



THE RARRA E-RAG

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ROCHESTER AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION, INC.

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NO. 11

RARRA Summer Recess:

CANCELLED!

By Duane Fregoe, K2SI
Vice President, RARRA

There will be no summer recess from the monthly meetings of the Rochester Amateur Radio Association. There was an interest expressed for summer meetings in July and August and the leadership of the club has decided to take on the challenge.

Since the first Friday of July lands on Independence Day we felt it would be better to spend time with family watching fireworks than to be hanging out with your radio buddies. Don't despair because you will only have to wait one additional week as our first summer meeting will be **Friday July 11th** at Bill Gray's on 1225 Jefferson Road in Henrietta. This is on the East side of Route 390. "The World's Greatest Hams" will be meeting at the "Home of the World's Greatest Cheeseburger"! The program will be: **RARRA Cruise Night!** We will begin at 6:30pm to give us time to grab a burger, fries, and a shake! Bring your family, your friends, maybe even a potential new ham. We want to see your best set of wheels; be it a car, truck, motorcycle, or bicycle with (or without) a full ham radio setup. If by chance you have a Mercedes, Jaguar, or Corvette and cannot come to grips with drilling two antennas into the roof bring them along anyways. They are great to look at with or without antennas. A prize (prizes???) will be awarded for the best non-commercial mobile ham installation!

Don't miss this opportunity to spend a Friday summer evening with your family, friends, and fellow ham radio operators viewing mobile radio installations and enjoying some great food.



SWEEEEEETT!



Functional???

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SILENT KEYS



Richard W. Fish, W2OWF

May 30, 2008

Percy M. Powers, N2SII

June 2, 2008

William J. Kuehne, W2QNE

June 8, 2008

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.....W2EOC, Lloyd Caves, N2PU



The Prez Sez

By Frank Schramm, WB2PYD
President, RARA

WOW – What a month!

So much has happened in so little time! First up was our Hamfest: Friday brought a pleasantly unexpected crowd! We almost filled every available flea market space! Friday evening we enjoyed a great Banquet at the RIT Inn and Convention Center. A wonderful meal and lots of great conversation was shared by all. It was a personal pleasure for me to meet the spouses and extended family members that attended. Despite a terrible weather forecast, only a brief shower actually materialized on Saturday. With the remodeling of the Dome facilities, we had a new layout that flowed well, and brought many positive comments. Kudos to Harold, Dick and all the "Coolies" for another enjoyable event!

Some photos can be seen at:

<http://www.rochesterhamfest.org/kc2pcd8> and
<http://www.rochesterhamfest.org/n2orspix>

On the 21st, we had a picnic at Ellison Park. Again the weather forecast was far worse than what materialized. We had a great time and attendance was up nearly 50% over last year! Once again, it was really nice to meet the spouses and kids of so many members. Congratulations to Bob Shewell who won two tickets to the Rochester Museum and Science Center for guessing the correct number of nuts in the jar. There were 573 for those of you wondering. To everyone who brought a dish to pass: Thank you! Two of my personal favorites were the hot sauce made by Jay and / or Sabrina Hamill, and the sugar beet salad made by an unknown gourmet. A special thanks to Jim and Joe DiTucci for grilling, Brad Allen for his portable Disco and Duane Fregoe for his array of picnic games.

This past weekend was Field Day, whether that found you working an HT from your hammock, or enjoying a more structured setup the airwaves were chock full of QSO's waiting to be made. I heard one operator equate it to shooting fish in a barrel. On Saturday, I found myself out in Webster Park with the RDXA (<http://www.rdxa.com>) group. What an impressive setup that was! Best of luck to RDXA in the competition!!!

New, new, newz...

K2JD will be back on the air again! Some of you may not realize that our club station has been all but inaccessible due to heightened security at the Monroe County office building on Westfall Rd. Your new club station will be state of the art equipment, and accessible to you 24/7 via remote control! This project has been many years in design and development. A lot of the equipment has arrived and we're

in the initial stages of construction as you read this! Keep watching this space for updates!

On that note: What do you think of the new e-RAG? Let us know – drop a note to: RARA-RAG@Axiom-NY.com. This is the 1st issue that is not a mere copy of the paper RAG. The paper RAG will be back in print with the September issue, but going forward, the e-RAG will evolve in parallel as a separate publication. It will contain everything the paper RAG has, but more! We are limited to what we can include in the paper RAG by the cost of printing and mailing. The e-RAG breaks those boundaries!

The e-RAG will be distributed via a YAHOO group starting in August. If you don't sign up, you won't get any more e-RAGs. It's FREE, we just need your e-mail address!

To continue receiving the RaRa e-RAG please click here: RARA-Rag-subscribe@yahoo.com

I'll see you all at the RaRa cruise nite on July 11th at Bill Grays in Henrietta. Get out the Turtle Wax and come show off your best set of wheels. With or without a radio! But, remember: There will be a prize for the best non-professional mobile ham radio installation.

73 – Frank

Public Service Needs You!

By Duane Fregoe, K2SI
RARA Public Service Coordinator

The public service events season has started and is doing well. So far we have assisted with the Israel 60th Birthday Parade, Susquehannock Trail Performance Rally and the Tour de Cure. The Tour de Cure had roughly 30 hams participating on a very hot Sunday. Thank you to all that have participated in the first three events of the season.

We have two events that will be dropped from the schedule and will not be using ham radio support this year. The events are the "Spirit of America" and "Cycling the Erie Canal". Two events in July that really need your support are the ITU Pan America Cup and the Musselman Triathlon.

I am still in need of event captains for two events. One is the "MS Pedal to the Park Bike Tour" and the other is the "Hike for Haccamo". The event captain will be the direct contact with the organization and attend a few meetings. I will collect the sign-ups and forward them as we get closer to the event. If you are interested please contact me and I can give you some names of previous event captains to contact for more detailed information.

Signing up for an event is the easy part. Go to www.rochesterham.org and click on "Public Service". A complete listing of events and details on each event are

there. Click on the "Sign Up" button and fill in the boxes. Highlight the events you like and click on "Submit". I will receive an email with your information and will reply to you acknowledging that I have received it. Here is the current list of Public Service Events for your consideration:

Upcoming Public Service Events

ITU Pan America Cup – Sat, July 12, 2008

Musselman Triathlon – Sun, July 13, 2008

Geneseo Air Show – Sat & Sun, July 12 & 13, 2008

Walnut Hill Driving Competition – Wed thru Sun, August 13 – 17, 2008

Labor Day Parade – Mon, September 1, 2008

Multiple Sclerosis Pedal to the Park Bike Tour – Sat & Sun, September 6 & 7, 2008
(Needs Event Captain)

Rochester Arthritis Foundation Marathon – Sun, September 14, 2008

Fairport Lift Bridge Regatta – Sun, September 21, 2008

Finger Lakes Triathlon – Sun, September 21, 2008

Barktoberfest: Lollypop Farm – Sat, September 27, 2008

America's Walk for Diabetes – Sat, October 4, 2008

Wine Glass Marathon – Sun, October 5, 2008

Hike for Haccamo – Sun, October 12, 2008
(Needs Event Captain)

Jamboree on the Air (BSA) – Sat & Sun, October 18 & 19, 2008

NYS Thruway Pumpkin Patrol – Thurs & Fri, October 30 & 31, 2008

Special Olympics, Winter Games – Sat, February 7, 2009

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

Livingston Co. Youth Field Day

By Jim Sutton, N2OPS

You saw us at the Hamfest, now come and see us at the Livingston County Youth Field Day. We are going to be sharing information about Amateur Radio with the youth of the community on Thursday, July 17, from 9:30AM till 2:30PM. The location will be the Livonia Central School.

We are a new ham club, The Fishermen's Net, KC2RHY, thus we are limited in what we can demonstrate. If you can give us a hand with our demonstration please contact us. Satellite, Echolink, HF, Packet, and Repeaters are just a few of the possibilities we hope to show.

Please get the word out about this opportunity to reach youth from all over Livingston County.

For additional information or to help I can be contacted via email <mailto:jim@otrym.org> or at our youth center: THE BRIDGE, at 19 Main Street in Mount Morris (next to Leaning Tower Pizza) which is open Monday-Thursday 3-7 PM.

RaRa Amateur Radio License Testing



All Elements needed to complete a license class.

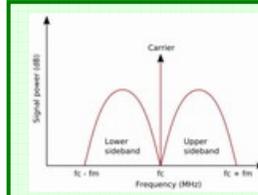
3rd Saturday of each Month, September – April

Registration – 10:00AM
Testing – 10:15AM

Room 3139, Building 9 (Park in Lot J)
Rochester Institute of Technology
1 Lomb Memorial Drive
Rochester, NY 14623

Contact Raj Dewan, N2RD to reserve space.

Call (585) 703-4003 or e-mail n2rd@arrl.net



Sidebands: Amateur Radio in the News

By Larry Wallnau, W2ZEY

Solar Archive and the Next Cycle. This link was given to me by GJ3RAX. The scholarly paper is 30 pages and the file size is 770 K. It makes interesting reading. Go to http://www.warwickhughes.com/agri/Solar_Arch_NY_Mar2_08.pdf. About the technical report, GJ3RAX commented "I think the earlier predictions for the solar minimum had been for last year, then this year. When I look at the graphs each month there seems to be virtually no sign of it getting into the new cycle. The prediction of having to wait until next year is looking like a possibility. The implications for the size of the next maximum and for the climate do look fascinating. It will be some time before we can tell if it is right."

Time Magazine and Ham Radio. The June 23 issue of Time Magazine contained letters to the editor about a recent article dealing with how to survive emergencies. One writer noted the following: "In all disasters, our ability to communicate with our social network underlies everything else we may do to survive. My experience providing mental-health services at disaster sites and hospital emergency centers convinced me that I needed to get a ham-radio license." (signed) Wayne Rosenfeld Norwich, CT

CQoogle is Back. Did you notice that after the big kickoff of the Google-inspired CQoogle, the search engine for Hams promptly disappeared? Blame it on a modern high-tech ill – rabblousing hackers! Hackers "broke" into CQoogle and wreaked havoc. Many search engine users discovered their computers had been infected with a nasty malware virus. The hijacked Ham Radio Search Engine was taken offline for servicing. Now after weeks of absence, CQoogle is up and running at <http://www.cqoogle.com/search/index.php>. I have no word on the fate of the hackers.

Music Fare on PSK31? If you are an avid PSK31 user, you might have noticed music broadcasts on 14.070 MHz. The signal was more readily picked up on the West Coast and reports were coming in it that consisted of musical score without voice. Narrowing down the source, members of the Yahoo group Digital Radio noted it was especially strong in Hong Kong. The source? A Chinese jamming station that is known as Firedrake and described at: <http://www.satdirectory.com/firedrake.html>. While I have not heard the jammer, East Coast Hams in Southern states have picked it up. Apparently it depends whether or not a listener falls within the footprint of a ChinaSat satellite. Old Timers in the digital group recalled previous jamming from China that impinged on other Ham bands for months.



Shorts & Sparks

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

Morse Code From the Green Monster. Even if you are not a Boston Red Sox fan you have to give them credit. There is Morse code inscribed on the famous Green Monster scoreboard at Fenway Park. The pattern of dahs and dits run vertically down the two center divider columns of the manual scoreboard. They symbolize the initials of former team owners Thomas Austin Yawkey (TAY) and Jean Remington Yawkey (JRY). A picture of the code on the Green Monster can be viewed at the following site under the heading of *Trivia*:

http://sonsofsamhorn.net/wiki/index.php/Fenway_Park. As a footnote for you Ham Radio baseball fans – In 2004 Nike, in a TV ad honoring the Red Sox championship, used Morse code to spell out its corporate slogan, "Just Do It", in the margins surrounding the screen.

Field Day YouTube Hit. A group of Hams put together a two-minute seven-second video promoting the 2008 Field Day. This video has been the toast of the internet and is well worth viewing. The background music is a Phil Collins song. Do you know the title? It ought to be a new Ham Radio slogan. See:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=varHL752Odk> or, <http://tinyurl.com/5ttlnh>.

July-August Calendar of Events

- 7-9 RARA Board of Directors Meeting: RIT
- 7-11 RARA Cruise Night – 6:30PM, Bill Gray's Restaurant, 1225 Jefferson Rd.
- 8-1 RARA Fox Hunt – 6:30PM, Henrietta Town Park, Calkins Rd.

Upcoming Hamfests

- July 19** Genesee Radio Amateurs, Alexander (Batavia), NY
http://www.geocities.com/gram_Radio_club?index.html
- July 19** Utica Amateur Radio Club, Frankfort, NY
<http://www.uticaarc.com>
- Aug 9** **NEW:** Keuka Lake Amateur Radio Association, Howard (Hornell), NY
<http://www.klara.us>
http://www.klara.us/download_files/Flier.pdf
- Aug 16** Rome Radio Club, Westmoreland, NY
<http://pages.prodigy.net/romeradioclub>
- Sept 13** RAGS Hamfest Pompey, NY

Announcing: RARA Regalia!

By Jeff Miller, N2AWA

QST: Don't get caught at the next RARA event without your RARA Regalia! The club has set up an easy way for you to display your favorite Amateur Radio Club's Official Logo on your chest, head, coffee mug, mouse pad, etc. These items are custom printed and make great gifts for yourself or everyone! You may have noticed a few of us wearing the T-shirts at the Picnic. Samples can be seen at any RaRa activity. We still have our embroidered patches and we're still working on making the selection larger.

Patches are available from the club at most meetings.

Prices start at less than \$2.50! You can place your RARA Regalia orders directly with the manufacturer here: <http://www.cafepress.com/rochesterham>



Just a few of the many selections available!

August Rag Deadline
July 18, 2008

2009 RaRa Hamfest
May 29-30

RARA's Cleanest Shack Contest

By George Masny, KA2GPJ

Having just visited the homes of several hams, and not being very impressed with some of those shacks, I'm thinking that there must be some RARA Members who are proud of their "den of pleasures", sometimes called the "dog house". But rather than feature the messiest shack, why not reward those that have taken the time and effort to spruce up the place and take a nice picture of it. So we are having this 'CLEANEST SHACK CONTEST'. To enter, all you have to do is send in a picture and a short description of your shack. The type of **Ham** equipment doesn't matter, but the more buttons, bells and whistles, the better. If the picture includes the operator – it will go to the top of the pile! It also must be a shack belonging to an individual and not a club or group shack.

We will get a team of trained professionals to judge these photos and announce the winner and two runners-up in both the RARA Rag and on the RochesterHams.org Web Page. You can enter the picture of your shack on either a QSL card, a real photo print or in digital form attached to an email. The deadline will be midnight, August 15th, and the winners will be announced at the General Meeting in September, so you have plenty of time to clean up and enter the contest.

You may e-mail your submission to KA2GPJ@yahoo.com, or if you would like to use the USPS, please send your submission to: George Masny, KA2GPJ, 83 Phaeton Dr, Penfield, NY 14526, or just hand it in to one of the club officers – they'll know what to do with your entry.

There will be a special prize as well as having your shack featured in the October issue of the RARA Rag and on the Web Page.

**RaRa Memorial Scholarship
Application Deadline
July 18, 2008**

Radio Club Contacts

Rochester Amateur Radio Association (RARA)

Jim DiTucci, N2IXD

n2ixd@arrl.net

Rochester DX Association (RDXA)

www.rdxa.com

Rochester Radio Repeater Association (RRRA)

Max Kessler, N2MXD

max@maxkessler.org

Rochester VHF Group (RVHFG)

Andy Flowers, K0SM

aflowers@frontiernet.net

XEROX Amateur Radio Club (XARC)

Ned Asam, W2NED

w2ned@frontiernet.net

Drumlins Amateur Radio Club Ltd. (DARC)

Jim Collinsworth, N2JC

jcollinsw@aol.com

Monroe County ARES

Jeff Wigal, WY7Q

wy7Q@arrl.net

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