



the RARA RAG

Published by
ROCHESTER AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION, INC.

VOL.52

June 2000

NO. 10

Picnic Reminder

Irv Goodman, AF2K

Don't forget the annual RARA Picnic on Saturday, June 17th at Ellison Park's South Lodge (off south side of Blossom Road), starting at 11 AM. Partake in some good socializing, games and the usual picnic cuisine.

In addition to the hidden transmitter hunts, we will be conducting some HF operating as K2JD/2 for ARRL's annual Kid's Day activity.

See you there!

William J. Theil, K2KGE Silent Key

Lloyd R. Caves, WB2EFU

Bill Theil, K2KGE, became a silent key on April 11, 2000 in California. Bill was a Past President, 1982-83, and Life member of RARA.

Bill was originally licensed in 1954 and issued the call sign K2KGE. The same call that he maintained his entire life. At the time he lived in the New York City area, and was active in VHF and 2 meter repeaters (AM repeaters that is). He held a strong interest in RACES and participated in many Bunny (hidden transmitter) Hunts. He was a member of a club in that area and joined in working the June Field Day Contest. In the later 1960's Bill's interest also grew to include contesting.

He moved to Rochester in 1970 and became an active member of both RARA and the VHF Group. Bill held the office of Secretary-Treasurer in the VHF Group as well as being a Board member and President in RARA. He continued to enjoy VHF, Contesting and became a member of the RARA Camping group.

His employment with Lawyer's Cooperative Publishing took him from the Rochester area in 1984. He relocated to California with his wife and four sons. Even though Bill has been gone from the Rochester area for 17 years, he will be missed dearly by those whose lives he touched while he lived here.

I Belong To The RARA, And I Vote

Howard J. Greenwald, AB2HD (Attorney Broadcasting to Ham Destinations)

Frank Fallon, N2FF (whose e-mail address is 'ffallon@banet.net') is spearheading an effort to generate support for "ASSEMBLY BILL A. 9947 (STATE VERSION OF PRB)." Mr. Fallon suggests that all amateur radio operators in New York send letters to their New York State Assemblyman, and also to Assemblyman Thomas P. DiNapoli, the "Chairman of the Standing Committee on Local Governments."

You can find the name of your local assemblyman in the "Blue pages" of the local phone book. You should write a letter in your own words, but it should reference the proposed legislation. Thus, it should refer to "a new piece of legislation introduced into the State Assembly on March 7, 2000 by Assemblyman Tocci of New Rochelle. It is Assembly bill A-09947. This legislation would help amateurs erect legal antennas and antenna support structures in New York in accordance with the preemption doctrine set forth by the FCC." *Put the substance of this message in your own words.*

It is an election year, and the senatorial election involving the de facto President of the United States (Hillary Rodham) and New York City's most prominent adulterer should be hotly contested. Whomever you write to, and whatever reasons you give in your letter, please let the recipient know that you and your vast circle of friends care deeply and passionately about this legislation, and that the amateur radio operators' cabal will punish all individuals, groups, and parties, which do not support the legislation.

I suspect that most legislators care little about the merits of this legislation. What they do care about is power, their power and their party's power. Make it plain to your assemblyman that you have an accurate and long memory, and that you and your associates intend to reward those who support this bill and punish those who oppose it.

In writing your letter, it might be wise to remember what John Gunther said about politicians:

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PUBLISHED BY
ROCHESTER AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION, INC.

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VOL. 52 June 2000 NO. 10

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The *RARA* RAG (USPS 605-440) is published monthly except July and August by the Rochester Amateur Radio Association, Inc., 82 Colonnade Dr., Rochester, New York 14623. Subscription is \$5.00 per year (included in the annual membership dues and may not be purchased separately). Periodicals postage paid in Rochester, NY.
POSTMASTER - Send address changes to The *RARA* Rag, P.O. Box 93333, Rochester, New York 14692-8333. Full permission is granted for reprinting articles provided a credit line is given to the *RARA* Rag. The Rag exchanges with other organizations' publications.

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JOTAREE 2000

Boy/Girl Scouts Need Your Help

Michael Bowen, KC2BTW

Each year on the 3rd weekend of October the amateur radio community holds an event in collaboration with the Boys Scouts and Girl Scouts called the Jamboree On The Air (JOTA). This is a world wide event whose purpose is to give Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts an introduction to what amateur radio is by actually getting them on the air communicating with other scouts that could be anywhere from around the corner to around the world.

The Eagle District of the Otetiana Council of the BSA is combining its annual fall camp out (CATTOREE) with the JOTA, and calling it a JOTAREE. This year the date is October 20-22nd. The idea for this JOTAREE is to get as many different modes operating at the JOTAREE site as possible for the scouts to use.

Some of the stations being planned include: FM, TV, HFCW, HFSSB, and OSCAR. We may also set up a number of short wave listening stations, as well as having some other radio related activities that would get the scouts using some of their other scouting skills, such as tower construction and search and rescue.

You may be thinking of what else we need to make this very ambitious event work. The answer of course is you! In order to make this work we will need at least 40 amateur radio operator volunteers to help with everything from setting up the equipment (and taking down of course) to manning the stations. It is not necessary to work the entire weekend. Even if you can only spare an hour or two, that would be a great help. Anyone interested in helping out can contact Kevin Kinnally, Scoutmaster Troop 332 (and JOTAREE 2000 Chairman) at (716) 533-1981 or via e-mail at Navet608@frontiernet.net. My e-mail address is kc2btw@frontiernet.net.

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Lloyd R. Caves, WB2EFU

This years RARA season is fast coming to a close. The meetings for the season are over, the Hamfest is behind us and summer is here (?), at least it should be. The only big-ticket item still to come is the RARA family picnic. That will be held at the South Lodge in Ellison Park. It will start at 11:00 AM on Saturday, June 17th and run until. All members and their families are invited for an afternoon of good times and good food.

At the last meeting of the year (the annual meeting) the election of the officers took place. The results of this election are as follows:

President:	Keith Freeberg, N2BEL
Vice President:	Peter Fournia, W2SKY
Secretary:	Howard Greenwald, AA2HD
Treasurer:	Dick Goslee, K2VCZ
Board of Directors:	Ed Holdsworth, N2EH
	Jack Tripp, N2SNL
	MaryKay Vesco, KC2DPG
	Allen Skiles, W2AES
	Jaime Ananko, N3ZSS
	Tom English, N2YJY
	Scott Blystone, K9EEE

We all wish the new officers the best of luck in the coming season.

The new officers will be getting started right away. Even though this years season is coming to a close the first Board Meeting for the 2000-2001 season will take place on June 13th. If any one wants to add information as to the clubs direction for next year you can contact one of the new officers or even attend the Board Meeting. It is held at 7:30 PM at 111 Westfall Road.

It is hoped that everyone made it to and enjoyed the Hamfest. The weather cooperated and there were a lot of smiling faces. Lets hope that you were one of them. It takes a lot of work over the course of the year to put this event together. The work has already started in preparing for next year. If you were one of the folks that enjoyed themselves, let the Hamfest committee know. You can send them a thank you on e-mail at info@rochesterhamfest.org or send a letter to the RARA PO Box.

Exchange Student Hoping To Find Ham Home

A Rochester Sister City International Student—Year 2000-2001

Karen Grover

The Rochester Sister City program is looking for a home for a seventeen-year-old exchange student from Wutzburg, Germany. His name is Frank Karlheinz Schinzel. Frank has many interests, one being that of Amateur Radio, and for this reason he is hoping to find a home with a ham and a station, possibly HF.

His other interests are Music Club, Accordion, Orchestra, Reading, Computers (programs websites) and Rowing. His academic background is Chemistry, Physics, Computer Sciences and English (6 years).

Frank lives in a 3-story house with his mother, father, and 12-year-old brother. His father works at German Telecom and his mother gives private flute and accordion lessons. Frank obviously benefits from his mom's love of music.

He enjoys programming websites on the Internet and set up his school's homepage. Another interest is Amateur Radio. He hopes to have his license before he comes to the U.S. so he can operate if the opportunity arises. He also enjoys rowing, outdoor barbecues and going to the movies.

His plans for the future are to become a civil pilot for an airline.

Frank wants very much to improve his English conversation and vocabulary, but is also very interested in learning how American families live and taking school subjects that he is unable to take in Germany. His teacher evaluations indicate that he is a diligent student and always prepared in class. They also said that he enjoys helping other students with their work (especially computer work).

He is described as a cheerful, thoughtful and honest person who has "quite a mature sense of humor".

For more information in opening your home for this exchange student and helping him with his objectives, contact this author at 385-3639.

LIFE, ACCIDENT & HEALTH AGENT

MARYKAY VESCO

KC2DPG

310 Commercial Street
East Rochester, NY 14445
716 381-7773 Fax/Phone



P&C BROKER NOTARY PUBLIC

PRB Legislation *continued from page 1*

"Politicians ... are self-made men...; most depend upon their political jobs for a livelihood and most have little time, inclination or opportunity for adult education; hence the dominating qualities of so many are greed, vulgarity, attention to special interest, avarice, and selfishness."

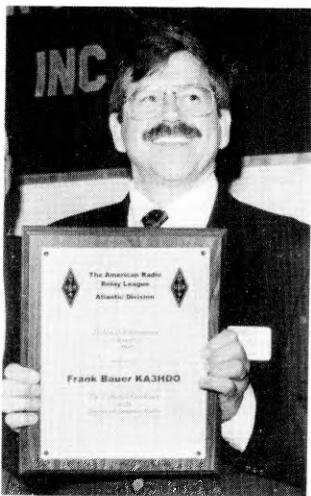
Rochester Ham



STEP RIGHT UP!!



nfest — 2000



PAST PRESIDENTS



RARA Rag 20 Years Ago

Ed Gable, K2MP

June 1980: In signing off as President, Alan Komenski, AC2K, thanked several long term board members who were stepping down after years of service; Len Gessin WA2ZNC, Ed Gable K2MP, Ron Jakubowski K2RJ and Jim Collinsworth N2JC. Alan also cited Dwight Hill K2KWK, as *RARA Rag* Editor, Irv Goodman AF2K, as Asst. Membership Chairman, George Muller WA2IEO, as the all important Refreshment Chairman, Dave Coleman N2AOB, as Corresponding Secretary and Helen Smith WA2RYH, as the *RARA Rag* Staff person, for their dedication and service to the membership. The June program then, as now, is the RARA picnic. Ed Holdsworth, N2EH, reported on the RARA Road Rally held on May 4th. There were 18 cars entered and seven actually finished all check points. Winning was Neil (WA2EJU) and Robbin Gibson, followed by the team of Doug Wilson KA8IGS and Ken Martin WB2PLI, followed by David (KA2J) and Donna Payne. An interesting article by the Fox Tango club hinted at a problem coming to light... the lack of vacuum tubes for ham transceivers. The switch to solid state TV's is forcing many tube manufacturers to close their doors. Bob Roberts, WA2QAU, penned a long and informative DX article with info on when to listen for DX from various spots in the world. The Rochester VHF Group announced their new officers as Chairman Tom Richmond WA2IEY, Vice-Chairman Harold Munday KB2ER and Pete Sitter, N2AJK as Secretary/Treasurer. John Yells, N2JY, was named to Contest Chairman. And why couldn't you guys hang on to your Heathkits? Two, yes two different and separate want ads read "Found Heath HW2036....call 482...." And the other "Recovered, Heath HW2036A, if you can identify call....442...." From the Want Ads you could buy a Collins S-line from Bob Kurtz, WA2CYO.

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Spring 2000 License Class Wrap Up

Tim Magee, WB2KAO

Congratulations to all the spring semester new licensees and upgrades. All of you are to be commended on putting forth the effort to earn your call sign (which is unique world-wide) or upgrade. Enjoy your new privileges in this great hobby. Unlike the Internet and some other radio services that thrive on anonymity, you can be proud of your call sign and your name because you learned the material and demonstrated your newly acquired expertise by passing the exam(s). I will be pleased to work you on the air.

As license class director, I'd like to thank the staff of instructors and the VE testing team. Following are the successful results of the classes' test session on Monday May 22nd. In addition to these new and upgraded licensees, there most likely are now more successful candidates due to the passing of additional elements at the Hamfest test session.

In no particular order... (I hope I've got it all right...)

Kristy Dibelka	Tech-Plus new
John Sullivan	KB2YXL General upgrade
Larry Safford	KC2FVF Tech-Plus upgrade
Robert (Buck) Buckner	KC2EMP Tech-Plus upgrade
John McNamara	Tech-Plus new
Dick Rozzi	K2ROZ Extra upgrade
Manuel Romero	Tech new

Registration for the Fall 2000 semester will be held on Monday September 18th at 7:00 PM at 111 Westfall Rd. in the auditorium. Classes will run through December 18th. Thanks again for everyone's cooperation.

SILENT KEY

William J. Theil, K2KGE

April 11, 2000

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DX Report

Ed Gable, K2MP

On the DX scene there is good news and bad news. Starting with the recent 7O1YGF operation from much needed Yemen, it appears the German team was unable to successfully negotiate the final licensing agreement. After logging some 35,000 QSO's and 10 days of operation the government asked them to cease operations. Negotiations continue and we all hope that this operation will receive the proper credentials to count for DXCC.

Good news is that the much awaited A5 operation from Bhutan is up and running. The government of Bhutan restricted amateur operation for many years. None-the-less, the venerable Jim Smith, VK9NS, after years of trying, finally got Bhutan to open their borders to ham radio operation. Jim was the first to get on as A52JS, soon followed by a multi-national team signing A52A. Although signals have been weak due to a 100-watt power limit, a less than ideal location and only fair propagation, they have been workable here in WNY with little trouble.

The next meeting of the *Rochester DX Association* is June 20th, 7:30 p.m., at the usual 111 Westfall Road site. The meeting will be the Field Day informational and planning session. The RDXA also has a new information brochure available. A call to Irv Goodman, AF2K at (716) 671-4430, will bring you one. See also the expanded RDXA Web Page at www.qsl.net/~rdxa.

RRRA

Tom English, N2YJY

The RRRA will be holding it's annual meeting on June 9, 2000 at the Pittsford Town Hall. Officers for next year will be voted on at that time.

Also at the June meeting, awards will be handed out and also certificates of appreciation will be awarded to those who gave time to volunteer at the Hamfest. So if you contributed time to help out at the talk-in station, you'll want to be at the meeting to get your certificate.

Not much will be happening during the summer months. The technical committee will hopefully be putting the final touches on the northern voting selector and moving it into position. Those of you who live in the area will want to be listening for announcements. Help may be needed to assist in moving the receiver out to the site.

It has been great to have the opportunity inform all of you regarding the happenings of the RRRA over the past year. Hopefully the incoming team will continue to inform you of the upcoming events of the RRRA.

China Clippings

Ronald Earl Roach, W2FUI

The ease with which the average American amateur radio operator can acquire, trade or sell equipment, simply by attending a Dayton or Rochester ham radio convention or logging on the auction websites on the internet, cannot prepare a person for the challenges a Chinese radio operator faces in acquiring a station. Heavy restrictions continue to exist regarding the acquisition of amateur radio gear, including the imposition of a 100% importation duty. Old enemies have quickly become friends in the amateur world; most of the equipment finding its way into China through gifting by Japanese amateurs.

I experienced the scrutiny of the Chinese customs officials at the Shanghai airport several years ago when I attempted to deliver two Kent iambic keyers, which I purchased as kits and assembled prior to my flight to China, one destined for BY4AA in Shanghai and the other headed for BY5HZ in Hangzhou. Detected by the X-ray, both keyers were moments away from confiscation when a young Chinese boy, arriving on the same flight, upbraided the uniformed guard, intent on removing them from my suitcase, for his inability to see that these two units were obviously home made and not subject to his interference and confiscation. This brief encounter was one of a number of instances demonstrating the importance of "face" in the Orient. The guard lost, my very young benefactor disappeared into the crowd, quite proud of his victory and BY4AA and BY5HZ were soon enjoying their new acquisitions.

RARA Welcomes New Members

Richard Goslee, K2VCZ, Treasurer

RARA would like to take this opportunity to welcome the new members that signed up at the Hamfest this year. We have 15 new Full Members, 3 new Family Members, and Past President Bob Moore, N2USB became a Life Member.

The new members include the following: Russell Harris, N2IZV, Frederick Allen, AA2PW, Lois Allen, AA2TV, Keith Allen, AB2BS, Rev. Lester Wilcox, WA2GUP, Dale Hatch, KA2UBZ, Betty Foster, KB2GVY, Michael Martin, AA2YL, Nelson Rodriguez, KC2ERF, Thomas Kirchoff, KB2JDS, Larry Thomas, N2YSC, George Keiser, W2GCK, Raymond Lines, KC0EDU, Nicholas Lines, KC0FBP, Britta Lines, KC0FBQ, Christine Lines, KC0EXD, Mike Larson, KC2EJN, and Colleen Larson, KC2EJO.

In addition we have 2 new long distance members from Waterford, NY. They are Kim Fan, N2ZLA and Ray Szlasa, N2VLY.

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