



HARMONICS

1916 South Jersey Radio Association 2017



SJRA Nets Quarterly

Vol 1 No. 2 by John - WY2J

wy2j at arrl dot net

Summary Status of Nets: Participation in our three net modes, FM, Fusion and SSB Simplex Voice held up well during the summer quarter considering the demands on our member's time like holidays, vacations, Field Day and the September VHF contest on the mountain. SSB Simplex which only runs once a month took the biggest hit followed by FM which runs the most often, four times a month. Fusion which has run twice a month for the last year continues to lead the pack in interest and participation.

Plans are in place to add a first Thursday of the month Experimental SSB Simplex net using a mix of voice and PSK-31 modulation to achieve some extended coverage with the very narrow band digital conversational text mode. Eventually we expect voice to disappear being replaced with one or more of Joe Taylor's high sensitivity contest modes. Long term this net is expected to evolve, change bands or even disappear. Matt, N2IDW, has agreed to double up and run this net as host and control operator starting 2 November on 144.270 MHz USB 1.0 KHz digital sub-carrier.

We have had plans to expand the coverage of our twice a month Fusion net but have held off because the participation rate has held close to our target of 12. The plan is still on the table.

One thing has become obvious this last summer quarter. We have too many FM nets in the summer. In 2018 we plan to reduce the number from four to two a month from 1 June to 30 September. The weeks of the month that will have FM nets are yet to be determined.

Mode	Nets	Min	Max	Avg	Total
FM	3	6	12	9	
Fusion	2	8	14	11	
SSB	1	9	9	9	
All Nets	6	-	-	9.7	
Partici- pants					58

Table 1 - Participation: 10 - 27 July 2017

Mode	Nets	Min	Max	Avg	Total
FM	4	8	12	9	
Fusion	2	9	11	10	
SSB	1	7	7	7	
All Nets	7			9.1	
Partici- pants					64

Table 2 - Participation: 7 - 28 August 2017

(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 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

Officers

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Nets: John Fogleboch, WY2J
Publicity: Vacant (Please Volunteer)
Picnic: Vacant (Please Volunteer)
Ways & Means: Ray Golley, N3RG
Property: Jon MacMillan, 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

 ★ 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> ★
 ★*****

LOCAL WEEKLY NETS

Monday	K2AA, Medford	145.290 @ 8PM
Fusion on 2 ND & 4 TH Thurs. and 2M SSB on 3 RD Thurs.	Various Locations	145.290 @ 8PM, Fusion 144.270 MHz USB

Harmonics Deadline

Articles submitted for the next Harmonics will be accepted until Monday, November 6, 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 Minutes September 27, 2017

The meeting opened at 1938 led by Jon, W2MC, who led the pledge of allegiance to our flag. We then introduced ourselves around the room for the benefit of our visitors.

The treasurer, Roy Herman, WB2EOD, presented the monthly treasurer's report. KR2T/KA2OSV made the motion to accept and that passed.

Roy, WB2EOD reported two new members, Scott Holland, NK2N, and John, W Peterson, KD2ODE.

Health & Welfare - Roy, WB2EOD reported birthday list to Harmonics.

Programs - Rich, W2JAZ, Oct - Magnetic loops, presented by Dennis, AC2FO.

VE Team - Al, N3ATV was not present at the meeting, no report.

Nets by WY2J - Quarterly column in Harmonic.

DX - by Jack, N2VW, A5A in Bhutan 29-Sept. to 08-Oct.; H40, Temotu Province, Solomon Islands 30-Sept. to 20-Oct.; V63 FKR 27-Sept. to 02-Oct.; XT - Burkina Faso 29-Sept. to 30-Oct.; 3W Vietnam 3W9CW November.

Oh By the way - Art, N2CPR, thanked the club members who participated as volunteer communicators for the MS150 City to Shore bike ride.

Membership Meeting Minutes by:
Burton, NJ2IT
SJRA BOD

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes October 4, 2017

The meeting, held at the Gibson House in Marlton, NJ was opened at 1939 by Jon, W2MC. Minutes of the September meeting were approved as printed in Harmonics, motion N2ATB/WB2EOD.

Roy, WB2EOD, gave a detailed Treasurer's report. We have 122 paid members at this time. W2JAZ asked if we had a budget set up, the answer from Jon, W2MC, was "not currently". N2CPR/W2JAZ made a motion for the treasurer to have essential information ready regarding last years expenditures, by the November board meeting, so a budget could be formulated.

New Members: John Peterson, KD2ODE, a tech, sponsored by Roy, WB2EOD. Motion to accept by WB2EOD/W2FDJ. N2CPR abstained during the vote.

Programs, by Rick, W2JAZ: Mag Loop antennas by AC2FO.: November-Scheduled is Dennis Dura, on Skywarn, this program may change as Dennis has been deployed by FEMA.

Health & Welfare : Birthday list will be sent to Ted, W2TAG. No known illnesses.

VE by Al, N3AVT- 213 successful candidates so far.

Awards- W2JAZ will start with an article in Harmonics this month. Web Team will hopefully have the awards page forwarding to Rick.

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(SJRA Nets Quarterly from page 1)

Mode	Nets	Min	Max	Avg	Total
FM	4	6	12	9.5	
Fusion	2	9	13	11	
SSB	1	6	6	6	
All Nets	7			9.4	
Partici- pants					66

Table 3 - Participation: 4 - 28 September 2017

Nets Staff - The current seven monthly nets are manned with six control operators. Starting November 2017 the number of nets increases to eight with the same number of controllers. This is too high a load for some operators. We are in need of two more volunteers for the job. No additional nets will be started until this problem is solved and the number of nets will be reduced to six with the 2018 summer schedule running from 1 June to 30 September. The staff includes: *John, WY2J; Dom, KD2EPM; John, W2FDJ; *Matt, N2IDW; *Art, N2CPR; and Roy, WB2EOD. *Multiple nets or assignments.

2M SSB Technology - When we evaluated moving the SJRA 10M simplex net to 2M, one of the concerning factors was ownership of 2M SSB rigs. Until recently most SSB rigs covered 160M to 6M, but not 2M. We didn't think many members would invest in a new rig just for one net. As it turned out there was greater ownership than we expected. In addition one ham that didn't have 2M sideband found a very innovative and inexpensive solution.

Dom KD2EPM located a small company in the Ukraine that builds a line of

VHF and UHF transverters that you drive with a 10M SSB or CW rig. The units are available for as low as \$40 for a board level kit but for \$80 Dom got a fully build and tested unit in a case with standard connectors. It also includes the high power attenuator to make it compatible with 100 watt rigs. Dom drives it with 5 watts on 10 meters and gets 10 watts output on 2 meter SSB. It draws only 1.7 amps from a 13.8 volt PS and uses a closure to ground for the PTT function. The photo in Figure 1 below shows the transverter in Dom's station. He uses it to drive a Diamond X-50 2M/70cm vertical at 45 feet that he also uses for FM and Fusion.. He does quite well on the 2M SSB Simplex net, all for \$80 added investment..

If interested visit: <http://transverters-store.com> or contact Dom at: doms *at* hot-mail *dot* com.



Figure. 1, KD2EPM's 2M SSB Station and Transverter.

Repeaters - SJRA owns and maintains three repeaters, K2AA Medford for FM and Fusion with a WiresX node, K2UK 2M FM and K2UK 70CM FM both in Pine Hill. The K2AA machine has been an extremely reliable system since the antenna was replaced a few years ago and has remained so since the FM only electronics were replaced with Yaesu C4FM Fusion. The only negative is

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September 25, 2017 NOTICE

The Caribbean Emergency and Weather Net (<http://wb7tjd.us10.list-manage1.com/track/click?u=a3c53872bf4fd5ef28f6e74b1&id=6fa56b3f22&e=dace6a48df>) again is requesting that radio amateurs not involved in the ongoing post-hurricane relief and recovery efforts via Amateur Radio to avoid operating on or near the net's frequencies – 7.188 and 3.815 MHz. The net is handling critical traffic, primarily for Dominica and needs interference-free channels. For more information, see the ARRL site: <http://www.arrl.org/news/caribbean-situation-critical-clear-frequencies-essential>

Test Session Report for September 13, 2017

The SJRA would like to congratulate the following on their recent Amateur Radio licensing achievements:

(Please note: Test Session Reports are published in Harmonics the month after the test session so we can publish passing technicians newly assigned call.)

John W. Peterson, KD2ODE
7 Roberts Dr.
Westampton, NJ 08060
Earned his Tech

Ryan G. Straub, KD2ODF
95 Greenwich Dr.
Westampton, NJ 08060
Earned his Tech

	Tech	General	Extra	Total
To Date	128	56	29	213

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Radio Sport aka Contests

John, W2FDJ, johnd152 at verizon dot net
(Please send your thoughts and ideas to me for publication.)

Member's activities

ARRL Affiliated Club Competitions

During each year, some of the contests ARRL hosts, are considered club contests. Members of clubs can both compete with each other in these contests and they can also have their scores credited to their favorite club. In our case this can be accomplished by simply indicating South Jersey Radio Assn as your club. Then ARRL will automatically add together the individual scores for a total club score. Your individual filing, category, and score are reported as normal.

The club competitions are: the three VHF contests (Jan., June, and Sept.); RTTY roundup; International DX contests (CW and Phone); Sweepstakes (CW and Phone); 160 Meter; 10 Meter and; the new 222 and up contest.

There are a few things we have to do to achieve club listing in QST. We have to have at least three members file logs that indicate their club is South Jersey Radio Association. And, we have to update the *eligibility list*, which is being worked on now for 2017 filing.

You can read more about this on the ARRL web site by searching for club competition. Remember your logs must be filed online within 5 days of the end of HF contests and 10 days of the end of VHF contests. I encourage you to use software that easily allows the log to be filed when the contest is complete. N1MM Plus is one program that works very well. Seek me out on one of our nets or at club meetings if you need help.

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: contests at sjra dot org.

Upcoming contests - see arrl.org or wa7bnm.com for rules and more details.

Phone Fray

Ten weeks each, four times a year, Tuesdays only, 10:30PM-11PM (yes 30 minutes).

CWops Mini-CWT test

Wednesdays only, 9 to 10AM, 3 to 4PM, 9 to 10PM (three one hour sprints).

NCCC Sprint

Thursdays only, 10:30PM to 11PM (yes 30 minutes).

ARRL School Club Roundup

10/16 to 10/20, Monday 9AM EDT to Friday 8PM EDT (48 hours).

10-10 International (10M CW only)

10/20 to 10/22, Friday 8PM EDT to Sunday 8PM EDT (48 hours).

CQ WW DX Contest SSB

10/27 and 10/29, Friday 8 PM EDT Sunday 8PM (48 hours).

ARRL Sweepstakes CW

11/4 to 11/6, Saturday 5PM EDT to Sunday 10PM EST (24 of 31 hours).

ARRL EME

11/3 to 11/5, Friday 5PM EDT to Sunday 5PM EST (49 hours).

ARRL Sweepstakes Phone

11/18 to 11/20, Saturday 4PM EST to Sun 10PM EST (24 of 30 hours).

CQ WW DX Contest CW

11/24 to 11/25, Friday 7PM EST to Sunday 7PM EST (48 hours).


ARRL 160-Meter Contest CW

12/1 to 12/2, Friday 5PM EST to Sunday 11AM EST (42 hours).

HAM? HAM radio? ham radio? Amateur Radio? amateur radio!


Dan, KB6NU, cwgeek at kb6nu dot com

On the ARRL PR mailing list, we've been discussing the proper way to refer to amateur radio. What brought this up was an email from one list subscriber, Richard, WB6NAH, who was (rightfully) proud of the work that his club—the Skagit Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Club—was doing. He noted that they were even featured in the police department's emergency preparedness brochure:



The Anacortes Police Department has a robust group of Citizen Patrol Members who are also available to assist during disasters. For information on joining the Anacortes Citizens Patrol, go to http://www.cityofanacortes.org/auxiliary_patrol.php#WWfsSFGluCg

You could also join our Anacortes HAM radio group, and become a certified HAM radio operator. HAM radio operators are dedicated citizens who can communicate and coordinate important events for our first responders. Go to <https://skagithamradio.wordpress.com/> for additional information including phone and email contacts.



As you can see, the brochure refers to "HAM radio" and "HAM radio operators."

Referring to amateur radio in this way just drives me crazy. "Ham radio" is just a nickname for amateur radio, and "HAM" is certainly not an acronym for anything. I congratulated Richard on getting his club included in the brochure, but noted, "...it's not HAM radio! It's either 'amateur radio' or 'ham radio' (ham is not an acronym). I hate to be nitpicky about this, but as a professional writer, this usage just drives me crazy." He replied, "I agree on Amateur Radio, that was the city's call."

That kicked off the discussion.

One ham replied to me privately, "Thank you...I am continually trying to explain that it is not an acronym or abbreviation."

Another replied to the list:

"The most correct term is "amateur radio" or alternatively "ham radio", both written in normal case. If using "ham radio", it is a best practice to first write "amateur (ham) radio" in the first non-header/non-title occurrence.

"Some will write "Amateur Radio" in proper noun format (first letters in caps) and while this may be acceptable to many and in certain venues, anyone using a style handbook will say it is incorrect. Less correct is to write "Ham Radio" in proper noun format as this is a slang term, albeit a popular one. Of course either term may be written as proper nouns when part of a title or name of an organization.

"Least correct is to write "HAM" in all caps; as stated by others, ham is not an abbreviation or acronym. Writing it as "HAM" is completely wrong, will drive many peo-

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(HAM? HAM radio? from page 7)

ple bonkers, and should be avoided at all costs."

Ward, N0AX, offered this explanation:

"To clarify where the capitalization originated, there is a long-standing ARRL Board Directive, decades old, stipulating that the words "Amateur Radio" be capitalized in ARRL publications and documents. Most non-amateur publications return it to the lower-case style that is used for non-proper nouns."

One guy got a little miffed that we were wasting our time discussing this at all:

"You know, I've been reading this thread and I think people are getting too hung up on very minor details. The bottom line they got PR. So something wasn't spelled right or capitalized, so what. The message got out and IMHO that's the bottom line. Let's not waste any more bandwidth on this."

I agreed that it was great that they were included in the brochure, and that we were probably beating this topic to death, but I don't think these are minor details. I said that PR professionals pride themselves on getting the details right. So should amateur radio PR people.

I'll give the final word to Dan, AI4GK. He wrote:

"I don't think that standardizing what we call ourselves qualifies as getting hung up on minor details. If we don't have a standardized way of referring to us, how can we expect a public, who already is confused, to understand who we are?"

I don't think that you can argue with this. Let's avoid confusion by using "amateur radio" when writing about our

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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.

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 4-6 and SSB is November 18-20. 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.

If you are interested please contact me so that can put you into the operator schedule and get an Elmer setup if you want one. K2AA will most likely operate from my QTH in Marlton.

We have several nets ranging from repeater on Monday night, Fusion Net and Simplex on Thursday nights. John, WY2J, has been doing a great job setting and coordinating the nets. He is always looking for net control operators. Contact John if you would like to try it out.

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(President's Message from page 8)

CQWW - I encourage anyone to operate in the contest. This is one that is easy and you can achieve DXCC in one weekend with 100W transmitter and a simple antenna farm. From New Jersey & 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 Lou with details of why and which award they qualify for. Send your nominations to awards *at* sjra *dot* org.

Renewals - It is that time of year again, time to renew your membership. Roy WB2EOD 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.



WSJT-X FT8 QSO Confirmed Between W2JAZ and W5RKN on FO-29

(The below information is from the AMSAT Weekly news bulletin of October 14, 2017.)

Ron, W5RKN and Rick, W2JAZ described their experiments in using the new, shortened TX/RX sequences, weak signal protocol, FT8, to determine if this mode could be used on satellites. FT8 is operationally similar to the older protocols but four times faster (15-second T/R sequences) and less sensitive by a few dB.

Ron posited it might work near AOS or LOS where the Doppler corrections are small. Ron's configuration was made up of a Flex-6500 with two DEMI transverters running SmartSDR, SatPC32, FlexSATPC, and WSJT-X.

Rick's is a Flex-5000 with U/V module, running PowerSDR, SatPC32, FlexSATPC, and WSJT-X. Ron described the test, "After a couple runs on AO-7 without success, we tried again tonight on the 0220Z (14 Oct) pass of FO-29. I started out at my AOS calling CQ W5RKN EM10. After several transmissions without success, the reply W5RKN W2JAZ FN29 popped up on the screen. Then followed the usual signal report, RRR and 73 transmissions."

Rick and Ron are interested in hearing about other's experiences with WSJT-X contacts.

[ANS thanks Ron, W5RKN for the above information]



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that it has a somewhat limited coverage of about 25 miles. This is due to the limited antenna height. It also has no backup on Fusion since the spare repeater electronics has never been installed in K2UK 2M. For a period of time the repeater committee was planning on moving the K2UK 2M system to a more desirable location and using the 70cm equipment to link K2UK to K2AA. This is a position that the Net Committee strongly supported. However, this plan seems to have stalled with no new one made visible to the interested members of the club. Last month's Harmonics reported on some discussion at the BOD meeting to use K2UK for a Swap Net. The Net Committee was never a part of this idea, it does not support it due to manpower shortages and considers it a very poor use of K2UK resources. If we cannot move K2UK to a more favorable location now then let's upgrade the 2M machine with the spare Fusion repeater electronics and link it to K2AA. It will give us a redundant system and somewhat expanded coverage area

(HAM? HAM radio? from page 8)

hobby/service. I'd even urge the ARRL to rethink their use of "Amateur Radio." Sometimes, it may be OK to use "ham radio," but it's just not correct to use "HAM radio" or just "HAM."

.....

Dan, KB6NU, is the author of the "No Nonsense" amateur radio license study guides and blogs about amateur radio at KB6NU.Com. When he's not picking nits about the name of our hobby, he teaches ham radio classes and operates CW on the HF bands. You can email him at cwgeek@kb6nu.com.

October Presentation

How to build a variety of magnetic loop antennas from scratch. These antennas have become very popular for those of us who enjoy taking our stations on the road to parks or other locations outside our home QTH. For example, I use an Alex Loop magnetic loop when I travel to my sister-in-laws house in Scranton, PA and have made a number of DX contacts with it mounted on a ground floor inside the house. Magnetic Loop antennas have also become popular with Hams who live where antenna restrictions are a problem such as condominiums, apartments and senior citizen residences. Don't miss this presentation by Dennis Cioffi, AC2FO!

Rick, W2JAZ
Presentations Chairman

(Meeting Minutes from page 3)

Contests by John W2FDJ: The ARRL needs a list of Club members soon to qualify members for club participation in Sweepstakes.

OLD Business: None

New Business: Christmas Party-chairperson needed.

Adjourn at 2115

BOD Minutes by: Lou, N2HQL
Rec. Sec.

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

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

SJRA Jackets, Shirts, Hats

Order NOW - Next order going in soon!



Spring Jacket is \$51 (S,M,L,XL), Fall Jacket is \$58 (S,M,L,XL),
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 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 25, 2017

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:

How to build a variety of magnetic loop antennas from scratch with Dennis Cioffi, AC2FO.

SJRA Member November Birthdays

Richard Von Lintig, KV2R; Mary Von Lintig, KV2M; Jerry Parker, KC2JJT; Joe Lameiras, K2WJL; Mike Fischbach, KB2RHI; and Art Arnold, N2CPR.

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

November Meeting:

Is the **Third** Wednesday, November 15, 2017

First Class Mail

South Jersey Radio Association
PO Box 1026
Haddonfield, NJ 08033

