



THE RARA RAG

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It's Hamfest season!

As we bid adieu to the long dark days of winter we're greeted with the sure signs of spring in Western New York: Tulips, Daffodils, Lilacs and the Rochester Hamfest! It's always been everybody's favorite perennial event and with its rejuvenated vim and vigor, it's something everyone looks forward to again. Attendance has been growing by leaps and bounds and we're expecting another record breaking attendance. The gates open at 8am; be sure to get your breakfast from our friends at the Barnard Fire Department manning the griddle. They will be cooking up bacon, eggs, and sausage breakfast sandwiches so you can eat while walking amongst the umpteen acres of flea market treasures! Swing back around at lunch time and they'll be preparing hots, hamburgers, Italian sausage, and potatoes. If you're good, maybe your mom will buy you an ice cream. Hi-Hi Remember all food proceeds benefit the Barnard Volunteer Fire Department.

Our "Star Attraction" this year will be the Monroe County Mobile Emergency Communications Unit. In the event of an emergency this baby can assume full capacity of the 911 center! You won't want to miss a tour of "MCU1". MCU1 and the Monroe County ARES trailer (our talk-in station) will be on display in the courtyard between the food stand and the RARA club booth at the south end of the Pavilion.

Just as you start to feel the afternoon wind down – STOP! Because at 2pm we're having our "Last Chance Auction"! Got something that didn't sell at your flea market space, got buyer's remorse and want to resell something you bought earlier in the day? You'll want to bring it to the Auction at 2pm – Our professional Auctioneers will do their best to find your gear a new home.

Visit the Hamfest website for full event details and times!!!

www.RochesterHamfest.com

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The Prez Sez

By Frank Schramm, WB2PYD
President, RaRa

This is usually the first column of the new President's term in office. But I'm privileged to be the first person to hold the office for two consecutive terms so I'll forego the introduction. I would like to welcome the new Board of Directors and club officers for the 2011-2012 term. I greatly appreciate those who have taken on a new role as an officer and everyone for staying on as Directors. It takes a great deal of time and effort to effectively administer an organization as complex and multi focused as RaRa. All the changes that have come about in these past few years were only possible due to our dedicated Board of Directors. On behalf of the entire RaRa Membership: Thank You!

By the time you get this issue of the RAG, it's probably about a week before our Rochester Hamfest. How quickly the time passes. As you should know by now all RaRa members get free admission to the Hamfest; just show your current membership card to the ticket sellers at the gate. We hope everyone has a great day at the Hamfest. There is an example of yet another team of dedicated people who work diligently for seven months to put the event together. A big thanks to them and the small army of volunteers that come together to sell tickets and park cars on Hamfest day.

We have a great team of volunteers making things happen at RaRa but there's always room for one more. How about you? Come join us and get involved; no effort is too small. Regardless of your age or education, we'd love your assistance. Stop by the RARA booth at the Hamfest and tell Lisa you'd like to help; or come to the picnic on July 16th and we can discuss the possibilities over a hotdog and a "cold one."

A club is about coming together with a common interest, but a club also has to provide members with reasons to belong. Our club administrators are always looking to add more value to being a member. We currently have our Hamfest, Picnic, Banquet, Cabin Party, and Annual Auction leading our list of benefits of membership. It is YOU we're looking to serve, so take a minute and tell us what more you'd like to see as a possible benefit. No matter how crazy an idea you think it is (Free Cheerios for a year?) I'd like to know. Send me an e-mail (WB2PYD@arrl.net) —who knows it just might turn into something!

This newsletter also goes out to over 5,000 non-members in the Western New York region. I'd also like to hear from any (dare I say all?) of you about how RARA can better serve your needs and interests. What can we do to count you as a member?

Have a GREAT time at the Hamfest!

73 & happy DXing!

Frank
WB2PYD

Calendar of Events

June 4 ROCHESTER HAMFEST
360 Maiden Ln. 14616

June 8 RaRa Board of Directors
5:30 PM, RIT
Bldg-17, Room 2110

Not a RARA member yet?

There is still plenty of time to join and take advantage of all our membership perks (like FREE Hamfest admission and flea market space). You can join in person at the Hamfest, or on our website at <http://www.rochesterham.org>.



Silent Keys

Jack Kuecken KE2QJ
May 19, 2011

Rag-Chew

Editor's Thoughts & Comments
By Kevin Carey, WB2QMY
Editor@RochesterHam.org

As I edit this issue of the *Rag*, we are in the final run-up to the Rochester Hamfest on Saturday, June 4th! This is our flagship event of the year, and I hope to see many of you there. For any last-minute updates, check our website at <http://www.rochesterham.org>



This month we have a write-up by Ed Gable on recent silent key, Cecilia Zwack (Lia), WA2NFY. We announced Lia's passing in the May issue, but there was not time to prepare an article on her contributions to the radio hobby. I would like to repeat the invitation extended a few issues ago for write-ups on any silent keys, whether recent or several years ago. Have a favorite Elmer, friend, or other notable ham that you'd like to write about? Drop me a line at the e-mail address above, and I'll help you to get it in print. Pictures are always a plus.

Traditionally, RARA has taken a break during the warm weather months, but I'm not sure why this came to be. Sure, lots of folks take vacations during the summer, but there are still a fair number of us in town, and the interest in ham radio tends to be run high in the summer, beginning with the Field Day operating event, this year to be held on June 25-26. Here's hoping you have a fun, and safe summer season. We will be here to help keep you informed as you pursue your radio interests.

73, and best DX.

**Rochester Hamfest
& Technology Expo**

ARRL Atlantic Div. Convention
Sat. June 4th, 2011 8 am-4 pm

Barnard Hamfest Grounds
360 Maiden Lane
Rochester, NY 14616

\$5 Admission
(Flea market space \$5)

Door prizes — Great food!
"Last Chance Auction" at 2:00 PM!

More info & directions at:
www.rochesterham.org

Cecilia Zwack (Lia), WA2NFY SK

By Ed Gable, K2MP

At the age of 89, the radio amateur community, local and world-wide, lost a dear friend. Lia, predeceased by her loving husband Lee, W2WPF, of Flower City Park in Rochester, was a devoted Amateur. RaRa members will remember her as the kind and gentle soul who always sent get well cards to those in need of cheering up. She was active on local repeaters as well as various nets of the *Young Ladies Radio League* (YLRL) where her strong signal was known and heard world-wide.

Lia loved to chat and be involved with YLRL members and to her credit, she traveled alone, after the death of husband Lee, to conventions in Germany, Japan, and other locations. Lee and Lia were possibly the world's perfect couple. Lee built radio stations (including a HF Yagi going straight thru the roof of their house with the rotor in the attic) and Lia operated them. Lia operated every YL/OM contest that she could, and won so many, that she ran out of room to put her trophies. She asked me one day if she should send some back so they could be used over again! I assured her that those were hers to keep. She was particularly proud of her YL DXCC.

Some of us remember Lee and Lia arriving at RaRa events in Lee's 1962 white Corvette convertible, top down, wind blowing, she loved that. She loved the outdoors and maintained a vigorous and healthy lifestyle by cross country skiing, swimming in Lake Ontario's cold waters and daily hiking, even when eventually needing to go to a nursing home. The family was able to convince the nursing home that ham radio was good for her well-being and a modest 2-meter FM station was set up. It was there that Lia made her final QSO and went QRT. We are all so lucky to have known her.



Ham Tech: Rig Control & Logging Software

By Duane Fregoe, K2SI

There is a lot of software out there that will allow you to create and maintain your electronic logbook. Ideally, you want a program that will keep a logbook but also control you radio. This way most of the typical information that you would write in a paper log is prefilled with the use of this more complete software and a cable connection to your radio. The computer log will already know the frequency, time, and mode, and once you type in the call sign it will go out to QRZ.com (or a logbook CD) and fill in a name and location. All you need to enter now is the exchange. If it is like most exchanges (59) it will already pre-fill that for you.

Some software is available for free download and some may have a cost associated with it. If you find a free piece of software that you like, it is a not a bad idea to make a small contribution to the author of the software, after you commit to using it, to encourage continued development and future updates. All of these programs will be able to upload your new contacts to eQSL and Logbook of the World (LoTW). Below are four very nice programs that you should look at if you are interested rig control, logging, DX spotting, and other features all bundled into one complete software package.

RaRa Club LOGO Items



Don't feel left out- get your RaRa logo items today!

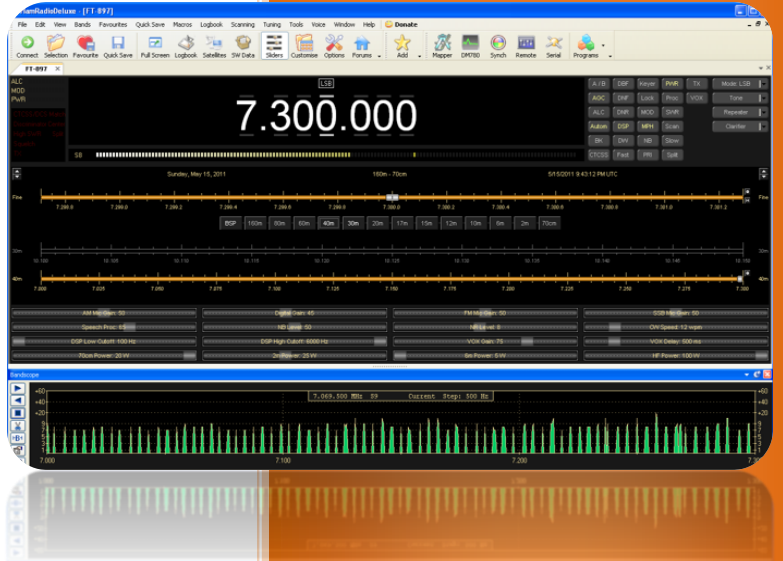
<http://www.rochesterham.org/logo.htm>

Free:
Ham Radio Deluxe <http://www.ham-radio-deluxe.com>
DXLab <http://www.dxlabsuite.com>

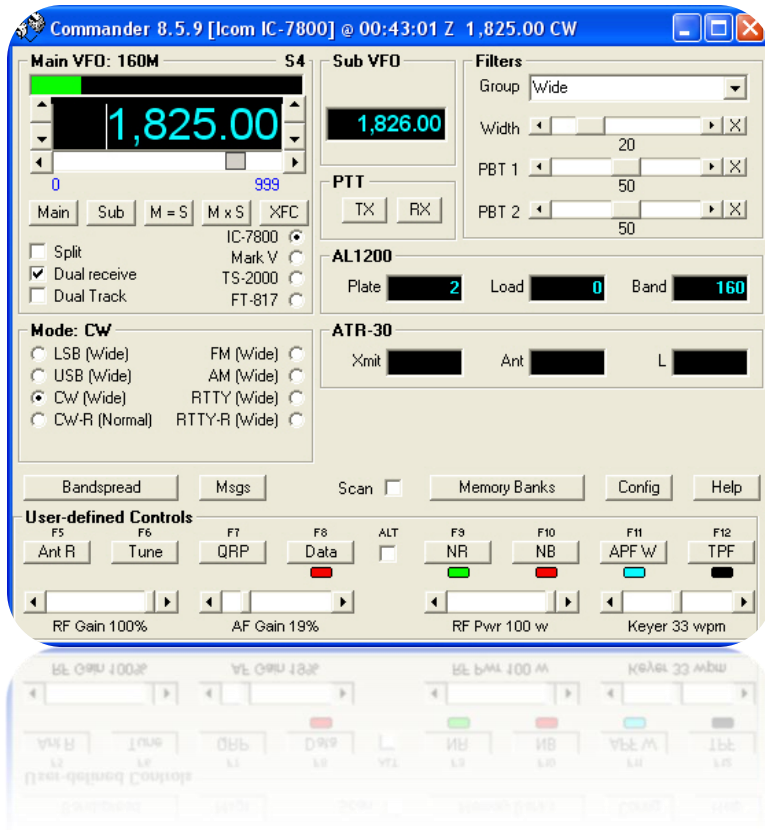
Purchase:
TRX-Manager <http://www.trx-manager.com>
CommCat <http://www.commcat.com>

Below are some sample screen shots from available programs...

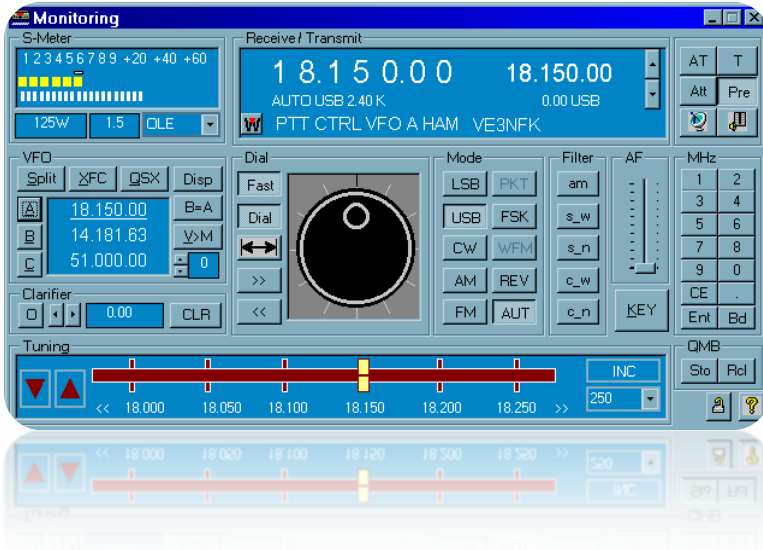
HRD:



DX Lab

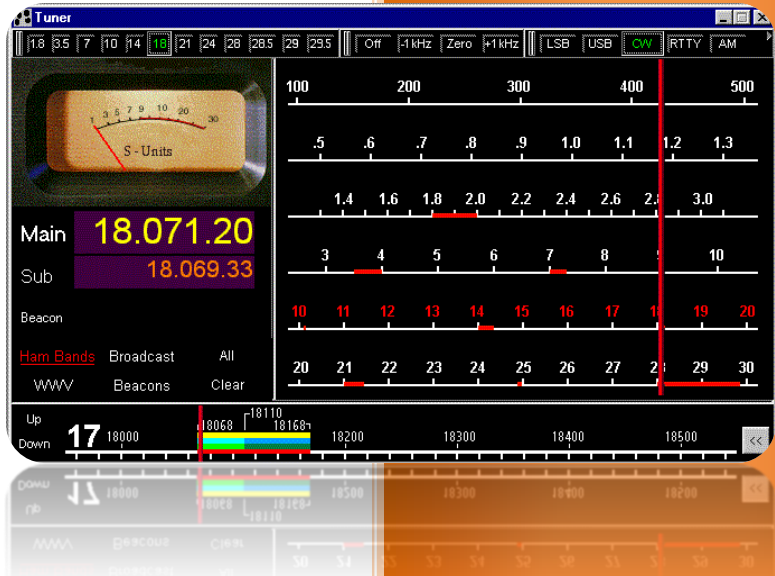


TRX-Manager



CommCat

Next month: The weather in Dayton, OH



RaRa Hotline
(585) 210-8910
24 Hours a Day

Public Service 2011

By Duane Fregoe, K2SI

Public Service events for 2011 are just around the corner. Our first big event is the Tour de Cure on June 12th and we really need some more radio operators. Below is a list of events for this year and remember, you can sign up on the web at: http://www.rochesterhamfest.org/public_service.htm

Tour de Cure – Sun, June 12, 2011 (Mendon Ponds Park)

Genesee Valley Hunt Horse Trials – Sun, July 10, 2011 (Geneseo)

MS Bike Ride – Sat & Sun, July 30 & 31, 2011 (Keuka Park)

Walnut Hill Driving Competition – Wed thru Sun, August 10 - 14, 2011

Rochester Arthritis Foundation Marathon – Sun, September 18, 2011

Barktoberfest: Lollypop Farm – Sat, September 24, 2011

Fairport Lift Bridge Regatta – Sun, September 25, 2011

Jamboree on the Air (BSA) – Sat & Sun, October 15 & 16, 2011 (Babcock-Hovey)

NYS Thruway Pumpkin Patrol – Sun & Mon, October 30 & 31, 2011

A popular event that is not local but many local hams like to attend is the **Susquehannock Trail Performance Rally (STPR)**. STPR is June 3-4, 2011 and more information is available at <http://www.stpr.org>. If you are interested you can sign up on their website.

Picture Puzzler

By Kevin Carey, WB2QMY

The correct guesser for last month's question was **Jim Sweet, K2IG**. He did some research and discovered that the photo showed an Abbott Instrument Ultra Short Wave Transceiver, model MRT-3, which operated on 2 ½ meters, AM mode. Shown below is the photo with the full name and model number. Can you imagine using one of these to check into your favorite net back in the day? Thanks again to Rich Place, WB2JLR for submitting the picture of this unit.

Have another item of interest that we could show in a future *Puzzler* column? Please let us know!

Our mystery unit from last month, a 2 ½ meter Abbott MRT-3 Transceiver.



Scanning the Marine Band

Jim Sutton, N2OPS
iim@n2ops.net

Radio Customer: "Will I be able to hear the marine band with this radio?"
Radio Salesman: "If the marine band is playing, this radio will pick them up."

No not *that* marine band, the nautical radio one—boats, lakes, rivers, you get the idea...

Almost next door to the 2-meter ham band is the VHF marine band. In the 156-157 and 161-162 MHz ranges there is great listening to be found wherever watercraft abound. For Rochester area hams marine listening comes from Lakes Erie and Ontario, the Erie Canal and the Finger Lakes.

BASIC CHANNELS

The ITU regulates all use of radio spectrum by any person or vessel outside U.S. waters. ITU rules affecting radio, which have treaty status in the U.S. and most other nations, are published in the ITU Radio Regulations. The ITU has established three VHF marine radio channels recognized worldwide for safety purposes:

- Channel 16 (156.800 MHz) - Distress, safety and calling
- Channel 13 (156.650 MHz) - Intership navigation (bridge-to-bridge)
- Channel 70 (156.525 MHz) - Digital Selective Calling

The Rochester Coast Guard communicates on Channel 23 157.150. Weather is broadcast on Channel 22 157.100 at 0255 and 1455 Zulu.

All law enforcement agencies that operate watercraft are equipped with marine capability. Channel 83 157.175 is active on the Finger Lakes with Coast Guard Auxiliary communications.

The Canadian Coast Guard provides continuous marine weather broadcasts on 161.650, 161.750 and 161.775. These powerful stations are easily heard on the U.S. side of Lakes Erie and Ontario.

VHF marine radio is all CSQ with no CTCSS. Ducting can bring in some great DX. Continuous Canadian Weather frequencies can make great VHF propagation beacons to indicate the direction of DX.

GET LISTENING

Now put the VHF marine frequencies in you scanner and begin hearing some great marine band communications. Start with 156.650, 156.800, 157.100, 157.150 and 157.175. If your scanner has the capability, enter all of the marine frequencies. You will hear everything from sharing notes on the best fishing spots to distress calls.

Until next time, 73 to thee.

Marine Band Links...

U.S. VHF Channels

<http://www.navcen.uscg.gov/?pageName=mtVhf>

VHF Coast Guard Marine Broadcasts

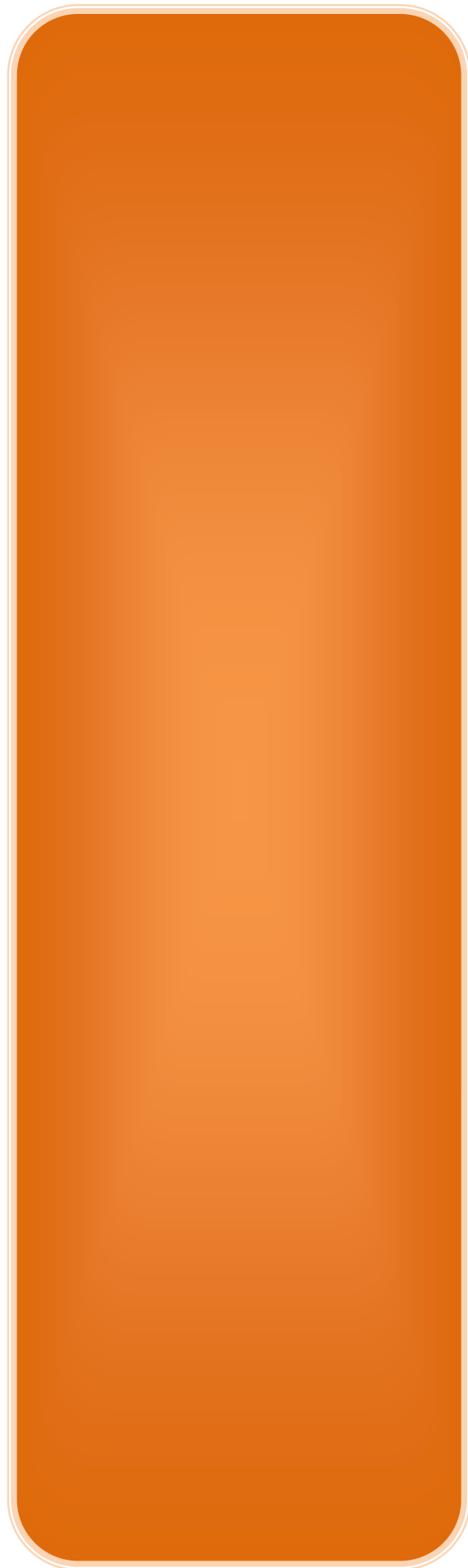
<http://www.weather.gov/om/marine/vhfvoice.htm>

Canadian Coast Guard Frequencies

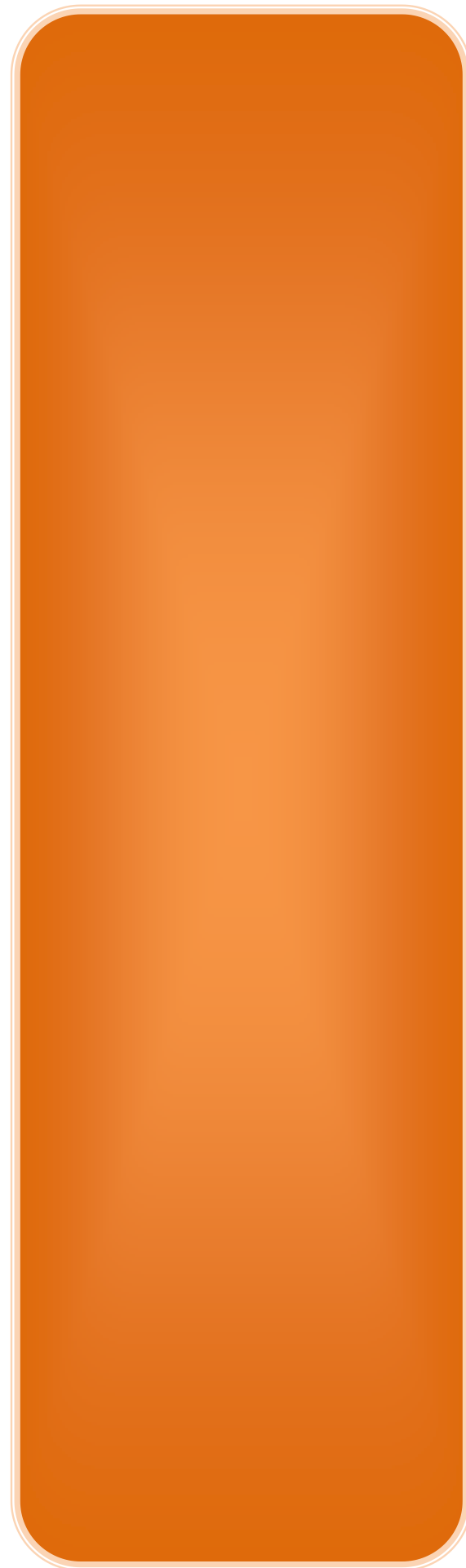
<http://www.ccg-qcc.gc.ca/eng/Mcts/vhf>



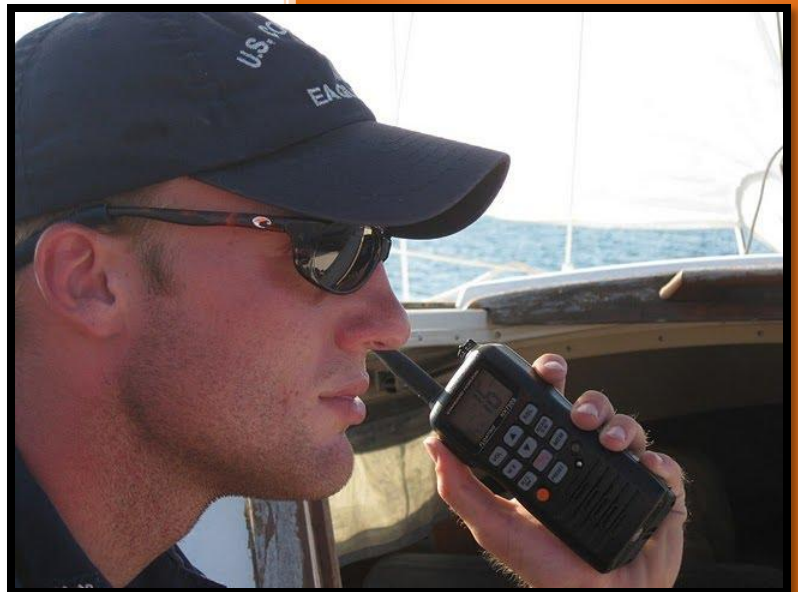
Marine VHF Designated Frequencies			
Channel Number	Ship Transmit MHz	Ship Receive MHz	Intended And Designated Use
06	156.300	156.300	Intership Safety
07A	156.350	156.350	Commercial
08	156.400	156.400	Commercial (Intership only)
09	156.450	156.450	Boater Calling. Commercial and Non-Commercial.
10	156.500	156.500	Commercial
11	156.550	156.550	Commercial. VTS in selected areas.
12	156.600	156.600	Port Operations. VTS in selected areas.
13	156.650	156.650	Intership Navigation Safety (Bridge-to-bridge). Ships >20m length maintain a listening watch on this channel in US waters.
14	156.700	156.700	Port Operations. VTS in selected areas.
15	--	156.750	Environmental (Receive only). Used by Class C EPIRBs.
16	156.800	156.800	International Distress, Safety and Calling. Ships required to carry radio, USCG, and most coast stations maintain a listening watch on this channel.
17	156.850	156.850	State Control
18A	156.900	156.900	Commercial
19A	156.950	156.950	Commercial
20	157.000	161.600	Port Operations (duplex)
20A	157.000	157.000	Port Operations
21A	157.050	157.050	U.S. Coast Guard only
21B	--	161.650	Continuous Canadian Marine Broadcast (English)
22A	157.100	157.100	Coast Guard Liaison and Maritime Safety Information Broadcasts. Broadcasts announced on channel 16.
23A	157.150	157.150	U.S. Coast Guard only
23B	--	161.750	Continuous Canadian Marine Broadcast (French)



24	157.200	161.800	Public Correspondence (Marine Operator)
25	157.250	161.850	Public Correspondence (Marine Operator)
26	157.300	161.900	Public Correspondence (Marine Operator)
27	157.350	161.950	Public Correspondence (Marine Operator)
28	157.400	162.000	Public Correspondence (Marine Operator)
28B	--	162.000	Continuous Canadian Marine Broadcast (French)
63A	156.175	156.175	Port Operations and Commercial, VTS. Available only in New Orleans / Lower Mississippi area.
65A	156.275	156.275	Port Operations Canadian Search and Rescue
66A	156.325	156.325	Port Operations
67	156.375	156.375	Commercial. Used for Bridge-to-bridge communications in lower Mississippi River. Intership only.
68	156.425	156.425	Non-Commercial
69	156.475	156.475	Non-Commercial
70	156.525	156.525	Digital Selective Calling (voice communications not allowed)
71	156.575	156.575	Non-Commercial
72	156.625	156.625	Non-Commercial (Intership only)
73	156.675	156.675	Port Operations
74	156.725	156.725	Port Operations
77	156.875	156.875	Port Operations (Intership only)
78A	156.925	156.925	Non-Commercial
79A	156.975	156.975	Commercial. Non-Commercial in Great Lakes only
80A	157.025	157.025	Commercial. Non-Commercial in Great Lakes only
81A	157.075	157.075	U.S. Government only - Environmental protection operations.
82A	157.125	157.125	U.S. Government only Canadian Coast Guard
83A	157.175	157.175	U.S. Coast Guard only



84	157.225	161.825	Public Correspondence (Marine Operator)
85	157.275	161.875	Public Correspondence (Marine Operator)
85B	--	161.775	Continuous Canadian Marine Broadcast (English)
86	157.325	161.925	Public Correspondence (Marine Operator)
87	157.375	161.975	Public Correspondence (Marine Operator)
AIS 1	161.975	161.975	Automatic Identification System #1 (AIS) - Special equipment required!
88	157.425	162.025	Public Correspondence only near Canadian border.
AIS 2	162.025	162.025	Automatic Identification System #2 (AIS) - Special equipment required!
88A	157.425	157.425	Commercial, Intership only.



RaRa Rag 20 (and 40!) Years Ago,

By Ed Gable, K2MP
RaRa Historian



20 Years Ago, June, 1991

The June RaRa gathering was a picnic for members and family held at Powder Mill Park in Pittsford. Good food and face to face QSO's were had by all. At the last business meeting the new officers and board members were elected for the 1991/92 season with the following results: President Pete Secrist WB2SUN, VP Lloyd Caves WB2EFU, Secretary Bob Hobday N2EVG, Treasurer Dick Goslee K2VCZ and to the Board of Directors Neal Eckhardt WB2EKP, Keith Freeberg N2BEL, Irv Goodman AF2K, Roger Harnaart WB2BWQ, Ed Holdsworth N2EH, David Minchella KE2GE and George Muller WA2EIO.

While the RaRa Rag takes a break for the months of July and August, ham radio bulletins and news continued to be disseminated by local ARRL Official Bulletin Stations. Serving our area, via the WB2IMT repeater in Canadice, NY, were Dwight K2KWK and Ray WA2MYG. License Class Director Ed Gable, K2MP, reported that the spring session graduated 27 new licensees. This was the first class after the new no-code rules were enacted by the FCC. As such, only four of the 27 took and passed the 13 wpm code. Len Gessin, WA2ZNC, placed a commercial size advertisement offering to buy vintage table top radios.

40 Years Ago, June 1971

This issue proudly proclaimed the just completed RaRa hamfest to great success and the first to be held at the new Monroe County Fairgrounds venue. Chairman Harold Smith, WA2KND, reported 2,000 in attendance and 44 commercial vendors in the Dome arena. The Radio Amateur of the Year was award to Mel Wilson, W2BOC/W1DEI for his work in VHF propagation studies. New for the hamfest was a very successful Ladies Fashion show, provided by McCurdy's, with over 100 YL's in attendance.

Newly elected RaRa officers were: President Rich Koehn WB2SNA, VP Ed Holdsworth WA2EKR, Secretary John Lucas WB2BEH and Treasurer Len Gessin WA2ZNC. To the Board of Directors: Harold Smith WA2KND, Bob Lauzon WB2NSD, George Negus K2OIU, Joe Hood K2YAH, Bob Pavlock WA2ECD, Elmer Wagner WB2BNJ and Lloyd Andrus WN2MVC. Also reported were new officers for the Rochester VHF Group: Chairman Otto Bluntzer WB2RJB, VP Haywood Parker WB2YMM, Secretary /Treasurer Ed Kessler W2EQW. A new advertiser was Harry's Amateur Radio Supply of Baldwinsville, NY.

Monroe County ARES / RACES News

Monroe County Amateur Radio Emergency Service, Inc. holds its meetings on the fourth Thursday of each month. All ARES / RACES members and non-member Amateur Radio Operators are welcome and encouraged to attend.

The next ARES Meeting will be held on:
Thursday, June 23, 2011, at 7 PM.

This will be the last meeting before the summer break, as we do not meet in July or August. Meetings are held at the **Greater Rochester Chapter of the American Red Cross HQ, 50 Prince Street, Rochester, NY 14607.** (Located behind the Rochester Auditorium Theatre, 885 Main St. East.)

ARES NET: Monroe County ARES/RACES meets on the air every Thursday of the month at 9:00 pm, on the 146.61 MHz (-) 110.9 Hz PL repeater. The only exception to that are nights when we hold our regular meeting, generally on the 4th Thursday of the month.

XARC Foxhunt Results

By Jon Dickason, N2JAC

May 14 was CQ worldwide foxhunt weekend. XARC usually has their foxhunt around that time but was delayed a little this year, so I decided to host a foxhunt with a difference. I hoped to get some new hunters, so I planned the first leg of the hunt to be a cooperative hunt instead of a competition. Without knowing a starting location, we all started from home and tried to hear the fox on 146.565 sending Morse code in FM. A few minutes after 9 AM I called for check-ins and got first time hunters WB2JOR, Lee in Greece, KC2YTG, Nick in Brighton, W2VAB, Vince, in Ontario, and veteran hunter W2SKY, Peter, in Penfield.

No one could hear the fox, which meant it was probably not in any of those towns, but they also needed more clues to start the real hunting. I helped a little by changing the fox antenna to a higher gain whip from the rubber ducky. Lee decided to head to downtown Rochester to see what he could hear. As he got near the Blue Cross Arena he started to hear the faint signal, and Peter was able to get a bearing with his beam toward South Town Plaza. We all decided to meet at South Town while Peter stayed home to coordinate on the repeater, which was a great help and also kept the rookies motivated. As Lee traveled South from downtown the signal faded in and out.

Another experienced hunter K2OID, Bob, met us at South Town with his Arrow Yagi antenna (the three rookies had just their HT antennas). There was a lot of interference at South Town so we headed further south to Methodist Hill where we finally got a strong signal and we were able to learn the body fade technique where you use your body as an attenuator to determine the direction of the signal. Now the hunters were eager to close in



Local hams in action at the May 18th "FLurricane" drill at Strong Memorial Hospital. 16 other areas hospitals were involved in this activity. (TNX, Mike Rink, W2HYP)



on the fox. We all stayed together, stopping at Delphi to get another bearing and consulting a map because we weren't all familiar with the area. They continued a zig-zagging southwest course, stopping every few miles to confirm their bearings, with Peter watching us from home on APRS.

At Riverton, with the rain and signal increasing, they found a golf course nearby, but it was not a public place (the fox will not be on private property) but as they drove past the golf course a tiny park was revealed on the west side of the Genesee river near Scottsville.

The hunter's path to the fox is not always as direct as the huntmasters envision, and I didn't want them to get discouraged by slogging through some soaked meadow, so I was about to send a clue saying the fox was within 50 feet of a parking lot, but the team's leader, K2OID, knew a strong signal meant it was now time for the on-foot hunt. The fox was not very hidden, just resting in some weeds with a shiny whip antenna, so once you got close enough it was not too hard to see. It did take several minutes and some more hunting techniques like tuning off frequency and removing antennas to zero in on it.

As the rookies were enjoying their success I explained that this was this was a relatively easy hunt. It's usually a little more hidden than this one and the huntmasters can control it remotely. Sometimes we have multiple transmitters on multiple frequencies, or other gimmicks to keep it interesting. XARC's spring hunt is June 11th and I hope we'll have some second time hunters there!

GVARA: We've Come a Long Way

By Billy Boyd – N3DSP

Back in October 2008 Bill VanRemmen, KA2WFJ, resurrected the Livingston County Net. After the Net was resurrected there was interest in forming "club" in Livingston County. Letters were sent to all Amateur Operators in Livingston County and our neighbors in the surrounding counties were invited too. In January 2009 the first meeting of the area Amateur Operators was held in Avon. There were Amateurs from Livingston, Monroe, and Wyoming Counties present. Several ideas were presented or proposed of what Amateurs would like to see in a local club. From these initial meetings became the Genesee Valley Amateur Radio Association.

One of the first things as a new club that was needed was to set up a list of goals for the young club to survive. Some of these goals were: regular meetings and meeting location; revive Livingston ARES; establish regular Amateur Radio Testing; establish a set up by laws; promote Amateur Radio in the Community; provide programs related to Amateur Radio for area operators; and most of all to have a good time.

Regular meetings were scheduled for the 4th Sunday of Each month at 6:30 PM. Our original meeting location was at the Village of Avon Building. The Village Board allowed us to meet in one of their conference rooms for the first year. In 2010 the Northern Livingston Chapter of the American Red Cross arranged for us to meet at the Livingston County Government Center. This is where we continue to meet. We meet every month Except June, July, August, and December.

One important resource missing from Livingston County was an ARES Unit. Mike Rink was appointed Emergency Coordinator with Rich Taromino and Bill VanRemmen Assistant Emergency Coordinators. The membership of GVARA, if they desire, make themselves available for Livingston ARES. This has made our bond with the Northern Livingston Chapter of the American Red Cross stronger and we hope to in the near future work with the Clara

Barton Chapter of the American Red Cross in Dansville. We are always willing to train with other ARES groups.

Bringing more people into Amateur Radio is vital to keeping the hobby thriving. Larry Omans, AB2ZP, volunteered to chair the GVARA VEC Team. We decided to affiliate with the ARRL VEC Group. We have five VEC's and offer testing at 5:30 PM on the 4th Sunday before our regular scheduled meetings. Several of us have also cross-affiliated with the Laurel VEC and we assisted RARA last year at the Hamfest with testing.

Every organization needs a set of rules or by laws to govern how they operate. During the summer of 2010 a By Laws Committee met and established criteria for GVARA's first by laws. Having a set of By Laws was important for other future goals of the club. After establishing the By Laws and having them placed in effect, the next goal is to become a non-profit corporation and get designated as non-profit by the IRS. With very limited funds we are looking for a lawyer to help us with this pro bono. Please contact us if you can help.

Promoting Amateur Radio in the community gives your club exposure and possibly will bring more people into the hobby. Through the Red Cross arrangements we were able to be on David A. Parish's *Livingston On Line* radio show, which is aired on WYSL Radio, 1030 kHz. We also have a list of media recourses to keep the public informed on our events. We do this to hopefully bring more members to the club and to Amateur Radio.

Each month after our meeting we try to provide a program for our members. Members of RARA have been a great help with this. Working with members of RARA we have been able to provide some great programs for our members. After seeing the programs first hand at RARA meetings, it is amazing that these people take the time to tweak their programs for GVARA. It is greatly appreciated and the GVARA members have learned quite a bit of information over the past two years.

Everyone likes to have a good time while enjoying life. Amateur Radio Operators included. August 2009 brought our first Family Picnic. We held it at the Perry Village Park. It was a fun afternoon socializing with members and their families.

In December 2009 we held our first Christmas Party/Banquet at Hawley's Lumber Yard Restaurant in Perry. Everyone who attended had a good time. At the January 2010 meeting we decided to make this an annual event. At the 2010 Christmas Party/Banquet, Certificates of Appreciation were handed out to members that have gone above and beyond to get GVARA to where it is today. We hope to continue this at future Christmas Party/Banquets.

In 2010 GVARA participated in Field Day for the first time. We canceled our June Meeting and set up for Field Day at the Perry Village Park. We also decided this would be a good time to have our Family Picnic, instead of a separate weekend later in the summer. The food was great, the camaraderie was awesome, and all had a good time. We are currently planning for our 2011 Field Day/Picnic. For our first time we had five or six stations operating and we made over 600 contacts. Hopefully we can do even better this year! If you are interested in setting up with us, contact us and we can fill you in with the details and the cost for the picnic.

So as you can see, over two years, we have come a long way. The best advice I can give to anyone who wants to start a club is to have goals (and stick to them), have consistent meeting times, and have fun along the way. It is an enjoyable hobby!

We are always looking for new members, programs, and ways to assist others. Please contact us if you can assist us or if we can assist you!

For complete information on GVARA:

On the web: www.gvara.org

Billy Boyd – N3DSP

President GVARA

N3DSP@lafireline.net

585-315-6607 – cell please leave a message

N1MM Presenter Needed

Can you help the **Genesee Valley Amateur Radio Association** (www.lafireline.net/lwara.html)? The group is looking for a presenter to give a demonstration of the N1MM Logging program at an upcoming meeting. We meet at 6:30 PM with the presentation to follow. If you can assist, please email President Billy Boyd @ N3DSP@lafireline.net or call his cell at 585-315-6607.

Antique Wireless Association Museum

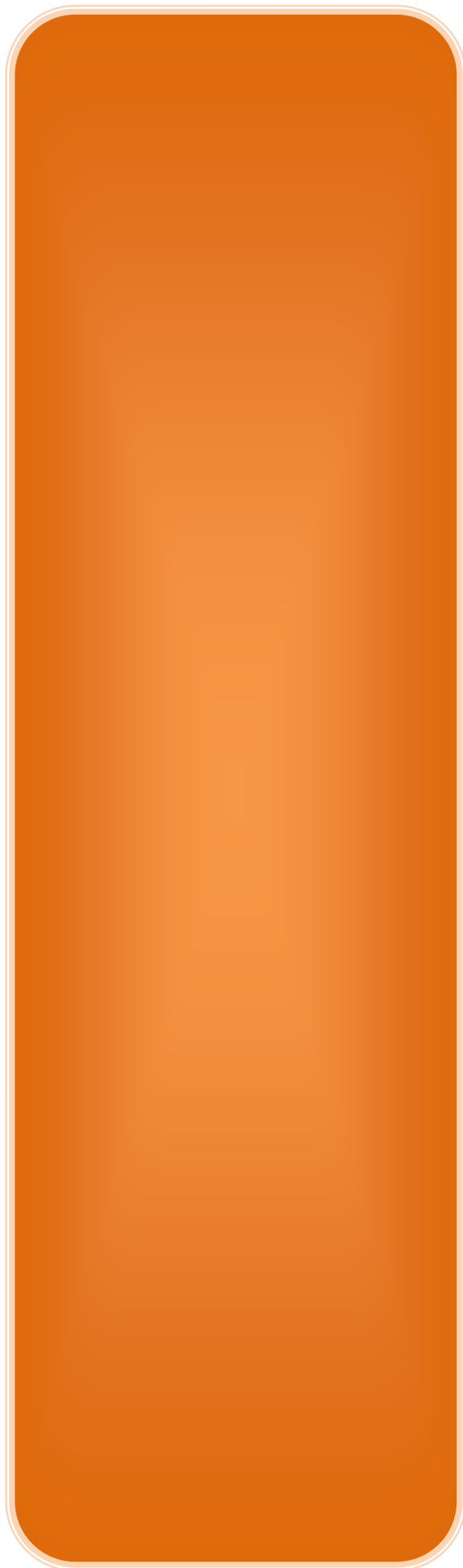
The ever popular AWA museum is now open for the season. June, July and August openings are Saturday 2-4 pm and Sunday 2-5 pm. September, Sundays only 2-5 pm. Club and group tours on other dates are encouraged and can be arranged by calling Museum Curator Bruce Roloson, W2BDR, at (607) 625-3031. The museum is located at 2 South Avenue, Bloomfield, New York, just north of Routes 5&20, across from the Civil War memorial park. Be sure to ask for a free copy of the printed *AWA Journal*.

RDXA News

by Irv Goodman, AF2K

The final meeting for the season is on Tuesday, June 21st, and will feature general election of Board members for 2011-12 along with a detailed discussion of preparations for upcoming Field Day. Start time is 7:30 PM at the Monroe County Emergency Operations Center, 1190 Scottsville Rd., Suite 200.

Be sure to look for us in the usual Flea Market space at Rochester Hamfest on Saturday, June 4th. Stop by to socialize, join the club, or conveniently renew your membership. All are welcome -- see you there.



For Sale:

Icom IC-745 HF all band Transceiver, 1.8 - 30 MHz with WARC bands included. 100 watts output (SSB & CW) general coverage receiver SSB, CW, RTTY & AM. Triple conversion superhet. Dual VFOs and 16 memories. 117 Vac power supply built-in but can also be operated from a 12 Vdc supply. Unit has been tested and aligned by Malcom Technical Support in Toleda, WA. This radio is in near mint condition with no visible wear and always used in a non-smoking environment. Icom HM-37 hand microphone included as well as the original instruction manual. An on air demonstration can be arranged. Contact Lou Kohnen, K2ANC, at 585-249-5009, or lkohnen1@rochester.rr.com.



For Sale:

Collins 51J4 Receiver, Serial #4552. PTO reworked and RF/IF stages aligned in July, 2010 by W3HM. Have all documentation. \$850, local pickup. Jay K2JSG, 585-766-8872 or jgolden577@rochester.rr.com.

Visit the RARA Website!

Did you know that your club's website at www.rochesterham.org offers these features and more?...

- ✓ Photos of meetings & events (you might be in there!)
- ✓ Info on upcoming meetings/programs
- ✓ Rochester Hamfest information!
- ✓ Online membership & renewal
- ✓ Public service info & sign-up
- ✓ VE testing info
- ✓ Back issues of the *Rag* in PDF
- ✓ Officer contact info
- ✓ List of past presidents (how many do you remember?)
- ✓ Order RARA logo products (hats, shirts, mugs)
- ✓ Useful Internet links
- ✓ Ham Radio 101—tons of tutorial info, plus net & repeater listings

Rochester Amateur Radio Association, Inc.

RARA **Rochester HAMFEST**

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RaRa HOME Welcome to RARA

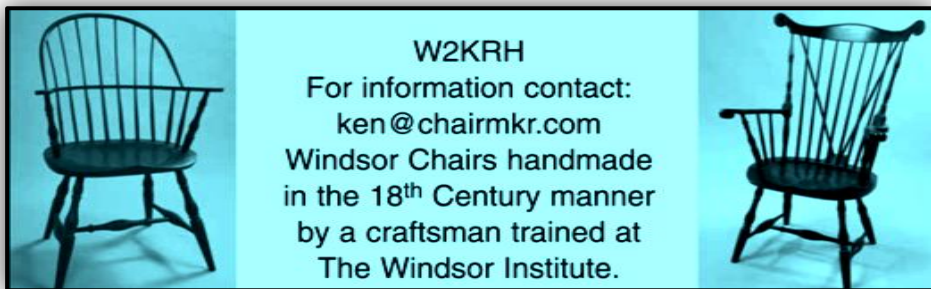
The Rochester Amateur Radio Association, Inc. (RARA) is a widely diversified, highly active amateur radio club centered in the Rochester, NY area. We were founded in 1930, and incorporated in September of 1960. Currently with over 575 active members, we are one of the largest Amateur Radio clubs in North America, attracting international members from near and far.

We are an American Radio Relay League (ARRL) affiliated club since 1931, and a charter Special Service Organization. RARA provides a unifying focal point for much of the amateur radio activity in Western New York.

New at RARA on the web:


- RARA Academy - Download the flyer and RSVP TODAY!
- New: Updated Rochester area Repeater Listing
- Fall program listing updated.
- Fall Licensing courses - Register now!
- Newest photo gallery posted! Have some fun: Make your own comments and captions!

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Club Station Trustee Jim DiTucci, N2IXD
Education Coordinator Sue Waterstraat, KC2SUE
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Refreshments Coordinator Tom Austin, KA2GXX
Webmaster Frank Schramm, WB2PYD

RaRa meets on the first Friday of each month from September through May. Come join us at:

Henrietta Fire Company No.1
3129 East Henrietta Rd.
Henrietta, NY 14467

[Get Directions](#)

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Jim Sutton, N2OPS jim@otrym.org

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Dave Hallidy, K2DH k2dh@frontiernet.net

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XEROX Amateur Radio Club (XARC)

Ned Asam, W2NED w2ned@frontiernet.net

July Rag Deadline
June 17, 2011

