

SARA NEWS

Schenectady Amateur Radio Association

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

Message from the president:

The Broughton Memorial Field Day 2026 again proved that good planning and good teamwork yield outstanding results. Please take another look at the “Field Day Special Broughton Edition 2026”, which Tim W2UI compiled. Watching the CW operators during Field Day inspired me get serious about learning CW. I have found the “Play! Morse Code” free PC App to be an excellent tool for practicing copying CW. Who knows, maybe I’ll be able to make some CW QSOs by Field Day 2027. Can’t wait! (<https://play-morse.lowreal.net/>, select “Trainer” option). A suggestion from W2UI is IZ2UUF, for Android users. See page 5 for a few photos from Field Day 2026.

As part of our outreach to youth and the community, Manny NF2Q arranged with the FCC a special event station, W2A, for operation at the Altamont Fair. On August 19, Manny led a team (N2FQ, NM2R, W2BK, KB2IXT, NO2N, and WA2JMS) to operate on 20 and 40 meters. We had a some serious inquiries from prospective hams, made 158 QSOs, including 21 DX countries led by Republic of Congo on 40m FT8, and Saudi Arabia on 20m SSB! We had several “guest operators” as well as a CW demo CW with buzzers and beepers!

73, Jim WA2JMS



“Hints and Kinks” brief presentations at SARA meetings:

If you would like to present a project or problem (with or without a solution), please contact Jim WA2JMS to get on the schedule for future meetings. The idea is to use the first 5 minutes of our meetings to give you a chance to share your project or problem (7:00—7:05 PM).

The September SARA meeting will be held at the **Alplaus Fire Station**

and will also be available via Zoom (link will be sent out prior to the meeting)

Topic: Practical Information about Test Equipment in the Shack

Speaker: Alan Wolke W2AEW

Date: Monday, September 21, 2026

Time: 7:00—8:30 PM

Abstract: This presentation will cover some practical information on how to properly use some of the basic test equipment that you may have in your shack. It will include many of the lesser known tips and tricks, and things to watch out for, when using instruments like VOMs, DMMs, Oscilloscopes, etc.

Our Speaker:

Alan earned a BSEE degree in 1985. He has worked as a design engineer, test engineer, validation engineer, and applications engineer in various industries, ranging from fiber optics to hard disk drives. For the past twenty years, Alan has been a Field Applications Engineer at Tektronix.

Having been licensed for 46 years, Alan's original call sign was KA2IZZ. He now holds an Amateur Extra Class license with the call sign W2AEW. His main interests and activities in ham radio are CW and some SSB. Alan really enjoys the Parks on the Air (POTA) program, and has almost 500 activations under his belt - almost all are QRP CW. He also serves as the Technical Coordinator for the NNJ Section of the ARRL field organization.

In addition, Alan enjoys creating videos for his YouTube channel (W2AEW), which has generated over 30 million views.

Alan lives in Bound Brook, NJ.

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 meet in the Multi-purpose Room (entrance is on the North side of this building).

2026-2027 Program Schedule

Date	Presenter	Call Sign	Topic
September 21, 2026	Alan Wolke	W2AEW	Practical Information about Test Equipment in the Shack
October 19, 2026	Anthony Luscre	K8ZT	
November 16, 2026	Richard Ferranti	W6MIT	Calling All Rangers: A Technical History of Radio Development in the US Forest Service, 1930 – 1960
December 8, 2026 6:00 PM	-	-	Holiday Party
January 18, 2027	Open		
February 15, 2027	Open		
March 15, 2027	Open		
April 19, 2027	Tom Lewis	-	Empire of the Air
May 17, 2027	Bob Saltzman	WB2ARK	Encrypted Communications and Enigma
June 21, 2027	Tim Long & William B Savocool	W2UI, K2SAV	SARA Elections, Field Day Planning, and Broughton Award Presentation

SARA Annual Meeting June 15, 2026 (Hybrid meeting in-person at Alplaus Fire House and online via Zoom.)

Present: 19 members plus visitors in attendance including officers and directors present in-person
5 members in attendance via Zoom Including officers and directors

2025/2026 SARA Directors: (* indicates present in-person)

*President: John Clement NM2R

* Board member: Manny Shulman NF2Q

*Vice President: Jim Silva WA2JMS

Board member: Bob Saltzman WB2ARK (Z)

*Secretary: Jim Stewart K2PK

* Board member: Dean Poeth, II K8TM

* Treasurer: Tim Long W2UI

* Board member: Mark Anderson WB2SMK

Meeting opened by President John Clement at 7:01 PM.

Treasurer's Report: Presented by Treasurer Tim Long for the 2025/2026 fiscal year with explanation of details of transactions over the year. It was moved (Mark Anderson), seconded (Jim Silva), and carried to approve the Treasurer's report.

Secretary's Report: It was moved (Manny Shulman), seconded (Mark Anderson) and carried to refer the minutes of this meeting to the board for approval at its September meeting.

Election of Officers and Directors: John Clement introduced the annual election of officers and directors for SARA for the 2026/2027 fiscal year. On behalf of the Nominating Committee for the 2026/2027 fiscal year, Jim Stewart presented names in nomination for the 2026/2027 officers and board members. There were no nomination petitions submitted to the committee. It was moved (Mark Anderson), seconded (Tim Long), and carried to direct the secretary to cast a single unanimous ballot for the following slate for the 2025/2026 fiscal year:

President: Jim Silva WA2JMS

Board member: Manny Shulman NF2Q

Vice President: John Clement NM2R

Board member: Bob Saltzman WB2ARK

Secretary: Jim Stewart K2PK

Board member: Dean Poeth II K8TM

Treasurer: Tim Long W2UI

Board member: Mark Anderson, WB2SMK

Broughton Award: John Clement reported for the Broughton Award Committee (John Clement, Tim Long and Jim Stewart) and presented the 2026 Broughton Award to Jock Elliott KB2GOM for his 30 year's work hosting the (Early Morning) Commuter Assistance Network in the Capital District. John read the recognition statement.

Program: Jock Elliott gave a presentation on the activities of the Commuter Assistance Network.

Field Day: Tim Long and William Savocoul K2SAV presented SARA's 2026 Field Day plans.

New Business: Manny floated the idea of doing a booth at the Altamont Fair on Wednesday August 19th. There would be no charge and they would provide power.

Meeting Adjourned 8:50PM.

Submitted by Secretary Jim Stewart K2PK

SARA Board Meeting September 9, 2026 (Zoom meeting)**Present:**

President: Jim Silva WA2JMS

Board member: Manny Shulman NF2Q

Vice President: John Clement NM2R

Board member: Bob Saltzman WB2ARK

Secretary: Jim Stewart K2PK

Board member: Dean Poeth II K8TM

Treasurer: Tim Long W2UI

Board member: Mark Anderson WB2SMK

Absent: None **Visitors:** None

Meeting opened by President Jim Silva at 7:14 PM.

Secretary's Report: Jim Stewart summarized the minutes of the SARA Annual Meeting of June 15, 2026 previously circulated to the board by email and published in the September SARA News. It was moved, seconded, and carried to approve the minutes of the Annual Meeting of June 15, 2026.

Treasurer's Report: Tim Long presented the Treasurer's report previously circulated to the board members by email. It was moved, seconded and carried to approve the Treasurer's Report. It was moved, seconded and carried to approve the proposed budget for fiscal year 2026-2027 with a total amount of \$1,626.

Programs: Bob Saltzman reported that there are 4 sessions yet to fill for this fiscal year: January, February, March, and May.

Youth Activities: Manny Shulman reported that no emails have been received back from the schools. He also reported on the STEM activity at Shenendehowa and the activity at the Altamont Fair. Altamont Fair officials expressed their happiness with what we did. It was moved, seconded and carried to reimburse Fred Thumhart KB2IXT \$136.72 for give-away materials purchased from ARRL. This is a one-time exception and prior authorization will be needed in the future for situations like this. It was moved, seconded and carried to add a budget line item for outreach with \$300 additional expenditure in the previously approved budget.

Public Service Events: The board discussed offering again to support Niska Day next year. Bob Saltzman will attempt to contact the responsible people.

Facility Report: Jim Silva reported that the Alplaus Fire House dates for this fiscal year have been confirmed.

Report on SARA News: Jim Silva asked Tim Long about sending his FD report along with the coming SARA News edition. Tim will include the FD report.

Old Business: None

New Business: (1) The board discussed getting a banner for use at future outreach events. (2) It was moved, seconded, and carried to authorize \$144.41 to Bob Saltzman to cover the cost for the Zoom subscription.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:34 PM.

Submitted by Secretary Jim Stewart K2PK



SARA Trading Post

Wanted: 70 cm (440Mhz) YAGI antenna.

Free or cheap. Dean, K8TM

ICOM SP20 Speaker \$75

Contact Manny, NF2Q



Dynaco ST-120 Audio Amplifier updated and rebuilt: \$350

Excellent Condition. Contact Jim, WA2JMS

See next-to-last page for contact information.

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 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@arri.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: Larry Zuravin, KB2WZT
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

SARA Board of Directors/Officers

President

Jim Silva, WA2JMS

Email: Jsilva[dot]ny[at]gmail[dot]com

Phone: 518-605-2088

Vice President

John Clement Sr., NM2R

Email: jtcsrvbi[at]gmail[dot]com

Phone: 518-522-4829

Secretary

James Stewart, K2PK

Email: K2PK[at]arrl[dot]net

Phone: 518-399-1867

Treasurer

Tim Long, W2UI

Email: tlong1[at]earthlink[dot]net

Phone: 518-399-7454

Directors

Manny Shulman, NF2Q

Email: manny[at]shulmanusa[dot]com

Phone: 518-322-6195

Bob Saltzman, WB2ARK

Email: saltzman[at]nycap[dot]rr[dot]com

Phone: 518-370-2222

Mark Anderson, WB2SMK

Email: wodenickel[at]aol[dot]com

Phone: 518-225-6306

Dean Poeth, K8TM

Email: K8TM[at]arrl[dot]net

Phone: 518-377-4041

SARA Standing Committees

SARA Newsletter Editor

Jim Silva, WA2JMS

Email: jsilva[dot]NY[at]gmail[dot]com

Phone: 518-877-8032

Assistant SARA Newsletter Editor

Anna Poeth, KD2YYA

Email: K8TM[at]arrl[dot]net

Phone: 518-377-4041

Elmer and Antenna Party

Tim Long, W2UI

Email: tlong1[at]earthlink[dot]net

Phone: 518-399-7454

K2AE Repeater Trustee

George Burns, W2SFD

Email: W2SFD[at]arrl[dot]net

Repeater

Scott Krone, N2YCA

Email: N2YCA[at]nycap[dot]rr[dot]com

Phone: 518-273-1610

Public Service Events

Schenectady County ARES

Larry Zuravin, KB2WZT

Email: KB2WZT[at]ARRL[dot]COM

Phone: 518-308-5243

Volunteer Examiner Team

Vacant - please consider volunteering

RFI/TVI

Vacant—please consider volunteering



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.