



Sparks from the Spa



A PUBLICATION OF SARATOGA COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION

HAMFEST is coming this Sunday

Our annual Hamfest is this weekend. Please come on SUNDAY Sept. 7 (it is NOT Saturday as usual because we got bumped). Gates open at 7 AM. We have KJI Electronics coming with new equipment, and we expect a ton of tailgaters. The major door prize will be drawn at noon, with minor prizes drawn throughout the morning. Come on down, and join the crowd for eyeball QSO's with all you old buddies, and new ones you won't know until Sunday.

The test session will begin at 9 AM up at the Cooperative Extension building at 50 West High Street. Upgrade your license. 9 AM is about a half hour earlier than in the past, so that you will have more time to get to the hamfest with your new ticket!

June 2014 Club Meeting—New Officers

At our June meeting, we held our annual elections. Congratulations to the new slate of officers:

President—Tim Kemp, N2MBX; Vice President—Peter Miller, W2BEW, Secretary—Mitch Mitchell, WA2MCS, Treasurer - Jim Polewczak KG2H, At Large Board Members, Dennis Kagel WA2JWO, Dave Bargovic NR2J, Hal Post AK2E, and Steve Rosenberg WA2TTP.

Thanks to all these people for the service to our club.

September Club meeting

As if the whirlwind of events on Sunday were not enough, The second Monday of the month is the next day, Monday September 8. The second Monday of the month is you know what — the regular monthly meeting. Board meeting at 6:30 and the general membership meeting at 7:30. We will be discussing the hamfest, upcoming meetings, maybe field day results, and who knows what else. Come and join us.

Field Day, 2014

Back in June (you do remember that far back don't you) we had our field day. Surprising, the weather cooperated this year and a great time was had by all. The following are the results. I'm sorry to report that we had one casualty. It looks like our portable tower has seen its last field day unless we can find repair parts. The brake mechanism has failed, and it is no longer safe to use.

Here is the official 2014 Entry for K2DLL:

Call Used: K2DLL GOTA Station Call: N2MBX ARRL/RAC Section: ENY Class: 3A
 Participants: 25 Club/Group Name: SARATOGA COUNTY ARA
 Power Source(s): Generator, Solar
 Power Multiplier: 2X

Bonus Points:

100% Emergency power	300
Media Publicity	100
Set-up in Public Place	100
Information Booth	100
W1AW Field Day Message	100
Natural power QSOs completed	100
Site Visit by invited elected official	100
Site Visit by invited served agency official	100
Youth participation	20
Youth operators=1	
Youth participants=1	
GOTA Bonus	60
Submitted via the Web	50
Total Bonus Points	1,130

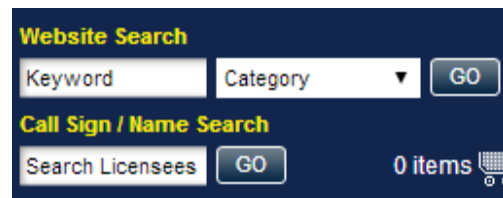
Score Summary:

	CW	Digital	Phone	Total	
Total QSOs	381	2	573		
Total Points	762	4	573	1339	Claimed Score = 2,678

Band/Mode QSO Breakdown:

	CW		Digital		Phone	
	QSOs	Pwr (W)	QSOs	Pwr (W)	QSOs	Pwr (W)
160m						
80m	1	100			56	100
40m	126	100	2	50	140	100
20m	219	100			331	100
15m	10	100			4	100
10m	5	100				
6m						
2m						
1.25						
Other						
Satellite						
GOTA	20	100			42	100
TOTAL	381		2		573	

Have you checked the expiration date on your license? It's very easy to do. One way to do it is to go to WWW.ARRL.ORG, and just fill in you call sign in the search box. You do not need to be a member.



GOTA Bonus: No GOTA Coach

Name/Call	QSOs	Bonus Points
Levy, Michael, K2ZIP	22	20
Greenbaum, Joseph, KD2FWG	20	20
MITCHELL, WILLIAM, WA2MCS	20	20



Here is a look at the QSO's in 2013 vs 2014:

Band	2013			2014			
	cw	ph	Total	cw	ph	digital	Total
80	1	67	68	1	56		57
40	203	93	296	126	140	2	268
20	75	439	514	219	331		550
15	19	63	82	10	4		14
10	10	0	10	5			5
6	1	9	10				
2	0	54	54	20	42		62
GOTA							
Grand Total	309	725	1,034	381	573	2	956

We had a few less QSO's in 2014, a few more CW and a few less phone. Next year we have to push 80 meters a lot harder during the evening!

Help wanted, and items for sale

Glenn, NA2Z, is looking to remove and sell his tower and beams. Like many of us, Glenn is just a little leery of climbing his tower in the back yard, and so, its time to go. He is looking to move, and it's tough to sell the house with a 50 foot tower standing in the back yard.

It's a Rohn 25G tower with an HF tribander and an 8 element 2 meter beam on top. The antennae are turned by a Ham III rotator.

He is looking to sell the whole setup, but if you only want to help get it down to the ground, he would be pleased as punch to at least get that done. If you are interested, please contact Glenn at 518-747-3194



UPCOMING PUBLIC SERVICE

These are Firm:

Saturday September 13th - Rosie's Walk 8:00
at the Galway High School

Sunday September 14th - Cystic Fibrosis Bike
Event at the Saratoga Train Station

Sunday October 19th - Tow Path Duathlon -
Town of Halfmoon - Fred W2EMS for details

We have a few more which are tentative, and
I will report the specifics after the next club
meeting.



Officers

President

Tim Kemp—N2MBX
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Got News or information you would like to
get published? How about your own pro-
jects or other things you think would be of
interest to Club Members? How about
(GASP), a letter to the editor? Contact us
at our email address :

SparksFromTheSpa@gmail.com

Upcoming program note

Sept 8 meeting, Hamfest results, Field Day re-
sults, new public service events, meeting ideas
wanted from the membership.

(programs subject to change)