

The RaRa Rag

Published by

The Rochester Amateur Radio Association

INCORPORATED

VOL. 32

SEPTEMBER 1979

NO. 1

911 EMERGENCY SYSTEM at September 7th Meeting

by Otto Bluntzer, WB2RJB

The first RaRa meeting of the upcoming season to be on Friday, September 7, at the Monroe County Farm and Home Center, 249 Highland Avenue, will feature a program about the new 911 emergency system.

The Monroe County Legislature has established a committee charged with the duty of studying and developing a concept of a 911 Emergency Public Safety Dialing System for Monroe County. The committee has completed their task and recommendations have been made to the legislature.

The 911 System has two parts: First, any sort of emergency can be quickly responded to by dialing a single three digit number, 911. Second, computer dispatched services will allow specially equipped public safety vehicles using M. D. T. (mobile digital terminal) to secure data on vehicles by simply entering a license plate number into the terminal. Results will be the immediate feedback of data on a CRT display within the vehicle.

Anticipated is a positive decision to adopt this system by the Monroe County Legislature on September 5th only a couple of days prior to the RaRa meeting. Mr. Ronald Brand of the Monroe County Planning Department and Mr. Dennis Rooney of Harris-RF Communications will show us how the system works. If you have comments or suggestions for the 911 Emergency System, letters to Mr. David Gantt chairman of the Monroe County Public Safety Committee or to your legislator would be in order.

The meeting starts promptly at 8 p. m., but plan to get there early to settle with the membership chairman for the upcoming season. The place and time once again: Monroe County Farm and Home Center, 249 Highland Avenue, 8 p. m., Friday, September 7.

W2VTR - - SILENT KEY

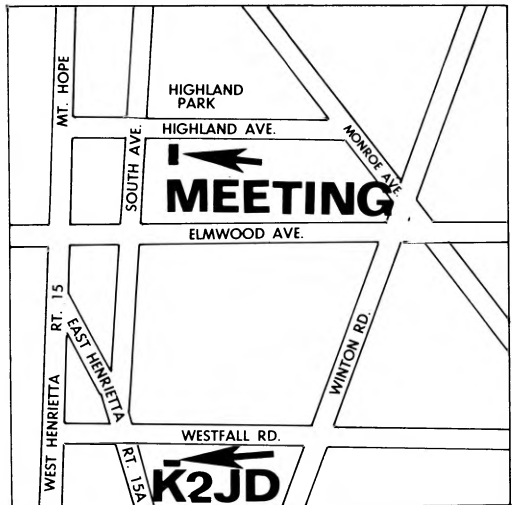
Bruce L. Elle, W2VTR, ex-W7ESY, TA2EF. Bruce was past president of the Rochester DX Association (RDXA) and a member of the Antique Wireless Association's (AWA) Museum Committee. Bruce was a very active ham operator, and was often heard using 2 meters on his way to and from his work at Kodak.

ANTIQUE WIRELESS NATIONAL CONFERENCE AT CANANDAIGUA

The Antique Wireless Association is holding its National Conference on September 27, 28, and 29 at the Sheraton Inn in Canandaigua, NY. A very interesting and wide ranging program has been arranged to include talks on "Early Canadian Shore Stations" by Aaron Solomom, VE1OC; "Amateur Equipment of the 1930's" by John Nagle, K4KJ; A Vacuum Tube Group meeting and a Vacuum Tube Auction; "Early Television Demonstration" by Bob Lozier; a "Pictorial History of Early Vacuum Tubes" by Lauren Peckham; a "Show and Tell" by Mel Comer on how to restore and repair old equipment. There is also a "General Auction". All participants in the flea market must display the 1979 Conference Registration Badge and there is no admittance to the meeting rooms without a badge. Registration for those wishing to join the fellowship at meals must be made with Dexter Deeley, 8 Briar Circle, Rochester, NY 14618 before September 22. Unlimited registration for all other activities is available at the door.

The A. W. A. Electronic Communication Museum in East Bloomfield will have special visiting hours on Thursday and Sunday but will be closed on Friday and Saturday for the events at the Sheraton.

The "Old Equipment Contest" will be located in the Sheraton for Friday and Saturday, with a guard on duty at all times.



The RARA RAG

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The Rochester Amateur Radio Association
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FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

by Alan Komenski, AC2K

With the coming of September, we start another year for RaRa. Last year, under the watchful eye of Len Gessin, WA2ZNC, our organization grew to over 800 members. I look forward to seeing that upward trend continue this year.

It is important that each member, when either renewing your membership or if you are joining RaRa for the first time, fill out a membership application for the current year. The application is necessary so that we comply with postal regulations, obtaining correct mailing information from you, and to update our membership files. If you were a member of RaRa last year, you will receive a preprinted application that will need only your signature and date along with your membership dues. If you will bring that form to the September meeting, it will allow the membership chairman to speed the processing of your application. The membership is requested to arrive at the September meeting early for this purpose.

Each year we ask for volunteers who are interested in giving of their time and services to RaRa. If you would like to assist in club projects and activities, or if you have special skills that could be utilized (ie: lawyers, carpenters, accountants, etc.), please let us know. RaRa has gained national recognition as being one of the most active Amateur Radio Associations. We need your help in continuing that reputation.

Please don't hesitate to contact me or the other officers or directors if you have any suggestions for club projects, activities, or areas of public service in which you feel we should participate. We welcome your input.

Board meetings are normally held the Wednesday evening following the general monthly meeting. Members are welcome, although we ask that you let us know of your desire to attend in advance as it is held at a different Directors home each month.

I look forward to seeing each of you at our September meeting.

VOL. 32 SEPTEMBER 1979 NO. 1

OFFICERS:

President: Alan Komenski, AC2K

Vice-President: Otto Bluntzer, WB2RJB

Secretary: Don Drennan, W2EBF

Treasurer: Ronald Jakubowski, K2RJ

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Robert Lauzon, K2RL

The RaRa Rag (USPS 605-440) is published monthly except July and August by the Rochester Amateur Radio Association, P.O. Box 1388, Rochester, NY 14603. Subscription price \$1.00 per year (included in \$6.00 annual membership dues). Second class postage paid in Rochester, New York.



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RaRa MEETING DATES

The first meeting of the RaRa Board was held August 8th at the home of President Alan Komenski, AC2K. The Board established meeting dates for the coming year as listed below. Also the closing dates for copy for the Rag will be the 15th of each month, except February when it will be the 11th. Because our excellent printer is quite busy it will be necessary to hold to these dates for both articles and "ready-to-print" ads. If your article or ad needs special type, needs to be set, etc. it will have to be in our hands 5 days prior to the closing dates.

Programs for the meetings are set up by RaRa Vice-President, Otto Bluntzer, WB2RJB, who will publish the program each month in the Rag.

CLUB MEETING

September 7th
October 5th
November 2nd (Auction)
December 7th
January 4th
February 1st
March 7th
April 11th
May 2nd (Annual Meeting)
June 14th (Annual Picnic)

BOARD MEETING

September 12th
October 10th
November 7th
December 12th
January 9th
February 6th
March 12th
April 16th

A very popular RaRa event, the Valentine Day Dinner Dance will be held on February 9th. The complete details will be announced in the December RaRa Rag to allow everyone to make early plans.

The Hamfest will be held May 16, 17, and 18th. Harold Smith, K2HC, is Hamfest Committee Chairman. The usual good cooperation that makes this such a fun event will begin during the winter.

RaRa Board Member Len Gessin, WA2ZNC, who was President of RaRa last year, has "volunteered" to be our Awards Chairman and our EMI/RFI/TVI/EMC Chairman. This committee will be assisted by Ed Gable, K2MP, and Ed Holdsworth, N2EH. Anyone interested in getting their refund from the FCC should see President Komenski who has the forms.

See You Sept. 7th

Meet, Greet New Members



MONTH'S RaRa Rag Special

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NEW RaRa Directory

The next edition of the Rochester Area Amateur Radio Directory will be issued in October, 1979. By waiting one extra month we gain many of the most recent changes and additions that occurred at the Rochester Hamfest and after to those made in July. This will provide you with a much more up-to-date issue.

You are still invited to renew your RaRa Membership in September however, just to beat the rush. The Membership Committee will see that your record is kept straight and a RaRa Directory will be available for you at the October meeting. The RaRa Directory includes amateurs from a wide area centered on Rochester, and this year is expected to list over 2200 "hams". For your convenience the listing is made both alphabetically by call letters and then again by the person's last name.

License Course by Ed Holdsworth, N2EH

Our fall licensing course will be starting on Monday, October 1, 1979 and will be held every Monday at 7:30 p.m. It will again be in the County Office building at 350 East Henrietta Road. We will be offering both General and Novice Code and Theory and they should be complete by December 17, 1979.

Cost of the course is: Novice \$7.00 and General \$12.00 which includes Registration, Books and Club Membership.

If you wish to register please contact Ed Holdsworth, N2EH, no later than September 24th at 624-1929 evenings or 546-2700, Ext. 3304 days.

RDXA MEETS by Ray Leigh, W2SNI

The first meeting of the season for the Rochester DX Association will be at the Colonial Hotel, 1129 Empire Boulevard on Tuesday, September 11th. Cocktails will start at about 6:30 p.m. with dinner to follow around 7:00 p.m. There are three choices for dinner menu. Ray Leigh, W2SNI, is the person to contact for reservations and menu details. To be sure of a good seat contact Ray before September 8th at phone 225-3776. There will be a program of general interest to DX'ers. See you there, good DX'ing.

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Summer Activities

On June 9th a group of hardy souls departed Rochester to join with members of the Tioga County Amateur Radio Club (PA). The purpose was again to provide emergency and general communications for the Susquehannock Pro Road Rally sponsored by the Sports Car Club of America.

The group ventured into the field and maintained communications from Saturday afternoon throughout the night and into Sunday morning. We handled three emergencies during the night requiring medical assistance and several problems such as blocked roads, cars off the road and maintained the status of participating cars.

This was the fourth year we have worked on the Rally and according to an S.C.C.A. bulletin this was the third largest ever run in the U.S.

Those that worked can be proud of their effort and includes: WB3's DKZ, LCB, CUF, WA3EVN, K3's GYZ, PSO, WA2's UGE, GHQ, CER, EJY, IMQ, QMZ, EJU, JZB, DJE, WB2's UTM, FGY, GGM, ZJY, UTI, BWQ, N2's AOZ, AOB, HS, EH, K2's RJ, NC, MP, SQI, CKN, KA2's J, CVN, KB2BN, AC2K, L. Dibble and B. Gillett.

Another event requiring our assistance was the Genesee Valley Airshow held July 22 and 23. The purpose again was emergency and general communications for the sponsoring committee, the Junior Chamber of Commerce. We were able to assist in co-ordinating the buses from their various locations as well as provide a very helpful communications system among the various committee people.

Those that were able to assist with this event were: WB2's MDO, BWQ, UTI, WA2's LUE, GHQ, EJU, EJY, K2's YA, SQI, CKN, RJ, MP, and N2EH.

Radio For Loan

Heathkit Electronic Center, 937 Jefferson Road, has made available for loan a 2M FM transceiver complete with Micoder mike and antenna. This radio will be owned and maintained by Heathkit and will be administered by RaRa. It is for use by anyone confined to the hospital and has permission to do so. For more details contact Ed Holdsworth, N2EH.



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August 8 saw the beginning of the Special Olympics at Brockport, NY. This event ran from August 8 to 13. There will be more on this in the next issue of the Rag.



K2JD Volunteers at 1979 International Special Olympics hard at work with the Buffalo Bills Cheerleaders. Photo by AC2K.

NOTICE: STOLEN EQUIPMENT

A Regency Transceiver model #HR-2B, serial number 149-A07-876, belonging to Chris Snelling, WA2WNW. Crystals are installed for all local repeaters and simplex frequencies. The rig was stolen from Chris on July 24. Phone: 586-3834.

A Midland Transceiver model #13-510, serial number 701-00-632, belonging to Bob Erskine, W2NVZ. This is a synthesized two meter rig, brown chassis color, chrome knobs, and red frequency readout. There are some markings that can be identified. The set was stolen from Bob in early July. Phone: 266-5055.

If you should see either of these sets, or they happen to come to you for some service or set-up help, please contact the owners as soon as possible.

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Rochester Radio Repeater Ass'n

by Richard J. Koehn, K2UW, Chairman

The Rochester Radio Repeater Association was organized in 1968 to further the interests of VHF and UHF communications with particular emphasis on 2 meter FM and 450 Mhz operation. RRRA is an established affiliate of the Rochester Amateur Radio Association and as such derives many benefits from its relationship with RaRa.

RRRA owns and operates WR2AEI, 146.28/146.88 in Rochester. The repeater station is presently located at the Public Safety Communications Center on Cobbs Hill. The Association is currently restoring its UHF repeater (449.25 input, 444.25 output) to full operation with autopatch capability. This repeater will be located at Kodak Park. The organization also owns a portable repeater for public service communications projects and other events.

RRRA usually holds its meetings on the third Friday of each month from September through June. Most meetings are held at the Pittsford Town Hall. Changes in meeting locations or dates are provided of RRRA members through monthly meeting notices. Meeting programs may include technical presentations, transmitter hunts or FM clinics where members can have their transceivers adjusted with sophisticated test equipment. Traditionally each year RRRA holds a highly successful combined auction with Rochester VHF Group.

Continued operation and maintenance of the RRRA repeaters for the use and enjoyment of Rochester area hams is carried out by numerous dedicated amateurs who devote many hours of their time to these tasks. Nevertheless, funds are required to keep the club running smoothly throughout the year including reoccurring expenses for repeater improvements, control line rental, postage for monthly mailings, etc. Regular users of the RRRA repeaters are invited and requested to support the organization by becoming members for the 1979-80 year or renewing their membership for the bargain rate of \$5.00.

Newly elected officers for RRRA for the coming year include the following persons:

Chairman -- Richard J. Koehn, K2UW
Vice-Chairman -- Dave Coleman, N2AOB
Secretary/Treasurer -- Gil R. Chapin,

WB2UTI

Program Chairman -- Roger M. Williams,

W2NES

The officers of the Rochester Radio Repeater Association look forward to serving you in the 1979-1980 season.

ROCHESTER VHF GROUP

will meet Friday, September 14, 8 p.m. in the basement of Harris RF Communications, 1680 University Avenue. There will be a review of the transverter project and a speaker on transverter basics.

WR2AFV-115/715 by John Plumeri, W2KZD

The WR2AFV repeater (frequency of 146.115, 146.715) has recently moved its location from an altitude of 450 feet in Penfield to the second highest point in Monroe County in the Town of Perinton, 18 miles S.E. of Rochester. The present location, with an altitude of 850 feet, has increased its coverage to a radius of 60 miles. Coverage now extends from LeRoy to Syracuse and from Sodus Point of the Town of Ovid, on Seneca Lake. It is an open repeater and is functional 24 hours a day. The time-out timer runs 2-1/2 minutes with a simple drop of the carrier to re-set timer.

The all solid state equipment is of RF Communications commercial type consisting of a modified 1525 W transmitter strip along with a re-packaged car-telephone receiver. The duplexer is a 4 cavity Sinclair model and the repeater has a 6 DB gain antenna.

On the drawing board is a 450 repeater with an input of 449 MC and an output of 444 MC which will eventually be installed along side the 2 meter repeater.

Trustee: John W. Plumeri (W2KZD)
258 Almeda Street, Rochester, NY

Webster Tower Law Success

by Irv Goodman, AF2K

Thanks to the concerted efforts of four local amateurs, the Town of Webster now has a "Communication Installation and Free Standing Towers" zoning ordinance on the books. Provisions in the brand new ordinance regulate tower location and general construction, tower height limitations (100 feet maximum), Tower Class definitions based on lot size, and application procedure information.

The 1100-plus word ordinance was formulated by Webster hams Gene Fuller, W2LU; Ash Palmer, K2EAW; Don Drennan, W2EBF; and Dick Critchell, KB2BN, who were appointed by the Town Board for that purpose. Their painstaking efforts were culminated on June 7th when the ordinance, was adopted by the Webster Town Board following a two hour well-attended public hearing. Anyone wishing a copy may obtain one from Irv Goodman at any of the club meetings or by send an s. a. s. e. to AF2K.

LOOK CAREFULLY

Look carefully at the label on the envelope this copy of the Rag was in. That is the way your name and call will appear in the new RaRa Directory. If there was no call on the label, you will not be listed. Those with new calls, changed calls, etc., should send a card to the club P. O. Box 1388, Rochester, NY 14603.

FOR SALE - Broadcast and amateur equipment - reasonable. WSAY - 250 East Avenue. Hours: Monday thru Friday 9-11 a.m., 2-4 p.m. Tell receptionist you are there to see the equipment for sale.

For DX'ers Only? by Bob Roberts, WA2QAU

Since my other duties that prevented me from carrying on last year are now somewhat lighter, it is time to once more take up the pen on the subject of DX. I think that many stations would like a behind the scenes look at how a QSL manager functions so that is this month's topic.

If you have been working DX for any amount of time, you have probably heard a station say QSL via WA2XXX. This usually means that WA2XXX is the stations QSL manager. Instead of sending your QSL via the bureau or direct to the DX station, you send your card and an SASE to WA2XXX, who checks your contact in the DX stations logs and sends you the QSL.

There are many benefits to this system, both to the station who works DX and for the DX station. The DX station, by using a QSL manager is relieved of the chore of filling out the cards, licking envelopes and numerous trips to the post office. This means he has more time to operate and if he is rare, a QSL manager can help de-rarefy a country. The advantages to you are that instead of having to send the QSL via the bureau and waiting up to a year or more for the card you can receive it in just a few weeks. Also instead of sending the card direct and sending 3 or 4 IRC's plus a 31¢ stamp, you only have to send a self addressed stamped envelope with 15¢ postage on it. Instead of the card costing over a buck it only costs 30¢.

The following applies to QSL managers in other countries. The procedure for this is almost the same as sending direct to the DX station but still has some advantages. The most prominent example is that of VS5MC in Brunei. An airmail letter from Brunei to the US costs 8 IRC's at 42¢ each plus a 31¢ airmail stamp to send it. This means that your cost to get the DX QSL is about \$4.00. VS5MC has a station in Germany for a QSL manager. Return postage costs 2 IRC's plus a 31¢ stamp, total cost \$1.15.

NEXT MONTH - More QSL Manager Info

DX HINTS

With summer coming to an end, dx'ers are looking to a grand old time on 15 and 10 meters. Expect with the high sun spot values, blockbuster openings to the Far East and Africa on 10 meters most every day. Long path morning openings to Australia and Japan will be common on both 10 and 15 meters.

Dx-peditionwise, look for VE3FXT portable in Burma and a separate operation from the new country of Venduland in South Africa sometime in late September or early October.

Remember, the dx game is a fast moving part of ham radio, so it is wise to subscribe to one of the dx bulletins or listen to the "skuttle" that can usually be picked up every evening in the 14.200-250 mhz portion of the 20 meter band.

73, Rick Berg, WA2RLQ

K2JD ENGRAVING

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ARRL ELECTIONS

Elections for Atlantic Division director and vice-director is being held this fall for the years 1980-81. Two RaRa members are candidates for vice-director. All the candidates who are on the slate have indicated their willingness to serve you - which means they are ready to spend literally hundreds of hours and many dollars of their own funds travelling about the division and to other locations in the country.

At press time the candidates were:
Director - Jesse Bieberman, W3KT; George (Bud) Hippisley, W2JJ; George Van Dyke, W3HK; and Dennis Voorhees, AD3O.
Vice-director - Alan Komenski, AC2K; Harold Smith, K2HC; Hugh Turnbull, W3ABC.

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<i>Heath w/supply</i>	<i>200.00</i>
<i>Icom 202</i>	<i>195.00</i>
<i>Kenwood MC50</i>	<i>32.00</i>
<i>Standard C6200</i>	<i>250.00</i>
<i>Spectronics DD1</i>	<i>149.00</i>
<i>Swan 270</i>	<i>325.00</i>
<i>Swan 6200 Meter</i>	<i>50.00</i>
<i>Tempo FMH</i>	<i>200.00</i>
<i>Ten-Tec 244</i>	<i>130.00</i>
<i>Yaesu FT 101 EE</i>	<i>475.00</i>
<i>Yaesu FT 101 B</i>	<i>575.00</i>
<i>Yaesu FV 101 B</i>	<i>99.00</i>
<i>Yaesu FRG - 7</i>	<i>375.00</i>
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