



the RARARAG

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ROCHESTER AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION, INC.

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MAY 1986

NO. 9

PUBLIC/EMERGENCY SERVICE - 1986 ARES/RACES

by Ed Holdsworth, N2EH

The annual rush is on! We have already received ten requests for assistance with communications for the months ahead and I anticipate a few more before the end of the year. We will be working on several repeats from past years and a new one that was recently added.

The events we will be working on as of this issue of the RAG are:

Susquehannock Pro Road Rally	June 7-8
Mendon Pony Club Rally	June 14-15
Scotch Bonnet Yacht Race	June 20-21
Walnut Hill Driving Competition	Aug. 14-17
Empire State Games (Buffalo)	Aug.
Ginna Pre Drill	Aug. 30
Palmyra Canaltown Days	Sept. 13-14
Diabetes Bike-A-Thon	Sept. 21
10K Human Race/JCC	Sept. 21
Ginna Drill	Sept. 10

I already have many people signed up to work on these events but there is still room on most if you would like to participate. I am sure that we will have an enjoyable time on all as we usually do, so if you have not worked on one before – sign up now don't be disappointed.

I also want to point out that the staff of the local ARES/RACES organization have been working on many things in addition to Public Service Events, to maintain our ability to respond in any emergency. We have continued to maintain our liaison with the American Red Cross. All local hospitals and the local Office of Emergency Preparedness.

The Section Manager for Western New York, Bill Thompson, W2MTA, with the Section Emergency Coordinator, Chuck Johansen, KB2KW, conduct a meeting at least once a year for all WNY Section ARES/RACES officials. This meeting is to keep local appointees apprised of happenings in the section as well as what has been going on in the Emergency Services around the division.

CABLE TV TOPIC OF RARa MEETING ANNUAL MEETING — MAY 2nd

Cable TV Leakage, the Two-Way Street is the topic of the program for the May meeting of RARa, Friday, May 2nd, 8 p.m. at the 40/8 Club, 933 University Avenue.

Earl Houseknecht, Vice-President of Greater Rochester Cablevision will present this interesting and informative program and lead the discussion that is sure to follow. This is one area that is beginning to affect all Hams, so don't miss this one!

Also at this annual corporation meeting, we will be voting for officers and directors and for the dues structure for next year.

We will also have our monthly awards program and our resident chef, George Muller, WA2IEO, will dazzle us with his spread of coffee, cocoa and donuts. Don't miss this last meeting of the season. And don't forget that Hamfest tickets will be available at the meeting! See you there.

Pictured below are those that attended the latest meeting held in Vestal, NY on Saturday, April 5, 1986.



Back row: N2EH, K2UW, WA2UGE.
Front row: K2MP, KA2J, WA2CER.
Missing: WB2UTI

the RARA RAG

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GUEST EDITORIAL

by Rich Moseson, N2BFG
ENY ARRL Affiliated Club Coord

What has the ARRL done for YOU lately? That's this month's theme, prompted in part by a fascinating insight I got at a recent club meeting...

The gentleman had been (and still is) having massive problems with neighbors and the town zoning board over a combination of TVI complaints and a restrictive antenna law. He was discussing his problems with three people who had been working closely with him to identify and rectify the TVI problem, and to rally support at the zoning board hearing.

"You know," he said, "I'm really disappointed. The League hasn't done a thing for me in all this."

The three people he was addressing looked at each other, then back to him, in amazement. He was complaining about lack of League support to the Division Director, the Section Manager and the Affiliated Club Coordinator, who is also chairman of the League's national Public Relations Advisory Committee. All three had attended his most recent zoning board hearing, the director and the SM spoke on his behalf, and earlier, the SM had come to his house, along with the section Technical Coordinator, to run tests on his equipment. But "the League" was doing nothing for him.

It was then pointed out to him that we were the League – not just the three of us with him, but every League member in the room. The three of us had taken on leadership roles in the League, in part, to make sure "the League" was there to provide help locally, when needed. And here we were.

Later, the gentleman said to me, "You know, I never saw the League in that light before. I'd always thought of the 'the League' as the people in Newington. I've gotten a whole new perspective tonight." And he added, "I've been a ham for 30 years, a League member for the past seven. I'm sorry I didn't join sooner."

What's the League done for you lately? This is one example. There are many others (a few more will follow in this newsletter). And with President Kennedy's famous advice in mind – "Ask not what your country can do for you; ask what you can do for your country," – we must ask, when faced with the question above, "Plenty. What have you done for the League lately?"

Note: Do you know who your local League officials are?

VOL. 38 MAY 1986 NO. 9

OFFICERS:

President: Ron Jakubowski, K2RJ	482-6308
Vice President: Dick Goslee, K2VCZ	334-1762
Secretary: John Lloyd, KA2KVF	254-2394
Treasurer: Dave Bernheisel, N2DPF	244-1856

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Lloyd Caves, WB2EFU	671-7079
Howie Davies, N2CUN	
Keith Freeberg, N2BEL	544-9400
Ed Holdsworth, N2EH	624-1929
Ed Kohl, WA2UBD	223-2872
Ed Neubauer, N2BXA	223-2874
Charlie Planert, W2YPR	381-1836

Club Historian: Bruce Kelley, W2ICE
Licensing Course Director: Edwin Holdsworth, N2EH
License Testing Director: John Schooley, K2NC
Membership Chairman: Lloyd Caves, WB2EFU
Public Relations Director: Ed Neubauer, N2BXA
Hamfest General Chairman: Harold Smith, K2HC
K2JD Engraving Director: Robert Lauzon, K2RL

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Just a note to let you know that I am still receiving the *RaRa RAG* which I appreciate very much. Most of the names in there are strangers to me but now and then I see a familiar call or name. Even so, the activities are always interesting to me.

I want to congratulate Rochester on finally getting a DIGIPEATER going. If I ever learn how to do it, I will send some PACKET messages to the boys up there via WØRLI. I am able to get messages from here as far south as Miami and as far north as Atlanta if the path is open and not crowded. The Gateway WØRLI stations are another problem and I am not smart enough to use them yet.

Having a ball with Packet but at the moment my GLB PK-1 is back at the factory in Buffalo having it updated with the latest ROM and some more memory. I miss the little thing and they are dragging up there. Talked to the rep at the Orlando Hamfest and he promised to send me a disk with a CP/M program on it that would allow me to upload a disk file to the local BBS here but so far nil from him at all.

Mark (my youngest) is now working in Memphis for Kodak and Lee (the oldest) just lost his job at the cape because of the accident with the shuttle. He may never get that job back again and he is about to get married!!!

Thanks again Ron for keeping me on the mailing list. Hope you and yours are all well. Stop sending that cold wx down here. We dont need it.

Very best regards, *Orville*

AWARDS ADMINISTRATION NOW AVAILABLE THROUGH RaRa

In offering another service to the Amateur community, RaRa, an ARRL Special Service Club, has been authorized to administer certain ARRL operating awards.

You can now apply for WAS, 5BWAS, and VHF/UHF Century Club Awards (VUCC) right here in Rochester. Endorsement stickers for the above may also be applied for. This eliminates the problems, risks, and cost of mailing your precious QSL cards through the mail to ARRL Headquarters in Newington.

Named to the post of awards manager is Ed Gable, K2MP. He can be reached at (716) 621-6692 for further information. If enough interest is shown, applications will be administered at the Rochester Hamfest on May 17th.

MAY RAG CALENDAR

2 - RaRa meeting, 8 p.m., 40/8 Club, 933 University Avenue
Annual Meeting

3 - Owego Hamfest, Treadway Inn, Owego, NY, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

8 - Rochester Packet Radio Club meeting, 8 p.m., Monroe County Social Services Building, 111 Westfall Rd.

9 - Rochester VHF Group Meeting, 8 p.m., Monroe County Social Services Building, 111 Westfall Rd.

15 - RDXA meeting, 8:15 p.m., Colonel Hotel, 1127 Empire Boulevard

16 - June *Rag* deadline

16,17,18 - ROCHESTER HAMFEST and ATLANTIC DIVISION ARRL CONVENTION

THE RaRa RAG 20 YEARS AGO, MAY 1966

by Ed Gable, K2MP

As in years past (and present) this issue is filled with news of the Rochester Hamfest. On the program are such well known names as Ed Redington, W2ZM, for the OT luncheon, Joe Hertzberg, K3JH, RCA Vice-President speaking on Surplus gear, Roger Bettin, Elmer Schwittek, and Floyd Koontz speaking on their XE5L DXpedition to Socorro, and Gordon Wendell, W2FDI, with a traditional antenna program. \$2.50 to Ticket Chairman Ernie Crewdson, WA2FVG, will get you in.

The May meeting featured a discussion and demonstration of Thin Film Circuitry techniques. Don Anderson hosted the group at Consolidated Vacuum Corporation's Mt. Read Boulevard plant.

The Nominating Committee presented an opposed slate for 1967 resulting in the election of Eddie Dunn, WA2KMI, President; Charlie Hooker, W2SXV, VP; Hank Schwalenstocker, WA2RXL, Treasurer; and Ernie Crewdson, WA2FVG, Secretary.

An active committee of the Rochester VHF Group undertook an ambitious task of building complete Six Meter SSB transmitters. Bob Jeffers, W2ALL, is engineering the job with Jack Armstrong, K2JA; Les Covill, WA2GJL; Len Gessin, WA2ZNC; and Harvey Prace, WB2IUM; all in supporting roles. 12 Units are to be built.

At the April meeting the Brockport State Radio Club was affiliated with RaRa.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

The RaRa nominating committee, chaired by Bill March, WA2CER, and including Irv Goodman, AF2K, and Ed Gable, K2MP, announced the following slate of nominees for the 1986-87 RaRa year:

President Dick Goslee, K2VCZ
Vice President Bud Young, WA2UGE
Secretary Keith Freeberg, N2BEL
Treasurer Dave Bernheisel, N2DPF
Board of Directors

Lloyd Caves, WB2EFU
David Denz, N2DWL
Irv Goodman, AF2K
Ron Jakubowski, K2RJ
Ed Holdsworth, N2EH
John Lloyd, KA2KFF
David Payne, KA2J

Nominations will again be opened at the May meeting for any and all offices.

RON JAKUBOWSKI, K2RJ

Ron is the current president of RaRa and has been active in the Rochester amateur radio clubs since he came here 12 years ago from Fort Huachuca, Arizona. He has been licensed since 1962 and holds an Extra class license. He is a member of ARRL, AWA, is State Repeater Coordinator for the RRRR. He also is Editor of the *RaRa Rag* and the RaRa Directory.

He lives with his wife Kathy and two daughters, Becky and Debbie at 446 Cedarwood Terrace in the city.

Other hobbies include the care and feeding of his TRS-80 III computer system and some dabbling in photography and home remodeling.

LLOYD R. CAVES, WB2EFU

For twenty years my wife Ruth and I have lived in the town of Webster and raised one son and two daughters. I have been employed by Rochester Products for twenty-four years in management and engineering.

I was first licensed in 1976 and presently hold an advanced class license. Being active in RaRa, I have served on the Board of Directors for two terms and have been membership chairman for the past three. Along with this I have worked on many different public service events. I have also been a member of the ARRL, RRRR, and VHF Group. My main interest is rag chewing and working DX on the HF bands.

I enjoy amateur radio and have been happy to serve the club in the past. Looking forward to serving again.

ED HOLDSWORTH, N2EH

First Licensed - 1968
Calls - WN2EKR, WA2EKR, N2EH
License - Amateur Extra
Offices - Past President - 2 terms
Vice President - 2 terms
Secretary
Member of Board - 16 years
Other Offices - Director-License Course
Emergency Coordinator - ARES
Radio Officer - RACES
Affiliated Club Coordinator -
Western New York
Assistant General Chairman -
Rochester Hamfest

Married, wife Joyce

5 sons (Jim, Steve, Cary, Gerry & Keith)
2 daughters-in-law (Linda & Debbie)
2 grandsons (Billy & Joey)

Live at - 518 Parish Road, Honeoye Falls
Work - Rochester Gas & Electric

RaRa BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES

The following are the biographical sketches of candidates for RaRa office that were received by the RAG deadline.

JOHN E. LLOYD, KA2KFF

John was first licensed late in 1979, and holds a General Class license and can be heard mostly on 2m FM. He has belonged to the VHF Club, RRRR, RDXA, the GRA, 10-10, SMIRK, RACES-ARES, WDN, and the local Packet group. John holds a BS degree from RIT in Applied Science - Mechanical. He is the Regimental Adjutant for the Knights of St. John, with the rank of Captain, and holds the highest degree of the Holy Cross. John is a member of the Regimental Drill team which took 2nd place in a competition in Cincinnati.

John works in a physical testing lab in Kodak Park which is responsible for the quality assurance of tapes and lightlocking materials which go into the manufacture of various film containers.

He lives in the city on Glendale Park with his wife Jean, two daughters and one son. Other hobbies include model railroad, radio controlled sail, scale, and power boats. He also plays tennis and golf strictly for exercise. The TI-99/4A also commands a share of his time. John has served as secretary of RaRa for the last 2 years, providing some interesting and hard to read copies of minutes. (Bad copier!)

IRWIN J. GOODMAN, AF2K

"Irv" was first licensed as WN2WCE in 1974, and subsequently WB2WCE. He is a Life Member of RaRa, and had been active on the Membership Committee for five sessions prior to serving as Membership Chairman and Board member. Other club affiliations include ARRL (Life Member), RRRR, GRA, Rochester VHF Group, RDXA, LARS, NoBARC and Gibraltar Amateur Radio Society. He is active on 2M FM, HF bands, an avid DX-er, Field Day enthusiast, and enjoys SS and VHF contests and Public Service activities.

A graduate of RIT, Irv has been employed as Litho Preparatory Planner and Art Estimator with Business Forms Division of Burroughs Corporation since 1959. He and "Rusty" reside in the Town of Webster.

KEITH FREEBERG, N2BEL

Licensed in 1979 as N2BEL

Director of RaRa since 1984

Public service oriented

Secretary of his church board

Staff, Resolve for Rochester

Past President of his church board

Past President of RIT Evening Student

Association

Past Community Representative to RIT Policy

Council

WANTS TO KNOW WHAT YOU WANT
YOUR ASSOCIATION TO BE?

CANCELLING A LICENSE OF A SILENT KEY

The FCC no longer deletes calls of Silent Keys unless its cancellation is specifically requested. Since the term of an amateur license is now 10 years, the family of the deceased amateur could continue to receive correspondence, which is sent based upon FCC records, for that period. In order to avoid this correspondence, families of deceased amateurs are urged to send the license, or a letter if a license cannot be found, to FCC, Consumer Affairs Office, Gettysburg, Pennsylvania 17325, requesting cancellation of the license.

Tnx, ARRL Letter

EXTRA CLASS CERTIFICATES

Over 400 ARRL Extra Class certificates have been issued. If you have an Extra Class license, and would like a certificate that attests to your achievement, send \$3.00 and a photocopy of your Extra Class license to the ARRL HQ Awards Branch.

LICENSE COURSE

by Ed Holdsworth, N2EH

RaRa has this year, as in the past, conducted courses for Novice, Technician/General, Advanced and Extra. We have held two classes for Novice, two for Tech/General, one for each in the fall and one in the spring. We also sponsor an Advanced class and an Extra class course in the spring. These classes are almost completed and will end on May 12th and 13th.

Through the Novice class we have or will have by the end of the present classes on the 12th enabled 55 people to enter the ranks of Amateur Radio this year (1985-1986). This does not include those that come in on a class night to take a test or those that enter our ranks by taking a test from an individual or at one of the monthly test sessions.

I will, on behalf of the Board of Directors and the membership - welcome all the new hams and pass on the gratitude of all to those that give their time on Monday nights: Ed Gable, K2MP; Bud Young, WA2UGE; Dave Hassett, K2SQI, and Ron Jakubowski, K2RJ. Also thanks to Lloyd Caves, WB2EFU, and Dave Bernheisel, N2DPF, who took care of registration and membership when the classes began.

HERE'S ONE FOR THE BOOKS

While shopping at the local mall a few weeks ago, I naturally wandered to the bookstore and then to the computer section. I seldom find time to read them, but still seem to buy every book on the Commodore subject. While searching the shelves, I spied a book entitled "*Turbo-Pascal*" by Jeff Dunteman, KB2JN.

Jeff is a charter member of the Rochester Packet group. While he never actually appeared on packet, he was there at the meetings discussing the burning issues of those early days. Last year, Jeff dropped out of sight. He finally sent a note indicating he had moved to Towson, Maryland. He is the Editor of a computer publication, (whose name escapes me), and apparently has been writing the book in spare time.

This is no ordinary book. Even the paper cover version is in the \$20 class. It is thick, fine print and completely over my head. The only part which I could understand was the foreword, which I did read. There I found another familiar name, Mike Bently, KA2VZR. Apparently Mike had been helping on the book and received credit for his labors. Congratulations, Jeff. Too bad I don't understand it all.

Tnx, UPSTATE "PACKET-EAR"

ANNUAL MEETING NOTICE

The Annual Corporation Meeting of the Rochester Amateur Radio Association, Inc., will be held May 2nd, 8 p.m., at the 40/8 Club, 933 University Avenue, for the purpose of electing officers and members of the Board of Directors and setting the dues structure for the corporation's 1986-87 year. All licensed members are eligible to vote. Associate members who have obtained a valid Amateur Radio license are automatically upgraded to full membership with the payment of no additional fee.

RaRa CAMPOUT

by Ed Kohl, WA2UBD

The first campout of the season will be Memorial Day Weekend, May 23, 24, 25, 26 at Canandaigua KOA, 5374 Town Line Road, Canandaigua, NY 14424. Phone 716-398-3582.

Tent sites - \$12.00 - 2 people

Water & Electric - \$15.00 - 2 people

Water, Electric & Sewer - \$16.00 - 2 people
\$1.50 extra for each person, over 3 yrs., each night on all sites.

\$10.00 deposit required with reservation.

Make your own reservation directly with the campground as early as possible to insure a reservation. Please be sure to tell them you will be with the RaRa group.

There will be a potluck dinner Saturday or Sunday night depending on the weather.

Any further questions, call me at 223-2872 or you can catch me on the air.

AN AID FOR THOSE WITH A HEARING LOSS

If you know of any one with a hearing loss, be sure that they know about a telephone amplifier that has recently appeared. It consists of a small unit about 4 x 2 x 3/4 and more than one company makes them. It fits only those phones which have a plug on the handset. You unhook the handset, plug the unit in to the phone and plug the handset into the unit. That's all. And, they work! Some of the units require a 9 volt battery and other steal the operating voltage from the phone line. The cost? Very reasonable compared to hearing aids. The price is about \$15 to \$20 depending on the unit. More than one company manufactures them. They are obtainable from Radio Shack. A person with a hearing loss who has trouble hearing on the phone will be delighted.

Tnx, ARNS

RaRa BOARD RECOMMENDS

1986-87 DUES

At their April 10 meeting, the RaRa Board of Directors voted unanimously to recommend the following dues structure to the membership at the Annual Meeting:

Regular \$8.00

Associate \$4.00

Family \$1.00 for each additional family member

It has been pointed out that RaRa has one of the lowest dues structures of any club in the country. Our large membership base keeps this possible.

ROCHESTER HAMFEST NEWS

FLEA MARKET INFORMATION

There will be an indoor and outdoor flea market in 1986.

Indoor space is available ONLY by ADVANCE purchase. The indoor space offers:

- 10' x 10' floor space \$75.00 each

- Tables - - - - for rent \$10.00

- Chairs - - - - - for rent \$ 5.00

- No power

- No air conditioning

- No rain!

Commercial exhibitors are excluded from flea market spaces. They must operate in the Dome Center and pay the prevailing rate for their space. The hamfest committee reserves the right to determine eligibility for flea market space. Space will be assigned - first come, first served.

Outdoor space will be available as usual at \$5.00 per parking space. All flea market exhibitors must hold Hamfest registrations.

COMMERCIAL EXHIBITOR INFORMATION

Commercial exhibitor space in the Dome is available at \$125 for each 10' x 10' booth. Each booth is furnished with one 8' table, and two chairs. The booths are equipped with standard show drapes, back and sides. Additional tables are available for \$10.00 and chairs for \$5.00 each.

Set up time is on Friday, May 16, between noon and 6 p.m. If you are unable to meet that time, tell us the time you expect to arrive so we may accommodate your needs.

Commercial exhibits will open for business at 8:30 a.m., Saturday, May 17 and 9:00 a.m. on Sunday, May 18. Closing: 5:30 p.m., Saturday and 1:30 p.m., Sunday.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

SATURDAY - Dome Arena

Program starts at 10:00 a.m.

■ 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. - 1st Floor

JOINT MARS TRAFFIC EXCHANGE NETWORK

Albert W. Wise, N2AL, NNNØKMC

Meeting for members participating in the MARS traffic exchange network.

■ 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. - 2nd Floor

W2"RUF AND READY" CODE PROFICIENCY TEST

Kevin Kedzierski, WA2FKV

Seventh anniversary of the annual event at Rochester in memory of Clara Reger.

■ 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. - 1st Floor

NAVY-MARINE CORPS MARS

Albert W. Wise, N2AL, NNNØKMC

The latest news for Navy-Marine Corps MARS members.

■ 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. - 1st Floor

ARES FORUM

Chuck Johansen, KB2KW

Meet the new Section Emergency Coordinator of Western New York. What's new in ARES.

■ 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. - 1st Floor

PROBLEMS OF THE BEGINNER HAM

Larry Wolfgang, WA3VIL

Assistant Technical Editor, ARRL

Discussion of the problems of new amateurs and how to solve them.

■ 12:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. - 2nd Floor

ARRL FORUM

Hugh Turnbull, W3ABC

Atlantic Division Director

Linda Ferdinand, N2YL

Hudson Division Director

Tom Atkins, VE3CDM

President, CRRL

A review of current issues facing amateur radio. Latest development at ARRL, DOC, and FCC.

■ 2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. - 1st Floor

NATIONAL TRAFFIC SYSTEM

Doug Zuckerman, W2XD

Manager, 2RN/C2

Latest update on what's new in the NTS.

■ 2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. - 1st Floor

COMPUTER IN AMATEUR RADIO

Jon Bloom, KE3Z

Senior Laboratory Engineer, ARRL

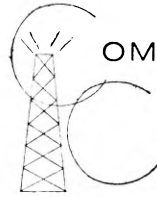
Coverage of the many exciting applications of digital computers to ham radio, including packet radio.

W2YJ

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Be sure specify your color and print your name and call as you want it to appear. Only two lines are permissible.

Write for a quote for any special work.

■ 3:15 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. - 1st Floor

USE OF RADIO WAVES IN MEDICAL DIAGNOSIS AND RESEARCH

Dr. Nikolaus M. Szeverenyi

Department of Radiology

Upstate Medical Center

Discussion of the astounding new methods for use of RF energy in mapping the internal structure of the human body.

FOR THE LADIES

The Rochester Hamfest prides itself in providing the very best entertainment for ladies (or anyone) who have little interest in radio.

Shuttle van service will be provided for shopping in Rochester's newest and largest shopping mall, **The Marketplace**. There are five major department stores and over a hundred smaller shops and boutiques. Bring a good pair of walking shoes.

There will be NO Sunday van service to the mall. It does not open until noon on Sunday.

Packet Third Party Traffic Waiver ...

The FCC has approved the ARRL's request for a waiver of the third-party traffic rules as applies to packet radio transmissions above 50-MHz. The League – and about 20 others – had previously filed **Petitions for Reconsideration** of an FCC Report and Order (Docket 85-105). That rule-making permitted amateur stations operating above 50-MHz in a packet radio network under automatic control to retransmit third-party traffic only under the supervision of a control operator.

The effect of the order would have been to shut down all packet radio communications completely since human operators can't effectively monitor packet radio communications in real time due to its speed of transmission.

On February 28th, the League followed up by filing a **Petition for Extraordinary Relief** seeking a stay of the order until the Petitions for Reconsideration could be further considered. The Commission responded to the ARRL's request on March 14th by granting a "Waiver of Sections 97.114(b)(4) of the Amateur Rules to Permit the Retransmission of Third-Party Traffic in Certain Situations."

The Commission said the prohibition against unsupervised third-party traffic has served to ensure that amateur facilities and frequencies are not used by non-amateurs. "Only a person who has demonstrated the proper qualifications may be a control operator of an amateur station. Such control operators screen any third-party traffic to prevent transmissions which are prohibited ... by the rules."

"These prohibitions include, but are not limited to, business communications, secret messages, radiocommunications for unlawful purposes and radiocommunication with nations which have not assented to third-party traffic. Self-policing has long been a cornerstone in the integrity of the amateur service. The presence of the responsible licensed control operator at each station has been a vital element in the amateur self-policing tradition."

The ARRL argued that this safeguard is neither practical nor effective in the context of packet radio technology and that the development of the packet radio network would be severely hampered if the Order was not amended. The League asked for a waiver of the rules for packet radio digital communications using, or compatible with their AX.25 protocol. The waiver requested by the ARRL only relates to the retransmission of messages already properly screened; a control operator will still be required at every amateur

station **introducing** messages into a packet radio system.

The FCC said, "In view of the above we believe that a temporary waiver is in order until the Commission has evaluated the arguments presented in the subject petitions for reconsideration and issued a ruling on them."

"Packet radio in the Amateur Service is in the development stages. Although interest in this area is intense and growing, there are still only about 14,000 stations, or about 3% of those licensed, equipped for packet radio operation. Thus the risks of abuse are minimized by the small scope of packet operation which will be obtained during the period of this waiver. In the interim, more experience can be gained with automatic control of stations retransmitting with the AX.24 protocol."

The FCC granted the waiver under the following circumstances:

(a) The provisions of Sections §97.80(b) and §97.114(b)(4) are waived to permit amateur stations, retransmitting digital packet radio communications (see §97.69) on frequencies 50-MHz and above, using the AX.25 (or compatible) protocol, to be operated under automatic control while retransmitting third party traffic. (See §97.3(v))

(b) The waiver applies only to the retransmission of third-party traffic originated at another amateur station which is under local control or remote control. (See §97.3(m))

(c) When an amateur station is operated under automatic control, devices must be installed and procedures must be implemented which will ensure compliance with the rules when the control operator is not present at the control point of the amateur station. (§97.80(a))

(d) This waiver will remain in effect until the Commission takes final action on the petitions for reconsideration filed in PR Docket 85-105. (Action is not expected until late summer.)

The FCC also cautioned that "Control operators of amateur stations capable of monitoring AX.25 packet transmissions must be alert to the increased dependency upon them for monitoring during the period of this waiver. We call upon them to immediately make known to the responsible control operator of a station retransmitting communications under automatic control any misuse of the station so that the control operator can take prompt corrective action."

(FCC Order issued 3.14.86, by Chief, PRB.)

Tnx, W5YI REPORT

ANTENNA NOTES

by Bruce Sanborn, KB2WN

For quite a while I had been using inverted-V antennas strung from a roof tower for 40 and 80 meters with not much success beyond checking into stateside nets. With DX in mind I installed a Butternut HF2V ground mounted vertical and a bunch of radials. This improved DX signal strength by typically two or three S-units, so I concluded the Butternut was the best thing since sliced bread and took down the wire antennas. Last summer the addition of a tower gave me something to hang wires from at a decent height. Since I felt like experimenting, and a sloper could be installed and trimmed from the ground with only one trip up the tower, I put one up for 80 meters with the top at 42 feet, sloping toward Europe.

The first thing I learned is that a quarter wave sloper is longer than a half a dipole: hence a splice appears ten feet up from the end of the wire. 72 feet is a good starting point. Mine gives a 2:1 or better SWR from 3.72 to 3.88 Mhz. (I only work CW in the novice bands anyway.) This is a bit broader than the Butternut HF2V, which covers 3.75 to 3.82 Mhz.

For DX, in most cases, the sloper performs about the same as the vertical, but usually is a little quieter on receive. It is about an omnidirectional as the vertical, except to XE, which is in line with the tower. In that direction the vertical wins by about 3 db. (Don't know how it would do to ZL, I'm never up that early.)

The sloper also provides a few bonuses. It works well across the entire 20 meter band with a better than 1.7:1 SWR, with signals about 10 db down from the TET 4 element tribander. It also is useable without a tuner on portions of 12 and 15 meters, and is an excellent SWL antenna anyplace.

One nice weekend in January (yes, there was one) I got the urge to get on 160, so with the help of a C-64 and some friendly software I designed a loaded dipole, wound a coil, and put up half of it as a loaded 40/160 sloper. It worked a heck of a lot better on 160 than an inverted-L I had up previously, but the real surprise was on 40 meters. It showed better than 2:1 SWR across the band (1.1:1 between 7.2-7.3), and performed at least an S-unit better than the vertical with DX signals. This antenna also works across all of 15 meters with better than 2:1 SWR. (No, I don't have bad coax.)

The real convincer on slopers is the system that Jeff, W2HPF, had up and demonstrated to me

WHAT TO DO

WHEN THE BANDS ARE DEAD

by Fred Gern, KB2SE

It has been suggested that the best thing to do when the sunspot cycle causes the band to appear dead is to take up another hobby. Some of us have taken this advise to heart if you listen to the chatter at the RDXA meeting; things like fishing, golf, boats and ping pong get equal time with DX. Other intrepid souls have taken to stringing great quantities of wire in the air with hopes of snagging all the rare stuff on 40, 80 and 160 meters, or possibly attracting a giant spider for a mate. The wire cover at my home has diminished in recent years but the causes has been advanced by many others.

KB2WN has installed a 40/80 vertical over a pile of radials and it works good, and since it works so well he decided to compare it to slopers. Bruce put up an 80 meter sloper and a combination 40/160 wire and has worked a pile of DX on them. W2HPF has installed three phased slopers on 80 and can not only have gain but can cut W4's down by 20db. (This particular antenna failed to remain airborne when its' tower met an untimely end.) W2TZ has, among other interesting items, a full wave loop for 80 meters: his lot is large and looks like a valley.

If you have a spare spool of wire or two and would like to meet these wizards of wire, we would like to invite you to attend the next meeting of the Rochester DX Association on May 20th at 8:15 p.m. at the Colonial Restaurant, 1127 Empire Boulevard. Also available that evening will be a slide show of W6KG and W6QL's DXpedition to HC8, HK0, CE0A and CE0Z (the hams mentioned are the famous pair of Lloyd and Iris Colvin).

(before its' untimely demise); three phased slopers on 80 meters that produced 20 db of rejection off the back! That could knock the W4 QRM down to maybe 20 or 30 over 9. (How about a little info on this one Jeff?)

The Butternut HF2V also works great on 12 and 15 meters. I worked a couple of 12 meter openings last year and got good comparative reports from all stations worked (although on that band EVERYONE was using a weird antenna). So go exploring: you may have more antennas than you think.

Tnx, RDXA NEWSLETTER

SALES TAX ELIMINATION ON AMATEUR RADIO EQUIPMENT

During the 1982 session of the New York State Assembly, Assemblyman Roger Robach introduced a bill which would eliminate sales tax from Amateur Radio equipment. Assemblyman Robach has continued to introduce the bill each year. This year, the bill also has a companion in the State Senate.

Assembly Bill A1429 (Robach) and Senate Bill S1031 (E. Levy) would exempt from sales and use tax all "radio communications equipment purchased by persons holding a valid amateur radio license issued by the Federal Communications Commission for use directly and predominantly in amateur radio communications".

We asked for this back in 1981 and it's slowly making its way through the system. This could be the year for passage if we all get behind it. We ought to be writing our legislators, other clubs, vendors, dealers, the ARRL, etc. and get this bill passed. Why shouldn't New York State be setting the trend in a positive, progressive, manner instead of trying to overly tax our equipment?

IMPORTED AMATEUR EQUIPMENT BECOMING MORE EXPENSIVE

Have you noticed that the list prices of imported amateur equipment have recently increased? Some list prices have increased as much as 20% since October. The reason for this is the declining value of the dollar against foreign currencies. A depreciating dollar makes U. S. exports cheaper and therefore more competitive. Conversely, it makes imports more expensive. For example, the dollar is now trading at the 180-yen level, compared to 240 yen in early September. Thus, the Japanese manufacturers are receiving less yen per U. S. dollar, and must increase their prices to maintain profits. International economics may be hard to understand, but its gyrations are quickly felt in our pocketbooks.

Tnx, ARRL Letter

JY2RBH, WORLD'S YOUNGEST "HAM"

Congratulations to King Hussein, JY1, and Queen Noor, JY2NH, on the birth of their fourth child, Her Royal Majesty Princess Raya. In keeping with recent Jordanian tradition, she has been assigned the call JY2RBH.

Tnx, ARRL Letter

VOLUNTARY TV RFI STANDARDS

The Ad Hoc Committee on Public Law 97-259, sponsored by the American National Standards Committee C-63, has produced its first voluntary standards for RFI immunity in TV sets and video recorders. These standards specify an immunity level guideline of 1 volt/meter to be used by manufacturers of TVs and VCRs. They are a tentative first step, and some committee members feel that it may not go far enough. Others worry that it will not be adopted by manufacturers. However, other participants think the manufacturers have already begun to design the standards into the next wave of equipment. Among the participants in the Ad Hoc Committee were representatives of the Electronics Industry Association, the FCC, the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers, and ARRL Atlantic Division Director, Hugh Turnbull, W3ABC.

Tnx, ARRL Letter

"EXPO 86" AMATEUR EXHIBIT

The Expo 86 Amateur Radio Committee, made up of representatives of British Columbia amateur radio clubs and chaired by Robert Smits, VE7EMD, has announced that there will be an Amateur Radio exhibit on the main floor of the Canada Pavillion at Expo 86. The theme of the exhibit will be "Communications for Everyone". The exhibit will stress the public service aspects of amateur radio, and will demonstrate the latest in amateur radio technology, including OSCAR satellites, amateur television and packet radio.

Tnx, ARRL Letter

FOR SALE: Gotham Aluminum Quad Antenna for 10-15-20 Meters - \$30.00. Call Earl, W2WQV, 377-7401.

SHACK SALE:

Hallicrafters SR400A Transciever	}	\$250.00
HA2O External VFO		
S/PS 500A		
Turner Mike		15.00
Straight CW Key		5.00
Dosy - PM 2000 SW Watt Meter & SWR Bridge		41.50
Ameco PreAmp PT2		54.00
MFJ 24 HR Digital Clock		24.00
5 Post Coax Switch (Heathkit)		12.00
HF 6V Butternut Vert. Antenna (Less 30 Mtr Resonater)		50.00
IComm IC 2AT 2 Meter Tranceiver	}	164.50
IComm 2 Meter Telescopic Antenna		
IComm BP3 Battery Pack Extra		
Charlie Cona, KA2HWB, 482-8119.		