



# the RARRA RAG

Published by

**ROCHESTER AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION, INC.**

VOL. 44

MAY 1992

NO. 9

## ANNUAL MAY MEETING

by Lloyd R. Caves, WB2EFU

It seems hard to believe that May is here already. The year is moving by fast and so is the 1991-92 RaRa season. May is the last general meeting of the season but a very important meeting for all of the membership. This is the Annual Business Meeting of RaRa. This means that the Board of Directors will make the 1992-93 budget proposal to the members to vote on which will establish the dues for the next season. Also, the members will have the opportunity to make nominations from the floor for Officers and then vote for the new slate of Officers to lead RaRa through another year. That is why it is important for all members to come to this meeting.

After the business portion of the meeting there will be a very interesting presentation of the "United States Coast Guard Auxiliary Watchstander". Robert O'Connell, NF2Z, will be the speaker for the evening. He carries two titles, Assistant District Staff Officer/Communications 9th District Eastern Region and Flotilla Commander, Flotilla 4-5 USCG Auxiliary.

What is a Watchstander? A watchstander is a person responsible for monitoring, and operating the Coast Guard Station Communications Center. They handle regular telephone (landline) communications as well as routine Marine Radio traffic. The watchstander also gathers information in distress situations and relays instructions and data to Civilian and Coast Guard vessels. Bob will explain how the hams in the area can become a part of this important mission.

Looking forward to seeing everyone Friday, May 1st, 8:00 p.m. at the 40 & 8 Club on University Avenue.

## ANNUAL MAY MEETING

8:00 p.m.

MAY 1st

40 & 8 Club

933 University Avenue

## AWA MUSEUM OPEN FOR SEASON

The local radio museum opened Sunday, May 3, and is open weekends until November. The Museum is in an historic brick building facing the village park in Bloomfield, 5 miles south of Victor. (The two villages of Holcomb and East Bloomfield are now combined and known as Bloomfield.)

Founded by local RaRa members, it is one of the largest of its kind and features 1850 telegraph instruments through to solid-state amateur gear. The museum was the source of much material in Ken Burn's recent PBS documentary "Empire of the Air" and has a current radio exhibit at Rochester's Strong Museum. Admission is free. Group tours by appointment, telephone (716) 657-7489.



## MUSEUM HOURS

Open Sunday, 2 - 5 PM

May, June, July, August, September, October

Also Saturday, 2 - 4 PM - Wednesday, 7 - 9 pm

June, July, August

(Closed Holiday Weekends)

# Rochester HAMFEST

**MAY 15-16-17, 1992**

# the **RaRa Rag**

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

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

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

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

VOL. 44                      MAY 1992                      NO. 9

## OFFICERS:

President: Peter Secrist, WB2SUN                      265-2028  
Vice-President: Lloyd R. Caves, WB2EFU                      671-7079  
Secretary: Robert J. Hobday, N2EVG                      624-3368  
Treasurer: Richard A. Goslee, K2VCZ                      334-1762

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Neal I. Eckhardt, WB2EKP                      359-2672  
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David J. Minchella, KE2GE                      359-3337  
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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 \$5.00 per year (included in the \$10.00 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.

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Amateur Radio News Service

## PUBLIC SERVICE EVENTS FOR 1992

- May 3      Mountain Bike Event, Tour de Lump  
                 Sunday
- May 23      Lilac 10K Run  
                 Saturday, 8:00 a.m - 12:00 p.m.
- June 5-7      Susquehannock Pro Road Rally  
                 Wellsboro, PA
- June 7      American Diabetes Walk  
                 Seneca Park, 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
- June 7      Northampton Carriage Competition  
                 Northampton Park, Brockport  
                 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
- June 14      Human Race  
                 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
- June 14      Webster Sprint & Youth Triathlons  
                 Webster's North Park
- June 27-28      Field Day, 2 days continuous
- July 11      Mendon Pony Club 'C' Rally  
                 Saturday, 8:30 a.m.
- July 19      Adam Walsh Center Triathlon  
                 Sunday, 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
- July 25      RIT NYS Duathlon Championship  
                 Saturday
- Aug 11-16      Walnut Hill Carriage Driving  
                 Competition - Pittsford  
                 Hours vary over 5 days
- Aug 23      Mendon Pony Club Horse Trials  
                 Sunday, 8:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
- Sept 2      Ginna Nuclear Plant Evacuation  
                 Pre Drill - Wednesday  
                 Hours unknown at this time
- Oct 7      Ginna Nuclear Plant Evacuation  
                 Drill - Wednesday  
                 Hours unknown at this time.

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# NEW ANTENNA RESTRICTIONS PROPOSED BY THE IRONDEQUOIT ZONING COMMISSION

On Thursday, March 26th, the Town of Irondequoit Zoning Commission held it's first public hearing regarding their recommendations to the town board for revising the town's existing zoning laws. Among the commission's recommendations made public at this meeting were several regulations pertaining to transmitting antennas which I believe are unacceptable to the amateur radio community.

Specifically the zoning commission is proposing that transmitting antennas cannot be erected in a residential area without a special use permit from the zoning board, that they cannot be placed on a roof, and that they must not exceed 50 feet in height.

Apparently, I was the only amateur radio operator at the meeting, and I pointed out to the board the existence of the FCC ruling (PRB-1) "*In the matter of Federal Preemption of State and Local Regulations Pertaining to Amateur Radio Service*". The town attorney present at the hearing admitted tht he was not aware of PRB-1. I provided the commission with copies of two documents taken from the ARRL zoning package which I obtained from N2EZS.

I suggest that amateurs who are residents of Irondequoit organize to make our views regarding the antenna zoning laws known to the commission before they make their recommendations to the town council in June. Now is the time to act.

If you are interested in taking part, please contact me at 544-9054.

*Gene Parker, KE2T*

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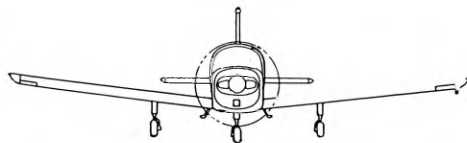
# MAY CALENDAR

- 1 - RaRa Annual Meeting - 8:00 p.m.  
40/8 Club, 933 University Avenue
- 2 - RVHFG Awards Banquet - 6 p.m.  
Gates Chili F.D., 2215 Long Pond
- 8 - RVHFG Meeting - 7:00 p.m.  
111 Westfall Road
- 14 - RAPS Meeting - 7:00 p.m.  
111 Westfall Road
- 15-16-16 - Rochester Hamfest, Atlantic Div./  
NY State ARRL Convention  
Monroe County Fairgrounds and  
Marriott Thruway
- 16 - RaRa VE Testing - 1:00 p.m.  
111 Westfall Road  
(Pre-registration required)
- 19 - RDXA Meeting - 7:30 p.m.  
111 Westfall Road

*(Submit items for JUNE CALENDAR to RAG Editor before May 12th.)*

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March 31, 1992

Peter Secrist, President  
Rochester Amateur Radio Association, Inc.

Dear Peter,

The nominating committee is pleased to place into nomination the following slate of officers and directors for the May 1992 election.

Vice President: Keith F. Freeberg, Jr., N2BEL

Secretary: Alexander A. Piccirilli, NV2Y

Treasurer: Richard A. Goslee, K2VCZ

Director: Peter Secrist, WB2SUN

Irwin J. Goodman, AF2K

Roger C. Harnaart, WB2BWQ

Edwin J. Holdsworth, N2EH

George A. Muller, WA2IEO

Neal I. Eckhardt, WB2EKP

Robert J. Hobday, N2EVG

The committee wishes to express its appreciation for the cooperation of all who volunteered to stand for election.

David Bernheisel, N2DPF

John Schooley, K2NC

Carty Ellis, KA2Y

## PERSONAL STATEMENTS

As customary, each person who is nominated has an opportunity to present a personal statement in the *RAG* prior to the Annual Meeting. There will be an opportunity to present nominations from the floor prior to the actual voting for Officers and Board of Directors.

### VICE PRESIDENT

**KEITH F. FREEBURG, N2BEL**

Keith has been licensed since 1979 after taking his exam at the Rochester Hamfest. As he became involved in RaRa, the opportunities to give something back to the community through public service events, were many. Each Spring, Summer and Fall there were myriad of community events that needed and appreciated the active participation of Amateur Radio Operators in helping to provide a safety net for those engaged in these activities. Today, Keith is still involved in public service with an emphasis on hometown events and public safety.

Keith has also been actively involved on the RaRa Board of Directors promoting member concerns since 1981. Positions held include: Director, Secretary and Membership Chairman. Most recently, you may have noticed Keith at the back of our meetings taking membership applications, updating address changes and handing out copies of the *RaRa Rag* and *Directory* to new members.

Keith says its time to expand his service to the club in a new direction. He wishes to uphold and enhance our tradition of excellent educational experiences via entertaining and informative speakers at our club meetings. Meetings should be fun and educational and with (we hope) the continuing efforts of our Extraordinary Chef, George Muller (WA2IEO) it will be delicious also.

(The floor will be opened for additional nominations for Vice-President at the Annual Meeting.)



### SECRETARY

**ALEX A. PICCIRILLI, NV2Y**

I'm 64 years old, married (Ruth), 3 children and live in West Henrietta, NY. The company which I own, employs me and approximately 60 more people in the Town of Avon. I am a graduate from the Rochester Institute of Technology with an AAS degree in chemistry and BS degree from the University of Rochester. I have worked as a chemist for such companies as Dupont, University of Rochester, Atomic Energy Project, and Strassenburgh Laboratories.

Sailing is what I do summers, downhill skiing in winter and travel when my wife and I can squeeze it in.

Volunteering as secretary will allow me to study the workings of the club and hopefully will bring me closer to people who can help me to be a better Amateur Radio Operator.

(The floor will be opened for additional nominations for Secretary at the Annual Meeting.)



### TREASURER

**RICHARD A. GOSLEE, K2VCZ**

Dick has been a member of RaRa since moving to Rochester from the Schenectady area in 1965. He has been a member of the Board of Directors for a number of years and served as Vice-President and President before being elected Treasurer in 1987. Dick is also chairman of the Awards Committee for the Rochester Hamfest.

A member of the QCWA, he was first licensed in 1956 with the call KN2VCZ, and currently holds an Advanced license. Dick is also active in the Genesee Repeater Association where he serves on the Board of Directors, and until recently was also a director of the Genesee Conservation Foundation.

(The floor will be opened for additional nominations for Treasurer at the Annual Meeting.)

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### PETE SECRIST, WB2SUN

Pete lives in Webster with his wife Patti. The youngest of their children will complete college in June of 1993. He enjoys the company of his grandchildren, four live in the Rochester area, the remainder are in Colorado.

Peter was first licensed in the mid 1950's in Ohio. After moving to Rochester in 1969 to take a job at Xerox his license lapsed. He started over in 1978 and now holds an Extra Class license. Before becoming active with RaRa he helped form the Xerox ARC and held several positions in that club.

Prior to serving as RaRa President he held the office of Secretary for two years. Peter has completed his second year of helping with the RaRa classes and looks forward to helping in the future.

Pete has been active in the January VHF Contest, Packet, and when time permits operating on the low bands. His other interests include camping.



### IRWIN J. GOODMAN, AF2K

"Irv" was first licensed as WN2WCE in 1974, and subsequently WB2WCE. He is a Rochester native, Life Member of RaRa and has served in past years as Membership Chairman, on the Membership Committee and on the Executive Board. Other club affiliations include ARRL (Life Member), RRRR, GRA, RVHFG, RDXA, ARES/RACES, NoBARAC and Gibraltar Amateur Radio Society. He is active on 2M FM, HF bands, and an avid DX-er, Field Day enthusiast, and enjoys SS, traffic handling, 10-10 and VHF contests and Public Service activities.

A graduate of RIT, Irv is retired after 32 years with Standard Register Company (formerly Business Forms Division of Burroughs Corporation). He and "Rustye" reside in the town of Webster.



### ROGER HARNAART, WB2BWQ

I was born in Sodus, NY and went through my school years there. In 1949 I started the Electrical course at RIT. While studying there I went to RG&E as a co-op student, and have spent the last 42 years around the company getting shocks from various industrial electronic and RF sources. I did graduate from RIT and then spent two years in the Army, some time in Korea as a Radar repairman. Radio didn't really get to me until late 50's when I went for the 2nd class Phone License and then just had to get a Novice License with the help of the RaRa code class. That has been upgraded to Advanced over the years.

The Harnaart family, (Ruth, N2MXN, and son Kenneth, N2MXB) hve lived in the RIT neighborhood of Henrietta for the last 36 years and expect to stay there a while longer.

Interests? If it is new and different, I'll probably have my fingers in it! Oh yes, by the time you read this, you can call me retired.

I have been on the Board of Directors for 2 years and have found it an interesting experience. Thank you for your support.



### EDWIN J. HOLDSWORTH, N2EH

Ed lives in Honeoye Falls with his wife, Joyce. He enjoys spending time with their 5 sons, Jim, Steve WA2EJY, Cary, Gerry WA2IMQ and Keith KA2GCG, their 3 daughters-in-law, Linda, Debbie and Maggie along with 5 grandsons and 3 granddaughters. Keith and Maggie along with their two daughters (with one more, hopefully a boy, expected in May) live in Grand Junction, Colorado so it requires some traveling to visit them but their on the way in June to see the new addition. Ed recently retired from RG&E after 36 years.

Ed was first licensed in 1968 with the call WN2EKR and currently holds the Extra Class license with the call N2EH. He is very active with the club as shown by his past history with RaRa. Previous positions held include Secretary (1 term) Vice-president (2 terms), President (2 terms), Board of Directors (22 years) and K2JD Club Station Trustee. Other responsibilities include ARES Emergency Coordinator and RACES Radio Officer for Monroe County. Affiliated Club Coordinator and Assistant Section Manager for the Western New York Section and Assistant General Chairman for the Rochester Hamfest and the Buffalo Hamfest. Ed is a Life Member of RaRa, ARRL and AMSAT, a Charter Member of RRRR, a member of RAPS and the Genesee Repeater Association.



### GEORGE MULLER, WA2IEO

George was licensed 32 years ago in New York City and holds a General class license. Moved to Rochester in 1968 to continue working for Xerox. Worked for A.T.T. (switchman), N. Y. Tele Co. (long lines) and Uncle Sam (Viet Nam). RaRa Refreshment Chairman since 1974.

George lives in Pittsford with wife Kathryn, daughter Jennifer and son Matthew. He enjoys cooking up something new on weekends and constructing something with son Matt in the garage or basement.

NEAL ECKHARDT, WB2EKP

Neal has been licensed for 16 years and currently holds an Advanced license. He has been the editor of the RaRa Rag for 6 years, was a past president of RaRa, and has been on the Board of Directors for 5 years. Neal has lived in Henrietta for 20 years, moving to Rochester to attend RIT. He works as a System Support Engineer for Hitachi Data Systems, a manufacturer of large IBM Compatible mainframes and peripherals.



ROBERT HOBDAY, N2EVG

I live in Mendon with my wife and have two daughters. I received my ticket in January 1984 and currently hold a Technicians license. You will find me active mostly on two-meters doing traffic handling on the Western District Net and at most Public Service Events. I am a past president and currently Secretary of RaRa, past manager of the Western District Net, and a member of ARRL, RACES/ARES, RRRRA, and the Antique Wireless Association.

I have been employed by Rochester Gas and Electric for 27 years. My other hobbies include instrumental music and furniture making.

(The floor will be opened for additional nominations for Board of Directors at the Annual Meeting.)

## 13 UPGRADE/NEW HAMS AT MARCH TEST

by Bob, WE2T

The largest group of this season greeted us as we arrived at the Social Service Building March 21st; 21 hopeful applicants.

Congratulations to the following: Steven Young - new ham, Novice; Scott Bedette - new ham, Tech; Roy Drury - new ham, Tech; John Amon - new ham, Tech; Ed Sieminski - new ham, Tech; Bob Rotolo - new ham, Tech; Bart Pell - new ham, Tech; Dave Barney - new ham, Tech; Dick Young - new ham, Tech; Mary Solo (no call) - upgrade to Tech+; Debra Wlodarczyk, N2MLA - upgrade to Tech+; Gloria Foster, KB2HYS - upgrade to Tech+; Bill Rogers, KA2CKI upgrade to Tech+.

There is 1 test session left for this season:

May 16 - Hamfest date - write, see Hamfest brochure.

Don't forget to bring a pen and pencil to the tests and a copy of your current license or CSCE - there are no copy facilities in the building.

Thanks to the following Volunteers Examiners: Barb, AA2CX; Stan, WM3D; John, WK2N; and Lou, K2ANC.

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## RAPS KIT PROJECT A SUCCESS

All who attended the Modem building project on Saturday, March 21st, know that it was a great success. Due to the herculean efforts of Fred, W2DUC (who did the circuit design), Dominic, KB2NCM (who procured all the parts), and Jean, N2MXG (who wrote the documentation) the project came off with very few problems. As a participant and observer, I was especially impressed by how well everyone worked together. Not once did a temper flare or a sincere unkind word fly (although there was a fair amount of good natured ribbing). We built approximately 60 Modems that day. My favorite part of the day was the bountiful pizza provided by the club. After all, one must eat to survive to play radio. Right!

*Tnx, The RAPSsheet, Gary, KA1NJL, Editor*

FOR SALE - Heath Zenith Personal Computer (100% IBM PC compatible) 20 Mb hard disk, 640 K RAM; DOS 3.31; 1200 bps modem. Five years old - originally listed for over \$2200.00. Now \$550.00. Jim, KA2FFE, 266-6494.

## RaRa SPOTLIGHT

by Roger Harnaart, WB2BWQ

*(Second of a series of occasional articles profiling personalities in the local amateur radio community. Suggestions for candidates welcomed.)*

Do you remember the RaRa member who, for months, kept us amused at the monthly meetings with his tales of the telephone company and its wayward bills? Have you ever seen the little guy in a dark suit with the black folder wandering around the Hamfest? Do these two questions have anything in common? Yes! K2HC, better known as Harold Smith is the person we are talking about. Since 1963 he has been the driving force behind the Rochester Hamfest, spending thousands of dollars and working many hours to make it the "Super fest" it is today. Just this year he with the help of his computer, sent out nearly 14 thousand Hamfest brochures to the USA and another thousand to Canada.

You might find him working on hamfest business at his own business, Com Center, or at home, on Mason Avenue. He never says, but his wife, Helen, (also a Ham - WA2YRH) probably helps him through the rough spots. You won't hear him on the air very much. Too busy! He says he spends most of his radio time wiping the dust off the knobs. Thirty two years ago, when he first got his license, his call was WA2KND.

Harold spent 27 years with Western Union. He says he didn't help invent the Teletype machine, but he likes them so much that a few years after leaving WU he started his own Telegraph Service Office, Com Center, 12 years ago, and he is still there every day.

In 1963, Harold was appointed an Assistant Director of ARRL and has held this yearly appointed office ever since. Last December he was given the ARRL Certificate of Merit for Outstanding Service. But, he says the best award he can receive is when he sees people enjoying themselves.

Harold also served as Editor of the RaRa Rag for over twenty years.

If you should see Harold at the Hamfest (May 15, 16, 17), tell this Man of the Month what a good time you are having and give him another award.

---

WANTED - Ten-Tec 214 microphone and 234 speech processor. WB2WWV, 227-3084.

## PUBLIC SERVICE 1992

The season of Public Service Events is upon us. It has arrived almost as fast as the arrival of summer (I'm not to sure about summer) and I am now out pounding the bushes for some VOLUNTEERS to assist with these upcoming events. You don't have to be a Seasoned, Well trained individual to jump in and work on any of them. If you are one of the Well Trained ones, so much the better, you can assist in training those that are going to be doing something for the first time. If this will be the first time out, grab onto one of those seasoned individuals and impress them with your expertise. After all, you were able to get by the rigors of sessions with the VE's and that will probably be the hardest thing you will have to do in your career in Amateur Radio.

The list of events will be placed somewhere in this publication, somewhere between the front page and the back page. If you can find them, you will be able to find the sign up sheets at the next meeting of RaRa and affix your signature to any one or all of them. The sheets include events that will last 2 - 3 hours and some that will last for 5 - 6 days, so take your choice. These events will improve the visibility of Amateur Radio in the area and might even help out when towns take to changing the zoning laws. **THINK ABOUT THAT! YOU NEVER KNOW WHO'S WORKING ON THEM.**

---

## Rochester HAMFEST

MAY 15-16-17, 1992

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## SCOUTS RECEPTIVE TO DEMONSTRATIONS

Members of two area Boy Scout troops have been recent benefactors of some insight into amateur radio communications, thanks to several RaRa members who provided "show-and tell" presentations.

Assisted by Mike and Gloria McNamara, KB2CHP and N2PGV respectively, Irv Goodman, AF2K, addressed 16 scouts of Troop 209 in Fairport, describing radio frequency spectrum areas, licensing levels, and touching on the many varied aspects of the hobby. The information was well-received by the scouts, especially the live Packet radio demonstrations provided by Roger Harnaart, WB2BWQ. ARRL's Jamboree On The Air information pamphlets were furnished to all present. A question and answer period followed.

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More recently, ten members of Den #1 from Ogden-based Cub Pack 292, accompanied by den mother Linda Hanford, KA2EFP, were addressed by Monroe County Operations & Planning Officer Sande Macaluso, who enlightened the group on the activities in the County's Emergency Operations Center. This was followed by a tour of RaRa's K2JD facility. Club station Trustee Ed Holdsworth, N2EH, and Irv Goodman, AF2K, demonstrated HF and Packet radio operation. Several of the eager youngsters chatted with a ham in El Paso, TX on 10 meters.

AF2K

## **Rochester HAMFEST**

**MAY 15-16-17, 1992**

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