



the RARRA RAG

Published by

ROCHESTER AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION, INC.

VOL. 47

DECEMBER 1994

NO. 4

RaRa/KODAK Joint Meeting December 2nd

December seems to be the month of practicing traditions. A long time Rochester tradition for December is that the Kodak Amateur Radio Club serves as host to RaRa for the monthly meeting. We are pleased to announce that there is no change for 1994; RaRa will be the guest of the Kodak Elmgrove ARC on December 2nd. This will be a regular meeting, starting at 8 PM as usual, only the location is changed.

See the map elsewhere in this issue (Nice job Keith!) for details on how to get there; it is the same location as it was last year. A convenient way to approach Elmgrove is to take 490 West from the city, then take the new Spencerport exit to Route 531. Once on the new expressway, take the very first exit to Elmgrove Road.

Keith Freeburg, N2BEL will man a Simplex Talk-In on 147.48 MHz for anyone needing further assistance.

This year our friends at Kodak are being doubly generous to RaRa in that they have invited one of their own as the evening's speaker. Mark Waldman, WB2JNW is with Kodak's Government Services Division. He will speak on a new observational telescope under construction for NASA. It is called the ADVANCED X-RAY ASTROPHYSICS FACILITY and will add to the data being gathered at optical wavelengths by the Hubble Space Telescope. Mr. Waldman's function is the alignment of the X-ray mirrors, which he refers to as 'grazing incidence X-ray optics' (I won't pretend to understand exactly what that means). He has a proven record of being a captivating speaker, and in case he doesn't bring it up, be sure to ask him "by how much was the Hubble mirror off, anyway?"

Bring your astronomer friends along.

WINTER FUNFEST
February 11, 1995

RaRa MEETING

December 2, 1994

8:00 P.M.

JOINT KODAK MEETING

Kodak Elmgrove

SEASONS GREETINGS

With the temperature in the 50's and the sun warm on the skin, it doesn't seem like I should be saying these words. But, sure enough, the season is coming. Just look in the stores, where we have all seen Christmas items on the shelves for weeks. Whatever the conditions now, this will be my last chance to get into the Christmas spirit for wishing all of the members of RaRa the best of Seasons Greetings for 1994 and a start on a very good new year, 1995.

Chris Reich will preside at the annual Kodak meeting. My Thanks to all the Kodak hams for having us there. On the night of December meeting I will be in the upper North-West corner of Maine, working public service radio on a PRO car Rally. It's crazy, I know, but it's like a vacation, it you don't get snowed in.

I do wish all of you the very best in the coming Holidays and also in 1995. And above all, HAVE FUN!

Roger, WB2BWQ

SILENT KEYS

EDWARD J. HOCKWATER

KB2HYU

October 25, 1994

MURRAY A. HAVELIN

K2YQT

October 31, 1994

the **RaRa Rag**

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

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61st ROCHESTER HAMFEST MAY 19-21, 1995

by Harold Smith, K2HC, General Chairman

The 61st annual Rochester Hamfest and Computer Show combined with the Atlantic Division/New York State Convention will be held next spring, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, May 19-20-21, at the Monroe County Fairgrounds in Henrietta.

CHANGES FLEA MARKET

The flea market will open for set up at 6 a.m., Friday, May 19. No one will be permitted in the flea market area prior to that time.

BANQUET and AWARDS

The annual banquet and awards ceremonies will be held Friday evening, May 19, 6:30 p.m. at the Marriott Thruway Inn. This event is moved from its former Saturday evening time. There are no formal gatherings on Saturday evening at the hotel.

DATES -- 1996 and BEYOND

For many years, we have suffered a severe shortage of hotel rooms. The annual Lilac Festival and graduations help to create the room shortage. To eliminate that problem, starting in 1996, the Rochester Hamfest and Computer Show will change it's dates. We will move from the weekend prior to Memorial Day to the weekend following Memorial Day.

Upcoming dates for the Rochester Hamfest and Computer Show are:

1996 -- May 31 - June 1-2

1997 -- May 30-31 - June 1

1998 -- May 29-30-31

1999 -- June 4-5-6

2000 -- June 2-3-4-

VOL. 47 DECEMBER 1994 NO. 4

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The RaRa RAG (USPS 605-440) is published monthly except 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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IS THIS YOUR FINAL RAG?

All RaRa memberships expired on October 31st. However a two month courtesy grace period is extended for those few procrastinators. If your mailing label indicates an "Oct 94" expiration date, your renewal has not yet been received. To keep your *RaRa Rag* coming uninterrupted and to insure receipt of your copy of the new 1995 *RaRa DIRECTORY*, to be mailed to all paid-up members in January, send in your renewal form today or bring it to the December meeting. If you need another application, just contact the Membership Chairman.

DIRECTORY UPDATES

With December just around the corner it is the time of the year that we get ready to print the 1995 "Directory of Amateurs" for the greater Rochester area. To insure that your entry in the directory is correct please take a minute and check the mailing label on the envelope that this issue of the RAG was mailed in. Make sure that your name, address, and call are correct. The information that is on the label is what will be printed in the directory.

The directory lists all the amateurs in the 144, 145, 146 ZIP codes plus all current RaRa members in the United States (over 3000 listings). If you are aware of any new amateurs in the area or new call-sign changes please let us know so that we may publish an accurate directory.

If any information is incorrect or missing please let the editor of the directory know before December 10, 1994 so that the correct information can be included. Send the corrected information to:

RaRa Directory Editor
Richard A. Goslee, K2VCZ
24 Elaine Drive
Rochester, NY 14623-5306

or call RaRa at (716) 442-0587 or (716) 671-4430.

DECEMBER CALENDAR

- 2 - RaRa Meeting - 8:00 p.m.
Kodak Elmgrove
- 8 - RAPS Meeting - 7:30 p.m. - 111 Westfall
- 17 - RaRa VE Testing - 111 Westfall Road

FCC SEEKS CHANGES IN TWO UHF BANDS

The FCC on October 20 adopted a Notice of Proposed Rule Making to convert a block of spectrum from federal government to commercial use, including two UHF bands shared by Amateur Radio on a secondary basis with the government.

The proposal, in ET Docket 94-32, would allocate 2390 to 2400, 2402 to 2417 (both shared by amateurs), and 4660 to 4685 MHz to the Fixed and Mobile Services. The FCC is required by the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1993 to adopt rules for such a reallocation by February 10, 1995.

The proposal calls for licensing to be accomplished through competitive bidding. In a news release, the Commission said it is requesting comment on alternative approaches, including "continued use of some of this spectrum by the amateur community".


The FCC said it received a number of responses to its Notice of Inquiry on the proposal reallocations, including formal comments from "the amateur community" (primary the ARRL). More information was in October *QST*, page 83.

In another proceeding, ET Docket 94-124, the FCC is proposing to open a number of bands above 40 GHz to commercial use. The only one that potentially affects amateurs in 76.0 to 77.0 Hz, which is adjacent to our primary allocation at 75.5 to 76.0 GHz and is part of the 76.0 to 81.0 GHz band that amateurs share on a secondary basis.

Tnx ARRL Letter

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ROANOKE, VA MAN SENTENCED FOR JAMMING AIRCRAFT COMMUNICATIONS

An unlicensed Roanoke, VA radio operator who identified himself as the "Roanoke Phantom" was sentenced April 24th to 100 months in prison and fined \$2,000 - to be followed by three years of supervised probation.

Rodney E. Bocock was convicted of transmitting false air traffic control instructions, endangering the safety of aircraft in flight and using obscene, indecent or profane language on aviation frequencies. His transmissions included misinformation to pilots, false distress calls and offensive language.

A massive joint effort was mounted by the FCC, FAA, FBI and the Allegheny County Sheriff's Department to locate Bocock and was one of the most difficult cases the Commission has had to solve. FCC investigators from across the country were called in to assist in surveillance, radio direction-finding and technical signal analysis work.

The case involved more resources than any other case in FCC history. "The joint effort resulted in resolution of a serious threat to aviation safety", FCC Field Operations Bureau Chief Richard M. Smith said. "The conviction and now the sentencing should send a strong message that people who commit this sort of serious violation will be caught and punished".

Tnx W5YI Report via The Readout

FCC TO USE NEW SOUPED UP PATROL CARS

According to BroadCasting and Cable Magazine, 'the FCC will roll a new fleet of souped-up spectrum patrol cars out of the garage this summer'. The Commission is including 'a trunk load of mapping and global positioning technology into 10 of its cars. FCC engineers hope the beefed up mobile digital direction finder' (MDDF) vehicles will cut the time needed to find illegal radio operators.

A prototype model displayed at the FCC carried \$75,000 worth of signal tracking and location equipment installed inconspicuously in a blue Chevrolet Caprice".

Tnx W5YI Report via The Readout



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FASTER LICENSING: FCC SETS DATE FOR ELECTRONIC FILING

On October 24 the FCC released a 7-page Order amending its amateur rules, effective December 20, 1994, to reflect what the Commission calls "non-substantive procedural changes":

- To permit electronically filed data from VECs (paper applications also will still be accepted);
- To authorize operation as soon as the new license data appears in the amateur service licensees data base, rather than (as now) when the license document has been delivered (details of how the new licensee can determine his call sign will be announced later);
- To add a new rules section, "Examinee Conduct", to emphasize that an examinee must comply with the instructions given by the administering VEs;
- To treat "Technician Plus" as a license class;

And to provide for a renewal short form", which the FCC says will be mailed to licensees in advance of their expiration date beginning sometime in 1995. The FCC added that renewal applications would be accepted no more than 90 days before the expiration date.

Because of the nature of these rule amendments, there is no notice or comment period required by federal law. Again, these changes do not take effect until December 20, 1994.

Tnx ARRL Letter

THE RaRa RAG YEARS AGO--

by Ed Gable, K2MP

20 YEARS AGO - DECEMBER 1974

The December meeting highlighted John Schooley, W2BLU, with a talk and slide show on the advances of technology on the telephone industry. Computers voice message service and other advanced features of the new Kodak telephone system were featured. Oscar 7 was launched on November 15th and gave many hams their first easy access to satellite using 2 Mtr in/10 Mtr out. Ed Maher, WB2FJY, writing for the RVHFG, reported that Bob Moore, WA2JFM, would demonstrate a spectrum analyzer at the next meeting. Ray Roberts, WA2SSU, reported that the 444.25/449.25 repeater would be located at building 69 at Kodak Park. PR man David Holtz, WB2HTH, wrote a lengthy article on *Amateur Radio Contributions to Rochester and the Public*. It still makes good reading today. There was a total of eleven paid commercial advertisers at this time as well as many personal ads.

40 YEARS AGO--DECEMBER 1954:

RaRa's first membership Directory is being issued to each member as well as an order blank for standard RaRa Photo QSL cards showing a picture of the Emergency Communications truck. The December meeting featured a representative from Weston who will demonstrate their latest test equipment line. New calls heard were KN2ISP and KN2JFV. It was reported that W2VTR needed "special machinery" to move his ten ton (!) transmitter into the new shack. Hank, W2UTH, is DXing on 144 Mcs from his new Victor QTH. RaRa was then, as it is now, dedicated to public service and Civil Defense communications and this issue reported on a three day CD test in which 50 local hams participated at fixed shelter sites and mobile. a 3 hour period, with complex calling and listening times and frequencies caused by the widely varying allowed band use by area.

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NOTEWORTHY NOTES

Keep your eyes, ears and mind open for people who might be eligible for three awards given to three worthy amateurs at the ARRL Convention, held in connection with the Rochester Hamfest, next May. The awards are: The Amateur of the Year, The Grand 'Ole Ham and The Technical Achievement Award. More about these in coming RAGS. Or, you may call me at 292-6665 for information.

Roger, WB2BWQ

ARCHIE the HAM

We don't know if Archie, in the comic books, ever did settle down with Veronica, but we do know that Archie, in the comic books about Amateur radio, is making a big hit with those thinking about taking up our hobby. These comic books seem to be a catalyst in the formative stages of ham radio.

The ARRL, which sends these booklets out to clubs and schools which request them, has run out of the last batch of 100,000. They would like to send more of them out, but because of the cost of \$19,000 to print them, they need help. They are asking for tax deductible donations from individuals and clubs to help with this cost.

If you would like to help promote ham radio and would like to do it from your easy chair, here is the way. Just give me a call on the phone (292-6665) and I'll give you all the finer details on this great way to promote Ham Radio.

Roger Harnaart, WB2BWQ

QUICK TIP

Do you carry an extra battery pack for your HT? Most of us do today at some time or another. Did you know that these little power packs can be real dangerous if they get shorted out by ... lets say a metal pen in your pocket? Well I found a great way to prevent this and it costs basically nothing. I simply put a wide rubber band from a head of broccoli around the entire pack covering the contacts. This prevents the terminals from shorting out. Now my only problem is getting the kids to eat the broccoli!

George, N3OWG via The Readout

BRIEFS ARRL LETTER

●The FCC has issued a Notice of Apparent Liability for \$20,000 to Ace Communications of Fishers, Indiana, for marketing illegal scanner radios. Ace, the FCC said, advertised two different unauthorized scanners in magazines including *73 Amateurs Radio Today*, *CQ*, and *Popular Electronics*. Both the models cover cellular telephone frequencies. The FCC based the fine on Ace's apparent ignoring of warning letters from the Commission and called the violation "intentional".

●Weird Science: The recent story about hot dogs and health originated in the *Los Angeles Times* and widely circulated via its new service. Not heard on TV recaps was a statement by the study's originator,

University of Southern California epidemiologist John Peters, who said that the hot dog indictment was "part of a little side questionnaire to our study on electromagnetic fields. We were as surprised as anyone", Peters said, "by the hot dogs findings ... It was the biggest risk for anything we saw in the study -- about four time the risk for EMFs".

●Astronaut Ken Cameron, KB5AWP, has been named Director of Operations-Russia and manager of NASA operational activities at Star City and at the Russian control center at Kaliningrad.

He will work with Russian Space Agency engineers and flight controllers on the US-Russia cooperative space program, including supervising NASA astronaut training at Star City and developing plans and procedures to support joint space shuttle/Russian *Mir* space station flights and space station development. He is expected to command one of the early shuttle docking missions with *Mir*. Cameron has flown on two SAREX shuttle flights, STS-37 in 1991 and STS-56 in 1993, both of them "all ham" shuttles.

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50-YEAR FETE FOR CQ

CQ magazine will celebrate 50 years of publishing in 1995 with a special anniversary issue of the magazine, operating awards, and a "variety of off-air events and special opportunities", said Publisher Richard A. Ross, K2MGA.

The January 1995 issue of *CQ* will have a special section devoted to the anniversary, with articles on the past half-century in Amateur Radio as well as "the real world", and, of course, this history of *CQ*.

Special awards for operating during 1995 will be announced in *CQ*. Coordinator of the 50th anniversary project is Rich Moseson, NW2L.

Tnx ARRL Letter

CALENDAR CORRECTION

Note please that the date given for the Winter Funfest in last month's Rag was in error. The correct date for the Winter Funfest is February 11th, 1995. I regret any inconvenience caused by my error, please correct the date in your personal calendars.

NEW WNY ASSISTANT SECTION MANAGER (ASM)

Our own ARRL Western New York Section Manager, Bill Thompson, W2MTA, recently announced the appointment of two new Assistant Section Managers. One of these is RaRa's own Ed Gable, K2MP. Ed was recruited especially for the position of Section Historian where a compilation of WNY activities, clubs, key people and the like is anticipated. The other is Dave Schryver, NR2S, who is active in the Tri-County area on newsletter and is a PIO. RaRa congratulated both on their appointments.

RaRa, an ARRL Special Service Club, should be proud of it's member contributions to the tireless efforts of the ARRL on behalf of all Radio Amateurs. Other local appointees include:

Ed Holdsworth, N2EH: Club Coordinator, Assistant Section Manager, Emergency Coordinator.

Ed Gable, K2MP: Assistant Director Atlantic Division, Assistant Section Manager, Assistant Emergency Coordinator.

Dwight Hill, K2WKW: Bulletin Manager, OPS, PIO.

Irv Goodman, AF2K: ORS, Net Manager.

Dave Smith, N2EAI: ORS, Section Traffic Manager.

Official Phone Stations: K2NC, KA2GPI, K2SA, WA2MYG.

Official Relay Stations: K2BCL, NU2U, N2EVG, N2TOY, W2ICE, KA2DPD.

Technical Specialist: KE2DI.

Haansoff D. Phinal, DK2RL/K2

Rochester HAMFEST

May 19-20-21

WOW!! What a great auction. Thanks to everyone who brought equipment to sell, to those who came to purchase this equipment and to the great number who sat through the WHOLE thing just for the fun of it. I can't believe it was 11:30 before those two Happy-Harmonious-Hams finished with their Mad-Cap Mouthfuls of Malarkey. How do they do that? Lets have them try it again next year. Maybe we'll find out. Thanks also to the Officers and Board members who did the financial work and the bull work. Nice job everyone!!

The H-H-H Guys? Gable and Goslee, of course.

73 MAGAZINE PUBLISHER IN FINANCIAL TROUBLE

Wayne Green, owner of Wayne Green Inc. (WGI), has circulated a letter to creditors advising that he "... discovered that my comptroller had apparently modeled the WGI financial system after to one Congress is using, complete with deficits and some of the more pesky items off the books. Things were completely uncomptrolled".

Green, W2NSD/1, now has an "ex-comptroller", reduced staff and "... gotten rid of the money-losing CD manufacturing division that caused the trouble ...".

The company is now back into a profit-making situation. Green is trying to liquidate an "un-believable amount of inventory into cash... .. 'Given a little time, I believe we can move it out at 50% on the dollar and thus have enough to pay everyone off. Fortunately, good music doesn't go out of date like magazines".

"If we get forced into Chapter 11, everyone but the IRS and the lawyers will get screwed. I don't want that, nor do you. So, let's work together while I'm solving the problem caused by an uncomptroller". The letter was dated April 18, 1994.

Tnx The Readout

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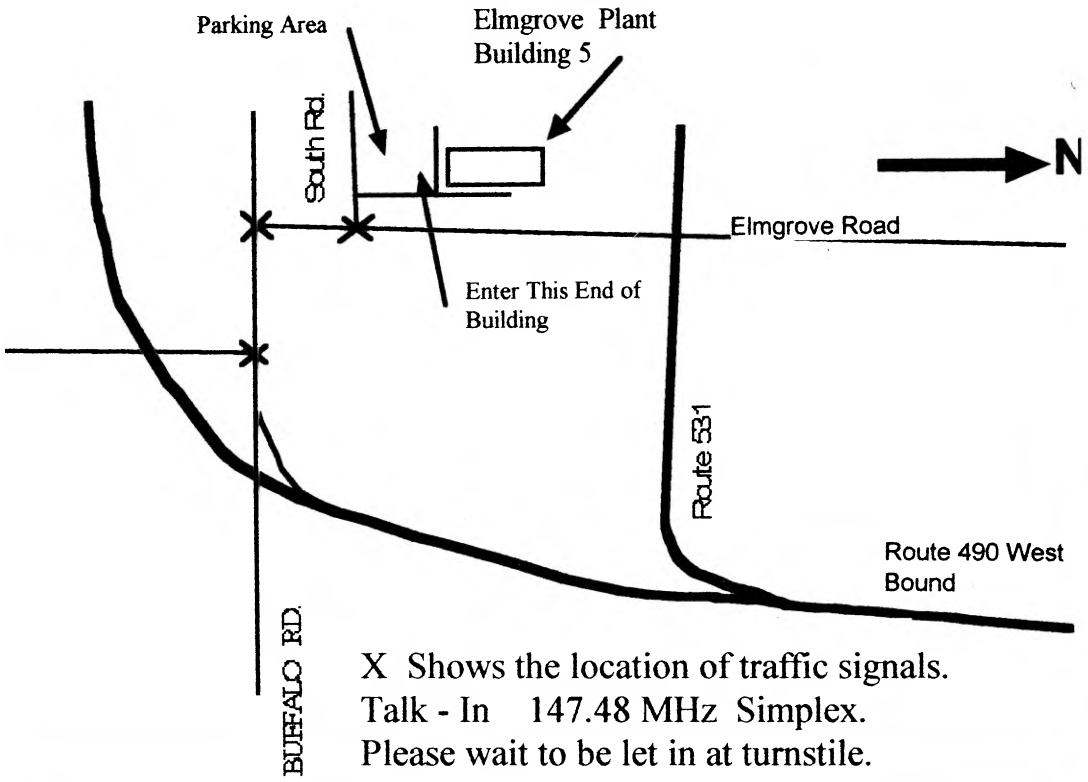
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