

# SARA NEWS

## Schenectady Amateur Radio Association

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

### Message from the President:

The beginning of fall is upon us and we look forward to the holidays with great enthusiasm and to our meetings and the great lineup of guest presenters. The Christmas dinner in December will replace that monthly meeting and is always a great place to socialize. The October meeting is open to all. **We will have a free raffle for a new Baofang UV-5R handheld.** Hope to see you there.

73, Skip W2YJL

### Special Announcements:

A free, weekly, live, Amateur Radio General Class Licensing course on **Zoom** will begin on Thursday, Nov 2, and will run through Thursday, January 11. The three-hour sessions will start at 6:30 PM Eastern Time. These are the classes that we have been holding for years sponsored by the National Electronics Museum. Prerequisite is to have (or to be studying for) the Technician Class License. Those wishing to sign up should email Roland Anders, K3RA, [roland.anders@comcast.net](mailto:roland.anders@comcast.net).

### Mini-Hamfest

SARA will hold a Mini-Hamfest on Saturday, November 4 from 8AM—11AM at Skip Evan's QTH. The purpose of this event is to sell equipment that has been donated to SARA. See accompanying email for more details.



# The October SARA meeting will be Hybrid: in-person at Alplaus Fire House and via Webex.

**Title:** KDKA and the Pioneers of Broadcasting

**Speaker:** Mike Molnar

**Date:** Monday, October 16, 2023

**Time:** 7:00—8:30 PM

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

**Abstract:** It was just over a hundred years ago that commercial broadcasting began. Previous radio transmissions of voice and music were conducted by only a few experimenters. This presentation explores the technical and business developments that led to a system of mass communication that would shape the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

**Our Speaker:** Mike Molnar lives in Glen Gardner, NJ, in the western, more rural, part of the state. Always interested in tinkering with electronics, Mike started a TV and radio company in the early 1970s. Soon, to avoid starvation, Mike shifted into medical electronics - nuclear medicine equipment in particular. He started Diagnostic Services Inc., in 1984, repairing and refurbishing nuclear medicine cameras and computers in hospitals and private clinics. Soon the company found a niche—building equipment to meet the specific needs of veterinarians. Now, if a horse needs a bone scan or a cat needs a thyroid scan, it will likely be done on something Mike designed.

As high-tech equipment filled his work hours, low-tech filled his hobby hours. Mike's collection of old radios and televisions, his electronic fossils, now spans 50 years. Some can be seen on his website [www.electronicfossil.com](http://www.electronicfossil.com). Mike is a member of the Antique Wireless Association, is a founding member of the New Jersey Antique Radio Club, and is a member of the Mid Atlantic Antique Radio Club. Over the past 10 years or so he began to write articles and give presentation for these three clubs – which included a number of articles published in the *AWA Review*.

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).

## 2023-2024 Program Schedule

Date	Speaker	Call Sign	Topic
September 18, 2023	Anthony Luscre	K8ZT	Am I Getting Out? Simple Ways to Assess the Effectiveness of Your Station
October 16, 2023	Mike Molnar		KDKA and the Pioneers of Broadcasting
November 20, 2023	Manny Shulman	NF2Q	QRP Operation
December 5, 2023 6:00 PM	Holiday Dinner	-	Dinner at the United Buffet Restaurant
January 15, 2024	Ward Silver	N0AX	Grounding and Bonding
February 19, 2024	Tim Long	W2UI	Amateur Radio Projects
March 20, 2024	Courtney Duncan	N5BF	Amateur Radio's Contributions to Mankind's Biggest Projects
April 17, 2024	Open		
May 15, 2024	Open		
June 19, 2024	Tim Long & James MacMurray	W2UI, N2UZQ	SARA Elections, Field Day Planning, and Broughton Award Presentation

## Public Service Events and News:

From James MacMurray N2UZQ:

Schenectady County ARES will participate in the **Pumpkin Patrol on October 30th and October 31st**. We will be looking for operators to help out with observing bridges those nights. We will be reaching out to those who have participated before and looking for additional operators as well. For more information, you can reach out to Larry Zuravin: kb2wzt@arrl.net.

Schenectady County ARES will also be participating in the **Schenectady Holiday Parade** this year. We will pass along any information on this event once we have all the details.

Finally, after 9 years of serving as Emergency Coordinator for Schenectady County, I have passed the reigns on to Larry Zuravin.

I am still available to assist with any questions and help people get signed up for ARES as I have stayed on as an Assistant EC. Let me know if you have any questions.

James MacMurray N2UZQ

Assistant Section Manager (Northern District)

Schenectady County ARES Assistant EC

n2uzq@arrl.net

**SARA Board Meeting October 11, 2023****Hybrid meeting in-person at Alplaus Fire House and online via Webex (indicated by (W))****Present:**

President: Skip Evans W2YJL

Board member: John Clement NM2R (W)

Vice President: Dean Poeth, II K8TM

Board member: Jim Silva WA2JMS

Treasurer Tim Long W2UI

Board member: Paul Siemers WY2F

Secretary: Jim Stewart K2PK

Board member: Bob Saltzman WB2ARK (W)

**Meeting opened** by President Skip Evans at 7:08 PM.

**Secretary's Report:** Jim Stewart summarized the minutes of the board meeting of September 13, 2023, previously circulated to the board by email and published in SARA News. It was moved, seconded, and carried to approve the minutes of the SARA board meeting of September 13, 2023 as published.

**Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer Tim Long presented and discussed the treasurer's report previously circulated to board members by email and shown via screen sharing to those attending remotely. Jim Silva reported on sales of estate equipment donated to SARA.

It was moved, seconded and carried to approve the Treasurer's report. It was moved, seconded and carried to approve the year 2023/2024 budget as presented by Tim. The budgeted contribution for the fire department will be submitted in November.

It was moved, seconded and carried to approve the Treasurer's report. It was moved, seconded and carried to approve the year 2023/2024 budget as presented by Tim. The budgeted contribution for the fire department will be submitted in November. It was moved, seconded, and carried to approve the following seven new members presented to the board by Tim: Bob Powell KD2KKG, John Warren K2YV, Nick Bennett KE2BHW, Melva Olson KE2BJU, Harry Olson KD2WKW, Opal Poeth KB3ATP, Anna Poeth KD2YYA.

**Programs:** Bob Saltzman reported for the Program Committee (Jim Silva, Jim Stewart, Skip Evans, Bob Saltzman, and Dean Poeth) and described the programs scheduled for the rest of the current fiscal year. April and May 2024 programs are still not committed. The December meeting will be our annual dinner at United Buffet on Tuesday December 5 at 6:00 PM. Secretary's note: This is a week earlier than the date proposed in the September minutes. SMARA has contacted SARA about the possibility of a joint summer picnic. Skip Evans will contact James MacMurray to confirm their interest and if that is their desire to get a commitment from them.

**Public Service Events:** Public service events will be published in the next edition of SARA News.

**Other Items:**

**SARA Mini-Hamfest:** Board members discussed another Mini-Hamfest to sell some of SARA's accumulated equipment. It was agreed that the event will happen Saturday November 4 from 8 to 11 AM at Skip's QTH.

**Old Business:** None

**New Business:** None

**Meeting Adjourned** at 8:17 PM.

Submitted by Secretary Jim Stewart K2PK



## SARA Trading Post

Two **AB-577 Towers**  
 (New in box)  
 \$700 each (or best offer)  
 contact Paul Siemers  
 (see page 8 for contact information)



**Wanted to Buy in Used/repairable condition:**

**Ten-Tec Triton IV transceiver  
 RF signal generator**

Contact Dean, K8TM [K8TM@arrl.net](mailto:K8TM@arrl.net)

**Kenwood TM-241A mobile 2M rig \$60**

**Kenwood TM-G707 mobile 2M/440 rig \$150**

**Kenwood MC-60 Microphone (excellent condition) \$75**

(These items were donated by the estate of Sid Cramer W2SID, SK)

All proceeds are for the benefit of SARA.

Contact WA2JMS (518-877-8032)

**ICOM SM-2 Desk Mic.**  
 Best offer. Contact W2UI



SARA Members—Have an item to sell? Looking 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 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](mailto: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 (70 cm)*	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

\*This net is temporarily suspended, pending repairs/improvements to the repeater

## SARA Board of Directors/Officers

### President

Skip Evans, W2YJL

Email: [ShortSkip86@gmail.com](mailto:ShortSkip86@gmail.com)

Phone: (518) 399-5538

### Vice President

Dean Poeth II, K8TM

Email: [K8TM@arrl.net](mailto:K8TM@arrl.net)

Phone: 518-377-4041

### Secretary

James Stewart, K2PK

Email: [k2pk@arrl.net](mailto:k2pk@arrl.net)

Phone: (518) 399-1867

### Treasurer

Tim Long, W2UI

Email: [tlong1@earthlink.net](mailto:tlong1@earthlink.net)

Phone: (518) 399-7454

### Directors

Paul Siemers, WY2F

Email: [psiemer2@nycap.rr.com](mailto:psiemer2@nycap.rr.com)

Phone: (518) 371-0215

Bob Saltzman, WB2ARK

Email: [saltzman@nycap.rr.com](mailto:saltzman@nycap.rr.com)

Phone: 518-370-2222

John Clement Sr., NM2R

Email: [jtcsrvbi@gmail.com](mailto:jtcsrvbi@gmail.com)

Phone: 518-522-4829

Jim Silva, WA2JMS

Email: [jsilva.NY@gmail.com](mailto:jsilva.NY@gmail.com)

Phone: (518) 877-8032

## SARA Standing Committees

### SARA Newsletter

Jim Silva - WA2JMS

Email: [JSilva.NY@gmail.com](mailto:JSilva.NY@gmail.com)

Phone: (518) 877-8032

### Elmer and Antenna Party

Tim Long - W2UI

Email: [tlong1@earthlink.net](mailto:tlong1@earthlink.net)

Phone: (518) 399-7454

### K2AE Repeater Trustee

George Burns - W2SFD

Email: [w2sfd@arrl.net](mailto:w2sfd@arrl.net)

### Repeater

Scott Krone - N2YCA

Email: [n2yca@nycap.rr.com](mailto: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](mailto: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.