Address: _____

(The *SARA Newsletter* will be distributed via email, unless otherwise specifically requested.)

Member of: ARRL ARES RACES NTS _____ another club (specify)

Please use a separate form for each SARA membership application at your address.

Make checks payable to: **Schenectady Amateur Radio Association**

Mail this completed form and your check to:

Schenectady Amateur Radio Association

PO Box 449

Schenectady, NY 12301-0449

You may also submit this form and your membership dues to the treasurer at any SARA meeting.