

Sparks from the Spa



A PUBLICATION OF SARATOGA COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION

SCARA Hamfest Thrills

We held the 26th annual SCARA Hamfest on September 10, and it was a winner. Despite recent hurricanes and floods, we had a beautiful day, and everyone who wasn't busy rebuilding after the disasters came and enjoyed themselves. Here's proof.



John, W2QCY, talks-in another prospect



We tried to make every attendee feel welcome!



Joyce, KA2ANF stopped by to discuss ARRL emergency resources



Uncle Sam makes a buying decision



Jim, K2LM, prepares a feast for 10,000 hungry hams



Board of Directors Meeting Sept 12, 2011

Meeting called to order at 6:34 pm by President, Dave, N2FEP.

- Outgoing Acting Treasurer Darlene, N2XQG, gave a Hamfest Wrap-up. While several vendors were unable to attend due to weather woes, those who came were very pleased with the event. Attendance was down from last year — from 421 to 371. Not bad, considering.

Prize winners were:

Grand prize: Henry—N2QGG (FT-8900)

Second prize—Betty N2POS

Fox Hunt—Matt—W2MRD

Radio Oasis and Sauder Electric have committed to be back next year.

- Thanks to all who worked to make the hamfest a success — especially Faith, Jim and Candy, who slaved in the kitchen all day long.
- Thanks to Jim, KG2H, and the crew who handled the VE test session. Jim reported there were 7 exam candidates at the hamfest and they all passed! We now have 2 new Extras, 3 new Generals and 2 new Technicians. CONGRATS!
- Peter reported 18 member renewals at the fest.
- We discussed next year's hamfest and all agreed we need more help — especially in the kitchen and for cleanup afterward. Next year, we'll ask for volunteers for each category.

Meeting adjourned at 7:03 pm.

Upcoming Meetings & Programs

Programs for the next three meetings have been set.

October 10— KB2GOM, Jock Elliott will tell us about the Capital District Commuter Net that he has run weekday mornings on the 146.94 repeater for many years. He'll describe the Capital Region Traffic Management Center with which he coordinates traffic updates.

November 14— Steve, WA2TTP, will describe how he has set up his HF station to be operated remotely from anywhere (Florida?) over the Internet.

December 12— is our annual holiday gathering.

From the President:

Thanks to everyone who assisted at the hamfest this year. It was a great time and we look forward to another successful one in 2012. I am grateful to the board members for taking up the program chores for the year. We are a varied interest group, and if anyone wants to see something or hear about some facet of ham radio, please let us know so we can find someone to come and speak about it.

I want to thank Jim, K2LM, for the great job he did in getting the 147.36 repeater back to full song. Soon there will be a link added to provide communications assistance for state emergency management. When that happens it will have the club PL added of 91.5 Hz. If you add the PL now you'll be ready for the change. It will also be announced on the repeater along with the callsign so we all don't forget.

Please keep Byron, K2BD, in your thoughts, as he keeps fighting Lyme disease. This can happen to anyone so be vigilant about ticks. Always take a quick look to make sure one is not on you.

NY2U—SK

One of the area's best known and respected hams, Bill Eddy, passed away September 28 in Troy. The founder and past president of TARA, Bill had many friends in the hobby, especially in the 145.17 repeater group. Bill attended our hamfest for many, many years. We will all miss his cheerful voice.

Upcoming Public Service Events

The following events are supported by SCARA members and could use volunteers to help facilitate communications. Please contact the person listed if you can help. Thank you.

October 16—Mohawk Towpath Duathlon

Fred Halley, W2EMS, w2ems@arrl.net

New Online Ham Auction Site

Received an email from Steve Miller, K2HQ. He's launched a new ham radio auction site: www.hamradioHQ.com, and he'd like us all to check it out. I did. It looks pretty interesting.

Good luck, Steve!

More HamFest Fun



Hal and Antje wait for a live one



It really is a Radio Oasis!



Kathy seems to offer anything and everything.

A Radio Shark???



New Hamfest Licensees and Upgrades

Congratulations to the following successful test takers at the September HamFest:

Ed Barranco, KC2UEZ—Extra

Bob Burke, KC2VRP—General

Ed Dennis, KD2AUW—General

Jon Hart, WB2TRA—Extra

George Kagel, KD2AUV—Technician

Jim Reid, N4LHD—Technician

Zachariah Alam, KD2AUX—General



Hey, try this for fun —

2011 New York QSO Party

Phone – CW – RTTY/Digital

Saturday, Oct. 15, 10 am – 10 pm EDST

(Third Saturday in October)

sponsored by the

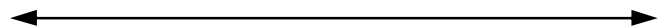
Rochester DX Association

OBJECT: Stations outside of New York State work as many NY stations in as many NY Counties as possible. Stations in New York State may work everyone. Multiple bands and modes.

FREQUENCIES (suggested) & MODES:

- **Phone** 1.870, 3.825, 7.200, 14.290, 21.350, 28.400, 6m, 2m and higher
- **CW** 1.820, 3.550, 7.050, 14.050, 21.050, 28.050, 6m, 2m and higher
- **RTTY** or other Digital modes (PSK, Olivia, etc.), use the ARRL Band Plan

(More information at: www.nyqp.org/)

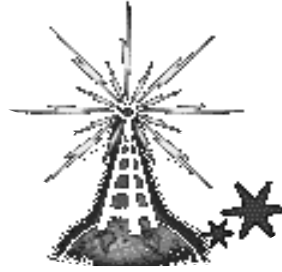


See you at Monday's meeting—10/10 at 7:30pm. Hear Jock Elliott describe the Capital District Commuter Net on 146.94.



K2DLL ON THE INTERNET

The club has a website at:
<http://www.k2dll.net>.
Here you will find the latest club news and events.



The club operates two 2-meter repeaters. The 147.24 repeater is located 15 miles west of Saratoga Springs at Lake Nancy. The 147.00 repeater is located 10 miles north of Saratoga Springs on Spruce Mountain, near Corinth, NY. This repeater offers an “emergency” phone patch. These two machines, in combination, offer excellent North to South and East to West communications far beyond Saratoga County. Both repeaters have a +600 kHz input. These repeaters are now linked together full-time by the club’s third repeater on 448.225 MHz.

PL Tone for all club repeaters is now 91.5 Hz.

OFFICERS

President

Dave Atwell—N2FEP
P.O. Box 41
Rock City Falls, NY 12863
datwell@nycap.rr.com

Vice President:

Darlene Lake N2XQG
314 Louden Rd. Lot 84
Saratoga Springs NY 12866
dar@saratogaspringsny.us

Secretary:

Peter Miller—W2BEW
PO Box 353; 3131 Route 9N
Greenfield Center, NY 12833
petermil@aol.com

Treasurer:

Jim Polewczak—KG2H
40 Cook Circle
Gansevoort, NY 12831
kg2h@nycap.rr.com

Radio Officer:

Dave Atwell

Sysop WA2UMX DX Cluster:

Rich Casullo—WZ2D
7 Crooked Street
Charlton, NY 12019

Directors:

Diana DeAvila—W2NU
35 Larkspur Drive
Ballston Spa, NY 129020
w2nu@arrl.net

Dave Bargovic—NR2J

676 East Line Road
Ballston Spa, NY 12020
sardelta@aol.com

Dennis Kage!—WA2JWO

147 Hayes Road
Schuylerville, NY 12871-1836
kadell@mybluelight.com

Tim Kemp—N2MBX

39 Hemlock Drive
Greenfield Center, Ny 12833
tkemp@nycap.rr.com



Saratoga County Amateur Radio Association
c/o Peter Miller—W2BEW
PO Box 353; 3131 Route 9N
Greenfield Center, NY 12833

