

Sparks from the Spa



A PUBLICATION OF SARATOGA COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION

June 2023 Meeting

Our June meeting will be held on June 12 at 7:00 PM. We will be meeting at the Paul Lent Public Safety Building at the county complex instead of our normal location, the Fire Training Center at the county complex. The address is 6010 County Farm Road, Ballston Spa. Since there is no open wi-fi that we know of, this will be an in-person only meeting.

This building is the first building on your left as you pull into the driveway coming off County Farm Road.

We have a couple of items on the agenda.

This is our annual meeting, the highlight of which is to elect new officers for the upcoming year. We will be accepting nominations from the floor for any of 8 positions, namely: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, or any of the 4 Directors at large. We need you to participate and bring new blood and ideas into the organization.

The second item will be a discussion of our Field Day operations which will be held at the Fire Training Center. Please see the field day flier on the next page.

The board would like to have a nice dinner on Saturday evening (June 24) for our members and their significant other. In order to gauge the size and menu, you **MUST** RSVP your intention to attend by June 16. You may RSVP to KG2H@ARRL.NET

I'm sure that there will be some discussions concerning our upcoming hamfest in September, and what you can do to help.

Help Wanted - KG2H

I am announcing that this is my last newsletter which I will be producing. I would like to thank those of you who contributed items of interest in the past. We are asking for someone to step up and take the reins of the newsletter. Until that happens, there will be no further formal newsletters. We will continue to send out email blasts with important information which you need to know. If you're interested please contact one of the officers listed on the last page of this newsletter.

Field Day 2023

Hey, do you know about your ham radio club's Field Day? It's "ALL HANDS ON DECK," and you are requested to attend.

Field Day is an annual amateur radio exercise encouraging emergency communications readiness, and there's no better way to prepare than Field Day. In the US, Field Day is the largest emergency preparedness exercise with over 30,000 operators participating. It's always the fourth full weekend of June, and this year it begins on Saturday, June 24th and continues for 24 hours to test operators' abilities to provide emergency communications.

Field Day is a test of rapid deployment of radio equipment in conditions ranging from tents in remote areas to operations inside Emergency Operations Centers (EOCs). Emergency and alternative power sources are highly encouraged, since electricity and other public infrastructures are often the first to fail during a natural disaster or severe weather.

To gauge the effectiveness of each participating station, Field Day is also a contest among clubs both regionally and nationwide. We'll operate for twenty-four hours straight, requiring scheduled relief operators to keep stations on the air. We'll need hams of all ages, on all bands, in all modes – voice, CW, digital, etc. at all hours. There's even a "Get-on-the-Air" station for hams who have never participated in Field Day before. And we'll have tee-shirts for anyone who makes contacts.

This year, our Field Day will again be conducted at the Saratoga County Fire Training Center located at 6010 County Farm Rd, Ballston Spa, NY 12020. That's just down the road from the Fairgrounds where we have our hamfests – and next door to the county Animal Shelter. **There will be food – dinner on Saturday evening about 6pm.**

Antenna setup begins on Friday the 23rd at 3:00 pm and takes about three hours. On Saturday morning, we complete the antenna setup and begin setting up radios, generators, laptops, and other equipment. Once the equipment is tested, antennas positioned, and radios tuned, we wait -- until the official start of Field Day at 2:00 pm.

At 2:00 pm, the fun begins -- all of our radios come alive, with operators calling "CQ CQ CQ" making contacts with other FD stations around the country. Contacts are quick with a very brief exchange and continue until 2pm on Sunday afternoon. It's an exciting time!

On Sunday at 2:00, all operations cease, the gear is packed up, the antennas taken down and the log files submitted to the ARRL for processing.

Does this sound like fun? IT IS! Come join us at Field Day this year. Spend an hour or two with us, hone your operating skills, and show your love for ham radio and your ham club. More details at the SCARA club meeting 7pm on Monday 6/12 at the Fire Training Center.

*Saratoga County Amateur Radio Association
presents our 37th annual*

HAMFEST 2023

Saturday, September 9th; Gates open at 7:00 am

Saratoga County Fair Grounds, 162 Prospect St, Ballston Spa, NY 12020

Only \$10 per person includes door prize drawing, plus 8'x 8' "tailgate" space



- NEW AND USED gear and accessories to haggle over
- KJI Electronics will offer the latest radios, books, etc.
- VE exam to be held at 8:30 am (on site this year!)
- Plenty of room to display your sale items
- Demonstrations: TBA
- Fox-hunt on the fairground property
- Under-cover tables available for \$10 each
- Delicious Food served all day

Directions:

- I-87 to Exit 12
- West on Rt 67 to Ballston Spa
- At intersection of Rts 50 & 67, follow 50 North; look for HAMFEST signs
- In village, turn left at Citgo station on Prospect Street; up hill on left

Talk-In

K2DLL Repeater System
147.000 or 147.240
PL = 91.5 Hz.
GPS Coordinates
43.007438 ° -73.855821 °

For Information or reservations contact: Jim Polewczak - KG2H
231 Northline Road, Ballston Spa, NY 12020. Email: kg2h@arl.net

SEE US AT www.K2DLL.ORG

Did you Forget?

In preparing my annual treasurer's report for the board, I noted that 21 members whose dues lapsed in December 2022 have failed to remit this year's dues. If you are one of those, please us the form below in order to update your membership.

If you are unsure, please feel free to contact me, KG2H@ARRL.NET

You can also save money by paying now for future years at this year's bargain rate of just \$10 per year.

Thanks.

Saratoga County Amateur Radio Association - Membership Information **Please Print CLEARLY**

Name _____

Callsign _____

Email Address _____

Address Line 1 _____

Address Line 2 _____

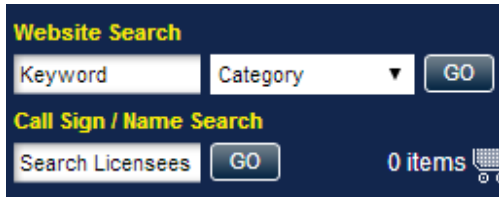
ARRL Member YES NO License Class N T G A E

Amt _____ Cash or Check # # of years _____ Was Now

Dues are \$10 per year, Payable to **Saratoga County R.A.C.E.S.**

You can mail your dues with this form to Jim Polewczak KG2H, 231 Northline Road, Ballston Spa 12020

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 your call sign in the search box on their home page. You do not need to be a member of ARRL to use this service.



K2DLL repeater system:

Corinth NY
147.000 MHz +600KHz 91.5 Hz CTCSS encode/decode
448.225 MHz -5.00 MHz 91.5 CTCSS encode/decode

Providence NY
147.240 MHz +600 Hz 91.5 Hz CTCSS encode/decode.
147.360 MHz +600 Hz (add 91.5 Hz CTCSS to connect to the NYS Network

Sacandaga Reservoir aka Fraker Mountain
147.03 MHz +600 KHz 91.5 Hz CTCSS encode/decode

Middleburgh NY
448.925 PL 107.2 WA2TTP-R Steve's Repeater is linked to ours via UHF



Officers and Board Members

President:

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Radio Officer:

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Please be sure to visit our webpage for any late breaking news or newsletter archives.

WWW.K2DLL.ORG

Got News or information you would like to get published? How about your own projects 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 :

K2DLL@OUTLOOK.COM

Upcoming program note

We are looking for input from the membership as to what YOU would like to hear. Program suggestions are always welcome. Please let any of the Board Members know of your ideas.
Thanks