



HARMONICS

1916

South Jersey Radio Association

2016



SJRA Nets to Restructure in- January of 2017

By: John WY2J wy2j@arrl.net

Background: In March of 2016 the 2 meter FM K2AA repeater was replaced with a Yaesu Fusion Repeater that has three digital modes and standard FM. It also has an Automatic Mode Switch (AMS), which recognizes the mode of the signal being received and switches the repeater and receiving transceivers to the new mode at lightning speed. The Fusion transceivers contain other features including GPS, APRS and the ability to connect to Yaesu's new internet based VOIP system known as WiresX. SJRA also set up their own WiresX digital repeater node, which allows world wide QSOs with other digital Fusion and analog FM stations by means of analog nodes. But by late summer the new K2AA capability was getting little use, just a handful of the experimenters who owned the new Yaesu rigs like myself. No doubt many of us were busy with the many events of our 100th anniversary.

The Experimental Net: At the September 2016 club meeting I took a quick inventory of the members present as to who owned a fusion rig. The count was 10, which was enough to make a three month experimental net worth doing. I now knew there were more fusion rigs out there, possibly enough to support a full time digital net. I had everybody setup in DN mode, which

kept out the FM boys and allowed us to transmit call signs, names, distance from net control and direction data simultaneous with voice. I didn't know what to do with this data on the first net in October but I would find out by November. The October net was for one purpose only, to determine participation. The results were amazing, those 10 stations from the September count turned out to be 17 locals calling into the K2AA repeater, a Florida repeater, KF4EOK in Jacksonville connected through WiresX and a Florida station called into our net through that VOIP connection, a total count of 19. The November net yielded a participation of 11 with out our WiresX node running. But at this session I devised a call in procedure that used distance data to minimize doubling, which digital modes don't tolerate. At the December net I introduced changes to the call in procedure that eliminated all doubling along with all broken call signs and names. I laid out my proposed plan to restructure the nets to accommodate a full time twice a month Fusion net and it was accepted without change. Net control operators are assigned however I am not releasing names here as I have one outstanding confirmation yet to be obtained.

Restructured Nets: The 2 meter FM net remains unchanged, including control operators. It will continue to meet at 8:00 PM on the first four Mondays of each month.

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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 SJRA's web page: www.sjra.org
 SJRA VE Team: 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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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, January 9, 2017. Email: 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

Membership meeting of Nov 16,2016

The meeting was opened at 1930 by Ken, K2WB. The meeting was held, as habit, at the Gibson House in Evesham TWP, NJ, with a salute to the American flag.

The treasurer report was read by Ken, . The minutes of the October meeting were approved as printed in Harmonics-Motion by N2HQL/WA2HJG.

No new members were proposed. It was noted that 2016 dues were included for any late year applications.

The Historian, reported the logs and other records from the first Fusion Net were recorded in the Club Archives.

Programs by W2JAZ- Rick reported he needs presentations for March and April 2017. Tonights program is Rick's presentation on satellites and how to work them. Under awards, Rick reported that tonight is the last night to get them in.

VE- team- Holden was reported to have passed his General exam.

Nets- WY2J reported net controls are needed for Thursday nets.

DX- no report- Jack N2VW had eye surgery.

Repeaters- still operating- the node was off once for the net. Club stuff- Joe reports a couple of hats on order.

Contests- John W2FDJ-1/7-8/17 ARRL RTTY roundup: 1/14-15/17 North American QSO party CW: 1/21-22/17 SSB: 1/21-23/17 January VHF contest.

Field Day report; SJRA finished #2 in class 6A, was in top 10 in the USA.

OLD business- K2AA will be working from Ken's driveway, operators needed to sign up.

New business- the date for the SJRA Christmas party is still not settled- it will be announced when the schedule is solidified.

Board of Directors Meeting 12/7/2016

Meeting was called to order at 1931 at the Gibson House by Ken, K2WB. The minutes of the November meeting were approved as printed, motion by N2HQL/AC2FO. There was no treasurer's report.

KD2ARD reported no new member applications. Dennis, AC2FO, corresponding secretary reported the thank-you's from the Centennial Celebration would be finished before he left that night.

Harmonics deadline is December 12, 2016.

Joe, KC2TN reported all repeaters operational. The fusion node locked up a few times, then self healed.

Ken reported New/Old business would be moved earlier in the meeting schedule. W2JAZ reported web page problems and desires. Training will be needed if new writers can be found.

Health & Welfare; Birthdays submitted. W2PUA has become S/K.

Old business- KV2R reported 52 sign-ups for party, and requested someone take

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Radio Sport aka Contests

By: John, W2FDJ

(Please send your thoughts and ideas to me at johnd152@verizon.net for publication.)

Member activities:

ARRL 2016 SS Phone (7 logs filed for SJRA)

K2AA was on the air from T3 in Ken's driveway for the ARRL SS Phone Contest. After resolving an antenna problem to get started, numerous club members took their turn at the microphone. Bob, KE2D, and Bob, KD2AWE, started the ball rolling followed by Joe, K2WJL, and Ken, K2WB, Saturday evening. Carol, K2BL, anchored Sunday morning followed by Holden, KD2JPV, who snagged the ever tough Northern Territories. Al, KD2LBT, Dom, KD2EPM, and Bruce, KD2LBU, rounded out Sunday. Mark, KD2JPW, closed out the evening. Band conditions were not optimum this year with PAC and AK sections being out of reach to many on the East Coast. The K2AA group overall got 79 sections.

Bob, W2SJ writes "First time I ever entered the NOV SS contest and I have been a ham since 1966! As a Centennial member I wanted to support the club, so please find the ARRL response attached. I used a Kenwood TS-2000X with a PAR End Fed Dipole at 22 feet. Good luck to the club in this effort."

ARRL 2016 SS CW

- ◆ Bob, KE2D, and John, W2FDJ, both notched a Sweep in the CW weekend.

CQ 2016 WW CW

John, W2HUV, who was using the superstation in Maine, said it was a bust for him. He had hoped to rack up QSOs in the

Run mode but that was not meant to be. That's because there is little incentive for DX stations to call US stations, since only 3 zones are available as a multiplier. By contrast, the ARRL 160 contest allows DX stations to count each ARRL Section as a multiplier and the CQ160CW contest allows DX stations to count each state as a multiplier. Those are huge incentives to respond to US CQs. Overall, I made only 116 contacts with 13 zones and 44 entities. Only 4 were new entities, because I worked many of the same entities in the days preceding the contest. John, W2HUV.

Recent posted results - see arrl.org or CQ. (Please send me your summary sheet so I will be able to list your claimed score. John/W2FDJ)

2016 NJ QSO Party (3 logs filed)

- ◆ Bob, KE2D, First place in NJ low power with 18,385 points.
- ◆ Peter, K0BAK, Multi, First place in NJ Rover with 24,894 points.
- ◆ SJRA, K2AA, Multi, First place in SNJ Rover with 2784 points

2016 ARRL Nov SS CW (3 logs filed)

- ◆ Pat, KD2P, (Info not available)
- ◆ Bob, KE2D, 320 QSO's, Sweep!, 53120 points
- ◆ John, W2FDJ, 256 QSO's, Sweep!, 42330 points

2016 ARRL Nov SS SSB (7 logs filed)

- ◆ SJRA, K2AA, see above story 79 sections
- ◆ Bob, N2SCJ, 93 Qso's, 9672 points
- ◆ Joe, K2WJL, (Info not available)
- ◆ Bob, KE2D, 167 Qso's, 73sections, 24382 points
- ◆ Bob, W2SJ, 6864 points

(Continued on page 5)

(Radio Sport aka Contests from page 4)

- ◆ Paul, KF2Y, (Info not available)
- ◆ John, W2FDJ, 235 Qso's, 82 sections, 38540 points

2016 ARRL September VHF (2 logs filed?)

- ◆ Holden, KD2JPV, (Info not available)
- ◆ John, W2FDJ, (Info not available)

2016 CQ WW CW (2 logs filed)

- ◆ John, W2HUV, (Info not available)
- ◆ John, W2FDJ, 44608 points

2016 CQ WW Phone (1 log filed)

- ◆ John, W2FDJ, 95760 points

Upcoming Contests

(See arrl.org or wa7bnm.com for rules and more details.)

- ◆ **ARRL RTTY Roundup (RTTY and Digital)**, 1/7-8, Sat 1PM EST to Sun 7PM
- ◆ **North American QSO Party (CW)**, 1/14-15 Sat 1PM EST to Sun 1AM
- ◆ **North American QSO Party**

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Is There A Market For A \$400 "Prepper" Radio?

Dan, KB6NU, *cwgeek at kb6nu dot com*

A couple of days ago, a reader wrote:

"I would like to know if it would be feasible to build a radio with the following features:

- ◆ SSB operation (only SSB is required, CW would be an additional benefit)
- ◆ 20 - 50W of power
- ◆ Portable-friendly (lightweight, capable of operating at lower voltages from small portable batteries)
- ◆ Low receiver current drain
- ◆ Coverage of 40m and 80m bands. Very limited coverage is acceptable. Even channelized coverage of a few select frequencies would be acceptable.
- ◆ S-meter

"It strikes me that there is a large market for ham radio products for "preppers," and there has been a lot of interest in the Baofeng line of radios from that market. I think there would be a LOT of interest in a radio that could go far beyond line-of-sight and contact friends or family hundreds of miles away. Preppers would have little interest in contacts more than a state or two away, and no interest at all in novel operating modes. I wonder if a radio that trims away excess features (all-mode operation, wide frequency coverage, high power output, sophisticated audio filtering) could be produced for a lot less cost than currently available HF rigs. If so, and it was paired with a decent NVIS dipole and some General-class study materials and sold as a package deal, it could be a huge hit - Something you could tuck in a bug-out-bag, set

up in the field, and use to make contacts in a reasonably local area, or set up in your backyard at home and use minimal power to operate.

"Is there a reason why I don't see radios like this on the market, some kind of technological limitation that would make this sort of thing impractical? If something like this was built, what kind of cost and performance would you expect? I'm certainly not expecting any kind of detailed analysis, but even just a speculation about if such a project could be feasible would be appreciated."

I replied:

"I think one of the reasons you don't see radios with the feature set you describe is that more full-featured radios are already pretty inexpensive. The Yaesu FT-450D, for example, costs less than \$800 and offers 100W output. The FT-817ND, which is designed for portable operation, costs less than \$700. Is that too much for preppers?"

"While it might seem like you could sell a radio with fewer features for less, I think that you hit the law of diminishing returns. At some point, removing features, doesn't reduce the cost all that much. For example, removing the CW capabilities from a transceiver capable of SSB operation really doesn't save that much because in a way CW operation is really just a subset of SSB operation. You'll save the cost of a key jack, but how much is that? Maybe a buck or two. Having said that, it could be that the big amateur radio manufacturers are overlooking an opportunity here."

We swapped a couple more e-mails about this. He noted, "Most preppers would probably rather buy a high-end AR-15 or several months worth of storage food for

(Continued on page 10)

Presentation Follow-Up

By Rick, W2JAZ

Following my presentation on working the satellites at the last meeting, several of you asked about further information re: using HTs on the FM "birds." What follows are two recent posts on the AMSAT BB on this topic that I thought might be useful for those of you interested:

I don't have a KG file to share, but those should not be shared between radios anyway. Those files are not like the config files used in the "normal" ham radios like you get from Icom, Kenwood, and Yaesu. But I can offer some suggestions and advice.

The KG-UV8D is not capable of working SO-50 full-duplex. When you transmit on 2m, the 70cm receiver is desensed. You won't hear the satellite again until you stop transmitting. The radio is capable of working AO-85 full-duplex. I wrote about this on the AMSAT-BB list a year ago, and you can see that message at:

<http://amsat.org/pipermail/amsat-bb/2015-November/056254.html>

I do not use memory channels for working AO-85. I use the two VFOs, open the squelch all the way for the receive VFO, and transmit from the other VFO. That link has some key settings I used with that radio.

You can program a group of memory channels to work SO-50 half-duplex. A guide for that is available from AMSAT's Station and Operating Hints page at:

http://www.amsat.org/?page_id=2144

(look for the document "Operating FM Satellites") Or use another HT with your KG-UV8D, so you can transmit from one radio while listening to the other radio for full-duplex operation.

If you want to use an HT to work both AO-85 and SO-50 full-duplex, there is only one option currently in production: Kenwood TH-D72A.

The new TH-D74A is not capable of full-duplex operation for any FM satellite. Wouxun's KG-UV9D, like the KG-UV8D, is capable of working AO-85 full-duplex, but not SO-50. Along with the KG-UV8D, I wrote about a few other Chinese-made HTs and tried using them to work FM satellites full-duplex. They could do that with AO-85, but not SO-50. You can get to the messages covering the other radios I wrote about at:

<http://amsat.org/pipermail/amsat-bb/2015-December/056269.html>

*73! Patrick WD9EWK/VA7EWK
<http://www.wd9ewk.net/>
Twitter: @WD9EWK*

I use the Baofeng UV-5R and a Wouxun KG-UV6D. I use the Baofeng as a transmit radio and the Wouxun for receive. The Wouxun has a freq knob on top of the radio. Makes changing frequencies so easy. I have to say I love the Baofeng. For the \$28 (with shipping) it is a solid radio. I have used this two radio setup with my arrow for a few months and have had zero issues.

Good luck, Chad, KG0MW

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

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

(Meeting Minutes from page 3)

over arrangements as he will not be able to attend.

W2JAZ reported awards were in progress- winners have been selected, plaques ordered.

The next SJRA group contest will be the January VHF contest. Ken noted the contest committee was working well.

Trustee- Ken K2WB reported no OO cards from field day. 198 days until Field day 2017.

The Centennial celebration will conclude at 23:59:59 (when the ball drops) 2017.

Ken reports he has changed cable providers, and thinks all links have been moved. If a broken link is found, please inform Ken via webtean@sjra.org.

Adjournment was at 2050.

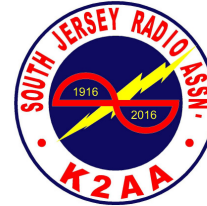
Minutes by Lou, N2HQL, Rec. Sec.

SJRA Membership Renewal Begins January 1st, 2016.

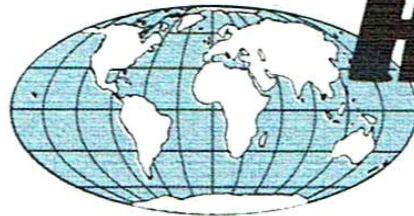
This is just a brief reminder that DoozRdo on January 1, 2017. We've tried our best to make it convenient for you by going to the club's website and following the instructions on the renewal form.

<http://www.sjra.org/sites/default/files/2015%20Renewal.pdf>

Thanks, Happy New Year and 73,
Ray Golley - N3RG
Treasurer, SJRA
552 Newport Rd
Millville, NJ 08332-7821



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President's Message

Ken – K2WB

Next year is only weeks away. Time really does fly when you are having fun. Finally we mark the end of our celebration of 100 years. The good news we are still the oldest continuously meeting radio club in North America. On December 31st at 23:59:59 EST would be the last time SJRA members would sign /100 at the end of their call signs. It was fun!

Our Christmas/Holiday Party will be held on Wednesday December 21st it will be nice to see everyone.

I want to thank all of the committee chairs and their staff for doing a great job throughout the year. The SJRA does not run itself and it takes people to run the club. Make it a point to thank someone or better yet offer to help.

Please check your email and Harmonics for your membership renewal. It is important that all information is updated so that we can make corrections to our database. This will insure that Harmonics and other important club information will continue to go you.

Congratulations to all that participated in Field Day 2016. The SJRA took 2nd place in the 6A category. It took a lot of hard work, but the result was well worth the effort. Field Day 2017 will be here before we know it, let me know if you want to help.

The SJRA email list has been running for a couple of years. This is a great way to reach out to all of the members of the club if you have a question or an item for sale. This service is only available to members

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Monthly Puzzle

Don – WA2DUE, wa2due at arrl dot net

For November we posed the following:

A circle and a straight line lie in the same plane. The equation of the line is $(x + y = 4)$ and the equation of the circle is $(x^2 + y^2 = 58)$. At what points does the line intercept the circle?

Answer: $y = +7$ and -3 , which leads to $x = -7$ and $+3$. Therefore the line intercepts the circle at $(-3 + 7)$ and $(3 - 7)$.

A pulse from a radar is reflected from a target. The measured time taken for the round trip was 536 milliseconds. What is the approximate distance to the target?

Answer: Using speed of the electromagnetic wave as 3×10^8 meters per second, the pulse traveled 1.6×10^8 meters or roughly 100 thousand miles. The distant to the target is half of that or 50,000 miles. The target must be a meteorite or asteroid.

This my last column. It has been a 40 year association with Harmonics. My mentor was Walt W2EA (SK) when we typed, cut, and pasted material for our clubs monthly newsletter. Computers have made the task of putting out a monthly publication a little easier, but the Editor still needs articles. And articles from the members are most valuable as they reflect what the club is accomplishing. So please help in providing material so that Harmonics remains a foremost club newsletter.

The years have passed too quickly. I do want to thank everyone who has helped me over that time, and a special thanks to our present Editor Ted, W2TAG.

73, Don, WA2DUE

Please drop Don an email thanking him for all his years of helping to make Harmonics a very enjoyable newsletter. ed, W2TAG

(SJRA Nets to Restructure in 2017 from page 1)

The fifth month net for both 2 meter FM and 10 meter SSB has been cancelled. The 10 meter SSB nets that met on the first and third Thursdays has been downsized to just the third Thursday due to low participation. The new 2 meter repeater Fusion net will meet on the second and fourth Thursdays of each month. The format of the Fusion net will resemble that of the FM net with the exception of the call in process and a priority on aiding stations new to the digital modes and training on how to use the WiresX connection. In the early months of this net there will be some learning experiences by all of us. Information will also be sent out via the club membership e-mail reflector.

Recommendation: If you don't own a Fusion rig yet put it on your Christmas list. They are a lot of fun and you can't participate in this net without one. If you want to see it work before you buy, give a ham that participates in this net a call and invite yourself over to his shack on a second or fourth Thursday of the month. Taking some beer along is optional but maybe a good idea.

(Radio Sport aka Contests from page 5)

(Phone), 1/21-22 Sat 1PM EST to Sun 1AM

- ◆ **ARRL January VHF Contest, 1/21-23 Sat 2PM EST to Sun 11PM**
- ◆ **10-10 International Winter (10 M Phone), 2/3-5, Fri 7PM EST to Sun 7PM**



(Monthly Puzzle from page 9)

of the SJRA and will be the only to receive harmonics by email. If we have your email address you will be receiving an email from sjra-members-resquest@mailman.qth.net inviting you to join the list or you can join by going to <http://mailman.qth.net/mailman/listinfo/sjra-members>. Remember to include your Call sign with your name.

To send an email to the list, just send it to sjra-members@mailman.qth.net and it will go to all of the SJRA members automatically.

I want to wish everyone and their families a very happy and healthy holiday season.

Until next year! 73's, de Ken K2WB



(\$400 "prepper" radio? from page 6)

"\$800 than a radio." I suggested, "If there was a catastrophic event, and you really needed to communicate, wouldn't it seem silly to have not spent the extra \$400 on a really decent radio?"

What do you think? Is my analysis a little too simplistic perhaps? Are amateur radio manufacturers ignoring a potential market?

.....

(Dan, KB6NU, is the author of the "No Nonsense" amateur radio license study guides, and blogs about amateur radio at KB6NU.Com. You can contact him by e-mailing cwgeek@kb6nu.com.)

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.

December Meeting:

Is the **Third** Wednesday, December 21, 2016

The meeting commences promptly at 7:00PM in the first floor Meeting Room of the Gibson House on Main Street, Marlton, NJ 08053. Guests are always welcome.

Program For December:

Holiday Party and Awards Presentations.

SJRA Member January Birthdays

Ted Dean, KD2ARD; Joe Fisher, KC2TN; Robert Kernish, KD2ADL; Jack Mays, WA2HJG; and Al Witner III, N3AVT.

It is with deep regret that we note the passing of SJRA member Robert Haworth W2PUA (SK) that occurred on 12 November 2016.

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

January Meeting:

Is the **Fourth** Wednesday, January 25, 2017

First Class Mail

South Jersey Radio Association
PO Box 1026
Haddonfield, NJ 08033

