



# the RARA RAG

Published by  
**ROCHESTER AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION, INC.**

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MARCH 1987

NO. 7

## RaRa March 6th Meeting

The March meeting of RaRa will be held at 8:00 p.m. at the 40/8 Club at 933 University Avenue across from Gleason's Works.

The program features a presentation by Mr. David W. Burke, Corporate Emergency Planner for the Rochester Gas & Electric Corporation. Mr. Burke will explain the preparations for the Ginna Emergency Drill from the RG&E view. The drill will be held later this year and as usual will involve amateur operators in the RACES group.

## A NEW HAMFEST

The Drumlins Amateur Radio Club, Inc (DARC) has announced its first annual Hamfest to be held on **Saturday, 28 March 1987.**

The Hamfest and Flea Market will be located at the **Marbletown Fire Hall on Silver Hill Road in Newark, New York.**

Hours for the Hamfest will be 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. General Admission is \$3.00 and Flea Market/Vendor Spaces are \$2.00 each. All tickets will be sold at the door.

The DARC will also hold ARRL VEC Exams on a "walk-in" basis at their Club Headquarters at the NYS, Lake District, Office of Emergency Preparedness on Route 31 in Newark.

Talk-in frequencies will be 146.145/6.745 Mhz or 146.085/6.685 Mhz (call WA2AAZ). For more information call (315) 331-1539.

## WESTLINK SCHEDULE

The Westlink report is transmitted according to the following schedules:

Sunday 8:30 p.m. on Net Freq. before K2KWK  
Tuesday & Wednesday at 8:00 p.m. on 28/88  
N2JC/R

Tuesday at 8:30 after K2KWK on 16/76  
WA2DHB/R

WESTLINK via W9ZMR Phone # 1-312-289-0423. A joint public service of RRRR N2JC/R and G.R.A. K2SA/R.

## GOING, GOING, GONE?

IT IS ABSOLUTELY ESSENTIAL THAT EACH AND EVERY LICENSED AMATEUR READ THE FOLLOWING:

The FCC has issued a DOCKET in which the commission proposes to delete the lower two MHZ of the 220-225 MHZ Amateur Band and allocate that spectrum space exclusively to the land mobile radio services!!!

This would be a major setback to our rapidly growing packet radio networks and radio control and auxiliary link systems throughout the nation. It is imperative that each of you read and record this late information and begin NOW to take the following actions: 1. Write IMMEDIATELY to the ARRL at Newington, Connecticut stating your very strongest opposition to the proposed change, demanding that the ARRL make immediate written formal protests to the FCC; 2. Write your U.S. Senators and Representatives demanding an investigation of the circumstances under which the FCC is attempting to provide channels to private radio interests even though such action will definitely cause significant and substantive financial hardships to the amateur radio community across the nation; 3. Write a simple and straightforward formal comment in opposition to the FCC's proposed changes, in the correct formal comment format, expressing in clear, strong terms, how and why this proposed change is unacceptable to you personally and to your friends in the amateur radio community.

Unless we all take positive steps right now, you'll soon be liable to hear your local Taxi Company and Oil Company and other commercial services on what is for the moment your 220 MHZ band. Only you - each and every one of you - regardless of your license class - can prevent the FCC from giving away priceless spectrum space to vested commercial interests.

**ACT NOW BEFORE IT IS TOO LATE!!!!!!**

*Tnx Norm Sternberg via GRAM NEWS*

# the RARA RAG

Published by  
ROCHESTER AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION, INC.  
P.O. Box 1388, Rochester, NY 14603-1388

**Co-Editors** . . . . . **Neal Eckhardt, WB2EKP**  
80 Authors Avenue, Henrietta, NY 14467 (716-359-2672)

. . . . . **John J. ("Jack") Dempsey, KA2PJJ**  
357 West Squire Drive, Apt #4, Rochester, NY 14623  
(716-424-1637)

**Contributing Editor** . . . . . **Dwight Hill, K2KWK**  
265 Norcrest Drive, Rochester, NY 14617 (716-544-2332)

**Advertising Manager** . . . . . **Dick Goslee, K2VCZ**  
24 Elaine Drive, Rochester, NY 14623 (716-334-1762)

## RaRa MARCH CALENDAR

- 4 - W60WP Run - 0500Z
- 6 - RaRa Meeting, 8:00 p.m.  
40/8 Club, 933 University Avenue
- 7 - ARRL DX-Phone Contest
- 12 - Packet Group Meeting, 7:30 p.m.,  
County Social Service Building,  
111 Westfall Road
- 17 - Happy St. Patrick's Day!
- 20 - Joint RARRA/Rochester VHF Group  
Auction
- 21 - Spring begins!
- 28 - CQ - WW - WPX - Phone Contest
- 28 - Drumlins Hamfest, Newark, NY
- 31 - W60WP Run - 0500Z

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### OFFICERS:

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Amateur Radio News Service

## THE PREZ SEZ . . .

As Spring is just around the corner it is time for RaRa to appoint a nominating committee to present a slate of candidates for next year. As you remember the nominations along with any from the floor are presented at the April meeting, and the elections take place at the May meeting. It is difficult for the nominating committee to know every member of RaRa so someone who is qualified and willing to serve may be overlooked. Therefore if you are willing to help out the club for the next year please contact one of the current officers (their names and phone numbers are on the inside page of the *RAG*) and they will forward your name to the nominating committee. The committee will determine a list of the most qualified candidates and present it at the April meeting. Remember that you only get out of an organization what you put into it. Think about it, if you are interested why not give us a call today.

With the Hamfest just around the corner it is also time to think about the annual "*Amateur of the Year*" award. This is given to someone within the Atlantic Division of the ARRL. Each of the clubs within the division is being contacted for nominations. If you know someone who is always working to help others or is working to promote amateur radio why not nominate them for this award. Please contact me and I will forward a nominating form to you. All forms must be returned to the committee no later than April 10, 1987 for inclusion in this year selection.

*73s till next month*  
K2VCZ

## QSL BUREAU

With the probability that the DX bands will be starting to come back to life in the relatively near future, the information on the ARRL Outgoing QSL Bureau is probably of value. An ARRL member is allowed to send outgoing QSL cards through the Bureau at a cost of \$1.00 per pound of cards (approximate 160 cards). You must include with each shipment the address label from your QST to show current ARRL membership.

Now, the bad news. The Outgoing QSL Bureau covers most DX countries but not all. The following list covers those countries that are not (*repeat not*) served through this Bureau.

A5 - Bhutan; A6 - United Arab Emirates; A7 - Qatar; BV - Taiwan; C9 - Mozambique; D6 - Comoros; ET - Ethiopia; HZ - Saudi Arabia; J5 - Guinea-Bissau; KC4 - Antarctica (U.S.A.); KC6 - Belau; KC6 - Micronesia; KH1 - Baker/Howland Islands; KH3 - Johnston Island; KH5 - Palmyra & Jarvis Islands; KH7 - Kure Island; KH9 - Wake Island; KP1 - Navassa Island; KP5 - Desecheo Island; P5 - North Korea; SU - Egypt; T2 - Tuvalu; T3 - Kirabati; T5 - Somalia; TJ - Cameroon; TL - Central African Republic; TN - Congo Republic; TT - Chad; TY - Benlin; TZ - Mali; V4 - St. Christopher & Nevis; VP - Anguilla; VR6 - Pitcairn Island; XT - Burkina Faso; XU - Kampuchea; XW - Laos; XX9 - Macao; XZ - Burma; YA - Afghanistan; ZA - Albania; ZD7 - St. Helena; ZD9 - Tristan De Cunha; ZK2 - Niue Island; ZK3 - Tokelau Islands; 3C - Equatorial Guinea; 3V - Tunisia; 3W - Vietnam; 3X - Guinea; 4W - North Yemen; 5A - Libya; 5H - Tanzania; 5R - Madagascar; 5U - Niger; 5X - Uganda; 7O - South Yemen; 7Q - Malawi; 8Q - Maldives; 9G - Ghana; 9N - Nepal; 9U - Burundi.

*Tnx LERC Bulletin*

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## THE RaRa RAG 20 YEARS AGO,

### MARCH 1967

by Ed Gable, K2MP

The front cover of this issue had two pictures relating to the March meeting notice. One, a pic of Bob Haner, W2FBA, of General Railway Signal Company, shows the guest speaker for the evening who will tell of GRS's radio remote control of train locomotives. Chuck Hilliker, K2IML, of GRS, arranged for the program.

A picture of Hospitalized RaRa Prez Eddie Dunn, WA2KMI, shows him to be in a picture of health. Not up soon enough to make the Valentines Day Dinner-Dance though. Did He miss it? No, thanks to Chet Owlett, K2OPC, who videotaped the event and showed it to Eddie the next day. Cappy Capauldy, K2UXF, and Jerry Carr, WOKR, teamed up to run the event which was highly successful due to the effort of Helen Smith, WA2YRH, and her committee consisting of Florence Kirkbright, WA2QXB; Wilma Oneske, Diane Bramer, Skip Capauldy, and Nancy Fry. There was lots of news and a program published for the Rochester Hamfest and East Coast Spring VHF Conference. The May 13th event took place at Vince's Fifty Acres. \$5.00 to Ticket Chairman Ernie Crewdson, WA2FVG, brought you a ticket and the Ham or Turkey banquet. In another article there was a push to revitalize the RACES organization. Interested parties were asked to write the County Civil Defense Director, Howard Redmond. Bruce Kelley, W2ICE/QCP, wrote an interesting piece on the very first Ham publications in Rochester; "*The Electron*" and "*QTC*". A bit of politics forced the demise of both publications, followed by the predecessor of this publication, "*The Monitor*" in 1932. "*QTC*" later showed up in Buffalo, published by RAWNY. If you can't figure this all out, ask George, W2GB. Bill Kirkbright, WA2HWC, in his VHF Column reported four stations had scores of over ten thousand points in the just completed VHF SS Contest. Rochester Radio is still advertising for sale the Hallicrafters SX-117 receiver. "*Roch*" Radio has run the same Ad since June, 1964! (I wonder if they ever sold it?)

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### PERINTON ANTENNA CASE (cont'd)

The Perinton Town Zoning Board denied Carl Emerson, W2RWH, in his bid to erect a 58-foot tower and antenna at its January board meeting, citing "*aesthetic*" and safety reasons ("*children might climb the tower*").

## FROM THE CO-EDITOR . . .

The other night the "Elmer" who got me interested in Amateur Radio called me on the telephone to tell me that the FCC was going to meet me halfway. After he said he was indeed sober, I asked him what he meant. He rubbed in the fact I still haven't up-graded out of a Novice ticket, and that the FCC had amended Part 97 of the Rules through P.R. Docket 86-161 to give limited phone privileges to Novices on the 220 and 1240 MHz bands, and on 10 Meter - SSB.

I told him he was a couple of months early for April Fool's Day, but he assured me that this "Novice Enhancement" was for real. My friend said that the full details would probably be in next month's *QST* and *73* magazines.

Well, I guess I should thank the FCC. After all, I've been a ham since about '80 - '81, and haven't been able to get on the air as much as I want to - especially enough to upgrade. Once I see it in black-and-white I'll believe it.

*Jack, KA2PJJ*

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## SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE

The Dayton Amateur Radio Association (DARA) and the Atlanta Radio Club both have a number of \$1000 scholarships available.

The DARA scholarships are available to any FCC licensed amateur graduating from high school in 1987. There are no restrictions on the course of study, and consideration is given for financial need, service to Amateur Radio and community involvement. Applicants are not restricted to those pursuing four-year degrees. Those working toward associate degrees or planning to attend an accredited trade or technical institution will also be considered. Application forms and further information can be had by writing to DARA Scholarship Committee, 317 Ernst Avenue, Dayton, Ohio 45405.

The Atlanta Radio Club has up to three \$1000 scholarships available to any licensed amateurs who are graduating from high school and entering an accredited college or university for the first time in 1987. Candidates will be judged on their grades, citizenship and leadership qualities, Amateur Radio achievements, and financial needs. For an application form write to Phil Latta, W4GTS, 259 Weatherstone Parkway, Marietta, Georgia 30067.

*Tnx ARRL Letter*

## MORE SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE

The Foundation for Amateur Radio, Inc., a non-profit organization with headquarters in Washington, D.C., plans to award twenty-six (26) scholarships for the academic year 1987-88 to assist licensed Radio Amateurs. The Foundation, composed of fifty local area Amateur Radio Clubs, fully funds two of these scholarships from the proceeds of its annual Hamfest. It administers without cost to the donors, seven (7) scholarships for the Quarter Century Wireless Association, two (2) each for the Dade (FL) Radio Club, the Baltimore (MD) Amateur Radio Club, the Department of State Amateur Radio Club and the Amateur Radio News Service and one (1) each for the Radio Club of America, the Richard G. Chichester Memorial, the Young Ladies' Radio League, the Edmund G. Reddington Memorial, the Columbia (MD) Amateur Radio Association and the Vienna (VA) Wireless Society. Also this year, there will be three one-time awards in memory of recent Silent Keys.

Licensed Radio Amateurs may compete for these awards if they plan to pursue a full-time course of studies beyond high school and are enrolled or have been accepted for enrollment by an accredited university, college or technical school. Most of the scholarships require the applicant to hold at least an FCC GENERAL Class license or equivalent. The awards range from \$350 to \$900 with preference given in some cases to residents of specified geographical areas or the pursuit of certain study programs.

Additional information and an application form can be requested by letter or QSL card, postmarked prior to May 31, 1987 from:

F A R Scholarships  
6903 Rhode Island Avenue  
College Park, MD 20740

The Foundation for Amateur Radio, incorporated in the District of Columbia, is an exempt organization under Section 501(c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954. It is devoted exclusively to promoting the interests of Amateur Radio and those scientific literary and educational pursuits that advance the purposes of the Amateur Radio Service.

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## SLOW FCC LICENSE PROCESSING

Patience is a virtue ... FCC processing of amateur licenses at its Gettysburg, Pennsylvania facility is running 6-8 weeks behind as of the beginning of the year.

*Tnx ARRL Letter*

# FCC MAKES HAM RADIO MORE ACCESSIBLE AND FUN, GRANTS NEW PRIVILEGES TO NOVICE OPERATORS

Washington, Friday, January 30 – The Federal Communications Commission announced today the expansion of entry-level privileges for amateur (ham) radio operators to include operating modes beyond the traditional Morse code. Among other things, hams with Novice licenses, the one most people start out with, will now be able to communicate by voice and between home computers linked by radio. Previously, to gain these privileges one had to pass a more-difficult examination.

The FCC action opens new opportunities to anyone who can meet the relatively simple requirements for a Novice amateur radio license. Novice operators can now join other hams in using radio to link personal computers, in order to access one another's information data bases and to exchange and relay messages either directly or via bulletin boards – things that other computer buffs must do by telephone line and modem. Novices also will be able to use voice for reliable local communications, and for worldwide communications under the right radio conditions. By going on to higher classes of license, through progressively more difficult examinations, one earns access to more frequencies and transmitter power.

Mike Fitch, Chief of the FCC's Private Radio Bureau, enthusiastically supported the Novice Enhancement concept from its inception. Fitch commented, *"I am delighted with the Commission's action. I believe the new operating privileges on the 0.23, 1.25, and 10 meter bands will attract new people to amateur radio and keep their interest in the hobby by encouraging upgrades. We've provided these new growth tools to amateur radio. It's now up to the amateur community to put the tools to work."*

*"These new Novice privileges come at a time when ham radio's horizons are expanding,"* says David Sumner, executive vice president of the American Radio Relay League (ARRL), the national ham radio organization. *"We now have our own satellites and our own methods for exchanging television pictures over great distances, and are in the forefront of the computer communications revolution. Our ability to plug communications gap during emergencies, for the benefit of the public, is increasing all the time. There are 1.5 million radio amateurs worldwide, including 420,000 in this country, who are enjoying these new opportunities. We're delight-*

*ed with the FCC's decision, because it means anyone who might be interested can join in after just a few hours of study. These enhancements to Novice privileges will increase our ability to serve the public and will bring the fun and personal satisfaction of amateur radio to more people than ever, of all ages."*

Many hams, including Novices, continue to prefer Morse code; but some beginners found that being limited to that mode kept them from enjoying their new hobby. *"I was one of the first holders of a Novice license, as a high-school student back in the 1950's,"* says ARRL president Larry Price. *"Then it was a kind of temporary learner's permit, so you could develop your skills and earn a permanent license. Today it's more appropriate that beginners be able to explore other aspects of amateur radio that might appeal to them, such as voice communications, computers, public service, and so on,"* he says. *"With these new privileges, Novices can get a sense of amateur radio's possibilities and can learn which aspects they enjoy most by actually trying them."*

Tnx ARRL

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## MORE ON NOVICE ENHANCEMENT

The following is additional information not included in the two news releases, and is believed to be accurate, but must be regarded as *unofficial* until the actual Report and Order is released (sometime in February):

- 1) Two examiners will be needed. The same criteria will apply to the examiners, e.g. 18 years old or older, General Class or higher, etc.
- 2) Elements 3(A) and 3(B) will be 25 questions each, with 3(A) concentrating more on VHF and UHF for Technician and 3(B) concentrating more on HF for General. Not sure of effective date.
- 3) The 23 centimeter band will be 1270 to 1295 MHZ with a power limitation of 5 watts.
- 4) There is no apparent problem with a part of the 220 MHZ band being authorized for Novices to use when the docket takes effect.
- 5) *Novices should receive all privileges of Novice Enhancement on March 21, 1987.*

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FOR SALE – Azden PCS-3000 w/tt mike, \$175.00 and CES Microdialer, \$40.00. Call Joe, W2DHFV - 716-381-5496.

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NEEDED: The XYL and I need a new QTH to rent or buy. Call Jack, KA2PJJN - 424-1637.

## WINTER FUNFEST FRIGID FUN

by Debbie Valentin, KB2CHV  
Neal Eckhardt, WB2EKP

The annual Winter Funfest was held on Valentines Day, February 14th at Mendons Ponds Park. There was plenty of food, blazing fires, and frigid fun, for the 40+ people who attended. Dick, K2VCZ, manned the grill as well as cooking the soup du' jour, a fine chicken soup made from an old family recipe. The chili had its own flaming qualities and was provided by Dave, N2DPF.

The three big attractions were the Ski Trek in the Woods (attended by 10 people), the Annual Bake-Off, and the deciding match of Trivial Pursuit played between the sexes (YLs vs OMs).

The overall winner of the Bake-Off was Kathryn Muller's Chocolate Cheese-cake. Close behind was Francies O'Connell's Danish Cheese Coffee Cake (2nd) and Michele Stiles' Lemon Meringue Pie (3rd). Other just as worthy and incredibly delicious entries included: Lia Zwack's Basler Leckerle (Swiss Cookies), Karen Goslee's eclairs, Joyce Holdsworth's heart cookies, and Karen Lloyd's apple raisin cake. All were awarded the "*Betty Crocker Spatula Award*" for great baking! Too bad the ladies' winning ways didn't carry over to the final contest of the day.

After everybody was stuffed with all of the good food, the final game of the 2 out of 3 match of Trivial Pursuit was played between the men and the women. The ladies took an early lead with such brain taxing questions as "*On what planet was SUPERMAN born?*". But the men managed to catch up eventually with the mind boggling question "*How many watts are there in a kilowatt?*". Dick, K2VCZ, blurted out the correct answer although Neal, WB2EKP, wanted to have some discussion on the subject just in case it might have been a trick question. The game came right down to the wire with the men winning the game by a hair. Well ladies, "*WATT'S*" cooking for next year?

## TWO HAMS MAKE NON-STOP AROUND THE WORLD FLIGHT

Two novice class amateur radio operators, but not amateur pilots, have flown non-stop, non-refueled, around the world in the "*Voyager*" aircraft. Jeana Yeager, KB6QLR, and Dick Rutan, KB6QLS, made aviation history in a specially built aircraft, designed by Dick's brother Burt, when they completed their nine day flight at Edwards Air Force Base in southern California. They were reported to have an amateur station on board for emergency back-up purposes only. Most operation took place on FCC authorized "*Flight Test*" frequencies 6,550, 8,822 and 13,312 kHz, call sign AFS6VO, USB. Some transmissions appearing to be deliberate interference to the Voyager communications have been reported to FCC.

*Tnx Westlink Report*

## YOU'VE NEVER TOO OLD . . .

At the last RaRa meeting, "*Butch*" Porter, KA2ZYA, brought in a QSL card he received from a recent QSO he had. The QSL card was from a Henry ("*Hank*") Howell, KA2YVR, of Brewster, New York. Big deal, bet you have hundreds, you've probably saying to yourself.

Well it is a big deal. "*Hank*" is 85 years young, and just took up Amateur Radio in July 1985 when he obtained his Novice ticket. Hank got his General ticket in March 1986, but he "just works CW."

## NOTICE TO CONKEY 64 USERS

The official distribution point for system software for the Columbia M64 Commander Computer, alias Shoebox, aka Conkey 64, is the Rochester CP/M Connection BBS (223-8133). Programs to read and write Kayro and Xerox disks are available.

*Jim Lill, WA2ZKD*

W2YJ

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## AMATEUR RADIO EXAMS

The schedule for Amateur Exams are as follows:

March 21, 1987	9:00 a.m.
April 11, 1987	9:00 a.m.
May 16, 1987	(During Hamfest)

All information about Hamfest Exams will be in the April and May issues of the *RaRa RAG*. Please note the change for the April exam, it has been moved from the third to the second Saturday of the month due to the Easter Holiday Weekend.

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## MORE ON ANTENNA REGULATIONS

Confucius says “*Study the past if you would divine the future.*”

Small units of government, not given widespread publicity about their actions, have throughout recorded history been able to generate all sorts of nonsense in the form of local rules, regulations, laws, codes and prohibitions about things they don't know much about. If we don't remain alert and on guard, this will continue and no doubt get worse.

Take antenna and tower ordinances for example. Here are some real gems culled from a recent spate of such proposed regulations:

### Binghamton, New York

“*Installations shall not negatively impact the radio or television reception on neighboring properties.*” --- WOW! Even if the neighbor has a lousy receiver and antenna??

### Skaneateles, New York

“*No structures or devices, commonly described as “dish antennas” or “receiver-only satellite earth stations” or “microwave-relay antennas” or “television transmitting or receiving towers” shall be installed or affixed to any property in any district*” --- My goodness! Hams used dish antennas, satellites earth stations, microwaves and TV! Maybe in Skaneateles, only wire antennas will be allowed?

### Syracuse, New York

“*No more than one antenna is permitted on any lot*” --- Come on! Hams can operate on many bands according to the FCC. Many bands require many antennas, don't they?

### Dade County, Florida

“*Beam array antenna shall be so mounted as to provide easy servicing and easy access for removal at approach of hurricanes, or provide for the lowering of such beam.*” --- My guess is more people will be hurt complying with this than will be hurt by the hurricanes. And, guess it doesn't

apply for tropical storms, thundershowers and typhoons!

Well, I could go on for hours about this sort of thing. But, my editor will not permit it. She has passed an anti-blabber-mouth ordinance!

The principle message I am trying to get across is – keep alert for these sneaky little regulations and if you discover one in the process of birth, *please* let your Section Manager know at once. He is William Thompson, W2MTA, in Western New York and he will use PRB-1 against the blighters! (Ed note: This goes for all of you many members “*outside*” of Western New York, too. Contact the Section Manager of the area involved.)

The philosopher, Geroge Santayana once said: “*Those who do not remember the past are condemned to relive it.*” Be advised!

*Tnx RAGS Review*

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## HELP WANTED

The Rochester Hamfest is looking for a “Tax Advisor”. The person is needed to fill the position vacated by Rich McCracken. The job requires someone who can work with the NY State Sales Tax Bureau to see that correct forms, information, etc., are furnished to the vendors. Rich McCracken will assist in getting the new person started. If you are interested please contact Harold Smith, K2HC, the General Chairman of the Rochester Hamfest. He may be reached by phone at (716) 424-7184, or by writing to 300 White Spruce Boulevard, Rochester, New York 14623.

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## SPACE SHUTTLE

## RETRANSMISSION FREQUENCIES

For all non-DOD space shuttle missions, we retransmit air to ground communications over the following shortwave frequencies: 3860 kHz, nights (6:00 p.m. - 10:00 a.m.); 7185 kHz, days (8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.); 14295 kHz (whenever operating); 21390 kHz and 28650 kHz (propagation permitting). Also on 147.45 FM simplex, Washington DC area. All frequencies are ± QRM and as operators are available.

*Tnx Goddard Amateur Radio Club  
via AUTO-CALL*

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HELP WANTED – Looking for someone with AMSAT antenna setup that can be photographed. Would prefer HELIX and YAGI style antennas. Please contact Jesse Eichenlaub, Amateur Space Telescope Group, 464-0125.

## FCC FINES COMPANIES MARKETING UNCERTIFIED PHONES

The FCC office in San Diego, California, has notified two companies that they are apparently liable for civil fines of \$2000 each for the unlawful marketing of long-range cordless telephones. The fines were issued to Crazy Guys Stereo and Video, of Chula Vista, California, and Samhill Enterprises, Inc., of New York. The FCC notices informed the companies that they apparently violated FCC regulations which requires that cordless telephones be certified by the FCC before sale. The FCC noted that the model being marketed could not be certified due to its design. The advertised range of the device was 60 kilometers. Certified cordless telephones generally have a range of less than 200 meters.

*Tnx ARRL Letter*

## HAMFESTS 1987 HAMFESTS

February 28	Rookies Minifest, Horseheads
May 2	Owego Hamfest
May 16	Rochester Hamfest
May 30	Skaneateles Hamfest
June 7	Rome Ham Family Date
June 20	Cortland Hamfest
July 12	Batavia Hamfest
August ?	Trumansburg Hamfest*
September 26	Elmira Hamfest
September ?	Ham-A-Rama*
October 17	RAGS-Syracuse Hamfest

\* dates not confirmed on these hamfests.  
Auburn will not be having a Hamfest this year.

*Tnx RAGS Review*

## ARRL REPLIES TO CTIA COMMENTS

The Cellular Telecommunications Industry Association (CTIA) submitted comments to FCC in a rulemaking regarding Cellular Telephones, which stated that "*The national organization of ham radio operators did not oppose the Privacy Act.*" The League has now submitted a reply comment asserting that "*Both in official Board of Directors policy actions and in oral and written testimony before ... (Congress) the League indicated its dissatisfaction with the Bill.*" The League further said that the Congressional prohibition on monitoring certain radio frequencies does nothing to protect the privacy of communications by cellular telephone users and cellular users should be informed of that fact. Furthermore, "*restrictions on frequency access by owners of radio receivers are misguided, and unfair.*" Privacy should be maintained through encryption, or at least a label telling the user his communications are not private.

*Tnx ARRL Letter*

## IS THE VOLUNTEER EXAMINER PROGRAM WORKING? YES, SAYS FCC

In a recent news lease, the Commission said that between the start of the VEC program on December 1, 1983, until October 31, 1986, VECs had coordinated 6,784 sessions where 86,533 persons took an amateur examination. Approximately 60% of the applicants passed at least one examination element. The FCC also noted that VECs and VEs were doing outstanding work in screening the applications sent to FCC. Between October, 1985 through October, 1986, less than .5% of the applications were defective. Also, 97% of the applications were forwarded to FCC within the 10 day time period allowed.

*Tnx ARRL Letter*

**WANTED:** E. H. Scott Communications Receiver, Hallicrafters S-17, RCA 44-BX microphone. Ollie, K2BBK, (716) 461-4246.

**FOR SALE**—National HRO-5 Receiver. Ollie, K2BBK, (716) 461-246.

**WANTED**—Donate your old trophies, medals, ribbons and plaques for youth sports programs. Any sport or activity accepted. Call Debbie, KB2CHV, 359-2672.

**WANTED:** Oscilloscope for backup use around \$100.00. Call 872-3044.

**FOR SALE**—NEC 8023-AC Dot Matrix printer. Attaches to parallel port. Works Great! \$250 or consider trade. Neal, WB2EKP, 359-2672.



Amateur Radio News Service