



# SCARA NEWSLETTER



VOLUME MMXII NO. 1 January, 2012

Website: [WWW.K2BR.COM](http://WWW.K2BR.COM) Email: [scara@k2br.com](mailto:scara@k2br.com)

SCARA P.O. Box 121 Linwood, NJ 08221 K2BR Repeaters 146.745 MHz and 448.775 MHz



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### SCARA At A Glance

**General Meeting:** Dinner instead!

**SCARA HF Net:** Sun. Jan 15,  
10:00 AM 3.928 MHz.

**RACES Net:** Monday, Jan 30 8pm

**SKYWARN Net:** Mondays 8 PM  
on 146.745 MHz, &  
448.775 MHz.

**SCARA VHF Net:** Every Thurs.

**7:00 PM** on 146.775 MHz and  
448.775 MHz

**Board Meeting:** Thurs Jan 26, 2012  
8 pm.

**VE Test Session:** Thurs Feb 2, 2012

6:30 pm Testing 7:00 pm

**SCARA Dinner:** Fri. Jan. 13,  
6:30 PM. Crab Trap, Somers  
Point, NJ

## Editor's Message

I would like to personally thank Larry, KB2MN for all his years of dedicated service to producing this great newsletter for our club!

Kudos also go to Nancy, N2ANG for her assistance as co-editor.

I also wish to thank the Board of Directors for having the confidence in me to appoint me to the task and challenge of taking on the newsletter and the website.

Bill, KC2AAY, what can I say that I haven't already said? Without him and Howard, KC2TYZ, and all of you, I would not have gotten through the last quarter of 2011 with all the tragedy in my life. Thank You!

With this New Year comes a new start and hopefully bigger and better things for SCARA and its members!

Ideas and submissions for the newsletter, website, social media and the club in general are more than welcome. We are still having a few "bugs" with our official email address which should be rectified shortly. The address is listed above or you may use mine; [kc2zjw@yahoo.com](mailto:kc2zjw@yahoo.com) and I am always available by phone @ 609-338-2251. *73 ,Lynn Fogle, KC2ZJW*



**Be Radio-active!**

## President's Message

First off I would like to thank everyone for giving me the opportunity to serve as your club president for 2012.

I would also like to thank Bill, KC2AAY, for the last two years the he served as president. SCARA has grown in membership and in the many activities that the club participates in. We have replaced both repeaters and the controller during Bills tenure.

I hope to lead the club in a way that sees the continued growth of our club and hobby.

We currently have an opening for vice president and one board member. If you are interested in either position please let me know.

We are currently putting together a calendar of events for 2012. We hope to have all of the events that we normally do on the calendar on the web page soon. If there are any events that you would like to see added to the schedule let us know. If there is enough interest we will add them.

It is my intention to write an article each month for the news letter to keep you informed of what the officers and board are working on. If you have an issue that you feel needs addressing please let me know. I will bring it to the Board for a determination.

With your support we will have a great year. SCARA is only as good as the members make it. Together we can do great things and have a lot of fun! Happy New Year and good DX in 2012! *73, Howard, KC2TYZ*

## Who Really Invented Radio?

**Mahlon Loomis** (26 July 1826,- Oppenheim, New York - 13 October 1886, Terra Alta, West Virginia) was an early wireless telegraph experimenter.

Loomis, a Washington, DC dentist, claimed to have transmitted signals in October 1866 between two Blue Ridge Mountain-tops 14 miles apart in Virginia, using kites as antennas, but with no independent witnesses present.

Loomis received U.S. Patent 129,971 for a wireless telegraph in 1872. This one-page patent makes a vague claim about using atmospheric electricity to eliminate the overhead wire used by the existing telegraph systems, but it contains no schematic diagram of how to build it, and no theory of how it might function. Loomis envisioned towers "on the tops of high mountains, and thus penetrate or establish electrical connection with the atmospheric stratum ... to form the electrical circuit."

Loomis's patent is substantially similar to U.S. Patent 126,356 received three months earlier by William Henry Ward who applied for the patent on June 29, 1871 when Loomis was actively promoting his idea of using atmospheric electricity for telegraph communication. Ward's patent also contains no schematic diagram. Instead, Ward illustrates and describes towers that rotate into the wind "to drive an aerial current of electricity into the insulated middle portion of the tower, which current passes upwardly through the upper portion of the tower and out through the ventilator or the top... whereby the tower is receiving continually fresh and new supplies of electricity".

The two patents in some places use almost identical language:

"I also dispense with all artificial batteries, but use the free electricity of the atmosphere, co-operating with that of the earth... for telegraphing and for other purposes, such as light, heat, and motive power." (Loomis)

"I entirely dispense with artificial batteries, forming my circuit merely by connecting the aerial current with the earth current... for the use of land lines of telegraphs or for other purposes, such as light, heat, &c." (Ward)

In January 1873, the United States Congress declined to charter the Loomis Aerial Telegraph Co. One congressman, pleading Loomis' case in the House, said, "He entertains a dream, and it may be only a dream, a wild dream that when his proposition comes to be fully applied, it may light and warm your houses...." Loomis, himself, addressed Congress at one point, stating that his proposal functioned by "Causing electrical vibrations or waves to pass around the world, as upon the surface of some quiet lake one wave circlet follows another from the point of the disturbance to the remotest shores, so that from any other mountain top upon the globe another conductor, which shall pierce this plane and receive the impressed vibration, may be connected to an indicator which will mark the length and duration of the vibration; and indicate by any agreed system of notation, convertible into human language, the message of the operator at

the point of the first disturbance.

Loomis noted that transmission was possible only when the kites were flown to the same altitude above ground, which seemed to confirm his hypothesis that he was completing a DC circuit through layers of the atmosphere that he hypothesized carried such currents. We know now that there is no basis for such a system.

One version of the Loomis apparatus used a keyed connection to ground at the transmitting station, and a spark gap to ground at the receiver. Radio frequency transients would have been generated by keying the sky-ground DC potential at the transmitter, and if the kite wires were of the same length (which would have the kites at the same altitude above terrain), the receiving apparatus would have been resonant and able to receive such a signal. This may account for his result—not by tapping into the same layer of atmosphere, but because the wires were the same length. Marconi wasn't born yet! You decide?

### Mahlon Loomis



## Swap Shop

**For Sale:** Kenwood TS-570DG HF XCVR with mic, manual and original carton, in excellent condition. Reduced to \$625.

**Nancy, N2ANG (609) 287-1239**

**For Sale:** AL-811 HF amp \$300 and a MFJ 989C tuner \$100. The price does not include shipping. Hart Fegge, N4RMX (former CMCARC member). Address and e-mail are good on QRZ.com.

**For Sale:** VHF/UHF radios

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1) Kenwood tm-321a 220mhz \$100

2) Kenwood tm-441a 440mhz \$100

3) Kenwood tm-241a 2m \$100

### Tuners:

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1) MFJ 949C Versa Tuner 2 \$50

2) MFJ 924 440mhz \$50

### Amps:

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Mirage B1016 2m \$150

Mirage D3010 440 \$150

Mirage C3012 220 \$150

Tokyo Hi Power HL-120U

\$200

### Rotor Controller:

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HyGain Ham IV controller only! \$50

**Contact Steve NX2B at 609-822-6779**

### SCARA Items for Sale

Decals with SCARA Logo \$1/\$2

**2011 HAMFEST T-Shirts L/XL \$10/2X-3X- \$12**

SCARA Blue Carry Bags - \$7.00

SCARA Mugs - \$8.00

Lynn, [KC2ZJW@yahoo.com](mailto:KC2ZJW@yahoo.com) or at a meeting.

## Meeting Notes

General meeting and elections held on December 8, 2011 with 25 members in attendance. Howard, KC2TYZ voted your new President for 2012. Lynn, KC2ZJW as Vice President, but declined in favor of retaining Secretary's position and was elected to that position. Anyone interested in the Vice Presidents position, please contact Howard, KC2TYZ. Bob Webb, WA2YSA, is Treasurer again this year, running with no opposition. Board of Directors for 2012 are Bill Schwoer, KC2AAY, Stan Friedman, WA3JMV, Bill McCord, KC2ONQ, Mandy McCord, KC2QOG and there is an opening for one more member. Sympathy card sent to Rich, KC2ROQ for the loss of his mother. Currently SCARA has a total membership of 90. Ed, W2KP and Bill, KC2AAY working on programming of the new 7330 controller and it will be operational shortly. Bob, WA2YSA reported that we received a QSL card as a result of the 2010 Boy Scout Show at Shore Mall. 50/50 won by Bill, KC2AAY. Lynn, KC2ZJW in conjunction with Kotte's Cakes, presented a first anniversary cake in honor of the SCARA K.I.S.S. Net, that had the SCARA logo and congratulatory message on it.



## New On The Market

Bao Feng UV3R Shirt pocket size dual bander HT coming from China by way of Hawaii. This little gem is getting rave reviews on E-Ham and by word of mouth, and the price shipped is averaging \$60.00



Unconfirmed rumors also report that the much anticipated Wouxon Dual band base is finally supposed to be released in February. I have tapped several sources for more info., but still just rumors.

### SCARA News

SCARA wishes to welcome to the club newly licensed amateur David Holmes, KD2AYR, son of long time member and previous Amateur of the Year, Art Holmes, W3ART.

We would also like to welcome back, Walt Wescoat, WA2HTY

Just a friendly reminder that annual dues are now due.

Dinner at the Crab Trap on Friday, January 13, 2012 @ 6:30 pm, with special guest speaker; local talk radio personality **Harry Hurley!**

## CLUB INFORMATION 2012

### OFFICERS

PRESIDENT	Howard Minnichbach	KC2TYZ	(609) 272-9984	<a href="mailto:kc2tyz@comcast.net">kc2tyz@comcast.net</a>
VICE PRESIDENT				
SECRETARY	Lynn Fogle	KC2ZJW	(609) 338-2251	<a href="mailto:kc2zjw@yahoo.com">kc2zjw@yahoo.com</a>
TREASURER	Bob Webb	WA2YSA	(609) 646-6843	

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Bill Schwoer	KC2AAY	(609) 892-7888	bill408@comcast.net
Stan Friedman	WA3JMV	(609) 823-3589	friedman.stanley@comcast.net
Mandy McCord	KC2QOG	(609) 225-2472	ffsta403@yahoo.com
Bill McCord	KC2ONQ	(609) 225-2472	ffsta403@yahoo.com

### 2012 CLUB SERVICE POSITIONS

ARLHS Coordinator	Ed Clark W2KP	Repeaters	Bill Schwoer KC2AAY
ARRL QSL Card Mgr	Arnie Oberson W2OB		Ed Clark W2KP
Field Day	Lou Milone KA2NTT	Sunshine	Rose Minnichbach
Newsletter	Lynn Fogle KC2ZJW	Trustee	Lynn Fogle KC2ZJW
		VE Coordinator	Lou Milone KA2NTT
Refreshments	Howard Minnichbach KC2TYZ	Website	Larry Schall KB2MN
	Lynn Fogle KC2ZJW		Bill Schwoer KC2AAY
			Lynn Fogle KC2ZJW

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EMAIL [scara@k2br.com](mailto:scara@k2br.com)

FACEBOOK <http://tinyurl.com/fb-scara>

YAHOO GROUP <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/SCARANJ>

REFLECTOR [scara@mailman.qth.net](mailto:scara@mailman.qth.net)