



# SCARA NEWSLETTER

## NOVEMBER 2014



Celebrating over 50 Years Affiliation with the ARRL

SCARA P.O. Box 121 Linwood, NJ 08221

Repeaters 146.745 MHz PL 142.6 and 448.775MHz PL 118.8

### Meeting Notice

Our next regular club meeting will be held on Thursday, November 13th, 7:30 PM. at the Canale Training Center. **Plenty of room, conversation and refreshments for everyone!**

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### Meeting Report September 11th, 2014

The meeting started at 7:30pm and all committee reports were given. Whoever ordered a jacket please come to this meeting to pick them up. If you miss the meeting contact Bob WA2YSA. His contact info is on the last page of the newsletter. Also, elections are right around the corner; please put your thinking caps on for the next group of officers.



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### Elections/Nominations

Well it is that time again. At the December meeting we will be electing new officers and board members. If you want to make a difference or get more active with the clubs events come to the meeting and let's hear your voice.

### Are knobs and buttons toast? By Dan Romanchik, KB6NU

In a recent column on EETimes ([http://www.eetimes.com/author.asp?doc\\_id=1324283](http://www.eetimes.com/author.asp?doc_id=1324283)), an old colleague of mine, Martin Rowe, says, "Knobs and buttons are slowly on their way out. Get used

to it." He's referring to the controls on oscilloscopes, but if he were a ham, he might just as well be talking about amateur radio transceivers, too.

We already see this happening in amateur radio. FlexRadio, and a couple of other companies, already make transceivers with no front panel controls. You must have a computer to use them.

Might we even start to see this with handheld and portable equipment? For example, how much cheaper could they make a Baofeng if to use it, you had to also have an Android or iPhone app to act as the human interface?

To be honest, I haven't really thought about this much myself. I'm enough of a dinosaur to still prefer buttons and knobs, but having to use on-screen controls certainly doesn't turn me off. Rowe claims, however, that "as the old-timers retire (or in our case as older hams become SKs), younger engineers (or young hams) will expect every user interface to function like a phone or tablet. Don't believe me? Just wait."

I got several interesting replies to this idea on my blog. Bill, AD8BC says, "What would be fun would be an open-source mobile radio. I picture an RF deck with a Raspberry Pi and touch screen for control, the Pi would simply tell the RF deck where to tune and handle the interface and scanning functions, it would ship with a stock app,

### SCARA 2014 Monthly Calendar

**AUXCOM-SKYWARN Nets:**  
Mondays 7 PM on  
146.745 MHz, K2BR /R

**SCARA VHF KISS Net:**  
Every Thursday 7:00 PM on K2BR  
Repeater

**SCARA HF Net:** Sun. Nov. 16,  
10:00 AM 3.928 MHz +/- QRM

**Board Meeting:** To be announced

**VE Test Session:** 1st Thursday each  
month 6:30 PM, testing begins at  
7:00 PM at Canale Center. Pre-  
registration is required!

**RACES Net:** Nov 24, 7:00 PM  
Canale Training Center

but you could make your own. Built in support for SDR stuff, packet, APRS, remote operation...."

Most commenters, however, even the younger guys, still seem to prefer analog controls. Lucien, DH7LM, says, "I'm a newly licensed ham and I like both – experimenting with advanced computer stuff like SDRs and the great feeling a real radio provides!" Grant, KJ6ZZD, says, "Knobs perform some tasks better than a screen can. Knobs provide some tactile feedback that a screen just can't."

So, what do you think? Are knobs and buttons toast, or do you think there's still some life left in analog controls?

### Reminder

A reminder to all, you can get the latest local weather and severe weather reports from:

<http://www.nhc.noaa.gov/>

### Special Events

The time is almost here and what might that be is the Club Dinner. The club dinner will be held again at the Crab Trap in Somers Point. Please keep an eye open for additional information to follow.

### Monthly VE Test Sessions

On the first Thursday of each month SCARA holds a VE test session. For information call Larry, KB2MN, 609-287-5340. The test location is the Canale Training Center, 5033 English Creek Ave, Egg Harbor Twp., NJ 08234. The doors open at 6:30 PM and testing begins at 7:00 PM. Pre-registration is required. Be sure to bring your photo I.D.

and current license if you are upgrading to a higher license class. The current testing fee is \$15



### Dues

Annual dues are \$20 single, \$25 family. If you have not paid your dues, you have been removed from the email list. To re-up, mail dues to SCARA P O Box 121, Linwood, NJ 08221, or give dues to treasurer Bob Webb, WA2YSA.

### November Contests

All ARRL contests for 2014 can be viewed by following the link below. A generic ARRL contest calendar is also provided that gives the weekends for all their events, to assist with long-term planning of your contest operations. The Contest Corral files also include non-ARRL events.

<http://www.arrl.org/files/file/Contest%20Corral/Contest%20Corral%201411.pdf>

### Swap Shop

**Wanted:** Harry Cohen KD2AYT is looking for a 2 meter mobile or base.

**Reminder:** SCARA has an online amateur radio swap shop. Go to our website to see current listings. Listed items will run for 60 days. If the item is sold, please

notify me so I can remove it from the list. *If after 60 days, you want to continue the listing, you must notify me.* E-mail your "For Sale" and "Wanted" items to Larry KB2MN. [kb2mn@verizon.net](mailto:kb2mn@verizon.net)

### ?? Newsletter

A club newsletter is essential to successful club operations. They come in various shapes, sizes, styles, and content. The club newsletter is a "picture" of the club and reflects on the club operations. To produce a newsletter, an editor must understand the design, goals, writing techniques, assembly procedures, printing and distribution concepts. This Information Sheet will provide a thumbnail sketch of a club newsletter.

### *Purpose of the Newsletter*

The club newsletter is a communications tool of the club and is used to disseminate information to the club members. It serves to bond all club members together into a family

unit and keeps the members informed of all planned club activities and functions. The club newsletter builds interest in the club and its activities. It also can be of great assistance in obtaining membership involvement in club functions.

### *What is a Newsletter?*

A newsletter is a document that informs, announces, reminds, advises, instructs, advertises, and communicates. The club newsletter is a short publication that contains specific information about the club and the related dance community. It must be attractive to catch the eye of the club member and make the

member want to read it without laying it down. The newsletter should report on the recent club activities in a newsy fashion that will make absentee dancers wish they had not missed any club function. The newsletter should be written in a manner that the readers want to attend and participate in all future club sessions and activities. The contents must be accurate, factual, brief and imperial. The editor or writer must use good judgment in preparing a club newsletter and highlight the long range plans, short range plans, financial status, and other business activities of the club.

The newsletter should contain a schedule of future club, area, state and national events and report the status of club/class membership as to sickness, absentees, etc. The newsletter should also reflect praise to members, caller, cuer, workers, etc. that have provided support to the club. Avoid using the newsletter to voice personal criticism of the club.

### *Why a Newsletter?*

A club newsletter is needed to COMMUNICATE with the active, inactive, and absent club members. The newsletter will assure that "all" club members are aware of club plans and actions. It also provides advance schedules of club events so that the members can plan other family, work or home activities "around" existing scheduled dance

#### Club Information 2014

##### Officers

President:	Bill McCord	KC2ONQ	(609) 435-0598
Vice Pres:	Bill Schwoer	KC2AAY	(609) 892-7888
Treasurer:	Bob Webb	WA2YSA	(609) 646-6843
Secretary:	Mandy McCord	KC2QOG	(609) 435-0598

##### Board of Directors

Stan Friedman	WA3JMV	Arnie Oberson	W2OB
William Paulus	W2MWI	Bob Nicotera	KB2ERL
Tim Adams	KD2EGR		

##### Committee Chairs

<b>VE Coordinator</b>	Larry Schall KB2MN	<b>ARRL QSL Card Mgr</b>	Arnie Oberson W2OB
<b>Sunshine</b>	Bob Webb WA2YSA	<b>Dinner Chair:</b>	Harry Cohen, KD2AYT
<b>Refreshments</b>	KC2ONQ	<b>Field Day</b>	Bill Schwoer
<b>ARLHS Coordinator</b>	Ed Clark W2KP	<b>Repeater</b>	W2KP, KC2AAY
<b>Newsletter Editors</b>	Bill Schwoer KC2AAY, Bill Paulus KD2EOY	<b>Trustee:</b>	Bill Schwoer
<b>Newsletter Copy Ed.</b>	Nancy Jarrín N2ANG	<b>Web site Ed.</b>	Larry Schall KB2MN
<b>E-mail</b>	SCARA@k2br.com		
<b>SCARA Web</b>	<a href="http://www.k2br.com">http://www.k2br.com</a>		

**SCARA Annual Dinner**  
**January 9, 2015**

Our Annual dinner is at the Crab Trap. The Crab Trap is located in Somers Point, New Jersey where Shore Road, Mays Landing Road, MacArthur Blvd., and the Ocean City connector to the 9<sup>th</sup> St. Bridge, all come together. Phone (609) 927-7377.

The choices for the main entrée are:

- |                                  |   |
|----------------------------------|---|
| <b>Broiled Filet of Flounder</b> | <i>Broiled with white wine and lemon</i>  |
| <b>Famous Crab Cakes</b>         | <i>Made with lump crab, golden fried</i>  |
| <b>Roast Top Sirloin of Beef</b> | <i>House roasted served sliced with a Jardiniere gravy</i>  |
| <b>Chicken Parmigiana</b>        | <i>Breast of chicken hand breaded, golden fried, topped with Mozzarella cheese and tomato sauce</i> |

All dinners include appetizers during the cash bar, house salad, soup, bread, vegetable, potato, dessert, and coffee or tea.

The **cash bar** starts at 6:30 PM. **Dinner** will be served at 7:00 PM. The cost is **\$32.00 per person**, including tax and gratuity.

Please send your order form and check payable to **SCARA, PO BOX 121, Linwood, NJ 08221**.  
Dues for 2015 may be included with your dinner payment.

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(PLEASE PRINT)

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

**DINNER CHOICES**

**2015 DUES**

- |                               |                                 |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| ___ Broiled Flounder          |                                 |
| ___ Famous Crab Cakes         | Single Membership \$20.00 _____ |
| ___ Roast Top Sirloin of Beef | Family Membership \$25.00 _____ |
| ___ Chicken Parmigiana        |                                 |
| ___ Dinners @ \$32.00 = _____ | <b>Total Enclosed</b> _____     |

## **The Amateur of the Year Award**

This award was originated by John Struckell, Chief Engineer and General Manager of radio station WFPG. The Southern Counties Amateur Radio Association has presented it annually to one individual Amateur Radio Licensee selected by a duly appointed committee made up of former award recipients. The selected person will be chosen as outstanding for his or her effort and contributions of knowledge and understanding resulting in the furtherance of Amateur Radio. In memory of John Struckell, SCARA has continued the annual presentation of the award. The award is based not only on achievement, but also on anticipated activity. The amateur need not be a member of SCARA, so long as he or she is a resident of South Jersey and active in amateur radio.

Sealed recommendations are requested of the amateur radio fraternity two months prior to the annual meeting. The selection committee will meet in secret session, on a night other than a regular SCARA meeting night, to select the recipient of the award from among the sealed recommendations. Recommendations must be received no later than 21 days prior to the installation dinner. The committee's selection shall remain secret until the actual presentation is made at the annual SCARA banquet.

The honored radio amateur will retain possession of the plaque for one year, returning the plaque to the trustees of SCARA not more than fifteen days prior to the annual meeting of the year following. The award may not be made more than once to the same amateur except under extraordinary circumstances, and never shall the amateur receive the award two years in succession.

Southern Counties Amateur Radio Association  
Bylaw Article VII, Section 1

### **Past Award Recipients**

Irving Cohen (SK)	K2YYB	1962	Joseph H. Lee (SK)	N2CKM	1988
Robert Rosenberg (SK)	WA2OZQ <i>then N3BR</i>	1963	Robert Webb	WA2YSA	1989
Charles Bengal	W2TUR <i>now XE2TUR</i>	1964	Paul O'Donnell	WB2OYC	1990
Samuel Knox (SK)	WB2MRA	1965	Mark Adams	WB2JHG <i>now W2UR</i>	1991
Maryan Bouchard (SK)	K2BKG <i>now K2MB</i>	1966	George Bull	N2HWK	1992
Marvin Bobb	WA2SIP <i>now KD2MB</i>	1967	Alfred B. Schultz	KB2ET	1993
Carleton Thraser (SK)	W2SAS	1968	Jacob C. Kaferle (SK)	W2IFI	1994
Sam Nash (SK)	K2LZB	1969	James J. Pieklo	W2BYW	1995
Charles J. Hobart (SK)	K2CIR <i>then W2JH</i>	1970	Edward Clark	W2KP	1996
Anthony Butterhof	K2JOX <i>now N2NJ</i>	1971	Lawrence Schall	KB2MN	1997
Raymond Brooks	WB2FTD	1972	David J. Stackhouse (SK)	W2BHH	1998
S. Albert Segen (SK)	W2BP	1973	Nancy S. Jarrín	KC2BFM <i>now N2ANG</i>	1999
Arnold Oberson	W2BZL <i>now W2OB</i>	1974	Robert Pantazes	N2WRD <i>now W2ARP</i>	2000
John H. Dilks III	K2TQN	1975	Tom Hurst	AB2KP	2001
Jack Castree (SK)	WB2ASB <i>now K3IHA</i>	1976	Anne Duffy	KB2CIZ	2002
Robert Shapiro	K2MYS	1977	Art Holmes	W3ART	2003
Oscar M. Adams	WB2AIQ	1978	Bill McAdam (SK)	WM2Q	2004
Richard Snyder	WB2KNY	1979	Bob D'Imperio	N4XAT	2005
Steve Lucas (SK)	AF2X	1980	Lou Milone	KA2NTT	2006
James Main	K2PU	1981	Jim Buzzetta (SK)	W2BUZ	2007
Dennis Walsh	WA2GWS	1982	William Schwoer	KC2AAK	2008
Jesse Pagan	WA2PRY	1983	John Barbieri	K2JGB	2009
Jan Scheuerman (SK)	WB2JCE <i>now WA2YL</i>	1984	Fred Weber	AA2KI	2010
Mark Schoenthal	N2AHS	1985	Robert W. Schenck	N2OO	2011
Toni Bull	N2CYL	1986	Timothy J. Cwik	N2LTQ	2012
Fred Wahlquist (SK)	AA2P	1987	Stanley S. Friedman	WA3JMV	2013

**Please submit your nominations no later than Dec 15, 2014 to:**

SCARA, P.O. Box 121, Linwood, NJ 08221 or E-mail to: [scara@k2br.com](mailto:scara@k2br.com)