



the **RARRA RAG**

Published by
ROCHESTER AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION, INC.

VOL. 43

NOVEMBER 1990

NO. 3

— ANNUAL AUCTION — — NEW LOCATION — SEA BREEZE VOLUNTEER FIREMEN'S HALL — 4657 CULVER ROAD

Friday, November 2, the next RaRa meeting, will be the annual auction. This will be a NEW place, but the same time and as usual, Dick Goslee, K2VCZ, and Ed Gable, K2MP, will swing the gavel at 8:00 p.m.

The Sea Breeze Firemen's Hall is at 4657 Culver Road opposite Sea Breeze Amusement Park. Just north of the Reunion Inn. Parking is behind the hall and on the north end of the hall.

The entrance is on the south side of the building and the doors will open at 7:00 p.m. for sellers to bring their equipment and for buyers to inspect the bargains. Current RaRa membership is required to enter the building. If you have not renewed your membership, you may do so at the door. Each member may bring one guest.

The auction is intended to be a vehicle for amateurs to exchange used equipment, so please leave the boat anchors at home. All equipment sold at the auction will be subject to a 10% donation to the club.

So come out— watch the excitement— join the bidding— take home a treasure— and support your club.

Remember the new location is **SEA BREEZE FIREMEN'S HALL, 4657 CULVER ROAD.**

RaRa MAILBOX MOVES

Those long time members who were awake probably noticed that their membership renewals went to a different address this year. Our old mailbox that provided trusty service over the years is located somewhere in the heart of downtown. With people changing jobs, we realized that getting to that mailbox in a timely manner may not always be possible. As of September, RaRa opened a new mailbox at the main Post Office on Jefferson Road. This facility is convenient to many of the board members and provides 24 hour access. Until we can get everybody using the new address, we will maintain both boxes for a short period of time.

REMINDER

All memberships expires October 31, 1990. If your mailing label shows "Oct. '90" on it we have not received your renewal.

SILENT KEY

WILLIAM J. GALLAND
WB2GHB
May 1, 1990

the **RaRa Rag**

Published by
ROCHESTER AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION, INC.
P.O. Box 93333, Rochester, NY 14692-8333

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

..... **John J. ("Jack") Dempsey, KA2PJM**
357 West Squire Drive, Apt #1, 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)

THE K2GA CALL

Many years ago, and it seems like centuries, I decided to become a ham. Since this was in England, I took the test and was given the call G3ADT. I operated with this call for 11 years. At the end of this time I was sent to Canada by my employer. (Some say that, in order to be rid of me, I was sent to The Colonies!) I did not operate in Canada but, three years later came to the USA, only to learn that I was not permitted to operate as a ham unless I became a United States citizen and, since that required a minimum of five years residence, I was not able to enjoy my major hobby until early 1965.

Shortly after becoming a "Yankee" I went to Philadelphia and took "The Test". I remember that day so vividly ... some 20 young fellows, all going for their Novice or Technician tests. I went for the Extra and was the first to be tested by the late Mr. Welch at 20 wpm. The youngster's eyes were agog! (Twenty Words per Minute? ... Impossible!!)

Well, a week or two later I received the license and, to my dismay, I saw the assigned call ... WB2YJK ... practically all dashes. Now, many of you probably do not remember that the FCC rules did not permit an Extra Class ham to get a 2 letter call unless he was a US citizen AND had been licensed by the FCC for a specified number of years.

Well, I struggled with that one for several years. On one I got the nickname WB2JERK and had quite a time with it until, some years later I wrote to my state Senator saying that I felt that I was being discriminated against due to my natural origin etc. I heard no more until Senator Barry Goldwater wrote to say that he was pushing a Bill through Congress that would straighten out my problem.

Naturally, I was delighted and waited for results. These came in the form of a phone call from the FCC in Gettysburg that went something like this - "*Michael, we have your letter of so-and-so requesting a change to your amateur call. We note that you were originally licensed by the United Kingdom General Post Office and have completed the required number of qualifying years as an amateur operator for preferred US call. So let's see what we have available. How about a G for Great Britain and a A for America! That's K2GA. Would that be to your liking?*"

So that's the way it was I have been happy with it ever since. Kilo 2 Good Afternoon - Kilo 2 God Almighty! Much better, I think you will agree and, for CW super!

de Mike K2GA via Harmonics

VOL. 43 NOVEMBER 1990 NO. 3

OFFICERS:

President: Neal Eckhardt, WB2EKP 359-2672
Vice President: Peter Secrist, WB2SUN 265-2028
Secretary: Bernard Agins, KD2CU 359-2947
Treasurer: Richard Goslee, K2VCZ 359-1762

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Keith Freeberg, N2BEL 589-8901
Roger Harnaart, WB2BWQ 235-0662
Robert Hobday, N2EVG 624-3368
Ed Holdsworth, N2EH 624-1929
Ronald Nelson, KA2GLG 586-0998
John Schooley, K2NC 225-3622

Club Historian: Bruce Kelley, W2ICE
Public Service Coordinator: Edwin Holdsworth, N2EH
License Testing Director: John Schooley, K2NC
Membership Chairman: Keith Freeberg, N2BEL
Licensing Course Director: Edward Gable, K2MP
Hamfest General Chairman: Harold Smith, K2HC
K2JD Engraving Director: Robert Lauzon, K2RL

The RaRa RAG (USPA 605-440) is published monthly except July and August by the Rochester Amateur Radio Association, Inc., 24 Elaine Drive, Rochester, New York 14623. Subscription is \$4.00 per year (included in the \$9.00 annual membership dues). Second class postage paid in Rochester, NY.

POSTMASTER - Send address changes to The RaRa Rag, P.O. Box 93333, Rochester, New York 14692-8333.

Full permission is granted for reprinting articles provided a credit line is given to the RaRa Rag. The Rag exchanges with other organizations' publications.



Amateur Radio News Service

BRIEFS

Space Shuttle STS-35 bearing the SAREX experimental Amateur Radio package was postponed again September 18 and it now appears the flight will not be rescheduled no earlier than November, as other waiting Shuttle flights have priority over the scientific mission of STS-35.

- Ham Radio Outlet has purchased the Amateur Radio division of CW Electronics of Denver, and a new HRO store is scheduled to open there October 1. The new store will be located at 8400 E. Iliff Avenue, #9, Denver, CO 80231. Some of the current CW Electronics staff will join the new HRO store. As of last week a store manager had not yet been named. With the opening of the Denver outlet HRO will have 10 stores in six states.

- FCC has issued a public notice regarding unlicensed devices transmitting in the 900 MHz range, particularly video transmission systems. These systems ordinarily use a wireless receiver and transmitter for remoting video devices such as VCRs, video cameras, and games, as well as television pictures and audio. Such devices fall under "additional unlicensed use" of frequencies and as such have no protection from interference from Amateurs or any other licensed service.

Companies which have received FCC grants of equipment authorization for their video transmission systems include: Gemini Industries, Star Tech Company, Recoton Corp., Video Technology Engineering, and Wiso Electronics. Grants of equipment authorization issued by the FCC appear monthly in a public notice entitled Certification/Notification Actions. Customers experiencing RFI to such devices should contact the manufacturer.

- The ARRL Volunteer Examiner Coordinator staff is processing about one Morse code waiver upgrade package per day for disabled applicants.

VE statistics for June and July (the most recent months available) include 8435 exam elements administered in June (4075 by ARRL VEC), and 7617 in July (3098 ARRL). 2640 applicants were served by ARRL VEC in June, 1853 in July.

Tnx ARRL Letter

LONG WIRE USERS – Heavy sash weights available, also 55 ft by 4", 3", 2" aluminum vertical. Make offer. Al Wise, 482-4776.

RaRa CALENDAR FOR NOVEMBER

(All meeting times and location tentative. Please contact your club officers for up-to-date information.)

- 3 - RaRa Meeting - 8:00 p.m.
Sea Breeze Volunteer Firemen's Hall
4657 Culver Road
- 8 - Packet Group Meeting - 7:30 p.m.
111 Westfall Road
- 9 - VHF Group Meeting - 7:30 p.m.
111 Westfall Road
- 16 - RRRRA Meeting - 8:00 p.m.
Pittsford Town Hall
- 17 - Amateur Radio Exams
- 20 - RDXA Meeting - 8:00 p.m.
111 Westfall Road
- 22 - Thanksgiving

ESTATE ITEMS FOR SALE –

- Benrus Monitor Scope, Super Signal Monitor for Packet \$ 50.00
- Utica, 650 VFO \$ 5.00
- Tokyo Labs, 2 M. multimode PA-10/80 \$150.00
- Johnson, 6 and 2 Transmitter \$ 50.00
- Lafayette, 6 and 2 Meter VFO \$ 10.00
- SBE, SB 34, 80/40/20/15 Meter SSB Transceiver \$100.00
- Scott, M-357 Stereo Receiver AM/FM \$ 20.00
- Blanpunkt, AM/FM SB Receiver, no cabinet \$ 20.00
- Timex, Sinclair, 1000, w/16 K ROM, w/program tapes \$ 25.00
- Heath, Sixer \$ 10.00
- Mirage, B-1060 2 M. PA, multimode w/Preamp, 10 in 160 out \$190.00
- Mirage, B-3060 2 M. PA, multimode w/Preamp, 30 in 160 out \$175.00
- Motorola Maxar, UHF front mount Transceiver, 2 Freq. \$200.00
- HP M-400D VOM \$ 50.00
- HP M-6291A, Power Supply, 5 to 50 VDC @ 5 A. Manual \$200.00
- Simpson, 260 VOM \$ 50.00
- Tower, Rohn/Spalding 54 ft. free standing, tilt over \$100.00
- Tower, Rohn/Spalding 64 ft. free standing, tilt over \$150.00
- H.B. Tuner 2KW++, no book, 80 to 10 Meters \$ 50.00
- 3 El. 6 Meter Beam \$ 15.00
- ALL PRICES NEGOTIABLE. Len, "WA2ZNC", 1-229-5470, or 146.88 & 443.6 Repeater.

WORLD HIGH QRP SCORE CQWW CW 1989!!!!

Congratulations to Fred, W2TZ, for his NUMBER ONE IN THE WORLD QRP SCORE in the 1989 CQWW CW test. Fred ran a specially modified Ten-Tec transceiver and used two tri-band beams (a KLM KT34A and KT34XA) for 10 - 20 meters, vertical and horizontal dipoles for 40 and a vertical dipole for 80 meters. Fred also finished 2nd in the World in the ARRL DX Phone Test last March, in the QRP class, with no fanfare at all for QRP scores from ARRL— look at the listings. Quite a feat – anyone care to challenge Fred this year? RDXA also placed high in contests last season:

CQWW club scores are in and we were #14 in the U.S.!!

ARRL DX club scores put us 5th in the Medium Class!!

In case you are interested, W2TZ is not just a contester, his DX awards include 5 BAND DXCC, the real way - no WARC bands. As you can see, DXers find contests very intriguing because of the concentration of countries on the air at one time. If you ever hear all the activity on the low bands during a DX contest, join in and see how many countries you can work in a weekend or even in a few hours – you can have a contest with yourself, and a contest is the fun way to work DX. If a pile up is too big on the station you are trying to work, move on and you may find the same country 10 or 20 KHZ away without the pile up. And, if you get the bug real bad you can always talk to some of the contesting members of RDXA.

The next meeting of RDXA will be November 20, at 7:30 p.m. at the Monroe County Social Service Building, 111 Westfall Road.

KB2SE

Patrick C. Moyer, N2AIW
Attorney & Counselor-at-Law

General Legal Services
ARRL Volunteer Counsel Participant
AOPA Legal Plan
Masters Degree in City Planning

Day and Evening Hours
(716) 427-9907

2128 W. Jefferson Rd. • Pittsford, NY 14534

Advertisement

THE RaRa RAG 20 YEARS AGO — NOVEMBER 1970

by Ed Gable, K2MP

The impacting news from this issue was the curtailing of Ham Radio participation in the popular *Eddie Meath Pennython*. This, and similar charitable fund raising events, were deemed too commercial by the FCC and operations had to cease. The Rochester VHF Group reported their first meeting of the year was Henry Blodgett, W2UTH, who spoke on VHF activities over the past 20 years. To increase activity on six meters, Hogie, K2RZI, offered to take charge of a Monday night net on 50.4 Mcs. Ray Springett, WA2AIL, reported that code and theory classes were started with over 50 students meeting at McCurdy's Mid-Town store. Bob Lauzon, WB2NSD, and Joe Hood, K2YAH, are instructors. Elsewhere in this issue it was reported that AWA's Bruce Kelley, W2ICE, and Linc Cundall, W2QY, were robbed while attending the ARRL National Convention in Boston. Taken were a slide projector and sound equipment which were used to present AWA's just completed *Golden Years of Radio* program. That program was irreplaceable. At the RRRR Meeting, Chairman Charlie Mills, K2LDU, proposed a club project to build multi-frequency adaptors and FET pre-amplifiers. Finally, in this issue, a member, while researching some entirely different material ran across some interesting historical data on early radio in Rochester. He published that information in this *RaRa Rag* which started a life long career and interest in vintage radio. He, was me, K2MP!

RAPS NOTES

The Rochester Amateur Packet Society (RAPS) has elected its officers for the 1990-91 year. Jim Centanni, W2IMK, is Chairman, Fred Cupp, W2DUC, is Vice Chairman, Roger Harnaart, WB2BWQ, is Secretary, and Jon Dickason, N2JAC, is Treasurer. These men will try to lead our group through another good year of learning about and building packet equipment.

RAPS and DARC (Drumlines Amateur Radio Club) are nearing completion of the 220 Mc. link between Rochester and Newark which will tie into the NEDA net for a second path to Rochester. There are also other interesting subjects which pop up at our meetings, so if you are interested, join us the second Thursday of each month, 7:30 p.m. at 111 Westfall Road. See you there!

IN MEMORIAM

RALPH P. YOUNG, Jr, WA2UGE

Ralph, better known as Bud to everyone that knew him, was first licensed about 1960. He became actively involved in Civil Defense at that time serving as 6 Meter Net Control. He maintained an exceptionally active interest in Emergency Communications throughout his Amateur career both as a member of Amateur Radio Emergency Service and the Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service. He was Assistant Emergency Coordinator and Assistant Radio Officer for Monroe County for many years, serving as both at the time of his death.

Bud was actively involved in Public Service communications over the years working on almost every event we were involved in, including everything from small Pony Rallies to the Susquehannock Pro Road Rally held in Pennsylvania. Bud had been unable to attend the Rally in Wellsboro for the past few years but maintained a keen interest in it.

Bud had always maintained an active interest in our club station from the early days at 350 East Henrietta Road where it started with one Heathkit HW16 CW transmitter to the station that it is now. He was always ready to assist when we required a work party to do maintenance or to perform major surgery.

Bud assisted with the License courses for several years as the Code Instructor and giving encouragement to those that needed that little extra push.

Bud was an early member of the K2JD Engraving team that has traveled all over the Northeast to Hamfest big and small to help generate funds for RaRa.

Bud served on the Board of Directors as Membership Chairman, Vice-President and President and was a Life Member of RaRa.

Bud was honored as the Amateur of the Year at the Rochester Hamfest, New York State Convention and Atlantic Division Convention in 1983.

Bud always showed a keen sense of humor, a ready smile and never refused to give assistance when and where it was needed. He was sometimes quick to correct people but never short of time to assist them.

Bud will be missed by those that knew him well and will truly leave an open spot in the Rochester Amateur Radio community.

GOD SPEED

N2EH

1990 FALL CODE AND THEORY CLASSES BEGIN

“*Let’s do it again*”, seems to be the motto of the hard working RaRa Licensing Class Committee. The Fall session began on September 24th with 25 people in the Novice Class and 17 in the Tech/General Class. Along with the old cronies; Bob O’Connell, NF2Z, and Joe Phillips, W2DHFV, taking on Novice classes, and Ed Gable, K2MP, at Tech/General theory, this sessions sees Joe Hood, K2YA, back at the chalk board for special technical subjects, and Brad Allen, KB2CHY, knocking out the 13 WPM code practice. Additionally, past RaRa President, Dave Bernhiesel, N2DPF, is helping Bob with Novice instruction. We also need to thank Keith Freeberg, N2BEL; Dick Goslee, K2VCZ and RaRa President Neal Eckhardt, WB2EKP, for helping that first night to get all 40 people signed in as members, monies collected, etc. The acquisition of class materials was streamlined this year as Course Director, Ed Gable, K2MP, registered RaRa as an Instructor/Dealer, a new ARRL program aimed at just such service. The registration was Monday night, the ARRL was called Tuesday morning with a count of class needs, and the books were delivered to Ed’s house Thursday afternoon in plenty of time for first class the next Monday.

GENESEE REPEATER ASSOCIATION PICNIC

On Sunday, September 23, the 19/79 2 meter repeater group held its annual picnic in Churchville Park. The weather was rainy and windy, but all 75 attending had a good time. The roaring fireplace inside the lodge, plenty of good food and companionship made for a memorable time. All of us who attended would like to say a special thanks to Bill, KA2HSK, who did a great job, as always, cooking on the outside grill. We hope that more of you who use the 19/79 repeater will attend next year’s picnic.

RDXA MEETING — NOVEMBER 20th

Art Hubert, N2AV, publisher of “*Inside DX*” is the speaker at our next meeting, 7:30 p.m., 111 Westfall Road.

Art will explain how he puts together his newsletter issues by issue; what a task this must be, to gather the information – what DX is on the bands and what is forthcoming. He will give us the benefits of 25 years of DX’ing and 10 years of publishing an international DX newsletter.

Join us for a great time if you are interested in DXing. Bob, WE2T, 334-1103.

EMERGENCY KIT LIST —

This is standard equipment that most hams have for their HT...

- 1) 2 or more BATTERY packs
- 2) 1 pack should be a rapid charge
- 3) an AC and DC battery charger
- 4) DC to DC converter
- 5) An AA battery case if your HT has one.

NONSTANDARD ITEMS

- 1) Hand-Pack Portable Power **See Note 1**
- 2) Headset/Mic or Speaker/Mic
- 3) Hard Hat **See Note 2**
- 4) Mini-flashlight with extra batteries and bulb
- 5) G.I. Pistol belt (most of the items above will go into 2 or 3 belt pouches and go on the belt)
- 6) Mini clipboard, pencils (I like mechanical pencils), extra leads and erasers, pen, paper.

ITEMS FOR GYM BAG

- 1) Safety Vest like the one you can buy for hunting
- 2) 2 piece light-weight vinyl rain suit
- 3) Heavy duty flashlight with extra batteries and bulb
- 4) A complete change of clothes
- 5) A tool kit: Long-nose pliers, wire cutters, a Phillip and flat screwdriver, pliers, 6" adjustable wrench, pocket knife, 12 VDC soldering pencil **See Note 3**
- 6) Coax adapters for your HT, HT to PL-259, 2 or 3 PL-259 plugs, 1 or 2 Barrel connectors
- 7) Some heat shrink tubing, electrical tape
- 8) Coax Patch cable, jumper wire, battery clips (Radio Shack 270-344, 2 cond. cable sets like used on trailer (Radio Shack 270-025) for all my radios so I can use my jumper.

ANTENNA KIT

- 1) One piece 4" PVC pipe 6 ft long and 2 caps
- 2) 2 or 3 Radio Shack light duty mast
- 3) 25 ft, mini RG-8
- 4) Heavy string for guys
- 5) An antenna like 1/4 wave or J-Pole **See Note 4**
- 6) 3 or 4 tent stakes for guys
- 7) A metal plate about 2 or 3 ft long about 1 ft wide and weld a piece of pipe at one end in the center to mount the mast pipe on it. You drive on one end and mount the mast
- 8) A stake about 2 ft long for ground mount (Radio Shack 15-5069).

12 V. MOBILE BASE

- 1) Radio
- 2) Patch Cable
- 3) AC to DC converter

- 4) Gel-cell Battery and charger
- 5) Generator (Mine is a 12 V auto type generator on a gas motor)
- 6) Item 1 and 2 (Gym bag and Antenna Kit)

This is if you do not have HT for EMERGENCY BASE...

EMERGENCY PACKET STATION

- 1) Radio
- 2) Battery or Converter
- 3) Computer (a 12VDC type) **See Note 5**
- 4) TNC **See Note 5**
- 5) Items in 1 and 2 (Gym Bag and Antenna Kit).

Note 1) The Handi-Pack is from an article out of "CQ, July 1987". The article is 3 page.

Note 2) The Hard is lined with metal. A hole is drilled in the center for BNC or SO - 239 chassis mount. So you mount an antenna (Mine is a 1/4 wave mounted in a PL-259) or you can mount your rubber duck.

Note 3) A small pouch for the tool kit.

Note 4) A home made 1/4 wave or J-Pole antenna. You can also raise and lower it by rope or heavy string.

Note 5) A good article on EMERGENCY PACKET is in 73, April 1988...5 page. You can convert a C-64 to 12VDC and use Digicom as the TNC. Crawford Amateur Radio Society, POB 653, Meadville, PA 16335 will send you information about 12 vdc C-64 and 1541. Also in 73, July 1990...Also 73, February 1989 has an article on a mini-modem for VHF only.

For more info and copies of article (\$.10 a page and \$.25 postage, etc. Contact Ed, N8IOV, 4376 Coolidge Road, Coleman, MI 48618.


*from Packet Bulletin Board (N8IOV)
via Lockheed ERC Bulletin*

ROCHESTER HAMFEST

MAY 17, 18, 19, 1991

BIMINI TOPS DODGERS

VORNRAN MARINE CANVAS
at Fabric City



Our Boat Covers Are Tops.

1800 N. Clinton Ave., Rochester, NY 14621

(716) 266-6440

UPHOLSTERY DRAPERIES
Chuck Vorndran
WB2OZS

Advertisement