

The RaRa Rag

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PRESIDENT'S LETTER

by Bob Lauzon, WB2NSD

A VERY HAPPY NEW YEAR
TO ALL RaRa MEMBERS
from your
OFFICERS and DIRECTORS

The December meeting program was most interesting. Those in attendance heard a comprehensive explanation of OSCAR 6 and actual QSOs in progress on tape. OSCAR 7 plans were described and the meeting was informed as to how to communicate through a satellite.

The Members' Relations Committee received no suggestions, criticisms or gripes which is good indication as we would rather face the facts than try to battle any undercurrent. If you have anything on your mind about the club or its operation tell it where it will do the most good - to one of the committee members.

Don't forget to reserve February 9 which is the date of the 1974 Valentine's Day Dinner-Dance to be held at the Hilton Inn-On-The-Campus. Tickets will be available at the January meeting. Plan now to go and have an enjoyable evening.

If you are looking for some real fast action on the air ask for a VHF Contest log sheet at the January meeting and join the fun on January 5th and 6th. After the contest be sure to turn in your log as the Rochester VHF Group gets credit for even a very small number of contacts and your total, no matter how small, will help your club beat the competition and reach first place this year. AM-SSB-FM-CW - all modes are workedsso any VHF gear you have will do and if you don't have any make that known and you might be able to borrow some for the contest.

May 1974 be our best year yet!

January QST to be late

Dick Baldwin, W1RU, Assistant General Manager, A. R. R. L. advises the January edition of QST will be late, somewhere between three and seven days in mailing. Delivery of paper from the mill did not materialize on schedule, with the result that the Christmas holidays fall right in the middle of the delayed production job.

January 4th Meeting An Integrated Circuit Potpourri

by Joe Hood, K2YAH

The growth in the field of integrated circuits in the past few years has been phenomenal. The reasons are obvious when an electronic circuit can be packaged in a smaller volume, require less power, provide higher reliability and simplify circuit complexity all at a lower cost. It would seem that there ought to be many integrated circuits with application for the radio amateur. The problem is that with so many technicians and engineers finding it difficult if not impossible to keep up to date with the latest advances in the integrated circuit field, its not surprising that the average amateur finds the subject of integrated circuits somewhat awesome.

The fact is however, that the integrated circuit can make life much simpler for the homebrewer or experimenter and the January 4th RaRa program will show you how. Bob Reifsteck, K2LZG, an electronic technician for Eastman Kodak, and Joe Hood, K2YAH, an electronic engineer also with Kodak, will present a program showing some very practical, typical IC's and their application around the hamshack.

The areas covered will include analog and digital applications including power supplies, signal generators, test equipment and general use integrated circuits. The program will center on what a particular IC can do and how to use the device in a cookbook fashion so you won't need a degree in electronics to understand the material. Examples of some simple IC projects will also be included in the presentation which begins promptly at 8 p.m. on January 4, 1974, at the Farm and Home Center, 249 Highland Avenue. Hope to see you there.

--- DUES ---

If you have paid your 1973-74 dues, this need not be read. But if you have failed to renew, please be warned that this will be the last copy of the RaRa Rag you will receive until membership chairman, Elmer Wagner, WB2BNJ, receives your renewal. Most of the members have taken care of this job, but as always, every year there are a few people who are slow to act. If you paid your dues and fail to receive a Rag next month, be sure to check with Elmer. We have been known to make a mistake.

The RARA RAG

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N. Y., 14626. Telephone, 225-5260.

Valentine Dinner-Dance to be February 9th

In case you marked your 1974 calendar for the 13th annual Valentine Dinner-Dance after reading the item in the December Rag, we have correction to offer. The date indicated was February 10th. WRONG! The magic date is Saturday, February 9th, 1974.

The place is the fabulous Hilton Inn-On-The-Campus, located on Jefferson Road in Henrietta, near the Rochester Institute of Technology.

The evening festivities will begin around 6:30 p.m. when cocktails will be served. A buffet dinner will be next on the agenda. After which, we will be entertained by our favorite master of ceremonies, Eddie Dunn, W2ECH. After presentation of awards, the orchestra will entertain, the lights will be lowered, and your on your own to complete the enjoyable evening.

For newcomers to RaRa, the annual dinner-dance is an opportunity for the ladies in our lives to have an evening on the town. Everyone is invited to attend. Just ask some of the "old timers" about the evening. They will tell you it is one of the finest benefits for any RaRa member. While there are tickets to be purchased, your club does foot part of the bill.

Tickets will be available at the January 4th meeting. If you should be unable to attend, mail your request to ticket chairman Helen Smith, WA2YRH, 153 Mason Avenue, Rochester, N.Y. 14626. Make your check payable to Rochester Amateur Radio Association. Oh. How much? Tickets are only \$7.50 each, \$15.00 for a couple. . . a real bargain. Just try an evening on the town for \$15.00. It's just about impossible these days.

Charles Higginbotham has been made permanent (instead of acting) Chief of Safety & Special Services Bureau, and C. Phyll Horne has been made permanent Chief of the Field Engineering Bureau.

FOR SALE - Complete amateur station including Yaesu FT101; Yaesu FI2100 Linear Amplifier, Yaesu speaker and phone patch, IC-71 6 meter transceiver; Swan FM1210A 2 meter transceiver; Heath SB-650 freq display; Heath SB-610 monitor scope; power supplies; cables; rotor; antennas. Must sell. Am going overseas. Make an offer. Robert N. Ernst, 381-6906.

VOL. 26 JANUARY 1974 NO. 5

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VHF CONTEST

A mailing is being made to all known potential VHF operators who we sincerely hope will participate in the annual VHF Sweepstakes on the weekend of January 5th & 6th.

The contest message exchange is different this year. You must give a "precedent" and a check. Quite simply, the precedent is the amount of power input your rig runs, and the check is the year you were first licensed. If your power input is under 50 watts, your precedent is "A", and over 50 watts it is "B".

The exchange is quite simple. Here is a sample. Just insert your own information where the words are underlined. After establishing your contact, say: "W2ABC this is WB2DEF. Please copy number 1; my precedent is A; from WB2DEF; my check is 60; my section is Western New York; go ahead. (Turn off transmitter). Your contact should respond; QSL number 1; please copy my number 14; my precedent is B; from W2ABC; my check is 48; my section is Western New York. WB2DEF this is W2ABC. Your response is then to acknowledge his number 14 and start looking for your next contact.

If you follow that format, you will have no difficulty, since that is the way both participants must write in the received portion of the official logs.

Speaking of official logs, be sure to mail them to the indicated address before the deadline of January 20th.

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SILENT KEY

Robert Haner, W2BA (formerly W2FBA)

Amateur radio and the engineering field lost an outstanding member with the sudden death of Bob Haner while on a special assignment for his company (General Railway Signal) in Labrador.

He carried his knowledge of electronic engineering into his hobby where he pioneered and made enviable records on VHF and SSB. The call W2FBA was a familiar one in both Field Day and DX Contests. RaRa had the privilege of having him as a technical speaker on several occasions. Bob was a member of the Rochester DX and Antique Wireless Associations.

-- Bruce Kelley, Club Historian

Recent ice storms ruined ARRL's 10-meter delta loop antenna and has their 20-meter beam drooping. A power failure during that storm forced headquarters to close a half day.



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