



Signals from SARA



WØJH

©2022 The Stillwater Amateur Radio Association

An ARRL Affiliate & Special Service Club

November
2022

www.radioham.org

Monthly Meeting Nov 12

The SARA Monthly Meeting is Saturday November 12. ARRL Dakota Division Director Bill Lippert ACØW will join us in-person and will provide an update on the ARRL and the Dakota Division. The meeting will also be streamed via ZOOM.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86784454072?pwd=Um95YU4wYnRLVVIOSStiYkIXUUJ3Zz09>

A quick note to all of the members who attended the Special Event at Split Rock:

Your membership entitles you to access SARA's Flickr web site for archived photos. We've been displaying our photos at this site for over 11 years. After many events before those years, a number of members took photos. The Club never had a place to store those photos where all of the members could look back in time and muse over them for their enjoyment.

If you've taken photos at the Special Event site at Split Rock, please consider sharing them with the Club members by forwarding a copy of them by email to me at kmlir.ag0h@gmail.com. I will upload them to the Flickr site along with others I've received. Our President will then send an email to you and all of the members with a link that you can click on to view all of our Club albums.

Thanks es 73,
Keith Miller - AGØH

Announcements

The regular monthly meeting returns on **November 12, 2022** in person & via Zoom. Start time: 9:20 AM, Boutwells Landing.

Meeting: Current Members will receive a meeting invitation via email from Joe, KCØOIO.

SARA's virtual monthly meetings are open to all.

SARA On the Air

Phone Round-Robin Ragchews/Nets
Times are Local - Central

- > 160/75m Ragchew
Nightly, 20:00; ~3.818 - 3.830 MHz
(Temporary until bands change)
Alternates: ~1.966 MHz & ~50.166 MHz
(USB)
- > Monday Morning 75m Ragchew
08:15; ~3.856 MHz
- > 2m Tuesday (TMT)
19:00; SARA 2m Repeater*
- > Sunday Fusion Digital Voice Hangout
19:00; SARA Repeater* 147.060+ MHz
DCS/DTCS 026 Normal or connect
via WIRES-X to W0JH-Room 63969

*SARA 2m Repeater:
147.060 MHz; Positive Offset;
DCS/DTCS 026 Normal or connect
via WIRES-X to W0JH-Room 63969.

Can't Find Us On the Air?
... Monitor SARA Repeater!

Upcoming SARA Meeting
Saturday, December 10

“Remembering the Edmund Fitzgerald” Special Event at Split Rock Lighthouse - OXB Thoughts & Overview



Another year for this event is now in the books. I'm not sure it seems like it was 18 years ago that we started this trek. A few of us at the first one are still around. We have definitely “raised the bar” on the way we run the event. Many things have changed but surprisingly, there's still a lot that's the same. We're not in the nice, modern Visitor's Center (opening and closing the electric eye doors and getting RF into the building's PA/speaker system!) But our temporary QTH at the State Park's Trail Center is very comfortable, spacious, warm and more than we could hope for. (Special TNX to the Split Rock Lighthouse State Park staff ... they're the greatest!)

Our ops and loggers are much more prepared to handle the pile up of hams trying to contact us. I guess the computer logging and our improved, consistent operating skills are maybe the biggest changes we've made. The total QSOs we logged this year on SSB is a bit over 1,000. (This is the raw number of contacts we made on voice communications; the digital QSOs and those made from our members' QTHs via WØF are not yet tallied.) That's pretty darn good, with two stations operating ~15 hours over the weekend. As in the past, our crew numbered ~20 ops plus a few spouse/guest attendees. I suspect you'll be seeing a full summary and breakdown of our Qs, bands, POTA entities, QSL requests, website visits, etc., etc. after Shel (NØDRX) finishes slicing and dicing all the data.

Unfortunately, this year, we lost a few SARA members: Tom (AD6QT sk) and John (N5JLZ sk) were regular attendees at Split Rock. And Ray (KØZZT sk) was always waiting at his radio from “the Soggy Bottom” of St. Paul Park to make the first, among many, contacts for the event. We honored our recent Silent Keys at our evening “Afterglow Networking/Critiquing” (aka The Manhattan Project) sessions by hoisting adult beverages to salute and remember them. Due to

prior commitments and scheduling conflicts, we were also missing a few other regulars including: Brad (VE3MXJ), Keith (AGØH), Greg (KØGW), John (W9LHG), Zack (AAØU) along with a few others. (Hey guys, let's get this event on your calendars early for 2023!)

I should mention the snack table had a wide assortment of goodies. From smoked salmon to Halloween candies, cheeses, meats, cookies and chips made it was a tough decision to choose from. However, I must say Denise Bonine (KAØBI Steve's XYL) made some oversize (QRO), fantastic scones and cookies! They were definitely a QRO favorite!! Speaking of good food, we had very nice meals at the Northwoods Family Grille in Silver Bay. The Friday evening "All You Can Eat Shrimp" was a big hit. Breakfast and dinner there on Saturday were equally satisfying.

Several photos of this year's event are included in the newsletter. The group photo taken on the rocky point overlooking the lighthouse is part of our QSL certificate each year. I must say, that shot doesn't do much to capture the cold, blustery conditions during the photo shoot! Waves hit the shore and sprayed ice cold Lake Superior mist close to us. Other photos will be posted later; you'll be alerted when and how to view them.

Before I go QRT (maybe only QRX?!), let me express my heartfelt gratitude to the 2022 attendees and TNX also to those who remained home (many of whom contacted us)!!

Cheers es 73,

OXB Dave













Day's end...

WØF Operation

By the time you read this, the WØJH Remembering the Edmund Fitzgerald from Split Rock Lighthouse, as well as the distributive WØF that same weekend will be over. Joe KCØOIO has routinely mentioned in his weekly email, the WØF call will also be available for SARA members to use on November 10th for the purpose of Remembering the Edmund Fitzgerald.

November 10th is the actual anniversary date that the Edmund Fitzgerald sank. It is possible the newsletter will be published prior to that date, and if so, any SARA member can participate, by using SignUpGenius, which is used to schedule and track WØF operation:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4CA4AC2BA0FFC43-remembering2>

All WØF logs are to be sent as an adi file to my below email address as soon as possible.

Shel NØDRX

n0drx@hotmail.com

Membership

As of November 1 st , these folks have demonstrated continued support for SARA with early and timely dues submission. I anticipate more dues will be coming in prior to as well as in person at the monthly meeting on November 12th. We thank all who have renewed memberships early. We do accept advanced renewals, and a few who are already current for 2023, have also paid memberships as far ahead as 2027. Contact me directly with any membership questions, as well as any information updates, so we can keep the roster current. Addresses, emails, phone numbers, ARRL memberships, call sign changes as well as license class upgrades all should be current on the roster.

Dues for regular membership is \$20/yr and associate/family membership is still \$10/yr.

Call First Last Name

ADØSN	Rich	Smith
AGØH	Keith	Miller
KAØOBI	Steve	Bonine
KB9WTB	Ron	Jansen
KBØJER	Jerry	Berreth
KC9GEJ	Dan	Wayner
KCØDWZ	Don	Zvareck
KCØOIO	Joe	Heitzinger
KD3VIN	Devin	Lydon
KD9OIV	Dan	Jones
KDØEAP	Greg	Schroeder
KDØHRM	Scott	Parker

KDØHRN	Candee Parker
KDØJTG	Jacob Heitzinger
KDØPKY	Mary Hill
KDØTOV	Mark Zappa
KDØWGH	John Kuzma
KEØGOM	Doug Plunkett
KEØIYF	Dan Stubbs
KEØIYN	Collin O'Connor
KEØN	Eliot Ricciardelli
KEØQAQ	Pam Jungwirth
KEØVOC	Scott Barkley
KFØDMG	Steve Speltz
KFØHZG	Bob Stirling
KFØIEX	Jim Garbe
KFØKPK	Steven Sweeney
KIØB	Jim Stemwedel
KØCFL	Carl Lindholm
KØGCP	George Power
KØHAS	Henry Schwartz
KØPU	Brian Edgell
KØSON	Bruce Jungwirth
KØZZT	Ray Pilgrim (SK)
N9EZC	Dick Miller
NØBM	Brian McInerney
NØCQ	Ken Newton

NØDRX Shel Mann
NØDXH Mary Mann
NØUC Dick Roberts
NØUHR Tom Voigt
VE3XT Paul Unger
W2YNT Vince Laraia
W9LHG John Lyon
WAØKKE Mike Knox
WAØTDA Pat Tice
WB9OKQ Lyle Miller
WBØMOA Gary Propp
WØDIK Dick Auld
WØNKA ShaneManzara
WØOXB Dave Glas

Shel NØDRX
n0drx@hotmail.com

Wanted to buy.....

WSPRlight Classic or WSPRlite Flexi

Contact Mike Paskeuric, NØODK

Windy City Legend - Part 2

By: Randy Olson KDØVKB

Last month we reminisced about Chicago - the Windy City and how it was once the technology center of the nation and home to many well recognized trademarks.

If you'll recall, in 1946 America was booming! With victory in Europe and the surrender of Japan, WWII was becoming a memory as this nation rushed to satisfy the demand for consumer level products. Few manufacturers took the time to revise their product line and offered merchandise similar to the postwar models. Hallicrafters was no exception. We talked about the acquisition of two of these vintage pieces, an SX-28 receiver that (after some sleuthing) needed a 6AB7 tube to come alive and an HT-9 transmitter with a history of its own.



Meanwhile, back at the ham shack, the vacuum tubes are quietly planning their take over once an EMP fries all the micro-electronics. No – wait! That's another story I'm working on.

Wait folks – there's more! Didn't think I'd let you off with just the story of the HT-9 and SX-28 – no, no, no, there's much more to this postwar shack than that. Peripherals – yes, you need peripherals. All that neat stuff that makes a ham shack unique. Well, the postwar world had lots of leftovers ready to remarket.



Sitting between the HT-9 and SX-28 is a HT-7 Frequency Standard and a SP-44 Panoramic scope. According to Hallicrafters promotional material, once the HT-9 was calibrated to WWV it could be used as a reference for “checking transmitter frequency and receiver calibration.” Waterfall – what's new about a waterfall display? The SP44 scope provides a look 100 Khz up and down

from the tuned frequency, all on a 2-inch CRT.

The SX-28 receiver gives life to sound through a PM-23 speaker. “PM” stands for permanent magnet on the enclosed ten-inch Jensen-made speaker. The speaker utilizes an internal 5KΩ matching transformer. This odd configuration couples the 5KΩ output of the receiver's push-pull amplifier to the impedance of the speaker – but at the same time precludes the speaker's use with many other brands of radios.

Nestled next to the PM-23 speaker is a [RE-1 Sky Courier troop morale](#) three-band receiver.

Originally designed to provide entertainment for distant military locations, this receiver boasted almost continuous coverage from AM broadcast through 19MHz. Marketed to outdoorsmen after the war as a great companion on extended hunting trips, the supply must have quickly sold out as my 1946 catalog has an overprint of "Production Suspended" on the ad. Whereas Zenith was also producing the first generation of the Transoceanic as a morale radio, they employed a straightforward circuit design. Hallicrafters, however, employed a different amplifier circuit for either battery or AC use. Talk about a nightmare to undo someone's hacked replacement speaker and my efforts to get the original dual circuitry operational!



Complimenting this set-up is the human vocal interphase – OK, microphone. It's an early Astatic D-104. Originally conceived in 1933, the overall appearance of this iconic mic changed little over its nearly 70-year production run. This particular mic has a riveted nameplate on top of the head, indicating a manufactured date sometime between fall 1938 and the cease of civilian electronics production in early 1942. Also, because the transmitter is keyed by a toggle switch on the



switch on the front panel there is no push to talk lever and the cord exits the column through an adapter located just under the head.

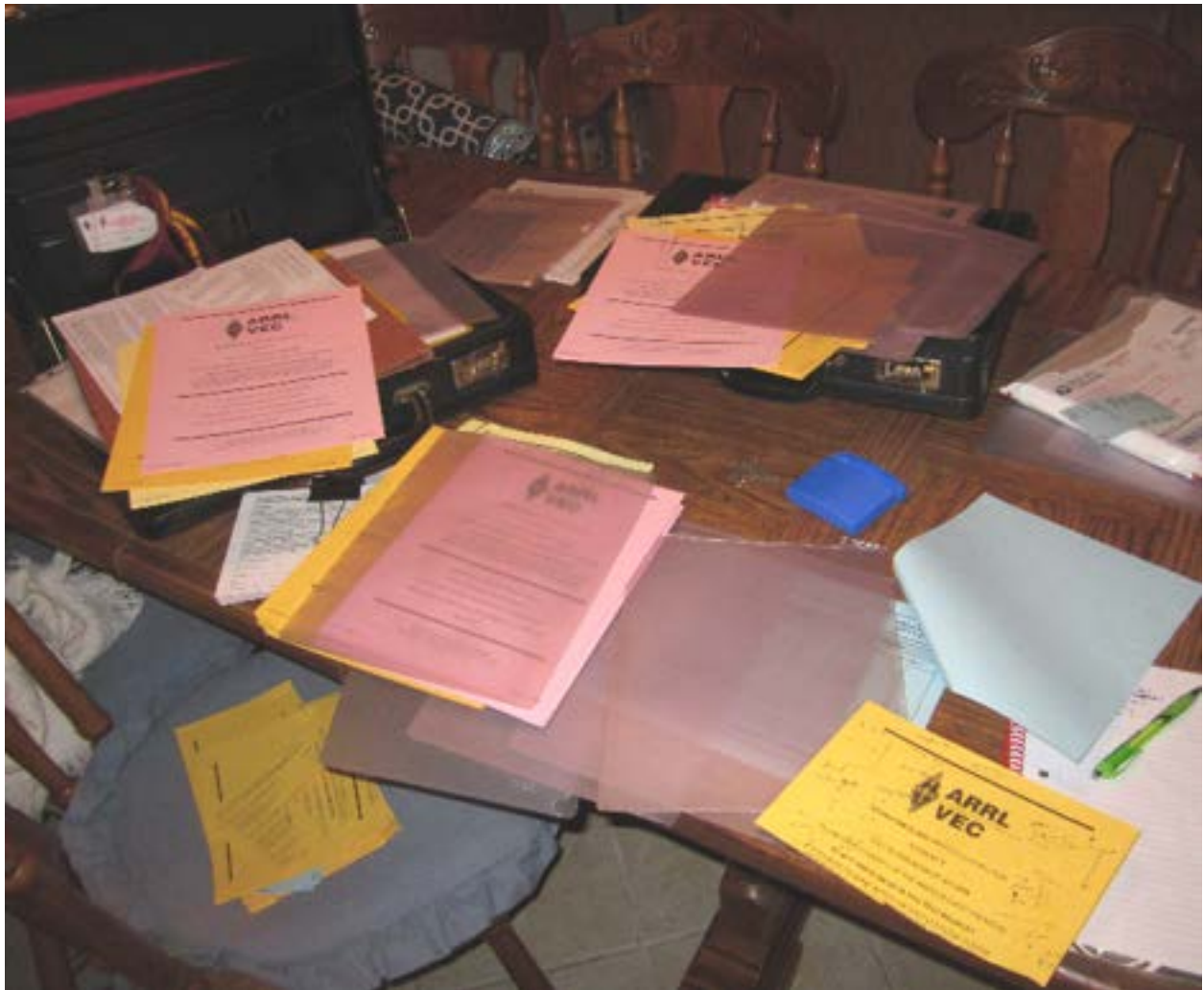
Well that's about it... except for the reverberating sound from the HT-9 that I can hear in my imagination once I shut my shack down.

"CQ CQ this is W9WZE Bill Halligan, Chicago, calling CQ and standing by."

73, everyone!

Randy, KDØVKB

VE Session: November 17



As our next VE session is rapidly approaching, I decided to include a photo of some of the pre-exam chaos. Exam materials are now in order, and the VE Team is set for the November 17th exam session at Boutwells Landing. Check in for examinees should be set up by ~5:30pm, with exams scheduled to begin at 6pm. Exams for all ham license levels will be available, and pre-registration is requested. Contact me at the below email with any questions, or to register for the exam session.

Shel NØDRX
n0drx@hotmail.com

Remote Base Station Update - November 2022

Patrick Tice, wa0tda@arrl.net



Stations WØZSW, WAØTDA, and WØEQO are up and running.

The WØZSW antenna is back up again in a temporary configuration after squirrel and wind damage brought it down. We hope to relocate the WØZSW station next year, as I have three HF stations here at my Woodbury QTH and antenna space (and spacing!) is limited.

WØF on WØZSW

As has been reported, Eliot, KEØN, and I have been running an experiment to operate FT8 on one of the stations, WØZSW. Thanks to this, Eliot has been able to operate using the special event callsign WØF on FT8. I was able to work WØF with a pretty good signal report - not surprising since both stations are at my QTH! But at least I got in the logbook, right?

If you are familiar with FT8, you know that it requires precise computer timing. This requirement makes FT8 a poor choice for remote HF operation because the delays associated with sending control signals over the internet add up and mess up the timing between the remote user's PC and the remote rig's control PC. That means if the remote user tries to run the WSJT software on their own PC while sending commands to one of the remote stations using the RCForb software, they will likely fail to complete many FT8 contacts.

Remotehams users will see that the station is "in use" by KEØN, as reported on the RCForb software that is in use on all the stations. When the FT8 session is finished the station returns to normal remote service.

Contact Pat at wa0tda@arrl.net for transmit access or for help. Information and videos, along with a quick start guide are available here:

<http://tice.us/wa0tda/>

Upcoming events

- **November Meeting: Saturday, November 12, 2022 - Boutwells Landing 9:00 AM (Don't arrive early) 13575 58th Street North, Oak Park Heights**
Early birds: 7:30 AM Breakfast/Coffee Pre-meeting: Perkins Restaurant (2050 Frontage Rd, Stillwater)
 - **Boutwells Landing – WEAR Mask in Lobby!**
- **Sunday, November 13 - 7:00 PM Sunday Fusion.** SARA's digital voice hangout is every Sunday evening. Sunday Fusion makes use of the System Fusion C4FM digital voice capabilities of the SARA repeater along with WIRES-X and YSF connectivity. This informal hangout is for those who want to explore the System Fusion capabilities of their radios.
- **Thursdays, ~6:00 – 8:00 PM EyeBall QSO Parties** Stillwater Public Library
- **Thursday, Nov. 17 VE Exam Session** at Boutwells Landing, The Gables starting at 6:00 PM
- **Thanksgiving Day Thursday, Nov. 24:** NO Eyeball QSO Party
- **Friday, Nov. 25 Special Thanksgiving “Virtual Manhattan Project”** via Zoom
- **December Monthly Meeting** Saturday, December 10 9:00 AM (Don't arrive early)

SARA Connections:

We offer multiple ways to stay connected with SARA. They include: groups.io, YouTube, Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.

SARA groups.io: <https://groups.io/g/StillwaterMNAmateurRadioAssoc>

SARA YouTube Playlists: Technical Topic Thursday SARA Monthly Meetings

SARA on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/527705810939785>

SARA on Instagram: sararadioham

SARA on Twitter: @saraW0JH

SARA 2022 Officers

Joe Heitzinger, KCØOIO - President

Bob Jensen, WØGAF - Vice President

Dave Iverson, N9JNQ - Secretary

Rich Smith, ADØSN - Treasurer

Zack Zaccagnini, AAØU - 2021 & 2022 Director

Brad Harris, VE3MXJ - 2022 & 2023 Director

Trustee: Shel Mann, NØDRX

Note: The SARA Trustee officer is an appointed position; chosen by the elected officers

A Note from the Editors

This edition of the 2022 Signals from SARA news is produced on Google Docs using 100% recyclable electrons.

We welcome your article submissions. Don't worry about getting the spelling & grammar perfect - submit it anyway and we'll work it out. Please keep text and pictures separate, as this helps us with layout.

We can take most any format, but plain text is easiest to manage. Word docs are also fine, but we'd prefer to avoid formats like MS Publisher and PDF as submissions. Email wa0tda@arrl.net - Note that the old Comcast.net address is no longer checked.

