

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 enjoyed the Christmas and New Year Holidays this year. The Omicron variant of the Corona Virus Pandemic has been ravaging the Capital District over the past two months. The pandemic poses significant health risks to all of us. Along with the SARA Board of Directors I have decided to **not hold in-person Board or Club Meetings** for the month of January. For February we will revisit that decision based on the conditions that will exist at that time. As such we will convene a **Zoom only meeting** this coming Monday and not meet at the Alplaus Firehouse.

This past Wednesday, January 12, 2022, the SARA Board of Directors met virtually via Zoom. One of the topics of discussion was an upgrade to the SARA 147.06 repeater. The upgrade was championed by Larry Zuravan, KB2WZT, and facilitated by the staff (Scott Krone and Barry Leet) of Digitronics. The new controller will allow significant improvement in the control of our repeater and upgrade the transceiver from a Master II to a Master III. Details are being worked out. I want to thank Larry, Scott, and Barry for their efforts in making this a reality.

'73,

Paul, WY2F



The January SARA meeting will be held via Zoom.

Topic: A Million Watts of RF!

Speaker: Lauren Libby, WØLD, President and CEO, Trans World Radio

Date: Monday, January 17, 2022

Time: 7:00—8:30 PM (Zoom link will be sent out separately prior to the meeting)

Abstract: What does a *million watt* transmitter look like? We'll get an inside look at one of the largest shortwave broadcasters in the world as Trans World Radio International President Lauren Libby, WØLD, takes us on a global tour of their transmitters and broadcast and media operation that speaks to 175 countries in 230 languages daily.

About our speaker: Lauren has been a licensed Radio Amateur since age 12. He has held the amateur call signs WNØLSH, WAØLSH, KXØO, V31JO, CO2/KXØO, PJ4V, and WØLD. He has been to over 90 countries, visiting many international amateur radio operators.

Lauren has been an active VHF/UHF amateur since he has been licensed and holds WAS/WAC on 2 meters and WAS on 6 meters. He has served twice as president of the Central States VHF Society. He was awarded the Mel Wilson award for service to the VHF/UHF community. He was elected to membership in the Radio Club of America. Lauren chaired the VUAC (VHF/UHF Advisory Committee) of the ARRL in the 1990s and 2000s. Some of Lauren's current interests include EME, high-power tropo experiments, contesting, and digital communication on the amateur bands.

See the next page for a glimpse at one of TWR's stations.



TWR Phased Array Antenna in Bonaire, Netherlands Antilles

- 2018 Upgrades: 440 kW Solid State Transmitter (800 kHz AM)
 - High-efficiency (92% overall) with modulation-dependent carrier level control
 - 30 ton air conditioners to cool the transmitter and building
 - New feedlines
 - Tower modifications to handle higher power
- Ideal Location for a Ground Plane:
 - The radial system is less than 2 feet above the limestone layer, which is permeated with ocean water, and very close to the seashore and salt ponds. The ground conductivity in this layer is extremely good, further enhancing the antenna effectiveness and lowering the radiation pattern.
 - The downside is that the salt-laden trade winds cause a continual battle with corrosion. The towers must be scraped and cleaned every two years.

(Adapted from <http://www.twrbonaire.com/news/view/450/2019/01-02/twr-bonaire-radio-station-got-featured-in-world-radio-tv-handbook-2019>)

SARA Virtual Board Meeting December 8, 2021**Present:**

Paul Siemers WY2F	President
Jim Stewart K2PK	Secretary
Tim Long W2UI	Treasurer
Skip Evans W2YJL	Board Member
J. R. Hotaling N2PEQ	Board Member
Terry Saunders N1KIN	Board Member
Bob Saltzman WB2ARK	Board Member
Visitor: Larry Zuravin KB2WZT	

Meeting opened by President Paul Siemers at 7:15 PM.

Secretary Meeting Notes: The Board approved the minutes of the meeting of November 10, 2021 as published in SARA News.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Tim Long discussed the treasurer's report circulated by email 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 dinner at United Buffet went well, with 15 people in attendance.

Repeater: Larry Zuravin reported that the 2-meter repeater is working well except for interference currently being received, and he recommended putting a PL tone on the repeater. The President deferred this matter until the matter can be thoroughly discussed at the next meeting with the repeater trustee George Burns W2SFD and Scott for the repeater location. Paul gave Larry permission to contact George and Scott.

SARA Web Site: No report.

Public Service Events: No report.

Trailer Outfitting: Nothing to report.

Hybrid Meeting Format: Nothing to report.

Broughton Award: The President repeated his desire that nominations be submitted to Jim Stewart.

New Business: The President reported on the need for a new application to use the Alplaus Firehouse in 2022. The January meeting will be held in the firehouse and the 2022 application submitted for action when the new board of commissioners takes effect as of the first of the year. Note: Paul Siemers, Jim Silva, and Tim Long are working on this.

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

Meeting Adjourned at 7:56 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,	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	Holiday Dinner		Dinner at the United Buffet

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	John Fritze	K2QY	ARRL and Hudson Section Update
June 20, 2022	Tim Long & James MacMurray	W2UI, N2UZQ	Elections and Field Day Planning

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 in-person SARA meeting.