



the RARRA RAG

Published by

ROCHESTER AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION, INC.

VOL. 45

NOVEMBER 1992

No. 3

HEAR YE! HEAR YE!

The Annual RaRa Auction is set for Friday, November sixth. Yes, it is back with our favorite two mellifluous Auctioneers at the microphones, those witty souls, Goslee & Gable. That's right, Dick Goslee (K2VeeCZ) and Ed Gable (K2MashedPotatoes) will be presenting the evening's fine selection of "new-to-you" amateur and related equipment. These gentlemen will give you a handle on the use and rarity of select equipment as they ply their way through the bargains of the night. Dick and Ed will be donating their valuable time to help RaRa pay their bills and provide more services to you the member.

This is also your opportunity to support your club by bringing your excess equipment to the auction so it can find its way to a new home. There are only a few simple rules to follow that will speed up the pace of the auction and help insure that everyone is treated fairly!

- 1 RaRa assesses a fee of 10% of each sale. (Think about the starting bid for your item(s) with this in mind.)
- 2 The fee is paid by the seller from the proceeds of the sale. (This money helps pay the rent on the building we hold the Auction in! Guess what happens IF we don't pay the bill?)
- 3 The Seller must come forward to the Treasurer's table as soon as the item is declared SOLD! by the auctioneer.
- 4 You Must Be a RARa Member to present items for sale. (Our Membership Chairman, Irv Goodman, will be happy accept your renewal at the auction.)
- 5 Please, NO PARKING LOT or BACK of the ROOM SALES! (No prior sales.) RaRa can only pay the rent for this night if you help us by allowing all the items you brought to be auctioned to the highest bidder!
- 6 Doors open at 7:00 p.m. for bringing your treasures into the Auction Gallery!

Dick and Ed are experts at getting the most for your valued equipment. They are both qualified appraisers of amateur equipment and can help send the sale price towards its fair value. I've

RaRa MEETING

November 6, 1992
at 8:00 P.M.

3129 East Henrietta Road

! AUCTION AUCTION !

even known Dick and Ed to bid on items themselves! They are not above paying good money for your well cared for equipment and neither are the roughly one hundred people that attend one of these fine auctions.

So, dust off that equipment you haven't used in a while and prepare to turn into something else, as if by magic. Mark your treasures with your name, call and starting bid. Bring them to 3129 East Henrietta Road, Friday, November 6th, and prepare to be entertained by the fast wit and skill of Goslee & Gable. But most of all, watch the magic of the auction and your equipment skillfully turned into cash!

NEXT MONTH

How To Soup Up Your Plain Vanilla PC!

Don't miss it! This will be our annual joint meeting with the Kodak Amateur Radio Clubs.

SILENT KEY

WILLIAM GILLETTE
KB2KIW

September 14, 1992

the **RaRa Rag**

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Amateur Radio News Service

QST! QST! IDEAS NEEDED!

I still need your input, thoughts, questions, dreams and concerns! The search for topics our membership will find interesting goes on. You can call me anytime to share your thoughts on a presentation or new format you'd like to see at RaRa. *There are no bad ideas! Just ideas that haven't been brought to light!*

If you have been thinking of putting on a talk or sharing something you like about Amateur Radio but haven't got enough material for a long presentation, the possibility exists of combining a few small presentations into one longer one.

Andrew Carnegie said; "*Leave my factories but take away my people and soon grass will grow on my factory floors. Take my factories, but leave my people, and soon we will have new and better plants*".

I agree, people are our most valuable resource. And you, our members are the most valuable resource we have to guide the level and topics of our programs. Call or see me today with your ideas.

MEETINGS IN REVIEW!

Last month, we had the pleasure of getting the real scoop about the Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (RACES) and the Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES). From some of the questions raised from the flog, I could see that some mis-information had been circulating for some time through our ranks.

Possibly there are more questions on how to become an ARES/RACES member or what the charter of each organization is? If you have questions, go straight to the source. Call Ed Holdsworth, N2EH, at 716-624-1929 today. Don't let your need to know be obscured by a reluctance to call Ed. He welcomes the chance to help you understand what these organizations are really all about.

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THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

by Lloyd R. Caves, WB2EFU

It has been a year and a half since I was elected Vice President thereby becoming President of RaRa. After accepting the nomination for office I was a little reluctant and began having second thoughts about it. I expected it to be a hard job taking a lot of time. As it turns out it has been a lot of hard work taking up a lot of time, but I have to say that I have been enjoying it. Your Board of Directors has been great to work with and has been helping in many areas to make my job easier and to make things happen for you and the club. I have also received a lot of phone calls with suggestions and questions from members. This has helped me know what the membership wants and to help lead RaRa in that direction. I hope that everyone that has something on their mind will give me a call. The phone numbers of all the Officers and Board of Directors are always printed on page 2 of the *Rag*.

I would like to thank all members that have renewed your membership this year. Irv, AF2K, the membership chairman has reported that the renewal rate is ahead of other years and that is a good sign. I also hope that you have enjoyed the first two meetings this year at the Henrietta Fire Hall. This is a new meeting place for RaRa and is a very nice facility. It is easy to get to as it is not far from the 390 expressway and is a little more central to the whole county. The acoustics make it much nicer for the speakers to be heard. Having padded folding chairs for everyone to sit on makes it very comfortable and the meeting more enjoyable for us. There is plenty of parking and the building is handicapped accessible. I have seen many new faces at the first two meetings but have also missed a few of the familiar ones. Come out and join us as every meeting this year (except for December that is combined with Kodak) is going to be held at the same location. You can also enjoy a cup of coffee, a doughnut and visits with friends after the meeting.

November is the auction month. I hope that everyone is planning on coming to the auction and selling your used and no longer being used equipment and buying something new (at least to you) for the shack. Remember this is a good way to get equipment to help get on the air in new modes or get the test equipment that you always wanted in your building projects. The equipment you no longer use and bring to sell helps someone else do the same thing. If you are a new member to RaRa and just got your license or are in the license classes you many want to come out to share the fun and see if you are able to get your first rig. I will be there with all my old friends and making new ones.

NOVEMBER CALENDAR

- 6 - RaRa Meeting - 8:00 p.m.
Henrietta Fire Hall, 3129 East Henrietta
 - 21 - RaRa License Testing - 111 Westfall Rd.
 - 26 - Thanksgiving
-

FIRST OF THE SEASON

LICENSEE EXAM TESTING

by Barbara, AA2CX, and George, AA2FO

CONGRATULATIONS... To nine members of the amateur radio community who either got their licenses or upgraded at the recent RaRa testing session on September 26. They are: Dan Gravatt, Constantine Alikes, Joseph Pacher, Jr., Thomas Berardicurti, Frank Reed, Scott Felgner, Steve Young, Jason Bendix, Harry Boyd.

Enjoy your new privileges.

Our next session will be on November 21 at 111 Westfall Road starting at 9:00 a.m. Registration will begin at 8:30 a.m.

See you there.

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FCC TARGETS SATELLITE JAMMER

Ham License Revocation Proceeding Initiated

On September 24, 1990, Thomas M. Haynie, WB4PVK of Virginia Beach, Virginia was convicted by a Federal Court in Norfolk, Virginia of intentionally interfering with the operation of a communications satellite and unauthorized operation of a satellite uplink transmitter.

The incident took place right after the infamous April 1986 Captain Midnight satellite incident when John R. MacDougall, KA4WJA, of Ocala, Florida overrode Home Box Office programming. MacDougall, the owner of a retail satellite dealership, was arrested, convicted and fined \$5,000 and sentenced to one year's probation. After the Captain Midnight incident, Congress enacted new legislation (Section 303) making intentional interference to a communications satellite a felony.

Three episodes of deliberate satellite interference again occurred on September 6, 1987 to the adult programming of the American Ecstasy and Playboy Channels. The Playboy Channel was airing an "R" rated movie with some nudity at the time. For about 30 seconds right in the middle of the movie, another transmitter came on the air and replaced Playboy with a religious message in red urging repentance.

It resulted in the most extensive investigation the FCC has ever had to find the jammer. Armed with a recording of the message, the Commission was able to determine the type and maker of the character generator used. The manufacturer furnished the FCC with their customer list.

Transmitter analysis of the interfering signal permitted the FCC to calculate the amount of power necessary to replace the Playboy Channel and to produce a unique spectrum "fingerprint". Through an elimination process, several satellite uplink facilities were eliminated. All other uplink licenses throughout the United States were inspected by the Commission.

The FCC was eventually able to pinpoint the interference as coming from a transmitter at the Christian Broadcasting Network at Virginia Beach. Videotaped samples of CBN's transmitter signal output matched the Playboy interference. The records indicated the operator on duty was Thomas M. Haynie.

On December 7, 1990, Haynie was sentenced to three years imprisonment, all of which was suspended, ordered to pay a \$3,000 fine (\$2,000 of which was suspended) and ordered to perform

50 hours of community service each year for the next three years.

The decision has now become final. The FCC's Field Operations and Private Radio Bureaus are now moving to strip Haynie of his commercial Radiotelephone and Amateur Advanced Class radio licenses.

W5YI Report via The Readout

ESTATE SALE PLUS SOME: Box new and used panel meters (75) all kinds - \$75.00; ICOM battery BP5A, 12.8 V @ 425 Ma - \$40.00; Docking Booster, ICOM HTs, 4AT/04AT/32AT -25 wts. - \$110.00; TR4 rotator and control, clean 4 wire - \$50.00; Radio Shack HX202 2 M. HT, 5 yr warn, + Batt. like new portable with many assy for 2 meters - \$300.00; Commodore C-64 + Magnavox, M10, Mono Green Monitor + Microlog, ART-1, TNC + Heath M-202, w/GLB syn - \$150.00; Drake TR-33C 12 ch. portable 2 m. transceiver - \$75.00; Knight KG-600 tube tester - \$25.00; Heathkit PS-4 0-400 vdc @ 0-125 ma. power supply - \$20.00; RCA WO-33A O'Scope - \$25.00; RCA WA-44C Audio Generator - \$20.00; Heathkit IT-121 Transister checker - \$20.00; National NC 300 Receiver - \$125.00; Allide A 2508 s.s. receiver - \$50.00; H.B. Transister, solid state, no paper work - \$10.00; 3 ea. IEC LE 100 HTs, 2 desk chargers, VHF, some X-tais - \$100.00; Henry, C100C30, 6 meter PA, 30 in 100 out - \$200.00; Sonar, BR 2911, 6 meters PA, 30 in 100 out - \$125.00. Len "WA2ZNC" - 716-229-5470

FOR SALE: AEA CP-1 and MBA-TOR soft for C-64-128 - \$80.00; C-128, 1571 disc drive, Okidata printer - \$350.00; Azden 6000 H 2-meter base or mobile FM-AM - \$275.00; MFJ TNC Model 1270 B - \$100.00; Kenwood TS-S20S, VFO 520S, DC-5 digital display - \$450.00. Contact Jack Frank, 716-265-4811.

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THINK SPRING!

Think Spring – Spring and Summer Jackets, that is. It's nearly time to order new RaRa outerwear and possibly polo shirts as well. During the valuable minutes before and after the monthly meeting, someone will be available with pictures and prices of the jackets offered.

As in previous years, jackets, lined and unlined, can be ordered. Green/gold lettering, or gold/green lettering, including name and call.

If you would like a "golf" shirt with the RaRa logo plus your call above the pocket let the rep know. The more people who are interested, the better change of meeting the ordering minimum. These should look Great!

Look for Roger, WB2BWQ, (usually) at regular meetings for prices and other info. Orders will probably be sent to the manufacturer by the first of the year. Get your order in early!

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THE RaRa RAG YEARS AGO

by Ed Gable, K2MP

20 YEARS AGO – OCTOBER 1972: As with the last issue this one reports on yet more FCC rule changes. Gone is the Novice phone band on 144 MHz, replaced by 10 meter CW. Gone, too, is Novice Xtal control. Added were phone band expansions on most bands along with Extra Class only sub bands. Great news for repeater operators too, the requirement for tape recorded logs was repealed. The November meeting was the annual auction with Tom Ball, WA2THA. Ray DeMers, W2KVP, in his RRRRA Column, reported that Harold Hay, WA2ABQ; Dick Hilsinger, WA2ATV and Rick Booth, WA2GCX, plan to put a repeater on 146.79 MHz. Charlie Mills, K2LDU, and Marv McIntyre, K2ZAA, representing Civil Defense, attended a WNY Conference on plans for an area wide emergency repeater to be in Warsaw, NY. CQ Magazine remains a long time advertiser.

40 YEARS AGO – OCTOBER 1952: The RaRa RAG at this time was seven close spaced mimeographed pages crammed with 100% local ham news. John Remsen, W2ZHB, reports that the new 2 meter Friday night net is working well with 12 check-ins from as far away as Hilton and Wolcott. There was a very active Mobile Club as part of RaRa reported by Elmer Wangerin, W2YPW. RDXA was also very active and had an interesting column penned by Bruce Kelley, W2QCP/ICE. Bruce reported here that local DXers were planning a 145.9 mc intercom between members. In the 50's RaRa also had a Ladies Auxiliary, the LARARA group. These "gals" held their own elections, met separately at WHEC's studios and had their own programming.

FOR SALE – Heathkit Apache TX-1 transmitter - \$100.00 or best offer. Howard P. Caudle, W2RSV, 872-4684.

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RaRa NOVICE CLASS



Instructor Dick Goslee gets a new batch of Hams started on the road to their new ticket.

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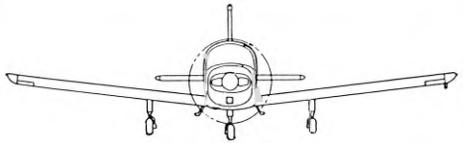
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The following is an excerpt from the "United States Combined Training Association News" (a national publication) about the super job that 13 RaRa hams did at one of this years public service events, the Stuart Horse Trails held August 22-23. The article was written by Linda Bland from Vermont, the Technical Delegate, who is the person charged with making certain that the Horse Trials are safe and conform to the national rules.

"TD's (Technical Delegate) are picky, picky, picky. They're not only trained to be picky, they're paid to be picky. So, have you ever wondered what floats a TD's boat? What could possibly be nirvana to a TD? Let's start with a working radio at every cross-country fence. And what if the fence judges never had to be briefed on how to use them? Because a ham radio operator is also assigned to each fence. And what if all the ham radio operators are trained in first aid?

"When I arrived to serve as TD at the Stuart Horse Trails (August 22-23), and learned that all of the above were true, my brow lost its first furrow. Communications, and thereby the safety of horses and riders, were going to be exceptional"

What a very nice compliment for the efforts of those RaRa members who took the time to provide communications for a public service event so that the participants of that event could compete safely. That is what public service communications is all about! And it is especially rewarding to have our efforts recognized in a national publication. Congratulations to this year's fine crew of operators Ron KA2GLG, Bob KA2SSC, Bob KA2TYU, Don KB2BU, Mike KB2CHP, Dom KB2NCM, Scotty KZ2U, Keith N2BEL, Bob N2EVG, Larry WA2GHQ, Roger WB2BWQ, Lloyd WB2EFU and Gil WB2UTI. Why not plan on joining the crew at the Stuart Horse Trials next year.

De Bob N2EVG

FCC STEPS UP ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITIES AND FINES

The FCC has dramatically increased their fines. How tough are the fines? If you are in violation of the rules governing distress/safety frequencies (making phoney mayday call, for example), you'll have to cough up \$8,000 – for each day that the incident occurred.

Maybe you're a CB'er who decided to tweak up his transmitter a few extra watts to get over the interference. The fine is \$5,000 a day. What's even more surprising is that the FCC is apparently granted the authority to increase these fines. If, for example, the FCC determines that you have the ability to pay the fines and thus a "relative disincentive", it can increase the fine by 50 to 90 percent, just to give it a little more clout. If the Commission feels that the misconduct was "egregious (flagrant/deplorable)", it can also increase the fine by 50 to 90 percent.

Say that for some reason – temporary insanity is always popular – you decided to issue a series of false distress calls from your mythical boat, The Fool. You are caught. The fine is \$8,000 a day. You conducted this little charade for five days. That would mean that your fine would ring in at \$40,000.

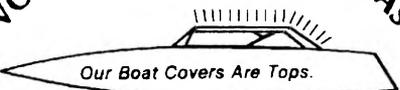
Suppose also that when you made your distress calls, you dared the Commission to find you, all the time sending hundreds of Coast Guard personnel racing through storm-ravaged waters (flagrant/deplorable), the FCC would be able to assess you an additional \$36,000, bringing your grand total for five days of "fun" to \$76,000.

The FCC has also set \$25,000 as the fine for any hoax by a broadcaster that could harm the public – anything that would involved police or rescue forces being called, for example. Just a few of the "pranks" that have led to the ruling include these false reports by Stations across the country: a nuclear attack, a station being held hostage, a nearby volcanic eruption, a dangerous build-up of gasses at a local landfill, and the shooting of a popular talkshow host.

Tnx Monitoring Times via The Readout

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Rochester HAMFEST

MAY 21, 22, 23, 1993

THE CARE AND FEEDING OF YOUR PET HAM

He is most difficult to keep. Only a person with a great deal of patience and understanding should attempt to keep a pet ham.

1) **LIVING AREA:** Your pet ham should have a private area of his own, an entire room, if possible, where he will not be disturbed. This will be him home regularly. He should be encouraged to confine his activities to this nest room in order to protect the rest of the house from his natural tendencies toward noise, clutter, and making holes in the walls.

2) **EXPENSES:** Raising your pet ham can turn into an expensive hobby. But, unlike most pets, the pet ham can be trained. The well behaved pet ham will be able to eat with the family on occasion. But he usually feels more comfortable and secure if he can take many of his meals in the privacy of his nest room. It will be your responsibility to see that your pet ham is kept well supplied with food and drinks during the long periods of time that he will spend alone in the nest room.

3) **HOUSEKEEPING:** Pet hams can usually be trained to use the family bathroom facilities.

4) **OBEDIENCE TRAINING:** Most pet hams can be trained to respond to a few simple commands, the easiest for him being sit and speak. Once your pet ham has learned these commands, he will sometimes practices them on his own for hours at a time.

5) **HEALTH CARE:** The pet ham is especially subject to minor irritations of the lower back and sore throat from too much sitting and speaking. The special CW breed tends to have a tired wrist rather than sore throat, and the digital version may suffer from tired and hurting eyes depending on his age and monitor.

6) **TRAVELING:** Your pet ham will gladly travel with you in the family car if he is allowed to bring some of the collection from his nest room. His favorite trips will be to places where he can associate with other pet hams from other families.

7) **BREEDING:** If you plan to breed your pet ham, you should do so as early as possible, before he gets his nest room collection.

by *Laura Sargent* (Not a ham but keeps a pet ham at home.) (From the *Gabilan Amateur Radio Club Newsletter* via *The Broken Arrow ARC*)

WORKED ALL STATES AND VUCC QSL CARD VERIFICATION

As a service to it's members RaRa has arranged to verify QSL cards for your ARRL *Worked All States* (WAS) and *VHF/UHF Century Club* (VUCC) awards. Most cards can be checked at a regular RaRa meeting but do call the ARRL award field manager, Ed Gable, K2MP, at 392-3088, to confirm the date. Ed also has any forms you may need for a SASE to 187 Lighthouse Road, Hilton, NY 14468.

POWERFUL DIGITAL SIGNAL PROCESSING FOR HAMS

Link Plus Corporation of Columbia, MD, recently unveiled an amateur radio version of its powerful Link-Plus digital signal processing technology that eliminates most noise and interference from SSB voice communications, thereby producing a significant boost in effective signal strength. LPC calls its new amateur product the MULE (acronym for Multi-Use Link Enhancer).

In 18 separate tests carried out on three days over an 1,800 mile path under a variety of transmission conditions, Link-Plus processing produced an average 22 dB improvement in HF-SSB signal-to-noise ratio! In laymen's terms, the unprocessed signal had, on average, 160 times more noise content than the Link-Plus signal.

It's \$2,995 price tag probably places the MULE beyond the immediate reach of most hams. It connects by external cables to any HF radio. (1-800-982-2920)

W5YI Report via The Readout

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