

# The RARA RAG

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NO. 6

## December Meeting to be held February 4th

by K. Pacitur, AKA, W2MPM

Remember the fine December talk on cable TV? Well that was to be the February meeting until the December speaker's schedule was changed. Therefore it becomes obvious to the most casual observer, that the December meeting should be scheduled now in January for the February meeting. Those of you who read the November prepared Rag article in the December issue will well remember the topic as being the Instrument Landing System at the Monroe County Airport.

Seriously now, we are very pleased to be able to reschedule Mr. Tom Quinnan from the local FAA Field Office to speak on this exacting and intricate system. This talk will be of special interest to the many private pilots in our midst who may use the system occasionally and will also give the rest of us, the commercial passengers, an insight on what is really going on as we descend for landing. Few people realize the efforts that have to go into keep an ILS system in peak performance. Antenna patterns are surely not as casual as we tend to think with our Ham systems. Come and hear why.

Mr. Quinnan's presentation will be offered at the normal February RaRa meeting, Friday, February 4, 8 p.m., in the Farm and Home Center, 249 Highland Avenue.

Future RaRa events include the Dinner-Dance this month, see details elsewhere in this issue. Our popular Antique Wireless Association night is coming as well as the Hamfest and Picnic. Tentative meeting programs are penciled in but remember, if you have any programs or topics that you would be interested in, let me know. This is your group and "we aim to please."

## FCC EXAMS AT HAMFEST

In the January RaRa Rag an item told of FCC exams at the Rochester Hamfest on Saturday, May 21. Please note that there is no fee required as was mentioned in that item. Complete details will be in your copy of the Hamfest brochure. The brochure will be in the mail around April 1.

Everyone taking tests at the Hamfest for upgrading will be eligible for instant upgrading because of a new program the FCC will start on March 1.

## Valentine Dinner-Dance Feb. 12 Last Call!

The annual RaRa Valentine dinner-dance will be held at the Americana Towne House on February 12. This is your chance to impress the XYL with a great night out thanks to amateur radio.

Things get underway with cocktails at 7 p.m. in the Towne Room followed by a dinner of Veal Cutlet Marinara, or Beef Burgundy complete with appetizer, salad and dessert. There will be flowers and other surprises for the ladies.

Following dinner we will be entertained by the Flower City Four, a musical barbershop comedy group. For those who wish, there will be music for dancing in the lounge of the Americana Towne House following our program.

Tickets will be available until and through February 4 club meeting at \$10 per person.

## Instant Upgrading Coming in March

In a public notice released January 10, the FCC announced the implementation of an instant upgrading program. Effective March 1, Engineers in Charge of the various FCC field offices will be delegated authority to issue interim amateur permits to applicants for amateur operator licenses who successfully complete the examination and who already hold an amateur license. This interim permit will be good for 90 days or until the new license is issued, whichever comes sooner. The interim permit will indicate a special ID which must be appended to the amateur station call whenever the operator utilizes his newly earned privileges. We emphasize that this instant upgrading program does not take effect until March 1.

## RaRa Razz-ma-tazz!

Who is the famous Rochester radio amateur who recently returned from a hospital stay? Why did he tell all the sobbing nurses "No use to cry?"

All winners get a dxer's delight antenna and tower erected free complete to specifications of Town of Henrietta!

OK, a hint -- this famous Rochester ham has also been known as emporer of the empordium.

Ans. ALBERT W2PRT, W2PRT

# The RARA RAG

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The Rochester Amateur Radio Association  
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Managing Editor . . . Harold Smith, WA2KND  
Associate Editor . . . Dwight Hill, K2KWK  
Art Director . . . Russ Heuer, K2PLO  
Photographers . . . Al Crum, W2BWK  
                                  Harvey Samuels, WA2LUE  
Staff . . . . . Helen Smith, WA2YRH  
                                  IBM Computer, 360  
Editorial office, 153 Mason Avenue, Rochester,  
N. Y. 14626. Telephone: 716-225-5260.

## Novice/General Code & Theory Courses

The Novice/General Courses announced in last month's Rag have been oversubscribed and it has become necessary to cut off further registrations.

The courses will start on Monday, February 28, 1977 at 7:30 p.m. and each session will last for two hours. The courses will conclude on May 16 in time for the General students to take their examinations at the Hamfest.

The students are asked to report on time at Civil Defense Headquarters, corner Westfall and 15A and to bring a notebook and a supply of pencils. Pens should not be used.

The total cost of the program for each student is \$4.00; \$2.00 for an Associate Membership in RaRa; \$1.50 for an up-to-date ARRL License Manual and 50¢ to defray the cost of supplies and postage. For those who already have a call sign it will be necessary to have Full Membership in RaRa. It will be possible to obtain the membership and the license manual at the first class meeting.

The code will be taught to Novices from zero to 6 WPM and to General from 6 to 15 WPM. While the Novices are being taught code the Generals will be taught theory and vice versa. The previously successful Seminar type theory teaching will be used on both classes.

We are very sorry but students who have not already registered for the classes cannot be accepted. Please do not come to C.D. Headquarters unless you have preregistered as we cannot handle any more applicants.

If demand warrants another Novice/General Course will be planned to start next September.

## Another Class For Novices

Starting Wednesday January 19 from 8-10 p.m. and each Wednesday night thereafter after John Yells, WA2BAF, will conduct a class in novice theory and code to 5 words per minute. Although this class starts prior to this printing it can still be joined early in February. Those wishing to join this class should contact John Yells at 865-0430. Those who attend will have to bring their own writing materials and a folding chair to 3327 Lake Avenue.

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Ray Jobes (left) accepting the John Long Trophy from RaRa President "Doc" Smith at the 1939 Hamfest.

## History of Rochester Hamfest

### Part 1 - Pre-war Years

by Bruce Kelley, W2ICE, Club Historian

Since its founding, RaRa has held annual hamfests except during the war years. They were simple affairs during the depression and were frequently held at the Central YMCA with \$1.50 covering both registration and dinner!

This tradition was broken when the Committee selected the Elk's Club on Clinton Avenue for the 1938 Hamfest to be followed in 1939 at the old Seneca Hotel. The latter was an impressive affair in the hotel's main ballroom where part of the evening's program was broadcast over a local radio station.

The 1939 event was publicized as the 16th Rochester Hamfest. Some explanation may be necessary for the number "16" since RaRa wasn't formed until 1931.

RaRa was evolved from the defunct Rochester Radio Club which sponsored many successful gatherings in the 1920's. "16" was the total for both organizations. Of interest, much of the programming in these early days was provided by WHAM's engineering staff all of whom were amateurs.

Pre-war years saw equally large hamfests in the neighboring cities: Buffalo, Syracuse and Auburn. "Doc" Simpson was the sparkplug in Buffalo and Lou Springer did more than his share in Auburn.

## Welcome to the Ham Fraternity!

Following is a list of graduates of the last Novice Class. Some have received their call signs - other have been notified that they have passed but their tickets have not, as yet, arrived. Many more have either not heard from the F. C. C. or have failed to notify their instructors of the results of their examinations. We know that you will want to extend a friendly hand to these new members at the next meeting when they are introduced.

Wayne King, WB2JJD; Art Wilson, WA2JON; Bob Allen, WA2JOM; Tom Masucci, WB2JOM; Jim Sce, WB2JON; Lee Morelli, WB2JOR; John Rhodes, WA2JRU; Rich Abbott, WA2JSE; David Hobson, WA2JOS; Don Peters, WB2JOL; Eric Horton, WA2JSD; Rick Mainhart, WB3EXR (lives in Pa.); Kevin Slucker; Dorothy Dubert; Floyd Rhodes; Will Foster; Joyce Biss; Chuck Biss; Robert Clark; Tom Miller; Ed Peters; Jim Grandjean; Chris Wachs; and Bob Dengler.

## Bulletins on Two Meter FM

by Dwight Hill, K2KWK

Each Sunday evening at 8:45 p. m. bulletins are sent by K2KWK, Official Bulletin Station for the American Radio Relay League. Frequencies are the 146.79 mhz WR2ABF and 146.88 mhz WR2AEI Rochester repeaters. Transmissions alternate each week from one to the other frequency coinciding with and preceding the Monroe County FM Net on those frequencies at 9:00 p. m.

Material being sent includes ARRL Official Bulletins, WIAW Code Practice Schedule and Text references for checking copy, ARRL Operating Events (selected), Local bulletins and events upon request or notification, also selected excerpts from "HR REPORT". Pauses are made between bulletins to allow emergency priority traffic if necessary. Bulletins of more immediate interest will be sent as often as practical.

Each Tuesday evening between 9:30 p.m. and 10:00 p.m. K2KWK sends only the ARRL Bulletins as part of The Western District Net on the WR2AIU 146.64 mhz repeater at Wethersfield with coverage over most of Western New York and parts of Canada and Pennsylvania.

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# Rochester VHF Group

by Ed Valmore, K2EVJ, Chairman

The January VHF Sweepstakes contest is now history. I would like to thank all those who participated in the contest for their support of the VHF group. Although point totals are not available at this writing, I hope that our collective efforts will indeed result in closing the gap with the Pack Rats. The group is indebted to Andy McCaskey, WA4MTP/2, for his enthusiastic efforts as contest chairman, and to those who assisted him in the mailing of forms and tabulating the club score.

Our next meeting will be held at 8 p.m. on February 11th. As usual, we will meet at the Monroe County Farm and Home Center, 249 Highland Avenue. The program will be on the subject of amateur UHF operation, with particular emphasis on 1296 mc. Floyd Koontz, WA2WVL, and I will describe transmitting equipment, receiving equipment, and antennas for UHF work. Long range communications possibilities will be discussed, as well as what can be expected from relatively simple low power equipment. Hardware will be available for your inspection. Activity on 1296 has increased significantly in the last several years. Come to the February meeting and find out more about this interesting part of the amateur spectrum.

## Novice Traffic Training Net

by Don Partis, WA2AIV

Word comes from Clara Reger, W2RUF, about a New York State-wide network for the purpose of passing traffic at slow cw speeds. This is an introductory net for all novices and technicians who are interested in expanding their cw skills. The New York Novice Training Net meets daily at 5 p.m. local time on 3728 kHz. Special consideration is taken for new traffic handlers. The net code speed will be 5 wpm on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. For the Tuesdays and Thursdays sessions the code speed may be adjusted higher, but not to exceed the speed levels of the participants. All present and future novices and technicians are invited to participate in this unique traffic net. Be sure to listen first to identify which station is the net control.

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## RaRa Contesters On TV News

These contesters show up on an unusual VHF frequency during the recent ARRL VHF Sweepstakes. Unfortunately no points are granted for channel 10 WHEC-TV contacts, there were no TVI complaints either. The station belongs to local contest chairman Andrew L. McCaskey, WA4MTP/2, and his wife Terry, WB4RNF/2. Seen at the microphone is neighbor Bob Persichitti, WA2EKF.

## Editorial

I will speak up now for those who want to more publicly express their thank you and admiration for the fantastic undertaking of the past Fall RaRa Code Classes. To the teachers, organizers, supporters, assistants, etc., out at the Monroe County O.E.P. sessions everyone tell you thank you. Words become very inadequate to express the depth of this feeling. You have of course opened a whole new world for your students. You have done it well and skillfully. Ladies and gentlemen you are doing amateur radio an inestimable service. All classes of amateurs can and will appreciate your efforts. You are truly both a benefit and inspiration. We can only thank you now but will always remember and thank you in years to come too.

Dwight Hill, K2KWK, Assoc. Ed.

Those who operate licensing classes or anyone wishing a bulk quantity of any U.S. Government form can obtain them by writing a letter of application to the Forms Distribution Center, Room B-10, Washington, D.C., 20554.

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## Sister Cities Are Talking via Ham Radio

by Dwight Hill, K2KWK

A monthly radio schedule has been established between Rochester and Rennes, France. Initial attempts by mail and telephone located ham radio operators in Paris and Rennes who have the equipment capability of reaching Rochester hams. Rochester amateur operators involved in the initial contacts are Jack L. R. Williams, K2JFV; George Negus, K2OIU; Lia Zwack, WA2NFY; Ray Leigh, W2SNI; and Joe Marsey, W2EMX. Additional operators are invited to join the others in the search for ham stations in the other Sister Cities of Rochester which include Wurzburg, Germany; Caltanissetta, Italy; Rehovot, Israel; Krakow, Poland; and Bamako, Mali.

On December 23, 1976, K2JFV and K2OIU made contact with F6EEM "Sylvio" and F6DOW "Marcel". After forty minutes of conversation in both French and English a second schedule was made which added F8OP "George". On January 2, 1977, the Rennes area stations included F8OP, F6EEM, and added F3IF "Gerard" and F6CWI. As a favor to George, F8OP, our Rochester hams contacted a former exchange student now living in Fairfield, Connecticut who was then able to talk to George via the amateur radio connection. Stations in Rennes, Rochester and Fairfield now have established a schedule to meet on the air at 14,320 kHz the first Sunday of each month at 8 a. m. E. S. T.

Contacts have also been made with ham stations in or near Wurzburg, Germany by WA2NFY and W2SNI. They are continuing their efforts to establish an ongoing schedule.

Joe Marsey, W2EMX, has been attempting to contact a ham station in Rehovot, Israel.

All of our Rochester operators are eagerly anticipating an exchange of pictures via amateur radio slow scan television and have enlisted the aid of Bill DeWitt, W2DD, who is well qualified in this mode of amateur communications.

An operating award for stations who contact all Rochester Sister Cities is under consideration according to Frank T. Lamb, President of International Sister Cities of Rochester, N.Y.

These radio contacts are a realization of a fundamental purpose of the Amateur Radio Service to provide "continuation and extension of the amateur's unique ability to enhance international good will". Through mutual cooperation Rochester hams and the Rochester Sister Cities organization have begun a project which further the aims of both groups.

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FOR SALE: Complete Novice Station - Transmitter-Collins 32V2, 100 watt output, CW, 10-80; Receiver-Hallicrafters Sx-101, 10-160 hambands plus WWV. All above mounted in Rack abt 3 ft. high and in operating condition. \$175.00. Contact Fred Weir, WA2NVJ, 442-3314.

## February is Novice Month:

or - a sure fire way to boost your cw speed  
Just like the January Super Bowl culminates every football fan's season, February is the highpoint of the operating year for all amateur radio's new-comers, regardless of their license class. ARRL has sponsored a Novice Roundup every year since the Novice license was born in the early 1950's, especially for the benefit of our newest amateur brothers and sisters. And this year, Technicians can compete on an equal basis with Novices to exercise their new hf cw privileges. If you miss your NR, you may look back years later and sorely regret it.

Your January issue of QST has all the information on the 1977 Novice Roundup - all you need to know about the rules, dates, times, how to submit your entry. First off, you send a self-addressed, stamped envelope (SASE) to ARRL headquarters and ask for the "NR package;" it contains log sheets, a summary sheet to be filled out after the Roundup and an Operating Aid 6 matrix. How to keep the log, how to fill in the matrix, and operating hints are spelled out in the contest chapter of the ARRL Ham Radio Operating Guide. You don't have to register or sign up to participate in the NR; but you do need to ask for the proper forms ahead of time. Why? Because operating is much easier if you use log sheets tailored to the activity, and because if you intend to submit an entry you must provide certain information which necessitates use of the proper summary sheet.

The NR runs for nine days, out of which you may operate thirty hours. This is not a "marathon" activity like some contests are! Most of the activity is on the two weekends during the contest period and in the evenings during the week. You can breakup your operating time in any way you choose, just so your breaks are at least 15 minutes in length.

You may work each other station only once during the Roundup, regardless of the frequency band. You exchange certain information (just like every contest); in the case of the NR, you send and receive back a signal report and your ARRL field organization section (listed on page 8 of every QST). Again, all this is spelled out in the contest announcement in January QST. The whole idea is to work as many stations and foreign countries as possible, within a certain amount of time.

What are the benefits to be reaped for you? First, if you submit an entry and have the highest score in your ARRL section you will receive a handsome certificate. No matter what your score, your callsign and score will be printed in QST, along with others in your section. If you send in a picture it may get printed, too. Among your contacts will undoubtedly be some new states for your upcoming Worked All States award from ARRL, and if you're in a rare state yourself your mailbox will probably be crammed with incoming cards for weeks after the NR. Don't say we didn't warn you!

(Continued on page 6)

# Novice

(Continued from page 5)

The biggest reward of your NR operating experience may be an intangible one. As you exchange information with other contestants you will be "under the gun" to get their call signs and sections copied correctly. Some of them will be sending too fast for you, and you might have to request them to "QRS" (send slower). Point is, it's a rare case when someone does not increase his code speed during the NR. You'll find lots of "old timers" in your Novice band during the NR, and they are there for one reason: to help you. There's nothing in it for them... no awards, probably no new states, and they don't need the code practice.

After it's all over, you will probably sit back and ponder how you were able to accomplish so much in such a short time. Your cw abilities will be higher then ever before in your ham radio career. In fact, many Novices plan to take their General exams immediately after the NR, and often the 13 wpm seems slow after furious contest activity. There's no QRM on the FCC tape, either! In a few months, ARRL will have processed the hundreds of NR entries and will print a complete report in QST; years

later you will look back at that issue and see your call, maybe your "Soapbox" comment and possibly a picture. See you in the NR!

Thanks to WB2CHO.

## Attention OSCAR Users

Following earlier successes, some special low power (QRP) tests have been scheduled by AMSAT. This effects operation through both OSCAR 6 and OSCAR 7 during 1977.

For OSCAR 6 several January and February UTC Wednesdays, will be only for stations operating with power levels of 10 watts ERP or less. The exact dates of the QRP only orbits are January 5th and 19th and February 2nd and 16th. Other Wednesdays in January and February will be off days.

For OSCAR 7 all mode B orbits on UTC Mondays will be for QRP stations using no more than 10 watts effective radiated power. This is in effect for OSCAR 7 until further notice. On other days all mode B users are requested to use the least power possible in communicating to maintain the satellite battery capacity.

Stations participating in the QRP days should so indicate during their transmissions.

# U.S. Amateur Frequency and Mode Allocations

**Power Limits:** All U.S. amateurs are limited to 250-watts dc input in the Novice segments. On all other segments, with certain exceptions in the 160-meter and 420-MHz bands, one-kilowatt dc input is permitted. At all times the power level should be kept down to that necessary to maintain communications. (revised as of July 23, 1976)

### BANDWIDTH LIMITATIONS

**FREQUENCY (OR PHASE) MODULATION:** On frequencies below 29.0 MHz and between 50.1 and 52.5 MHz the bandwidth of F3 emission shall not exceed that of an A3

emission having the same audio characteristics. **TELEVISION:** On frequencies below 50 MHz, the bandwidth of A5 and F5 emissions

shall not exceed that of an A3 single sideband emission. Between 50 and 225 MHz, single sideband or double sideband A5 may be used and the bandwidth shall not exceed that of an A3 single sideband or double sideband signal respectively. The bandwidth of F5 emission shall not exceed that of an A3 single sideband emission. Below 225 MHz, A3 and A5 emissions may be used simultaneously on the same carrier frequency provided the total bandwidth does not exceed that of an A3 double sideband emission.

**RTTY:** When using frequency-shift keying, the shift shall be less than 900 Hz. With audio frequency-shift keying, the highest fundamental modulating frequency shall not exceed 3000 Hz and the audio frequency shift shall be less than 900 Hz.

**ALL MODES:** The carrier frequency plus modulating frequencies must be contained within amateur allocations and within appropriate subbands.

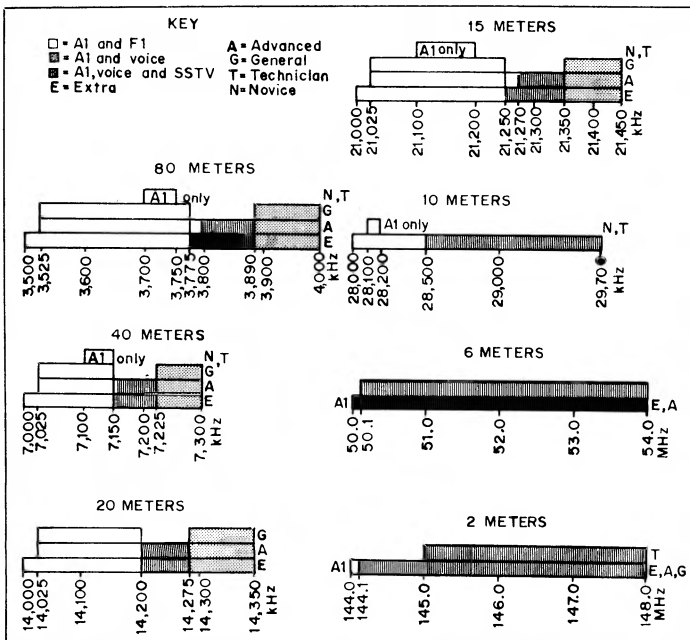
**NOTE:** Some amateur bands are shared with other services. Some geographical limitations exist for the 220- and 420-MHz bands. For details, and for information on specialized modes, see ARRL *License Manual*. For information on repeaters, see *License Manual* and *Repeater Directory*.

**160 METERS:** Extra, Advanced and General may use some segments at 1.8-2.0 MHz. Limitations are on a geographical basis; see *License Manual* or request form 151A from ARRL hq.

Other — All modes except as noted. Extra, Advanced, General, Technician.

MHz	GHZ (1 GHz - 1000 MHz)
220 - 225*	10.0 - 10.5*
420 - 450*	24.0 - 24.25
1215 - 1300*	48.0 - 50.0
2300 - 2450	71.0 - 76.0
3300 - 3500	165.0 - 170.0
5650 - 5925	240.0 - 250.0

\*Pulse not permitted All above 300



## Notice: Reminder

The FCC has suspended all radio license fees, effective January 1, 1977. This is an across the board suspension covering all radio licenses granted by the FCC. In other words, send no money in any form for any business you have with the FCC. There is now no charge for new applications for two-letter calls or other special specific call signs.

Previous license applications that included fees as formerly required will not be delayed but will be processed along with those without fees. According to "HR Report" For January 7, 1977; applicants who sent checks will receive with their licenses a notice that their checks were destroyed and to correct their check book registers accordingly. Those who forwarded money orders or cash will receive a U.S. Government check in refund.

FOR SALE - SR-42 Hallicrafters 2M-AM with VFO; SB303 Heathkit Solid State receiver; NCX500 80-10 SSB transceiver; IC230 2M, FM, PLL - transceiver. Len "WA2ZNC", 381-7328.

FOR SALE: Hammarlund Receiver, Model HQ-180-AX. Covers .5 to 30 mHz plus band-spread with Manual, Noise Limiter, 100 khz calibrator, Relay Race Bezel. \$250.00. Contact Rick Mainhart, WB3EXR/2, at 266-9759, 9-5 daily or after 10 p.m.

FOR SALE: Marine Radiotelephone - Genave: Model Marine Mate 10. New in box. 10 channel capacity with 16-6-22A-26-68-WE1, FCC type accepted for shipboard use, with 54" deck mounted Fiberglass antenna. \$250.00. Call John Yells, WA2BAF, 865-0430.

FOR SALE - Two Meter Amplifier: Heath HA-201. Built from kit in 1975, modified up to date by Heath Rochester Store. Power out with Heath land held in  $\pm$  12 watts. Price \$20.00. Contact Dwight Hill, K2KWK, 544-2332.

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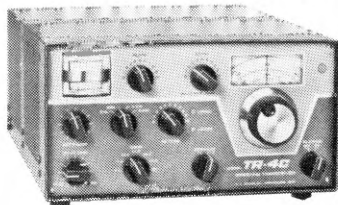
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Kenwood TS-820	\$830.00	Atlas 210X	\$649.00		
Kenwood TS-700	\$700.00				
ICOM IC-22S	\$289.00	ICOM IC-21A	\$449.00	ICOM IC-230	\$489.00
		ICOM DV-21	\$389.00		

Mastercharge

BankAmericard

or in store financing available on purchases over \$50.00