



# Signals from SARA

<b>WØJH</b>	©2019 The Stillwater Amateur Radio Association An ARRL Affiliate & Special Service Club <a href="http://www.radioham.org">www.radioham.org</a>	<b>December 2019</b>
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## Program: Ham Radio & Stage Rallies



Joe Hibberd, W3QLC, has been licensed since 1984, first as KA8UYG, then N8FZN as a Tech. He obtained his current call sign, which was originally his father's, when vanity call signs were first issued in 1996.

Joe has been active in stage rallies since 1971. He has been a driver, co-driver, marshal, control captain, net control operator, radio chief, and radio operator. In a stage rally, competitive driving takes place on closed roads or off the public highway. The emphasis of stage rallies is on speed and driving ability. The annual Ojibwe Forests Rally near Detroit Lakes and Park Rapids in August relies heavily on ham radio for course communications.

Joe is a member of SEMARC, SARA, Washington County ARES, and is a VE. He retired in 2015 from Ramsey County after a career of 40 years in environmental public health.

Joe is a charter member of SARA.

## Announcements

**Monthly Meeting:**  
December 14, 2019  
Meeting: 09:00  
[Boutwells Landing](#)  
Gables Wing  
Auditorium A  
(Lower Level)

**Program: Ham Radio & Stage Rallies - W3QLC**

**Pre-meeting: ~07:15 - 08:45**  
Breakfast & Coffee

[Perkins Restaurant](#)  
2050 Frontage Rd W  
Stillwater, MN

## SARA On the Air

**SARA Phone Roundtables:**  
**Daily @ 20:00 Local:**  
(*except* Tuesday & Thursday)  
1.966 MHz LSB +/- QRM  
(*alternates: 21.316 MHz or 50.166 MHz USB +/- QRM*)

Monday @ 09:00 Local:  
3.856 MHz LSB +/- QRM

**SARA Weekly Nets:**  
**Wednesday @ 21:00 Local:**  
SARA 2m Repeater  
147.060<sup>+</sup> MHz (Positive offset)  
**DCS/DTCS 026(Normal)**

**Digital Net:**  
**Sunday @ 19:00 Local:**  
3.58215 MHz USB  
(500-1000 Hz) on waterfall  
*Mode announced via email*

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



## Bandwidth from the President



### ***Greetings from my shack, de Joe KCØIO.***

Winter arrived ahead of Thanksgiving. I don't know about you, but by Sunday afternoon of Thanksgiving weekend, I was tired and sore from shoveling that wet snow!

November has been a tough month for SARA, with the loss of three of our members. Lew Buschmann ADØCK became a silent key on Nov. 3; Bill Eggers KDØOTB became a silent key on Nov 15, and Bill Unger VE3XT went silent on Nov 16. They will be missed by all who knew them. All three are memorialized in tributes elsewhere in this issue. Announcing the passing of a SARA member is one of the hardest things I have had to do as President. Compound that by 3 in very short order, and it doesn't get any easier.

I did get to spend more time in the shack over the extended weekend (I took Wednesday off as well so I didn't have to drive to work in the snowstorm.) I worked plenty of FT8 and was able to log new countries with Ghana (9G2HO – Ho Technical University) on 17 meters on Nov 27 and Mauritania (5T5PA Johannes) on 20 meters on Nov 29, both confirmed in LOTW. Also had contacts with stations in Brazil, South Africa, Finland plus Canada and Cuba. I also worked N1UL twice, on 20 meters on the 29th and on 30 meters on the 30th. N1UL is Dr. Ulrich Rohde who is well-known in the RF community and a partner in Rohde & Schwarz, a top-end manufacturer of RF test equipment. I downloaded the 2.1.1 release of WSJT-X, a bug-fix release and the next day downloaded the 2.1.2 release which fixed a Icom rig control bug introduced in 2.1.1! After only being able to get a maximum of 50 watts at full power level setting in WSJT-X, I found that I needed to increase the speaker volume level for WSJT-X in the Windows Sound Mixer and that resolved the limited power issue.

I've been a Ham Radio Deluxe user for many years now, purchasing HRD6 along with annual maintenance and support subscriptions. That is until the v6.7.0.244 release on Nov 9th. A rewrite of the logbook app introduced a number of bugs, chief among them to me was a bug that downloaded the entire eQSL confirmed contacts list instead of just the latest. With over 6700 QSOs logged, that's a long download! Within two days of the release, HRD was apologizing for creating more problems than they solved. Still waiting for the next update to fix it to get out of beta nearly a month later! Let's not even talk about the much anticipated panadapter display for some ICOM and YAESU rigs, what a letdown! That's it for me with HRD. My support subscription expires at the end

of December and I won't be renewing. A few months back I bought into Win4IcomSuite for a one-time cost of \$50. After taking the time to set-up Win4Icom, Com0Com, and OmniRig; I have the rig control software working seamlessly with WSJT-X, JTAAlert, FLDigi, and ACLog. Oh yeah, that's another change – from HRD Logbook to ACLog. The initial changeover was pretty simple and then I spent some time working on cleaning up LoTW and eQSL uploads and downloads. That process resulted in a finding a small number of QSOs that hadn't previously been uploaded followed by some new QSLs via LoTW and eQSL.

I also have dipped my toes into the world of Raspberry Pi and Raspian Linux. I acquired a Canakit Raspberry PI 4 kit and have assembled the RPi board and case along with the heat sinks and blower. I've learned to flash the microSD with Raspian Buster using Etcher. And I've powered up the Pi4 and gotten the initial setup completed. Next step is download and install ham radio software such as WSJT-X, FLDigi, FLRig, GridTracker, and others. I still need to decide if I want to set it up to run headless so I can access it from other devices via a web browser. One thing I did discover is that there was not a single wired mouse left in my house, every mouse on hand is wireless! A trip to the mini-Target in Highland solved that problem for less than \$10.

I want to wish each of you and your families a very Happy Holiday season, whether you celebrate Hanukkah, Christmas, Yule (Winter Solstice), Kwanzaa, Diwali or any I may have missed; and a very Happy New Year! May you be blessed with the joy and happiness the season brings! Oh, and maybe a new piece of gear this year!

For our Dec 14th meeting, Joe Hibberd W3QLC is presenting his program on Ham Radio and Stage Rallies. Joe has made this presentation to a couple of local clubs already and it has been well received. You cannot miss his bright yellow Subaru, nor can it be missed out on the rally course when Joe's sweeping the course! Don't forget the pre-meeting Breakfast will be at Perkins Restaurant 2050 W Frontage Rd (Hwy 36 & Washington) in Stillwater at 7:30 AM. The breakfast gang hopes to see you there!

73 es CUL, de Joe (KCØOIO)

DECEMBER						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31	1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11

## Club-built Generator RF Filters Do the Trick!

by Joe Heitzinger KCØOIO

During the recent North Shore Scenic Railroad railroad-mobile Special Event, spotted a small box inline with the power cable coming from the Honda generator providing power to the stations in caboose we were operating from. I questioned Jeff Nast KCØMKS about the box and he informed me that it was a RF Filter that he had researched and built to eliminate RF noise coming from his generator. This intrigued me. The iPower generator that was given to SARA last Christmas has been problematic with RF noise it generates. We found that if we keep the generator about 75 feet away from the radios, the noise is not a problem; but the when we run the extension cord back to the station, the noise level rises the closer one gets. Could this be the solution we're looking for?

Jeff sent me PDFs of 2 issues of the Arrowhead Radio Amateur Club newsletter from June and July 2016 that detailed Jeff's research and construction of his Generator RF Filter. After reading Jeff's articles, I set about procuring the necessary components to build up two of the filters. Four Type 31 Fair-Rite toroids were ordered and received from Mouser, I secured two 4" x 6" x 3" plastic enclosures, and cable clamps and 10-ft 12-gauge lighted end extension cords were purchased from Amazon. I drilled holes in the boxes for the cable clamps and installed the clamps. I also wrapped the toroids with electrical tape to prevent the possibility of shorting 110VAC to them should the wire insulation become damaged.



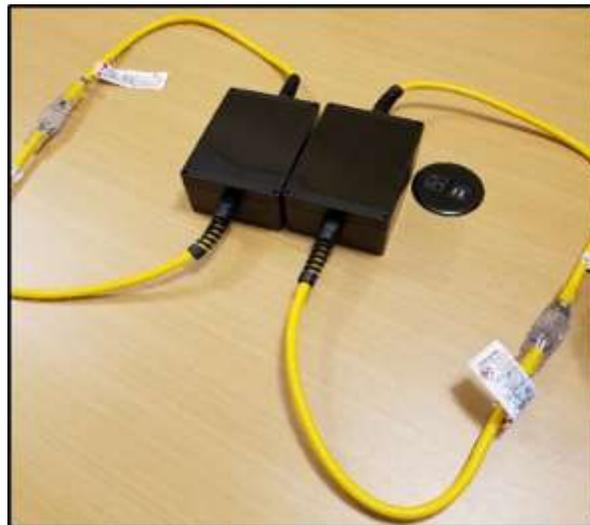
The next step was to bring all the parts to a Thursday Eyeball session and build them out as a group project. Working in 2 teams, we cut extension cords in half and stripped the outer jacket back leaving 3 feet of loose wires (white, black and green) to wrap around the toroids. The teams then wrapped the 12-gauge wires around the toroids for a total of 11 wraps per core and secured the wires with tie wraps. That was challenging as we had to run the cable through the cable clamps and into the boxes before we could wrap the toroids, plus the 12-gauge wires were hard to wrap around the cores. Heat shrink crimpable butt connectors were used to join the cords. The whole assemblies of two toroids per box were placed inside the boxes, the cables clamped and the covers installed.

The next step was to test them out and see if they worked. This was done during the Jamboree on the Air event on October 19. Placing the generator out by the trailer about 80 feet away from the radios in the cabin, there was no discernible noise to be heard or seen on the band scope display of an IC-7300. I was pretty pleased with the results. The final test would come at Split Rock.

The digital station was set up in the club's trailer for the weekend at Split Rock. The generator was placed about 60 to 65 feet away from the trailer and 75 feet of extension cord (50 feet of 14-2 and 25 feet of 12-2) brought the 110VAC to the trailer shore power connection. The initial setup used one of the filter boxes, but I was able to detect a little bit of RF noise coming from the radio's speaker. The 2nd filter was added inline and the noise was gone! We ran the generator the whole time the station in the trailer was active on Saturday and Sunday during the Special Event without any generator RF noise degrading reception on the IC-7300.



The generator RF filter project has been successful, and Mike NØODK liked it so much that he built his own version, going to the next level with a total of four toroids in one box, wrapped in pairs. Are you interested in building your own? I'm happy to send along the ARAC newsletters with the original articles along with ordering info for the toroids and cable clamps and extension cords. I can even provide you with a plastic NEMA4 enclosure (limited supply) for next to nothing! Just drop me a note at my callsign @radioham.org.



## Malarkey? - Maybe it's all of us.

It's been awhile since anyone's mentioned the malarkey award - an informal bestowment of good-natured ribbing upon the on-the-air user of a word or words that have so clearly fallen so far out of the general usage as to be regarded as oddly funny. Malarkey itself is such a word.



Anyway, I got to thinking about what this might mean more generally in Amateur Radio, especially when I'm teaching the Tech and General classes. We use legacy CW terms like "73" and "QTH" on phone, and have done so for many, many decades. There are long lists of these shorthand terms available in ARRL references and all over the internet.

I don't particularly like them, but I still use some. They don't mean anything to a noob coming into the hobby, and can get in the way of clear communication. They seem perfectly normal to those of us who have been licensed since forever, but sound decidedly odd to listeners outside the "lodge", who don't know the secret handshake.

*We could be slipping into malarkey territory here.*

The licensing materials do touch on the use of some of the more common jargon, but when I teach, I always explain that "you can't go wrong with clear speech" as opposed to jargon. This is especially important in emergency communications. It seems more important to make sure my students know the basics of safe, legal, effective operating. If they encounter jargon that they don't understand, they can always ask for clarification or look up the term in a reference or a web search.

There can be some problems, though. Social media can be unkind to people who ask basic questions. Sadly, some folks who have been at this radio game for decades have forgotten that when one starts something new, everything about that something must be learned. You can always count on contentious Facebook feuding over whether a new ham should have known better than to ask \*that\* question when it would have been so easy to google it, and on and on.

That's where good radio clubs come in. They offer both education to new hams and more informal opportunities to learn, both on the air and in person at club-sponsored gatherings and operating events. SARA has its own informal Thursday evening learning/socializing session, dubbed "The Eyeball". That name is a bit of ham radio malarkey in its own right, but it's malarkey I can get behind, because it offers a non-judgmental opportunity for new hams (and us older guys) to learn new things, from the oldest malarkey traditions to the latest technology.

**Pro tip: It's 73, folks - not 73s. Or 73's. (There, now you can skip all those continuing discussions of that topic on the internet.)**

**73 - Pat, WAØTDA**

## Split Rock Confirmations

It is the weekend prior to Thanksgiving as I am writing this, but knowing that I, as well as the newsletter editors are going to be busier than usual over the next few weeks, I decided to put this article together earlier than usual. Our annual Remembering the Edmund Fitzgerald from Split Rock Lighthouse event was interesting and as usual, I had a great time.

Dave WØOXB has designed another great certificate for our confirmations. I have been able to verify all contacts received to date for confirmation certificates and have forwarded the large initial file of confirmations to Bob WØGAF, who will be completing and sending out the certificates very soon. I currently have a 2nd very small file of confirmations, that will be going to Bob within a couple of weeks.

If you are a SARA member who worked the event, you will likely receive a confirmation certificate, even though you did not request one. I try to catch all SARA members in the logs as I am doing other confirmations. If you worked the event and have not received your confirmation prior to the December monthly meeting, let me know as I may have missed it. Also if you did not work the event, but would still like a copy of the certificate, please contact Dave WØOXB or myself. (See sample on next page.)

It is sometimes frustrating and frequently interesting going through the incoming confirmation requests. The most frustrating are the very few that send an email requesting a certificate that may have no other info, or what they submit is nowhere near usual ham practices. Have had some that did not even send their own call, a couple that gave a time such as "10:36 local" which means nothing, as I don't even know what time zone is local for that individual. I am submitting a separate file for inclusion in the newsletter that shows some of the general and more interesting comments received. These comments were copied as they came in, so have made no corrections for spelling, grammar, letter case, or fact content. The comments demonstrate that people do appreciate our event and look forward to working us for this as well as other events.

Shel NØDRX  
SARA Trustee



# WØJH "Remembering the Edmund Fitzgerald" QSL Certificate - Sample

## WØJH "Remembering the Edmund Fitzgerald" Split Rock Lighthouse Special Event - November 1-3, 2019

For the 15th consecutive year, the Stillwater (Minnesota) Amateur Radio Association (SARA) operated from the north shore of Lake Superior to commemorate the sinking of the Edmund Fitzgerald.



Over 20 SARA members operated from Split Rock Lighthouse State Park in Lake County, MN (Grid Square EN 47), ARLHS (Amateur Radio Lighthouse Society USA 783) and POTA (Parks On The Air K-2524).



This year marks the 44th year since the now-famous iron-ore carrier, the Edmund Fitzgerald, was caught in a fierce fall storm on Lake Superior. With winds over 45 knots and waves as high as 30 feet, all hands were lost Nov. 10, 1975.

The watery grave of the ship's 29 man crew is 17 miles NW of Whitefish Point, MI.

The cause of the sinking remains a mystery!



Confirming QSO with: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Time (UTC): \_\_\_\_\_  
 Frequency/Band: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mode: \_\_\_\_\_ Report: \_\_\_\_\_  
 73,

**SAMPLE**

The Stillwater Amateur Radio Assoc. (SARA) is an ARRL Special Service Club.  
[www.radioham.org](http://www.radioham.org)



## Comments Received with Confirmation Requests

VE3QDX: I don't QSL often but thought it would be nice to get one commemorating the Edmund Fitzgerald event. Do I send you a Card first or what is the usual procedure to receive the certificate that 'Bob' talked about during the QSO?

N8JNA: I WORKED YOUR SPECIAL EVENT ON 11-3-2019 AT 16:43. AFTER MY CONTACT THERE WAS A CONTACT MADE TO W0JH BY KE8COQ AT APPROXIMATELY 16:50 ON SSB ON 7.256.5. THERE WAS SOME QSB ON THE SIGNAL TO YOUR STATION AND OPERATOR DAVE WAS HAVING A HARD TIME COPYING. OPERATOR KE8COQ IS A BLIND HAM AND HE WAS TRYING TO EXPLAIN HE DID NOT OPERATE A COMPUTER. IF YOU WOULD EMAIL ME HIS CERTIFICATE I WOULD PRINT IT OUT AND MAIL TO HIM. THANKS FOR DOING THE SPECIAL EVENT.

KE8DGF: I watched her go through the SOO Locks when I was kid with my Dad the summer before she went down in November very sad.

W4MKC: Thanks for the QSO. Ive been waiting for it.

VE3ZN: Thanks for the POTA and the SES QSO

AJ4M: Thanks again for the event as always and I look forward to the certificate.

N8CQD: Thank you Bob. It is so nice of you to do this.

KI7OIY: It was very nice working you guys again for the Special Event station Looking forward to the new certificate

K8TE: I worked at the Northwester Michigan College while stationed at Empire AFS. NMC was also the Northwestern Michigan Maritime Academy when the Edmund Fitzgerald sank. There were several NMMA graduates on-board.

W8KVK: Many thanks for an interesting and historically valuable Edmund Fitzgerald Commemorative special event.

Enjoyable and appreciated! Thanks also for FT8.

When you get caught up, I would appreciate one of your nice certificates.

N6YPC: I was very excited to make a contact with operator Dave on 02 Nov 2019 at 16:30 local time (21:30Z), frequency 7.259 MHz. I was operating QRP using a Yaesu FT-817 with almost 5 watts into a Cushcraft R-7000, 1/2 wave vertical antenna mounted about 6 ft. above the ground. My location is Wyandotte (south east) Michigan. Dave gave me a very generous 5x9 signal report while I gave him a 4x8. I look forward to a QSL.

N0VFJ: Great special event. I remember the night years ago while living in Grand Rapids, MN.

KE8CVA: Thank you for all that your club dose for the Spec. Event!!

KI5FLE: I was in contact with W0JH and he was in the Split Rock Lighthouse in Michigan on Lake Superior for the special event commemorating the 44th anniversary of the sinking of the USS Fitzgerald. I heard W0JH calling CQ and I replied and was heard immediately. The band was going in and out a little bit but I generally had a great signal from W0JH and he told me of the contest and how to request a QSL certificate. This is my first contact on HF since updating to my General Class license a little over a week ago and I recorded the contact on my new Icom IC-7300.

KC1BJG: Nice to make contact with you guys again. I have before when you sat on the frozen lake in February

KD2PPU: Listening on a drake r8b wondering if I can get a certificate email.

N0VEK: Thanks so much for doing this station. The story is one of my favorites. The song is awesome also

NW5Q: Thank you for doing this event. I try to make it a point to work you every year!

VA6WT: I was pleased to look up your callsign and discover the nature of the special event. Mr. Gordon Lightfoot comes to mind when I think of the Edmund Fitzgerald. As a Person who grew up on the Atlantic ocean it was well known that the Ocean called many sailors to their end. The Great Lakes are not to be taken lightly either and this shipwreck and the lost lives drive that point home. I would love to receive your .pdf QSL card. I received you at 5/9 and your operator gave ne a 10 over 9 signal report Q5. I was happy to get the good audio report as I was told I had some noise on my audio in a recent 80m QSO. I now suspect it was RF on my Audio due to the Off Centre Fed Dipole I was using at the time.

KC4IUL: Thanks Zack for the contact. I also worked the Ice station Special event also.

KF9ER: have been to the shipwreck museum at White Fish Point in MI.

They have some stuff from the Fitzgerald wreck there.

AA9JS: Thanks for running the special event station. I am a photographer who specializes in the lighthouses of the Great Lakes, mostly in Michigan and Wisconsin. I am planning on attending the anniversary at Split Rock next week and will have 2 meter gear with me.

KM4IAJ: Please let me know if you have any questions. I think this is the 3rd year I worked this event. Thanks for putting it on. Hope you got lots of contacts.

K8ALH: Please send a certificate of confirmation (17:30 EST 11/2/19). Thank you!

KD0DKE: Good strong signal (15+ over 9) in to Canton, Missouri. Really pleased with my White Rock certificate. Looking forward to your Ice Station special event in Febru-

ary. I have entered this contact in to QRZ.

W9LSE: I was a reporter for WJIM TV in Lansing, Michigan when the Fitzgerald went down. I was flown to the wreck site in order to report on the event.

W0EJO: I have a childhood book, Paddle-to-the-sea, published in 1941 that describes a shipwreck in Superior just outside Whitefish Bay

W8BJF: Looks like we've done this in 2018 as well. Don't recall the purpose back in February of this year but not likely it was the Fitz. Seems 40 Meters is where I find you; however, did hear/see the station on 17 Meters FT8 today but did not make a contact.

WB8FVB: Thanks for the great job you do on these special event operations.

KC9FXE / AG: Great job folks! I enjoyed listening.

K9LGU: Thanks for your efforts to remember the Edmund Fitzgerald on this cold November.

NW5Q: Thank you for doing this event. I try to make it a point to work you every year!

VE3CBK/qrp: Thank you for putting on such an important special event.

WI8J: My father-in-law was the Corps of Engineers Engineer-in-Charge at the Soo Locks in 1975 when the Fitzgerald was lost. That night, he cleared all personnel from the Locks control tower and facilities to the mainland because the storm was so bad.

I have told other family members about your activity and will show them the certificate.

KE8DGF: I watched her go through the SOO Locks when I was kid with my Dad the summer before she went down in November very sad.

**KB9ZPK: THANKS TO ALL OF YOU AT SARA, FOR ALL OF YOUR TIME, AND EFFORT DOING THIS SE. I LOOK FORWARD TO THIS EVERY YEAR, AND HAVE WORKED YOU EVERY YEAR. THE BOYS ON THE BIG FITZ ARE "SMILING DOWN ON YOU I AM SURE"**



## Remote Base Report: a Good Year

Short and sweet: Everything's working at WØEQO and WØZSW and has been for quite a while. We have had a few interruptions in "up time" during 2019, but they have all been resolved in short order, thanks to our ability to do remote administration and the hands-on repair efforts of volunteer Bill Jones, NØCIC, who lives close by WØEQO. Thanks, Bill!

And thanks to SARA for continuing to support the stations.

If you are planning to travel or would just like to check out propagation from another station, go ahead and use the stations. If you need transmit privileges, contact me by email. There are more resources, including how-to videos, at <http://tice.us/wa0tda>. You may also request use of my IC-7200 station as a remote, giving you the choice between three stations!

Happy 2020! 73, Pat, [wa0tda@arrl.net](mailto:wa0tda@arrl.net)



## SARA Membership

We are rapidly nearing the end of the year with a 2019 total of 112 members. Of the 67 members whom are already current for 2020, 63 are currently licensed US hams. The breakdown by license class of that 63 is: 38 Extra, 1 Advanced, 17 General, and 7 Technician.

Of our current 2020 membership, 58 are Regular members which have voting privileges. To be eligible to vote at the January meeting, 2020 dues need to be received prior to the beginning of the Jan. 11 meeting. Membership info is on the radioham.org website and you can contact me directly with any questions.

## VE Session Report for November 7

Our VE Team of NØUHR, NØDXH, N9JNQ, KØZZT, KEØGOM, AD6QT, KØGW, WØGAF, WØOXB, KCØOIO, KEØQQN & NØDRX was a bit overstaffed for this exam session and completed the session in record time. As stated at the November 9<sup>th</sup> monthly meeting all 4 of our examinees had no problem passing their exams to upgrade to General Class. This is again a testament to the value of the effort put in by the examinees, the value of the SARA classes and the work the instructors put in for those classes.

Congratulations to Adam Bradshaw KEØVNY, Anne Leikam KEØVOB, Axel Bradshaw KEØVOE, and Albert Van Duren KEØVYM on their successful license upgrades.

Shel NØDRX  
SARA Trustee

## **New to Ham Radio? Check this out!**

The Stillwater Amateur Radio Association (SARA) is always here to assist its members - from antenna installation to rig recommendations to All Things Ham. Our members each have a unique skill set from which to draw to help each other in amateur radio activities. For example, each spring, SARA holds a Technician education class and we see many attendees pass through to become licensed amateur radio operators!

Getting the license, however, is only the first step. Much like passing the written driver's test to get a learner's permit, it's just the first step. Now it's time to get out on the road. To drive. To operate. And SARA wants to do more to help our newly licensed operators get "behind the wheel" safely, effectively, and with enthusiasm and enjoyment. In the coming months, SARA will prepare resources and reach out to current members to find support for our new hams to ensure they find the value and joy they were looking for when they initially set out to get their license.

So look for more details in upcoming newsletters from the newly established SARA committee for helping new hams. Of course, if you are interested in helping, including, but not limited to, being a resource for tech-specific portions of amateur radio, the SARA committee can be reached via email at:

**[NewHamHelp@radioham.org](mailto:NewHamHelp@radioham.org)**



# ADØCK – SK

Lewis Alan Buschman passed away on November 3, 2019 from renal failure. He, as I remember, joined our Club in late 2012. He was an Extra class Amateur who liked to tinker with electronics and ham radio in general. He attended many Thursday eyeballs, monthly club meetings and several of our Split Rock special events.

Lew was always a gentleman and somewhat reserved but never hesitated to give his opinion. According to his brother Ross Buschman, he was an Army veteran and had retired from the Burlington Railroad.



We got to know Lew better after he joined our 80 meter net group. That group is the 'P.J.' net which currently runs Monday through Friday mornings on 3.740 kHz starting at 0900 hrs. He first checked in with the net sometime during 2014 and was a casual contributor up until this year when his medical problems made it impossible for him to continue. He enjoyed modifying his Kenwood TS520 and his computer so that he could send amateur digital TV pictures.

Lew was quick to volunteer if we needed help and worked on a M.A.P. project at Mike Knox's (WAØKKE) house to install an inverted vee. We'll miss our conversations and our trips to Micro Center. He always chuckled when talking about how he liked to go there.

Lew lived in a small house on the top of the Myrtle St. hill in Stillwater and enjoyed the community. He had a constant battle with power line noise but, in the past few years, made antenna improvements that overcame some of his problems.

Lew told his brother during his final days that he desired that his radio, tuner and antenna system should be donated to SARA in the hopes that a new ham will be able to enjoy it. That system was given to the Club several weeks ago. In addition, there were many electronic parts, Arduino computers, and other miscellaneous items donated by Ross Buschman at the request of his brother. Those items were distributed to many of our members after the November monthly meeting.

Rest in peace Lew. We'll always have our memories.

Keith Miller - AGØH

## Bill Eggers (KDØOTB SK)

**I was a good friend of Bill Eggers.** I guess it took us awhile for our friendship to fully develop. Basically, Bill and I had a difference of opinion concerning politics. That's putting it mildly and I'll leave it at that! But it didn't take very long to iron things out.

FWIW: I finally got a chance to met Bill's brother the other day while sorting thru Bill's radio gear. Bill called this brother his "Republican Brother" ... we hit it off right away!

I must admit, Bill had a characteristic way of pronouncing "Oscar" as part of his callsign ... with special/unique emphasis or inflection on "car" every time he checked into the 2m net. I'll remember that.



Bill became a ham back in the 60s (WAØRRH) but let his license lapse. He received an electrical engineering degree in 1971 (from the U of M), then worked for Control Data Corporation, later Seagate Technology, the disk drive manufacturer, and retired in 2009. Bill received his Technician license in 2011; and earned his Extra Class license just 5 weeks later.

The thing that always stands out in my memory of Bill ... his willingness to help others. Whether teaching at our license classes or assisting with MAP (our Member Assistance Program), he always pitched in to help. The same was definitely true in his non-ham world. His participation in church-sponsored trips to Jamaica and Tanzania were unmatched.

As you likely know, Bill was recognized with the dubious honor for being long-winded. Not too surprising, Bill was presented the coveted(!) "OXB Release to Listen" Award. Bill honorably earned the award thru his long-windedness on our weekly 2m nets and at our Thursday Night Eye Ball QSO Parties.

Bill never ceased to amaze us with his knowledge on a wide range of topics ... from the scientific world ---- to interesting, trivial information. He was kinda SARA's Cliff Klaven from the TV show Cheers)! But another distinction most will remember Bill for was his "Stirring the Pot" antics at our meetings and at the Afterglow sessions! How can anyone forget when Bill would grin, smile and "Stir the Pot?!"

**Toward the end**, I called and visited Bill several times. He always seemed upbeat. I remember asking him how he was doing; he told me, "I could be better; I could be worse!" Right up to the end, he was hanging in there. Shel and I visited Bill the day he passed away. He was unconscious but I hope he could hear us talking to his minister about what a great guy Bill was and how he touched so many lives.

**I know those of us who knew Bill, loved him dearly. And, we'll sure miss him!**

73 es RIP my friend,  
Dave (WØOXB)

P.S. Bill wanted his radio gear to be donated to the club. He had hopes of it going to young and new hams who would use the gear. Several of us went thru his QTH and hauled away his equipment. We plan to sort it out and see how it can best fulfill Bill's wishes of helping others. It's what Bill liked to do; help others.



## Bill Unger (VE3XT SK)

**Bill and I were good friends.** We met at Split Rock State Park.

As I recall, it was about 12 years ago that Bill heard about the SARA "Remembering the Edmund Fitzgerald" Special Event. He called me to see if there was any way he could participate with us. It didn't take long for me to determine that Bill was a good, sincere guy and an informed, active ham. I said "of course" he can join us, we'd be honored to have Bill as part of our team. After hanging up, I looked at a map to see exactly where Thunder Bay, Ontario was. Why in the heck would anyone want to drive all the way from Canada to operate with us. Somehow I thought it was much further from Split Rock.



**Bill, a polite, mild-mannered guy, was whole-heartedly welcomed into SARA at his first Split Rock event.**

The following year, Bill came to me and asked if it would be OK for him to invite another ham from Thunder Bay. We joked about the influx of Canucks into SARA, and the following year, Brad (VE3MXJ) joined the SARA Team. Ever since then, it's always been a treat to have Bill and Brad show up ... Their smiling faces, along with Persians and fresh-ground coffee from across the border. Plus, our multi-national event wouldn't be official without the Canadian Maple Leaf flying next to Old Glory.

Having worked and taught in the radio and TV communications industry, Bill was a smart and knowledgeable guy. (You'd likely never know he was a sharp, well-educated guy because of his humble, non-pretentious nature.)

During our frequent antenna systems discussions, and I soon learned Bill really enjoyed operating CW and QRP. With me as an SSB kinda guy, who's been known to regularly operate QRO; what could we possibly have in common! But differences aside; we hit it off very well. And, the good-natured, fun-poking that went on between us and others; usually continued into our evening "Networking/Critiquing" sessions. **It doesn't get much better than having a good laugh with friends!**



This year Bill missed our Split Rock event - and we sure missed him.  
**Our Split Rock event won't be the same without Bill.**

73 es RIP my friend,  
Dave (WØOXB)

# Ice Station WØJH

## Special Event on Frozen Lake Elmo (Feb. 15-17)

Event co-chairs Bob (WØGAF) and Dave (WØOXB) are coordinating the basic logistics (shelter, radio, logging computers antennas and scheduling operators). The event takes place at the QTH of our hosts Dave (KØAIF) and Anne (KEØVOB); beginning on the lake and shore, then continues across Lake Elmo Ave. N.



We'll be setting up and operating from a portable ice fishing, tent-type shelter and also from our self-contained trailer. The shelter will be located on the east side of the lake; the trailer, on dry(?) land, across the road near the parking area. The shelter and all gear will be taken down and stowed each evening. Very important after-hours critiquing/networking sessions will be held as required. (There's no word yet on brandy and/or mincemeat pie!)

Unfortunately our station on the lake will not be handicap-accessible (the terrain to the lake is very steep and slippery).

### Something New (YOTA)!

This year we are dedicating operating time for SARA youth to operate. Young members and anyone new to operating on HF are encouraged to participate. You can learn the "ropes" by watching and logging - then, when you're ready, you can grab the microphone.

### Interested in Learning/Operating Digital HF?

From the SARA trailer, a cozy, heated station can operate both digital and SSB modes. An operator and logger, using the Icom IC-7300 transceiver connected to a laptop, will be available for demonstration and hands-on instruction for visitors/onlookers.

### Dates / Times / Schedule:

February 15, 16, 17 (President's Day weekend)

- Saturday, 2/15: 10:00 am Setup, Operating until ~5:00 pm
- Sunday, 2/16: 10:00 am – ~5:00 pm
- Monday, 2/17: 10:00 am – ~5:00 pm
- Frequencies: 3.860, 7.260, 14.260, 21.360, 28.360 MHz
  - :: Tune +/- 20 kHz if QRM
  - :: SSB mode; digital operation may be used by those interested
- Youth & newly licensed hams can operate when available

Event announcement is already posted on the ARRL web site (Special Events) and will be published in the February issue of QST.

**Sound like fun ... don't wait.**

**Contact Bob or Dave to reserve your spot!**

*Visitors are welcome but for liability insurance reasons, all scheduled Ops must be SARA members.*

## Upcoming SARA Meetings & Events

- Dec. 14: Monthly Meeting; Boutwells Landing, Oak Park Heights
- Jan. 11: Monthly Meeting; Boutwells Landing, Oak Park Heights

*Board Meetings are held Thursdays the week following Monthly Saturday Meetings at the Stillwater Public Library*

**2019**

**December**

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

**2020**

**January**

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

**SARA Needs YOU!**

Get involved ...  
 Make a difference ...  
**Have fun!**



[www.radioham.org](http://www.radioham.org)

Facebook: SARA - Stillwater Amateur Radio Association

