



# HARMONICS

1916

South Jersey Radio Association

2016



## Should U.S. Ham Tests Be Given Abroad?

By Dan, KB6NU, *cwgeek at kb6nu dot com*

A couple of weeks ago, I received an e-mail from a reader who wanted my opinion about a thread on the HamRadioHelpGroup mailing list. The e-mail that started the discussion was a message from an American living in Italy who wanted to take the Technician Class exam. In her e-mail, she told of her troubles finding a test session, and then when she did find one, what she perceived as "irregularities" in the testing process. Reading the thread was a little disconcerting, and I blogged about this issue (<http://www.kb6nu.com/u-s-amateur-radio-license-exams-given-outside-u-s/>).

I understand why foreign national go to the trouble of taking the U.S. license exam. Some of them even buy my study guides. About a year ago, for example, I swapped some e-mail with a guy from Malaysia about why he purchased my study guide and why he wanted a U.S. license. He said that it was because a neighboring country offered reciprocal operating privileges to U.S. licensees, but not Malaysian licensees! He mentioned that he tested for the license in Thailand.

Basically, my Malaysian friend was using the U.S. licensing process to circumvent the Malaysian licensing process. Australians seem to do this, too. Apparently, according

to one of the VKs who commented on the thread, getting a U.S. Tech license is easier than testing for an Australian Foundation license. So, some Australians get a U.S. Tech license first, then get the Australian government to issue them a VK Foundation license based on the reciprocal operating agreement between the U.S. and Australia.

Another reason that some outside the U.S. obtain U.S. amateur radio licenses is the challenge. That's the reason Martin Butler, M0MRB/W9ICQ, of ICQPodcast fame, gave when I spoke to him about this recently.

Are these reasons "good enough" to continue this program of licensing non-U.S. citizens? My first reaction was that no, it's not good enough, and I questioned whether or not the ARRL VEC should sanction non-U.S. VEs and whether or not the FCC should even allow testing outside of the US.

I didn't see the need for conducting these test sessions or the desirability (to the U.S.) of licensing foreign nationals. I reasoned that not only was there a greater possibility of test fraud, this program could lead to foreign authorities claiming that the U.S. was meddling in their affairs.

This post garnered a lot of comments. Several of them took me to task for voicing this opinion and were in favor keeping the current licensing program in place. There were a variety of reasons.

*(Continued on page 4)*

## SOUTH JERSEY RADIO ASSOCIATION

HARMONICS is published monthly and is the official news letter of the South Jersey Radio Association. The SJRA was established on June 16, 1916 and has been meeting continuously since its inception. The club has been affiliated with the American Radio Relay League since 1920.

The SJRA meets each month on the fourth Wednesday, January through September; and usually the third Wednesday, October, November and December; in one of the Meeting Room of the Gibson House at 525 East Main Street, Marlton, NJ 08053. Visitors are always welcome at our general meetings. **“Our Meetings are Smoke Free”**

SJRA operates the K2AA Repeater (145.290 - PL 91.5) located in Medford, NJ and the K2UK Repeaters (146.865 and 442.350 - PL 131.8) located in Pine Hill, NJ. The repeaters are open for use without restriction to all licensed amateur operators.

There are currently over 100 SJRA members active in most all aspects of amateur radio. Membership is by application and is subject to the approval of the Board of Directors. Club dues are currently \$30/yr. for memberships, \$22.50/yr. for retired-person membership (62 plus 1 yr membership), and \$15/yr. for additional family members and student membership. Membership information is available on the K2AA Repeater or from Mary Von Lintig, KV2M, 856-772-6475

EMAIL: [sjra@sjra.org](mailto:sjra@sjra.org) SJRA's web page: [www.sjra.org](http://www.sjra.org)  
 SJRA VE Team: [ve@sjra.org](mailto:ve@sjra.org) is the SJRA/ARRL VUCC card checker  
 Joe Fisher, KC2TN, is the SJRA/ARRL WAS card checker

\*\*\*\*\*  
 ★ **Harmonics** is now available for SJRA members on the WEB in pdf ★  
 ★ format at: <http://www.sjra.org> ★  
 ★ **South Jersey ARRL Section News** is available on the WEB at: ★  
 ★ <http://www.arrl.org/sections/?sect=SNJ> ★  
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### Officers

**President:** Ken Botterbrodt, K2WB  
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**Rec. Sec:** Lou Priestley, N2HQL  
**Cor. Sec:** Dennis Cioffi, AC2FO

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 Rich VonLintig, KV2R  
 Rick Lawn, W2JAZ  
 Ira Weinstein, W2IRA  
 Tony Canuso, N2ATB  
 Ted Dean, KD2ARD  
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**Membership:** Alan Handley, K3WWT  
**Field Day:** Ken Botterbrodt, K2WB  
**Contests:** John Doran, W2FDJ  
**Repeater:** Joe Fisher, KC2TN  
**Programs:** Rick Lawn, W2JAZ  
**H&W:** Roy Herman, WB2EOD; and Dara Herman, KC2THQ  
**Awards:** Rick Lawn, W2JAZ  
**Hospitality:** Jean Priestley, KA2YKN  
**Nets:** John Fogleboch, WY2J  
**Publicity:** Vacant (Please Volunteer)  
**Picnic:** Vacant (Please Volunteer)  
**Ways & Means:** Ray Golley, N3RG  
**Property:** Jon Mac Millan, W2MC  
**Web Site:** Ira Weinstein, W2IRA

### Harmonics Staff:

**Publisher/Editor:** Ted Groke, W2TAG  
**Alternate Editor:** Rick Stoneking, W2RDS  
**Circulation:** Mary VonLintig, KV2M; Jim Vecchiola, KR2T

### LOCAL WEEKLY NETS

Monday	K2AA, Medford	145.290 @ 8PM
Alternating Thursday	Various Locations	28.405 @ 8PM 145.290 @ 8PM, Fusion

### Harmonics Deadline

Articles submitted for the next Harmonics will be accepted until Monday, November 7, 2016. Email: [ted.w2tag@gmail.com](mailto:ted.w2tag@gmail.com)

**SWAP SHOP** - For Sale/Wanted ads are free of charge and are accepted for Amateur Radio related items only. While ads are not restricted to SJRA members, there is only limited space available and members have priority for listings. No items will be accepted for inclusion in the Swap Shop from commercial vendors or traders. All ads must be submitted at least three weeks prior to the scheduled SJRA general meeting date.

**GENERAL ADVERTISING** - Limited commercial advertising is accepted on a space available basis. Annual advertising rates range from \$25/yr (Min 1/8 page) to \$200/yr (Full Page). Information is available from Ken Botterbrodt, K2WB.

## Meeting Minutes

### **Minutes of General Meeting, Sept 28, 2016**

Please note: The minutes published in the September Harmonics had the wrong dates on them. The correct dates were submitted, but incorrectly edited.

The meeting was held, as normal at the Gibson House in Marlton, NJ, Opened at 1933 by Ken, K2WB, who asked the question "Did you play in the VHF contest?" /

The minutes were approved as printed in Harmonics, Motion- N2HQL/N3AVT. No treasurers report was made due to the absence of the Treasurer.

Membership- No report. Ted, KD2ARD was introduced as co-chair of the membership committee. Bill, WB2LCC was introduced as new member. Ken reported that he had some badges, and that those who had not received theirs should check with him.

Repeater is working, the tone squelch can be a little touchy.

Club Stuff- Joe KC2TH- no outstanding orders, T-shirts are still available.

Nets by WY2J John- 2 meter attendance is down some, 10 Meters doing well. He plans an "experimental" net with Fusion only active on non-net Thursdays. He passed out surveys regarding fusion radios.

Contests by W2FDJ: 10/21 ARRL school club roundup- Monday thru Friday (any 6 hours); 10/29/30 CQ ww DX SSB: 11-5/7 ARRL Sweeps CW: 11 19-21 ARRL sweeps SSB: 11/26-27 CQWWDX CW.

Trustee- John Hill Will be K2AA QSL manager.

Our offer to supply a plaque for winner in class 6a for field day was turned down by the ARRL. They don't consider Field Day as a contest. Award Season is coming- time to think about nominations for awards- see W2JAZ.

Program- Member auction

100<sup>th</sup>- Stuff still for sale (Cups, t-shirts etc..)

VE team by Al, N3AVT- 183 tested so far. (Passed)

Break at 2025

Auction held, adjourned at 2105- Motion KR2T/WB2EOD.

### **Board of Directors Meeting, October 5, 2016**

The meeting was held at the Gibson House, being opened at 1932 by Jon, W2MC All directors and officers were present except AC2FO. Ken K2WB checked in via webex from Japan.

Minutes were approved as printed, with notes correcting dates- motion N2HQL/WB2EOD.

Ray N3RG gave the Treasurers report, 114 current members. The board discussed 2017 dues, and found no changes noted. It was noted that new members for the last quarter of the year would only need to pay for 2017.

Club by-laws will be put in the "members only" section of the web page

*(Continued on page 10)*

*(Should Ham Tests Be Given Abroad from page 1)*

One of the reasons in favor of using the U.S. licensing process is that in many countries, amateur radio license exam sessions are not very frequent. Another is that they often are quite expensive. This creates an artificial barrier to getting an amateur radio license. Using the U.S. licensing system breaks through this barrier and allows many more to enjoy amateur radio.

Of course, for everything to be on the up and up, the foreign authorities would have to condone the use of U.S. license tests. Apparently, this is the case in Thailand and Australia. I don't know about Italy, but I'm guessing that the authorities there don't really care about Italians obtaining U.S. licenses.

Perhaps the best comment came from Thida, HS1ASC/KH6ASC. He noted that the tests in Thailand were administered very strictly, and says, "The U.S. may lose some call signs, but what the U.S. and U.S. hams get from us is goodwill, very positive feeling. Everyone who gets U.S. license is so proud, and others look at them respectfully." Since Part 97.1(e) lists as one of the purposes of amateur radio, "Continuation and extension of the amateur's unique ability to enhance international goodwill," I'm now all in favor of offering U.S. ham tests abroad.

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*Dan, KB6NU, is the author of the "No Nonsense" amateur radio license study guides, and blogs about amateur radio at KB6NU.Com, and you can contact him by e-mailing cwgeek@kb6nu.com. When he's not pondering the vagaries of the U.S. licensing system, you'll find him working CW on the HF bands.*

## Test Session Report for: October 12, 2016

The SJRA congratulates the following on their recent achievements:

Amy Kinder  
56 E 5th Ave.  
Pine Hill, NJ 08021  
Earned her Tech

Albert J. Kinder  
56 E 5th Ave.  
Pine Hill, NJ 08021  
Earned his Tech

Ryan S. DiGiovanni  
2995 Chapel Ave. Apt.7K  
Cherry Hill, NJ 08002  
Earned his Tech

Adam C. Ruder  
215 Migazee Trail  
Medford Lakes NJ 08055  
Earned his General

Scott D. Schindewolf  
11 Adler Circle  
Lumberton, NJ 08048  
Earned his General

James T. Clark  
363 Chestnut Ave.  
Woodlynne, NJ 08107  
Earned his Extra

	Tech	General	Extra	Total
To Date	112	51	26	189

### List Your "For Sale" Ham Stuff in the SJRA Harmonics

Email Ted, W2TAG, with your listing, ted.w2tag at gmail dot com

## SJRA Award Nominations Needed

Please submit your award nominations for the 2016 Gordon Kressel Memorial Long Term Service Award and the Harry W. Densham Memorial Amateur of the Year Award. All I need is a name, call sign, and a brief statement about why you think your nominations are deserving. You can see who has won awards in the past by looking at the awards section of the SJRA webpage. You can also make submit your nominations directly from this web page by clicking on the red NOMINATE button. Remember, the Densham Award can be given to member more than once.

Rick, W2JAZ  
 SJRA Presentations and Awards Chairman  
 rjlawn at gmail dot com



## For Sale



Yaesu FT-767GX with 2 Meter Module - TECH SPECIAL

Like new condition Yaesu HF radio, with a 2 meter module. Receive is fine, transmit is in the milliwatt range - most likely a problem with the internal 30 volt supply (no, you cannot power this one from an external 12 volt supply!).

I've no time to fix it, and I am trying to shed rigs anyway. Cosmetically this rig is just about like new, with the box.

\$100 - 2 Meter module is worth that!

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 w2mc at comcast dot net  
 (856) 768-7562

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## A Newly Built 49'er (QRP rig) Makes Contact for 1st Time

*From the Fall/Halloween Edition of the Utica-Shelby Emergency Communications Association (USECA) Newsletter.*

This was my first QRP QSO using my homebrew rig that I built from the March 2016 QST, 49er/VFO, and was with N2AK in NJ. He was using a Harvey Wells TBS50C transmitter and National NC-173 receiver! How cool is that? He gave me a 579 signal report; nice, coming from that old receiver!

The attached four photos, are of my 49er/VFO xcvr. I made the enclosure from the metal from a old desk top computer power supply. I then made a cover out of clear plastic so all of the electronics and wiring are visible. When powered up, there are LED's on some of the boards that are lit indicating proper operation.

I was not able to put the required software on the Arduino Nano because I don't know how to put the necessary files together on my computer for the download. I put a post to this effect on the Yahoo User Group, and a ham from Louisiana came to my rescue by offering to program an Arduino for me. All I had to do then, was install it on the board, and it was up and running!

This was a challenging build, to say the least, as a lot can go wrong along the way! But being a "home brew rig", makes it pretty neat!

73, Karl, KO8S (info on the "old" rigs in pix links)

QRP, because we care to send the very least!

Editor's Note: According to the original provider (Nor-Cal) of the kits, parts, and boards for the 49'er, these kits are no longer

available, though dozens of modifications are listed on their website (<http://www.norcalqrp.org/files/49er.pdf>). It appears that there may be Chinese knock-offs on the market of the original RF board.



## Monthly Puzzle

Don – WA2DUE, wa2due at arrl dot net

### Reviewing last months puzzles:

A building has a triangular base. The lengths of the sides of this triangle are 145, 257, and 290 feet respectively. Find the area of this triangle to the nearest square foot.

Answer: The perimeter is the sum of the length of the 3 sides = 692 feet. The semiperimeter (s) is half the perimeter or 346 feet. The area of a triangle is the square root of the product  $s(s - 145)(s - 257)(s - 290)$ . This turns out to be 18,618 square feet.

An coil and a capacitor are connected in parallel to form a tank circuit. The coil has an inductance of 10 microhenries. At a frequency of 3.7 megahertz what is the value of the capacitance in picofarads?

Answer: A tank circuit is said to be in resonance when the reactance of each element are equal in value.

Therefore,  $X_L = X_C$  or  $2\pi fL = 1/(2\pi fC)$ . Solving for  $C = 1/(4\pi^2 f^2 L)$ .  $C = 185$  picofarads.

### For this month we pose the following puzzles:

A community has an ordinance that spells out the requirements for a tower, pole or other similar object; and one of the stipulations is that it must be located such that if it fell it would remain on the owners property. The townships engineer is given the assignment to investigate a newly installed radio tower to assure that it met the requirements of the ordinance. Upon arrival he notices that the tower is in

(Continued on page 10)

## SJRA Operates In The NJ QSO Party, by Pete, K0BAK

Centennial member Pete, K0BAK, ran as a mobile in the NJ QSO Party on September 17 and 18. Combining his interest in state QSO parties and National Parks on the Air (NPOTA), Pete activated 9 NJ counties and concurrently activated 8 NPOTA parks. In the process, Pete swept all NJ-only NPOTA parks in a single weekend. He submitted his log with SJRA as the club; Pete hopes two other SJRA members submit logs, which list SJRA so we meet the 3-log minimum, qualifying us to compete for a gavel.

9 NJ counties activated (4-letter codes from the NJ QP rules): PASS, ESSE, MORR, SOME, WRRN, HUNT, CAPE, CUMB, ATLA

8 NPOTA parks activated (4-letter codes from the NPOTA rules): HP34, HP44, HP28, WR28, AA19, AA17, WR24, WR04

398 operation minutes, 69.5 Qs/hour, about 23 hours roving

Contacted 6 NJ counties, 44 states, 3 provinces, and 30 DX from 15 unique countries

461 QSOs; 54 multipliers

Claimed score: 24894

### WORLDWIDE DISTRIBUTION



**Ken Hartley**  
Manager  
N2OHD

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## For Sale



Yaesu FT-1000MP - Once Yaesu's flagship radio, still very capable. Like-new condition with triple box. Fully filtered-out and updated, and includes a DVS-2 Recorder Controller, SP-767 speaker and an MD-1c8 Microphone. Inside the rig are:

- ◆ Internal Power Supply
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- ◆ Inrad 500 hz CW Filter
- ◆ Inrad 455 khz 1.8 Khz SSB Filter
- ◆ Inrad 455 khz 400 hz CW Filter
- ◆ 455 khz roofing filter

\$1000 Firm



Kenwood TM-241A 2 Meter Mobile  
Works fine, was replaced with a digital 2 meter. \$60

Contact Jon W2MC  
w2mc *at* comcast *dot* net  
(856) 768-7562

## President's Message

Ken – K2WB

As the leaves start turning and will eventually fall to the ground. This is a time for cooler weather in the evenings and warm days. It is also the start of the contest season for those who enjoy contests.

Jon, W2MC, and I activated all of the South Jersey Counties using K2AA. Imagine doing one Field Day type of operation in one weekend. Our operation was the equivalent of setting up a 1A operation 3 times over one weekend

The next big "SJRA" event will be the November Sweepstakes. Traditionally the SJRA will provide any member who submits their log with the SJRA as their club affiliation the normal ARRL awards should you qualify. These would be a participation pin for anyone who makes at least 100 contacts and a clean sweep coffee mug for anyone that contacts all 83 ARRL/RAC sections. CW is November 5-7 and SSB is November 19-21. For more information go to the ARRL webpage for rules and more information.

Last year we put K2AA on the air for the November Sweepstakes. It was a fun time for all, the operation was low key, while serving the club in facility to place for SJRA members to gain experience in operating in a contest and use N1MM. Our effort last year put the SJRA No. 1 in Low Power Multi-Multi operation earning us a plaque.

If you are interested please contact me so that can put you into the operator schedule and get an Elmer setup if you

*(Continued on page 9)*

*(President's Message from page 8)*

want one. K2AA will most likely operate from my QTH in Marlton.

Look for our new net on the repeater using Fusion on the Thursdays using our repeater. Look for emails from John, WY2J, with details. This is an experimental net and will continue until next year.

CQWW - I encourage anyone to operate in the contest. This is one that is easy and you can achieve DXCC in one week-end with 100W transmitter and a simple antenna farm. From New Jersey and Pennsylvania the exchange is easy... Just remember 59 05 (Signal) and CQWW Zone and have fun.

If you do participate in a contest, you can help the SJRA by listing the SJRA as your affiliated club. The club robot needs it put as "South Jersey Radio Assn" to count. Send your summary sheets to contests *at* sjra *dot* org

Awards -Rick, W2JAZ, will start looking for nominations for the club awards. These are the Amateur of the Year and the Gordon Kressel award. To nominate someone who is deserving of an award email Rick with details of why and for which award they deserve. Send your nominations to awards *at* sjra *dot* org.

Renewals - It is that time of year again, time to renew your membership. Ray, N3RG, will be sending out renewal forms soon. Renew early so that you don't miss any editions of Harmonics.

In addition, there are several SJRA members who would like to come to our meetings but are unable to drive. If you can help (especially from the Mount Holly area) contact me or Jon, W2MC.

*(Continued on page 10)*

## **October Presentation" On Using EZNEC**

Mario, N2AK, is presenting an introductory tutorial on using EZNEC software to design on computer just about any antenna you can imagine on any band.

He will get you started in understanding how this amazing design program works, and then you're on your own.

I strongly suggest that if you are interested in learning how to use EZNEC you should download the free demo and play with it some before the meeting.

I also urge you to bring your laptops to the meeting with EZNEC installed so that you can follow along. I've found that this approach to learning a new software application is most effective.

<https://www.eznec.com/>

<https://www.eznec.com/demoinfo.htm>

If you own a copy of the ARRL Antenna Handbook it is likely that you have a version of EZNEC included on the CD that accompanies this book.

See you at the October meeting if not before or on the air.

73, Rick, W2JAZ

*(The following is from Mario on his presentation:*

*"I plan on describing how to use EZNEC and then run thru some interesting examples starting with a dipole and moving out. I will start with the free demo program so the guys can duplicate the results themselves.)"*

*ed W2TAG*

*(Meeting Minutes from page 3)*

for availability.

Programs, by W2JAZ: Oct- N2AK to demonstrate EZ NEC; Nov- W2JAZ satellite communications; December- Christmas Party.; Jan- Estate Auction; Feb- White elephant sale.

Corresponding Secretary is working on Thank You letters from the 100<sup>th</sup> banquet.

Harmonics- need for articles as filler.

VE team- 187 so far, 1 query for October so far.

Nets- New fusion nets (See Above)

Repeater- KC2TN looking to move the node.

Web- new fusion net to be added to calendar, Renewal form to be posted, hopefully on-line fillable,

100<sup>th</sup>- Ken reports he is about ½ way through scoring.

No old or New business.

Motion to adjourn at 2050 by WB2EOD/W2JAZ

Submitted by N2HQL

*(Monthly Puzzle from page 7)*

the middle of a fenced-in square with all the required warning signs. He measures the distance from the middle of the base of the tower to the closest point of the fence and finds it to be 200 feet. At a point 5 feet from that place on the fence and in line with the tower he places a theodolite and measures the angle to the top of the tower and finds it to be exactly 45 degrees. If the tower were to fall in any direction would it land within the fenced-in area?

If a special kind of wire 110 feet long has a resistance of 7.5 Ohms, what length of this wire will have a resistance of 12 Ohms?

Please submit solutions and/or comments to **wa2due at arrl dot net**

*Please email Don and tell him how you analyzed this month's puzzle. ed, W2TAG.*

*(President's Message from page 9)*

As always we are always looking for new members of the SJRA. One of the best and easiest ways to help the SJRA is to encourage anyone that is not a member to become a member. If you know someone who would like to join the SJRA contact Ted, KD2ARD, or Allen, K3WWT, (membership committee).



## For Sale



Icom IC-260A

Older two meter all-mode in working order. \$60

Contact Jon W2MC

w2mc at comcast dot net

(856) 768-7562

## SJRA Jackets, Shirts, Hats

Order NOW - Next order going in soon!



Spring Jacket is \$44 (S,M,L,XL), Fall Jacket is \$55 (S,M,L,XL),  
Shirts are \$27 (S,M,L,XL), Hats are \$20 (*New Lower Price*, one size fits all)  
Name and Call Sign embroidery included....Larger sizes slightly more!  
Email Joe, KC2TN, with orders or additional info: *kc2tn at comcast dot net*

### Amateur Radio FCC License Testing

The SJRA sponsors *FREE* Amateur Radio FCC License testing on the second Wednesday of each month. The location is: 443 Commerce Lane, Suite 5, West Berlin, NJ 08091. Registration is at 7:00 PM and testing begins at 7:30PM. Walk-ins are accepted.

VE team members can be reached at VE *at* SJRA *dot* org. A calendar and more information can be found on the SJRA web site.

**October Meeting:****Is the Fourth Wednesday, October 26, 2016**

The meeting commences promptly at 7:30PM in the first floor Meeting Room of the Gibson House on Main Street, Marlton, NJ 08053. Guests are always welcome.

**Program For October:**

An introductory tutorial on using EZNEC antenna design software by Mario, N2AK.

**SJRA Member November Birthdays**

Art, N2CPR; Mike, KB2RHI; Joe, K2WJL; Jerry, KC2JJT; Mary, KV2M; and Rich, KV2R.

**The Health And Welfare Committee Wants To Hear from You.**

Beyond birthdays, illnesses and deaths we want to publish some good news, (births, marriages, license upgrades, and such). Please send the information to: WB2EOD *at* ARRL *dot* net.

Health and Welfare Co-chairpersons: Roy, WB2EOD, and Dara, KC2THQ

**November Meeting:****Is the **third** Wednesday, November 16, 2016****First Class Mail**

South Jersey Radio Association  
PO Box 1026  
Haddonfield, NJ 08033

