



# the RaRa Rag

Published by

**ROCHESTER AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION, INC.**

VOL. 37

DECEMBER 1984

NO. 4

## RaRa Meets at Kodak Park Dec. 7th Bill Peterson of WOKR-TV To Speak on Weather Radar

At the December meeting of RaRa to be held jointly with the Kodak Park Club, we will have the honor of presenting Mr. Bill Peterson, Chief Meteorologist at Channel 13, WOKR-TV. Bill will be speaking to us and, by way of video tape describing to us the workings of weather radar. Channel 13 is one of the few television stations to have installed its own weather radar equipment. The closest NOAA Weather Service is in Buffalo. Bill promises a great show (weather permitting!).

In order that Bill may get back to the Weather Center in time to prepare his 11 p.m. forecast, **the program will start promptly at 8 p.m.** Any business will be transacted after the program.

According to Bob Erskine, W2NVZ, Channel 13 Chief Engineer, Bill is an avid computer buff and is very technically oriented and should be able to answer any questions we may have for him.

Remember, this meeting will be held at the Kodak Park Recreation Building (building 28) on Ridge Road, two lights west of Lake Avenue. Park in the lot directly in front of and across the street from the entrance. Kodak ARC members will direct you to the meeting room.

## RRRA MEETS AT PLANETARIUM DECEMBER 21st

The Rochester Radio Repeater Association will present its 4th annual *Family Night at Strasenburgh Planetarium* Friday, December 21st. A short meeting will be held before the starshow at 7:30 in one of the Planetarium meeting rooms. The Christmas Show will start at 8 p.m. Admission is \$2.50 for adults, and normal child and student prices will prevail.

This should prove to be a good Christmas outing for the family – Let's see a good turnout!

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

### Coming Social Events

by Dave Bernheisel, N2DPF

The Social Committee is planning two major events for 1985. The first event, a day-long indoor/outdoor *Winter Family Funfest* will be held on Saturday, February 9th at Mendon Ponds Park.

We have some ideas for the menu and activities, but I am sure that each of you knows the one unique thing that would make the event right for you. We can't read your minds, so we would be grateful for any input via phone, letter, in person, or even radio! We want to have something for everyone – A warm fire for eyeball QSO's, hot food and drink, activities for young and old, hams and guests. More details and ticket information will be at the meeting and in next month's *Rag*.

The second date to reserve is Saturday, June 1st. You guessed it – the annual RaRa Picnic. If you have any suggestions regarding the Picnic, please let us know.

## CODE PRACTICE ON 43/03

The S.A.R.G. Repeater Group (146.43/147.03) will be holding code practice on 2 meters, on Wednesday evenings, beginning November 7, at 8 p.m. We will have 7 wpm, 15 wpm, and 22 wpm QSO's.

## SILENT KEY

W2TTQ – JERRY FINK

1949 RaRa President

Life Member, RaRa

May 28, 1984

# the RARA RAG

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ROCHESTER AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION, INC.

P.O. Box 1388, Rochester, NY 14603-1388

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## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Ron,

Somehow I missed you at the September meeting and tried to call you a couple of times before I left. Since October 4th (the day we flew out here) time has been a blur. I'm just now getting oriented to paying bills, writing letters, etc. The new job is very good but keeping me very busy.

The new QTH is at about the 1,000 foot level but on the west side of a hill that goes up to 1,800 feet. So, I've got a nice shot to the ocean (Hawaii on 432?). However, I can hear about 40 repeaters from here and can hit most of them with 10 watts to a Ringo. The heavy activity is in the San Jose-Silicon Valley area as might be expected. On Monday one of the machines broadcasts the WESTLINK report. I don't remember any Rochester area machines that did that but I would offer it as a suggestion to you for a worthwhile service.

If any RaRa members are in the Bay Area please have them say hello. The new address is 5851 Snake Road, Oakland, California 94611 and the landline is 415-339-3616.

My best to all RaRa members for the Holidays. Thanks again to you for all your assistance during my two years on the board. Best wishes to you this year and next as you lead RaRa to new heights.

73, Bill Thiel, K2KGE

*Ed note: Bill was last year's President of RaRa.*

VOL 37      DECEMBER 1984      NO. 4

### OFFICERS:

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## DUE TO ILLNESS WA2DSH HAS AMATEUR STATION/OSCILLOSCOPE EQUIPMENT FOR SALE:

- (1) Heathkit SB 104 Transceiver
  - (2) Heathkit SB 604 Speakers      \$500.00
  - (1) Heathkit SB 644 Remote VFO
  - (1) Heathkit SB634 Power Meter/Clock      \$100.00
  - (1) Heathkit SB 230 Linear Ampl.      \$350.00
  - (1) Heathkit HN 31A "Cantenna"      \$ 10.00
  - (1) Astatic T-UG8 Microphone (w/pre-amp)      \$ 10.00
  - (1) Murch WT 2000A Antenna Tuner      \$125.00
  - (1) Heathkit 10-4510 15 MHZ Dual Trace Scope
  - (2) Heathkit PKW-105 Scope Probes      \$350.00
  - (1) Heathkit IG 4505 Scope Calibrator
- For information contact: Robert Erskine, W2NVZ, at WORK - 334-8700; at home 266-5055.

## PUBLIC SERVICE "84"

by Ed Holdsworth, N2EH

I want to reflect back on the Public Service events that we have participated in during 1984. We started the season with the Heart and Sole Classic on April 14th followed by the Walk - America on April 29th. The next event was the I-490 Clean-Up on May 6th followed by the Lake Ontario Marathon on June 3rd and the Susquehannock Pro Road Rally on June 9th and 10th, the Mendon Pony Club Rally on June 10th, and then the Scotch Bonnett Yacht Race on June 22nd and 23rd.

We started July off with the Great Canal Caper on July 7th, which was an enjoyable event for those that participated. We had a rest for the balance of July and August found us back out to Walnut Hill Farm and the Pittsford Driving Competition which was on for four days. We also had people out for the Iron Man contest which was held this year on August 19th at Hamlin Beach Park. We then participated in the Ginna Pre Drill-Drill on August 23rd which was followed by the full scale drill on September 12th. We then moved to Palmyra and participated in the Palmyra Canaltown Days on September 15th and 16th. On the next weekend the Bike-A-Thon was held in the Perinton area. We participated in the Simulated Emergency Test on October 20th and we are left now with one more event scheduled for this year which is the Lighting of the Lights downtown on November 23rd.

These events all together represent over 3000 manhours of volunteer service performed by members of our club as well as the other clubs that either we assisted or assisted us. I would still like to see participation by more club members since I feel that these are excellent training and a lot of fun. I will look forward to seeing some new faces out next year even if it is only for a short time.

Have a Happy and Prosperous Holiday Season  
- and - ENJOY.

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## JACKETS

by Ed Holdsworth, N2EH

This month, December, will be the last time to order jackets for this club year. I will be taking orders for them at the December meeting and will be placing the order about the middle of the month. For styles, prices etc. consult the October *Rag* and either place your order with me at the next meeting or mail your order to me by December 14, 1984.

## DECEMBER RAG CALENDAR

- 7 - Annual RaRa - Kodak Park ARC Joint Meeting, 8 p.m., Kodak Park Recreation Building 28
- 7 - January *Rag* Deadline to KB2BU
- 12 - RaRa Board of Directors Meeting, 7:30 p.m., QTH of K2VCZ
- 14 - VHF Group meeting, 8 p.m., Monroe County Social Services Building, 111 Westfall Road
- 18 - RDXA meeting, 8:15 p.m., Colonial Hotel, 1127 Empire Boulevard
- 21 - RRRR *Family Night at the Planetarium*, 7:30 p.m., Strassenburgh Planetarium
- 25 - **MERRY CHRISTMAS!**



## PALMYRA CANAL TOWN DAYS

October 29, 1984

Rochester Amateur Radio Assoc.  
P.O. Box 1388  
Rochester, New York 14603

Dear Friends:

The Canaltown Days Committee thanks you very much for taking part in our 18th annual celebration. We are grateful for the help and support of the many organizations and individuals who contribute to the success of Canaltown Days.

We look forward to your continued participation as we plan for Canaltown Days 1985 - September 14 and 15.

Sincerely yours,

Richard W. Watson  
General Chairman

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## RaRa PROPOSED ELMER CLUB

At the last RaRa Board meeting, a discussion ensued on how to promote Amateur Radio among high-schoolers and get them to look to RaRa for help and support. The idea surfaced to see if we could start an *Elmer Club*, an organization of RaRa members who would be willing to come forward and give help and support to youngsters and oldsters alike who are interested in becoming Amateurs, or new Amateurs who need help in getting on the air.

If you would be willing to help and commit some time to this endeavor, contact President Ray Roberts, WA2SSU, at the December meeting.

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## Rochester Hamfest To Span 3 Days May 17, 18 and 19

In order to lure more exhibitors and to capitalize on the overwhelming success of the flea market in recent years, the Hamfest Committee, headed by Harold Smith, K2HC, has agreed to expand the Rochester Hamfest and Atlantic Division ARRL Convention to a three-day event.

The Flea Market will open at noon on Friday, May 17, and remain open until 1:30 p.m. Sunday, May 19.

The main exhibits in the Dome Arena will be open from 8:30 a.m. till 5:30 p.m. Saturday, May 18 and 9:30 a.m. till 1:30 p.m. Sunday.

There will be a VIP banquet and hospitality suite Friday night, but NO entertainment. There will be a traditional Hamfest Banquet and Awards Presentation on Saturday beginning at 7:30 p.m.

Amateur exams will be given both Saturday and Sunday by RaRa Volunteer Examiners under the auspices of Metroplex VEC.

Full information will be mailed in early March. If you are *online*, you can get up-to-the-minute information on the Hamfest Bulletin Board, 716-424-7136, 24 hours.

## Items Needed For Hospitalized Vets

Bill Landon, K2CBD, tells us that there is always a need for the following items to help those at the Bath Veterans Administration Hospital:

- Socks
- Shirts
- Pants
- Summer Jackets
- Winter Coats
- Boots, Rubbers
- Any toilet articles
- Baby powder for hot weather
- Hats
- Mittens, Scarves
- Any ceramic hobby supplies
- Cloth in sections ¾ to 1 yard
- Pieces of leather at least 5 x 6 inches
- Pocket books
- Current magazines
- Word-find and Crossword puzzle books

If you have any of these items you would like to donate, call Bill at 663-0429. Bill also serves as Chaplain of the American Legion Post in Rochester.

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FOR SALE—Heathkit xmtr. and rcvr. SB 401 -- SB 301. \$300.00 or best offer. Russel Brush, 470 Backus Road, Webster, NY 14580 - 671-2409.

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## ROCHESTER HAMFEST —

### Exhibits/Programs

by Harold Smith, K2HC, General Manager

Clubs and groups who wish to have an exhibit table in the Dome should apply NOW for the space. Tables are provided with our compliments on a “*space available*” basis. Commercial exhibitors must pay for their space.

Requests for exhibit space should be mailed to:

Rochester Hamfest  
300 White Spruce Boulevard  
Rochester, NY 14623

Exhibitor space application forms will be furnished by return mail.

The Hamfest programs are scheduled to be set up by mid January. If you have a suggestion for a program, or want time on the program for your club or group meeting, please send your request NOW to our Hamfest program chairman:

George W. Hippisley, K2KIR  
7932 Irish Road  
Colden, NY 14033

Every year, without exception, we receive phone calls just prior to the Hamfest requesting time and space on the program. Unfortunately, those late requests must be denied.



W2ICE and Mrs. Braga in the "Marconi Station" (1907) at the AWA Museum.

## AWA HOSTS NATIONAL HISTORICAL CONFERENCE

Nearly 800 amateur radio historians and collectors met recently at Canandaigua for a 4-day conference consisting of talks, demonstrations, contests and an auction of vintage equipment as well as a huge flea market. The conference was truly international with members registering from far-away Japan and South Africa. AWA has a 3000 membership, making it the largest club of its kind.

Historical papers covered a wide range of subjects: National receivers, the manufacture of RCA tubes, collecting telegraph keys, early receiver and transmitter design and the history of the National Bureau of Standards (WWV). A highlight was a spirited talk by Marconi's daughter, Gioia Marconi Braga.

RaRa was well represented since many of its members are on the AWA staff. A similar event is planned next fall.

## DIRECTORIES TO BE MAILED SOON

By the time you read this, the 1985 edition of the *RaRa Directory* should be on the press. A great deal of time and effort has gone into making this year's directory the most accurate and up-to-date possible. We used postal returns and address corrections received from the September *Rag* mailing to correct or delete all erroneous entries.

This is the only system we have of purging hams who have moved out of the area and correcting the addresses of those who have moved but have not modified their licenses or otherwise given the address changes to the FCC. Changes or additions registered with the FCC are culled out of the quarterly Callbook Magazine supplements.

If all goes well, the *Directory* should be out by the first of the year.

## RaRa EXAM DATES FOR 1985

Our Volunteer Examiner Team (VET) under the direction of J. L. Schooley, K2NC, has planned testing sessions for the first 5 months of 1985. These sessions are again METROPLEX/VEC coordinated and sponsored by the Rochester Amateur Radio Association.

Dates: Saturday 1-12-85  
 Saturday 2-23-85  
 Saturday 3-30-85  
 Saturday 5-18-85 and  
 Sunday 5-19-85

The last 2 sessions are planned in conjunction with the Rochester Hamfest.

Times: 20 wpm code - 9:00 a.m.  
 13 wpm code - 9:45 a.m.  
 Written exams only - 10:30 a.m.

Location of tests: Monroe County Social Services Building, 111 Westfall Road at the corner of West Henrietta Road, Route 15 and Interstate 490, except the last two sessions, which will be held in building 5 of the Fairgrounds (Rochester Hamfest).

The charge for taking an examination is \$4.00 which must be paid on the day the test is taken. Make all checks payable to METROPLEX/VEC. Please bring a *copy* of your current Amateur license (if you have one) plus any code credit certificate or temporary operating certificate along with two forms of positive identification. Starting with the 1-12-85 session we request 30 days pre-registration. This is *NEW*. Please take note of this. We will be flexible with this as much as possible and allow walk-ins the first few times if space and testing material is available. However we feel it is reasonable to require candidates to pre-register to allow the VEC and the VE team to prepare for the test session.

All correspondence, including pre-registration, should go to A. G. "Albert" de Blicck, KW2X, 59 Knoll Road, Rochester, NY 14622 (716-544-3730) who is the contact person for the VE team. He will return your S.A.S.E. the same day with a new 610 form in it.

## GATEWAY:

### New Packet Radio Newsletter

The ARRL has begun publishing a newsletter devoted to packet radio interests called *Gateway*. It is mailed every two weeks and is edited by Jeff Ward, K8KA. A year's subscription (25 issues) is \$6 for ARRL members and \$9 for non-members.

## WTAW BULLETINS:

HR ARRL BULLETIN NR 103 FROM ARRL  
FROM ARRL HEADQUARTERS  
NEWINGTON CT NOVEMBER 9, 1984

TO CLARIFY ARRL BULLETIN NR 101,  
THE 2300 TO 2310 AND 2390 TO 2450 MHZ  
BAND SEGMENTS CONTINUE TO BE  
AVAILABLE TO THE AMATEUR SER-  
VICE. FCC HAS DELETED THE 2310 TO  
2390 MHZ ALLOCATION TO PROTECT  
AERONAUTICAL FLIGHT TEST TELE-  
METRY OPERATIONS FROM POSSIBLE  
INTERFERENCE. THIS DELETION BE-  
CAME EFFECTIVE NOVEMBER 6 AR

HR ARRL BULLETIN NR 102  
FROM ARRL HEADQUARTERS  
NEWINGTON CT NOVEMBER 8, 1984

FCC HAS GRANTED AN ARRL RE-  
QUEST FOR AN EXTENSION OF COM-  
MENT TIME ON PRB1, ARRL'S REQUEST  
FOR A DECLARATORY RULING PREEMPT-  
ING LOCAL ZONING BODIES FROM EN-  
ACTING OVERLY RESTRICTIVE  
ANTENNA ORDINANCES. THE NEW  
DEADLINE FOR FILING IS DECEMBER  
24. THE LEAGUE'S ORIGINAL FILING  
AND INSTRUCTIONS FOR FILING YOUR  
COMMENTS IS AVAILABLE FROM ARRL  
FOR AN ASSESSMENT WITH 88 CENTS POSTAGE.  
ASK FOR PRB1 MATERIAL. SEND ONE  
ORIGINAL AND FOUR COPIES OF YOUR  
COMMENTS TO THE SECRETARY, FCC,  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20554. THE FIRST  
PAGE OF YOUR COMMENTS SHOULD  
INCLUDE THE HEADING, COMMENTS  
IN RESPONSE TO PRB1 AR

HR ARRL BULLETIN NR 97  
FROM ARRL HEADQUARTERS  
NEWINGTON CT OCTOBER 27, 1984

THE ARRL BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
MET IN HARTFORD, CT ON OCTOBER 25  
AND 26. HIGHLIGHTS OF THE ACTIONS  
TAKEN FOLLOW.

THERE WERE SEVERAL ACTIONS  
TAKEN PERTAINING TO PACKET RADIO  
AMONG THEM THE APPROVAL OF THE  
AX.25 AMATEUR PACKET RADIO LINK  
LAYER PROTOCOL.

THE CONTEST ADVISORY COMMIT-  
TEE WAS DIRECTED TO STUDY THE  
FEASIBILITY OF A MORE NEUTRAL  
GEOGRAPHICAL SCORING SYSTEM FOR  
AT LEAST ONE OF THE ARRL SPONSOR-  
ED UHF VHF CONTESTS.

THE GENERAL MANAGER WAS DI-

RECTED TO INCREASE THE NUMBER  
OF U.S. AMATEUR RADIO LICENSEES  
BY 50,000 PER YEAR FOR THE NEXT  
FIVE YEARS, AND A PROGRAM TO IN-  
CREASE ARRL MEMBERSHIP BY 25,000  
BY THE END OF 1985, AND BY APPROX-  
IMATELY 20 PER CENT EACH YEAR  
THEREAFTER.

IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY VOTED THAT  
THE GENERAL MANAGER DEVISE AND  
IMPLEMENT PROCEDURES TO PERMIT  
WALK IN EXAMINATIONS AT ARRL CO-  
ORDINATED VOLUNTEER EXAMINER  
EXAM SESSIONS, AS AND TO THE EX-  
TENT THAT THE PARTICULAR VE TEAM  
DEEM APPROPRIATE.

FUTURE VHF UHF REPEATER DIREC-  
TORIES PUBLISHED BY THE ARRL WILL  
INCLUDE WITHIN THE DIRECTORY A  
DESIGNATION TO SHOW THE DIFFER-  
ENCE BETWEEN A REPEATER THAT  
HAS BEEN COORDINATED AND ONE  
THAT HAS NOT.

IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY VOTED THAT  
THE TECHNICAL EXCELLENCE AWARD  
FOR 1983 BE PRESENTED TO WILLIAM  
SABIN, W0YH, FOR HIS ARTICLE IN  
JULY 1983 QST.

IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY VOTED THAT  
COUNSEL FILE A REQUEST FOR A 45  
DAY EXTENSION OF TIME IN WHICH  
TO FILE COMMENTS IN PRB 1, ARRL'S  
REQUEST FOR ISSUANCE OF DECLAR-  
ATORY RULING TO ESTABLISH LIMIT-  
ED FEDERAL PREEMPTION OVER AMA-  
TEUR ANTENNAS AND SUPPORTS.

THE 23 CM BAND PLAN SUBMITTED  
TO THE BOARD BY THE VUAC AND  
VRAC AT THIS MEETING IS TO BE RE-  
TURNED TO THOSE COMMITTEES FOR  
FURTHER STUDY.

THE MANAGEMENT AND FINANCE  
COMMITTEE IS TO STUDY THE DESIR-  
ABILITY AND FEASIBILITY OF RELOCAT-  
ING HEADQUARTERS FROM NEWING-  
TON, CT TO AN ALTERNATE SITE, SUCH  
STUDY TO CONSIDER ALL ASPECTS, IN-  
CLUDING THE NEED AND DESIRA-  
BILITY OF SUCH A MOVE, THE COSTS,  
THE IMPACT OF LEAGUE STAFF, AND  
THE DEGREE OF INCREASED EFFEC-  
TIVENESS TO BE GAINED.

THE 33 CM BAND PLAN AS PROPOSED  
BY THE VUAC WAS APPROVED AS THE  
INTERIM PLAN, AND THE VUAC IS  
DIRECTED TO CONTINUE ITS STUDY

OF THE SAME INVOLVING ALL IDENTIFI-  
FIABLE POTENTIAL USERS INTERESTS.

THE BOARD DIRECTED THAT THE  
FM/RPT COLUMN IN QST BE ON A  
MONTHLY BASIS.

THE GENERAL MANAGER WAS IN-  
STRUCTED TO PETITION THE FEDERAL  
COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION TO  
PERMIT F2 EMISSION ON TEN METERS  
FOR IDENTIFYING AMATEUR RADIO  
REPEATERS.

THE ARRL WILL FILE WITH THE FCC  
A PETITION FOR RULEMAKING TO PER-  
MIT AN APPLICANT WHO HAS FAILED  
AN AMATEUR RADIO EXAMINATION  
TEST ELEMENT TO RETAKE THAT TEST  
ELEMENT 27 DAYS THEREAFTER.

THE GENERAL MANAGER WAS IN-  
STRUCTED TO PREPARE A PAPER ON  
THE STATUS OF THE VIENNA INTER-  
NATIONAL CENTER, AND THE DX AD-  
VISORY COMMITTEE IS TO RECONSIDER  
THE 4U1VIC QUESTION NO LATER THAN  
JANUARY 20, 1985.

THE ARRL WILL REQUEST THAT THE  
FCC ISSUE A PUBLIC NOTICE ADVISING  
MANUFACTURERS OF THEIR OBLIGA-  
TIONS WITH REGARD TO RF SHIELDING  
AND FILTERING.

A DRAFT PETITION TO PERMIT AUTO-  
MATIC CONTROL OF AMATEUR DIGIT-  
AL COMMUNICATIONS ABOVE 30 MHZ  
WAS APPROVED IN SUBSTANCE.

THE VRAC WAS REQUESTED TO  
STUDY THE BAND PLAN FOR 420 TO 450  
MHZ WITH THE INTENT OF RECOM-  
MENDING A STANDARD FOR REPEAT-  
ER IN/OUT FREQUENCY RELATION-  
SHIPS.

THERE IS TO BE A STUDY TO DETER-  
MINE WHAT EXISTING AND OR NEW  
DXCC AWARDS IF ANY SHOULD APPLY  
TO THE 24 MHZ BAND.

THE GENERAL MANAGER WAS  
DIRECTED TO INVESTIGATE MEANS BY  
WHICH THE ADVANCED CLASS LICENSE  
HOLDER COULD HAVE A MORE IN-  
VOLVED ROLE IN THE VOLUNTEER  
EXAMINER PROGRAM.

THE BOARD UNANIMOUSLY VOTED  
TO HONOR MR. E. MERLE GLUNT,  
W3OKN, FOR HIS CONTRIBUTIONS TO  
THE SUCCESSFUL OUTCOME AT THE  
1979 WORLD ADMINISTRATIVE RADIO  
CONFERENCE FOR THE AMATEUR

RADIO SERVICE.

THERE IS TO BE A SURVEY OF U.S.  
ARRL MEMBERS CONCERNING THE  
FEELING ABOUT ALL MODE OPERA-  
TION IN THE 40 METER BAND BELOW  
7.1 MHZ.

THE BOARD UNANIMOUSLY RESOLV-  
ED TO EXTEND SPECIAL RECOGNITION  
TO WA2NNT, WA6QQQ, WA6QZY,  
WA6MRZ, KN6H, W6PGM, K6LEA,  
WA6NRB, AND N6IIU, FOR THEIR OUT-  
STANDING SERVICE TO AMATEUR  
RADIO IN SUPPORT OF THE GAMES OF  
THE XXIII OLYMPIAD, LOS ANGELES,  
1984.

THERE IS TO BE A STUDY OF THE  
FEASIBILITY OF ARRL OFFERING ITS  
ASSISTANCE TO FCC IN THE AREA OF  
MAINTAINING AMATEUR LICENSING  
RECORDS IN GENERAL BUT ESPECIAL-  
LY IN THE ADMINISTRATION OF SPE-  
CIAL CALL SIGN REQUESTS OF CLUBS  
AND INDIVIDUALS.

THE LEAGUE IS TO FILE A PETITION  
REQUESTING THAT THE FCC AMEND  
THE RULES GOVERNING THE AMA-  
TEUR SATELLITE SERVICE TO ADD THE  
NEW FREQUENCY ALLOCATIONS  
GRANTED AT WARC 79.

THE BOARD ALSO VOTED TO RECOG-  
NIZE THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA AS A  
SEPARATE MULTIPLIER FROM THAT OF  
MARYLAND FOR ANNUAL ARRL DX  
CONTESTS AND THE ANNUAL ARRL  
TEN METER CONTEST.

THE FULL MINUTES WILL APPEAR IN  
QST. AR

HR ARRL BULLETIN NR 94  
FROM ARRL HEADQUARTERS  
NEWINGTON CT OCTOBER 22, 1984

THE MARCE STS 41G CANISTER WAS  
REMOVED FROM THE SHUTTLE CARGO  
BAY AND CHECKED. WHEN POWER  
WAS APPLIED THE EQUIPMENT CAME  
ON AND EVERYTHING INDICATED  
NOMINAL. IT APPEARS THERE WAS AN  
INFLIGHT POWER UP ANOMALY. THIS  
IS GOOD NEWS, BECAUSE IF FURTHER  
CHECKS GIVE THE EQUIPMENT IN THE  
CANISTER A CLEAN BILL OF HEALTH  
THERE WILL BE A POSSIBILITY OF A  
FUTURE REFLIGHT AR

---

WANTED: Use of a radio direction finder for a  
Boy Scout project. Call Jim Hurny, W2DHK,  
266-8669 after 5 p.m.

# THE BLOWN FUSE

by Bill Clarke, WA4BLC

Every month the assorted amateur radio magazines arrive, and like most hams, I look at all the ads to see what goodies are being offered to the radio public. Among the most interesting to me are the 2 Meter hand helds.

Over the years I have seen HTs go from single channel converted commercial units, thru the 6 channel xtal rigs, to finally graduate into complete hand held radio stations. The latest HTs are capable of all possible FM pairs, including MARS, CAP, etc.

Here are a few observations I have made of some of the HTs currently on the market:

## YAESU

### Model 207R

This unit is a couple of generations old now, but you will see them from time to time on the used market. They suffer from a lack of battery life, due to the power hungry LED display. Also they are difficult to work on as the interconnecting wires easily break loose from their pads. Difficulties have been found with the PLL circuit.

### Model 208R

Perhaps one of the least troublesome HTs ever produced. They have LCD displays, are handier than the 207s. The older ones blow fuses once in awhile, but the factory now by-passes the fuse. This is a real good radio.

### Model 209R

The 209 is slimmer than the 208, and has more features, including an S meter. It handles well, and is very "user friendly" at the keyboard. It is too new on the market to make comments about service.

## KENWOOD

### Model 2400

This rig was of the same vintage as the Yaesu 207, and has a similar problem with wiring breaking loose. In addition the LCD display is less than long lived, and there have been problems with oscillations.

### Model 2500

The 2500 is vastly improved over the 2400. A few have suffered from PPL problems, however, they are basically a good radio.

### Model 2600

Is the newest Kenwood full featured handheld. At this time it is too new to remark about.

## AZDEN

### PCS 300

The PCS 300 is a good radio, with excellent capabilities, however, the keyboard is difficult to



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utilize. It is not a direct numeric input, but rather a stepping up/down frequency system. Service can be difficult to find.

## ICOM 2A(T)

The 2A series have few frills, just a basic HT with thumbwheel frequency selection. The most common problem is blown finals. Because the chassis unfolds for service, they are easy to work on. As a basic radio they are excellent.

## ICOM O2AT

The O2AT has amazing capabilities, with complete transmit and receive frequency control for any splits desired. Additionally the standard PL tones are programmable, independently, for each channel. The unit is not, however, "user friendly" at the keyboard, and takes some getting used to. The O2AT suffers from memory loss and scrambling, and requires disassembly to reset.

Before a person purchases any HT they should examine their needs. If there is a requirement for total flexibility in frequency usage, a need for scanning, and many memory frequencies, then perhaps a top of the line rig is called for. But if you use only one or two repeaters, then perhaps one of the more modest units would be a more cost effective purchase.

This fact must have been discovered by the radio manufacturers, as most companies have come out with less complex HTs during the recent months. Both Kenwood and Yaesu have brought out models that have similar features to the Icom 2A series. Perhaps this is perceived by some as a step backwards, I don't agree.

YAESU Model FT203T and KENWOOD Model TH-21A are both examples. I feel this approach is cost effective at the time of purchase, and beneficial in the long run. After all ... the less features on a radio, the less there is to break.



## DX TIDBITS

via The Rochester VHF Group

Big news in this month's column is the awarding of W.A.S. to VE3EMS on 220 MHz. This gives Peter the *first ARRL plaque ever given to a Canadian* for being one of the first 10 stations to work all states on a particular band. Congratulations!

KC4EG sent a note indicating that he runs a net from *Kentucky* every Tuesday night on 220.120 MHz, at 10 p.m. EDT (will be 10 p.m. EST after the end of October). He follows the hands of the clock, starting at due North. Best time to listen for Rochester or the WNY area is around 5 or 10 after the hour. Good Luck! (EM78 grid)

WB2IEY has passed the 2 meter beacon over to WA2YTM to oversee. Listen for it on 144.051 in the near future from near Victor, NY. (FN12) IEY and YTM have also taken in and are modifying a pair of AM-6155's for 450-550 w out on 220 MHz, and KW2T should have his by the time you read this. They WERE available from Fair Radio Sales for \$149.50 each til they ran out the day we ordered ours! Shipping was aprox 16 bux each. Uses an 8930 tube which sparkles like *new* (new 8930's go for 137 bux each, and one *comes* with the pa!). Oh yes, the p.s. was included too!

W9IP writes from Canton, NY ... FN24 ... He notes that his ZIP code is 13617. He sez that *not all* of the QSL's that have been sent to his old Illinois address have been forwarded. He's active on 2, 6, 220, 432, and 1296, with KW's on all bands except 10 watts (tower mounted) on 1296. He sez that you wont hear much from him when it gets below freezing up there, as his shack is in an uninsulated garage. Mike is planning DXpeditions to FN00 or FN01 in the future. Dr. Owen is affiliated with the department of Geology at St. Lawrence University in Canton.

K1DS, Rhode Island, wrote this month, giving some update on what's up in the Ocean State. Rick has his HF gear on the air, and a tribander on the roof of the house. He's got a pair of AM-6155's on the ay from Fair Radio, and plans to put them on 144 and 220. His 432 PA he's been working on is now done and should be on the air in a week or two, when he puts the finishing touches on the metering circuitry. He's trying to get permission to use Chopinist Hill in Rhode Island for th sprints, at 800 ft ASL it's the highest point in RI. If he does, you'll be sure to hear him with all that power he'll be running!

K2QR writes from down in Endicott ... he's on 6 thru 432, and building gear for 1296. He promises an article on the function of the ARRL Technical Coordinator, which he is for the WNY

## RaRa BOARD MEETINGS

by John Lloyd, KA2KFY, Secretary

The board has acted on a number of items since the last column. One of the more important items came during the September meeting when Albert, KW2X, representing John, K2NC, presented a proposal concerning the license exams. John proposed that we enlist the aid of Metroplex and that RaRa provide a cassette recorder, lunch for the workers, and that all monies be handled through the treasurer or his representative. John's proposal was accepted and adopted.

Keith, N2BEL, was authorized to provide speakers for the PA system used at the general meetings. The cost of the speakers was \$36.98 and were used at the October meeting. It was decided that Keith would shoulder the responsibility of keeping the speakers and bring them to the meetings.

We also discussed the distraction to the featured speakers from the people in the back of the room. Changing the room around and having the speakers table at the other end of the room was offered as an alternative. A discussion followed noting that since the back end of the room has a lower ceiling it performs the function of a megaphone. It was decided that we'd leave things as they are and rely on our bouncers (N2BEL and K2VCZ) to keep the noise down in the back of the room.

Van, N2BNE, provides us with a spread sheet listing all income and expenses plus budget items.

Dave, N2DPF, has been working on a family cabin party in February along with the upkeep of the club computer.

Attendance has been very good at the board meetings and generally everyone is there or sends a substitute. The membership rolls show 935 members but 228 members had not yet renewed as of the last board meeting.

The December 12th meeting will be held at Dick's QTH - K2VCZ.

One last thing I would like to recognize one, of the unsung members who does a fine job of providing refreshments at the General Meetings. George, WA2IEO, has been providing the donuts and coffee after the meetings for a number of years so don't forget to pass along your thanks for a job well done.

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section ... Replaced MRF226 in 220 xvtr PA with SD1143, he found at the Packrats hamfest ... He may also be a speaker in the future too!!!

*Tnx VHF JOURNAL*

## LICENSE CLASSES

by Ed Holdsworth, N2EH

The fall classes are moving along at a rapid rate. I want to extend my personal welcome and that of the club membership to the new people that have joined us. I feel that we will have thirty plus new Novices in the Amateur ranks by late December.

The Technician/General class is also progressing very nicely under the instruction of Ed Gable, K2MP, and Bud Young, WA2UGE, teaching the CW portion of the class. We also have over thirty people in this class with the total attendance at about seventy in the two classes.

I also wish to acknowledge the assistance of Russ Foster, NE2B, who has been doing an excellent job teaching CW to the last two or three Novice classes. Russ is himself a graduate of our classes a couple of years ago and has been an able addition to the staff.

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**ESTATE SALE -** Collins 75A4 receivers (2), Collins KWS1 transmitter, Collins R-388 receiver, National HRO-7, Scott AM/SW/FM receiver model 800B, Heath HX-10 transmitter. Also test equipment, tubes, and many miscellaneous items. Call Don Taylor, 587-3158.

**FOR SALE -** Hy-Gain Antenna 204BA, \$100 BO- Duo-Bander 10 and 15 mtrs four elements on each band, \$125 BO- Rotor Ham II HD \$125. Other rotors, transmitting tubes, condensers, transformers, and many miscellaneous items. Estate of Jerry Fink, W2TTQ. Call 271-1445.

**FOR SALE -** Heathkit HW-101 transceiver with power supply and accessories, \$500. Fully assembled to specs. Stephen P. Blowers, KA2TMI, 647-1646.



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