

The RARa RAG

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NO. 5

ONE & ONE AT JAN. 6th MEET

by Len Gessin, WA2ZNC

Our meeting this month is at 8 p.m., January 6, at the Monroe County Farm and Home Center 249 Highland Avenue. This meeting will be a somewhat normal affair at our normal time and place. Now for one & one.

The first part of the program will feature James Collinsworth, N2JC. Jim is our ARRL Section Emergency Coordinator (SEC) and he will discuss our participation in the January 1978 Simulated Emergency Test (SET). This will happen on the 28th and 29th of January (no football problems)! Plan to ask him what you can do to assist.

The second half of the meeting program will be taken over by David Burke of Rochester Gas & Electric Corporation. Mr. Burke is Manager of the Brookwood Science Information Center. He will speak on "Energy Today and Tomorrow". He will also show a short film of the history of our energy program.

See you all there.

THIS IS IT!

There are still a few RaRa members who will become past-members at the stroke of midnight on New Year's Eve. All dues are due for the upcoming season on October 31 of each year. The club by-laws indicate that members are still in good standing for an additional 60 days -- which works out to be the end of the year.

If you fail to receive a copy of the Rag next month, several problems may have caused the non-delivery. The principal reason is that your membership has not been renewed. If you have renewed and fail to receive your Rag next month, be sure to check with Bob Erskine, W2NVZ, membership chairman. Mistakes still occur from time to time.

But if you have not yet sent in your membership renewal form, do it right now. You can give yourself a fine gift to make up for one you expected but did not get at Christmas time.

If you use a repeater - how about a new year resolution to support it. The equipment, electric power, control system are possible because someone like you helped. Contact the owner/trustee, he'll be glad to discuss it with you personally.

January VHF Sweepstakes and VHF Group

by Richard Place, WB2JLR

Each January Rochester area hams get an opportunity to show we're number one. I'm referring to the annual ARRL VHF SWEEPSTAKES contest coming up this January 21st. In the past our club has taken second place. Actually we have been far ahead of third place so the real nitty-gritty ends up between the "Packrats" of Philadelphia and us. And not to slight the past efforts, it has taken all the stations we can muster to get close enough to where a win is feasible. We may win this year if we get everyone to help.

All awards will be divided up three ways. One-third will be awarded to the top scorers. Another one-third will go to operators having the most contacts using 2 Meters FM. Another one-third will be awarded in a drawing to anyone who turns in a log which qualifies for the effort, or who participates in a multi-op effort. Awards will also be given to the top multi-op station. Certificates will be given to top operators in each mode and to all who submit a score of 1000 points or better. So there, you have 3 ways to compete, and win.

Making points is simple and fun, but to get your highest score you'll want to get up that beam lying in your garage - or, dust off any old rig to get on all the bands you can (the same station can be worked on other bands for more points).

Complete details are found in QST Magazine for December, 1977 on page 69. Also logs and further details are in the mail to everyone.

S.E.T.-Simulated Emergency Test Participate on January 28 & 29

by Jim Collinsworth, N2JC

Section Emergency Coordinator

The simulated emergency test is an annual nationwide exercise to help you prepare for handling real emergency communications. Also, the SET can demonstrate to the public and to the agencies and organizations we assist the value of the amateur radio service in public service. Emergency communications is the highest purpose that justifies having an amateur radio service. We know that we get a lot of personal satisfaction from many aspects of

(Continued on page 4)

The RARA RAG

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Bob Lauzon Steps Down As Licensing Class Director

by Ed Gable, K2MP

With the closing of this years Licensing classes the old Master of our highly successful licensing classes is sending a final QRT. Bob Lauzon, K2RL, has been instrumental in guiding hundreds of uninitiated people from all walks of life into our Amateur Ranks. Many of you reading this now are among his graduates. He is a Master still, however, this time of his Lodge in Pittsford. Their gain is our loss and we will all miss his devotion to his students and his ever ready wit that kept many a nervous neophyte from throwing in the towel when learning the code. Bob will continue as the Director of K2JD Engraving.

On Monday, December the 12th, the last of the Novices took their written exams while the Generals finished the last theory session on November 28. Twenty-three potential Generals finished their course and twenty-five Novice Tests were administered. Bob Lauzon instructed both the 5 and 13 wpm code sessions while Ed Holdsworth and Ed Gable manned the chalk board.

At this time I am extremely pleased to announce that Ed Holdsworth, N2EH, has accepted the position of our Licensing Class Director. This is not unfamiliar territory for Ed. He has been instructing new Amateurs for years and we are indeed fortunate to have him take over. Watch the Rag for details on the next Licensing class to start in early Spring. Contact Ed Holdsworth for signing up for the class, the exact starting date in February will be announced in our next issue.

ANTENNA DONATION

RaRa is grateful to Bud Young, WA2UGE, who graciously donated a Cush-Craft four pole antenna for two meters. The antenna is destined for use at K2JD but has been loaned to the Rochester Radio Repeater Association as an interim antenna while their regular repeater Station Master is being repaired. Bud is a past RaRa Board member and an active supporter of our many activities. Thank you again Bud.

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EDITOR'S INCH by Dwight Hill, K2KWK

A quote from HR REPORT #175 of November 11, 1977 wherein Mr. Charles Higgenbotham, Chief Special Services for the F. C. C. (and an active ham) advised "Autopatch abuses, Charley warned, continue to jeopardize interconnects for the Amateur Service. 'It's your decision!' he said, and if we don't clean up our act we'll end up with formal Commission proceedings that will severely curtail, if not eliminate, Amateur ability to tie into the phone system."

It is a tall order to ask you not to call some business acquaintance to arrange a lunch, or to not call that radio store to discuss the dealers quotation. Review our rules such as 97.3b, 97.3c, 97.112a, 97.114b and 97.114c. We know you can handle it.

Secondly - many of us are aware that our local companies bring persons from overseas for training programs, why, - the Rochester community exports more products than any other city in our state.

These visitors are eager to sample our life-style and gather souvenirs for themselves and those at home. As technicians they are naturally attracted to many electronic delights. Happily some visitors are fellow hams and we get a real chance to show hospitality and develop a friend. However not only the radio ham visitor will purchase radio equipment to tune from BCB to UHF.

What will be heard as they tune in your signal? Will they truly understand certain comments special to our American language. Why should you care what they think - when you are having fun?

Suppose they must get a gift for some official back home. Further suppose the official faces dealing with some technical conference two years away. Suppose he asks our recent visitor how the vhf frequencies are used in the U.S. and Canada; and, what are these bands marked "amateur" and "citizen"? What does a U.S. citizen do with his own radio station?

Whether or not our visitor is a ham he will answer. Will he define amateur and citizen in radio terms or some other terms? What kind of impression did your transmissions make when he listened? How will the official advise his diplomat to the 1979 W. A. R. C. ?

Is it so far-fetched that our "privileges" could be altered because of something said in Rochester, so far from Tim-buk-too? It's a small world. Who is willing to say for sure?

Lockport Auction

The annual auction of the Lockport club will be held on Saturday, January 28 at the Lockport Farm and Home Center. Doors will open at 6 p.m. and the auction starts at 7 p.m. Talk-in will be operating on 22.82.

WANTED: SB-400 or SB-401 Heath transmitter. John, K2NC, 225-3626.

Local Amateur Completes EME Schedule

On December 3rd Floyd Koontz, WA2WVL, successfully worked two countries. That in itself is not too rare except that Floyd performed the feat via Moon-bounce or more commonly called Earth-Moon-Earth communications. EME is not exactly a rag chew mode as in the case of his France QSO it took over half an hour just to copy the call F9TC. The second QSO was PAØSSB.

To operate 432 MHz EME one cannot drop down to the local radio store and pick up the necessary gear. Floyd's station is all home brew from the antenna mounted pre-amp to his 1 KW transmitter. Filling his modest Penfield back yard is a monstrous 25 foot dish antenna which truly emphasizes the phrase "beauty is in the eyes of the beholder!" Congratulations to you Floyd.

R.R.R.A. MEETING NOTICE

by Rich Koehn, K2UW

The Rochester Radio Repeater Association will hold its next meeting at 8 p.m. on January 20th, at 1680 University Avenue. Ample parking is available in the lot across from the building entrance.

Following the usual business meeting, the program for the evening will be presented by Duncan Brown, K2OEQ. Duncan is employed by the Mobile Radio Products Division of Harris/RF Communications. His program will focus on "FM Measurement Techniques and Methods" and he will discuss and use test equipment to illustrate a number of important concepts which are often heard but seldom really understood by the average FM'er. How often have you looked at specification sheets for FM equipment and wondered what terms like Receiver Sensitivity, Selectivity, Frequency Deviation or Transmitter Spurious Output really mean? Come to the R. R. R. A. meeting on January 20th at RF Communications to find out the answers.

WANTED: Power transformer for HT-37 transmitter or information on where to locate a replacement. Johnathan D. Clark, K4YOT, 31 Danbury Circle, Rochester 14618.



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The Radio Amateur's Journal

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S.E.T.

(Continued from page 1)

ham radio, but it is unlikely that the service would continue to exist as we know it without strong emergency communications justification.

SET is not the answer to training and to communications readiness, but it sure helps to work simultaneously across the nation on the same weekend to train and demonstrate amateur radio value.

So how do you participate? If you have access to a copy of QST, read the SET article in the December issue.

Basically, our exercise will be a severe weather emergency with many simulated disasters possible. During Saturday's drill, check in and let the net control station know you are available. But, before January arrives, think up a couple of messages related to the emergency that require some action and a reply, when possible.

Send your traffic to some specific station who should think up a suitable reply. The station can be local, Western New York, or even a friend in some other state. Much of the traffic will start on our primary net--146.28/88 repeater. Actual passing of traffic will occur on simplex frequencies or on other repeaters. Throughout the exercise, check wide area repeaters like Weathersfield, Newark, Bristol, Ithaca, Syracuse, etc.

Many HF nets will be very active throughout the SET. Be sure to use those also. NYSPT&EN on 3925 KHz and NYPON on 3697.5 KHz, as well as several CW and other nets.

Note that a lot of traffic indicating who is participating will be coming into Rochester for N2JC(WB2EDT) or K2YA. Pick up that traffic and hold it until after the exercise if necessary. We need the reports, but don't let it interfere with more active type traffic. Also, submit your own participating message--indicating that you are in the 1978 SET.

On Sunday, we will be running a specific Hospital communications exercise, set up by George Negus, K2OIU. If you can help cover a hospital in your area, be sure to let George

know right away. Even if you don't have a specific assignment, listen on Sunday afternoon because you can learn a lot and you may be called on to help.

Before the exercise, check into and participate in some traffic nets to brush up on procedure. If you are on FM a good net is on 146.04/.64 repeater, daily at 9:30 p.m. daily. There are many nets of 75-meter phone and on 80 CW. Don't be afraid of traffic but do brush up or get started.

The Amateur Radio Emergency Service and your community need your support.

Be sure to listen to 146.88 around mid-day and early afternoon on Saturday and Sunday. If you do not have 2-meter FM capability, get involved in the HF activity covering the whole weekend.

Club Has New Stationery

The Association is sporting a new letterhead thanks to the fine efforts of Irv Goodman, WB2WCE, who did the basic design and Don Ray, WA2PKS, who did the final layout and printing. The colors are RaRa green and gold with the same blocked out letters that appear on our jackets and on the Van. Along the bottom is found the Association's box number, ARRL symbol, and a notation of our Club Station, K2JD.

AS THE BEAM TURNS:

By Tweety and Little Bird

"I can copy those guys at 20 wpm if they would just slow down a bit"

"I sold my linear, I don't need it since I got off 11 meters"

"One thing a frequency counter won't do is get you in trouble"

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"Would have called you sooner but there was traffic. The biggest problem with repeaters is some one is always talking on them"

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ARE YOU A YL, XYL, YW, OL?

"Viv" Douglas, WA2PUU, Editor
of RAGS REVIEW, Syracuse, N.Y.

This is beginning to become quite an issue between the gals on the air. Apparently the question seems to be if the male operator doesn't have to differentiate his marital status why do lady operators have to explain theirs. I am curious what the gals in R.A.G.S. feel about this subject (and what of those in RaRa?) ed. -- Should we call the men YM (single) MYM (Married) or MOMs for married OMs? Some members in the Young Ladies Radio League suggest "YL" should stand for ANY DULY LICENSED FEMALE AMATEUR RADIO OPERATOR. Any comments on the subject? They might be for interesting reading.

FIRST CB LICENSE

Tnx: THE HILLTOPPER, & Tomkins Co. A.R.C.

W2RTW - John was issued the first CB license ever issued and built the first CB units in 1947. He still has the original units (one mobile and one base). At that time CB was assigned 460 megacycles. He doesn't use them anymore but has a regular CB unit now. John has devoted most of his life to 2-way radio and we are happy to have him around.

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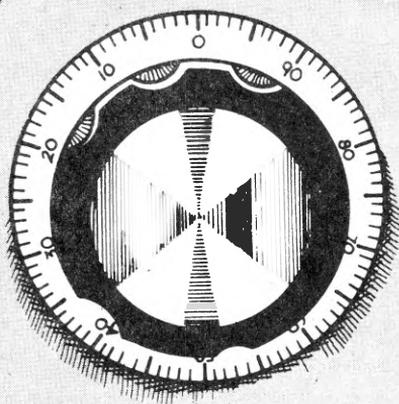
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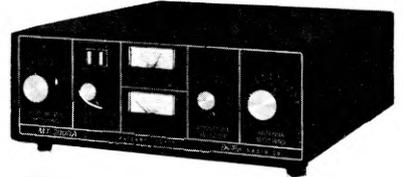


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