



the RARA RAG

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RaRa ANNUAL MTG - '99 DUES STRUCTURE DEBATED ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Highlighting the May 7th meeting will be a discussion of the present and future dues structure, and election of officers.

RARA'S Old Timers Night Ed Gable, K2MP/W2AN Presents-"The Development of Early Radio"

by Bob Moore, N2USB

Past RaRa Old Timer's nights have dealt with focused ham radio topics and local radio history. This year we are going back to basics and hear of the history of early radio in general. Most people think of radio as that form of entertainment brought into our homes by broadcasting. That, however, started in 1921, whereas history tells us radio was really introduced in 1895. No study or understanding of radio would be complete without understanding what happened during this twenty-five year period. Using a slide show format, Ed Gable, K2MP/W2AN, Curator of the AWA Electronic Communication Museum in Bloomfield, will take us through this interesting and sometimes tormenting period.

Come and enjoy Ed's entertaining presentation about the radios of the past and participate in the selection of the RARA's leadership for the future. See you there.

Rochester Hamfest Celebrates 65th Year

by Harold Smith, K2HC
General Chairman

There has been a Rochester Hamfest every year since the early '30s. This year, on June 4-5-6, the Rochester Amateur Radio Assn. celebrates the 65th annual event at the Fairgrounds Dome Center and the Rochester Marriott Thruway.

RaRa members are fortunate to host the largest hamfest in the northeast United States in their city. No other amateur radio club can make this claim.

The hamfest, in addition to the local people, is host to nearly 8,000 from other locations in New York, neighboring states and Canada.

A complete schedule of events is published in the Rochester Hamfest Times. The newsletter was mailed to nearly 30,000 people. If you have not received your copy, call the hamfest business office, 424-7184, (during weekday business hours). Complete information and details are also located at the hamfest web site:

www.rochesterhamfest.org. Information on the web site is updated daily.

An important hamfest event is the annual banquet and awards ceremony, 6:30 p.m., Friday, June 4, at the Rochester Marriott Thruway. Although RaRa has nearly 700 members, very few RaRa members attend. The dinner one of the premier events sponsored by your club. An excellent prime rib dinner is served. Substitute dinners are furnished to anyone who requires a different meal. Requests for special meals must be made in advance.

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the **RARA RAG**

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The Prez Sez...

by Rick Wells, W2RW, President RARA

Well, here we go, down the final stretch. We've got three events remaining to close out the club season, the Annual May Meeting, the Rochester Hamfest and the club picnic. Let's take them in order.

The Annual Meeting is the last and most important meeting of the club year. We will elect officers and directors for the '99-2000 season, establish the dues structure for next year and be treated to a superb Old Timer's Night program. See Bob's article elsewhere regarding K2MP's program. Due to the continuing increase in expenses, the Board will recommend a membership dues increase to \$15 with seniors 65 and above remaining at the \$10 level. Dick wrestled with this and will explain the details and his thinking behind it. Please come out to this final meeting of the season. This is your opportunity to nominate and vote for officers and directors and we need a quorum to conduct the official club business. And of course, don't forget about the "Great Eyeball QSO's" and doughnuts. See you there!

By now you've already received your Hamfest mailing. Mark your calendars now. And don't forget to let the XYL (or OM) know that you're going to be "away" for the weekend. Consider taking a vacation day on Friday, I do. The Dome is now open Friday afternoon and the flea market is great. It's almost as full as on Saturday. I always get a charge of the guys running around looking in your trunk as you unpack the goodies at 7 AM in the morning. Guess that's how they get a bargain! This is the biggest and best 'fest next to Dayton. Harold, K2HC, and his staff have once again done a fantastic job. You don't see much of Harold because he hangs out at HQ, at the Marriott. If you happen to see him, or other Hamfest staffers for that matter, give 'em a pat on the back. Without them, there would not be a Rochester Hamfest to attend! Putting a show on like this is a tall order. We need to remember that.

And the picnic... I'll be exercising my last and final duty as club president, cooking the dogs. Bring the XYL (OM), come on out, get a free lunch on the club and have a great time. Don't forget ARRL Field Day the following weekend.

Some parting thoughts now. It's been a fun year and hopefully a good one for the club. I've enjoyed teaching the Novice/Tech theory and think we've graduated some fine new amateurs. hobby. I want to thank the officers, directors and committee chairs for their service and especially my good friend and fellow instructor Tim Magee, WB2KAO, who has

been a constant source of inspiration and assistance for the past two years. Also, a big thank you to Keith, N2BEL, and his Radio Coaches who have put in countless hours of time on a new and extremely worthwhile endeavor. We may see something in QST magazine about RARA's Radio Coaches program later this summer.

You may notice when you read the letter from the nominating committee that my name is not included in the list of nominees for the board. I have decided to limit my responsibilities next year to that of teaching the Novice/Tech theory and helping where needed in the background. There is still much work to do (I didn't get it all done, in spite of best intentions!) Bob Moore, N2USB, will have plenty to work on next year. Good luck, Bob. I hope you'll find the same good level of support, or even better, than what I enjoyed this past season.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve the club and the Rochester amateur community. Not everyone gets the opportunity and privilege to lead one of the largest Special Service Clubs in the country and I'm very please to have had the chance. AR 73,

Rick, W2RW, dit dit dit dah dit dah

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**Plan Now, Mark your calendar.....
The Annual RARA Spring picnic
will be held on June 19, 1999 at
Ellison Park.**

**Next Rag Deadline
May 7, 1999**

DX Happenings

Ed Gable K2MP/W2AN

ARRL DX Contest season is over with a mix of excellent to dismal conditions. Activity was high and the return of the ten meter band brought back many good memories and thrilled those new contestants who have not yet gone through a sunspot maximum. The DXpedition of the month seems to be the Rodrigues Island (AF-017) group at 3B9R. They are operating 160-6 meters with good sigs. Those looking for new Islands should look for a few special stations this month including 4Z0A, Akhziv Island (AS-100), BI5D on Dongtou Island (New IOTA) and King George Island, counting for DXCC South Shetland, will be on as CE9R. Hunters of the funny prefixes can try for 2S stations this summer where 2S will be the same as GM in Scotland. 2C will equal GW. A huge operation on Palau, T88--, is on the way. Look for T8 on 160-6 meters, including 10 meter FM and SSTV. Finally we're pleased to have ZS8 on Marion Island to be activated again by the time you read this. Look for ZS8D and QSL to ZS6EZ.

Roch. Hamfest 65th Year, cont. from page 1

Here is an opportunity to show your spouse or significant other a wonderful evening at an elegant hotel. While most dress for the evening, there is no dress code. You may have promised a fine dinner for a long time. Here is a perfect opportunity to fulfill the promise.

After the dinner, a brief awards ceremony is conducted by Harry Dannals, W2HD, ARRL President Emeritus. There are no lengthy speeches or lectures.

Let's show those from other areas that members of the Rochester Amateur Radio Assn. support their organization.

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PRESTIGIOUS SPORTS CAR RALLY NEEDS HAMS

By Debbie Segall, N2MXC

The Susquehanna Trail (STPR), an event sponsored by the Sports Car Club of America, will be held again this year on June 4th to 6th. The event, starting at 11:00 AM on Saturday and continuing on until 2:00 AM Sunday, will feature prepared rally cars racing through and exciting maze of roads in a beautiful forest setting near Wellsboro, PA.

Communication for the event is provided each year by ham radio operators stationed at strategic locations to accurately track the progress of the cars. Two repeaters and three separate nets provide the backbone of the communication system. About fifty (50) area hams, many from RaRa, contribute their expertise each year to make this race possible.

Put your ham radio operating skills to work. If you would enjoy practicing your ham radio skills while enjoying being a part of this prestigious Sports Car Rally, this is for you. Contact Tim Groth, on E-Mail at n2gon@aol.com.

RaRa Rag 20 Years Ago

Ed Gable K2MP

May 1979: The meeting notice only revealed "a short program will follow the annual business meeting." There was a big splash on the '79 Hamfest to be held on May 26-27. Advanced tickets could be obtained for \$3.75 from Ticket Chairman Ed Gable, K2MP, or from *JR Amateur Radio* on Scottsville Road. Flea Market passes were one dollar. Jim O'Brien, K2UDP, wrote a plea asking for volunteers to take photos of what is expected to be the biggest Hamfest ever. Also choosing Hamfest time for celebration was the Rochester Radio Repeater Association with a formal Dinner meeting at the Marriott. Reservations were through Bill Gillette, WB2KIW. Rich Koehn, K2UW, headed up the Nominating committee and reported on the slate for the 79/80 season. Automatically advancing to President will be Alan Komenski, AC2K. Ed Holdsworth, N2EH, announced that the popular STPR Road Rally in Wellsboro, PA, will be held on June 9 & 10 and is asking for "vigorous" volunteers. Roger (you bet) Harnaart, WB2BWQ, is assistant event chairman and may even take over someday. RaRa's mobile van, featuring K2JD/m operating from its venerable Chevy Corvair van, demonstrated ham radio at a Rochester Section meeting of the IEEE. The meeting topic was "Amateur Radio's Impact on Family and Career" by the now famous radio engineer Ulrich Rhode, DL2LR. Ed Holdsworth, N2EH, and Ed Gable, K2MP, ran the on-the-air demo. From the want ads you could buy a Clegg FM27B from Jim Allen, WA2DJE, for \$200. And we thought the full page advertising war was done with *JR Amateur Radio* the winner. JR now ran a half page ad only to be out gunned by a new entry with the entire back cover devoted to the *Heathkit Electronic Center* on Jefferson Road.

RaRa Amateur Radio License Testing

**Novice - Tech - Tech Plus
General - Advanced - Extra
or**

**Whatever Elements you need
to complete a license class.**

**Saturday, June 5, 1999
Hamfest Weekend
Reg/Testing 1:00 PM**

**Social Services Building
111 Westfall Rd., Rochester
Inquires (716) 334-4488**

RaRa Hotline

(716) 442-0587

24 hours a day

Candidates for Office

The following is a list of candidates who have agreed to become officers or directors as of the RaRa meeting 4-2-99, and will be voted on at the annual meeting on May 7th. The names include those submitted by the nominating committee and from the floor. Additional candidates can be nominated from the floor, prior to the elections, at the Annual meeting.

Secretary

NORM TURNER, WB2LQB

My interest in amateur radio started in high school, when I joined the school amateur radio club in Gowanda, NY. Andy Washy, K2ISN, was the advisor of the club and helped a number of us become amateur radio operators.

I did let my license lapse when I became married. My life took a detour from the hobby to raise two beautiful girls.

For Christmas of 1997, I received a gift from my daughters that enkindled my interest in amateur radio, a VHF-UHF scanner. I decided to try and listen to the old repeater pairs that I remembered from 70's. I found a group of fellows that were friendly and welcomed new members. I signed up for the RARA License classes and once again became a radio amateur.

I mentioned this brief history in my life to make a point--it is very important to welcome new amateurs and to help them out in any way we can. This is why I am willing to work in any way possible in the license class program and license testing program--To help to increase the number of hams in the hobby. It is very important to achieve this goal. I also wish to return the favor to the RARA organization by working in whatever position I may to help the club, whether or not it is in the position of Secretary of the club. Thank you for your support in helping me achieve my goal of becoming a radio amateur. I am willing to help in any way that I might to support this organization.

Treasurer

DICK GOSLEE, K2VCZ

First licensed in 1956 as KN2VCZ, Dick holds an Advanced class license. He has been a member of

RARA for 18 years and has served on the Board of Directors for the last 15 years. He is a past President and has been serving as RARA Treasurer for the past 12 years. He taught theory for the Novice/Tech class for RARA for 5 years and has also taught the Advanced class. Dick is a member of the RARA "VE" team which gives license exams to prospective new Hams. He also serves as the Managing Editor/Advertising Manager for the RARA Rag, the Editor of the annual RARA Directory, and is a member of the K2JD Engraving Team.

Dick is employed as the Director of Engineering for Quality Protections Systems, and combining his love of drag racing with employment he is also employed as an IHRA Certified Technical Inspector and the Chief Starter at NY International Raceway Park in Leicester, NY, and also at Norwalk Raceway Park in Norwalk, Ohio. When he can find some free time he enjoys fishing and camping with his wife Susan (N2HKA) and his daughters Karen (KB2CHE) and Cathie (KB2ESZ).

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 same house in Webster they bought thirty-three years ago. There they raised their three children; one son and two daughters. They now have four grandchildren, all boys.

Lloyd is now retired from General Motors where he worked for thirty-six years, serving in many management positions.

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 twenty-three years as a RARA member he has spent sixteen of them serving on the Board of Directors, including the office of Vice President and President. He was also the RARA membership chairman for six years. For the past five years he has been serving as Program Chairman on the Rochester Hamfest Committee. He also served as the Hamfests Awards Chairman for two years. Lloyd is currently an ARES Assistant Emergency Coordinator. His main interest in ham radio is rag chewing, working DX, RACES/ARES, and working on many of the public service events that RARA is involved with. As well as being an active life member of RARA he is a member of the ARRL and the Rochester Radio Repeater.

MARYKAY VESCO, KC2DPG

I have lived here in East Rochester for 16 years, am married to Michael F Vesco, and the only child we have is our baby rabbit, Angel.

I currently work for Mazzola Insurance, have my Property and Casualty Brokers License; Life, Accident, and Health Agents License; and am a Licensed Notary Public.

One of my greatest accomplishments is going from no amateur radio license all the way to Extra class in one year. On May 20, 1998, I got my first amateur radio license as a Tech Plus. Then upgrading until passing the exam for amateur Extra class on March 20, 1999.

In Addition, I have signed up to be a VE with WY5I, and am in the process of registering for RACES and ARES. I have been a member of RARA since the Spring 1998 Training Session, and a member of ARRL as well. I have been an active member with Livingston County Chapter of REACT for a year and a half, with which I am now the Treasurer.

Besides Amateur Radio, I am an experienced motorcycle Rider. I belong to several Motorcycle associations, including, the Christian Motorcycle Association and the American Motorcycle Association. With the Gold Wing Road Riders Association, I did the Ride Schedule for well over a year, and with the Ramblin' Roses Chapter of Women on Wheels, I was the Assistant Director for a year and did the newsletter for a year.

I am also a member of Women of the Moose and the American Legion Auxiliary.

JAMIE ANANKO, N3ZSS

I am originally from Long Valley, New Jersey and have lived in Northeast Pennsylvania for 18 years. My educational background is an associate degree in Electrical Engineering Technology from Penn State University and an associate degree in Broadcast Communications from Luzerne County Community College.

Most of my work experience has been in radio and television in operational and technician positions.

I was licensed as an Amateur Radio Operator in 1997 at the Technician level.

I relocated here six months ago and hope to remain in the area permanently.

JACK TRIPP, N2SNL

I am retired and have been a ham for 6 ½ years. This gives me lots of time to play radio and computer. During this time I have been active on VHF, 10 meters (when open), packet. I have participated in several public service events, Pumpkin Patrol, Stuart Horse Trails, Ginna Drill, Walnut Hill Horse Carriage Driving Competition. I am currently on the RaRa Board of Directors completing my third term of office. I have been a Holdsworth Coolie for several years helping set up for the Hamfest and this year I am in charge of advanced tickets sales. I was Chairman of RAPS (Rochester Amateur Packet Society) for two years and am currently editor of the RAPSheet. I hope you will re-elect me to your Board of Directors.

ED HOLDSWORTH, N2EH

I have lived in the town of Mendon since I was released from active duty with the Navy in 1954. Joyce and I have five sons, four who live in this area and one that lives with his family in Western Colorado. I was first licensed in 1968 with the call WN2EJR, and now hold the Extra class license with the call N2EH. I have been active in RARA since getting my first license and have served RARA for the past thirty years. I have served as Secretary, Vice President and President and have served on the Board of Directors for several years. I have assisted with the license class since I was first licensed, first as an assistant and then as director for several years. I also planned and coordinated several camping weekends each year during the 1970's and 1980's when we had more activities than we presently have. I am presently the Assistant General Chairman of the Rochester Hamfest and have worked on the hamfest for the past twenty years. I am also the Emergency Coordinator for ARES and RACES Radio Officer for Monroe County and the Affiliated Club Coordinator for the Western NY section. I am the trustee of our club station, K2JD, a post I have held since 1971. The station has grown over the year since it got the first piece of equipment, a Heathkit HW-16. It now has two HF stations, one 6 Meter station, 6 VHF stations on 2 Meters. 220 and 450, 4 packet stations and an ATV repeater/station, plus a great deal of peripheral gear. I am also a life member of RARA, ARRL, and Amsat, and a member of QCWA.

I was born and raised in Johnstown, Pennsylvania. Amateur radio has fascinated me for many years. I remember as a teenager being in several shacks and meeting hams. I always had an interest in electricity and radio from the time I was about 10.

In the mid sixties I learned CW while I was attending school here for Friden, Inc. My room mate was learning code so I learned with him. However, when I got home I never took the day off work to make the trip to Pittsburgh to take the tests. I needed an Elmer.

About 3 years ago a good friend of mine, Mark KB2PUB, in Buffalo, got me interested again and I became a ham.

About a year ago I became a Tech +, thanks to the efforts of Tim WB2KAO and the RARA classes. You can find me on the .79 repeater a lot and at the Leroy 4 corners during contest time on 2 meters and 70 cm. I like contesting and public service operations. If you get out of town far enough, you may find me on 10 meters when the sun cooperates.

I also belong to the Monroe County Office of Emergency Preparedness, Brockport Amateur Radio Klub (Treasurer), and the Genesee Repeater Association. For the past two years I have been the RARA Awards Chairman.

Spring 1999 License Class Report

by Tim Magee, WB2KAO, License Class Director

License classes are proceeding on schedule and with much enthusiasm toward a May 24th testing date. I am beginning to teach the numbers in the Novice CW class, which will take us right into QSO formats and plenty of self confidence building. Theory is also progressing well as Module 7 is being covered as of this writing. Tim WB2SXY, and Bill KG2F, also report that their classes are proceeding smoothly and on schedule.

I have agreed and am committed to coordinate the classes for the '99-2000 season. I am also glad to report that all instructors will be in place for the Fall well ahead of schedule. Our club can be proud of the participation of instructors and students, and as always, I want to express my appreciation to the staff of instructors who have done an outstanding job.

1999 Hamfest Programs-

Part V

by Lloyd R. Caves, WB2EFU

Well folks, it is getting closer to the Rochester Hamfest dates. If you don't remember, they are June 4, 5, and 6 this year. Do you have your advanced tickets yet? If not, why not? This is a good way to save a couple of bucks and you can get your banquet tickets at the same time. Everyone enjoys sitting down to a great meal with friends and going to the banquet is a good way to do that.

If you have been following this article the past few months you know that it has been listing a few of the programs to be held at the Hamfest. This month is no exception. The following is the remainder of the programs that are scheduled at this time:

Rus Healy, K2UA will present a program on **New Product Reviews**. Rus will detail his New Product Review days at the ARRL. His discussion will revolve around how the reviews are scheduled and the amount of work it takes to do an unbiased review of all equipment. It is very interesting to know how he was able to get the reviews in QST in a timely fashion.

Are you a RACES member or thinking of becoming one? If so, you will not want to miss the **RACES MEETING** to be held by Ken Goetz, N2SQW, the State Radio Officer for the State Emergency Management Office and Leo Guilmette, KB2WNJ, Chief of Communications for the State Emergency Management Office. They will be giving a general overview of RACES program and will be going over the new SOP manual that has just been completed.

Once again this year there will be the highly acclaimed **VHF Forum**. This will be the ninth year for this forum that covers topics in VHF, UHF, and Microwave. Steve Obenhofer, N2ULL, Rochester VHF Group Chairman will host this program which is sure to be a hit.

Kevin T. Kedzierski, WA2FKV, Special Events Coordinator for the Radio Association of WNY will once again be with us to hold the **W2"RUF and READY" Code Proficiency Tests**. These test will be held all day on Saturday on the Dome floor and a certificate will be given to those participants who copy at least one perfect minute at 7.5 WPM. There will also be endorsements for levels from 10 WPM to 75 WPM in jumps of 5 WPM. You can find a copy of this great looking certificate

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QRZ'D with Alex, NV2Y

What I See from the Back Where I Stand

Stop! What ever your doing and let us have a cup of tea so that we can spin a yarn or two. I have been doing some charity work. No, not real charity but mentoring, teaching code and theory, building electronic kits for the Radio Coaches Program, and you know, I'm having a ball. You can too. You know what I like best about all of this is that I am learning a lot. A lot that I long forgot and a great bit I never knew. Let me give you an example. Have you ever seen the twinkle, the hunger, the excitement in the eyes of those who dream of being a ham operator. Yes! There are such people out there who would give their right arm to have a license like you, to know what you know, and do what you do. You don't believe me? Come to the testing sessions and look at the anxious, tenacious, hopeful and willing faces.

Each gives their own reactions on learning that they passed their exam. Don't you remember when you were in their shoes. A sigh, a tear, a warm kiss on the cheek for a Volunteer Examiner, from an exuberant y!l, a holler of joy, a choke, holding back a tear, a young preteen boy or girl turning to their anxious mother and or father. Ah! those are the moments you know in your heart what you felt that very day, that very moment, when you knew you passed your exam. I knew I could do it. I am so glad I did it. I so want to be a ham.

On the other hand there are others who don't make it. That is where a Volunteer Examiner really earns his "pay". Look at the face that is frozen in sadness, some times in anger, and some times in shame. A VE can look at an exam paper and quickly determine the amount of effort the person put into preparing for the exam. Did he choke, was he over confident, did he/she come in to test the waters?

Even before the VE lets the non-passing examinee know he failed, the VE is preparing to encourage him to go on. And we do. They always come back more determined then ever, they are going to be hams.

The guy who sits in the back of the meeting room, the dog face who is marching in the back of the platoon, the last guy to volunteer, they are watching, studying those in front. And it is amazing as to what he sees. The club member can quickly see and analysis the club, the soldier can see if the pride of the platoon is there or the member asking do I want to volunteer with these hard working people for a worthy cause. I just had

that happen to me.

At the last few board meetings the subject of a school science project was discussed. This is centered around a 5th grade level science class. The level of enthusiasm shown by those volunteers who have been teaching, on your Board members, club officers, and participating members was catching. They offered us a film to view that they produced of a school fair where live demonstrations of Amateur TV, with the students in it, a spark generator that gave a dramatic demonstration to produce communication, etc. The other half of the film was a lecture to the 5th graders by John Woika, W8JW on What is Radio? How was it invented and how does it work? You could hear a pin drop in that classroom. No, they were not asleep. John used words that they understood. Showed them examples they understood. They in turn asked questions which showed they were grasping, "what is a radio and how and what makes it work". This is what our kids need.

I think it is about time to give credit to these dedicated people. It is not possible to name all names because like me there are a number of supporting people in the background no one ever sees. If medals are to be handed out you can start here: Keith Freeberg N2BEL, Peter Fournia W2SKY, Bob Moore N2USB, Joe Wakler III, KA8WJH, Jon Dickason N2JAC. I am sure there are a lot of others that I don't know of who are behind the scene. And yes, then there is your RaRa Board members who gave seed money to start this program.

What I like about this project is that the schools are asking for this type of input. There is a real need for such additions to the children's education. From where I stand in the back, I see your fellow amateurs will make their project succeed. They are giving our children something now, by building a science background for their future.

There is one small but dedicated group that is the backbone in Amateur Radio. These are the men and women who teach the new perspective hams and those who want to upgrade. Tim McGee WB2KAO, with his assistants, conducts 2-13 week classes each year. The turn out has been phenomenal. The numbers passing their exams is close to 100%. Always close to Tim is Rick Wells W2RW, your club President teaching novice theory. We the RaRa members have much to thank these tireless instructors for. Without them where would this, our world of radio, go?

Tim McGee WB2KAO; Rick Wells W2RW; Arthur DeBruycker W2YGW; Bill Kasper WB2SXY; Bill McDonnel KG2F-

WE THANK YOU!

Rag Chew

by Lloyd R. Caves

Attention everyone!! May is the annual Meeting of RARA. This means there are three main reasons that you should plan on being in attendance at this meeting, other than having a good time and seeing all your friends. First you will have a great Old Timers Night presentation by Ed Gable, K2MP. Second you will have an opportunity to have a chance to win a very good operating chair for your shack. However, the third reason is the most important. That is the annual meeting is the place that you elect your club officers and establish the dues for the next year.

RARA membership is declining. You have seen it in the *Rag* and you hear it in the membership report at each meeting that you attend. However, do you know what that really means? It means that with less members and less people joining RARA there are less operating funds for the club to keep running. There are a lot of ways to increase club revenues and one of them is by the club dues structure. Only you as a member have any say in this and who the club officers are that have control over how the money is used. However, you have only one chance a year to have that say and that is at the annual meeting when you cast your vote for both. There will be budget proposals that will be presented at the May meeting by the Treasurer on behalf of the board of Directors but each of you have a chance to amend this proposal or present an alternate one. It does not mean that you have to but with something this important to you and your club it is a must that you know what is being proposed and have your say on it by way of your vote.

The slate of officers for election was presented at the last meeting by the nominating committee.

You can find information on these folks elsewhere in this issue of the *Rag*. Please review these names, their capabilities, and be prepared to vote for your choices. Of course, as always, you will have a chance to nominate candidates from the floor if you so desire. If you decide that you want to nominate someone it is a good idea to ask that person in advance if they would be willing to run for and serve in that office or directors seat so as not to put them on the spot at the meeting. Most people need a little time to think something like that over and not make a knee jerk decision in 10 seconds or less. You wouldn't want to embarrass anyone at the meeting or at a later date for making the wrong decision.

Now you see why it is so important to be at the annual meeting. Lets pack the room to its capacity so that you the members have your say on the elections of the officers and the dues structure for the following year.

Continued from page 7-Hamfest Programs elsewhere in this issue of the Rag.

In next months *Rag* you will find a copy of the complete schedule of the programs including the rooms that they will be held in. It is hoped this will allow you to schedule your time to be at all the forums of interest to you.

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ENDORSEMENT

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