



# Sparks from the Spa



A PUBLICATION OF SARATOGA COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION

## President's Corner: Field Day Coming June 26-27

Field day is almost here. Byron has again taken the chair of the event, but he'll need help from all of us. Let's all try to participate this year. Even if you cannot stay long please stop by and lend a hand by operating one of the stations. Or help with setup on Friday afternoon/Saturday morning. Help is also needed for teardown on Sunday afternoon. I have a graduation on Saturday, but I plan to be there for some of field day.

Hamfest is coming up on September 11. We are putting the finishing touches on this our 25th event, and we would like to do something special for our quarter century mark. If anyone has an idea please bring it to us so we can take it up.

I want to thank Sid for doing his presentation on installation of mobile equipment. I have been doing installs for a long time and even I learned something. He has a wealth of information on radio installations. Don't be shy about asking him how to fix a problem you may be having.

With no meetings in July or August, the next meeting will be after the hamfest, I hope everyone has a great summer, and I look forward to seeing everyone in the fall. We'll be contacting you in early September for help setting up for the Fest.

73

Dave N2FEP

**FIELD DAY PLANNING AT JUNE MEETING**

## OFFICERS ELECTED AT MAY MEETING

### Board of Directors Meeting May 10, 2010

Meeting convened at 6:33 pm.

Board Actions:

- Minutes approved
  - Secretary (Peter-W2BEW) announced that all officers and board members had agreed to stand for election again. Elections will be held at General Meeting to follow.
  - Treasurer's Report (Al-KA1IEG): Opening balance (pre SwapFest) = \$10,778.58; Ending balance = \$10,965.37. Accepted.
  - Byron-K2BD has agreed to coordinate club's Field Day efforts again.
    - o \$200 approved for food and supplies
    - o FD pins will be purchased for participants after event
    - o Plan to operate 3 stations plus GOTA and digital
  - Looking for ideas for inexpensive give-away for next HamFest – our 25<sup>th</sup>!!
  - Club will again assist with county fair communications, July 20-25. Daytime volunteers needed.
  - Club will staff Saratoga Hospital radio room during Hospital Drill, May 25.
  - Board approved purchase of new, more efficient power supply and battery for 147.360 repeater (\$456.78)
- Meeting adjourned at 7:10 pm

**Next  
Meeting  
JUNE 14**

## General Meeting

Meeting convened at 7:33 pm.

Election of Officers was held. There being no nominations from the floor, all present officers and board members were re-elected, including:

President – Dave Atwell, N2FEP

Vice President – Darlene Lake, N2XQG

Treasurer – Al Margadonna, KA1IEG

Secretary – Peter Miller, W2BEW

Director – Dave Bargovic, NR2J

Director – Walt Goddard, W2ZD

Director – Dennis Kagel, WA2JWO

Director – Byron Wilhoite, K2BD

Sid Wolin, K2LJH, presented a program entitled “Hints and Kinks for Mobile Operation.” Included were many very useful suggestions and observations for avoiding problems in your mobile installation. Among them were: Connect both leads to the battery; calculate voltage drop and wire size needed for current required (and remember to double wire length, since positive and negative leads form a long, series circuit); and avoid running the power leads near the passenger side of the car (that’s usually where the car’s computer is located).

*Note: I took Sid’s advice the following day, and hard-wired my TM-241 directly to the battery in my Mazda Miata for the summer. As Sid predicted, there have been no more drop-outs during transmissions due to voltage drops on bumps. Thanks Sid! – Editor*

Meeting adjourned approximately 9:00

*Submitted by Peter—W2BEW*

## Public Service Events

➔➔VOLUNTEERS NEEDED◀◀

### ■ Bike MS *Follow the Foothills*

**July 10—West Mountain**

**Contact: K2SWF@yahoo.com**

**>> NOTE: The SCARA Club <<  
needs someone to keep track of  
upcoming Public Service Events.**

If we don’t have anyone keeping a list of events and volunteers, some will slip through the cracks. We’ll have to start saying “No” to non-profit event organizers. Could someone step forward, please?

## County Fair Operators Needed

We’ll be helping out at Saratoga County Fair again to keep our fairground rental low for HamFest. We need 12 to 15 daytime operators from July 20-25.

We’re inside, out of the heat and/or rain, for 3-4 hour shifts. Can you help? Contact Peter—W2BEW to schedule a shift or two, (petermil@verizon.net or 893-7484).



## Weekly Radio Net

Please join us on the air each Sunday evening at 7 PM for our weekly net. This regular gathering offers on-air practice in net operation in preparation for emergency situations. It also provides timely information to area amateurs, and serves as a forum for selling/swapping gear and discussing topics in a formally directed net environment.

The 147.00 and 147.24 repeaters are linked by the 448.225 MHz machine during this net, so feel free to check in on any of these repeaters. PL tone is 91.5 Hz. We are looking for volunteer Net Control Stations for this net.

You may also check into the Warren County RACES Net for practice in message handling on Tuesday evenings, 7 PM, on 146.73 (PL 100) or 147.135 (PL 123.0).

4H Walk—April 24



Boy Scout Camporee—May 1





### 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. This repeater has a members-only phone patch. 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. 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 Loudon 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:

Al Margadonna—KA1IEG  
2 Cambridge Woods Lane, #7  
Cambridge, NY 12816  
Ka1ieg@hotmail.com

### Radio Officer:

Dave Atwell

### Sysop WA2UMX DX Cluster:

Rich Casullo—WZ2D  
7 Crooked Street  
Charlton, NY 12019

### Directors:

Dave Bargovic—NR2J  
676 East Line Road  
Ballston Spa, NY 12020  
sardelta@aol.com

Dennis Kagel—WA2JWO  
147 Hayes Road  
Schuylerville, NY 12871-1836  
kadell@mybluelight.com

Walt Goddard—W2ZD  
70 Tamarack Trail  
Saratoga Springs, NY 12866  
God4142@nycap.rr.com

Byron Wilhoite—K2BD  
1 King Arthur Court  
Saratoga Springs, NY 12866  
k2bd@hotmail.com

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

