

SARA NEWS

Schenectady Amateur Radio Association

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

Message from the President:

The Omicron variant of the Corona Virus Pandemic that has been ravaging the Capital District over the past two months seems to have finally abated. Last Wednesday we resumed hybrid board meetings. Six of us attended in person at the Alplaus Firehouse and others attended via Zoom. **Hybrid Club meetings will resume next Monday, March 21, 2022.** Each of you can decide to attend meetings via Zoom or in person at the Alplaus Fire Department. Masks are optional.

The SARA Election Committee, chaired by Jim Silva, has developed a slate of candidates for our June elections (see page 4 of this newsletter). If any of you wishes to serve on the SARA Board of Directors for the SARA 2022/2023 fiscal year, please contact Jim. The election committee will submit a slate of candidates to the Club for consideration at the June meeting.

Jim Stewart, Tim Long, and myself continue to welcome nominations for the Broughton Award for 2022. Nominations will be accepted until April 1, 2022.

'73,

Paul, WY2F



The March SARA meeting will be Hybrid: in-person at Alplaus Fire House and via Zoom.

Topic: An Introduction to Satellites for the Radio Amateur

Speaker: Dom Mallozzi, N1DM

Date: Monday, March 21, 2022

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

Abstract:

Dom's talk will concentrate on the use of amateur satellites for voice and CW, and will cover the following topics:

- Simple stations for getting on the air, with a concentration on antennas
- Tracking and where to find data on satellite passes for the Northeast US
- What is doppler? What you can work? Where to get more information.

Dom will include some examples of current satellites and their capabilities along with DX opportunities. He will also briefly discuss ISS operations.

About our speaker:

Dom holds a BSEE from the University of Rhode Island in Electrical Engineering. For the past 25 years, Dom has served as a metrologist for Raytheon, specializing in electronic measurements and calibration quality policies. During his 38-year career with Raytheon, he spent a few years designing test equipment for high voltage components in RADAR stations. After retiring in 2019, he has done consulting and serves as the Co-Chair of the Accredited Standards Committee of the National Conference of Standards Laboratories, Int'l. He holds an FCC General Radio Operator's License (GROL) with RADAR endorsement. Dom also serves as the Radio Engineer for Town of Natick (MA) Fire Dept. and Police Departments. He also helps maintain the Natick Public Schools multi-site DMR system.

Dom has been an active amateur radio operator for the past 49 years. His interests lie in equipment construction, antennas, repeaters, 160 and 40 M CW, DMR, FT4/FT8, JS8, satellites, contesting, etc. He holds a 160 M WAS using 100 watts from a suburban lot and also a Satellite VUCC with in excess of 150 grid squares confirmed. He has designed and built a complete repeater control system and a duplexer. He is the licensee and technical support for the local UHF RACES repeater. He is often a visiting operator at W1AW; in December, 2021, he was an invited operator at W1AW for the 10M contest. For many years he has participated in the W1OP station in RI during 160 CW contests and the CW effort for Field Day.

Dom contributed to the 15th edition of the ARRL Antenna Handbook and the 1999 ARRL Handbook. He has also published articles in QEX and ORBIT magazine and Technical Correspondence items in QST. During COVID, he has given a series of technical and radio historical ZOOM presentations to a variety of organizations.

SARA Board Meeting March 9, 2022**Hybrid: in person at Alplaus Fire House and by Zoom****Present:**

Paul Siemers WY2F,	President
Jim Silva WA2JMS,	Vice President
Jim Stewart K2PK,	Secretary (Zoom)
Tim Long W2UI,	Treasurer
Skip Evans W2YJL,	Board Member
J. R. Hotaling N2PEQ,	Board Member (Zoom)
Terry Saunders N1KIN,	Board Member
Bob Saltzman WB2ARK,	Board Member (Zoom)
Visitor: James MacMurray, N2UZQ (Zoom)	

Call to Order: Meeting opened by President Paul Siemers at 7:08 PM.

Secretary Meeting Notes: The Board approved the minutes of the meeting of February 9, 2022 as circulated to the board and published in SARA News.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Tim Long presented and discussed the treasurer's report shown in person and by screen sharing. It was moved, seconded and carried to approve the Treasurer's report as presented.

Programs: Jim Silva reported that we are all set for programs through June thanks to Bob Saltzman's work. Bob Saltzman reported on a program he has arranged for September. Paul Siemers declared that he has established a Program Committee consisting of Jim Silva, Bob Saltzman, and Skip Evans.

Repeater: Paul Siemers reported on the status of the repeater equipment upgrade. Trustee George Burns W2SFD previously reported to board members by email that there has been a little more activity during the drive time and no interference that he's been made aware of.

Public Service Events: James MacMurray reported the Niska-Day Parade is being planned for May. The Scotia Parade may not be held this year. There has been no need for ice monitoring on the Mohawk River this year.

Trailer Outfitting: Nothing new to report.

Broughton Award: Paul Siemers reported that two nominations have been received and that nominations

close at the end of this month.

New Business:

2022 Field Day: James MacMurray asked about plans for Field Day this year. Tim Long reported that we have permission to use the Rexford Fire Department field. Tim and James discussed plans from SMARA and SARA for the Broughton Field Day Group. Jim and Tim will arrange a Field Day preparation meeting.

Other New Business Items:

A discussion was brought up about reinstatement of individuals who have been banned from the repeater.

Bob Saltzman proposed creating a recruitment and retention committee for SARA in the fall. He also proposed getting some suggestions from someone he is acquainted with from the Fair Lawn, NJ, club.

James MacMurray brought up the practice of giving free one-year memberships to new hams in both SARA and SMARA. It was moved, seconded and carried to automatically give a free one-year membership in SARA to any new ham who has passed his or her first license examination at one of SARA and SMARA's test sessions. This practice will continue until a further action is taken.

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

Meeting Adjourned at 8:26 PM.

Submitted by Jim Stewart K2PK, Secretary

At the February SARA board meeting, an election nominating committee was appointed comprising Jim Silva, Tim Long, and Jim Stewart. The nominating committee has identified a slate of nominees for 2022-2023 SARA Officers and Board of Directors, as listed below.

President:	Jim Silva , WA2JMS
Vice-president:	Skip Evans, W2YJL
Secretary:	Jim Stewart, K2PK
Treasurer:	Tim Long, W2UI
Board member:	John Clement, NM2R
Board member:	Dean Poeth, II, K8TM
Board member:	Paul Siemers, WY2F
Board member:	Bob Saltzman, WB2ARK

The annual Armed Forces Day military/amateur cross band test this year is scheduled for May 14. The schedule and list of military stations are given at:

<https://www.dodmars.org/mars-comex-information-website/armed-forces-day>

As usual, the date is a week before the annual Armed Forces Day observance to avoid conflict with the Dayton Hamvention. Military stations operate on military frequencies and amateur stations operate on ham bands, with the military stations announcing where they are listening. Careful operation of station equipment is required to be sure to transmit on amateur allocated frequencies.

Besides being a lot of fun, this is a unique opportunity for amateurs to legally contact non-amateur stations.

From the Saratoga County Amateur Radio Association:

I am pleased to announce that we will be having our traditional March Swapfest, to be held in person (!!) for the first time after the last 2 years in COVID isolation. We will be holding it on **Saturday March 19** at its usual location in the Cornell Cooperative Extension Building at 50 West High Street in Ballston Spa. The doors will officially open at 8:00 AM so come on out and get an eyeball QSO with your fellow hams. If you have some items you wish to give a new home to, bring them along also. Tables will be available until they're all used up. We will have to close down the Swapfest at 11:00 AM so that we can ready the room for a VE Test session at Noon.

Program Schedule

Date	Speaker	Call Sign	Topic
September 20,	Ria Jairam	N2RJ	ARRL Update and Ham Radio in
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 6:00 PM	Holiday Dinner		Dinner at the United Buffet Restaurant

January 17, 2022	Lauren Libby	WOLD	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	SARA Elections, Broughton Award Presentation, and Field Day Planning

Broughton Award Nominations Reminder:

Please submit nominations for the Broughton Award to Jim Stewart , Tim Long, or Paul Siemers or by April 1, 2022.

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.