

The RARa RAG

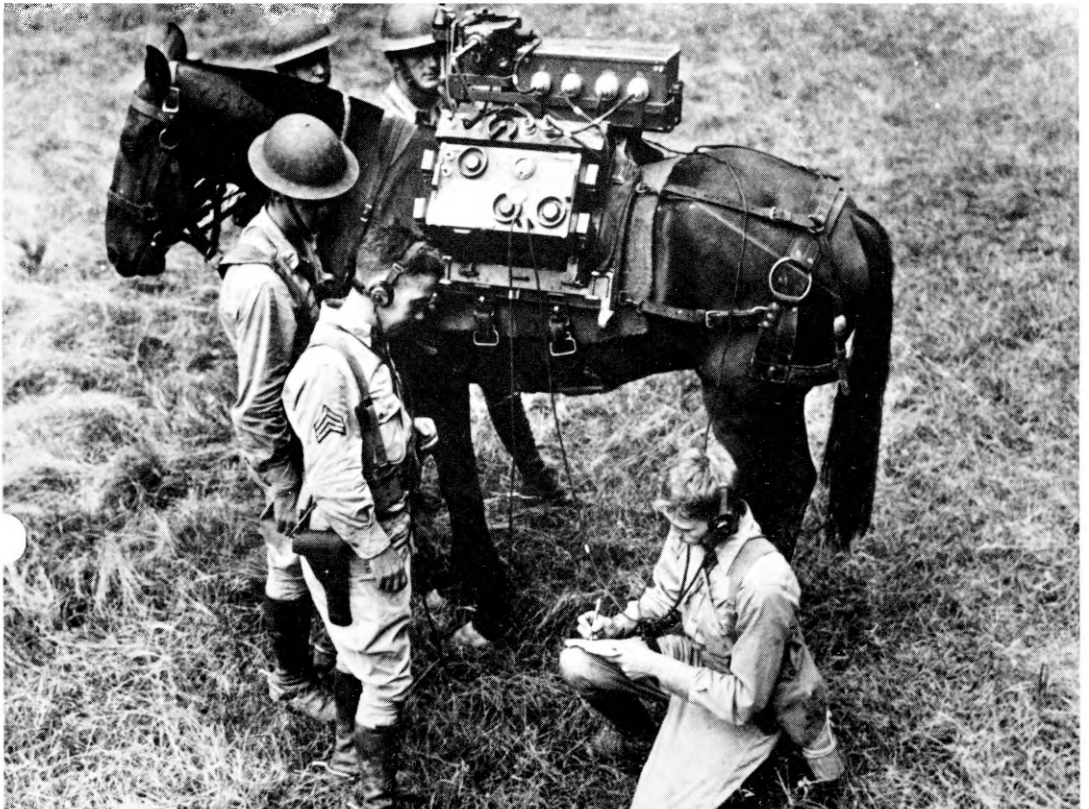
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NO. 8



"MOBILE OPERATION WWI" You haven't seen anything yet -- attend the April Meeting and see what they were using in airplanes...

The Good, Old Old Days

by Al Lydradeo, AKA, W2MPM

That is the theme for the April Meeting. Our title is appropriate since the show and equipment will deal with material no later than world war I. Spark transmitters, rickety airplanes, the founding of the ARRL, and much more.

This ever popular Old Timers Night is a delight for youngsters and oldsters alike. The program, sponsored by the Antique Wireless Association, will be hosted by the venerable Inc Cundall, W2LC. "Else" will not require any prompting or written notes to explain the material presented, - he was there!

So come along and renew old acquaintances, The starting time will be at 8 p.m. in the regular RaRa meeting room at the Monroe County Farm and Home Center, 249 Highland Avenue. The date? April first, no foolin'.

Rochester HAMFEST

MAY 20 - 22

The largest hamfest in the Northeast, the Rochester Hamfest and New York State ARRL Convention will be held here the weekend of May 20-22. Hotel headquarters is at the Rochester Marriott. The Hamfest flea market, FCC exams, exhibits, and programs will be at the Monroe County Fairgrounds.

A brochure announcing the Hamfest will be in the mail soon to more than 10,000 people on our mailing list. If you think that your name may be missing from the list, send a card to Hamfest, Box 1388, Rochester, NY 14603. Tell your out of town friends the address. Tell them about the Hamfest too!

The RARA RAG

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hr REPORT

Greenville, NH 03048

F.C.C. Special Moratorium

The F. C. C. has announced a moratorium, effective March 3, 1977, that applies to special-event stations and new secondary stations in the amateur service.

Those persons eligible for a 1x2 call sign January 1, 1977 and who applied for that call on or before March 2, 1977 are not affected by this ruling. However, those eligible for a 1x2 call sign on April 1, 1977 will not be able to have it assigned as a new secondary station. You can have it by modifying your existing primary or secondary station license. All amateurs who currently hold secondary licenses may modify them or renew them during this moratorium. This applies only to applications for new secondary and new special-event station license applications.

VHF GROUP: APRIL

The meeting date is still not settled due to speaker and member complications with the Easter and Good Friday holidays. It is anticipated that the meeting will be moved to April 22. An announcement will be made at the RaRa meeting on April first to advise about the final details. Details will also be mailed to the regular attendees as done previously.

REPEATER GROUP: APRIL

The meeting date and program have not yet been confirmed but it is expected that details will be announced at the RaRa meeting on April first. Also the details will be mailed to contributing members as usual. It is hoped at this writing that the April meeting will be a program at the Strassenburgh Planetarium.

In other words, to quote W2ECH, stay tuned for details. And remember; delast part of deduct that went under defence was detail.

For yea of little faith; or anyone seeing another snowfall suddenly through the window, Field Day has been "Firmly" scheduled on June 25 and 26. Now, as that is a weekend, does anyone in the class have any further questions about what the weather in Rochester will do then?

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Say Elmer-How Does This Thing?

Newcomers and oldsters are getting together on common ground (no pun intended) each week to iron out those lingering problems with theory and to exchange advice on station set-up, operating, equipment, antennas, etc. Every Monday night, right up to hamfest time, the RaRa Club Facility (K2JD) in the IOLA Complex at the corner of Westfall Road and East Henrietta Road opens at 8 p.m. The initial purpose is the conduct of the weekly code classes. Secondly it is intended to make the K2JD station available for use by club members, after being checked out and certified by WA2EKR and W2MPM. Thirdly it has become the meeting place for an informal exchange in the true meaning of RaRa club fellowship.

Sometimes a person may think his question too basic and even stupid, but if it has occurred to him it means it probably has occurred to others now, or before, or in the future. In any class of 25 to 35, many students often wish to examine something deeper but maybe only one will ask. A single question can interest several others. So ask away!

The blackboard in the meeting room for the February RaRa meeting contained a list of volunteer helpers and helpees. For some who may have missed the details, it was:

HELPERS - W2ECW, 14609, 288-8321, Thomas Campbell; WB2EXR, 14617, 266-9759, Richard Mainhart; WA2YUO, 14616, 663-5917, William rauenhofer; W2MPM, 14616, 621-6692, Edward Gable. HELPEES - WB2JOR, 14607, 442-0988; WA2KIT, 14618, 244-8521; WB2JSV, 14450, 223-4147, Ray Bejarano; Norm Peters, 14450, 377-1977; Marv Atlas, 14618, 442-4597; and Roger Ridley, 14616, 663-7067.

After the hamfest we may loose the Iola meeting place for the summer. It is hoped that the helpers and helpees will have accumulated enough personal contacts via the meetings to continue through the summer. So even if you can't make it every Monday night try to do it at least once. All of our radio activities are subject to outside demands. If you really want to do this then there is someone who really wants to meet you and know you. If you are a trifle weary after these winter meetings and eyeballs with the same folks - come to one of these Monday night sessions. It's guaranteed to quicken your cerebral circulation.

FCC COMMENTS

A VERY STRONG PRO-AMATEUR RADIC STATEMENT from FCC Chairman Dick Wiley accompanied the release of the Commission's proposals for banning 10-meter linears and type acceptance of Amateur gear. Highpoints of Wiley's comments:

"While I Concur in the Commission's proposals to ban use of linear amplifiers in the 11-meter citizens radio band and to require type acceptance of amateur equipment, I must admit to doing so with some reservations... My concern is that in attempting to deal with the rapidly proliferating and sometimes troublesome CB service, we may appear to be penalizing the Amateur community which, in my judgment, is one of the most professional and self-regulated services within the Commission's jurisdiction..."

"I Look Forward to a healthy and vigorous discussion on the proceedings the Commission has opened today. Whatever their ultimate outcome, however, I wish to take this opportunity to express my respect and admiration for the Amateur community. I hope and trust that my colleagues will give these dockets, and the comments filed by the Amateur community (as well as others), careful attention prior to reaching any final conclusion."

A Powerful Endorsement from the FCC's number one man!

Thanks to H. R. Report

WANTED: Heathkit Model HG-10, VFO for the Heath HW-16. Contact WB2JOR, Lee, at 442-0988.

FOR SALE: Drake DC4 power supply used only 2 weeks. Asking \$125. Susan Mosher, phone 638-5621.

FOR SALE - HQ110-C - \$115. Also BD-77 dynamotor - never used. Earl Hotz, W2WQV, 377-7401.

Who's Who

K2YAH is now K2YA

WB2NSD is now K2RL

The Auburn Swap Net meets Wednesday nights at 7 p.m. on the air via the 2 meter repeater "40-00" in Auburn. Thanks to WA2QAP who is net control.

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Combined Novice General Code and Theory Courses

by Kay Tuarell, WA2SRF

Monday, February 28 saw the start of the current code and theory courses. For the first time we have tried combining the Novice and General courses at the same place on the same evenings at the same time BUT not together! Actually each class runs for two hours - the first hour the Novice students practice copying code while the General students are studying theory and vice versa the second hour. So far it seems to be working very well.

We had set a predetermined limit of 35 students for each group but the demand was so great that we waited until we had 44 signed up for the Novice and 58 for General before we actually cut off registrations. The problem came about because many of the graduates from the previous Novice class had not received their tickets yet and waited until they did receive them before signing up for the General course. Of course we wouldn't refuse registration to any of our own graduates so - there we are!

From the latest statistics on the last class, of the 50 who took the theory examination 48 passed and have received their tickets - we know of only one who failed and the last we have heard from one way or the other. To obtain reports of success we offer a free call sign badge to those who notify the instructor of their call sign when they receive it - without that small incentive we would probably be left wondering about at least half the class as in past years.

Requiring students to be Associate Members of RaRa if they are unlicensed and full members if they hold a ticket has brought us many new members. Most of the graduates have up-dated their membership from Associate to Full by payment of the \$3.00 difference in dues between the two rates.

The Novice students are quickly learning the alphabet at the rate of 13 WPM and the General students are starting to increase their copying speed from 6 WPM to a planned 15 WPM by the end of the course. Theory in both groups is being taught by the seminar method which has been quite successful. Ed Holdsworth, WA2EKR,

is handling the Novice theory and Ed Gable, W2MPM, the General. The club owes a deep debt of gratitude to Dave Hassett, K2SQI, for the effort he has put in teaching theory in past years - a well earned vote of thanks to you Dave.

There was a question on the last FCC Novice theory examination that could not be answered due to insufficient information in the question itself. The instructors couldn't do anything to help as they are not permitted to even look at the examination much less discuss it so all we could do was tell the students to answer as best they could. It so happened that the FCC gave full credit for the question whether it was answered correctly, incorrectly or not answered at all. We hope the FCC will not only permit instructors to look at the tests but also to tell the students whether or not they passed. It would help in pin-pointing any weaknesses in the instruction if we could find out what questions were missed. Maybe some day they will give on that point.

There will be another combined Novice/General course offered this September. Registrations will be accepted starting immediately by sending a card to the writer through the RaRa Post office box 1388. No phone calls please.

Having trouble catching code practice off the air? Check in on W1AW. Four times per week day code transmissions are made at the popular speeds. Well - of, so 13 wpm isn't so popular - but it's well used! W1AW starts sending at 9:00 a.m., 4:00 p.m., 7:30 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. These times are local time a stay the same when we all go to Daylight Saving Time. On each weekend W1AW sends one evening transmission starting at 9:30 p.m.

SILENT KEY

We are saddened and diminished by the recent loss of these fine radio amateurs.

Robert S. Shorey, WA2HUI, 473 Chestnut Ridge Road, Rochester, New York 14624. Bob was a new and enthusiastic member of RaRa. The club is grateful for the donations in his memory.

William E. Swain, K2MAJ, 47 Browns Ave., Scottsville, New York 14546.

William Gombert, K2RUM, Tonawanda, New York.

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RaRa RAZZ-MA-TAZZ

What is the real significance to amateur radio of the device referred to as the "807"? If you are truly not familiar with it how about the "1625" which is more recent? Our field researcher find no solid state equivalent among the tiny devices that resemble an aspirin with an axial board.

Bonus Question: You have just measured the stranded wire for your 80 meter dipole after laying it out on the ground between you and your XYL. You let go to swat a fly, what have you created?

Winners are eligible for lifetime privileges at a temporary broadcast antenna site in the Town of Henrietta - as soon as the site is found. After its picture appeared in a daily paper it moved.

For all you pump handlers, whether old, tired, middle aged, or new fangled, or famous or would-be, the ARRL has a full 24 hours on July 4 during which you can test your proficiency and have a fine time. See March 1977 QST for details of the past straight key night. Complete details for this very friendly operating event will appear in QST prior to July 4.

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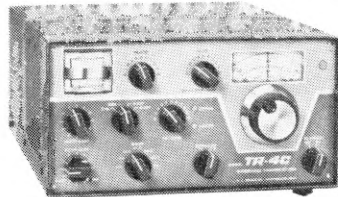
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