



the **RARA RAG**

Published by
ROCHESTER AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION, INC.

VOL. 39

JANUARY 1987

NO. 5

CELLULAR TELEPHONE PROGRAM — RaRa JANUARY 9th MEETING

The January RaRa meeting will be January 9, 1987 at the 40/8 Club on University Avenue opposite the Gleason Works. The program will be a presentation on *Cellular Telephones* by Stan Nelson from TelePage. He will be accompanied by an engineer from Genesee Telephone one of the two companies licensed by the FCC for cellular operation in the Rochester area.

They will demonstrate the operation of the system and will answer questions on the technology.

Tom, K2TXO, come and learn the answer to, “*What’s that got to do with Cellular Radio?*”

AMATEUR SPACE TELESCOPE PROJECT

In case you couldn’t get to the RaRa meeting last month at Kodak Park, you missed a very interesting presentation by Jesse Eichenlaub of the Independent Space Research Group about the Amateur Satellite Telescope Project.

In the same way that the Amateur Radio community got together and got the OSCAR satellite service into orbit, the amateur astronomy community hopes to put into low earth orbit an 18-inch reflecting telescope. This telescope would have the latest in scientific gear from a Ultra-Violet Spectrograph to a microprocessor controlled attitude control system that would lock onto a star or star system target. However, the Independent Space Research Group needs the help of the Amateur Radio community to help design and build the telemetry and control communication gear that would be required in such a project.

If you are interested in helping the I.S.R.G. with their project that they hope to launch into space in the early 1990’s (whenever the Space Shuttle gets back into space), contact Jesse Eichenlaub at 1170 Genesee Street, Building #5, Apartment #3, Rochester, New York 14611, or call him at 464-0125.

VALENTINE’S DAY GATHERING

by John Lloyd, KA2KFV

Plans for the Winter Fun Fest are well underway. This year’s event will take place in Mendon Ponds Park at Hopkins Point Lodge on February 14th. To help facilitate preparations the Social Committee would like to get an estimate of how many participants to expect. If you can come find a sign-up sheet in the back of the meeting room and add your name to the list. This list will be at both the January and February meetings.

As an added feature this year, there will be a cross country ski outing in conjunction with the Fun Fest. I have received a communication from someone qualified to lead us through the park. The timing has to be decided and a consensus of opinion will be taken of those interested in participating. Hopefully those wishing to join us can meet together after the January meeting.

If skiing is not your bag don’t forget there are plenty of hills around the lodge for sledding and the fireplace will provide a cozy place to rag chew and renew old acquaintances.

It wasn’t easy but I was able to get the Board of Directors to agree to provide money for prizes for the bake food contest. This year we will have three categories to enter: cookies, pies, and cakes. There will be a winner in each category plus an overall best of event. All entrants will receive something. This has always proven to be one of the best contests of the year, hopefully that tradition will continue. If perchance you can’t get to the park on the 14th I’m sure we can find transportation for your award winning entry.

The Board of Directors came up with an interesting idea at the last board meeting. To insure sufficient fuel for the fireplace everyone is encouraged to bring a log with them. Look around the QTH for a Log to Burn and don’t forget to bring it with you.

Watch for all the particulars in next month’s *Rag* as to timing of the ski trek and as always your suggestions for making this the best Fun Fest yet will be considered.

the *RaRa Rag*

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Amateur Radio News Service

THE PREZ SEZ . . .

Now that we are in the midst of the holiday season I would like to take this opportunity to thank the people that make RaRa the finest organization in the area.

Thanks to the officers and members of the board of directors for the time they devote to running the organization for the members. Not only do they attend extra meetings but they also spend many other hours in planning for the future.

Thanks to Ed Holdsworth and the rest of the excellent training staff for the countless hours spent in preparing and teaching the classes for new hams. Without them many a new ham would be lost forever.

Thanks to John Schooley and his staff of VEs. Without them who knows how far we would have to travel to take our next license test.

Thanks to Harold Smith and his able staff for all the work on the Hamfest. This group has developed a reputation for running one of the smoothest operations of any hamfest.

Thanks to Neal and Jack, our co-editors of the *RAG*. Not only did they step in and continue the fine reputation that our newsletter has enjoyed for many years but in a pinch they also make a fine comedy team for a meeting.

Thanks to Bob Lauzon and the K2JD engraving team. These folks are some of the finest badge and hat makers around.

Thanks to all who participate in the many public service events that come up each year. This helps not only the particular event but also serves to strengthen the public awareness of what amateur radio is all about.

Thanks to all of the members of RaRa. Without your support each year, RaRa would not be the finest organization of its kind in the country.

Thanks to Don Ray for the excellent job in printing the *RAG*. No matter what crazy deadlines we give him it is always done on time and looking just great.

Thanks to the unknown members who at the last minute always help out with the stuffing and mailing of all the many things we mail out each year.

Last, but not least my congratulations to all the new Novices and Tech/General upgrades that just finished the fall class session. We all hope to meet you on the air in the near future.

73s and Seasons Greetings,
Dick Goslee, K2VCZ

THE RaRa RAG 20 YEARS AGO — JANUARY 1967

by Ed Gable, K2MP

This issue reported on the successful Eddie Meath Pennython in which local Hams played an important role. The smiling faces on the front cover of Chuck Oneske, K2YCO; Dave Hassett, K2SQI; Dan Hadfield, WB2PCP; Milt Wittenberg, WA2ZYH; Ray Leigh, W2SNI; Gordon Camp, WA2WPW; Harvey Prace, WB2IUM; and Bud Young, WA2UGE, will prove the point. On the facing page Harold and Helen Smith, WA2KND and WA2YRH, can be seen transmitting addresses to the C.D. Headquarters.

The January meeting announcement featured Clara Reger, W2RUF. Clara, the new SEC for WNY, will speak on the National Traffic System and ARES. That meeting was also designated as Test Equipment night as all of the awards were to fall into that category. Membership Chairman Gordon Bull, WB2HZM, reminds all to pay their \$4.00 dues. The 6th Annual Dinner Dance was also announced with the February 11th event to be held at Eddie's Chop House. The popular VHF Sweepstakes Contest was touted by Contest Chairman Chuck Oneske, K2YCO. In Bill Kirkbright's (WA2HWC) VHF/UHF news column, it was told that Don Klafehn, WA2YSG, was a newcomer to the 432 Mcs band. Don Schlichler, WB2QEV, and Bill White, K2KAD, were named new Net Control Stations for the Rochester Peanut Whistle Net.

Our then, and current, Amateur Historian, Bruce Kelley, W2ICE, was busy in this issue where he reprinted a portion of Volume 1, Number 1 of RaRa's first publication, the "Monitor". Issued in January of 1932, that publication featured an article by Bud Long, W8ABX, RaRa President, on Low Pass Filters. Also shown was an article called "Decibels in Ham Radio" by Ken Gardner, W8BGN.

THE CB BANDITS ARE INVADING 10 METERS IN NEW YORK CITY

"Amateurs are reporting ... that numerous unlicensed or 'gypsy' cab companies have invaded 10, most using high power AM on frequencies on or near 29.360."

Westlink Report

WANTED: 72" equipment rack; have 48" rack for sale. Jay Golden, 482-7908.

RaRa CALENDAR FOR JANUARY

- 1 - HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!
- 9 - RaRa meeting - 8:00 p.m., 40/8 Club University Avenue
- 9 - Rochester VHF Group meeting - 7:30 p.m., Monroe County Social Services Building, 111 Westfall Road
- 10-11 - ARRL VHF Sweepstakes
- 16 - RRRR meeting - 8:00 p.m., Pittsford Town Hall
- 19 - Observance of Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Birthday

\$4.35 FOR ARRL VEC EXAMS AFTER JANUARY 1

Effective January 1, 1987 the maximum allowable reimbursement for out-of-pocket costs for a volunteer administered Amateur Radio examination will be \$4.37. This amount is based on a 1.87% increase in the Department of Labor Consumer Price index between October 1, 1985 and September 30, 1986.

Each volunteer examiner and each volunteer examiner coordinator may be reimbursed by examinees for out-of-pocket expense incurred in preparing, processing or administering examinations for amateur operator licensees above the Novice class. The amount of the reimbursement from any examinee for any one examination at a particular session, regardless of the number of examination elements taken, must not exceed \$4.37.

ARRL VEC will charge \$4.35 after January 1.

Thx ARRL LETTER

U.S. COAST GUARD AUXILIARY

The local floatilla of the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary is also looking for help from the Amateur Radio community. Jim Fisher of the USCGA spoke at the December RaRa meeting about how Amateur Radio operators could use their spare time for the public good at their new Hamlin Beach State Park Station.

Some training would be necessary to be part of the USCGA efforts Lake Ontario and Irondequoit Bay. If you are interested, contact Jim Fisher through the U.S. Coast Guard telephone number of 342-4140.

PUBLIC SERVICE — 1986

by Ed Holdsworth, N2EH

The past year has seen RaRa's participation in the usual Public Service events. We participated in several annual events, we added some new events which may become annual events for us and a couple of events were dropped from the list. The year was, as usual, a successful one with regard to our participation in these events and I look forward to an equally successful year in 1987.

We will be working again with some of the same organizations that have sponsored the events in the past and I have listed below those events and dates that are available at this time. I will list additional events and dates in future issues of the *RAG* as I receive them. I will also have the usual sign up sheets at our regular monthly meetings starting in January.

1987 EVENTS

| | |
|---------------------------------|--------------|
| Meg-A-Clean | Early May |
| Susquehannock Pro Road Rally | June 5-7 |
| Mendon Pony Rally | June |
| Scotch Bonnett Yacht Race | June 20 |
| Walnut Hill Driving Competition | Aug 13-16 |
| Rochester Marathon (Labor Day) | Sept. 7 |
| Canaltown Days (Palmyra) | Sept. 19, 20 |
| Multiple Sclerosis Bike Tour | N/A |
| Ginna Evacuation Pre Drill | N/A |
| Ginna Evacuation Drill | N/A |
| Triathlon (Hamlin Beach) | Aug. 23 |
| JCC 10K Run | N/A |
| Bike-A-Thon (Diabetes) | N/A |

I want to mention how we enjoy working with the members of all the other organizations on some of last years events and look forward to working with them in 1987. Last year we enjoyed the assistance of the Tioga ARC (PA) on the Susquehannock Pro Road Rally as they have done for the past ten years. We have assisted the Drumlins ARC for the past several years on the Palmyra Canaltown Days and for the first time (I hope not the last) we worked with the Squaw Island ARC, the Yates County ARC and the Keuka ARC on the Multiple Sclerosis Bike Tour.

I want to thank all the groups that own and maintain the various repeaters that are used on these events. Special thanks to the Rochester Radio Repeater Association, Genesee Repeater Group and the Xerox Amateur Radio Club for their support of our local events.

If you have not taken the opportunity to participate in any of these events in the past, I want to invite your participation in any that your schedule permits. Remember — one of the fundamental purposes for the existance of Amateur Radio is:

the recognition and enhancement of the value of the amateur service to the public as a voluntary, non-commercial service, particularly with respect to providing emergency communications.

LICENSE COURSES

by Ed Holdsworth, N2EH

The Fall Courses that started in September 1986 ended on December 15 with the addition of 32 new novices to the ranks of Amateur Radio.

The Spring Classes will commence on Monday, February 23, 1987 and will again be held at 111 Westfall Road from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. each Monday until May 11, 1987. We will be offering Novice, General/Technician and Advanced classes. The fees for each class will include club membership, a nominal registration fee and books needed for the various courses.

The fees will be:

| | |
|--------------|---------|
| Novice | \$15.00 |
| General/Tech | 20.00 |
| Advanced | 20.00 |

All registrations will be in advance and can be mailed to Dave Bernheisel, N2DPF, 180 Eastland Avenue, Rochester, New York 14618. If you are already a paid up member, you may deduct the membership fee from the total registration fee. Deadline for registration will be February 2, 1987. Applications received after this date will be on a space availability basis.

FOR SALE: RL Drake TR4 transceiver AC4 power supply, extra tubes and finals, manual. Only mod is plug-in T/R relay with spare. Recently aligned and in good condition. Don, N2AFS, 538-6300 days, 538-2575 evenings.

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THE ROCHESTER VHF GROUP ... JOIN US!

by Tom Richmond, WB2IEY
Secretary of the Rochester VHF Group

Formed in 1949, the VHF Group is the oldest society in the world devoted to the bands above 50 mhz. It encompasses amateurs who enjoy rag-chewing, experimenting, contesting and home-brewing. We share our experiences (successes and failures) at our monthly meetings and through our publication "*The VHF Journal*"!

Members of the club have written numerous articles for *QST*, *73* and *Ham Radio* through the years on their ideas for converters, transmitters and other projects. However, this does not mean that everyone is an engineer or author! Our membership listing shows both Hewlett Packard salesmen as well as Greenhouse repairmen! A helping hand is always available when a new project is contemplated or an old rig goes west. In the annual ARRL January VHF Contest, members band together in competition against other ARRL clubs for the best overall score.

Our group holds meetings from September through May, with the Annual picnic being held in June. At 7:30 p.m. on the second Friday of each month we congregate in the Monroe County Office Building at 111 Westfall Road (the site of K2JD). There we hold a business meeting and a program is given on some aspect of VHF (in the last year, we have heard about moonbounce, laser communications, ARQ (AMTOR), 903 mhz, tested preamps and converters, given out awards for operations in contests and encouraging interest in VHF). We are proud to present the best after meeting refreshments of any of the area clubs, which is all important for continuing the post-meeting gabfest as long as possible (HI)!

Membership in the VHF Group is outlined in the club constitution. Amateurs must be interested in VHF and made at least one contact above 50 mhz. They must register with the club secretary for the reception of club mailings and members are each assessed equally for expenses incurred by the club. Current expenses have been calculated at \$5.00 annually for each member, and have been approved by the club.

As any ARRL member club, we encourage league membership and must follow their rules for participation of our members in ARRL club competitions. As a RaRa satellite organization, we have always required all officers to be members of that club and encourage other members to do likewise.

Our meeting in January will be Friday the 9th, at 7:30 p.m. at 111 Westfall Road. This is the annual "*Night Before The Contest*" conclave. See you there.

CALLBOOK SURPRISE

A central Missouri repeater trustee who recently purchased a new copy of the *Callbook* got quite a surprise. On getting the book, the first thing he did was to look up all of the users of his machine. Needless to say, he was more than a bit shocked when he noticed that one of his regular members was listed holding a Novice Class license. A check with the local FCC office confirmed this information. Even more shocking is the fact that this Novice had even been the president of another central Missouri repeater club. Because he was not caught by the FCC, all he suffered was an order to stay off 2 meters until he upgrades, but this came after five years of illegal operation.
Tnx Westlink Report via Spurious Emissions

ILLEGAL CB'S WORTH \$65,000 DESTROYED

Last March the FCC's Field Operation Bureau announced that it would be stepping up its efforts to combat the illegal sale and use of linear amplifiers used to boost Citizens Band transmitter power. A study involving interference to home electronic entertainment equipment had determined that 57% of those cases could be attributed to overpowered CB stations - 91% of those involved linear amplifiers. On October 23, 1986, personnel from the FCC's San Francisco office destroyed an estimated \$65,000 worth of illegal radio equipment including radio frequency amplifiers and modified CB transceivers at the Sanitary Fill Company, 501 Tunnel Avenue, San Francisco, California.

The equipment was seized through executed warrants against several Northern California CB sales outlets as well as surrendered by individual CB operators, in lieu of prosecution. The radios operated on frequencies outside the CB Radio Service with unauthorized emissions and illegal transmitter power and were capable of causing harmful interference to public safety and emergency radio services as well to home electronic equipment.

Tnx W5YI REPORT via Spurious Emissions

ROCHESTER OLD TIMERS HONOR W2GB

A recent luncheon at the Maplewood Inn found a large gathering of old timers and friends honoring Rochester's pioneer amateur George Batterson, W2GB. George has been active for 75 years, having built his first station in 1912.

The occasion brought together many amateurs who hadn't seen one another since the War. Group pictures were taken by WA2UGE and a good time was had by all. Old timers present:

Active in 1921 and earlier:

Batterson - 1912 - W2GB, Crum - 1915 - W2BWK, Ringler - 1920 - W2SAW, Loeffler - 1921 - W2RNZ, Smith - 1921 - W2CFA, and Malone - 1921 - W2PZH.

Active in the 1920's:

DeWitt - W2DD, Brelsford - K2WW, Peterson - W2REF, and Kelley - W2ICE.

Active in the 1930's:

Schum - W2CNT, Snyder - W2KFU, Kelly - W2ROB, Drennan - W2EBF, Fish - W2OWF, and Lustyk - W2PZU.

Active 35 to 40 years (1946-51):

Evans - W2UAD, Leigh - W2SNI, Becker - W2PHT, and Siegmund - K2ITM.

A most welcomed participant was Gordon LeRoy (W8ILO) from Rochester's one-time popular radio store, Beaucaire's. Another luncheon is planned for 1987.

— B. Kelley, W2ICE, Club Historian



Seated l. to r.: Peterson - W2REF, Batterson - W2GB, Crum - W2BWK, Gordon LeRoy - W8ILO. Standing: Minges - W2VVG, Loeffler - W2RNZ, Brelsford - K2WW, Kelly - W2ROB, Kelley - W2ICE and Schum - W2CNT.

FOR SALE— Collins KWS-1; Collins 75A-4A; Matching speaker cabinet with clock; Micro-Match tuning network; Phone Patch; Original manuals and spare parts. \$150.00 or B/O. Contact Ray Jobes, WB2AFQ, 334-0588.

NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS . . .

- Repair the dipole that blew down during the last windstorm.
- Upgrade to Extra Class.
- Fix the rigs in your shack.
- Limit the amount you buy at other flea markets.
- Spend more at the Rochester Hamfest.
- Spend more at the RaRa/RRRA Auction.
- Get your XYL interested in Amateur Radio.
- Help RaRa win the Rochester Cup during the January ARRL VHF Sweepstakes.
- Operate a "big gun" during Field Day.
- Finish getting contacts for the DXCC Award.
- Get into Packet Radio, Moon-Bounce, Meteor Scatter, and Amateur Television.
- Get permission to put up a 75-foot tower with a Tri Band antenna **without** having to use PRB-1 at a Town Board Meeting.
- Keep your promise to the XYL to buy her a fur coat with your income tax refund and not buy that Kenwood rig you've had your eye on.

SAVING MONEY AND SPACE

The following beliefs – all wrong ones – can cost you money and space, if followed. They can also waste your time.

- 1) Antenna tuners don't really tune anything; they just fool the transmitter.
- 2) Reflected power is wasted power.
- 3) Reflected power turns to heat in your tuner (or is dissipated in your finals, or makes your teeth turn orange, or etc.).
- 4) An antenna must be cut to a specific length to radiate effectively at a specific frequency.
- 5) Twin-lead causes spurious radiation.
- 6) High SWR causes spurious radiation.

Yes, if you accept even one of the above statements, you are going to spend more on your rig than you should – a lot more; mythology is always expensive if believed. So where do you get the facts? One source is a new book, *THE EASY WAY*, by John Haerle, WB5IIR. The book is available from Over Tones, Inc., 1710 Highland Park Road, Denton, Texas 76205 for \$13 (US).

The foregoing is not an ad. This information was carried in the news columns of *Worldradio* and has also appeared in the antenna column of *Worldradio* written by "Kurt M. Sterba", a nom de plume approachable in writing but hard to catch in person.

de *WORLDRADIO*

FCC INVESTIGATING VE TESTING SCANDAL

A VE testing scandal of major proportions is being investigated by the FCC. According to Special Services Division Chief Raymond A. Kowalski, several volunteer examination teams giving exams under the All Volunteer Testing Programs are under Commission scrutiny for allegedly breaching the security of the testing system. Ray Kowalski told Westlink Report that the problems could involve charges of outright fraud and the sale of licenses. *"We are getting more and more instances of people who are attempting to beat the Volunteer Examination system,"* Kowalski said. *"We're having to deal with more and more instances of either fraud, or improperly administered examinations and various different categories of improprieties."*

Currently, the Commission is looking into allegations of improper conduct by a limited number of VE teams in Texas, North Carolina, Puerto Rico and other areas. The problems range from simple mistakes by the VEs to teams that are virtually selling licenses. *"The program has not been mistake free, but I think what we are seeing now are people earnestly trying to test the system,"* added the bureau chief. Also not confirmed by Kowalski are the rumors of a major investigation of several California VE teams. These rumors are based on similar misconduct charges in the volunteer program including the charging of higher than approved fees, and, in one case, the alleged on-air solicitation of amateurs to simply purchase a higher class of license without taking a test.

What will happen if any to these charges are proven true? The loss of licenses, heavy fines and prison are all possibilities for those Volunteer Examiners who are involved in this type of scam. The retesting of either a random sample or of all their candidates by another team operating under a different VEC is a distinct possibility as well. While the current situation is not yet a monumental problem, this breach in the testing security, if allowed to continue, could bring volunteer testing to a halt at some later date. Without any means for the FCC to easily resume testing, growth in the Amateur Radio Service could be severely stunted for a long period. Westlink believes that continued volunteer testing in an atmosphere of trust and honesty is essential for the health of our service.

Tnx Harmonics and Westlink Report

AN ODE TO A TOWER

The following poem was written by Marjorie Haddleton, XYL of WA2MST – Herb for N2DMZ, John Wagner who put up his tower last fall.

There it stands at a 50 foot height
A silvery needle in the bright sunlight
Its feet anchored firm in solid concrete
Wires and cables making the unit complete
Antenna on top with 2 swinging beams
Silently turning by magic it seems
Picking up DX any minute, any hour
Oh happy am I with my radio tower!

Herb and Marjorie are actually life savers. On July 8, 1983, using 2 meter radio, they reported a capsized small boat in high waves just before dark in Chaumont Bay. Two young survivors who could not have clung to the overturned craft much longer were picked up after dark by Auxiliary Coast Guard. The Haddletons had sighted the accident from their summer home on Pt. Peninsula and other operators were also involved before action was taken by Auxiliary Coast Guard.

DO YOU HEAR MUSIC ALL THE TIME?

Some years ago there was an article in the medicine section of *Time* magazine on the subject of medical detective work.

One of the examples cited involved a man who went to a psychiatrist complaining that he was always hearing radio broadcasts. Thinking to humor him, the psychiatrist asked what he was hearing right then. The man replied he was hearing Rudy Vallee broadcasting from the Steel Pier in Atlantic City. The psychiatrist turned on his office radio and, sure enough, he heard Rudy Vallee! He became so intrigued that he conducted an extensive project with his patient.

After much questioning he discovered that the man worked in a glass bottle factory and had gotten some silica crystals in dental cavities. The combination of the silica, saliva and some bridgework in his mouth had literally transformed him into a walking crystal radio receiver!

The psychiatrist referred the patient to a dentist who gave his teeth a thorough cleaning, filled the cavities and redid the bridgework. As a result, the patient *"went off the air"*, was able to concentrate, and lived happily ever after.

Tnx Bob Ward, KA8UIH via The Mike & Key

HOW FCC RULES ARE MADE

In referring to FCC rulemaking, we often use regulatory terms that may not be familiar to you. The following is a brief description of the principle ones:

PETITION: Suggests changes to FCC Rules and Regulations, usually from the public. (The Commission can also initiate rulemaking on its own.) The FCC sends out a weekly Public Notice listing all meritorious petitions received and a 30 day public comment period authorized.

PETITION FOR RECONSIDERATION: provides additional information and asks the FCC to review its decision. Must be filed within 30 days of the decision.

RULEMAKING NUMBER: a sequential number assigned to a public petition (or FCC originated rule making) after the appropriate department has reviewed the petition and found that it has merit. (i.e. RM-5234)

NOTICE OF INQUIRY: (NOI) is issued (with a public comment period) when the FCC is seeking information on a broad subject or trying to generate ideas on a subject.

NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULEMAKING: (NPRM) proposes a specific change to FCC rules for the public to comment on. Major rule changes are always presented to the public in the form of an NOI or NPRM. Both are eventually followed up with a Memorandum Opinion and Order or Report and Order. If the FCC does not receive sufficient comments, a further NOI or NPRM may be issued.

DOCKET NUMBERS: consist of the year that the proceeding began and then a sequential number. PR Docket 80-1 is the first Private Radio proceeding of 1980. Docket numbers are assigned if the FCC previously issued a NPRM or an NOI.

MEMORANDUM OPINION & ORDER: (MO&O) denies a petition for rulemaking, concludes an inquiry (NOI), modifies, a decision or denies a Petition for Reconsideration.

REPORT AND ORDER: is issued by the Commission stating the new or amended Rule, or stating that the Rules will not be changed. The proceeding may be terminated in whole or in part. A Report and Order can be adopted without public comment only in the case of minor editorial Rule changes.

BIG BUG

With hams always searching for better antennas, better signals, bigger scores, faster speeds, miniature rigs – anything to keep the mind improving and challenged, two hams – members of Radio Amateurs of Greater Syracuse (*RAGS*) – found this challenge to be fun. The “*idea*” formulated by Jim Mozley, W2BCH, and brought to reality by Jeryl Wright, NK2X, developed into *RAGS BIG BUG!*

Scaled 9 inches to an inch, Wright made the Bug completely out of wood with a steel spring. Copper contacts were made from wood with copper pipe cap inserts. Lathe-turned round parts and a sliding wooden weight makes the Bug fully adjustable over a wide range.

The finished product measures 33” by 53”, painted to duplicate the gold-plated top with silver parts and red paddle of the desk model. Each detail is exact, even to the “*red jewel*” and “*bug logo*”. Below the black skirt are wheels so the 4½ foot bug can be easily moveable.

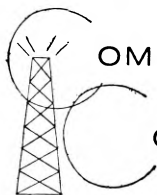
Following the unveiling at Old Timers Nite, 14 Old-Timers in ham radio had a turn at sending during the meeting. A contest was held using both their hands and knees from a sitting position. Everyone was so good that they all received a prize – and what better prize than each getting a can of “*bug spray*”!

de WORLD RADIO

by Vivian E. Douglas, WA2PUU

W2YJ

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