



THE RARA E-RAG

Published by
ROCHESTER AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION, INC.

VOL. 62

June 2010

NO. 10

Summer Fun for Everyone!

By Frank Schramm, WB2PYD
President, RaRa

As the excitement from Hamfest and Field Day fade to memories it's time to look forward to the NEW RaRa Family Picnic! New? Yes, NEW! What is the centerpiece of any picnic? Whether you ask Frankie and Annette or Yogi Bear they'll tell you it's: Food! Well, have we got a menu for you... This year we will be serving: Big-Fat Zweigles hots, Hamburgers, Italian Sausage, BBQ Chicken breast, Salt Potatoes, Peppers & Onions, Baked Beans, and Tossed Salad. Of course there will be plenty to drink and snacks to munch on while our chefs are cooking.

Bring your 2 meter HT, in fact if you have spares bring them to share. We will have a lesson in fox hunting followed by a fully fledged fox hunt with prizes to the winners.

This is a FAMILY event so bring your Husband, Wife, Life Partner, Significant other, Boyfriend, Girlfriend, or Thing, and don't forget the Kids! You will want to be at Ellison Park, Creekside Pavilion, on Saturday July 17th at 11am. All the food and drink is provided by RaRa, but if you're one of those people who feel guilty not bringing something, feel free to bring a dessert to share; dietetic of course. Hi-Hi

We'll have plenty of music and requests are welcome. Dancing is... um... optional!

For the navigationally challenged there is a map to the picnic on the club website at:

<http://www.rochesterham.org/images/EllisonPark-1.jpg> If you're reading this in the paper RAG you're going to have to type all that in; if you're reading the e-RAG, just click! If you still manage to get lost, or need a friendly voice to keep you company on your drive, we'll have talk-in on 146.61 pl 110.9.

With such an expansive menu, we want to have enough food without being wasteful so it is very important that you RSVP. Remember it's **FREE**; all we ask you to do is tell us how many people will be in your party. **Please RSVP** to: WB2PYD@ARRL.net or call the RaRa hotline, 210-8910, before July 10th.

To get you back into the rhythm of our first Friday of the month meetings, join us for our "Drive-In Cruise Night". On Friday August 6th at Bill Grays in Henrietta (http://billgrays.com/location_henrietta.asp) look for all the antennas in the parking lot at 6pm -that will be us. Bring your hottest ride, or your most geeked out Hamsexy vehicle. If you don't know what that is look here: (<http://www.hamsexy.com/cms/?cat=7>). If you don't have a hot ride, or a nerd-mobile you want to own up to, come join us for some fun and old fashioned Drive-In food. If you're really cute, and preferably female, Ed, K2MP, might give you a ride in his Corvette (wink-wink). Prizes will be awarded to the hottest ride and the nerdiest.

Lastly on Saturday August 21st is the AWA / RaRa Swap-meet beginning at 6am at the RIT Inn and Convention Center on West Henrietta Road at the Thruway. RaRa members get FREE admission and flea market space is only \$5.00 for vendors.

See you at the picnic!
(Remember to RSVP)

This month in the RaRa e-RAG...

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RaRa Annual Family Picnic July 17, 2010 11:00AM

Ellison Park, Creekside Lodge.
Talk-In on 146.61 (pl 110.9)



The Prez Sez

By Frank Schramm, WB2PYD
President, RaRa

Phewww... We can close the books on another great Rochester Hamfest. I admit this one had me nervous. The weather forecast was threatening and that huge thunderstorm Friday night had me up all night watching the NOAA weather radar. I feared we might get rained out. But the rain held off and the show went on. Even with threatening weather, we saw an increase in attendance of about 40% over last year. Imagine if it was a sunny day? We also had a 72% increase in commercial vendors under our "Big Top". Needless to say, once again, we deposited a healthy sum in the club treasury.

Our Membership Secretary attributes over 80 new members have joined RaRa due to our new policy: Free admission to the Hamfest for RaRa members. That is a 17% increase in membership! There are no official ranking statistics kept but the ARRL says we are one of the largest clubs in the United States with over 560 current members as of this writing.

Considering the size and scope of our Hamfest, you may be shocked to learn just how few people worked so hard to make it happen. As your Hamfest Committee Chairman (I dislike that title for obvious reasons) I want you to join me in thanking the Committee for their untiring efforts over the past 12 months. In alphabetical order: Kevin Carey, WB2QMY, Club Liaison; Len Crellin, KC2PCD, Vendor Relations; Peter Fournia, W2SKY, Flea Market Operations; Jim "crash" Stefano, W2COP, Ticket Sales, Security and Communications; and Dick "make-it-happen" Young, N2QKL, the grease on our axel. Dick does so much, and performs so many different tasks it would be impossible to list them all. When you see these guys please give them a hearty thanks! And a tremendous thank you to all the volunteers, too numerous to name, who generously helped out on Friday and Saturday setting up, selling tickets, and parking cars. Especially Dave "The Energizer Bunny" Osofsky, KB2EJZ, who never stopped working from dawn to dusk for two days straight. When you see Dave find out what he's on; because I want some!

Congratulations to the winners of the raffle prizes: Raul Delgado, N2PO, from Rochester won the IC-718; Charles Dunn, AC2DG, from Lockport won the FT-7900; and Dave Krull, VA3DK, from Penetang Ontario won the ICOM HT. Looking forward: We have our "New Family Picnic" on July 17th (see article on page 1). Yes, we found yet another thing to rejuvenate. 2009: Hamfest, 2010: Picnic, what's next? Wait and see...

The next time you read my column, I hope to unveil a very exciting, and long awaited, surprise.

73, and prosperous DXing!

Frank,
WB2PYD

Calendar of Events

- July 7** RaRa Board of Directors
5:30 PM, RIT
Bldg-17, Room 2110
- July 17** RaRa Family Picnic
11:00 AM, Ellison Park
- Aug 6** RaRa Cruise Night
6:00 PM, Bill Grays Henrietta
- Aug 11** RaRa Board of Directors
5:30 PM, RIT
Bldg-17, Room 2110
- Aug 21** AWA / RaRa Swapmeet
RIT Inn – Rt 15 Henrietta

Silent Keys

Michael J. Lavelle, KF2WH
February 25, 2010

Thomas R. Foley, WA2EYF
April 17, 2010

Kenneth F. Seil, W2KS
June 5, 2010



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Thanks Larry

By Dick Goslee, KG2I
Editor, RARA RAG

With this issue we say "Good Bye and Thank You" to a long time contributor to the RAG. Larry Wallnau, W2ZEY has been contributing his monthly "Sidebands" and "Shorts & Sparks" columns for many years now and he has decided to slow down a little. He isn't stopping his writing, it is just in a different form. Larry is writing a book, and that and family duties make him a very busy man.

Thank you Larry for your many years of keeping our members up on what is going on in the world with amateur radio. We have enjoyed your work and we will miss it. Good luck on your book. Hope you still have enough time to get on the bands and rag chew or chase some rare DX.

Public Service 2010

By Duane Fregoe, K2SI
RARA Public Service Coordinator

A new event has been added this year and it is the Genesee Valley Hunt Horse Trials. The organizers like what has been done at the Walnut Hill Driving Competition by the ham radio operators so much that they want to have us at their event in Genesee on July 11, 2010.

An annual bike event that needs your support is the two day Bike MS: Finger Lakes Challenge. Saturday will have the 100, 66 and 25 mile courses. On Sunday they will finish with the 50 mile ride. Both days will start and finish at Keuka College. We could use your support for one or both days.

Below is the list of local events that are being coordinated by local hams. 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.

Genesee Valley Hunt Horse Trials – Sun, July 11, 2010

MS Bike Ride – Sat & Sun, August 7 & 8, 2010

Walnut Hill Driving Competition – Wed thru Sun, August 11 - 15, 2010

AIDS Rochester Red Ribbon Ride – Sun, August 22, 2010

Rochester Arthritis Foundation Marathon – Sun, September 12, 2010

Barktoberfest: Lollypop Farm – Sat, September 25, 2010

Fairport Lift Bridge Regatta – Sun, September 26, 2010

Jamboree on the Air (BSA) – Sat & Sun, October 16 & 17, 2010

NYS Thruway Pumpkin Patrol – Sat & Sun, October 30 & 31, 2010

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VE NEWS

Here are the results of our April testing session at RIT. We had 14 candidates of which 12 passed. There were 8 Technicians, 3 Generals and 1 Extra.

Holly Robistow	T	KC2YHJ
William Mullaney	T	KJ6HHR
Timothy Miller	T	KB1UDS
Michael Lyman	T	KC2YHI
Andrew Hoag	T	KC2YHH
Robert Hatch	T	KB1UDR
Megan Guarnieri-Cleary	T	KC2YHG
Robert Easterly	T	KC2YHF
Christopher Dickens	G	KC2VSJ
Vincent Cardillo	G	KC2WHR
Dion Barrick	G	KC2WZQ
David Avery	E	N2PSO



**RaRa Amateur Radio
License Testing is held on
the 3rd Saturday of each
Month, September through
April.**

Registration begins at
10:00AM in RIT Building 9,
Room 3139
[\(click for map\)](#)

Contact Ken Hall, W2KRH
for space reservations.

Help Wanted

By Frank Schramm, WB2PYD
President, RARA

We need some help... Is there a psychiatrist in the house?

Journalist - In addition to therapy for the Board of Directors, it would be great if there were some members out there who would like to contribute some interesting articles for the newsletter. This could be an occasional piece or possibly a recurring column. Suggested topics might be technical, news, sports (that would be radio-sport, not baseball), even social in nature. We also welcome announcements! Do you know of a member who got a promotion, had a baby, got a lobotomy or worked DXCC? Let us know; we'd love to spread the news.


Computer Programmer - Are there any programmers out there? I know there are, and you can't hide for long; so make it easy on yourself and come out with your Wi-Fi antenna up. We have occasional need for some quick and simple java scripting, and visual basic coding; if you harbor any skill in this arena, please contact WB2PYD@ARRL.net for future collaboration.

Teachers - Are you, or do you know, a licensed Ham who works in a school? The RaRa Youth Committee is seeking to identify these individuals to enlighten us from their perspective. This information will help us develop and build our youth outreach program in area schools. Information extraction will be painless - we promise.

It should not be necessary to say this but remember: Age is irrelevant. There is an opportunity for members of all ages to participate in club operations. Especially you younger members... holding a position of responsibility and leadership in one of the largest Amateur Radio Clubs in the nation looks pretty good on your Resume and College Applications. It sure won't hurt when you apply for the RaRa Memorial Scholarship either!

New 6m Repeater

For you 6 meter fanatics, the 53.63 (PL 110.9) repeater just went up on top of Bristol Mountain at 2400 ft. ASL. Coverage is wide!



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(Paid Advertisement)

Genesee Radio Amateur's, Inc "Batavia Hamfest"

Saturday July 24th 2010

At Alexander New York
(i) Firemen's Grounds
10708 Rt. 98

\$ 5.00 at the gate opens 7:00 AM
Under 12 FREE

Flea Market only

Breakfast Served at 7:15AM.

Directions 147.275 + PL 141.3

Prize - Icom IC-718
Prize- Yaesu FT-2800M
50-50

146.52 check in \$ 20.00 Prize

Prizes drawn at 12:00 Noon.

RaRa Rag a Lot of Years Ago, June 1962

By Ed Gable, K2MP
RaRa Historian



1962 ? Wat sup Ed ? Well, I dipped into the file for the June, 1990, issue for my usual "Twenty Years Ago" feature and much to my dismay, that volume was missing. So rather than disappoint my huge readership out there, both of you, I thought I would grab a back issue and see what was happening waaaaay back.

This issue highlighted the results of the 1962 RaRa Hamfest with a bold headline that yelled "Over 400 Attend Hamfest; All have a Fine Time." The writer, who was unidentified, thanked some of the hard working team; Corny Unruh (sk) as Ticket Chmn and Eddie Dunn (sk), WA2KMI, as prize Chmn. There were lots of great programming featuring the RDXA doing the "DX Today" program, the Rochester VHF Group presented "A New Approach to VHF," Harold Smith, WA2KND, and Jim Wenskus, K2BEH, put on a RTTY demonstration including the latest printers and FAX equipment loaned by Western Union. This was followed by an interesting talk by Ed Sanders, Engineer-in-Charge of the FCC monitoring station in Canandaigua, followed by Lewis McCoy, W1ICP, from the ARRL speaking on latest League happenings. All in all a great program line up. One hamfest photo was printed and that was of the very latest SSB Military transmitter, Jeep mounted, and brought to the show by Rochester's General-Dynamics Corporation. Shown at the controls were RaRa President Stan Hazen, K2SSB. (A side note... that equipment was recently donated to the AWA Museum having been carefully stored away for over 40 years by Bob Nezelek, W2CNS.)

The Annual RaRa Sausage Roast was advertised for June 7th at the Maplewood Park Pavilion near the Vets Memorial bridge. The time was 5:30 pm and was the last official meeting of the year. It was traditional to pass the presidential gavel from the outgoing to the incoming president at this event. In this case it was Stan Hazen, K2SSB, handing off to Chuck Oneske, K2YCO. At this time a favorite gathering spot for local hams was Rochester Radio Supply at 600 East Main St. This issue revealed that the new Inner Loop construction would go right through the Amateur section headed by Vic Lotempio, W2RIS (sk). "Rochester Radio" announced they would open at a new West Main Street location and be better than ever.

A long awaited announcement from New York State revealed that call letter license plates would be available in the Fall of this year. The price... five bucks. Dave Parry (sk), WA2KVN, penned the popular "VHF Notes" column in each Rag. The other club officers at this time were Larry McConnell, K2UCI as Treasurer and as Secretary Cappy Capauldy, K2UXF. A long time advertiser was Rochester Electronics, selling Hallicrafters and other lines, run by Abe Andzer (sk), W2QIQ, 950 Hudson Ave, city.

RaRa Club LOGO Items





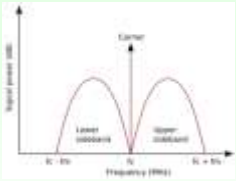
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Sidebands: Amateur Radio in the News

By Larry Wallnau, W2ZEY

New ARRL Website. By the time you receive this issue of *The RaRa Rag*, the ARRL has already launched its improved website. According to ARRL Chief Operating Officer, Harold Kramer, WJ1B, the League is currently finishing the final pre-launch adjustments and testing the new Web site. The plan was to launch it by April 12. "This launch has been a longer than anticipated process for all of us," Kramer said, "but we have learned a lot during the past two years as we conducted research about what people want from the ARRL Web site. We created a new architecture and navigation scheme to meet those needs and we implemented a contemporary new design. After that, we updated our current Web content and created lots of brand new content, including multimedia. We then began integrating the incredibly complicated functionality, e-commerce, advertising and database connections from the current Web to the new Web site. It has been a lot of work, and while it is disappointing that we are not out the door quite yet, we are now in the home stretch." *The ARRL Letter*

Altair Inventor Dies. While this is not directly related to ham radio, but those of you that have had a dual interest in amateur radio and computer science will want to take note. Dr. H. Edward Roberts, the inventor of the Altair 8800 personal computer died at age 68. The Altair was one of the first PCs. It was an affordable kit that provided many with an introduction to home computing and experimentation. The Altair was produced by Micro Instrumentation and Telemetry Systems, the company Roberts founded. This early PC looked nothing like today's computers. It was a box with lots of switches and blinking lights – no keyboard or monitor. It caught the attention of two young men, Bill Gates and Paul Allen, who convinced Roberts to give them a chance to write software for the Altair. And so the humble beginnings of Microsoft were tied to the humble Altair 8800. Roberts received his degree in electrical engineering from Oklahoma State University. He sold his company in 1977 and received a medical degree in 1986. *The Washington Post*

Ham Radio Plays Role in Rescue. On Sunday, March 28 – a day with a lot of rain, wind, sleet and, fog – John Oakberg, NK4N, of Sevierville, Tennessee, went out hiking in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park near Mt LeConte. When he was about 1 mile up from Alum Cave Bluff, he came across Judy Potter, 57, of Atlanta who had broken her ankle while on the trail. Oakberg reached for his cell phone to call 911, but there was no coverage available. He then reached for his HT and put out a call to any amateur radio operators who may be listening on nearby VHF 2 meter repeaters. Scott Wyrick, KD4CWB, of Seymour, Tennessee, told the ARRL that he was the first to respond to Oakberg's call. After he obtained the necessary information, Wyrick called the National Park Service dispatcher, requesting that they send a rescue team. "John's signal was noisy into the machines, but two other stations – Dean Webb, N4NLT, and Cleve Hayes, KB4UAL – were able to copy him on the input frequencies," he told the ARRL. Wyrick lives in Sevier County, the same county where the National Park is located. Wyrick told the ARRL that the rescue team was able to reach Potter after a few hours, around 2 PM. They carried her to safety several miles down the mountainside, reaching the staging area set up in the parking lot at the base of the mountain approximately three hours later. [For details, go to <http://tinyurl.com/ykm9lzc>] *The ARRL Letter*

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ARES News

By Jim DiTucci, N2IXD

Monroe County Amateur Radio Emergency Service (MCARES) holds its meetings on the fourth Thursday of each month at the Rochester Chapter of the American Red Cross. We do not meet during the months of July, August, and December. ARES / RACES members and anyone interested are welcome to attend.

www.monroecountymcomm.org

Meetings are held at Red Cross HQ, 50 Prince Street, Rochester. Prince Street is just west of the Auditorium Theatre and runs south from East Main St. Although the address of the chapter is on Prince, the parking lot is on College Ave. on the north side of the building. Park in the lot and enter the big building at the main door.

ARES NET: Monroe County ARES/RACES meets on the air every Thursday of the month, 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.

RDXA News

By Paul Kolacki, K2FX

We are approaching the end of a great year for RDXA. As of this writing, final plans are being made for the 2010 Field Day, June 26th & 27th. RDXA will once again be setting up their equipment in the Webster Park Campground, and going for the gold as they attempt another 1st place finish. In case you don't already know, RDXA operates one of the elite Field Day Stations in the country, and is consistently ranked near the top every year. If you've ever been curious about just what it takes to put an operation of this size on the air, we invite you to stop down and take a look. Guided tours will be available as well as information on how you can join this dedicated group of DXers and Contesters.

Looking ahead to the fall season, RDXA will be conducting a CW Training Class to be taught by K2FX. If you are new to the hobby, and want to learn how to make sense of all of those Dits and Dots, we can help. This would also be a nice refresher for the not so new operators who need to brush-up on their CW Skills. Dates and times to be announced soon!

Finally, it was great to see so many in attendance at this year's Rochester Hamfest. RDXA was very fortunate to have a few of its members leading seminars. N2ZN hosted two sessions geared at mastering the N1MM Logging Program, and K2FX addressed many new hams about all of the great opportunities there are once you obtain your license. The Flea Market looked to have more activity than last year, and the food provided by the Fire Department was top notch. All of us at RDXA salute those who worked so hard again this year to bring us this fantastic event!

The sunspots are on the rise, and the DXing is getting good, so get on the air and make some noise!! Have a safe and fun filled summer, and we'll see you all again in the fall.

The Rochester DX Association meets the 3rd Tuesday of every month from September thru June at the Monroe County Emergency Operations Center located at 1190 Scottsville Rd, Suite 200, Rochester, NY 14624 beginning at 7:30PM.

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RVHFG News

By Bill Rogers, K2TER

The RVHFG BoD would like to congratulate the RARA team for another fine Hamfest! We appreciate the effort and planning that you put in to make this a success!

New Web Site: The Rochester VHF Group invites you to visit our new, open, and interactive website. This site is what **you** make it. Please share your photos, articles, forum posts for the benefit of the community. The web developer, Nick Ibarluzea, is a studying Computer Science at SUNY Oswego. He transformed our wish list into reality, very economically, while maintaining a clean interface. His contact information is at the bottom of the main page. "Everything should be made as simple as possible, but not simpler." - A. Einstein.
<http://www.rvhfg.org>

General Meetings: Our regular schedule of monthly meetings will resume on the 2nd Friday of every month starting on September 10th.

May 2010 Election Results:

Chairman – Dave Hallidy, K2DH

Vice Chairman – John Stevens, WB2BYP

Secretary/Treasurer – Tom Jennings KV2X

Odd Year Director – John Gilley, W3OAB

Even Year Director – Bob Nezelek, W2CNS

Past Chairman – Bill Rogers, K2TER
Technical Advisor - to be appointed by incoming board

Memberships: Have you renewed your membership or care to join us this year? Please visit:

<http://www.rvhfg.org/membership>


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THE RARA E-RAG

PUBLISHED BY
ROCHESTER AMATEUR RADIO ASSN., INC.
P.O. Box 93333, Rochester, NY 14692-8333
RaRa Hotline (585) 210-8910
Website: www.rochesterham.org

OFFICERS:

President: Frank Schramm, WB2PYD 267-9278
wb2pyd@arrl.net
Vice-President: Bill Marinucci, WB2GHC 889-9088
wb2ghc@arrl.net
Secretary: Ken Hall, W2KRH 289-3801
ken@w2krh.com
Treasurer: Dick Goslee, KG2I 334-1762
rgoslee@rochester.rr.com

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kc2pcd@rochester.rr.com
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k2si@arrl.net
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Ross Mazzola, KC2LOC 247-8323
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DEPARTMENT HEADS:

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RaRa e-RAG Composition Frank Schramm, WB2PYD
Refreshments Coordinator Tom Austin, KA2GXX
Webmaster Frank Schramm, WB2PYD

Rochester Area Radio Club Contacts

Antique Wireless Association (AWA)

Lynn Bisha, W2BSN lbisha@rochester.rr.com

Drumlins Amateur Radio Club Ltd. (DARC)

Bob Taylor, N2MLD n2mld@juno.com

Monroe County ARES

Jim DiTucci, N2IXD n2ixd@arrl.net

Rochester Amateur Radio Association (RaRa)

Frank Schramm, WB2PYD wb2pyd@arrl.net

Rochester DX Association (RDXA)

Paul Mackanos, K2DB k2db@arrl.net

Rochester Radio Repeater Association (RRRA)

Brad Allen, KB2CHY kb2chy@frontiernet.net

Rochester VHF Group (RVHFG)

Dave Hallidy, K2DH k2dh@frontiernet.net

Squaw Island Amateur Radio Club (SIARC)

Dave Foster, ab2wx@arrl.net

XEROX Amateur Radio Club (XARC)

Ned Asam, W2NED w2ned@frontiernet.net

**September e-Rag Deadline
August 13, 2010**

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.
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