



the RARA RAG

Published by
ROCHESTER AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION, INC.

VOL. 45

MAY 1993

No. 9

1 KW. SPARK TRANSMITTER AT MAY 7 OLD TIMERS NIGHT

The program for the May meeting may be short-lived if the meeting hall's circuit-breakers can't stand the 1000 watt spark transmitter Bruce Kelley, W2ICE, plans to demonstrate. The ultimate 75 years ago, they could be heard on all frequencies from UHF to VLF, peaking at 200 meters. The speaker will also give a brief history of amateur transmitters between 1900 and 1960, the end of the vacuum tube era. They all sounded different unlike today's T9's!

April 2, 1993

To: Lloyd R. Caves, WB2EFU, President
Rochester Amateur Radio Association
Subject: Nominating Committee Report

The following candidates are hereby placed in nomination for club officers and board members for 1993/1994:

Officers:

President - Keith Freeberg, N2BEL
Vice President - Roger Harnaart, WB2BWQ
Treasurer - Richard Goslee, K2VCZ
Secretary - James Hood, N2HHV

Board Members:

Lloyd Caves, WB2EFU
Ed Holdsworth, N2EH
Alex Piccirilli, NV2Y
George Muller, WB2IEO
Neal Eckhardt, WB2EKP
Chris Reich, WB2DYJ
Joseph Hood, K2YA

Respectfully Submitted
Nominating Committee,
Ed Gable, K2MP
Chet Albrecht, WB2MDO
Joe Hood, K2YA

RaRa ANNUAL MEETING May 7, 1993

Please attend to elect your new officers

Henrietta Fire House
3129 East Henrietta Road
8:00 p.m.

AWA ELECTRONIC-COMMUNICATION MUSEUM OPEN FOR SEASON

The only radio museum in the state is now open for the season. Scheduled times are Sunday 2 - 5 p.m. from May to November with Saturday openings 2 - 4 p.m. and Wednesday evenings during June, July and August. There is no admission charge.

10,000 historical pieces are on display featuring early broadcast, television, amateur and commercial equipment some dating to the turn of the century. A new exhibit for 1993 is radio equipment from a WW2 B-17 Flying Fortress, communication equipment in a Russian tank and believe it or not, two rare 55 year FAX machines!

The Museum is located adjacent to the Village Park, East Bloomfield (Holcomb) on Rte. 5&20.

PUBLIC SERVICE CALENDAR - 1993

Parkinsons Walk	Sunday, May 16
Genesee Valley Park	Noon - 3:00 p.m.
Corporate Challenge	Tuesday, May 18
Tour de Cure	Saturday, June 5
American Diabetes	
Northampton Driving Competition	
Brockport, Northampton Park	Sunday, June 6
	8:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.
Hamlin Beach Triathlon	Sunday, July 18
Walnut Hills Driving Competition	
	August 17 - 22
RE Ginna Pre-Drill	Wednesday, October 13
RE Ginna Drill	Wednesday, November 17
Stuart Horse Trials	Sunday, August 1

Rochester HAMFEST

MAY 21, 22, 23, 1993

the *RARA RAG*

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

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FCC NETS FLORIDA SEA GOING HAM PIRATE

Officials from the U.S. Coast Guard and the FCC's Vero Beach, Florida Field Office, have stopped, boarded and shut down an unlicensed amateur station operating in Florida waters aboard the fifty foot wood-hulled sailing vessel, the Baltija. The Commission originally got involved due to complaints from the Amateur community about transmissions from a station using the call sign KD4VQ.

The ham pirate, later identified as Peter Skujins with no known home address, lived aboard his vessel. Skujins, who used the name "Gil" on the ham bands, apparently had been operating illegally on 20 meters for some two years. The FCC's monitoring network had long believed the station was operating from a boat due to its triangulated signal position placing its transmissions at various locations along the Atlantic coastal waterway.

According to the FCC they caught him right at the Coronado Bridge in New Symma Beach getting ready to go through the draw bridge.

The boat was equipped with a Kenwood TS-440 Amateur rig which operator was not licensed to operate, and HF whip and dipole antennas. When the transceiver was turned on, it immediately came on at 14.313 MHz. The FCC also found that the operator had an expired Marine Radiotelephone license.

The FCC did not have a search warrant or a seizure order so the equipment was not confiscated. Skujins refused to answer any questions about the KD4VQ transmissions. By press time, the FCC had not released information on their future path of action.

Peter Skujins was directed to telephone the FCC Field Office in Vero Beach once he got to his destination and to have some means by which he could receive mail. If Skujins fails to obey, then he will be apprehended by the Coast Guard.

The call KD4VQ was originally assigned to a Willian A. Hiott of Anderson, S.C. who is no longer licensed and may even be a silent key.

*Excerpted from W5YI Report
via The Readout*

VOL. 45 MAY 1993 No. 9

OFFICERS:

President: Lloyd R. Caves, WB2EFU 671-7079
Vice-President: Keith F. Freeberg, Jr., N2BEL 458-8246
Secretary: Alexander A. Piccirilli, NV2Y 334-4222
Treasurer: Richard A. Goslee, K2VCZ 334-1762

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

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Irwin J. Goodman, AF2K 671-4430
Roger C. Harnaart, WB2BWQ 292-6665
Edwin J. Holdsworth, N2EH 624-1929
George A. Muller, WA2IEO 381-6151
Neal I. Eckhardt, WB2EKP 359-2672
Robert J. Hobday, N2EVG 624-3368

Club Historians: Bruce Kelley, W2ICE, and Ed Gable, K2MP
Public Service Coordinator: Edwin Holdsworth, N2EH
License Testing Directors: George Platteter, AA2FO, and
Barbara Rae Weirich, AA2CX
Membership Chairman: Irwin J. Goodman, AF2K
Licensing Course Director: Peter Secrist, WB2SUN
Hamfest General Chairman: Harold Smith, K2HC
K2JD Engraving Director: Ed Holdsworth, N2EH

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Amateur Radio News Service

FOR SALE: Commodore 1280 computer; Commodore 1084 13" color monitor; Commodore modem 1200 baud; Commodore mouse 1351; TAC-5 joystick; assorted Commodore software (games/packet writer); all manuals. In fine working condition. Price: \$200.00. Call Paula Zack, N2KUM, 716-342-8775.

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

by Lloyd R. Caves, WB2EFU

The first of May and spring at last!!! I don't know about you but I think it is great that summer is just a few more days away. May is a very busy month for most of us with all the gardening and yard work that has to be done after winter takes its toll. But even at that there are a lot of great things that come with May, one being the Rochester Hamfest. I hope everyone has the date marked on their calendar. If not, do it now, it is May 21, 22, and 23. Better yet get your advanced sale tickets today. Last year was a record year in attendance at the Rochester Hamfest. But did you know that of thousands of people that attend this event only a small percentage are from this area. With over 3000 licensed hams in the Rochester area you would think that at least a third of the people would be locals, but not the case. If you are some of the ones that don't attend you should think about doing so this year. The Hamfest has been getting larger every year and there are more commercial vendors than ever. The programs have excellent speakers and are going on all day Saturday. I guess what I am saying is, that there is something for everyone, so come out and join the fun and activities.

For those of you that attend the Hamfest each year, did you ever think of going to the Saturday night banquet? If you haven't it is a shame. The banquet is a great place to relax, unwind and have a lot of laughs after being in the flea market all day. You can visit with your friends and make new ones there. Remember that the Hamfest is combined with the Atlantic Division/New York State ARRL Convention. This means that there will be a lot of ARRL Officers at the banquet to talk with, as well as the president, George S. Wilson, W4OYI saying a few words to us. If you want to come with your own group that is fine too. Just reserve a table to stay together. Remember that the Grand Ole Ham and Ham Of The Year awards will be presented that evening. So don't miss the action. Buy your combined Hamfest and banquet tickets in advance for just \$20. By the way, don't use the excuse that you don't have time to get cleaned up after leaving the Hamfest. Even if you stay until the doors lock at the Dome you still have two hours before you have to be at the Marriott for dinner. Lets have a big turnout this year. I will be looking for you.

RaRa is a club for everyone. Unlike clubs that are specialized in one area or another RaRa is involved in many different areas of ham radio. However, one of the largest tasks that we take on is emergency communications at public service

MAY CALENDAR

7 - RaRa Meeting - 8:00 p.m.
3129 East Henrietta Road

22 - RaRa VEC Testing Session
1:30 p.m. - 111 Westfall Road

21,22,23 - RaRa Hamfest
Monroe County Fairgrounds

events. Each year we get more and more requests from various groups asking for our assistance in running communications for their events to insure the safety of the participants. We try not to turn anyone down unless it is absolutely necessary. Unfortunately there are only a handful of people that volunteer to work on these events. How about some of the rest of you coming out and giving a hand. You will find that it is a lot of fun and that it is great practice in case you are ever asked to help in a real emergency. If you are new to ham radio you don't have to be afraid that you will make a mistake or do something wrong. We all do that, but again that is how we learn and no one is going to yell about it. If they did I would really be in trouble! There are also some behind the scenes things that take place when we can not cover an event for lack of operators. The event people then find other ways to cover their emergency communications needs. RaRa has had to turn three events down for lack of operators and in all three cases one of the cellular phone companies donated equipment and free air time to cover these events. Do you know what is going to happen some time in the future if we are not careful? These phone companies will be asking to take over some of our frequencies as they need them to fulfill their requirements to the community and they will use all the examples where they filled in for our absence. We sure don't need to have that battle to fight. Sign up for just one or two events during the course of the year and you will find that they don't take up much time. Most events only last a couple of hours to a half a day on a weekend. And again once you try it you will find out that it is fun. Ed Holdsworth, N2EH, is the man to contact to sign up. He has sheets for each different event at all the meetings and normally months in advance.

The May meeting is election month. Remember to be at the meeting to vote for your new club officers. Nominations will also be taken from the floor that evening before the election if you would like to see someone in an office. I would suggest you talk to them ahead of time to make sure they are agreeable to running though. See you then, 73.

ROCHESTER VHF GROUP WINS BIG

by Ed Gable, K2MP

RaRa wants to acknowledge and congratulate the *Rochester VHF Group* for their **BIG WIN** in the January VHF SS Contest. Amassing a score of 2.5 million points is good, beating their long standing rival the *Pack Rats*, is great!

Reporting on the results, Contest Chairman George Anderson, KB3PW, noted that nine RVHFG stations came in within the top ten positions nationally for their class. Towering above all others was first place unlimited multi-op station N2WK and the *Not 2 Well Known* contest group. Individual efforts featured Jeff, W2HPF, just grabbing first place unlimited single from VE3ASO, while Mark, KD2YB, just blew people away with his 63K QRP effort. In the Rover category, Steve Woodard's (KD2KQ) rolling hamshack and portable antenna farm piled up 410K points. Taking home a pile of awards was Mark, KA2RDO, who managed 50, 222 and 432 single band wins as well as 3rd place unlimited single. Dave, KD5RO/2 and Steve, KD2KQ, managed a 24 GHz contest QSO for yet another first. *The Rochester DX Association* won the *Rochester Cup*.

Wayne King, N2WK, RVHFG Chairman, is justifiably proud of the results and RaRa joins him in congratulating all the members for a super job. Stop by their Hamfest booth and say *Well Done*.

VP GORE IN CHARGE OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS POLICY

The Clinton Administration plans to put Vice President Al Gore in charge of telecommunications policy and a governmental effort to oversee a massive overhaul in the nation's technological competitiveness, in part through an up-grade of the telecommunications infrastructure. President Clinton also has called for a door-to-door fiber optic system. There is already all sorts of speculation as to who will head up the FCC.

W5YI Report via The Readout

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LICENSE EXAM TESTING

by Barbara, AA2CX, and George, AA2FO

CONGRATULATIONS . . . to ten members of the amateur radio community who either got their licenses, upgraded, or passed exam elements at the recent RaRa testing session of March 20. They are: Randy Down, Martin Snyder, Richard DeYoung, Melanie Steenhoff, Rose Stam, Robert Moore, William DeMatties, Darrell Connors, Fred Sonnichsen, and Mike Fortman.

Enjoy your new privileges.

Our next session will be on May 22, at 111 Westfall Road starting at 1:30 p.m.



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ROCHESTER HAMFEST CELEBRATES 59th YEAR AT DOME CENTER MAY 21-22-23, 1993

by Harold Smith, K2HC, General Chairman

The 59th Annual Rochester Hamfest and Computer Show returns to the Dome Center May 21-23, 1993. As one of the largest amateur radio conventions and computer shows in the country, the Hamfest draws crowds of over 6,500 people from New York, neighboring states, and Canada every year. Rochester area residents are fortunate to have this major event in their own back yard.

This year's Hamfest and Computer Show includes exhibits of the most up-to-date radio communications equipment, computer equipment and supplies, a flea market, lectures, forums, and presentations on amateur radio operation. Amateur license and upgrade examinations will be conducted on Saturday afternoon.

The Rochester Hamfest and Computer Show offers the largest number of amateur radio and equipment dealers and manufacturers in the northeast United States. The radio equipment and associated supplies will be offered at bargain prices. Computers users will find complete systems, components, disks, software, and shareware at low discount prices.

Highlighting the weekend of events is the annual Awards Banquet in the Cayuga and Mohawk rooms at the Marriott Thruway at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, May 22. Three major ARRL Atlantic Division awards will be presented by Division Director, Hugh Turnbull, W3ABC, and ARRL President, George S. Wilson, W4OYI. The awards are to be presented to the 1993 Atlantic Division Amateur of the Year, the 1993 Grand Ole Ham, and the 1993 Technical Achievement winner.

Plan to attend the banquet this year. Cost is only \$14. You will be treated to a wonderful dinner and be able to spend the evening socializing with your friends. Although RaRa has nearly 900 members, fewer than 100 normally attend. Lets show the ARRL leaders RaRa members do indeed exist. We are more than numbers on a report. A reception begins at 7 p.m. in the foyer. Dress is optional.

Rochester HAMFEST

MAY 21, 22, 23, 1993

THE RaRa RAG YEARS AGO —

by Ed Gable, K2MP

20 YEARS AGO — MAY 1973:

Covering this issue was a photo of George Battersson, W2GB, ARRL Director Harry McConnaghy, W3SW, and RaRa President Ed Holdsworth, WA2EKR. The occasion was George being given RaRa's *Grand Old Man Award*. George started Ham Radio and Scouting in 1912 and was Rochester's first Eagle Scout. The Hamfest brochure announced Wayne Greene, W2NSD, and Ed Tilton, W1HDQ, as featured speakers. The nominating committee offered the slate of Bob Lauzon, WB2NSD, President; Joe Hood, K2YAH, VP; Bill March, WA2CER, Secretary; and Len Gessin, WA2ZNC, Treasurer. To the Board of Directors: Ed Holdsworth, WA2EKR; Harold Smith, WA2KND; Jim Collinworth, WB2EDT; El Wagner, WB2BNJ; Bob Phelps, WB2DPT; Ray Roberts, WA2SSU; and Ed Mahar, WA2ZJY. *Glenwood Sales* on Hague Street remains a long time advertiser.

40 YEARS AGO — MAY 1953:

The *RaRa Western NY Hamfest* was reported a great success with attendance at 281 smiling Hams. Sax, W2SAW, won the *John Long* trophy while Paul, W2OVX, of Penn Yan, walked away with the CW receiving contest at 40 wpm. Linc, W2QY, reports that the County has purchased several ten watt 2 meter rigs. These will be installed by RaRa's Emergency Net members in surrounding towns. The Binghamton ARA invited RaRa members to join them for a joint dinner meeting. Call the Secretary at CHARlotte 2447-J and confirm your \$1.50 dinner reservation. Meetings were held at the Rochester Museum on East Avenue. \$75.00 would buy you a 400 watt CW transmitter from Linc, W2QY.

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KNOW YOUR CANDIDATES

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.

TREASURER:

RICHARD GOSLEE, K2VCZ

First licensed in 1956 as KN2VCZ Dick holds an Advanced class license. He has been a member of RaRa for 13 years and has served on the Board of Directors for the last 10 years. He is a past President and has served as the Treasurer for the past 6 years. He has been teaching theory for the Novice/Tech class for RaRa for the last 2 years and has also taught the Advanced class previously. He serves as the Awards Chairman for the annual Rochester Hamfest, and serves as the Managing Editor/Advertising Manager for the RaRa Rag, the editor of the annual directory, and is a member of the K2JD Engraving Team.

Dick is employed as the Service Manager for Entré Computer Center, and combining his love of auto racing with employment he is also employed as the Director of Communications for the NY International Raceway Park in Leicester, NY. When he can get some free time he enjoys camping with his wife Susan (N2HKA) and his daughters Karen (KB2CHE) and Cathie (KB2ESZ). (The floor will be opened for additional nominations for Treasurer at the Annual Meeting.)



SECRETARY:

JAMES HOOD, N2HHV

Jim, N2HHV, was first licensed as KA2ZYZ in 1987 and currently holds as Advanced Class license. Jim graduated from Clarkson University in 1990 as an Electrical Engineer. He is a member of Tau Beta Pi, the National Engineering Honorary, and Eta Kappa Nu, the National Electrical Engineering Honorary. While attending Clarkson, Jim revitalized the Clarkson Amateur Radio Club, K2CC, where he served in several positions including President. Jim is currently attending RIT night school where he is working on his Masters in Electrical Engineering. His other major interest is in flying. He holds a private pilot's license and is currently working on his instrument ticket. Jim works for Harris RF Division as a Systems Engineer and enjoys the technical and public service aspects of amateur radio.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

LLOYD R. CAVES, WB2EFU

Lloyd has lived in the Rochester area all of his life. He and his wife Ruth currently live in the house in Webster that they bought twenty-seven years ago. There they have raised their three children; one son and two daughters. Lloyd has been employed by General Motors for over thirty years, serving in many management positions, and is presently a Senior Purchasing Administrator.

In 1975 Lloyd joined the RaRa licensing classes and received his first ticket in February of 1976. He currently holds an advanced class ticket. During these past eighteen years as a RaRa member he has spent ten of them serving on the Board of Directors. He is just finishing a two year term as Vice President and President. He was also the membership chairman for six years. His main interest in ham radio is rag chewing, working DX, RACES, and working on many of the public service events that RaRa is involved with. As well as being active in RaRa he is a member of the ARRL, RRRR, and RAPS.



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 and Keith KA2GCG, their 3 daughters-in-law, Linda, Debbie and Maggie along with 5 grandsons and 3 granddaughters. Keith and Maggie live in Grand Junction, Colorado with their 3 children which requires some travel to Colorado for Joyce and Ed. Ed retired from RG&E in 1991 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 (23 years), K2JD Club Station trustee and WC2ABJ RACES station trustee. Other responsibilities include ARES Emergency Coordinator and RACES Radio Officer for Monroe County. Affiliated Club Coordinator and Assistant Section Manager for Western New York and Assistant General Manager 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.

NEAL ECKHARDT, WB2EKP

I have been a ham for about 18 years obtaining my license through the RaRa classes. I currently hold an Advanced class license. I have been paying back the amateur community by teaching the 5 WPM CW portion of the RaRa classes for the last 4 years. I have served as a past president of RaRa, been on the board of directors for 6 years, has been the RaRa Rag editor for 7 years, and has been working as a member of the K2JD Engraving team.

I moved to Rochester in 1971 to attend college and I have been here ever since. I currently live in Henrietta. I work for Hitachi Data Systems, a company which sells IBM compatible mainframes and peripherals.



CHRIS REICH, WB2DYJ

I grew up in the Buffalo and have called Rochester my home since 1980. I earned my Novice ticket at age 14 in 1972; later that same year I upgraded to Advanced Class. I attended the University of Rochester and became the Novice Instructor, Traffic Coordinator, and Technical Director of the club station, K2ZWI, and upgraded to Extra class. In my spare time I helped teach the Novice class for RaRa. I am employed by Harris Corporation, and travelled extensively during the 'eighties, installing, repairing, and conducting training classes on various communications systems. I curtailed my ham activities to travel and to start my family. I am married to a lovely Mexican lady, Maribel, and have two children; Laura, 9 years, and Alex, 6 years of age. They both attend Sacred Heart Cathedral School, where I do volunteer Bingo work. Laura and Alex often accompany me at public service events. We own our home near Kodak Park in the city. After a lengthy overseas assignment in 1990, I decided to devote my attention to my family and took a non-travelling position, writing technical documentation. My preferred ham activities are NTS traffic handling and RACES/ARES public service. I am active in the Western District and Central New York traffic nets, and also use packet radio to handle traffic. During this past year I organized the RaRa bowling party, and with KB2NCM, the children's activities at the Winter Funfest. I am a member of the Technical Committee of the local packet club, RAPS. I am also a committeeperson of the northwest city quadrant Republican Party. I hold a Certificate in Management from RIT. My other interests, all shared

with my family, include tropical fish keeping, model railroading, coin collecting, stamp collecting, photography, and baseball. I am honored to have been asked to serve the members of RaRa and welcome the opportunity to do so.



JOSEPH M. HOOD, K2YA

Joe, K2YA, was first licensed as a novice as KN2YAH in 1956 and held K2YAH until he upgraded to Extra Class in the early 1970's. He is an Electrical Engineer working as a Senior Project Engineer at Eastman Kodak Company. Joe and his wife Yvonne live in Greece and have four children - James, Patricia, Kathryn and John. James is a Systems Engineer at Harris Corporation and is licensed as N2HHV, Tricia is an RN at Highland Hospital, and Kathryn and John are attending college. John is also licensed as N2HHW. Joe has served the amateur community previously as a RaRa board member, Secretary, Vice President, and President as well as President and Technical Director of RRRRA. He is also an ARRL Volunteer Examiner and a former ARRL Section Communications Manager. Joe is currently teaching the RaRa Advanced Licensing Course.

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1:30 p.m., May 22nd**

**Where: The Monroe County
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111 Westfall Road
Rochester, New York**

Please register before **May 10** to guarantee your place at the exam. Send your request and return envelope (standard #10 business size, **two stamps**) to George Platteter, AA2FO, 33 Branchbrook Drive, Henrietta, NY 14467. Your appointment, an FCC 610 form, and complete instructions will be returned promptly.

SEE YOU AT THE

Rochester HAMFEST

MAY 21-22-23, 1993

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