



# HARMONICS

1916

South Jersey Radio Association

2020



## President's Message

Ken- K2WB



The summer is going to be over well before we know it. Field Day 2020 is over and a good interesting memory. Some of us are already looking forward to Field Day 2021.

As the summer draws to a close, you should look carefully at your antenna farm and it may be time to start planning on any improvements or repairs that could be done while the weather is still pretty good.

While working on your projects always think of safety and get assistance for big jobs. Use the right tool for the right job and never climb a tower without the spotters, climbing gear and ground help.

Always be extra careful while working on older towers. Putting them up is safer

because everything is new. After 20-30 years the story can be very different.

During the transition of our Web Site we had to prioritize our work. The Members only area is the most difficult area and requires the most maintenance with membership. To that end we have adopted Hamclubonline.net. See the article in this issue for details.

Some of our members will put a big station on the air on top of a 2200 ft mountain in FN21 this September. They will be operating as W2EA and will be operating 50 MHz to 1.2 GHz. If you have VHF gear, point your antennas north. The W2EA team promises to point their antennas to the south.

If you have any ideas or projects that you would like to see the club get involved with, contact any board member or club officer.

Enjoy the rest of the summer and I hope to see you on the air soon

73's

de Ken K2WB

President SJRA

## 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 12, 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 Rooms 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](http://www.sjra.org) or from Art Arnold, N2CPR, Email: [membership@sjra.club](mailto:membership@sjra.club). SJRA's web page: [www.sjra.club](http://www.sjra.club)

SJRA VE Team: ve at [sjra.club](http://sjra.club) 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.club> ★  
 ★ South Jersey ARRL Section News is available on the WEB at: ★  
 ★ <http://www.arrl.org/Groups/view/southern-new-jersey> ★  
 ★ \*\*\*\*\*

**Officers:**

**President:** Ken Botterbrodt, K2WB

**Vice Pres.:** John Doran, W2FDJ

**Treasurer:** Roy Herman, WB2EOD

**Rec. Sec:** Carl Hyde, W2CSH

**Cor. Sec:** Dennis Cioffi, AC2FO

**Directors:**

Art Arnold, N2CPR

Tony Canuso, N2ATB

Holden Correia-Fisher, KD2JVP

Matt Grohgans, N2IDW

Rick Lawn, W2JAZ

Frank Longbottom, AA2AW

Al Witner, N3AVT

**Committees:**

**Historian:** Mark Walters, KD2JPW

**Membership:** Art Arnold, N2CPR

**Field Day:** Ken Botterbrodt, K2WB

**Contests:** John Doran, W2FDJ

**Repeater:** Robert Sunbury, K2UQ

**Programs:** Carl Hyde, W2CSH

**H&W:** Roy Herman, WB2EOD; and

Dara Herman, KC2THQ

**Awards:** Vacant (Please Volunteer)

**Hospitality:** Jean Priestley, KA2YKN

**Nets:** Matt Grohgans, N2IDW

**Publicity:** John Johns, KD2RKA

**Picnic:** Vacant (Please Volunteer)

**Ways & Means:** Roy Herman, WB2EOD

**Property:** Frank Longbottom, AA2AW

**Web Site:** Ken Botterbrodt, K2WB

**Harmonics Staff:**

**Publisher/Editor:** Al Ziegler, KD2ST

**Alternate Editor:** Ted Groke, N8MP

**Circulation:** Jim Vecchiola, KR2T

**LOCAL WEEKLY NETS** (See Website for latest updates)

Mondays FM Net	K2AA Repeater, PL: 91.5	145.290 @ 8PM
Fusion on 2 <sup>ND</sup> & 4 <sup>TH</sup> Thurs.	K2AA Repeater, DN mode	145.290 @ 8PM, Fusion
6M SSB on 1 <sup>st</sup> Thurs.		50.150 MHz USB @ 8PM
2M SSB on 3 <sup>RD</sup> Thurs.		144.260 MHz USB @ 8PM

**Harmonics Deadline**

Articles submitted for the next Harmonics will be accepted until Monday, September 7, 2020. Email:

[harmonics@sjra.club](mailto:harmonics@sjra.club)

**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.

## SJRA Equipment Inventory

AI – KD2ST

On Saturday morning, July 25<sup>th</sup>, Frank, AA2AW, SJRA's property manager, along with some volunteers got together to take inventory of the club's antennas, towers, masts, feedlines and accessories. In addition to updating the inventory list, all equipment and components were labeled. This equipment is primarily used at our field day event and housed in the club trailer.

Thanks to the number of volunteers that showed up, the task of pulling all of the equipment from the trailer, taking inventory

and putting everything back into the trailer went quickly.



## SJRA FD 2020 AGGREGATE SCORE

AI, KD2ST



Due to the special circumstances this year, the ARRL will be publishing an aggregate club score which will be the sum of all individual entries indicating a specific club.

This year we had ten club members participate in Field Day using their own call signs (these club members are listed in the table on page seven of this issue).

The aggregate club score is:

Station	# Q's	Total Points
K2AA	1,773	7,294
Total of Individual Members	714	2,505
<b>Aggregate Total</b>	<b>2,487</b>	<b>9,799</b>

The individual club members boosted the overall score by about a third which is a significant contribution.

The Field Day Committee would like to thank all members that participated in FD this year.



## SJRA Net News

The SJRA would like to remind our members of additional nets we host on our repeaters.

On the **5th Monday of a month**, we will hold a FM Net at 8:00pm on the K2AA Repeater, 145.290 MHz -600 PL 91.5 Hz.

On the **5th Thursday of a month**, we will hold a System Fusion Digital net at 8:00pm on the K2UK Repeater, 146.865 MHz -600 PL 131.8 Hz.

We hope you'll be able to join us and don't forget to visit the [Club Calendar](#) to view upcoming events and the latest news.



**Ham Club Online**  
Amateur Radio Club Management System

Member Login:  
Callsign:  Password:    
(Forgot Password?) | (Register New)

Home Features FAQ Club Payment Beta Info Uptime Status Changes Contact

POWERFUL, EASY-TO-USE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB MANAGEMENT SYSTEM.

## Ham Club Online

AI, KD2ST

Most of the membership should be aware that the SJRA website is going through a major overhaul. The web team has prioritized the various areas of the web site and is currently working to keep the progress going.

For over a year the BOD has been investigating a better way to manage the online roster and manage membership. To that end we have decided to use hamclubonline.net to manage the membership part of the web page.

To get to it will be easy, simply click on the members only area tab on the website and you will be redirected to the log on screen of Ham Club Online.

You will notice that the first great thing about this is that “You” manage your password and log in credentials.

Also, you can control what other members see about you in the club roster, by managing your own profile. You can even change your email address

The members only section will have several features that we had in the past plus

additional new features. Some of the many benefits provided by Ham Club Online include:

- Access to current and previous issues of Harmonics.
- Membership roster.
- Send email messages/announcements to club management or groups within the club.
- Update and maintain your own profile including skills and interests.
- Club event tracking.
- Membership renewal notifications.
- On Line Membership applications
- Pay club dues online via automatic secure credit card process.

And more...

Members will be receiving an email invite to join Ham Club Online in the near future. Please register to be able to access the above features, it is important that you complete your registration so that the 2021 membership renewals can be managed.

There will be a demonstration of the Ham Club Online system at the August General Membership Meeting.

## Articles Needed

AI, KD2ST

We are always in need of articles for the Newsletter. If you have any amateur radio related news, information, experiences or projects that you would to share, please consider adding your article to next month's SJRA Harmonics.

The article does not have to be long and we will help with editing and layout if needed.

Please email your submission to:

[harmonics at sjra dot org](mailto:harmonics@sjra.org)

## New Members

The SJRA would like to welcome the following new member to our Club:

- Theresa Inacker, N2VVT

## SJRA is Now on Facebook

For those who have not heard, we have a SJRA group page on Facebook. It allows us to share files/pictures, demonstration videos, announcements, reminders, etc. If you are active on Facebook, please join us and invite any prospective SJRA members to do the same.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/SJRA.K2AA/>



## SJRA Membership Drive

Attention SJRA Members: Sign up two new members by December 31, 2020 and get your 2021 Membership free.

For additional information please contact Art, N2CPR or email:

**Membership at *sjra dot club***

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

Email: [harmonics at sjra dot club](mailto:harmonics@sjra.org) with your listing.

## Radio Sport aka Contests

John, W2FDJ, johnd152 at Verizon dot net

### Member's Activities:

Please send your thoughts and ideas to me at [johnd152 at Verizon dot net](mailto:johnd152@verizon.net) for publication.

### ARRL Field Day Updated List (was June 27-28)

Individual club members that operated with their call signs and submitted to ARRL with SJRA as their club affiliation:

Operator	# Q's	Total Points
Joe, K2WJL	130	260
Joe, KC2SGV	105	155
Dom, KD2EPM	83	332
Holden, KD2JPV	5	10
Karl, KD2SSE	28	84
Bob, KE2D	50	332
Tony, N2ATB	203	862
Bob, N2SCJ	65	180
Jon, W2MC	26	202
Owen, WA2WTF	19	88
<b>Totals:</b>	<b>714</b>	<b>2,505</b>

### IARU HF World Championship (July 11-12)

Operator	# Q's	Total Points
Dom, KD2EPM	140	11,712

### North American QSO Party CW (August 1-2)

Operator	# Q's	Total Points
John, W2FDJ	227	19,976
Frank, AA2AW	50	1,650
Dom, KD2EPM	39	1,092

**Upcoming Contests** – see [arrl.org](http://arrl.org) or [contestcalendar.com](http://contestcalendar.com) for rules and more details. Also check the calendar on SJRA website for the latest and links to the contest rules.

#### Every Tuesday only

**Phone Frey** 10:30-11pm. (yes 30 min) (ten weeks – 4 times a year).

#### Every Wednesday only

**CWops Mini-CWT test** 9-10am, 3-4pm, 11pm-12am (three one hr. sprints).

#### Every Thursday only

**NCCC Sprint** 10:30-11pm. (yes 30 min.).

#### Every Thursday only

**NCCC RTTY Sprint** 9:45-10:15pm. (30 min.).

(Continued on page 8)

*(Radio Sport Continued from page 7)*

**North American QSO Party, SSB:** 8/15-16, Sat 2pm - 2am Sunday. HF - SB.

**50 Mhz Fall Sprint:** 8/22, Sat 7pm EDT to Sat 11pm. 6 mtr . Mode not specified.

**World Wide Digi DX Contest:** 8/29-30, Sat 8am - 8am Sun. HF - FT4/8

**ARRL Sept VHF Contest:** 9/12-14, Sat 2pm EDT to Sun 11pm. 50 Mhz and up. All modes

**Looking Longer Range:**

**NJ QSO Party:** 9/19-20, 12pm to Mid-night. HF; All modes.

**144 Mhz Fall Sprint:** 9/21, Mon 7pm EDT to 11pm. 2mtr; Mode not specified.

**CQ Worldwide DX Contest RTTY:** 9/25-26, Fri 8pm - Sun 8pm EDT. HF; RTTY

**222 Mhz Fall Sprint:** 9/29, Tue 7pm to 11pm. 222 Mhz. Mode not specified.

**VE Report**

VE sessions have been postponed due to the Covid 19 situation. The VE sessions will resume once it is safe to do so.

Total New or Upgrades to Date			
Tech	General	Extra	Total
168	82	41	291

**The 300<sup>th</sup> person to obtain an initial license or upgrade with the SJRA VE team wins free SJRA Membership for one year!**

**Meeting Minutes**

The meeting minutes were not available for this edition.

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# PRINTING

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## Securing PowerPole Connectors

Dan Romanchik, KB6NU

In preparation for this year's Field Day, I made a bunch of cables with PowerPole connectors to connect the solar panel, charge controller and batteries that I used. If you're not familiar with PowerPoles, you might want to [check out this YouTube video](#). They're really great connectors, and have become the DC connector of choice for many hams.



When I make up PowerPole cables, I normally don't bother trying to secure the two halves together, especially if you're using some decently heavy gauge wire. They fit together pretty tightly, and don't come apart easily. Even so, I think securing them together is a good idea. You can buy a little roll pin to insert between the red and black housings that is supposed to prevent them from coming apart, but many folks complain that the pin has a tendency to fall out. This not only defeats the purpose, but could also damage your equipment.

Securing them is the right thing to do, though, and I recently came across some great suggestions on how to do this in the daily digest that I receive from the Elecraft-KX mailing list. Here are the best tips from the thread, [Securing Anderson Power Poles](#):

- Rudy, K8SWD: You can thermally bond the red and black housings with a soldering iron like you are making little welds on both sides. Permanent

(mostly) but it works better than the roll pins. Just clean the tip really good before soldering!

- Dave, K0CDA: [Anderson] also make connectors that are thermally bonded together in pairs. They do NOT come apart.
- Don, W3FPR: I use a drop of Super Glue on the junction of the plastic pieces. Warning - that glue grabs quickly, so slide the 2 pieces only enough to start the assembly, then apply the drop of glue and quickly finish sliding them together. I have never had ones prepared like that come apart, and I don't use roll pins. I will say one more thing - use only the genuine APPs. I have seen some knockoffs that do not mate well.
- Greg, KC9NRO: Take a hot soldering iron. Wipe the tip with sponge. Run the tip down both side of APP bonding the black and red sides together. Clean soldering iron tip and apply some solder to tip. That's how I roll. Never comes apart
- Mike, AI4NS: PVC cement will soften the plastic enough to bond them together. You can also get plastic welding rods, such as Daindy Plastic Welding Rods. Chuck a rod in a Dremel and weld them together. I have made plastic boxes and panels using this method.
- Jack, WD4E: Snip the cotton end off a Q-tip, cutting at an angle. Insert into hole made for roll pin, cut off excess, save remainder of Q-tip for next requirement.

*(Continued on page 10)*



## 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 \$20 (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 third Wednesday of each month, except Nov & Dec. TBD. The location is: New Brooklyn United Methodist Church; 1336 E. Malaga Rd. Williamstown, NJ 08094. Registration is at 7:00 PM and testing begins at 7:30 PM. Walk-ins are accepted.

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

**August Meeting (On-Line):  
Is the Fourth Wednesday, August 26, 2020**

The meeting commences promptly at 7:30 PM in the convenience of your own home via Webex.

**Program For August:**

Please refer to the website calendar for the latest details.

**SJRA Member September Birthdays**

September birthdays are: Gerald Blachniak, KD2KIA; Donald Cavallaro, KD2EHE; Alan Cohen, WA3ZKI; Matthew Grohgans, N2IDW; Alan Handley, K3WWT; John Hill, W2HUV; Craig Martin, N2ASU; John Mulvey, N2ADE; Dominic Sacca Jr., KD2EPM; Gary Smith, KD2RGG; Lorraine Thone, KD2QHZ; Michael Tolotta, W2OSD

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

**September Meeting:  
Is the Fourth Wednesday, September 23, 2020.**

**First Class Mail**

South Jersey Radio Association  
15 Pelham Road  
Marlton, NJ 08053

