

# **SOUTHERN COUNTIES AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION, INC.**

## **K 2 B R**

### **Amateur of the Year 2021**

The Amateur of the Year Award was originated by John Struckell, Chief Engineer and General Manager of radio station WFPG. In his memory, Southern Counties Amateur Radio Association has continued the presentation of this award, now in its 60<sup>th</sup> year. The person selected is recognized as outstanding for their efforts and contributions resulting in the furtherance of Amateur Radio and anticipated continued activity. Each year's honoree is selected by a panel of past recipients based on their personal knowledge of the candidate's radio activities and recommendations from the amateur radio community.

This year's honoree is an active participant in many club activities including Field Day, annual Lighthouse Events, and work groups to maintain, repair and update club equipment. He has demonstrated he is easy to approach to answer technical questions about many aspects of modern day ham radio. He embraces and is proficient in the technology for both analog and digital modes including D-Star, System Fusion and DMR.

He is a member of the SCARA Board of Directors, Co-Chairman of the SCARA Repeater Committee and Assistant Emergency Coordinator for Atlantic County ARES (Amateur Radio Emergency Service). He is also Digital Communications Coordinator for Atlantic County AUXCOMM (Auxiliary Communications).

He has helped implement numerous improvements to the club's repeater system and changes to the SCOM 7330 repeater controller. These changes include the addition of EchoLink and AllStar capability. He has programmed the SCOM 7330 to automatically link the VHF and UHF repeaters for the AUXCOM Net, SkyWarn Net, and the daily Breakfast Net. He has enabled ARRL News broadcasting on Saturdays prior to the 9 AM Breakfast Net and added interesting daily nets such as the Alaska Net to our previously underused UHF repeater.

Recently, he identified several problems involving our APRS (Automatic Packet Reporting System) station. He presented a solution to the problem and received approval to proceed. The APRS station is now up and running with new hardware and software, performing better than it has in years.

Our honoree is sensitive to needed projects and improvements to address. He was instrumental in the concept of adding a remote transceiver (HF, VHF, UHF) to the EOC radio room for club members to use. This allows members who may have restrictive Home Owner Association rules to "get on the air."

He offers to assist other members of the club with maintaining and improving their station equipment.

Some of his other activities include going portable with his Elecraft KX3 to operate as a Parks on the Air or Summits on the Air station. He is also proficient in making amateur radio satellite and ISS contacts.

This year's honoree was first licensed in 2018 and upgraded to General class a month later.

He has proven himself to be invaluable to the future of ham radio and doesn't shy away from challenges.

We have only just begun to see what our honoree can do for amateur radio.

He and his wife Amanda, reside in Egg Harbor Township.

It is with great pleasure that SCARA presents the 60<sup>th</sup> Amateur of the Year Award to

**Jason A. Schollenberger KD2QED**