

The RaRa Rag

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INCORPORATED

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'79 Rochester HAMFEST

MAY 26-27, 1979

HAMFEST TICKETS AVAILABLE

Advance sales of tickets for the '79 Rochester Hamfest are ahead of last year, according to Ticket Chairman, Edward Gable, K2MP. As in years past, we urge everyone in this vicinity to obtain their ticket in advance at a slightly reduced price. The real importance of this, however, is to avoid the long lines when entering the Hamfest grounds. There are three ways to obtain your advance ticket: first, by mail to Rochester Hamfest Tickets at 737 Latta Road, Rochester, NY 14612; secondly, by purchase and pickup at JR's Amateur Radio of Rochester, 1185 Scottsville Road in Rochester; and thirdly, by purchase and pickup at the RaRa meeting on May 4th which is to be held at the Gleason Works Recreation facility. The advance ticket price is \$3.75 per person (compared to \$4.00 at the gate), and no waiting in lines! Flea Market parking is \$1.00.

R.R.R.A. to Dine at Hamfest

by Bill Gillette, WB2KIW

The members of the Rochester Radio Repeater Association will gather on Friday, May 25th at the Marriott Hotel, 5227 West Henrietta Road for a dinner party. The menu offers a choice of Prime Rib @ \$13.50; Boned Chicken @ \$10.75; or, Rainbow Trout @ \$12.00. The menu further includes French Onion Soup, Salad, Baked Stuffed Potatoes (twice baked), Green Beans, and Strawberry Cheesecake. That's right there is no ham, except those seated to be served! If you would like to join us you must notify Bill Gillette, WB2KIW, 321 Frisbee Hill Road, Hilton, NY 14468, phone # 392-2371. Bill is the only one who can assure your reservation. Send him a check in advance before May 21st. Bill advises that the meals will be served at 6:30 p.m. so get there early and meet the others. Members of R. R. R. A., RaRa, VHF Group and other guests are welcome by advance reservation to Bill Gillette.

Annual Business Meeting: May 4

In addition to the regular RaRa fare, our May meeting is also the Association's annual business meeting as outlined in our By-Laws. At this meeting we hold election of Officers and Board Members for the 1979/1980 season. Elsewhere in this issue is the report of the Nominating Committee. Nominations will be accepted from the floor at the May meeting. It is common courtesy and practice to obtain prior acceptance from someone before nominating him or her from the floor.

The meeting on May 4th will be held at the Recreation Building of the Gleason Works at 1044 University Avenue. The annual election will be held. A short program will follow.

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING

To the members:

The Annual Meeting of the Membership of Rochester Amateur Radio Association, Inc. will be held at the Gleason Works Recreation Center, 1044 University Avenue, Rochester, New York on May 4, 1979 at 8:00 p.m. for the following purposes:

- (1) To elect officers
- (2) To elect a Board of Directors.
- (3) To determine the dues for 1979-80.

By Order of the Board of Directors
Otto Bluntzer, Secretary

Rochester, New York
April 29, 1979

RaRa PICNIC - FIRST NOTICE

RaRa President Len Gessin brought cheers from the Board Members assembled at the home of K2UDP on the night of April 11th. In a lightning command decision he established the date of our annual picnic as June 16th, to be held at Powder Mills Park at the Wadhams Lodge. Details will follow in the June RaRa Rag, as Len is now occupied with various incantations to Mother Nature concerning the WX. But at least our fate (I mean date) is set right between the VHF QSO Party on June 9 & 10; and, the ARRL Field Day on June 23 & 24th. Len suffered a stroke of genius brought on by past experiences with sour weather events during the VHF and FD outings. We wish him well but if he burns the hot dogs with lightning this year I'm gonna chain him to a straight key for the July 4th SKN!

The RaRa Rag

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The Rochester Amateur Radio Association
INCORPORATED

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OFFICERS:

President: Leonard M. Gessin, WA2ZNC

Vice-President: Alan Komenski, AC2K

Secretary: Otto Bluntzer, WB2RJB

Treasurer: Ronald Jakubowski, K2RJ

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

James Collinworth, N2JC

Robert Erskine, W2NVZ

Edward Gable, K2MP

Edwin Holdsworth, N2EH

Ashley Palmer, K2EAW

John Schooley, K2NC

Harold Smith, K2HC

Club Historian: Bruce Kelley, W2ICE

Licensing Course Director:

Edwin Holdsworth, N2EH

Membership Chairman:

Robert Erskine, W2NVZ

Director of Public Relations:

Jim O'Brien, K2UDP

K2JD Engraving Director:

Robert Lauzon, K2RL

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THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

THE LAST GASP: by Len Gessin, WA2ZNC

Our nominating committee has put forth a fine group for next year's board and officers. I will be asking for additional names, from the floor, at our May meeting. Please, if you intent to nominate someone, ask their permission first.

Again this month, we will be the guests of the Gleason Radio Club, "Gears". President Bill, WA2ELC, and Vice-President Bill, KA2CFS, will greet us at the door. We will meet in the recreation building at 1044 University Avenue at 8:00 p. m. on May 4.

I sure hope everyone got the word on April 6th cancellation. I will have seen those that were notified on April 20. Some storm! The phone system was really tied up, incoming and outgoing. Glad that does not happen too often.

With this May issue of the Rag, I will be saying so long to the high percentage of RaRa members; the people who contribute each year, though do not get a chance to come to a meeting, or make one of our outings. For the past nine months, I have presided over our club, which in April surpassed the 800 member mark, and tried to carry on each tradition and every project. Only with the dedicated help of my board members and the few guys who made each board meeting a special assistants, could I have ever made it thru. So a special thanks to Jim, K2UDP; Dwight, K2KWK; and Irv, AF2K, and each member who helped me out in our projects.

Field day is coming up and RaRa has always made K2JD an entrant. If there are any members who would like to head up this year's event, please see me at the meeting, or give me a call.

Each year RaRa has a booth at the Dome arena for the Monroe County Fair. Any member who has an idea for use, or would like to lend a hand please get in touch with me.

Congratulations to each member who upgraded this year, and to every one who brought in a new member. I hope all our new associate members get their ticket and get on the air, and work a lot of DX. Don't get discouraged if you fail the exams once or twice or more. Ask some of the present advanced, and general class ticket holders how many times they went to Buffalo to get where they are. Stick to it, it is worth it.

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Nominating Committee Report

by Richard J. Koehn, K2UW
Chairman Nominating Committee

The annual election of Officers and Board of Directors for the Rochester Amateur Radio Association is an important event because it gives the membership the opportunity to determine who will provide the leadership of the organization for the coming year. The By-Laws of the organization state that the Full Members shall elect a Board of Directors of 11 individuals, 4 of whom shall be Officers, at the Annual Meeting in May each year. The By-Laws also provide that the current Vice-President succeeds automatically to the Presidency.

This year the Nominating Committee adopted as its guiding philosophy an emphasis on growth and greater involvement of more members through the introduction of several candidates for the Board of Directors while providing for continuity of leadership. Although the Nominating Committee has developed a list of recommended candidates, the opportunity exists at the April and May meetings for nominations from the floor by members. The ultimate decisions will be made by you, the members, when you vote for the candidates at the Annual Meeting.

Richard J. Koehn (K2UW) Chairman,
Nominating Committee

OFFICERS and BOARD NOMINEES

President: Alan Komenski, AC2K
Vice-President: Otto Bluntzer, WB2RJB
Robert Erskine, W2NVZ
Secretary: David Coleman, N2AOB
Donald Drennan, W2EBF
Treasurer: Ronald Jakubowski, K2RJ
Board of Directors: James O'Brien, K2UDP
Thomas Perry, WB2UTM
Leonard Gessin, WA2ZNC
Edwin Holdsworth, N2EH
Neil Gibson, WA2EJU
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ALAN KOMENSKI, AC2K - Alan has served two terms on the RaRa Board of Directors and one term as RaRa Secretary prior to his election to Vice-President last year. Most recently he has been Program Chairman, Chairman of the RaRa Legal Committee, and Long Range Planning Chairman. He is active in the Hamfest Committee as Chairman of Security and Gate Ticket Sales. And, he is well known to many hams as Code Instructor of RaRa's General License Classes.

Alan was first licensed in 1964 as Novice with the call WN2TJR. In 1965 he upgraded to the General ticket and received the call WB2ZFM. He achieved the Advanced Class in 1977 and the Extra Class in 1978. His primary interest as a ham is cw operation on the h.f. bands. As an avid cw DXer he has worked well over two hundred countries. He is also found on 2 meter FM. He is a member of Air Force MARS (AFA1VK), RRRRA, VHF Group, A.W.A. and the ARRL. Alan is employed as Supervising Dispatcher for the County of Monroe, Department of Public Safety. He lives at 31 Cullens Run in Pittsford.

OTTO BLUNTZER, WB2RJB - Otto became a radio ham in 1956, with the call KN5ESQ. In 1962 his call was changed to WA5LZK. He moved to Rochester in 1964, from south Texas, to become WA2RJB. He, with his wife, Ruth, and five children reside at 95 Mariposa Drive in Gates. Otto has been employed in the Gates-Chili schools for the past 15 years teaching Industrial Arts. Currently he is Head Teacher for the I-A Department there. Otto is very active in ham radio; and been past Membership Chairman of RaRa. Otto was RaRa Secretary for '77 and '78, a job he continues in this year. He is also very active in the Rochester VHF Group with whom he has been a Project Leader. His favorite aspect of amateur radio is construction of VHF equipment, especially printed circuit boards.

ROBERT J. ERSKINE, W2NVZ - Bob has been a licensed radio amateur since 1952, and has held the same call steadily. He resides at 168 Vinedale Avenue with his wife, Arlene, and two sons, Stephen and Bob Jr. Bob has been active as a RaRa Board Member for the past three years, serving for the past two years as RaRa Membership Chairman.

Bob is active on 10, 15, and 20 phone plus 2 Meter FM mobile. He has been employed in the broadcast industry for the past 26 years and is presently the Assistant Chief Engineer at WHEC-TV, Channel 10, in Rochester. He has been a member of ARRL and RaRa for most of his ham career. He holds an Amateur Extra Class and a First Class Radiotelephone license. W2NVZ is a member of the Society of Motion Picture and Television Engineers and also The Society of Broadcast Engineers.

DAVID W. COLEMAN, N2AOB - A native of the Rochester area, currently resides at 311 Hook Road in the town of Farmington. David is Customer Service Manager for Hartman Engineering where he has been employed for the past eight years.

He was first licensed in 1967 and now holds an Advanced Class license. Past calls include WA2YTA. He is a member of RaRa, RRRR, ARRL, the Rochester VHF Group and Air Force MARS. David is chairman of the outdoor flea market at the Rochester Hamfest.

He is Communications Supervisor and a medic for the Victor-Farmington Volunteer Ambulance Corps.

DONALD H. DRENNAN, W2EBF - Don was first licensed in 1939 and was active on 40 meter cw until World War II. Presently he operates phone and cw on the low bands as well as 2 meter FM. He joined Eastman Kodak Company in 1967 and is an Engineering Associate in the Facilities Engineering Division. He has been Project Engineer for the design and construction of several steam-electric power plants and refrigeration plants. Don and his wife, Robbie, attended the University of New Mexico where he received a BSME degree in 1949. While a student there he installed the first TV station in Albuquerque, KOB-TV. Don has taught ham radio two years to the Boy Scouts in the Town of Webster. He resides in West Webster with his wife, Robbie, and their son Donnie (WA2LNZ).

RONALD J. JAKUBOWSKI, K2RH - Ron has been active in Rochester Amateur Radio clubs since he arrived here five years ago from Arizona. Before obtaining his K2RJ call he was licensed as W2HXP. Ron is an Electronic Engineer at Harris/RF Communications and works mainly with VHF and UHF car telephones. He is also active in Army MARS and on the Worship Committee at his church. He resides at 446 Cedarwood Terrace with his wife, Kathleen, whose ham call is N2AGQ, and their two daughters, Rebecca and Deborah. Ron is presently RaRa's Treasurer.

JIM O'BRIEN, K2UDP - Jim is our Public Relation Director. He is very involved in community relations as the Manager of the Retail Department of the Rochester Chamber of Commerce. He is also Director of the Retail Merchants Council, The Downtown Promotion

Council, The Civic Development Council, The Henrietta Chamber of Commerce, and the Penfield-Perinton-Pittsford Chamber of Commerce. He was formerly Manager of the Heathkit Electronic Center in Henrietta and in the course of nine years with Heath he has built over 300 Heathkit projects. At the Hamfest Jim will be our Dinner Chairman. He has been a radio ham for 24 years and was a novice in the beginning with the call KN2UDP. He currently holds the Advanced Class license. Also he is active with radio control model airplanes and has built and enjoyed them since the age of nine. Jim's age is 38.

THOMAS G. PERRY, WB2UTM - Tom was first licensed in 1974 and now holds the Technician Class ticket. He is a member of the ARRL, RaRa, VHF Group, RRRR, and is active in the VHF Group Transverter Project. Also he has been active with the Rochester Hamfest for several years (a member in good-standing of "Holdsworth's Coolies"). Tom is employed by Xerox Corporation as an Engineering Technician in Plastics Development. Tom is a graduate of Monroe Community College, and presently attends night classes at R. I. T. in pursuit of a BS Degree in Mechanical Engineering. He is interested in construction of electronic gear, and finds time to collect license plates. He is a member of the Automobile License Plate Collectors Association. He and his wife, Sandie, with their two sons, live at 57 Bedford Street.

LEONARD M. GESSIN, WA2ZNC - Len is our current President of RaRa, served as Vice-President last year, served five years as Treasurer before that, and spent two years as a Board Member to begin with. He lives at 34 Cullens Run, Pittsford, with his wife, Onnalee (WA2ZGB), three sons and one daughter. He is employed by the County of Monroe, Department of Public Safety Communications as Assistant Superintendent. His other interests are fishing and boating. He actively operates in the

(Continued on page 5)



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NOMINEES

(Continued from page 4)

amateur bands from 80 to 3/4 meters using SSB, CW, AM, RTTY, and FM. Len is also active in Air Force MARS. He has been known to operate from his boat. He is also currently the Refreshment Chairman for the Rochester Radio Repeater Association, has been an office holder in the renowned Rochester VHF Group, and participates in many local amateur radio activities and classes.

EDWIN J. HOLDSWORTH, N2EH - Ed resides at 518 Parish Road, Honeoye Falls with his wife, Joyce, and three of their five sons. He is employed by Rochester Gas and Electric for the past twenty-three years and presently works in the Standards Group, Electric Distribution Engineering as a Standards Technician.

Ed has been licensed since 1968 and has held the calls WN2EKR, WA2EKR and now N2EH. He has served RaRa as Secretary, Vice-President and President and presently serves on the Board of Directors. He has assisted with the Licensing Course for the past several years and is presently Course Director. Ed is also trustee of our Club Station, K2JD, located at 350 E. Henrietta Road and also operates and maintains our Mobile Van and Station. He is our Alternate Radio Officer for Monroe County RACES and Assistant E. C. for Monroe County. He is further active in our Hamfest as Committee Chairman for Facilities and Awards.

His other interests are woodworking, camping and automobile restoration.

NEIL GIBSON, WA2EJU - Neil became a radio ham in December, 1976 and presently holds the General Class ticket. He enjoys operating 80 through 2 meters. He is active with the RaRa camping group and the Road Rally communications group. In addition to RaRa, he is a member of Genesee Valley Repeater Association, the RRRRA, and the ARRL. He is employed at Eastman Kodak as a Control Systems Electrician. He graduated from Livonia Central School, and Monroe Community College, and attends R.I.T. Evening College. He and his family live in Charlotte.

GARY BENSON, KB2BL - Gary first experienced ham radio in 1955 with a Novice license, unfortunately school and added responsibility prevented his upgrading. You could be a Novice for one year only then, and had to upgrade or go off the air. However, twenty years later the FCC relaxed its rules and Gary again became a Novice in October, 1976. During Hamfest-77 he passed on to the General Class ticket and won the Advanced Class during Hamfest-78. He is active on 40, 15, and 2 meters, and often checks into ECARS. He is active also in the VHF contest in January. Gary is involved with the Hamfest Committee and enjoys Field Day operating. He has been employed with Eastman Kodak for the past fourteen years, and presently works as a Development Technician. He and his wife, of thirteen years, live in Greece with their two sons, aged 8 and 10 years.

JAMES P. COLLINGSWORTH, N2JC - Jim is a past President of RaRa and has served on the Board for the past two years. Up until March of 1979 he served hams in western New York as Section Emergency Coordinator. He is currently Civil Defense RACES Radio Officer. His ham activities include operation on 80 through 2 meters. He is also active in Army MARS. He is preparing for 450 mHz operation. A favorite mode is RTTY, in addition to FM. Jim is employed with Eastman Kodak as Advertising Planning Coordinator for the Professional and Finishing Markets Division. He serves as Trustee of WB2MBW, the Kodak Office Radio Club. Jim was first licensed about 1960, his previous calls were WA4CLE and WA2LQC. He is past President of the Macedon Public Library and continues to serve as one of the original Trustees. Jim, his wife, Ginger, and their five children reside at 2332 W. Walworth Road in Macedon.

HAROLD C. SMITH, K2HC - Harold is Regional Sales Manager for FTCC Communications. He and his wife, Helen, WA2YRH, live at 153 Mason Avenue in Greece. Harold currently serves RaRa as Managing Editor of the RaRa Rag, he has been Editor since 1960. He is General Chairman of the Rochester Hamfest, serving in that job since 1963. He is also a Board Member of the Antique Wireless Association. Harold has been a licensed radio ham since 1960. His previous call was WA2KND. He holds the Extra Class ham ticket and is found mostly in the VHF. Flying is a new accomplishment, his Private ticket arrived recently, and he has experimented with high altitude VHF propagation.

THOMAS RICHMOND, WB2IEY - Tom became a radio ham in 1976 as WN2IEY and now holds the Advanced Class ticket. He is the 1979 Vice-Chairman of the Rochester VHF Group and is Instructor of the Novice Classes held (1978 and 1979) by the Squaw Island Amateur Radio Club. Tom has been a RaRa member for the past three years and a RRRRA member for two years. He is active on 2 meters with FM and SSB/CW and has been busily collecting states for a future WAS-2 Meters. He lives with his parents in Pumpkin Hook; and, is employed with Harris/RF Communications.

EDWARD M. GABLE, K2MP - Ed is a past President of RaRa, plus former Vice-President, Board Member, and Membership Chairman. He also has served as past Chairman of the VHF Group, and past President of the RRRRA. He is a member of the A. W. A. and a Charter Life Member of ARRL. Currently he is serves on the RaRa Board and is very active with RaRa Licensing Class where he is radio theory instructor. Ed is employed as Test Engineer at Harris/RF Communications. His ham radio interest started over 20 years ago and he holds the Amateur Extra Class ticket. He enjoys all phases of ham radio and is found in contests operating cw. He lives in Greece and often QSY's to the golf links.

RaRa Communications for Road Rally

by Ed Holdsworth, N2EH

The annual Susquehannock Pro Road Rally will be held June 9 & 10, 1979 in Wellsboro, Pennsylvania. There was recent doubt that the rally would be run this year due to the denial of the use of the forest roads by the State of Pennsylvania. However, permission was finally obtained by SCCA late in March and at this time the Rally will be held. The course will follow approximately the same route as in the past and will start at 8:00 p.m. June 9th in Wellsboro, Pennsylvania.

If you have not been able to join in the fun in the past and would like to this year, please contact, as soon as possible, Roger Harnaart, WB2BWQ, or Ed Holdsworth, N2EH. If you have participated in the past and feel up to the rigors, feel free to sign up.

Is You is, - or is you ain't, DESTINATED, that is?

Charles Osgood of CBS News in New York says: "words are born, word die, words have a life of their own." We have a new one entering our midst, and it has its advocates and anti-advocates. But it has proved useful, it serves a specific purpose, and mostly saves air-time. In case you haven't noticed the flowery extended verbiage so popular once is now very much out of place. In a word, all that has become "redundant".

Ann Landers, in her column published July 30th, 1978 in the Rochester Democrat and Chronicle, pointed out the existence of "Word Watcher's Handbook" by Phyllis Martin. This might be just the thing for some of us who get carried too far sometimes on the air.

Even New York Time columnist William Safire got into this subject in The New York Time Magazine of July 23, 1978. For example, now that you have survived the VHF Sweepstakes "welcome to the NFL". Even the "CB'ers" have a language that's "10-4" with them, even though some have trouble getting it by their stomach.

Not all new words will appear in a dictionary right away. And even now there are different dictionaries for different folks uses. Flexibility is one reason that English is so hard to learn. But it may be the reason it will be around for a lot longer.

When you are on the air, it quickly explains why you are going to "QRT". Becoming destined can apply to what ever band you are mobile on. It is readily understood by anyone who drives or rides, and also those familiar with split second business or family urgencies. Brief isn't always beautiful, but it is often right, and especially in ham radio. Now, however, I am not destined but I am at the end.

Binghamton Hamfest - May 5

The Southern Tier Amateur Radio Clubs will hold their annual Hamfest and Dinner on Saturday, May 5, at the Fellowship Recreation Center, Stella Ireland & Airport Roads, Johnson City, NY. Doors open and flea market starts at 10 a.m. Registration at gate \$2.00. A dinner will begin at 6 p.m. Registration and dinner \$7.00. Talk-in - 22/82.

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79

Rochester
HAMFEST

PHOTOGRAPHER(S) WANTED

Here's something of interest to all "semi-professional and professional photographers". RaRa is looking for you, if you can handle a camera well and have a reasonably good track record.

This years Rochester Hamfest is destined to be one of the biggest and best yet, so with that in mind, lets snap it . . . that's right, we want to snap everything in the hopes of getting a real "true picture" of all the goings on.

We may use these photos for public appearances or for the development of a "Hamfest/RaRa" slide presentation to explain what RaRa is and what we do.

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IEEE Rochester Section Annual Meeting

by Ed Holdsworth, N2EH

The annual meeting of the IEEE will be held at the Hilton Inn on the Campus on May 29, 1979 from 6:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. The program will be "Amateur Radio's Impact on Family and Career". The guest speaker for the program will be Ulrich Rhode, DJ2LR. RaRa will be taking an active part in the program with a "Live" demonstration of Amateur Radio. Ed Gable, K2MP, and Ed Holdsworth, N2EH, will have our mobile van set up and operating from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the Inn on the Campus. For more information on attending, contact Joe Daley at 244-5830 or Mac Drummond at 271-2220, Ext. 32.

FOR SALE: Clegg 27B 2mtr transceiver, mic., mobile mount, trunk lid antenna, cables, manual, a complete mobile station, excellent condition, \$200, Jim Allen, WA2DJE, 872-5441.

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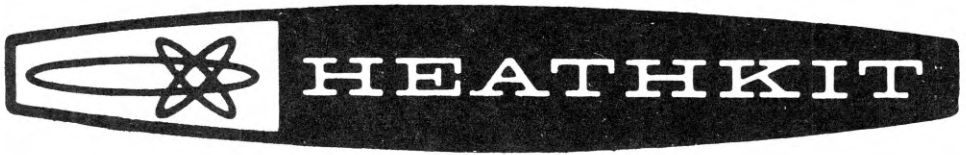
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