

# The RARA RAG

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## Amateur Radio Emergency Alerting Service "Fuzz Buzz" Changes Operating Procedures

by Jim Collinsworth, N2JC,  
Section Emergency Coordinator

Through a cooperative arrangement with Monroe County, the 146.28/88 RRRA repeater (WR2AEI) can be used by amateurs to report situations that involve protection of life or property directly to police or other emergency services.

Amateur radio users call the dispatcher at Monroe County Public Service Radio Center at Cobbs Hill. The dispatcher has immediate, direct access to virtually all area police, fire, ambulance and utility services (including city, county, State Police, and most adjacent county rvices).

Users should NOT test or ask for radio checks. All Fuzz Buzz communications are tape recorded. Abuse could result in loss of the service, as well as give amateur radio a bad reputation.

Use the Fuzz Buzz to summon aid needed to assist in protecting life and property. The judgement of need is essentially yours. For instance, need could involve a car stalled in a hazardous location where it could cause an accident, or need might include a malfunctioning traffic light. In another instance, a car might be stalled where no hazard exists and the occupants do not want assistance requested. Obviously, you should not place such calls through Fuzz Buzz.

### HOW TO USE --

Announce your intentions to use "Fuzz Buzz"

Let the repeater carrier drop in order to re-set timer, then send #911 tones and say: "Radio center, this is (your call)". Do not use phonetics unless the dispatcher requests them.

The repeater transmitter will lock on for about two minutes-or until you turn it off with tones. You will not hear a carrier tail when "Fuzz Buzz" is in use. However, within a few conds (less than 10) after activating Fuzz Buzz you will hear a CW code "AS" (which means "wait"). Repeated every few seconds until the dispatcher answers.

The dispatcher will acknowledge your call and ask for your information or he will send a 1500 Hz tone which means - WAIT - he is busy. Do NOT transmit until he asks for your infor-

(Continued on page 3)

## NOVEMBER 4 MEETING PROGRAM

### "I.T.U.", or International Telecommunications Union - - What Does It All Mean?

by Q. R. Gessin, aka-WA2ZNC

Our program feature will be a slide and tape show from the facilities of A. R. R. L. The I. T. U. has jurisdiction over all the airways on the planet. That means the ham bands also. The program will present the methods of madness of our representatives and other representatives from all the other countries in our world. Some of the many questions that will be answered are: what position of the spectrum goes to who; also, for what purposes.

If you would like to know how and why our frequencies are what they are come to our meeting November 4 at the Monroe County Farm and Home Center on Highland Avenue. The meeting starts at eight o'clock, refreshments and fellowship follow.

73

Zero's never count

## DUES DUE ???

The expiration date for all memberships in RaRa is October 31. Many have already renewed, and we are glad to have you back. It gives an especially good feeling to see the many old hands (or fists) among the new members.

Dues are only \$6.00 for regular, \$3.00 for associate. Family membership is available for \$1.00 above the cost of the regular full privilege fee.

Our membership committee is headed by Bob Erskine, W2NVZ. Both he and Irv Goodman, WB2WCE, have set up a table at the recent meetings of the VHF Group and the RRRA in addition to their regular presence at the RaRa meetings. Thanks to these fellows it has become very convenient to renew or join.

## K2JD NOTICE

An antenna party is desired before our snow begins to accumulate. Most materials are on hand so what's needed is personal assistance (your body). Contact WA2EKR, Ed Holdsworth, who will set the date and details.

# The RARA RAG

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# The President's Corner

by Ed Gable, K2MP

Let me take a moment to pass along thanks to all of the membership for another fine RaRa Auction. The October affair was a great success from the standpoint of numerous bargains for the happy bidders as well as in bolstering the club treasury. Thanks also go out to all of you who donated items for the club and to everyone who helped out.

The Board has already discussed methods to improve the Auction for next year. These changes include starting earlier and having the doors open at least an hour before starting time.

One of the goals set for the year is to improve the facilities at our club station, K2JD. A modification kit and repair parts have been ordered for the SB-104. The mod kit, offered by Heath, will update the unit to SB-104A specifications which will offer increased receiver sensitivity and reduce spurious from the VFO. We are also indebted to N2IG who graciously donated a CW filter for the 104. Immediate plans call for redundancy in antenna systems to allow two or more HF stations to be operated simultaneously. This is especially important to our new code and theory students who will very rapidly find themselves ready to try their newfound skills on the air.

Money has been budgeted for use at K2JD, and we are open for suggestions on how to use it wisely and to satisfy the needs of the membership. Contact any Board member or Office with suggestions. We would also like to hear from anyone of you who would like to be on a work committee. Let's work for something we can really be proud of.

## NOVEMBER MEETING: R.R.R.A.

The Rochester Radio Repeater Association will meet on November 18th, a Friday, at 8 p.m. in the basement of the Pittsford Town Hall, South Main Street in the Village of Pittsford. The program feature for this meeting will be announced in a newsletter and on the WR2AEI repeater. Refreshments will be served during the fellowship/QRM session following the program.

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# Get Your Gear Together for the Hidden Transmitter Hunt

## Antenna Schematic and Other Information

Element spacing is 5-3/8" between all elements. Boom of beam can be made out of a piece of wood about 1 x 1 inch. Elements can be made of stiff copper wire or aluminum clothes line. Driven element is made of 300 Ohm TV twin lead and can be stapled or tacked on wood cross piece. Antenna can be made more sensitive and more directive by increasing the number of elements. Add additional director elements on front of beam, making each element progressively 1/8th inch shorter. Keep spacing 5-3/8" between elements. RFC = approximate 10 turns #28 wire wound around 47K-1/2 watt resistor. Diode is 1N82. Amplifier can be an RCA module kit KD2112 or KC4003.

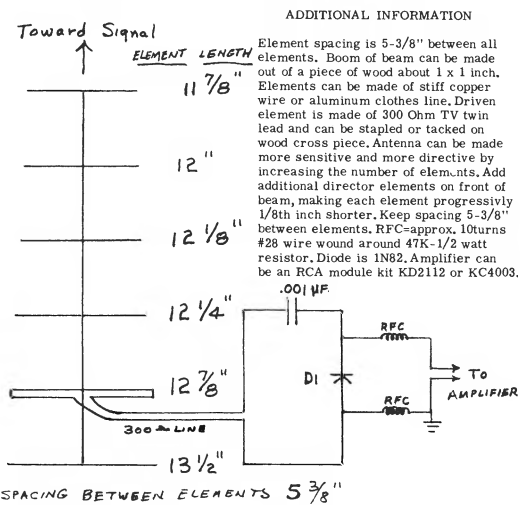
The schematic of the antenna system above, for use in tracking down these hidden transmitters should be fed into a fairly high gain amplifier. (See the additional information data above). The transmitters will be tone modulated so this schematic will give tone detection. The user should just point the array and walk around for maximum volume.

Tom Talley, W8HQQ, advises that he will use 3 transmitters on 432M/Hz. One will run 20MW output, one will run 250MW output and the last will run 600MW output. All (3) three will be MCW (tone) modulated with the 20 and 600MW units keying 'HI'. In addition to the 432M/Hz hunt, there will be another hidden transmitter hunt on 146.76M/Hz. This transmitter runs 50 MW and is modulated with a warbling tone and will be, of course, FM.

G. C. A. R. A. wants to take this opportunity to thank Tom Talley, W8HQQ, for his work each year in setting up the transmitters and conducting the Hidden Transmitter Hunt. This is a real highlight of each Hamfest.

Thanks to Mike and Key published by Cincinnati A. R. C.

GET YOUR GEAR TOGETHER FOR THE HIDDEN TRANSMITTER HUNT  
(ANTENNA SCHEMATIC AND OTHER INFORMATION)



## "Fuzz Buzz"

(Continued from page 1)

mation. If the repeater should time out before you are finished, wait 20 to 30 seconds and tone it up again.

After you have finished, disconnect the "Fuzz Buzz" by sending # 9 1 1 # or ask the dispatcher to reset manually. When it is disconnected, you will again hear the repeater carrier tail.

Sign off by giving the repeater call and yours. "WR2AEI, this is (your call) clear."

Please do NOT tell people over the air what the control tone codes are. You may provide them over the phone or by mail. This is to keep down possible abuse or possibility of use on stolen radios, etc.

If someone needs to use Fuzz Buzz but does not know how, or needs assistance, open it and close it for them. However, when someone is using it, please avoid unintentional interference -- often caused by people trying to help too much.

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# NOVEMBER VHF GROUP

The Rochester VHF Group will have its meeting November 11th, a Friday evening, at Harris/RF Communications, 1680 University Avenue. The meeting starts at 8 p.m. as usual. If "Murphy" will leave plane schedules and weather alone that day, the anticipated program will feature Mr. Al Katz, K2UYH, with a discussion on Moonbounce and techniques.

## SWOOP by Elise White

from the "Round Table", Denver Radio Club

I have long wondered why hams had receivers. Very few use them when they are on the air. Listen to any conversation and hear more than one question asked at a time and I'll bet that 9 chances out of 10: 1. Both will be ignored, 2. They will become scrambled, 3. They will get so confused that a sensible answer is impossible.

I thought that just the older hams who were losing their hearing or had grave problems were the ones affected but after listening to several new hams, find that the switch from transmit to receive just don't work.

It remains in transmit position even though they have closed their faces. Get a newcomer over the original mike fright and I firmly believe they become convinced that, that screen thing is a lifeline.

The desperate look on their faces when someone else is talking makes strong men weep.

If it were possible or practical they would probably take it to bed with them and operate when eating and bathing. If a cordless mike is ever invented, God help us all. They would probably wear it like a necklace. If it were possible to change frequency by vox, just imagine, they could have a mike in both hands.

With some, it's almost that bad now. One ham talked for 2 weeks before he found that the receive section of his rig was blown. On the other hand maybe they are clairaudient and don't need a receiver. Who Knows?

# AREA NETS

MONROE COUNTY F.M. NET - Sunday evenings at 9 pm. Alternates each week using WR2AEI 28/88 and WR2ABF 19/79 all stations, not restricted to Monroe County for sharing area news, technical and performance information, etc. Preceded at 8:45 pm by ARRL Bulletins sent by K2KWK.

MEDICARE NET - Daily each morning at 10:00 on 50.400 MHz in the A.M. mode, all stations welcome for sharing information and ragchewing.

SIX METER NET - Monday evening at 9 pm, on 50.400 MHz in the A.M. mode, all stations welcome for general information and ragchewing.

O. E. P. NET - Sunday mornings at 8:45 am, on 145.350 for training and preparedness in passing civil defense traffic, a call-up net for the Office of Emergency Preparedness.

FINGER LAKES NET - Friday evenings at 9 pm, on 145.350 similar to above for the Finger Lakes area.

S. W. O. T. NET - Wednesday evenings at 9 pm, on 145.1 MHz upper sideband.

WESTERN DISTRICT NET - every night without exception at 9:30 pm, on WR2AIU at Wethersfield, NY - 04/64 for passing formal written traffic and training in messages going into and out of western New York area, frequent liaison stations to M.A.R.S. and Section Nets.

Other Nets will be added as the information becomes available, thanks to WA2ZNC for above details.

NOTICE: The closing date for the December issue of the RaRa Rag is November 13.

WB2FPT - Orville Potter who recently moved to Florida has now left the hospital and resting at home. Thanks to Jim Collinsworth, N2JC, who has visited him there.

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QSL CARDS

# "Marry Not a Radio Ham"

(with thanks to "Carrier", East Rand Branch)

Verily, I say unto you, marry not a Radio Ham, for he is a strange being, possessed of many devils.

He speaketh eternally in dit-da, and he spellleth his words without vowels.

He knoweth countries only by prefixes; he learneth his Geography by Zones.

He stayeth up late at nights, for reasons known only to him, and thou wouldst not believe his stories if he told you!

And when he courteth his damsel, he keepeth a Log Book; when he maketh a trip, he views not the scenery, but looks for Antennas.

He picketh his seat in the car by the rig therein, and not by the damsel beside him.

He holdeth a damsel's hand only to measure the fist, and he embraceth only to test the strength of the muscles.

He checketh the vibrations of her heart with WWV and he reckoneth her strength of raising antennas.

Verily, though she expecteth chocolates when he calleth, she openeth the package to find Filter Chokes!

Our thanks to Lia, WA2NFY

## PHRASES REDEFINED

from "The Hilltopper" by the Tomkins County A.R.C.

I shall advise you soon . . . I don't know until have discussed it with my wife.

Give me the benefit of your thinking . . . My mind is made up, but I want you to feel like an important member of the group.

Let's discuss the problem over lunch tomorrow . . . I'm not meeting anyone else for lunch, and I don't like eating alone.

## Famous Last Words

I'm just twenty minutes away!

How about that!

Oh well!

Even!

By Golly!

Roger on that!

by: Tweety and Little Bird

W2ECH

WA2KND

WA2GTx

WA2ZNC

WB2ELB

K2RZI

## SOME NOTES

Cablevision connectors of the F-59 and F-61A variety are extremely low-loss connectors at 70 cm. While they fit RG-59 cable, they can be fitted to RG-58. Solid conductor cable must be used rather than the more flexible stranded type.

Want to have continuous weather reports on your 2M rig? Well, most FM transceivers are sufficiently broadbanded to allow reception of U.S. and Canadian reports by installing the proper receiver oscillator crystals. U.S. frequencies are 162.40 and 162.55 while Toronto Coast Guard broadcasts on 161.65 MHz.

## K2JD ENGRAVING

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JACKETS: RaRa club jackets are still available, contact Ed Holdsworth, WA2EKR.

FOR SALE: New Heath GR-1112 Speaker Telephone. Kit cost \$49.95 asking \$35.00. Contact Jerry Vogt, WA2GCF, 621-2136.

## From 'Mike Shy' via 'Auto-Call'

An engineer is a man who knows a great deal about very little, and who goes along learning more and more about less and less until finally he knows practically everything about nothing.

A salesman, on the other hand, is a man who knows very little about many things and keeps learning less about more and more until he knows practically nothing about everything.

A purchasing agent starts out knowing everything about everything, but ends up knowing nothing about anything, due to his association with engineers and salesmen.



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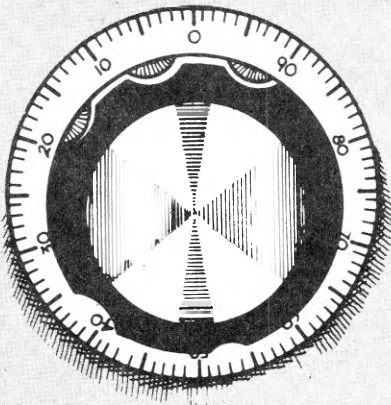
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