



HARMONICS

1916 South Jersey Radio Association 2018



SJRA and Field Day

Jon, W2MC

Since 1933, the American Radio Relay League - the National Association for Amateur Radio - has designated one weekend each June for Field Day. Field Day is the most popular on-the-air event held annually in the US and Canada on the fourth weekend of June. Since 1939, SJRA has joined the more than 35,000 radio amateurs that gather with their clubs, groups, or simply with friends to operate from remote locations; parks, fields,



backyards...anywhere you can set-up a radio!

SJRA has always celebrated Field Day in a big way; operating as 3A, 4A, 5A, 6A, 7A; even as large as 19A in 1986! That's NINETEEN emergency powered transmitters operating simultaneously under field condi-

tions for 24 hours! During the very early years of Field Day, less than a thousand contacts could earn a first place, but over most of this time the club has consistently made about 4000 contacts during the 24- hour period of the event each year. Since 1948, SJRA has amassed an amazing record of achievement; finishing FIRST in category 38 times, SECOND in category 13 times, and THIRD place four times. That's a Win, Place, or Show 55 of the last 69 years! (See *Field Day Records on Page 8*).



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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 it's 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 SJRA website: www.sjra.org or from Alan Handley, K3WWT, 610-532-5407 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> ★
 ★*****

Officers

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 John Doran, W2FDJ
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Repeater: Joe Fisher, KC2TN
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Awards: Rick Lawn, W2JAZ
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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 Editors: Al Ziegler, KD2ST, and Jon MacMillan, W2MC
Circulation: Jim Vecchiola, KR2T

LOCAL WEEKLY NETS

Monday	K2AA, Medford	145.290 @ 8PM
Fusion on 2 ND & 4 TH Thurs. 2M SSB on 3 RD Thurs. 6M SSB on 1 st Thurs.	Various Locations	145.290 @ 8PM, Fusion 144.260 MHz USB @ 8PM 50.150 MHz USB @ 8PM

Harmonics Deadline

Articles submitted for the next Harmonics will be accepted until Monday, June 11, 2018. Email: harmonics@sjra.org

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 Of 25 April 2018

The meeting opened at 1931 by Ken, K2WB at the Gibson House in Marlton, NJ. The "question of the month" was to please give your name and callsign.

Minutes of the March meeting were approved on a motion by N2HQL/W2RLE. Roy, WB2EOD gave the treasurer's report. It was approved on a motion by N2CPR/W2JAZ.

Membership, by N2CPR; no new members at this time, but several badges to hand out.

Health & Welfare: no illnesses to report, birthday cards will be mailed soon.

Programs: April, KE2D, Bob to report on remote operation of a station, whether yours, or a "superstation", including equipment needed for this operation. May- Storm Robotics team: June- Field day update & video.

Harmonics- Standard deadline, publishing to be done by Al & Jon.

VE report by N2HQL. Testing went well, 5 testees, 3 new techs & 2 upgrades, uploaded to FCC database by 11P.M. Due to the sale of Company we plan on moving to a site in Williamstown, and changing nights to the third Wednesday of the month.

Radiosports by John, W2FDJ; 5/25-26 CQWW WPX CW; June 9-10 ARRL June VHF; June 23-24 Field day!; July 2-8 10-10 intl Spirit of 76 QSO party; July 14-15 IARU HF world championship, 7/21-22 Both North American QSO party RTTY and CQ WW VHF contest.

Repeater- Ken, K2WB went with Joe KC2TN to the Pine Hill MUA meeting to give a talk about the uses of Amateur Radio, etc.. They found out what documentation needs to be filed with our application to be put on their water tower.

Web Team- Ken stated that they are trying to get some updates done.

Field day- need bonus point chairperson to coordinate the accumulation of points.

No new or old business was brought up. We recessed at 2030 for refreshments before the presentation.

Board of Directors Meeting 4 April 2018

The meeting, held at the Gibson House, was opened at 1935 by Ken, K2WB. Minutes of the March meeting had been approved by e-mail, due to possibility of inclement weather.

Roy, WB2EOD gave the Treasurer's report, 109 total members. Approved on motion by W2MC/W2JAZ.

Membership Committee, by Art, N2CPR; proposed Owen Bermann, WA2WTF. Motion to Accept- N2CPR/WB2EOD, motion passed. There was a discussion regarding a membership drive, on the order of sign up "2" new members, get a years dues free. A motion by N2HQL/N3AVT, to have the drive, in the time frame from 25 April, until 31 December passed.

Corresponding Secretary- not present, a thank you to our anonymous donor to the repeater fund.

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(SJRA Meeting Minutes from page 3)

Harmonics- KD2LBT has volunteered as new Harmonics editor.

Repeater- Joe- KC2TN,; K2UK is still operating, he is still working on the Pine Hill MUA proposal.

Radiosport: John W2FDJ presented a list of 2017 log submissions. He will make Certificates/Plaques as qualifies.

Club Stuff- hard hats to be ordered for field day.

Health & Welfare- Roy, WB2EOD missed sending March List to Harmonics, It will be place with the April List. Cards were sent out though. The Post Office Box has been dropped as of 31 March.

Programs- scheduled through June, as previously printed. July is still open.

Field day: will be reorganized, i.e. CW in one location, SSB in another. Digital will be housed by N3RG, and GOTA will be moved to a less sunny spot.

Old business- some discussion re the proposed HF seminar, including possibility of tailgating. We are still looking into getting on Light Vessel 79 during the lighthouse weekend.

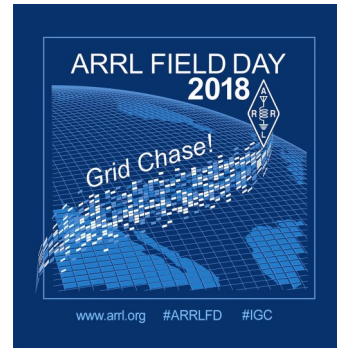
VE- : tested 235 new or upgrades so far. Last session was six persons, with results in FCC database by midnight that night.

Web- Burton NJ2IT stated that all requests for changes, etc., must go thru W2I-RA, the committee chair.

New Business- John, W2FDJ made a statement that the audio on our last meeting was poor, and needed improvement. Comments regarding the room size, and acoustics were made, and it was proposed to only have tables for those that need them, i.e. recording secretary and treasurer, with the chairs nearer to the podium.

Meeting adjourned at 2130.

(Field Day Continued from page 1)



This year's Field Day logo highlights "Grid Chase". The ARRL has added a "twist" to coincide with their 2018 Grid Chase, and you may hear many groups and participants adding grid squares to their exchange, working stations in as many grid squares as possible and uploading the log data to Logbook of The World. The ARRL has stated that for 2018, Field Day and the International Grid Square Event, the standard event exchange of Field Day Class and Section is still what is sent over the air - but don't be surprised when someone asks for our Grid Square! VHF operators are well experienced with the Maidenhead Grid Square system - Grid squares are a shorthand means of describing your general location anywhere on the Earth in a manner that is easy to communicate over the air. The Maidenhead Grid Locator System is named after the town in London where it was first conceived in 1980 as a way of mapping and locating VHF stations. A Maidenhead Grid Square measures 1° latitude by 2° longitude and is identified by two letters (the *field*) and two numbers (the *square*), as in **FM29**, the grid square where our Field Day site is located.

Test Session Reports

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.)

March 4, 2018 Test Session

Nicholas C. Cornaglia, KD2PHP
2301 Durham Ct.
Mt Laurel, NJ 08054
Earned his Tech

Nicholas Silvestri, KD2PHR
4 Juniper Ct
Blackwood, NJ 08012
Earned his Tech

Christopher T. Moore, KD2PHQ
47 Tallowood Dr.
Medford, NJ 08055
Earned his Tech

Robert J. Keogh, KD2NEC
132 Trellis Ln
Sewell, NJ 08080
Earned his General

Kenneth W. Hoffner, Jr, KD2OZC
107 Haines Rd.
Mount Holly, NJ 08054
Earned his General

April 11, 2018 Test Session

William Bader, KD2PNS
528 South Blackhorse Pike
Blackwood, NJ 08012
Earned his Tech

Allan H. Womelsdorf, KD2PNR
6133 Orange St.
Mays Landing, NJ 08330
Earned his Tech

Owen P. Berman, WA2WTF
43 Woodlake Dr.
Marlton, NJ 08053
Earned his General

	Tech	General	Extra	Total
To Date	142	61	35	238

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Radio Sport aka Contests John, W2FDJ	
<p>Member's activities</p> <p>Please send your thoughts and ideas to me at <i>johnd152 at Verizon dot net</i> for publication.</p> <p>It was good to see a group of SJRA members on the 2 meter Sprint held April 10. I got on right after our regular Monday night net ended and snagged 14 contacts in an hour. I worked a good half dozen SJRA members. Next month June 9-10 will be the next VHF contest, an ideal chance to QSO with your fellow club members.</p> <p>Please send me your summary sheet so I will be able to list your claimed score next time. John/W2FDJ: contests <i>at sjra dot org</i></p> <p>Upcoming contests - see arll.org or wa7bnm.com for rules and more details.</p> <p>Every Tuesday only: Phone Fray 10:30PM-11PM (yes 30 min) (ten weeks -4 times a year)</p> <p>Every Wednesday only: CWops Mini-CWT test 9 -10AM,3-4PM,11-12PM (three one hr sprints)</p> <p>Every Thursday only: NCCC Sprint 10:30PM-11PM (yes 30 min)</p> <p>Every Thursday only: NCCC RTTY Sprint 9:45-10:15PM (30 min)</p>	<p>10-10 Int Spirit of 76 QSO Party 7/2-8, Sun 8PM EDT - 7days 10 mtr only – All modes</p> <p>IARU HF World Championship 7/14-15, Sat 8AM EDT- Sun 8AM HF: CW and Phone</p> <p>North America QSO Party RTTY 7/21-22, Sat 2PM EDT - Sun 2AM EDT HF: RTTY</p> <p>CQ Worldwide VHF Contest 7/21-22, Sat 2PM EDT - Sun 5PM EDT 6 & 2 mtrs. All modes</p> <p>North America QSO Party CW 8/4-5, Sat 2PM EDT- Sun 2AM EDT HF: CW</p> <p>North America QSO Party SSB 8/18-19, Sat 2PM EDT - Sun 2AM EDT HF: SSB</p> <p>ARRL Rookie Roundup RTTY 8/19, Sat 2PM - 8PM EDT HF: RTTY</p> <p>Other Thoughts:</p> <p>Here are a few You Tube video's this month I recommend for viewing. Just go to https://www.youtube.com and enter the title of the video in the search window.</p> <p>Contesting Tips for Little Pistols by Dan Zeitlin, K2WYE. Dan's actual call is K2YWE but use the title as above to find the video. This video lasting over an hour covers a whole realm of contest topics with focus on how to improve. This is especially valuable to those of us with limited power or land. Dan's experienced view covers numerous alternatives. In some cases he gives surpri-</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>(Continued on page 8)</i></p>
<p>CQ WW WPX Contest CW 5/25-26, Fri 8PM EDT to Sun 8PM HF: CW only</p> <p>ARRL June VHF Contest 6/9-10, Sat 2PM EDT to Sun 11PM</p> <p>ARRL Field Day 6/23-24, Sat 2PM EDT to Sun 5PM</p>	



President's Message

Ken – K2WB

The May meeting program promises to be very exciting. Hopefully our friends "Storm" from the robot club of Lenape and Cherokee High Schools will be showing us their latest competitor. Demonstrations in previous years were very impressive and I trust this one will be the same. The robotic team had to go to Michigan for a national competition.

We need your help with Field Day (it will be here before we know it) mark your calendars. Field Day is June 23-24 with setup on the 22nd. We will be having several workshops such as erecting temporary antennas, operating etc. Please help us by volunteering early and helping with this club event.

Please bring your singing voices to the next general membership meeting as we produce scenes for "Field Day" the Musical.

I want to thank Al KD2ST and Jon W2MC for helping out with the May Harmonics, and Al has agreed to take on the task as editor of Harmonics when Ted retires from his post. Al has some new ideas and is looking for help with articles.

I also want to thank John WY2J for his many years as net coordinator and Matt

KD2IDW for taking over. John has kept the nets going for many years. The club owes you a debt of gratitude. Matt has some new ideas if you can check into our nets, there is always something going on.

It is healthy for the club to have changes in personnel so if you are interested in helping let someone on the board of directors know. It takes a lot help to keep us going.

Contact me if you are unable to attend the meeting because of transportation. Please let me know so we could see if we can arrange something.

73's

Ken K2WB

Upcoming Regional Hamfests June 2018

June 2nd: **OMARC (Ocean-Monmouth Amateur Radio Club) Spring Hamfest** 7:30am-12pm at The Spring Lake Heights Fire Company; 700 Sixth Avenue, Spring Lake Heights, NJ 07762. Website: <http://www.n2mo.org>

June 16th: **Raritan Valley Radio Club-W2QW-Hamfest** 8am-12pm at Piscataway High School; 110 Behmer Rd, Piscataway, NJ 08854. Website: <http://www.w2qw.org/hamfest.htm>

June 30th: **Harrisburg Radio Amateurs Club- Firecracker Hamfest** 8am till ? At 3599 Industrial Road, Harrisburg, PA 17110. Website: <http://www.w3uu.org>

(Radio Sport Continued from page 6)

sing, yet no doubt, effective advice on how to improve your rate of QSO's. I plan to review this video once or twice more and try to adopt some of his best practices and advice on Big Dog attitude.

Getting Started with Digital Modes by Cliff Batson, N4CCB. Cliff's main focus in this twenty three minute video is on how to connect up your radio and computer using interfaces like Signalink or Rigblaster. He does not cover the software to be used or how to actually operate digital modes in this video. There are plenty of other videos that cover those topics. Cliff's video is a good snapshot of the basics needed to get started in digital modes.

If you have some recommended video's let me know and we will share them with the membership. John,W2FDJ

Articles Needed

We are always looking for articles for the newsletter. Any Amateur Radio articles, news, reviews, tips, how-tos, photos, etc. that you would like to share with other Club Members would be greatly appreciated. Photos of your shack are especially welcome.

You can send the information in any format (even handwritten) and I can help with the editing.

If interested please send your articles to: harmonics at sjra dot org.

(Field Day Continued from page 1)

Year	QSO's	Points	Category	Category Place
1993	1546	5344	5A	17
1994	3665	11326	6A	3
1995	3927	12366	6A	3
1996	3448	10786	6A	2
1997	4057	12602	6A	2
1998	3596	10768	6A	2
1999	3035	8746	6A	2
2000	3220	10576	6A	2
2001	4252	14398	6A	1
2002	5245	17184	6A	1
2003	3587	12412	6A	1
2004	3976	13852	6A	3
2005	4106	18292	6A	1
2006	4799	16404	6A	1
2007	4892	16772	6A	1
2008	5754	19434	6A	1
2009	4347	14894	6A	1
2010	3635	12856	6A	2
2011	4076	13120	6A	2
2012	4135	13318	6A	4
2013	3815	13224	6A	2
2014	4255	13474	6A	1
2015	3248	11762	6A	4
2016	3950	15006	6A	2
2017	5156	18154	7A	1
2018	Who knows? Be there to be part of the numbers on June 23 & 24!			

“Alexa, Help Me with Ham Radio”

Dan, KB6NU, cwgeek at kb6nu dot com

I have had an Amazon Alexa for nearly a year now. Mostly, I just use it to listen to internet radio stations or tell me a joke, but I think it has more potential than that. For example, I’ve written before about how I’d like to develop an Alexa skill to control my IC-7300. I haven’t gotten around to that yet, but, Joe, N3HEE, has just published an Alexa skill called Continuous Wave. It’s designed to help you learn Morse Code.

To use this skill, you have to first enable it. Once enabled, say, “Alexa, open Continuous Wave.” This opens the skill at the main menu. You can then say any of the following at any voice prompt:

- Learn
- Practice
- Alphabet
- Common words
- Random words
- Words
- Sentences
- Call signs
- Contest
- Quick Brown Fox
- QSO
- Help
- Stop – To end your session.

I’ve just played around with this app for a short time, but I’ve found it to be quite entertaining. It does, however, have one big drawback. You can’t set the speed. It’s currently limited to sending at 20 words per

minute only.

Also, the learn function could use a little refining. When you give the command “learn,” it asks you for a character, sends that character three times, and then asks you for another. If you could set the speed at which the skill sends characters, it could teach a character like the K7QO Code Course, first sending the character slowly, then ramping up the speed.

Overall, though, I think this is a great first shot at a usable Alexa skill for teaching Morse Code. I hope this is the first of many versions of this skill.

Other ham radio skills

While I was poking around on Amazon, I decided to see what other amateur radio skills might be available. Here are a few that I found:

- Ham Exam. Ask Alexa to ask you questions from the Technician Class question pool.
- Ham Lookup. Allows you to look up amateurs by call sign. Information is provided from the callbook.info database.
- Ham Radio Propagation Forecast. Reports the latest forecasts directly from HamQSL (run by N0NBH).
- ARRL Audio News. Adds ARRL Audio News to your Alexa flash briefing.

Building your own voice app

The Continuous Wave Alexa skill was developed using tools found at Voice-

(Continued on page 10)

(Alexa Article Continued from page 9)

Apps.Com. Two other websites—Pullstring and StoryLine—also have tools to help you build voice apps. And, Amazon has an online tutorial that will teach you how to build an Alexa app. I'm just getting started with these tools, so I can't recommend one over the others, but they do look like they'll make developing voice apps easier.

Since I'm currently in the process of updating my *No Nonsense Technician Class License Study Guide*, it occurs to me that I should also develop an Alexa skill for drilling students on test questions. I guess you could call them audio flashcards. Stay tuned for that.



When he's not trying to figure out how to build voice apps, Dan blogs about amateur radio at KB6NU.Com, teaches ham radio classes, and operates CW on the HF bands. Look for him on 30m, 40m, and 80m. You can email him about the voice apps that you like at cwgeek at kb6nu dot com.

Get your *No Nonsense Amateur Radio License Study Guides* by Dan, KB6NU at:

www.kb6nu.com/study-guides

Email Dan at:

[cwgeek at kb6nu dot com.](mailto:cwgeek@kb6nu.com)

Items For Sale

1- Free-standing Rohn crank-up 30 foot tower in great shape. Base is winged and buried in 5 feet of ground. It has new wires and folds over. Asking \$200 for the tower. Buyer needs to take the tower down.

2- Also on the tower is a TA-53 antenna with the 40-meter kit addition. Antenna covers the 10, 12, 15, 17, 20 and 40 meter bands- asking \$235.

3- Ground mounted vertical antenna covering 80 through 10 meters. Antenna is brand new but already assembled ready to set up. Asking \$90.

4- Hy-Gain vertical antenna with 100' of RG-8U coax- asking \$150.

5- A 20-foot tower. Asking \$50.

Almost all is in great shape.

Jack Froehlich Jr., W2AF; 16 Railroad Avenue, Cedar Brook, NJ, Winslow Twp. I can be reached at 609-567-1213 or 609-352-9696 or e-mail at [w2af at comcast dot net](mailto:w2af@comcast.net) for information. I am moving and can't have towers or outside antennas so I'm interested in selling.



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),
 Shirts are \$28 (S,M,L,XL), Hats are \$25 (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.

May Meeting:**Is the **fourth** Wednesday, May 23, 2018**

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 May:

Field Day Prep by Ken, K2WB

SJRA Member June Birthdays

June Birthdays are: William Bowen, KD2DOP; Dennis Cioffi, AC2FO; Mario Dianora, N2AK; Roy Herman, WB2EOD; Jonathan MacMillan, W2MC; Robert Novelle, W2RWN; Jean Priestly, KA2YKN and Raymond Smith, KD2FMX.

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

June Meeting:**Is the **fourth** Wednesday, June 27, 2018****First Class Mail**

South Jersey Radio Association
15 Pelham Road
Marlton, NJ 08053

