



the RARA RAG

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NO. 9

Emergency Preparedness – Are YOU ready?

By Frank Schramm, WB2PYD
Vice-President, RARA

If you've lived in the Rochester area for more than the last few years, you've experienced a regional emergency of some degree. Maybe you endured the Ice Storm of 1991 where parts of the region were powerless for 10 days or more. Or maybe you experienced the East Coast Blackout of 2003. These are just 2 examples of the more newsworthy events we have experienced. However there are smaller scale emergencies much more frequently. Recently, storm damage caused the local Red Cross to open shelters to house families displaced from their homes. Who came to the communications rescue? Ham Radio Operators like you and me. This scenario is played out time and time again in local, national, and global news. Remember Katrina? That dampness problem they had down in New Orleans... who got the communications through? Hams! Even the mighty US military powers acknowledge and capitalize on the vast resources of the Ham Radio population. Have you ever heard of the Military Affiliate Radio System, aka MARS? That's us, standing ready, HT in hand just in case...

When disaster strikes will you know what to do? Take no chances: Come find out! Our educator will be Jeff Wigal, WY7Q the Emergency Coordinator for Monroe County Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES). Jeff will teach us how to keep our family safe; how to prepare and maintain communications equipment in a ready state; and how to help others in time of need. There are thousands of Hams in the Rochester area, sadly only about 500-600 will see this, and have this empowering opportunity. Make sure YOU are one of us who knows what to do in an emergency.

Hey, Hey, Hey... It's MAY!

You know what that means: It's Officer and Director Election time! Yay!!! We will also be voting on things like increasing next years dues, and my favorite proposal that the President be paid! (OOPS, I forgot, April Fools was last month). So, be sure to come cast your ballot!

New this year: RaRa will be meeting every month throughout the summer! If you are not receiving a copy of the RaRa e-

RAG by e-mail, contact the editor (rgoslee@rochester.com) and get on the mailing list. All summer program and meeting announcements will be via the e-RAG. So don't miss out! Here's what we have in store for you this summer:

June: Picnic – Fun for the entire Family with a special surprise that I can't tell you about (yet).

July: RARA Cruise Night at Bill Grays!

August: Hidden Transmitter Safari.

Watch for details in upcoming RaRa e-RAGs! Now I must say good bye... this is the last time you'll have to read my ramblings on the front of the RAG. Why? Because I'm moving: Beginning with the next issue, I'll be on page 2!

I hope to see you all at the Annual Meeting!

RaRa Annual Meeting & Elections

May 2, 2008 7:30 P.M.

Henrietta Fire Hall #1

3129 East Henrietta Road

Emergency Preparedness

By Jeff Wigal, WY7Q

the RARA RAG

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The Prez Sez

By Jim DiTucci, N2IXD
President, RARA

Last month's Prez Sez column, which included *A View from the Other Side of the Couch* by ARRL contributing editor, Gary Hoffman, KB0H, generated several comments from RARA members. You may remember that the story line revolved around the experience of a fellow Ham's fruitless session with his unsympathetic psychiatrist, Dr. Julia Weir, whose classic lines, "On the air..." "Do you believe that you can fly?" and "You put a little building (shack) in your basement. Do you feel safe inside it?" may very well define how many outsiders suspiciously view Ham Operators.

Most of the comments received were favorable and included a chuckle or grin and even a comical side- note of a similar experience. However, more than one of you cited that we Ham's sometimes take ourselves a little too seriously. While I tried to wrap the story between the lines of a fictitious episode into *The Wireless Zone*, a.k.a. *The Twilight Zone*, apparently, for a few people, the whole experience struck a little too close to home. I'm not quite sure if that was because of convincing writing or because in reality all of us sometimes fit that mold. And the fact that I gingerly pointed out that I tied-in Happy April Fool's at the conclusion of the column did little to sway the opinion of my detractors. To that I say, "If the shoe fits..."

So this month, I will leave you with this list. *You Might be a Ham Operator if...*

A friend remarks that you have a lot of CBs in your vehicle, and it turns into an hour-long rant on how ham radio is not CB.

Your cell phone ring tone is a Morse code message of some kind.

You have accidentally said your Amateur Radio call sign at the end of a telephone conversation.

The local city council doesn't like you.

You actually think towers look good.

Your HF amplifier puts out more power than the local AM radio station.

You refer to your children as your "harmonics".

You have pictures of your radio equipment as wallpaper on your computer's desktop.

Every family vacation includes a stop at a Ham radio store.

The first question you ask the new car dealer is: "What is the alternator's current output"?

You buy a brand new car based on the radio mounting locations and antenna mounting possibilities.

You have tapped out Morse code on your car's horn.

You always park on the top floor of the parking deck, just in case you might have to wait in the car later.

When house hunting, you look for the best room for a radio shack, scan the property for possible tower placement and check for CCRs.

The real estate agent scratches his head when you ask if the soil conductivity is high, medium, or low.

You have Ham radio magazines in the bathroom.

You have found yourself whistling "CQ" using Morse code.

You really start to miss people that you've never met.

You walk through the plumbing section at the hardware store and see antenna parts.

--Author unknown (or perhaps, doesn't want to be known)

I will admit that I found a few lines entertaining; maybe even found myself exposed in a few lines. And if a line or two didn't bring a chuckle or a grin to your face, well, I may have to question your Ham-hood. I have to question why you have those call-sign vanity plates on your mobile or insist on clipping your HT antenna to your hat at Hamfests. Yes, I am. I'm questioning your Ham-hood. 73, or whatever.

Clubs & Groups wanting a booth at the Hamfest

By Dick Goslee, KG2L
Asst. General Chairman

Any Clubs or groups that want a booth at the 2008 Rochester Hamfest must fill out a booth order form to be included. The form is available at:

www.rochesterhamfest.org/exhord8.htm.

Please include the names of up to 2 members who will be working the booth and who will require credentials necessary for admission to the Hamfest grounds. These credentials will

be prepared in advance and must be picked up at the Hamfest Hotel (The RIT Inn & Conference Center). They will be available starting at noon on Thursday May 29th in the front lobby. There is no charge for booths for groups.

RaRa Hotline
NEW NUMBER
(585) 671-2424
24 Hours a Day

Annual Elections

By Frank Schramm, WB2PYD
Vice-President, RARA

Nominations for the elections were started at the April meeting by the Nominating Committee (their report shown below). Additional nominations may be made from the floor at the Annual Meeting, May 2nd. The elections will follow the close of nominations.

Mr. James DiTucci, N2IXD
President, Rochester Amateur Radio Assoc.
P.O. Box 93333
Rochester, NY 14692-8333

Dear Jim,

On behalf of the members of the Nominating Committee I am pleased to place the following names in nomination as Officers and Directors of the corporation for the 2008-2009 term.

Vice-President: Duane Fregoe, K2SI
Secretary: William Kasperkoski, WB2SXY
Treasurer: Richard Goslee, KG2I
Directors: Kenneth Hall, W2KRH
Jeffrey Miller, N2AWA
John Stanton, KO2I
Larry Safford, AB2OY
Larry Wallnau, W2ZEY
James DiTucci, N2IXD
Leonard Crellin, KC2PCD

This completes the work of the Nominating Committee and I wish to thank Kevin Carey, WB2QMY, and Dick Goslee, KG2I for their work on the committee and their help in preparing this report.

Sincerely,

Frank Schramm, WB2PYD
Chairman, 2008-2009 Nominating Committee
Rochester Amateur Radio Association, Inc.

Election Nominations

The following RARA members have been nominated for election at the annual meeting. Biographies of each of the candidates are shown below.

Vice-President:

Duane Fregoe, K2SI

What a difference a year can make. When I wrote my first bio last year for a seat on the Board of Directors I was KC2PCG proudly waving my general ticket. This year I am K2SI and proudly waving my extra ticket a little higher. Looking back over the last two years there was a thrill and challenge with each upgrade. Where will the next thrill and challenge come from now?

As a member of the Board of Directors I was at every Board meeting. I saw a group that cares about the club. This past year there was a substantial reduction in the printing and mailing of the "RAG" with some minor changes. This past year we were able to raise the scholarship to \$1,000. This past year the club also orchestrated one of the best auctions ever.

On the hobby side of things I have been experimenting with some of the hobbies many offerings. I have been working some DX, participating in contests for both SSB and RTTY, submitting logs to Logbook of the World and eQSL, setting up an APRS unit, participating in some public service event, and joining the VE testing team.

Outside of Ham Radio I am a Senior Project Manager for LeChase Construction and have been there 23 years. My wife and my 2 young boys enjoy camping during the summer in our 25' condo on wheels. In 1997 I was appointed to the Town of Ogden Zoning Board and have been Chairman since 2000. I also coach Special Olympics with the Westside Training Club and have been active for the past 3 years. We are a parent run club with about 20 athletes and participate in 6 sports through the year.

I have enjoyed my seat on the Board of Directors and was hoping to keep it warm for a few more years but I have been asked to fill another seat, that being the seat of Vice President. I will run for the seat of Vice President in the coming election. If elected by the membership it will answer my opening question.

Secretary:

Bill Kasperkoski, WB2SXY

After several years as a Short Wave Listener and in 1964 I earned WN2SXY, my first amateur radio license. Currently I hold an old Amateur Extra Class license, WB2SXY, DXCC, WAS and WAC and considers myself an avid CW rag chew operator.

I used my FCC First Phone (now a GROL) Commercial License with a Ship's Radar Endorsement, in commercial TV and radio broadcast stations in the Rochester (NY) area. In the military I was stationed for a year at a state-side Military Educational TV facility, and then overseas as the Training NCO for my USARV unit.

At Kodak's Elmgrove Plant, I ran the commercial 2-way radio, repeater and pager facility for several years and taught others to troubleshoot the broadband and computer network plants. I also worked at that facility's network operations

control center and high voltage welding laser production areas, in addition to copier and special electronics servicing. In other companies, I worked as a network and microwave engineer for a wireless ISP, and in long distance telephone Unix computer systems administration and programming.

I have already served RARA as a license class theory instructor, Secretary, Vice-President and President, and hold a management BS degree from Roberts Wesleyan College. I have worked many years as a control station on the Monroe County FM Net, an operator in the Thruway Pumpkin Patrol, the K2RRA/Hamfest Talk-in station, public service walk-a-thons, ScoutJOTA, Skywarn and other on-the-air Special Event stations and contests.

I volunteered for about 15 years as an Assistant Cub and Scout Master and a trainer for adult scout leaders at district and council sessions. As an adult, I earned Scouting's Woodbadge and Order of the Arrow. I belong to the ARRL, FISTS and other local ARC's. I am attached to RACES, ARES and have interests in APRS and formal traffic handling. I have also volunteered several years locally as an ambulance radio dispatcher.

<p style="text-align: center;">June Rag Deadline May 7, 2008</p>

Treasurer:

Dick Goslee, KG2I

I have been a Ham for 51 years now. I received my Novice call KN2VCZ in April of 1957 and advanced to Technician (K2VCZ) and then General in 1958. It took a while (I was busy) till I received my Advanced license in 1977 and finally my Extra license in 2001. After defeating cancer in late 2003 I decided it was time for a new call and in January of 2004 I received my current call, KG2I. Along the way I served on the BOD of the Schenectady Amateur Radio Association and as President of my High School radio club and my college club at RIT. While in college at RIT I also served as President of the National Professional Photographic Fraternity, Delta Lambda Epsilon.

I have been a member of RARA since 1983. I was elected to the BOD in 1984 and I was appointed as Chairman of the Finance Committee. In 1985 I was elected Vice-President and then became President in 1986. Following my term as President I was elected as Treasurer in 1987 and served in that capacity until 2004 when I retired from the office. In 2005 I was elected President for the 2nd time.

Among my other jobs in RARA were a 6 year stint teaching the Novice/Technician class and a couple of years teaching the Advanced class. In 1986 I took over the operation of the RARA membership/directory database and wrote the programs to move it from a TRS-80 computer to a more modern IBM PC style system. I have maintained the database since that time and have also served as the Editor of the RARA Directory since 1986. During the early 90's I worked with Neal Eckhardt, WB2EKP on the RARA RAG.

When Ray Pickens, WA2MYG passed away in 2004 I became the Editor of the RARA RAG and continue in that capacity today. I also spent many years working with the famous "K2JD Engraving Team", and as a member of the RARA VE Team.

I have worked on various committees of the Rochester Hamfest since joining RARA in 1983 and in 2006 I became the Assistant General Chairman for the Hamfest. With my love of finance and in working for RARA I have decided to run again for Treasurer last year and I have been nominated again for the 2008-2009 year.

I am involved in many activities with RARA because I believe in my heart that you only get out of an organization what you put in. To truly enjoy an organization you must get involved in the day to day operation.

My wife Sue is licensed as N2HKA and my daughters Karen, KB2CHE and Cathie, KB2ESZ are also licensed hams.

Director:

Len Crellin, KC2PCD

My name is Len Crellin, KC2PCD. I became a ham in January 2006 and have enjoyed learning new skills and sharing those I know best with other "newbees". Having been a teacher for 35 years it is only natural to want to help others with what I know.

I have enjoyed meeting so many people at the meetings, public service events, Hamfests and of course over the air. The idea of passing on information is as old as humanity, and the ham community is certainly keeping up the tradition. I have never met such a generous group, always eager to help a fellow ham.

Last fall Larry Wallnau asked if I would help out with Media Communications while he dealt with an illness. I also sat in for him at several Board meetings. Since then I have taken over the Media position as full time coordinator. With this experience I felt I could offer my services to the club as a member of the Board of Directors and bring a new perspective and positive energy that will help continue the excellence that our past Boards have provided. I hope you will support my decision to run. 73.

Jim DiTucci, N2IXD

What a privilege it has been for me to be your president this year. Never could I have imaged 12 months ago how rewarding and how much fun it would be. At the first board meeting as new president last year I challenged the officers and directors to look closely at how we do things as a club. I insisted that if RARA is to survive and grow, we must be good stewards. Let's not do things the way we do them because it's the way we have always done it. I asked that we question everything to insure that what we do and how we do it is in the best interest of our membership today.

I am here to report that your officers and directors have served you well.

(Jim DiTucci continued on page 6)

Jim Dituci continued from page 5

I will not recite a litany of changes, tweaks and improvements implemented by their diligent work, because most are transparent to our general membership, but I will say this: While other clubs in communities our size struggle to exist, struggle to preserve their shrinking membership, RARA is strong and viable and positioned to continue to be a flagship club, leading the way for amateur radio in the 21st century.

I would like to think that I had a small part in that. Now my desire is to go back to from where I came, back to the position of Director. Back to a place where I can help drive the future of RARA.

Ken Hall, W2KRH

Born in Buffalo and raised in Orchard Park joined the Army in 1963 was trained in electronics, served in Turkey, Japan, Vietnam and CONUS, discharged in 1970 with the rank of Chief Warrant Officer.

Began working for a small systems company, STA, Inc., in 1970 working on an automated order wire ground station system for the Intelsat Telecommunications satellite system. In 1971 went to work for Xerox Corporation where for the next 35 years I held a number of positions beginning as a Technical Representative and ending as a Technical Project Manager.

I have had a lifelong interested in Amateur Radio and was finally licensed in 1998 as KC2DTT and joined the Xerox Amateur Radio Club where I was elected President. In 2007 I upgraded to General and then Extra and became a VE with Raj Dewan. I am also a member of TAPR, AMSAT and Ontario County RACES. I am interested in Software Defined Radios and digital modes of communication.

As a member of BOD I will represent the members of the club to the best of my ability and will seek input from its members. Thank you for your vote.

Jeff Miller, N2AWA

My exploration of amateur radio began in September 2005 when I visited the RARA web site. It was a life long aspiration to get involved in the hobby, so I began studying the licensing material immediately. Over the next five months, I worked up to Extra Class. I enjoy using the local repeaters, as well as rag chewing, and DX-ing on the HF bands. I am an active NCS for the Monroe County FM Net, and also participate in various Nets (V/U/HF/SSB/AM) throughout the week. I enjoy maintaining and restoring vacuum tube radios, and have a workbench and library dedicated to the hobby. I also volunteer with the AWA (Antique Wireless Association). I worked as an electronic technician for about ten years, and I am currently employed in the IT field. RARA is a great resource. From the interesting monthly programs, to the Elmers, and the monthly

"RAG", I believe RARA serves a vital role keeping the local ham community united and focused. I look forward to serving the club and its valued members in my new capacity as a member of the board so that I can give something back, and help steer the club into the future.

Larry Safford, AB2OY

My name is Larry Safford, and I'm running for a position on the board of directors. I have been a licensed ham for about 8 1/2 years, and I have served the club and community doing public service events for the last 5 years. I would like to serve the club more by being on the board of directors if elected. I have also been a school bus driver for close to 12 years and I have had an interest in communications since the age of 12. Thank you for your support

John Stanton, KO2I

Sometime in the early 1950's I built my first radio, a crystal set. I climbed on top of our house roof and strung a wire antenna between the two chimneys. (Obviously this must have been a prelude to climbing many ham towers years later.) Lightning? never thought about it. I was amazed to hear many radio stations, usually all at once! I still remember my friend Bud and I sitting in his cellar staring at a Hallicrafters SX-38 and listening to ham operators chatting. And listening to Morse code wow! That was fascinating!

Many years intervened (college & family) before I got my ticket in the early 1970's and put up my first tribander with the help of Julio, LU7BD (sk). Soon after getting on the air, I met Dick, K2YRZ who helped me assemble a kilowatt amplifier from parts, mostly from Glenwood Sales. Julio helped me hand-wind a plate choke that eliminated a birdie on 10 meters. Like many of you, I also built several Heathkits. As others have said, these were great times to build as you could actually feel the warm components and see them without a magnifying glass.

From the late 70's to the mid-80's I worked tons of DX from a new location and eventually moved again to a more rural area largely because of TVI issues with a lossy cable system and very close proximity to the power lines. In the early 70's to the mid-80's, I was the faculty advisor to the amateur radio club at MCC. I remember Jim, W2COP, and Frank, WB2PYD, when they were students at MCC.

My retirement from MCC in July 2005 gave Geri and me time to do more tandem bike riding. We really enjoyed the Genesee Valley Greenway and I volunteered and became a Board Member. I also had more time for ham radio. I purchased an Elecraft K2, largely because of its excellent receiver. Assembling this kit has really acquainted me with how things have changed! As I am at the "antenna stage"

again, I really enjoyed the presentation by Raj, N2RD, at the last meeting.

Looking back over the years, I think of all the Elmers who have helped me along. The list of names would be quite long. I am sure that this is a common thread among most of us; we are indebted to those hams who have helped us understand that antennas obey the laws of physics and that ham radio is a very diverse hobby. As a board member, I would bring a lifetime interest in ham radio and a genuine interest in contributing to our hobby.

Larry Wallnau, W2ZEY

My father, an electrical engineer, was responsible for my interest in radios and electronics. We spent many hours in the basement workshop repairing radios and TVs, and working on science projects. I still enjoy restoring "boat anchor" shortwave radios. My preferences are for the Nationals and military Command Sets. Upon retiring from SUNY Brockport, I decided to take up Ham Radio. I showed up at RaRa meetings, and at the urging of my first elmer, Ray Pickens, WA2MYG/SK, I got my ticket soon after attending my first meeting. I hold a General class license. My interests are PSK31 [including QRP] and homebrew projects.

Club and Section Activities: [1] Managing Editor of the *RaRa Rag* – contributing a monthly column "Sidebands – Amateur Radio in the News" and other features as needed. [2] Member of the Board of Directors for past 2 years. [3] Formerly the Media Communications Coordinator for three years. [4] Formerly the Public Information Officer for the ARRL Western New York Section. [5] Currently the club Awards Committee chair.

I would be grateful for, and it would be a privilege to have, the opportunity to serve on the Board of Directors again. My phone number is in the *Rag* and the Rochester directory. I am interested in your ideas and concerns.

**This concludes the list of candidates for office.
Additional nominations may be made from the floor at
the Annual Meeting.**

RVHFG New meeting site

By Andy Flowers, K0SM/2
President, RVHFG

Due to some scheduling conflicts at our old meeting place, the RVHFG is moving its meetings for the rest of the year (that's March, April, May) to the following location, very near the old one. Please pass the word on to all who may be interested. The new site is:

Spencerport Wesleyan Church
2653 Nichols Street
Spencerport, NY 14559

FOR SALE:

Drake TR-7 Transceiver in original box. It is in very good condition with the manual. Asking \$500.00. Contact Larry Brassie, WA2GHQ at (585) 624-1923

FOR SALE:

Tower - 36 foot aluminum - 3 sections, Antenna Mosley TA-34 XL WARC Rotator/Controller Yaesu G-1000 DXA. May be viewed (in place) at 1542 Lehigh Station Road, Rochester, NY

Contact: Jim Morey w2jrm at (585) 319 4184 or jrm7287@rochester.rr.com

<h2>Rochester Hamfest May 30-31, 2008</h2>
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RaRa Rag 20 Years Ago, May, 1988

By Ed Gable, K2MP
RARA Historian

RaRa Vice-President David Bernheisel, N2DPF, announced the May program to be on the then cutting edge of technology. Mr. Jim Reda was scheduled to speak on the evolution of computer copied CW. After the talk Jim was prepared to demonstrate the latest software that performs this difficult task. This meeting is also the annual business meeting of the corporation and will include the election of officers and the determination of dues for the following year. Running for office were Bob Hobday N2EVG, Vice-President, Peter Secrist WB2SUN, Secretary and Dick Goslee K2VCZ, Treasurer. Seven Board members were also nominated and presented by David Payne, KA2J, Chairman of the Nominating Committee.

Some amateur operators who misunderstood the regulations jumped the gun and started working on the new 17 meter WARC band, according to the ARRL Letter. The 17 meter band becomes available world-wide in July 1989. The ease of having callbook type look up of ham calls is self evident. To that end, Buckmaster Publishing released a web-based callbook service effective May 1988. That service was \$29.95 per year on a subscription basis.

Local Radio and Television station WXXI authored an article announcing the start of a program called *Reachout Radio*. This offered a reading service for the blind and visually impaired and was seeking the aid of local Amateurs to record local news reports and the like.

A continuing advertiser was *Century 21* Realty Company with Robert Roberts, WA2QAU, as Agent. From the Want Ads you could buy a Mosley Tri-band yagi, with the 40 meter add-on kit, for \$150.00 from Ed, K2RHS.

Sidebands – Amateur Radio in the News

By Larry Wallnau, W2ZEY

Ham Appointed Storm Director. The new Director for the National Hurricane Center is Bill Read, KB5FYA. You can listen to him talking about the role of Amateur Radio in monitoring hurricane events at the following sites. Audio/video feed: <http://tinyurl.com/18r>. Audio only: <http://tinyurl.com/3h69bz>.

Armed Forces Day Test. The Army, Air Force, Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard are co-sponsoring the annual Military/Amateur Radio communications tests in celebration of the 58th anniversary of Armed Forces Day (AFD). Although the actual Armed Forces Day is celebrated on May 17, the AFD Military/Amateur Crossband Communications Test will be conducted on May 10 to prevent conflict with the Dayton Hamvention, scheduled for May 16-18. The annual celebration features traditional military to amateur cross band communications SSB voice tests and copying the Secretary of Defense message via digital modes. QSL cards will be provided to those stations making contact with the military stations. Special commemorative certificates will be awarded to anyone who receives and copies the digital Armed Forces Day message from the Secretary of Defense. Look for schedules and frequencies of participating military stations to be published in May on the Army MARS website:

<http://www.netcom.army.mil/MARS>.

Source: *The ARRL Letter*

When All Else Fails... Eldon Kearl, K7OGM, of Fish Haven, Idaho, was driving in the Logan Canyon, Utah area last week when he came upon a driver who lost control of her truck in the snow. Her truck fell more than 100 feet over a cliff, and two of the three passengers were thrown from the truck. Witnesses tried to call for help on their cell phones, but the closest cell coverage was more than a 30 minute drive away. Kearl, however, had a radio in his car and was able to get a hold of another ham, Roger Ellis, KE7HTE, of Logan, Utah. Kearl relayed to Ellis information about the accident scene and Ellis called 911. First responders were on the scene within half an hour. The driver and passengers in the truck suffered only minor injuries. Source: *The ARRL Letter*

RACES Group on TV. A new RACES group was formed in Delaware County. Their activity and new station, KP3FW, was a hot news story on My Fox Philadelphia television. See <http://tinyurl.com/43vu8k>

Michigan Hams in News. WNEM tv5, the CBS affiliate in Saginaw, Michigan did a story about the use of Ham Radio in disasters – the reporter interviewed Glenn Boggs, AA8EJ, in his shack monitoring traffic for the Red Cross concerning the recent flooding in the Midwest. See <http://tinyurl.com/5nkrps>

Shorts & Sparks

By I. M. Zapped, FZZ1POP
Reporting From the Geek Isles

White Papers & Presentations. Rob Sherwood, NC0B, of Sherwood Engineering has several thought provoking white papers on his website. One is a PowerPoint presentation which exposes the shortcomings of DSP in many modern receivers. There also is a PowerPoint presentation that demystifies Roofing Filters, Transmitted IMD and Receiver Performance. And you will find an interesting white paper entitled “Receiver Performance” that discusses interpretation of measurement error and his criticism of some ARRL test methods. See <http://www.sherweng.com/index.html>

Sharpen Your Number 2 Pencil. Here is a question I found from the 1961 ARRL License Manual for the General Test:

“[43] Draw a simple schematic diagram of two RF amplifier stages using triode tubes showing the neutralizing circuits, link coupling between stages and between output and antenna system, and a keying connection in the negative high-voltage lead including a key-click filter.” In 1961 there were 50 questions on the General exam and the 13 wpm send/receive requirement.

May Calendar of Events

2 - RaRa General Meeting – 7:30 PM –
Hen. Fire Hall #1, 3129 East Henrietta Rd

11 - RVHFG – 7:30 PM, monthly meeting.
See article page 7 for location

16 - RRRR – 8:00PM, Monthly Meeting at
Pittsford Town Hall, downstairs room.

20 - RDXA - 7:30PM, Monthly meeting
at Gander Mountain, Jay Scutti Blvd.

Rochester Hamfest May 30-31, 2008

W2RDX/60

By Paul Mackanos, K2DB

We have confirmed with Jeff, W2FU the week-end of May 24 & 25 for RDXA to use W2RDX/60 for our 60th Anniversary Celebration. Jeff has graciously offered his complete station for our use, the entire week-end. We discussed this at length and Jeff has said we can use all of the stations on all of the bands in whatever mode we choose to use.

The stations are completely set up as of now for Multi-Multi contest operation. This means we can use all bands from 160-10 in all modes, even RTTY on some bands, all at the same time!

Jeff has even stated that we can set up a station for 6 meters if we so desire. So here is the bottom line: This means we can use the full week-end which will help us out in the propagation department, especially on the lower bands. Jeff has asked us to not run longer than 10 or 11 PM.

Set this week-end aside and come with us and work a BIG GUN STATION for the RDXA CELEBRATION!

This will even help out our members in the use of contesting software with N1MM, which will help us out for Field Day. Come join the FUN! Let's MAKE THIS THE BEST SPECIAL EVENT STATION there ever was!

**RaRa Amateur Radio
License Testing**

**All Elements needed
to complete a license class.**

May 31, 2008

At the Rochester Hamfest

**Registration – 9:00AM
(Doors open at 8:30)**

**Bring copies of your current License or CSCE for
credit**

**Contact Raj Dewan, N2RD
Call (585) 703-4003 or e-mail n2rd@arrl.net**

RDXA Monthly Meeting

By Paul Mackanos, K2DB

The RDXA meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 20th, 7:30PM at Gander Mountain. The program will be:

The Headphone Project By Paul Meyers N2OPW. Paul will be discussing a design of his for a headphone splitter project for Contest and field Day operations.

QST de W1AW

ARRL Bulletin 5 ARLB005
From ARRL Headquarters
Newington CT March 10, 2008
To all radio amateurs

SB QST ARL ARLB005
ARRL005 W1AW 2008 Spring/Summer Operating Schedule

Morning Schedule:

Time	Mode	Days
1300 UTC (9 AM ET)	CWs	Wed, Fri
1300 UTC (9 AM ET)	CWf	Tue, Thu

Daily Visitor Operating Hours:

1400 UTC to 1600 UTC - (10 AM to 12 PM ET)
1700 UTC to 1945 UTC - (1 PM to 3:45 PM ET)
(Station closed 1600 to 1700 UTC (12 PM to 1 PM ET))

Afternoon/Evening Schedule:

2000 UTC (4 PM ET)	CWf	Mon, Wed, Fri
2000 " "	CWs	Tue, Thu
2100 " (5 PM ET)	CWb	Daily
2200 " (6 PM ET)	RTTY	Daily
2300 " (7 PM ET)	CWs	Mon, Wed, Fri
2300 " "	CWf	Tue, Thu
0000 " (8 PM ET)	CWb	Daily
0100 " (9 PM ET)	RTTY	Daily
0145 " (9:45 PM ET)	VOICE	Daily
0200 " (10 PM ET)	CWf	Mon, Wed, Fri
0200 " "	CWs	Tue, Thu
0300 " (11 PM ET)	CWb	Daily

Frequencies (MHz)

CW: 1.8175 3.5815 7.0475 14.0475 18.0975 21.0675
28.0675 147.555
RTTY: - 3.5975 7.095 14.095 18.1025 21.095 28.095
147.555
VOICE: 1.855 3.990 7.290 14.290 18.160 21.390
28.590 147.555

Notes:

CWs = Morse Code practice (slow) = 5, 7.5, 10, 13 and 15 WPM

CWf = Morse Code practice (fast) = 35, 30, 25, 20, 15, 13 and 10 WPM

CWb = Morse Code Bulletins = 18 WPM

CW frequencies include code practices, Qualifying Runs and CW bulletins.

RTTY = Teleprinter Bulletins = BAUDOT (45.45 baud) and AMTOR-FEC (100 Baud). ASCII (110 Baud) is sent only as time allows.

Code practice texts are from QST, and the source of each practice is given at the beginning of each practice and at the beginning of alternate speeds.

On Tuesdays and Fridays at 2230 UTC (6:30 PM ET), Keplerian Elements for active amateur satellites are sent on the regular teleprinter frequencies.

A DX bulletin replaces or is added to the regular bulletins between 0000 UTC (8 PM ET) Thursdays and 0000 UTC (8 PM ET) Fridays.

In a communications emergency, monitor W1AW for special bulletins as follows: Voice on the hour, Teleprinter at 15 minutes past the hour, and CW on the half hour.

FCC licensed amateurs may operate the station from 1400

UTC to 1600 UTC (10 AM to 12 PM ET), and then from 1700 UTC to 1945 UTC (1 PM to 3:45 PM ET) Monday through Friday. Be sure to bring your current FCC amateur license or a photocopy.

The complete W1AW Operating Schedule may be found on page 97 in the March 2008 issue of QST or on the web at <http://www.arrl.org/w1aw.html>.

RaRa Hotline
NEW NUMBER
(585) 671-2424
24 Hours a Day

**RaRa Amateur Radio
License Testing**
**All Elements needed
to complete a license class.**
**3rd Saturday of each
Month, September – April**
Registration – 10:00AM
Testing – 10:15AM
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**Contact Raj Dewan, N2RD
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