



the RARRA RAG

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NO. 3

ANNUAL RaRa AUCTION IN NOVEMBER

The long-standing tradition of the November auction, not having been challenged by man or beast, will continue in all its splendor yet again. The officers and directors of RaRa cordially invite you to attend and participate on November 4th at 8 p.m. (doors open to vendors and inspectors at 7 p.m.). The location is the Henrietta Fire Hall at the corner of East Henrietta (Rt. 15A) and Lehigh Station Roads; the usual meeting place. As is customary, 10% of the auctioned price of all items will be "attached" by RaRa. This is a reminder that RaRa members are allowed to sell, but anyone can make purchases. If you haven't renewed yet, bring your items anyway, then see Alex Picirili, NV2Y, before the auction starts, to fill in a new application. Alex charges 10 dollars for the privilege of renewing RaRa membership at the meeting (but surely you'll recoup that from all the good stuff you'll sell!).

RUSSIAN ORBITS U.S. SATELLITES

Russia is offering their satellite expertise to several companies around the world. They can build, test, and launch one in less than one year, three times faster than can currently be done here.

Russia recently sold two of their telecommunications satellites to an Indiana firm called Rimsat Ltd., who wants to eventually set up a constellation of satellites over the Pacific Rim. The two satellites originally were over Russia, but were moved in their proper orbits at the end of 1992.

Timsat's goal is seven "birds", for a total of 69 transponders and over 80,000 lines for telephone links. Russia, for their price, will launch even more satellites if needed, and they will construct and launch them; they will even maintain them for up to seven years.

Why is Russia doing this? They need the money. They expect to receive \$150 million for the first seven satellites.

Tnx W5YI Report via Spurious Emissions

ANNUAL AUCTION

November 4, 1994

8:00 p.m.

Henrietta Fire Hall
3129 East Henrietta Road
Corner of East Henrietta
and Lehigh Station Road

Doors open at 7:00 p.m.

Membership required.

One guest allowed with each member.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Take out your pocket planners now, or bring this notice to your desk planner, and write in the following RaRa activities:

1994

December 2nd - RaRa meeting at Kodak Elm-grove plant; hosted by the Kodak Amateur Radio Club.

1995

January 6th and February 4th - Regular RaRa meetings.

February 18th - Winter Funfest. The return (by popular-demand) of Bonnie and Clyde is expected. They are the Clydesdales that provided the horse-drawn haywagon rides last year. Sledging, gourmet victuals (go look it up), and prizes for the young ones will also be available.

March 3rd - Regular RaRa meeting; presentation by an out-of-town guest on the ARRL field organization.

April 7th - Regular RaRa meeting; presentation by the operators of K2JD engraving on the making of badges, or "Better Living Through Personal Identification by Visual Means".

Protocol insists that the first items entered on your calendar on any date is the one to attend.

You're welcome.

de Chris Reich, WB2DYJ

the **RARA RAG**

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Amateur Radio News Service

DO YOU EVER WONDER ABOUT THINGS LIKE THAT?

The annual "Ginna Drill" as it is known to those who participate in it, set me to thinking about how we (RACES) would react if something disastrous should happen around here. I mean, what would we REALLY do? How long would it take before our brains got in gear and acknowledged. This is the Real Thing!

All this brain activity brought back the stories in the newspapers and on TV about the plane crash near Pittsburg a few week ago. Were there any RACES people on the job there?

A few years ago, maybe 5 or maybe 6, my wife and I were coming back from Ohio, on a sunny Sunday. Probably from Dayton, but it doesn't matter. It was around 10 o'clock in the morning, and we were going up Interstate 79 on the West side of Pittsburg, Pennsylvania. I don't usually play with the 2 meter rig while on an Interstate, but traffic was light, so I figured that I probably wouldn't run into anyone if I twiddled the dial a little bit. The biggest activity (and really the only) was a local group of Hams working on an emergency. It was in either Allegheny or Beaver County. You could gather in a lot of information from the data they were reporting in, and where they reported it from. Something BIG was going on! Reports of weather, sky conditions and winds were coming in. Fire Departments were being alerted!

One guy was obviously out of breath from running up a hill. At the top he stopped to report what he saw down in the gully on the other side. The spell was broken when he said, "This is a drill". So realistic - These guys were really putting an exceptional effort into this exercise. They were making the most of a Sunday drill that would possibly help them in the future. I couldn't resist calling in, when they asked if anyone else was on line, to offer my services if needed. They thanked me for the offer, but guessed they had most everything under control, and "Have a good trip". We listened to them perform the drill until reception got bad and I turned the rig off.

The plane crash, in that same general area, and the Ginna drill, made me wonder if any of the people we heard working on that Sunday morning drill were still active in RACES and if they (the people we "knew") were directly involved in that awful crash.

I'll bet you that if any of them were, they performed at their best, and did a job that other disaster service authorities looked up to. You just

INTERNET ACCESS COMES TO ROCHESTER

by Neal Eckhardt, WB2EKP

About a month ago I was fingering through the Freetime magazine and noticed an advertisement for a local Bulletin Board (BBS) that claimed FULL INTERNET ACCESS. I have been wanting to get onto the Internet for over a year now, but haven't been able to get access to anything other than E-Mail and Telnet (the ability to log on to remote computers). I have been looking for Internet providers in the Rochester area for some time and have had no luck in getting access without a toll call. This ad definitely caught my attention.

Getting signed-up was easy. Just call their BBS at 546-7716 with your computer and answer the questions. The BBS is like many others, File areas, message areas, chat areas, and games. The real value comes from the connection to their UNIX machine that gives you access to the world of the Internet. All of the usual programs are available to find your way around the network. There are news readers that give you access to over 9000 discussion groups that range from Ham Radio, to magic, and hundreds of areas of medicine, to flowers and hacking. There's E-Mail, that lets you send and receive mail with other people *around the world* who are also connected to the network. There is Gopher, that gives you an easy menuing system to find data stored at computers all over the globe. FTP is available to allow you to download software from thousands of systems (a lot of it FREEWARE as opposed to SHAREWARE) for all types of systems from MS/DOS based, to UNIX based, or whatever you may be running on your system). You may have some obscure need, but it is out there somewhere, and half the fun is trying to find it. There is also access to the World Wide Web.

Now all of this sounds difficult to use, especially since I mentioned that you have to sign on to a UNIX machine. For all who know UNIX, it is not very intuitive or user friendly. They have a "shell" that does not require you to know UNIX (although there is access to the standard UNIX shell for the die-hards out there). All of the functions you may want to access are listed on menu screens (including file handling functions) and easy for the novice user to learn.

For those knowledgeable people who desire PPP connections to the Internet, that is available too, as well as dedicated lines for the companies that want full time access to the network.

The best part of all this was the connect time charges. While not "FREE", it is close to FREE. Right after joining up, the rates were reduced to 20 hours of connect time for \$10.00. At only 50 cents an hour, I can afford to put in a late night or two "surfing" the Internet for a couple of bucks. For the people who really have nothing better to do, a flat monthly fee of \$25.00 will give you unlimited access to the system. Obviously, the dedicated line option is not included in this rate. Buying time requires pre-payment, and that can be done several ways. You can send a check or money-order, you can charge it to a credit card, or you can dial a 900 number, and have it added on to your telephone bill. By calling the 900 number, you are given an authorization code that you type into the BBS system to get instant credit in your account, definitely the "HI-TECH" way to go.

The BBS is run by the ServiceTech Inc. and can be reached at 546-6908. If you want to go On-Line with them, just call their BBS system and answer the questions, no human contact is required.

FOR SALE - Antenna system. 40' aluminum crank up tower, 4 element Tri-band yagi, Ham-M rotator. All excellent. Reasonable, you take down. Call Ed Gable, K2MP, 392-3088.

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Right on Canning Pkwy to Ramsey Building

From Southwest areas

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Ramsey Electronics, Inc.
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METRIC SLOGANS

- A miss is as good as 1.609 kilometres.
- A decigram of salt.
- Beat him to within 2.54 cm of his life.
- All wool and 91.3 cm wide.
- Give him 2.54 cm and he takes 1609 metres.
- Give him 453.6 gm of flesh.
- Missed it by a country 1.609 km.
- Traffic was 2.54 centimetering along the freeway.
- Hell's 2023.5 square metres.
- Peter Piper picked 8.81 litres of pickled peppers.
- 35.24 litres and 8.81 litres.
- It hit me like 907 kg of bricks.
- 0.9144 metre of beer.
- 28.5 grams of prevention is worth .456 kilograms of cure.

Tnx The Emitter

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The RaRa RAG YEARS AGO —

by ED Gable, K2MP

20 YEARS AGO – NOVEMBER 1974:

The November meeting was the annual auction with Tom Ball, WA2THS, at the gavel. The Sunday Two Meter FM net moved to Noon to 9:00 p.m. alternating between the .79 and .88 repeaters. The General Class Code and Theory classes began a 13 week course with 8 different instructors sharing the load. Instructors were WA2YRT, K2WW, W7JRL, WA2JFM, WB2EDT, WB2EEU, K2LZG and K2YAH. Dave Hassett, K2SQI, and Divot A. Green, WB2NSD, did the Novice sessions. Fred Becker, W2GV and Bob Crumrine, WB2DNN, are working on an OSCAR 7 equipment package to be used for demonstrating satellites to area high schools. RaRa PR Man, David Holtz, WB2HTH, working with Prez Joe Hood, K2YAH, and the City Mayor, managed to have the 1st week in December declared *Amateur Radio Week* in Rochester. From the want ads, you could buy a National NC-300 with calibrator and speaker for \$105 from John, W2BLU.

40 YEARS AGO – NOVEMBER 1954:

This was a very special meeting at the University of Rochester Cyclotron lab hosted by Bill Coombs and Ed Waz, W2BVP. Hurricane *Hazel* devastated many local antennas. Friend Stafford, W2AAU, just put up a fifty footer with a 20 Mtr beam. Two new members are KN2ISP and KN2INO. A new Novice Club is being started within RaRa to help newcomers. W2SAW, W2QY and W2KFU are kingpins for this nice venture. The big gun DX-wise seemed to be W2VQN's 1 kw job with a 4 element yagi on 20 meters and 2 elements on forty. An Elmac AF-67 transmitter could be had for \$105.00, from Van, W2CR.

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