SARA NEWS

Schenectady Amateur Radio Association

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

Message from the President:

Last year at this time, we were cautiously emerging from a pandemic that had wreaked havoc locally and around the world. Last year, the board made a decision to hold **Field Day** in person—and thankfully, and all went well. For **Field Day** this year, we will introduce two changes that should streamline operations. First, we will be using N1MM logging software, for which we have scheduled a training session at the Alplaus Firehouse for Saturday, May 13. We also plan to use an AB-577 tower, which will replace one of the American Towers units. Here is a link to one of these towers in action: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d0GwIT81GNI

The SARA program committee has assembled a list of potential programs for 2023-2024, which includes both local and remote speakers. If you have a topic that you wish to be covered, or if you would like to give a presentation, please contact one of the committee members (Skip W2YJL, Bob WB2ARK, or myself WA2JMS).

The SARA Nominating Committee (Jim Silva, Tim Long, and Jim Stewart) has identified a slate of candidates for 2023-2024. See the minutes of the May SARA Board meeting for details. The club will vote on these candidates at the June business meeting. In addition, the Broughton Award Nominating committee (same gentlemen) has selected the next recipient of the Broughton Award. The award will be presented at our June meeting.

As always, if you have a part or a piece of gear that you would like to show off to the group (or learn what it is used for), feel free to bring it to the meeting.

73, Jim WA2JMS

The May SARA meeting will be held at the Alplaus Fire House

and will also be available via Webex.

Title: An Introduction to Working with Surface Mount Devices

Speaker: Dean Poeth II, K8TM

Date: Monday, May 15, 2023

Time: 7:00—8:30 PM

(Webex link will be sent out separately prior to the meeting)

Abstract: This presentation will be an introduction to working with surface mount devices (SMDs). Topics will include the advantages of SMDs over traditional through-hole technology. There will also be a discussion of the tools needed to successfully build circuits with SMDs, including some that the enthusiast can make themselves. Methods of building circuits will include both hand soldering and reflow soldering techniques.

This presentation is taken, in part, from a course Dean teaches at Clarkson University, where he is an adjunct associate professor in the graduate school.

Our Speaker: Dean Poeth, K8TM, has been a licensed amateur radio operator since 1974 and a licensed broadcast engineer since 1977. He has published articles in QST and CQ magazine on surface mount devices.

Dean obtained his B.S. in Industrial and Manufacturing Systems Engineering from Ohio State, and his MS and PhD in Industrial and Manufacturing Systems Engineering from Penn State University.

His entire family enjoys amateur radio, including his wife Opal (KB3ATP), his son Dean (KD2WLO), and his daughter Anna (KD2YYA).

Note: The meeting location is 309 Alplaus Ave, Alplaus, NY, and the building is at the corner of Alplaus Avenue and Bruce Drive. Please park in the paved lot adjacent to this building. Do not park in the restricted area in front of the building that houses the fire trucks. We will meet in the Multipurpose Room (entrance is on the North side of this building).

SARA Board Meeting

April 19, 2023

Meeting online via Webex.

Present:

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

Meeting opened by President Jim Silva at 7:04 PM.

Secretary's Report: It was moved, seconded and carried to approve the minutes of the board meeting of March 8, 2023 previously circulated to the board by email and published in the March SARA News. The minutes of the April 19 board meeting will be published in the May 2023 SARA News.

Treasurer's Report: Jim Silva presented and discussed the treasurer's report previously circulated to board members by email and shown via screen sharing to those attending remotely.

Programs: Jim Silva scheduled a Program Committee meeting open to the whole board for Tuesday April 25 at 3 PM. Board members discussed wireless microphones to improve sound for people attending by Webex.

Public Service Events: There are no known public service events to be scheduled at this time. If anybody knows of coming public service events please let Jim Silva know.

Old Business:

N1MM training update: Jim Silva has asked the fire house for use of the building on a Saturday in May (May 13 or 20) or June 10 for N1MM training.

Repeater update: Jim Silva reported on attempts to get additional information.

2023-2024 election slate update: Jim Silva reported on progress getting a full slate for election at the annual meeting in June.

Field Day: Tim Long reported on the need for a practice run to put up the new AB-577 tower. This was scheduled for 1 PM at the farm on May 21.

New Business:

Meeting Locations: Board members discussed whether 2023/2024 board meetings should be entirely by Webex and whether regular meetings should be hybrid or only in-person. Decision was put off until the officers for 2023/2024 are in place. By common consent it was agreed that regardless of how we decide to handle meetings next year we will still need Webex at least for out-of-town speakers. By common consent it was agreed that Bob Saltzman will arrange the best deal for Webex and the board will support him.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:21 PM.

Submitted by Secretary Jim Stewart K2PK

SARA Board Meeting May 10, 2023

Meeting held at Alplaus Firehouse and online via Webex.

Present:

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

Meeting opened by President Jim Silva at 7:04 PM. Jim Silva noted that Secretary Jim Stewart was excused and that minutes would be taken by Board Member Dean Poeth, II.

Secretary's Report: It was moved, seconded, and carried to approve the minutes of the board meeting of April 19, 2023, previously circulated to the board by email.

Treasurer's Report: Tim Long discussed that there were no significant changes to funding other than $40 received for dues. The treasurer's report was not shown during the meeting due to a computer issue.

Programs: Bob Saltzman discussed the creation of a list of possible future presentations. A survey will be provided to members to help down-select future topics.

Public Service Events: There are no known public service events to be scheduled at this time. If anybody knows of coming public service events please let Jim Silva know.

Old Business:

Repeater update: No action has been taken.

2023-2024 election slate: Jim Silva presented the following election slate, which will be voted on at the June meeting.

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

Field Day: Tim Long reported that a practice run to put up the new AB-577 tower is scheduled for 1 PM at the farm on May 21st.

N1MM training: Field day logging will be simulated at the firehouse on Saturday May 13th from 10:00-12:00.

Bob Saltzman discussed the advantages of having a safety officer for field day. The importance of safety for the visiting public and the need for adequate hydration by participants was discussed. Compliance with safety officer requirements could result in 100 bonus points. Tim Long will attempt to locate hard hats.

The new trailer needs graphics on one side. It was suggested that they be applied this or next weekend.

New Business:

Webex: Board members discussed funding for Webex. It was moved, seconded, and carried to approve up to $200 for a subscription. It was agreed that Bob Saltzman will arrange the best deal for Webex.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:12 PM.

Submitted by Dean Poeth, K8TM

2022-2023 Program Schedule

Date	Speaker	Call Sign	Topic
September 19, 2022	Tom Perera	W1TP	The History of Telegraph Keys
October 17, 2022	John Miller	K6MM	Dxpedition to Baker Island (2018)
November 21, 2022	Skip Evans	W2YJL	Digital Mobile Radio (DMR)
November 29, 2022 6:00 PM	Holiday Dinner		Dinner at the United Buffet Restaurant
January 16, 2023	Barry Feierman	K3EUI	Modulation: Sound Card Digital Modes on HF SSB
February 20, 2023	Michael Walker	VA3MW	Software Defined Radio
March 20, 2023	Bob Olsen	WA7WWP	RF Safety
April 17, 2023	Jim Murphy	-	Light interaction and human health/circadian rhythm
May 15, 2023	Dean Poeth II	K8TM	Surface Mount Technology
June 19, 2023	Tim Long & James MacMurray	W2UI, N2UZQ	SARA Elections, Field Day Planning, and Broughton Award Presentation

Local Hamfests

East Greenbush Amateur Radio Assoc.
June 3rd (Saturday)
8am until 1pm
East Greenbush Town Park
99 Town Park Rd, East Greenbush, NY 12061
Details at: https://www.egara.club/events

Saratoga County Amateur Radio Assoc.
September 9th (Saturday)
Gates open at 7am
Saratoga County Fairgrounds
162 Prospect Street
Ballston Spa, NY 12020
Details at: http://k2dll.org

SARA Trading Post

For Sale: ICOM SM-2 Desk Mic.

Best offer. Contact W2UI

Vintage CRTs for sale: 3FP7 $25 each (2 available)

MFJ-616 Speech Intelligibility Enhancer: Almost New $120

Contact WA2JMS. All proceeds go to SARA.

SARA Members—Have an item to sell? Have a need for a piece of gear? Contact Jim WA2JMS with a description, asking price, and contact information, and we'll publish it in SARA News. Photos are also welcome.

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 an even 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 prohibits 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 achieves 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
Jim Silva, WA2JMS
Email: jsilva.NY@gmail.com
Phone: (518) 877-8032

Vice President
Skip Evans, W2YJL
Email: ShortSkip86@gmail.com
Phone: (518) 399-5538

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

Dean Poeth II, K8TM
Email: K8TM@arrl.net
Phone: 518-377-4041

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

Bob Saltzman, WB2ARK
Email: saltzman@nycap.rr.com
Phone: 518-370-2222

John Clement, NM2R
Email: jtcsrvbi@gmail.com
Phone: 518-522-4829.

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.