



# SARA NEWS

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



Founded 1930

June, 2004

K2AE Repeaters

Meeting Monday, June 7, 2004 at 7:30 PM, Niskayuna High School New Cafeteria

## Public Service

### Crop Walk:

The following note was received by Raleigh Keeter, K2RI on May 11, 2004.

Dear Raleigh,

Thanks to you and your club members for yet another successful and uneventful CROP Walk. Your presence at the walk is very reassuring, to know that communication is in place in the event of any problems.

Thanks again, Marianne  
(Marianne Comfort is the Walk coordinator for the Schenectady Inner City Ministry)

The CROP Walk was held Sunday May 2, 2004 and the following hams were there to provide communication along the route. Andy, KB2TSA; J. R., N2PEQ; Don, W2CJO; Bill, W2DHT; Clark, KG2AO; Ken, AA2CW; and Raleigh, K2RI. Millie, KB2SWR participated in the walk and was also on the frequency used. The weather cooperated and about 700 walkers took part in the five kilometer event

. Raleigh, K2RI

### Niska Day Parade:

A few drops of rain fell early in the day on Saturday May 22nd but the weather improved and the Niska-Day Parade went off on schedule without a hitch. A large group of amateur radio operators provided communications for the event: Sid, W2SID; Bill, W2DHT; George, W2CSN; Ramsey, KC2GMW; Bill, KG2AC; Clark, KG2AO; Millie, KB2SWR; Dennis, N2LBT; Andy, KB2TSA; Jack, WY2T; Stan, KC2LVE; Mary Ann, N2RPW; Ken, AA2CW; Don, W2CJO; and Raleigh, K2RI

SARA received mention in a Niska-Day supplement to the May 13, 2004 issue of the Niskayuna Spotlight paper, in the marching orders for the parade and by the public address announcer at the reviewing stand. The help of the hams is greatly appreciated by the organizers of the event

. Thanks to all those who helped and to those who stood by while the 147.060 repeater was being used

. Raleigh, K2RI

### Scotia Parade:

The follow people participated in the Scotia Parade event on May 26:

Fred Halley, W2EMS (Net Control), Raleigh Keeter, K2RI, Bill Patmos, W2DHT, Clark Gittinger, KG2AO, and Ramsay Seielstad, KC2GMW. Bill Diman, W2WLD and John Bradke, W2GB assisted as well.

Fred, W2EMS

## June Meeting

### Annual Business Meeting and Election of Officers

Be sure to attend the annual business meeting, which will be held at the Niskayuna High School New Cafeteria at 7:30PM on June 7, 2004. This is the last SARA meeting until September 13, 2004. Business will include the annual Election of Officers for the 2004-2005 season and the presentation of the Broughton Award to some deserving Ham.

Though no meetings will be held during the summer, join in on other SARA activities, such as Field Day.

## Slate of Officers

Congratulations to the new nominees for the 04-05 year. This will be an exciting year for sure.

### Officers:

President, Ramsay Seilstad  
Vice President, Dan Whelan  
Secretary, Timothy Long  
Treasurer, George Williams

### Board Of Directors

Mildred Gittinger  
Dennis Hudson  
Carl Lester  
Paul Siemers

## Summer Holidays are Here!

The News will not be published during July and August, Enjoy the summer and participate in Amateur activities such as Field Day and the UHF-Microwawe contest

Copyright 2003 by the Schenectady  
Amateur Radio Association, Inc.

For permission to reproduce all or part of SARA News in any form, contact Dennis Hudson, President.

## From the Board

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

Schenectady Amateur Radio Association  
Board of Directors Meeting April 29, 2004  
Minutes

The meeting was called to order by President Dennis Hudson, N2LBT, at 7:11 PM in Olin Hall Room 105 on the Union College Campus.

### Attendees:

President Dennis Hudson, N2LBT  
Vice-President Ramsey Seielstad, KC2GMW  
Treasurer George Williams, W2CSN  
Secretary Tim Long, W2UI  
Director Gerry Crawmer, KE2JJ  
Director Paul Siemers, WY2F  
Director Millie Gittinger, KB2SWR  
Member Clark Gittinger, KG2AO

Minutes: - Paul Siemers, WY2F, made a motion to accept the minutes as published in SARA News. George Williams, W2CSN, seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: - George Williams, W2CSN, presented the Treasurer's Report. Paul Siemers, WY2F made a motion to accept the report. The motion was seconded by Gerry Crawmer, KE2JJ and it passed unanimously.

New Members: - None presented.

Correspondence: - Tim Long, W2UI, reported that, since the last Board Meeting, we had received a monthly bank statement, a monthly phone statement, the Dayton Hamfest announcement, the monthly Squelch Tale, and an annual bill for our post office box rental. One renewal was received via the mail.

Repeater Committee: - Scott Krone, N2YCA is the site manager at the repeater site and provided a written report of all repeater activity. Clark Gittinger, KG2AO offered a cavity.

Public Service: - President Dennis Hudson, N2LBT, and the Board would like to remind all members that we are a public service club and encourages everyone to participate in public service events.

Newsletter: - Clark again reminded the Board that a new SARA News Editor will be needed soon.

Membership: - We mailed 82 copies and e-mailed another 49 copies.

Public Relations: - Still need chairperson. Newsletters were mailed to the Gazette and to the Times Union. Announcements of club meetings are appearing in these newspapers.

Programs: - George Williams, W2CSN, is ready for the May program. During the June meeting, we will conduct our annual business meeting, present the Broughton Award, and announce Field Day plans. We may have a short home movie of SARA's Field Day Operation in 1938. The SARA Board will meet on June 3<sup>rd</sup> to discuss Field Day preparations.

VE Sessions: - No requests received.

RFI: - No report.

Field Day: - George Williams, W2CSN, is our Field Day Chairman this year. Volunteers came forward and duties were assigned. Other potential volunteers were discussed. Bob Raffaele, W2XM, will set up a GOTA station in the Schenectady County Emergency van (C100). We may see a visitor from the East (Rob Leiden, K1UI, ex KR2L, may visit from Cape Cod). This is our biggest annual event. We should all provide all the support that we can.

### Old Business:

Nominating Committee – Candidates are currently being sought and selected for officers and board positions. Broughton Committee – Bob Raffaele, W2XM, is the chairman assisted by Dan Whelan, N2UD and Tim Long, W2UI. The Broughton Award will be presented at the June 7<sup>th</sup> meeting.

### New Business:

What is the future of SARA? Our 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary is just around the corner. This item was tabled for next month.

Bob Raffaele, W2XM, in e-mail to the Board, stated that the Ham Classes that he has been organizing are becoming increasingly more difficult to staff. Instructors are hard to find and the number of classes that each instructor has to teach is becoming burdensome. Bob's e-mail explained that an ARRL videotape was available for \$161, was designed for self-study, and could be supplemented with instructors as they are available. George Williams, W2CSN, made a motion to authorize the purchase of the ARRL videotape. Ramsey Seielstad, KC2GMW, seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Paul Siemers, WY2F, made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:33 PM.

Respectfully submitted, Tim Long, W2UI, Secretary

---

**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

## UHF-Microwave Contest

**June 12-13, 2004**

W2SZ (RPI Club) is getting ready to try to win again in the June VHF QSO Party! A lot of SARA members join this effort, which involves a massive Base Station atop Mt. Greylock and an extensive array of Rovers. Want to get involved? The best way to start is to join a Rover team, which will attempt to contact the Greylock station on as many VHF-Microwave Ham Bands as possible at as many Grid Square locations as possible. Equipment is provided!. Or just get on the air yourself on as many Ham bands from 6 meters on up as you can and help W2SZ win again.

If interested contact Dick Frey WA2AAU at [frey@crd.ge.com](mailto:frey@crd.ge.com).

## Field Day

**June 26-27, 2004**

Planning for this years Field Day is actively proceeding. George Williams W2CSN, the Chairman this year needs all the help he can get, both with work and equipment, so volunteer your services. This is a great time for new Hams to learn the ropes working with the many experienced Hams in the Club.

The Field Day site will be at the Glenville Hill Fire Department site, North Field, the same as most previous years. The schedule of activities is as follows:

Setup: Saturday morning June 26 till 2PM.

Operate: Saturday 2PM till Sunday 2Pm, continuous.

Takedown: 2PM Sunday June 27 till done.

People are needed for all activities, so come join in and share the fun. First Timers are especially welcome!

Full details for the event can be found at the SARA web site [www.k2ae.org/](http://www.k2ae.org/).

Volunteer for a job with George with a call to 377-6188 or [williamg@tardis.union.edu](mailto:williamg@tardis.union.edu). Some jobs still need volunteers, and some equipment is still needed. Check the Web site for details.

Lets all make Field Day a SARA success!

### SARA web site

<http://k2ae.org> or <http://k2ae.net>

Get the latest on SARA activities

## Amateurs still need to write to Washington about BPL,

This will help us get some protection or “notching” when the technology is implemented. It’s important that the President and legislators hear from you on the issue of BPL interference to our emergency communications.

Check these sites for info:

<http://www.arrl.org/tis/info/HTML/plc/cta/>

<http://www.arrl.org/tis/info/HTML/plc/cta/grassroots.html>

A sample letter can be accessed from the sidebar on the above page.

Please personalize your letter.

Also, the following report from the NTIA regarding BPL needs to be read by all:

<http://www.ntia.doc.gov/ntiahome/fccfilings/2004/bpl/index.html>

and KEEP THE ARRL INFORMED.

( Excerpt from the May Hudson Division “Beacon”)

## New Editor Announced

The SARA NEWS will have a new Editor for the 2004-2005 season! Outgoing President Dennis Hudson, N2LBT, has volunteered to take on the job. Let’s all wish him the best and give him lots of articles to publish.

The present Editor Clark Gittinger KG2AO will remain as an assistant to the Editor as needed.

Editors Note: This newsletter is the last issue of my two year term as Editor. It has been an interesting and fun experience. My best wishes go to Dennis as he takes over.

## Reminder,

The June meeting is a good time to renew your SARA membership.

## 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](mailto:longt@empireone.net).

## 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: Dennis Hudson, N2LBT, 435-9730  
VPres: Ramsey Seielstad, KC2GMW, 377-2263  
Sec: Tim Long, W2UI, (longt@empireone.net) 399-7454  
Treas: George Williams, W2CSN (williamg@tardis.union.edu) 377-6188  
Dir: Paul Siemers, WY2F, (siemers@crd.ge.com) 371-0215  
Millie Gittinger, KB2SWR, (gittingn@crisny.org) 377-0671  
Carl Lester, K2YR,  
Gerry Crawmer, KE2JJ, 371-1797

### Committees:

SARA News: Clark Gittinger, KG2AO, (gittingn@crisny.org) 377-0671  
PIO: Open  
K2AE: Howard Lester W2ODC (hlester@nycap.rr.com)  
RFI: Rudy Dehn W2JVF (w2jvf@juno.com)  
Membership: Ramsey Seielstad, KC2GMW 377-2263  
Repeater: Scott Krone, N2YCA (N2YCA@nycap.rr.com)  
Pub. Ser.: Ken Clikeman AA2CW (kclikema@nycap.rr.com) 861-6825  
VE team: Bill Mischler, KG2AC

**VE registration: (518) 370-1350**

## 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

June, 2003

June, 2004

Non-Profit  
Organization  
U.S. Postage PAID  
Permit No. 1091  
Schenectady, N.Y.

SARA News  
Schenectady Amateur Radio Association Inc.  
P.O. Box 207  
Alplaus, N.Y. 12008-0207