

The RARA RAG

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The March Program - - Amateur Restructuring - Pros & Cons

by Bill March, WA2CER

Our March meeting will be on Friday, March 7th, 1975. March 7th is midway between last December 4th and June 16th, 1975. If you have been following recent events, you will recognize these dates as the filing date and due date for comments on FCC Docket 20282, a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking for restructuring of the Amateur Service. The final Report and Order resulting from Docket 20282 promises to have a profound effect on the future of amateur radio.

For this reason, the program will be a moderated discussion of Docket 20282 by topics and its effects on amateur radio. The prime purpose of the program will be to objectively describe the pros and cons of the proposal.

Once this is accomplished, it will be easier to formulate specific replies to the FCC and support any disagreement with reasonable arguments.

Because of the Docket's complexity, the discussion will be divided into major subjects such as; license classes, frequency allocations, operating modes, power limits and examination structure. The more familiar each member becomes with the proposal, the better will be the replies from the club and individual amateurs. If you don't have time to become familiar with the whole proposal, select one subject and get familiar with it. Remember to be objective and consider amateur radio in general.

The meeting will be held at our usual location; the Farm and Home Center at 249 Highland Avenue. See you there, Friday, March 7th, 1975 at 8:00 p.m.

FCC Exams at Hamfest

by John Schooley, W2BLU

Have you been thinking of upgrading your amateur radio ticket to take advantage of the grandfathering proposed in Docket 20282? Hamfest weekend is the time to do it the easy way. On Saturday, May 31, 1975, the F. C. C. will conduct examinations for General and higher class amateur radio operator licenses at the Monroe County Fairgrounds. Examinations requiring a code test (13 or 20 wpm) will begin at 10 a.m. and those not requiring a code test (advanced

(Continued on page 3)

Going For General?

by Bob Lauzon, WB2NSD

As you probably know, the FCC will administer General Class examinations at the 1975 WNY Hamfest.

RaRa Directors have decided to hold a class for anyone interested in trying for a General Class License at the Hamfest.

The class will start in the near future on a day and date to be announced. Members of the class will decide at the first meeting how many times a week the class will be held.

Ray Roberts has generously offered the use of his showroom at Tire World of Greece, 2318 Ridge Road West. As the last class was held at CD Headquarters to the south of the city this will make it more convenient for those who live to the north but all are invited.

The class will run for two hours each night it is held, starting at 7:30 p.m. The first hour will concentrate on CW with a goal of 15 WPM by the time the class is over. The second hour will be a seminar instead of a series of lectures. This seminar will be pointed directly toward obtaining a General Class license. It will not include Advanced or Extra Class theory and it will not spend time on phases of electronics not needed for General.

The class is intended primarily for amateurs holding Novice, Technician or Conditional licenses who want to get their General ticket before the newly proposed regulations are issued as Rules by the FCC so that they can obtain some of the present privileges without further examinations.

If you are interested only in speeding up your CW then you need only attend the first hour. If the reverse is true and your CW is O.K. but your theory weak then the second hour is for you.

If you want to attend the class drop a post card giving your name, call sign, address and phone number. Mail it to Rochester Amateur Radio Association, P.O. Box 1388, Rochester, N.Y. 14603. Do this without delay as the size of the class could be limited if the response is too great and it will be first come, first served. You may also sign up for the class at the March meeting - see the Membership Chairman at the back of the room.

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Managing Editor . . . Harold Smith, WA2KND
Art Director Russ Heuer, K2PLO
Chief Photographer . Al Crum, W2BWK
Staff Ed Gable, W2MPM
 Joe Hood, K2YAH
 Helen Smith, WA2YRH
 IBM Computer, 360

Editorial office, 153 Mason Avenue, Rochester,
N. Y., 14626. Telephone, 225-5260.

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Notes from the President's Desk

by Joe Hood, K2YAH

Each year that Jim Collinsworth, WB2EDT, has been on the board it seems that we decide to have the February Board meeting at his house in Macedon...and we've had our difficulties in the past with the winter trek across the western Wayne County badlands to the meeting place. Last year we had to cancel but fortunately this year everyone's dogsled made it. We had a good meeting too by the way.

Our first order of business was to commend Ray Roberts, WA2SSU, for his fine job as dinner-dance chairman. I've had many favorable comments from those who attended and the consensus seems to be that this was the best one yet. Those of you who missed it really missed a good one. The food was super and we even had a floor show courtesy Danté, the magician. And last but not least another thanks goes to Gene Molter for his fine job as emcee for the evening. Everything turned out so well that we're considering a return to Barry's next year.

Hamfest is beginning to gather momentum. The program isn't totally complete but Jim Collinsworth, WB2EDT, Hamfest Assistant Program Chairman has some things planned which will be particularly timely since the ARRL directors meeting will have just been completed and comments on docket 20282 are due two weeks after the hamfest.

As you know the FCC will be giving exams at the hamfest. The details of how to register for the exams are discussed in another item in this issue.

Ed Gable, W2MPM, also attended the board meeting to work out the details of the 20282 task force. Following that discussion Ed made a very appropriate motion that the club become a supporting member of the Amateur Satellite Corporation or AMSAT as it is known. The board and officers unanimously agreed.

Next, Jim Collinsworth, WB2EDT, noted that the library there near Macedon (yes, they have one) had asked him to put on an amateur radio demonstration at the library during Library Week in mid-April. Jim wondered if the club might not want to run other demonstrations at some of the libraries around Monroe County during library week. A suggestion was made that instead of demonstrations perhaps the club

(Continued on page 3)

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Notes

(Continued from page 2)

could donate a small collection of ARRL publications on amateur radio to these institutions. Everyone agreed the idea has merit and Jim is checking on the details.

Finally, Bob Lauzon, WB2NSD, stated that he and Ray Roberts, WA2SSU, had been discussing the possibility of running a General class code and theory course at Ray's store in Greece between now and Hamfest. The details on this are discussed elsewhere in this issue. The only point I wish to make is that if every amateur were as unselfish with his time in helping others as Bob is we wouldn't have any trouble expanding our ranks. Bob has probably been responsible for more new amateurs in the Rochester area than any other single amateur I know of. His efforts certainly deserve special recognition.

FCC Exams

(Continued from page 1)

class) will begin at 1 p.m. Attendance at the Hamfest is not required for those desiring to take an F. C. C. examination.

To assure a seat at the examinations, submit your Form 610 application and the \$4.00 filing fee to the Federal Communications Commission, Room 1005 Customhouse, Second and Chestnut Streets, Philadelphia, Pa. 19106. Mark your application "For examination at the WNY Hamfest". All applications should be mailed in time to be received by the F.C.C. no later than May 23, 1975.

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Advance Hamfest Information

Here is complete and accurate information which can be used to inform people who make inquiries of you about the Hamfest.

DATE: Saturday, May 31, 1975

PLACE: Monroe County Fairgrounds, route 15A and Calkins Road, near N. Y. Thruway exit 46.

HEADQUARTERS HOTEL: Rochester Marriott Inn, route 15, at N. Y. Thruway exit 46.

TICKET PRICES: Registration only: \$3.50 in advance, \$4.00 at the gate. Registration and banquet in advance \$11.00. No dinner tickets at the gate. Advance sale closes May 24th.

LADIES FASHION SHOW: No charge for tickets. Those attending must hold regular Hamfest registration.

FLEA MARKET: \$1.00 per parking space additional charge. No additional charge for regular parking.

ANTIQUÉ WIRELESS ASSOCIATION: Museum will be open, Sunday, June 1st.

PROGRAMS: Will be mailed to everyone in the local Directory and to anyone who has attended the Hamfest in the last five years. Copies will be mailed to others who send a card to WNY Hamfest, Box 1388, Rochester, N. Y. 14603.

FCC EXAMS: Will be held at the Hamfest. Details appear elsewhere in this edition of the Rag.

FRIDAY EVENING FUNFEST: at the Marriott begins at 7 p.m. Entertainment will be provided. No admission charge.

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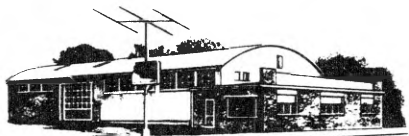
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