



SARA NEWS

Schenectady Amateur Radio Association Inc.
"Service Through Amateur Radio"



Founded 1930

June, 2003

K2AE Repeaters

Meeting Monday, June 2, 2003 at 7:30 PM, Niskayuna High School New Cafeteria

Public Service

CROP Walk

The annual Schenectady CROP walk was held on Sunday May 4, 2003, a nice, sunny day. SARA hams were on deck to provide communications along the walk route through the Central Park area of the city.

The event went off with no problems reported to net control. The amateurs helping were: KC2GMW, Ramsey; W2JVF, Rudy; KB2TSA, Andy; AA2CW, Ken and K2RI, Raleigh. Millie, KB2SWR, was one of the estimated 700 walkers.

To show that the hams do receive notice by some of the participants, a lady coming to the finish of the walk made the comment, "Thanks for watching out for us along the route."

Niskaday

The sun shone brightly on the Niskaday celebration and its parade on, Saturday May 17, 2003. None of the snow that forced the cancellation of the event in 2002 was in sight. However, the hams were prepared. Rob, KA2NKO, arrived with a snow shovel just in case. The parade stepped off a few minutes early and the crowd along the route showed its appreciation by its applause. The hams helped get the marchers in position, communicated the results of the judging of the floats to the PA announcer and watched for any emergencies along the route. They were: W2SID, Sid; W2CSN, George; KG2AO, Clark; KB2SWR, Millie; KA2NKO, Rob; KB2TSA, Andy; WY2T, Jack; N2RPW, MaryAnn; AA2CW, Ken; and K2RI, Raleigh. WB2ARK, Bob, was one of the marchers with the Niskayuna Fire Department.

We could have used several more hams to cover this event. Fortunately, the hams there were experienced with Niskaday, knew what needed to be done and stepped up and did it. All of you amateurs out there, please consider volunteering for Public Service, especially those of you who have never done so. It can be a lot of fun when the weather is nice as it was on May 17th.

Raleigh, K2RI

Scotia Parade

After a threatening shower earlier in the day, the evening of May 21 turned out to be cool and clear, a great time for this large parade. Six hams helped out with the organization and provided communication. They were K2RI Raleigh, W2SID Sid, AA2CW Ken, W2DHT Bill, KB2SWR Millie, and KG2AO Clark. Many thanks go to those who participated.

June Meeting

The annual SARA Business meeting and election of officers for the 2003-4 year will be held at 7:30PM, June 2, at Niskayuna High School New Cafeteria. Lets have a good attendance at this meeting. Other items on the agenda will include the Broughton award and planning for Field Day.

This meeting will be the last SARA meeting until September 8, 2003. (Sept. 1 is Labor day) So come and find out about the SARA summertime activities. It is also a good time to pay your dues! Talk in will be provided on the SARA repeater, 147.06 MHz.

The new officers to be voted on are listed below:

2003-04 Nominations For Officers

The Nomination Committee has submitted the following slate of officers to be considered for election for 2003-2004. The election will be held during the June 2 meeting. Additional nominations may also be made at the meeting.

President: Dennis Hudson, N2LBT

Vice President: Ramsey Seielstad, KC2GMW

Treasurer: George Williams, W2CSN

Secretary: Tim Long, W2UI

Directors: Paul Siemers, WY2F

Millie Gittinger, KB2SWR

Carl Lester, K2YR

Gerry Crawmer, KE2JJ

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From the Board

Meetings - Thursday preceding the SARA meeting. All members are welcome!

Schenectady Amateur Radio Association
Board of Directors Meeting May 1, 2003
Minutes

The meeting was called to order by President Paul Siemers, WY2F, at 7:05 PM in the Olin Hall Conference Room at Union College.

Attendees:

President Paul Siemers, WY2F
Vice President Millie Gittinger, KB2SWR
Treasurer, George Williams, W2CSN
Secretary Tim Long, W2UI
Director Rob Leiden, KR2L
Director Ramsey Seielstad, KC2GMW
Director Dan Whelan, N2UD
Director Gerry Crawmer, KE2JJ
Member Clark Gittinger, KG2AO

Minutes: Millie Gittinger, KB2SWR, made a motion to accept the minutes of the Board Meeting held on April 3, 2003 as published in SARA News. Rob Leiden, KR2L, seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: George Williams, W2CSN, presented the Treasurer's Report to the Board. George noted that all money received from ticket sales had been deposited. Millie Gittinger, KB2SWR, made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report. The motion was seconded by Rob Leiden, KR2L, and it passed unanimously.

Correspondence: Tim Long, W2UI, reported that we had received one membership renewal, one repeater fund drive contribution, a bank statement, and a Verizon statement since the last Board Meeting. Other correspondence would be discussed as New Business.

Public Service: Three events are scheduled for May (Crop Walk, Niskaday, Scotia Parade).

VE Sessions: No Report

Newsletter: Clark Gittinger, KG2AO, reported that duplication was done at Leonard Communications.

Membership: No Report.

Public Relations: No Report.

Repeater Committee: No Report.

RFI: No Report.

Programs: Millie Gittinger, KB2SWR, reported that the annual business meeting would be held at Niskayuna High School in the New Cafeteria.

Old Business:

Raffle – Dan Whelan, N2UD, reported that ticket sales were going well. We are half way toward breaking even.

Repeater Fund Drive – Still in production.

Membership List – Completed and published. Hard copies were included in last month's mailing of SARA News and separate hard copy mailings were made to those members who receive their SARA News via email.

Special Event / Message Fair at Rotterdam Square Mall – No Report

Field Day – Mike Gardina, W2ARQ, and Jerry Crawmer, KE2JJ, agreed to be Co-Chairmen of this year's event. The "Field Day Book" has been passed to Jerry. Bob Raffaele suggests that we should not attempt to run a GOTA station this year because

we do not have enough operators who qualify to staff it (newly licensed). Paul noted that if we plan to use C100 again this year, we need to make a power cable to be able to run its air conditioner.

Field Day Site – Howard Lester, W2ODC, Paul Siemers, WY2F, and Tim Long, W2UI, will attend the Glenville Hills Fire Department meeting on May 6. We will formally request use of their North field.

New Business:

Tim Long, W2UI, reported that we had received an expiration notice for our bulk mailing permit and that renewal would cost \$150. After some discussion and considering that the bulk permit would be used for the Repeater Fund Drive, Millie Gittinger, KB2SWR, made a motion to renew the permit. The motion was seconded by Rob Leiden, KR2L, and it passed unanimously.

Tim Long, W2UI, reported that we had received a notice from the ARRL that it was time to renew our sponsorship of the Jim Lawson, W2PV Memorial Plaque for the ARRL International DX Contest. Rob Leiden, KR2L, made a motion to sponsor the plaque at a cost of \$60. The motion was seconded by Tim Long, W2UI, and it passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted, Tim Long, W2UI, Secretary

VHF - UHF - Microwave Contest

Those of us who attended the May SARA meeting heard all about contesting on frequencies of 50 MHz on up. For those who want to try it, the next chance is the weekend of June 14 -15. The W2SZ group, which includes a fair number of SARA members, will be at it again, on Mt. Greylock and far flung Rover stations. This effort is major and it usually wins!

The easiest way to join this effort is to become a rover (or assist a Rover). This consists of driving a car full of radio equipment around the countryside to predetermined sites in different grid squares, from which you contact the Greylock base station on as many microwave amateur bands as possible. (You can run your own contest as well). The W2SZ group provides the equipment for 900 MHz on up to 24 GHz, you need a 2M HT minimum plus a 440 Mhz HT for base-rover communication. (50 and 222 MHz HT's are also desirable.)

There are also a few spots for hard core dedicated souls on the mountain. This is a major 5 day commitment, however.

In any case, get on the air on the high bands, whether on your own on your own high point or as a W2SZ member. For more information, e-mail Dick Frey at frey@crd.ge.com. The contest rules are published in the May issue of QST.

Come Join the Sunday ARES-RACES nets. All are welcome.

1:00 PM - K2AE 444.200 repeater

1:15 PM - K2AE 224.060 repeater (Off air temporarily)

1:30 PM - K2AE 147.060 repeater

2:00 PM - 3953 KHz, 75 Meter HF Band

Silent Keys

Silent Key K2TGN- Andrew P. Pirro

We sadly note the passing of one of our truly Old Timers. Andy K2TGN was 93. A former member of SARA, he had been quite active, especially on 6 and 2 meters. One can't think of Andy without also remembering his devotion of many years to the Schonowe Fire Company where he had been Chief and Fire Commissioner. Our deepest sympathies to his family.

David A Watrous WD2K Silent Key – One of our active local hams, long associated with the Rip Van Winkle Club, he was the recipient of the Grand Ole Ham Award of the Hudson Division. David had a ham family, including his sons Jim KA2RLH and Steve KA2VXL. Our deep sympathy to all his family.

Field Day Schedule and Organization

Field day will be held at the usual site, Glenville Hill Fire Department, North Field. The schedule is as follows:

Thursday June 26: Lay out site.

Friday June 27: Equipment Staging and Pre-Assembly.

Saturday June 28: Setup and Operate.

Sunday June 29: Operate and Teardown.

The organization is as follows:

Co-chairmen: Mike Gardina, W2ARQ, W2ARQ@juno.com

Gerry Crawmer, KE2JJ, 371-1797

Field Prep: Ray Wemple, KA2DVM, 356-1191

Equipment setup, takedown: Tim Long, W2UI, 399-7454

Sanitation: George Williams, W2CSN, 377-6188

Refreshments: Manny Shulman, AA2TT, 489-6824

Public Relations: Rob Leiden, KR2L, 399-9343

Power: Mike Adams, KB2KXC, 399-5726

Tent Setup: Dennis Hudson, N2LBT, 865-3181

Computers: Tim Long, W2UI, 399-7454

Volunteers are needed, especially for setup-takedown, Refreshments, and Operating. Equipment is also needed. Contact the appropriate person listed above.

Operating time begins at 1400 hours EDT Saturday and continues until 1400 hours Sunday. Takedown follows immediately, during which the drawing for the HT's and other prizes will be held.

Good times and good food have always been in plenty full supply during Field Day. so come join the fun. Beginners are always welcome, there is lots to do, even for non-hams.

The Trading Post

FOR SALE
OR TRADE

No items this month

For any items to trade or sell or if you are looking for some item, contact the editor or post email to the following address: sara@yahoogroups.com. You must join the e-group at <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/sara/>. (It's free).

Repeater Fund Drive

The Spring Fund Drive for the K2AE repeaters continues. Some of you have already responded, and letters are going out to inform folks of the drive. The Repeater Committee surely appreciates donations that are coming in. Make checks out to Schenectady Amateur Radio Association, and mark "repeater fund" on the check. Send to George Williams, Treasurer, SARA, PO Box 207, Alplaus NY 12008-0207. - W2ODC, Trustee.

Announcing the SARA Field Day "Double Header" TWO HT Give Away!

SARA will be giving away TWO Handie Talkies at this year's Field Day. The 1st grand prize will be a Yaesu VX-7 five watt four band (50, 144, 222 and 440 Mhz) HT. The 2nd grand prize will be a Yaesu VX-1 one watt dual band (144 and 440 Mhz). There will be several other station accessories and publications as door prizes. The winners will be drawn at the SARA Field Day site in June. Those winning the HT grand prizes need not be at field day to win.

Tickets are on sale at \$3 per ticket The total number of tickets available will be limited. All proceeds from the tickets go to fund SARA's many activities like Field Day. For tickets see Dan Whelan N2UD or other SARA club officers.

So this is your chance to support SARA, Field Day and maybe be able to bring a brand new HT on vacation this summer!

Dan N2UD

Get SARA News by E-Mail

You can arrange to have SARA News delivered direct to your E-Mail address in PDF format, readable by a free download of the Adobe Acrobat Reader. You will get a color version of the newsletter sooner than by mail, which you can print if you desire. E-Mail delivery also saves the club time, volunteer effort, and money. If interested, contact Tim Long, W2UI at 399-7454 or longt@empireone.net.

SARA web site

<http://www.rpi.edu/~brandp/sara/index.html>

Get the latest on SARA activities

Who to Contact in SARA

There are a number of ways to get in touch with the leaders of your club: contact on the air, E-mail (either direct or through sara@egroups.com) or by phone. The important thing is to let them know what you want your club to be!

Officers:

Pres: Paul Siemers, WY2F, (siemers@crd.ge.com) 371-0215
 VPres: Millie Gittinger, KB2SWR, (gittingn@crisny.org) 377-0671
 Sec: Tim Long, W2UI, (longt@empireone.net) 399-7454
 Treas: George Williams, W2CSN (williamg@tardis.union.edu) 377-6188
 Dir: Rob Leiden, KR2L, (bleiden1@nycap.rr.com) 399-9343
 Ramsey Seielstad, KC2GMW, 377-2263
 Daniel Whelan, N2UD. 895-2754
 Gerry Crawmer, KE2JJ, 371-1797

Committees:

SARA News: Clark Gittinger, KG2AO, (gittingn@crisny.org) 377-0671
 PIO: Rob Leiden, KR2L (bleiden1@nycap.rr.com)
 Rept./K2AE: Howard Lester W2ODC (hlester@nycap.rr.com)
 RFI: Rudy Dehn W2JVF (w2jvf@juno.com)
 Membership: Ramsey Seielstad, KC2GMW 377-2263
 Pub. Ser.: Ken Klikeman AA2CW (klikema@nycap.rr.com) 861-6825
 VE team: Bill Mischler, KG2AC

VE registration: (518) 370-1350

June, 2003

Schenectady Amateur Radio Association Inc

Membership Application-Renewal Form

Regular Dues	\$20.00	\$ _____
Spouse	\$ 5.00	\$ _____
Student	\$ 5.00	\$ _____
Repeater Fund Donation		\$ _____
Initiation Fee	\$ 5.00*	\$ _____

*New Members Only

Name _____ Call _____

Nickname _____ Class _____

Street _____

City _____ State ____ Zip _____

e-mail _____

Phone _____ Signature _____

ARRL _____ RACES _____ ARES _____ MARS _____

Send to SARA, P.O. Box 207, Alplaus, N.Y. 12008-0207

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