

## EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS IN A DISTANT LAND

Gary Skuse, KA1NJL – RARA Vice President

At the April RARA meeting we will have a very special presenter, Ciro Martinelli, IZ8LFK (and K2LFK) from Ercolano Italy. Ciro will talk to us about his experiences with ham radio in Italy and his efforts to help prepare for an eruption of Mt. Vesuvius.

We are all concerned about emergency preparedness regardless of whether the emergency is natural or manmade. However in this area I have yet to hear anyone express concerns about volcanic eruptions, but Ciro and his fellow hams in Ercolano are concerned about just that. The image below was taken from his rooftop and yes, that is a volcano in the distance. The countryside is absolutely breathtaking, and I am going to guess that the local food is amazing, but the threat of a natural disaster looms ominously and intransiently.



Ciro is in Rochester this spring semester to work in the Italian Program at Nazareth College and it is our good fortune that he will share with us his impressions of the differences in hamming between Italy and the US, and there are some. His involvement with the emergency preparedness program surrounding Naples and Mt. Vesuvius has provided him with some interesting stories to tell. His own Yagi sits atop his flat roofed house, looking out on the Mediterranean and toward the Isle of Capri, but at the back of his home stands the volcano. At the RARA meeting he will serve up his presentation with slides, pictures of enviable vistas, but sadly, no pizza.

Please join us for this exciting and very unique presentation. It will take place on Friday April 4<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm and at the usual location, the Henrietta Fire Company #1 at 3129 East Henrietta Road (aka Route 15A) near Lehigh Station Road. I hope to see you there.

APRIL 2014  
VOLUME 66, ISSUE 8

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

APRIL PROGRAM	1
PREZ SEZ	2
CALENDAR OF EVENTS	2
RARA'S SUMMER PICNIC	3
PEAK THE GRID	4
HAM TECH – SDR RADIO	5
CRUZ-IN FOR CHARITY	7
RARA MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP	8
NOT SO UGLY BALUN	9
DIP THE PLATE	10
W1AW/2 SPECIAL EVENT	11
VE TEAM	11
OFFICER'S RESPONSIBILITIES	12
HELP WANTED	12
RAGS OF THE PAST	13
AWA'S SPRING MEET	14
HAMFESTS	15
NEWS FROM AREA CLUBS	16
AMATEUR'S CODE	17
WEBSITE INFORMATION	17
RARA MARKETPLACE	18
RARA OFFICERS	19
AREA CLUB CONTACTS	20

**RARA MEETING**

**April 4<sup>th</sup>, 7PM**

Henrietta Fire Co. #1

3129 East Henrietta Rd.

# PREZ SEZ

Bill Marinucci, WB2GHC – RARA President

I received a call from the XYL of a friend earlier this week to inform me that my dear friend, Chuck Slabe, KD8GTJ, has passed suddenly and certainly unexpectedly. He was only 54 and seemingly in good health. He lived in Lake Orion, MI, where I also lived for 16 years. He became my 'Dayton' buddy, where he and his XYL would meet me and my XYL at Dayton. The XYLs would spend about 2 hours max at the Hamvention, and then take off for shopping, etc. Chuck and I would spend two full days exploring all there is to do at the granddaddy of hamfests, and at the end of the day, meet up with the ladies for a casual dinner. He advanced from Tech to Extra in a relatively short period of time. He truly enjoyed ham radio, especially the digital side of it. I will miss him, and may he rest in peace. The lesson I continue to learn is to enjoy each and every day of life while I am able to.

March has certainly come in like a lion, and my hope is that it soon ends like a lamb! Our area had anywhere from 14-24 inches of snow during the blizzard of 2014', hey, enough already! It's time for winter to be over and to rid ourselves of 'cabin fever'. There certainly is much to be done... antenna work, Field Day planning and equipment made ready, outdoor hamfests and flea markets, and if there is any time left, taking care of the yard work. Tough there will not be a RARA Hamfest this year. There are many other fests throughout the summer within a short driving distance from home. Again, if you have any interest in helping with the planning, organizing, and making RARA Hamfest 2015 happen, please let me or any RARA Board member know. The bottom line is WE NEED YOU.

RARA now has a new Membership Secretary, Tim Barrett, K9VB, who is filling some very hard shoes to fill! On behalf of the Board, I would like to welcome Tim, and to give our sincerest thanks to Lisa Schramm, K2BGR, for the outstanding work she has done in this position. We wish Lisa and Tim continued success going forward.

There are three license classes being conducted by RARA at RIT, and they began on March 11. Our special thanks to Pam Kasperkoski (W2PHK), our Education Coordinator, and to Bill Kasperkoski (WB2SKY), Frank Schramm (WB2PYD), and Roy Wildermuth (W2IT), our instructors for these classes. Our ham community continues to grow!

If you know of a RARA ham that is graduating high school this year, or is already in college, please encourage him or her to apply for the RARA Memorial Scholarship. Applications are available on the RARA website, [www.rochesterham.org](http://www.rochesterham.org). All registrations must be received by April 15, 2014. The winner will be announced in the June issue of the RAG. Good luck to all applicants.

The community service events are fast approaching, and this is a good opportunity for us to get involved, practice directed nets, and to provide some much needed communications at these community events. There are many to choose from... the Tour De Cure, the Rochester Marathon, and a host of others. Information and volunteer signup will be available on the RARA website. Let's give back to our community!

Best 73!

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**APRIL 4<sup>TH</sup>** - RARA General Meeting

7:00 PM at Henrietta Fire Co #1, 3129 East Henrietta Road

**APRIL 5<sup>TH</sup>** – Drumlin's ARC Hamfest

**APRIL 9<sup>TH</sup>** - RARA Board of Directors

5:30 PM RIT Engineering Hall, Room 2110

**APRIL 15<sup>TH</sup>** - RARA Scholarship Application Deadline

**APRIL 19<sup>TH</sup>** - RARA VE Testing

10:00 AM RIT Gleason Hall, Room 3139

**May 3<sup>rd</sup>** – Antique Wireless Association Spring Meet

**May 3<sup>rd</sup>** – Auburn Annual Swap Meet

# RARA 'S SUMMER PICNIC

Len Crellin, KC2PCD

As I write this in late March, the snow is still on the ground and even more is falling today! I know that my grill is out there somewhere and the thought of firing it up and having a BBQ is still only a faint hope. But it brings to mind that in less than four months we will have forgotten the words "polar vortex" and replaced them with "solar skin burn".

And with those thoughts of BBQs and outside fun, we can now start thinking of the annual RARA Summer Picnic. The date is set on Saturday July 12, 2014. The place is at the Stewart Lodge in Mendon Ponds Park. Many of you have been there for last years picnic and the recent Winter Cabin Party that was a great success.

Over the last few years we all have attended these wonderful social events and probably haven't given much thought to how they get organized. Well, we can thank Lisa and Frank Schramm who have given so much of their time and energy to be sure everything was purchased, set up and prepared to make each party go smoothly and everyone had enough to eat and drink.

They have recently informed the Board of Directors that they are no longer able to make that kind of commitment to the club and in the future will not be in charge of these two events. First, on behalf of the Board and the membership I would like to extend our thanks for all the years you did this and know we all appreciate everything you have done for RARA for so many years.

Next, I must address the membership and ask some of us to step up to make sure these wonderful traditions continue. I know many of you have been involved by bringing dishes of your own to share with the rest as part of a competition or just because you care. I know that two people can make this happen, but many hands make any job go easier. If you indeed want these events to continue then please contact me or any Board member or leave a message on our Hotline (585-210-8910), and let me know you are interested in being on the committee.

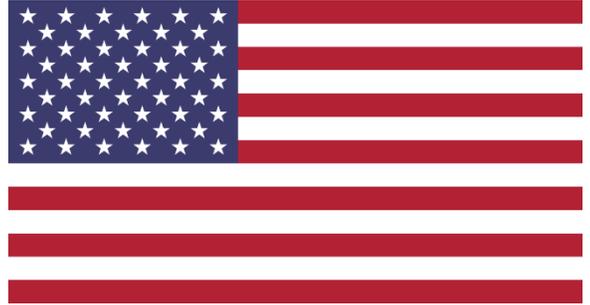
You can even come up with a cool name like "The Party Patrol" or "The Cabin Commanders"! There are many ways to help your club and I know you are out there just waiting to be asked. So, I am asking you to be part of the solution and come help us now.

# PEAK THE GRID

Forest Shick, WA2MZG

## Made In America

Collins, EF Johnson, Hallicrafters, Hammarlund, Heathkit, National Radio, RL Drake, Signal One, Swan and more, all Amateur Radio equipment companies – Made In America.



General Dynamics, Radionics, Scientific Radio, RF Communications, Stromberg Carlson, Digital Radio Technology, Microwave Data Systems, Sideband Technology, Hamtronics, Harris and more, all designers and manufacturers of radios Made In Rochester.

How could we forget Rochester Radio, Goldcrest and others – electronics suppliers located in Rochester.

How many of the above listed companies are still in existence?

In the last few years we have all seen a news story or TV documentary about Made In America. ABC News continues to have an occasional story on Made In America. The most notable I have seen was ABC News visiting a family and removing all the furnishing and belongings in their house that were NOT Made In America. All that remained was a vase from a local artist, if I remember correctly. What would remain in your house or garage or shack?

Do we think about Made In America in our daily lives? Do we consider the out of work veteran, the under or unemployed, the college graduate with no job, the small business owner, the senior citizen with a library of life knowledge? All sources of talent to address Made In America. I am often guilty of this lack of consideration in an effort to “get it over with”, the shopping that is.

What does Made In America mean to an Amateur Radio Operator? Amateur radio operators are a global community in everything we do. We must maintain and nurture our global brother and sisterhood. Although sometimes we must think locally.

I recently sent an email to a few large amateur radio distributors inquiring what products they sell that are Made In America. I received very thoughtful responses from: Ham Radio Outlet, Amateur Electronic Supply and DX Engineering. Here is a sample response:

“Much of the American made Amateur Radio product line tends to be in the knowledge base, antenna, cable, amplifier, and accessory market. Radios that we tend to carry are typically not made in USA, although there are some available to the Amateur, to our knowledge.”

What happened to those very popular radio companies? How can we replace them? Have American entrepreneurs given up on hardware and now write apps for cell phones? I am certainly not in a position to answer those questions for you but they certainly make me stop and think.

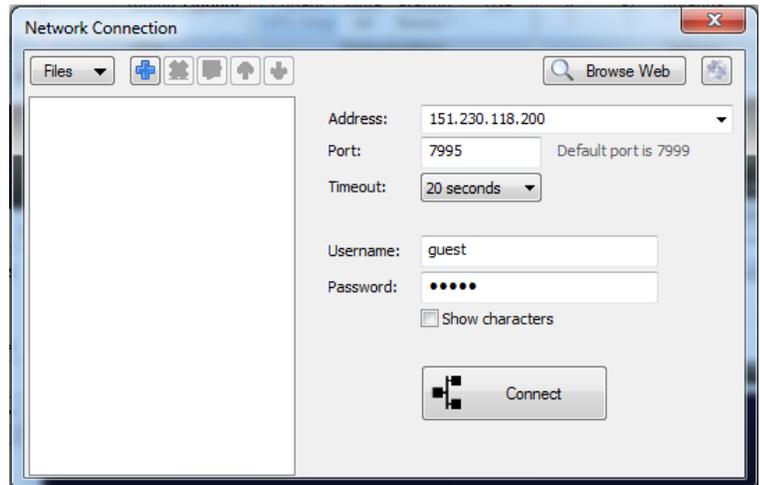
What can we do about it?

# HAM TECH – SDR RADIO

Duane Fregoe, K2SI

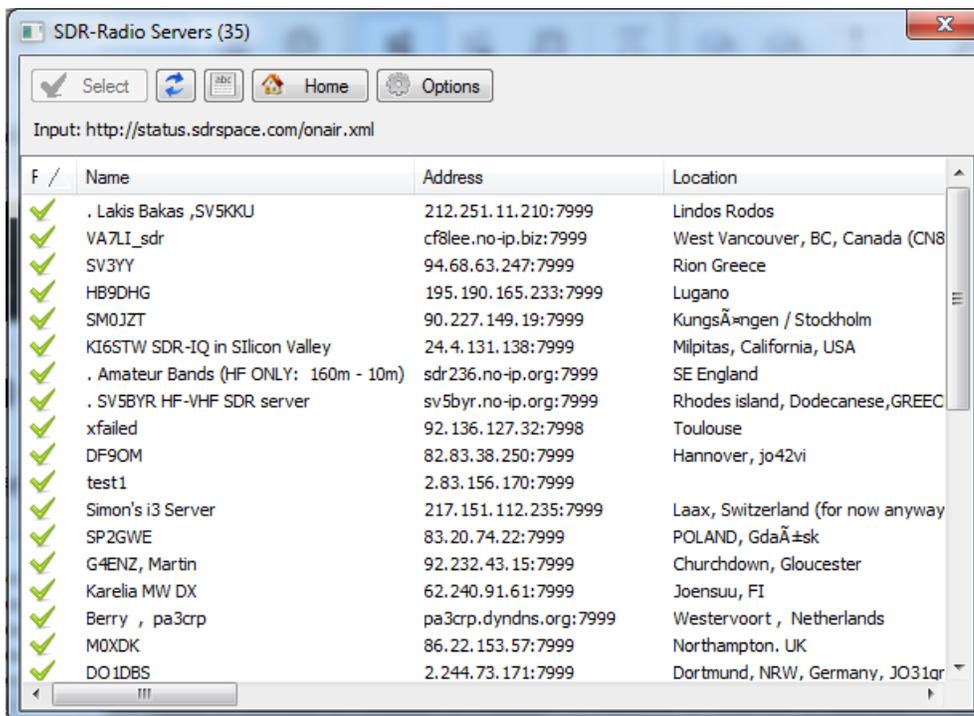
SDR-Radio.com is a Windows program for Software Defined Radio (SDR) receivers and transceivers. I last wrote about this program 2 years ago at version 1.5. The latest beta version is 2.2 and now has the ability to use the receivers of other hams all around the world that have them connected to the internet. The program is written by Simon Brown, the creator of Ham Radio Deluxe. Go to <http://v2.sdr-radio.com/Download.aspx> to download a free copy of the software.

Open the software and go to the Home tab. Click on Remote Connection to open a small window and then click on Browse Web.

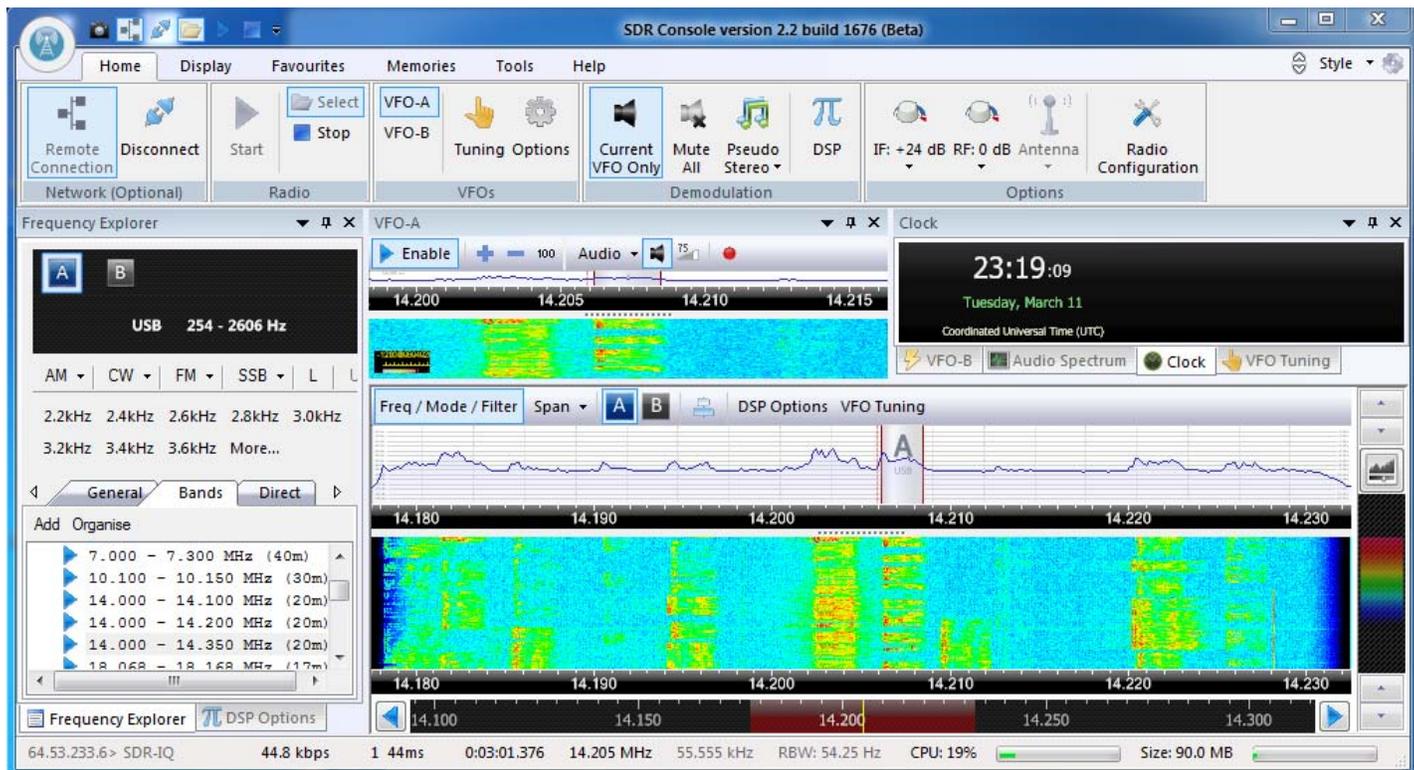


Connection Window

The next window will list receivers from around the world that you can connect to. Select a receiver and connect to it.



Remote Receivers



*Working SDR Connection*

Once connected you can double click on the band range that you want to listen to and above that you can select the correct sideband. The red bar at the bottom of the screen will first appear full width of the display. You can click on the end of the bar and drag it in toward the middle. On my computer a bandwidth of 55 KHz was a good setting.

The website lists a number of Software Defined Radios that are supported by this software. It can even be configured to work with the very inexpensive RTL dongles.

## SNOW MOBILE



*Connor, grandson of Brad Allen, KB2CHY by the snowman he made at our 2014 Winterfest*

# CRUZ-IN FOR CHARITY

Paul Jason Kolacki, K2FX

When you were first learning about Ham Radio, it was stressed that a very important aspect of this hobby was the Public Service Role it plays, and how with proper training, you would become a beacon in the dark in times of need for your community. Amateur Radio operators help their communities in good times and bad, through community events, disaster response, and various programs. Public Service activities help build public awareness and goodwill towards Amateur Radio, and provide needed communications to worthy charities and non-profit organizations. Locally, bicycle races and Pumpkin Patrol are a couple that come to mind.



With that being said, I would like to offer up an exciting community service project for your consideration. First, here's a little background. In 2008, I started a Classic Car Cruise Night that takes place at the Damascus Shrine Center in Webster, New York. Yes, the very same location as the Fall Swap Meet. Since our beginnings in 2008, we've now become one of the largest Cruise Nights in the area, drawing anywhere from 300-500 Classic Cars and Motorcycles each week, plus an additional 400-500 spectator cars. It's not uncommon for us to have 1000 cars and people in attendance each week.

The Cruise Night takes place every Friday Night from May until September between 5-8PM. The 2014 dates are May 9th thru September 5<sup>th</sup>. The Shrine Center is governed by its members who are obviously Shriners, but

who must first be Masonic Lodge Members. The Masons are a fraternal organization that does great charity work. I'm sure that most have heard of them. As a matter of fact, several of the founding Fathers of this country were Masons, and so is a long list of famous and influential people. The charity work of The Shriners benefits the Shrine Children's Hospitals; there are twenty-two of them located throughout the country. These facilities offer state of the art care to patients up to the age of 21, and all at absolutely NO COST. They are experts in Orthopedics, Burn Care, Spinal Cord Injury, and Cleft Lip and Palate Re-Construction. For more information on the organization, point your browsers at:

[www.shrinershospitalsforchildren.org](http://www.shrinershospitalsforchildren.org)

The Masons and Shriners raise roughly 2-million dollars EACH and every day for charity, and here in the Rochester area, we're doing our part to help. We have some major sponsorship for the cruise night including MECUM AUTO AUCTIONS, the largest auction provider of classic cars in the world, several local businesses, and LEGENDS 102.7FM, the Radio Station where I work as an On-Air Personality. Today, the event has gotten so large that it's become increasingly difficult to handle Parking and Crowd Control needs. This is where some of you might be able to assist.

Being a volunteer organization, we are stretched to the limit each week to provide the vital help needed to be successful. With that being said, I thought that it might be a fantastic opportunity for RARA members to assist us throughout the summer by providing necessary communications for parking/traffic control and security. I estimate our needs to be about 3-4 radio operators each Friday to be effective. This would be a great way to get some good training, and to provide much needed community service. I should add that ALL profits from this event go directly to the Shrine Children's Hospitals, with Erie, PA being the closest location to us.



So in addition to the training, what can you expect? Well, besides the satisfaction that you are doing something for children in need, every radio operator who volunteers with us each week will be entitled to FREE food and beverages, plus of course the opportunity to see some of The Finest Classic Cars in the area on display, listen to great music, and enjoy the roar of raw horsepower when the muscle cars make their way on and off the grounds. If you're a car buff, you'll love this event! The location overlooks beautiful Irondequoit Bay, and offers spectacular views, a covered picnic pavilion, and very comfortable facilities. It's a family friendly event, and your kids and grandkids are most welcome.

So, if you own a handheld, and would like to be involved, please email me at: [k2fx@arrl.net](mailto:k2fx@arrl.net) , or call me at (585) 764-1189. I hope to fill all slots to cover the summer months, and would love to work with you personally. You can volunteer as much or as little as your schedules allow. For more information on this event, please check out our official website at: [www.rochestercruisenight.com](http://www.rochestercruisenight.com)

# ROCHESTER AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

This annual award is given to a licensed Amateur Radio operator pursuing a degree at any accredited post-secondary school. The individual must be a member of RARA and a resident of New York State. The award is for one individual for one year, but the recipient may reapply for subsequent years.

Download a RARA [Scholarship Application](http://www.rochesterham.org) at [www.rochesterham.org](http://www.rochesterham.org).

Please answer all questions on the application completely. If any question is not applicable to your situation, enter N/A in the blank. Feel free to use annotated addendum sheets to explain your responses more fully. This award is based on a combination of need, scholastic achievement, contributions to Amateur Radio, extra-curricular activities and community involvement. All information provided on the application will be held in the strictest confidence. No personal information will be released without the approval of the applicant.

The deadline to submit your application is April 15, 2014, so please do not procrastinate in completing the application and getting it mailed in! The winner of the Rochester Amateur Radio Association Memorial Scholarship will be announced in June, 2014. Good luck to all applicants!

Please submit all applications to:

**Rochester Amateur Radio Association**  
Memorial Scholarship Committee  
P.O. Box 93333  
Rochester, New York 14692-8333

# THE NOT SO UGLY “UGLY BALUN”

Ron Ketchum, WB2RCB

Faced with the option to build or buy a choke balun, I decided to go the build route and constructed a coaxial choke balun to replace a very tired Hy-Gain BN-86 ferrite balun that had been in use on my TH3MK2 tribander for over 25 years. Searching the web, it was easy to find articles relating to all sorts of baluns and one particular style, as shown at the following webpage <http://www.hamuniverse.com/balun.htm>, caught my eye.

After viewing the many different types of construction, I decided to build one that would suit my needs and not be ugly! A trip to Lowes and a visit to the junk-box yielded everything necessary for my project.

- 3" Schedule 40 PVC (Lowes or Home Depot)
- 25' of RG8X Coax (I used DX Engineering DXE-8X)
- (2) 3" PVC End Caps (Lowes or Home Depot)
- (2) Cable Glands <https://www.alliedelec.com/search/productdetail.aspx?SKU=70074427>
- (2) Amphenol PL-259's w/reducers
- (4) SS #6 Sheet Metal Screws
- 5/8" Hole Saw
- 1/4" & 1/8" Twist Drills

Using the basic instructions in the article on Ham Universe, I selected a 8" piece of 3" Schedule 40 PVC for the form. 25 feet of DX Engineering RG8X coax yielded 21 turns on the form (along with some extra for connections). I started by winding the RG8X on the form to give me the width dimension of the first and last coax turns so I could drill the start and finish holes to keep the turns tight. Once that dimension was determined, I drilled the first 1/4" hole at a 45 deg. angle in the PVC so not to strain the coax. I fed about one foot of coax thru this hole and started to wind the turns on the form. When I reached 21 turns, I taped the coax to the form to hold it in place and drilled the final 1/4" hole for the coax, again at a 45 deg. angle and left an additional foot for connections. If done correctly, the turns should all be tight together (as shown to the right).



Take the two flat end caps and find the centers of each and using a 5/8" hole saw make the holes for the cable glands. Mount the two cable glands (be sure to order the locknuts which are sold separately). Pass the coax cable from each end of the form thru the glands and position the caps on the PVC form. Tighten the cable glands to hold everything in place: then carefully drill two 1/8" holes 180 deg. apart thru the caps and into the PVC. Fasten each end cap with two 1/2" #6 sheet metal screws.

For my needs, I opted for the connection type shown. Depending on your situation, SO-239's, binding posts or a direct run of feed line could be used.

Other sizes of coax (RG8, RG213 etc) can be used when building these baluns. Just follow the basic instructions on the Ham Universe webpage.

If you need a decent 50-ohm choke balun for use on a tribander or other type antenna needing a choke balun, a simple project like this could be for you. My project received recognition on the Ham Universe “Ugly Balun” webpage!

# DIP THE PLATE

Forest Shick, WA2MZG

The good news is that there are still Made In America companies. We just have to find them. They advertise in QST and CQ. Many are not manufacturing those big radios of the past but there are many interesting products and ideas presented.

I contacted 3 companies and asked if their products were Made In America. They all had a definite YES! Their products are designed and manufactured in the US.

- Ten-Tec – their Ten-Tec product line is designed and manufactured in the US
- Elecraft
- FlexRadio

Another positive thought, there is a very unique opportunity for amateur radio operators to participate in our hobby with a Made In America product. Build a radio from a kit. Build a project from a magazine. Experiment and build your own invention. What could be more Made In America than something you build with your own hands, in your own home, with your own tools?

Before your next purchase for our global hobby, stop and ask yourself: Can I buy a Made In America product?

Thanks to Ed Gable, K2MP and Jim Hastings, W2RFM for their memory of old radio companies.

## DON'T JUST SIT THERE DO SOMETHING

### YOUR Club Needs YOU To Volunteer

**Events –picnic, cabin party  
Community Service  
Board of Directors  
Hamfest  
Officers**

# W1AW/2 SPECIAL EVENT IN ROCHESTER!

The ARRL is 100 years old and having a special event with their Centennial Celebration. The Rochester DX Association, (RDXA club) is working the special W1AW/2 event Wed, May 21 - Tues May 27. Paul Mackanos, K2DB, will be the main coordinator for RDXA members to sign up and operate 2 hour blocks for that special event. Very generously, RARA has been approached and asked if K2JD would like to operate a team inside this special event.

There are many modes and time slots that could be organized, and experienced and newer folks of course would be welcome to check in with K2JD to operate some of the time slots available. This would be a great experience.

Interested RARA members, let me know [WB2SXY@arri.net](mailto:WB2SXY@arri.net)

## VE TEAM INPUT

Ken Hall, W2KRH

We had eleven successful candidates for license at the February 14<sup>th</sup> VE session:

- 1 Extra
- 2 General
- 8 Technician

The April session will be on the 19<sup>th</sup> in our usual RIT room of 9-3139.

As there will not be a RARA Hamfest this year I am planning a May VE session, possibly on the 17<sup>th</sup>. Check the RARA website for updated information.

Tha Ying Xiong	KD0ZGB	T	Donald Edwards	KD2FRD	T
Ross Swerling	KC1BGX	T	Don Bahtees	KD2FRB	T
Peter Pelitera	KD2FRI	T	Thomas Mlodzienski	KD2FRG	G
Sean Nickerson	KD2FRH	T	Lawrence Cooper	KD2FRC	G
Gebalanage Jayasekera	KD2FRF	T	Robert Krueger	AC2MM	E
Eric Holderle	KD2FRE	T			

# BOARD OF DIRECTORS OFFICER'S RESPONSIBILITIES

Position	Responsibilities	Term Length and Limit
<b>President</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Preside over all meetings of RARA and the Board of Directors.</li> <li>• Appoint committees and sub-committees.                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Serve as an ex-officio member of all committees.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Represent RARA in all official capacities.</li> <li>• Assure that all RARA by-laws are adhered to.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One year term</li> <li>• Two consecutive terms</li> </ul>
<b>Vice President</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Organize programs for monthly RARA meetings.                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Identify, invite, and confirm speakers for the meetings.</li> <li>◦ Invite Dick Goslee and Ed Gable to run the annual auction in November.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Assist at the annual auction by tracking items sold and prices paid.</li> <li>• Notify the Membership Secretary of membership points earned by members.</li> <li>• Write a monthly article for the RARA Rag describing that month's program.</li> <li>• Organize annual Winterfest.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One year term</li> <li>• Three consecutive terms</li> </ul>
<b>Secretary</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Record all minutes of all meetings of the Board of Directors.</li> <li>• Record minutes at the annual membership meeting in September.</li> <li>• Keep physical and electronic records of all meetings during their term.</li> <li>• Retrieve all mail on a bi-weekly basis from the RARA P.O. Box.</li> <li>• Monitor newspapers for recent announcements in obituaries for Silent Keys.</li> <li>• Supervise the annual election.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One year term</li> <li>• Three consecutive terms</li> </ul>
<b>Treasurer</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pay via check at monthly RARA meetings for costs incurred for that meeting, including costs for refreshments and raffle items.</li> <li>• Collect and count the refreshment collection, as well as raffle ticket sales at the monthly meeting.</li> <li>• Collect any membership dues payments and submit membership information to the Membership Secretary.</li> <li>• Present reports at monthly Board of Directors meeting from Citizens Bank account and Quick Books Pro account information.</li> <li>• Record all debits and credits executed every month.</li> <li>• File Postcard form 990 with the IRS.</li> <li>• Prepare 'straw man' financial outlook for the next Fiscal Year.</li> <li>• File all paperwork on all financial transactions for the fiscal year.</li> <li>• Present annual financial report to the membership at annual meeting.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One year term</li> <li>• Three consecutive terms</li> </ul>

## HELP WANTED: TRUE RESUME BUILDER

Did you know that RARA offers job and management training, in real-life situations, as one of the many benefits to its members?

How would, "Worked several years on the Board of Directors of a 700 member Non-Profit," or, "Served as an Elected Officer of a 700 member 501(c)3" look on your resume? Looking for instructors, coordinators and shadows/apprentices to learn every Club officer, position, coordinator, public service, and other Club functions. What better way to hone your management and operating skills, at the same time, especially for our younger members who have everything to gain from these experiences in critically important jobs with plenty of training and support in this non-threatening environment. Leave your name, call and contact info at 210-8910.

# RARA RAGS OF THE PAST

Ed Gable, K2MP – RARA Club Historian

## 20 YEARS AGO, APRIL, 1994

RARA Vice-President and Program Chairman Roger Harnaart, WB2BWQ, provided an interesting and informative program for the evening titled "Winning on the Hill." This video documentary told the story of the N2WK VHF/UHF/SHF Contest team and their attempt to obtain National Top 5 Honors in the June VHF QSO Party. Along the same lines, Len and Marian Gessin, WA2ZNC/KB2KJV, wrote to invite all to the Rochester VHF Group Banquet at the Green Lantern Inn. This early in the year there was already a large number of public service events scheduled that included; American Diabetes Bike Tour, The Stuart Horse Trials, Walnut Hill Driving Competition and two Ginna Drills. I often type the name of Joe Hood, K2YA, into these articles, but this time it is Jim Hood, N2HHV, getting the nod. Jim, Joe's son, then the RARA Secretary has started a new column in the Rag that is based on the small stories and tidbits of information that, by themselves, might not be sufficient for a full size article. An interesting article (unsigned) asked an interesting question. "Where does all that money come from to buy the new state of the art ham equipment in the K2JD Club station?" The two-part answer is that none of your RARA dues money was used. The monies came from donations from the Hamfest and from volunteers at K2JD Engraving. From the Want-Ads you could buy a 100 watt six meter PA from Len Gessin, WA2ZNC. A long term commercial advertiser was Glenwood Sales at 594 Hague St., Rochester.

The image shows the cover of the RARA RAG magazine, April 1994 issue. The cover features the title "the RARA RAG" in a stylized font, with "Published by ROCHESTER AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION, INC." below it. The issue is Volume 46, No. 8, dated April 1994. The cover includes several articles and announcements:

- "WINNING ON THE HILL"**: A video documentary about the N2WK VHF/UHF/SHF Contest team's attempt to win National Top 5 Honors.
- RaRa MEETING**: Scheduled for April 1, 1994, at the Henrietta Fire Hall (3129 East Henrietta Road) at 8:00 p.m. for Nominations for Club Officers.
- PUBLIC SERVICE EVENTS FOR 1994**: A list of events including the American Diabetes Association Bike Tour, Stuart Horse Trails, Walnut Hill Driving Competition, Ginna Pre Drill, and Ginna Drill.
- RVHFG 1994 AWARDS BANQUET**: A reminder for a banquet at the Green Lantern Inn in Fairport, NY, on Saturday, April 23, 1994.
- LICENSE EXAM TESTING**: Information about testing sessions for Barbara, AA2CX, and George, AA2FO.
- CONGRATULATIONS**: A note to nine members of the amateur radio community who passed their licenses or upgraded.
- Rochester HAMFEST**: Scheduled for May 20-21-22, 1994.

## 40 YEARS AGO, APRIL, 1974

Meeting then at the Monroe County Farm and Home Center on Highland Avenue, the gathering was Old Timers Night with who else but Bruce Kelley (sk), W2ICE, RARA Historian and co-founder of the Antique Wireless Association. Bruce also took pen in hand and filled this issue with an interesting insight into early SSB in Rochester and those who were pioneers on the new mode. Not finished yet, Bruce compiled and published a list of all RARA Presidents from 1930 to 1973. A copy of an unusual letter was published as written by Eddie Dunn (sk), W2ECH, and sent to the proprietors of Bryan's Drug Store on Main Street. This is where area hams would meet for lunch every Saturday after a visit to Rochester Radio's ham department located just a short walk down West Main. The drug store just closed after a terrible fire and Eddie expressed our sympathy to the family and thanked them for years of service to the lunch bunch. From the Want Ads you could buy a Heath HW-16 and VFO from WB2EEU. A new advertiser was Hamtronics, of Belmont Road in Greece, Jerry Vogt, WA2GCF President, advertising their new VHF FM receiving pre-amplifier.

# HAMFEST SPIRIT AT AWA'S "SPRING MEET"

Bill Hopkins, AA2YV

"I've had it!" That's what Gary Skuse (KA1NJL) our club Veep said at the March RARA Meeting. Quietly, of course; he's quite circumspect. He was slamming the weather. That Friday he wanted to do laps in an RIT parking lot; it was so ghastly warm, maybe 37F.



Spring in Western New York ham-dom means sun, warmth, mud, lilacs, damaged antennas and ham-radio-shack fever. Boy, lemme' outa here. I need a flea market! As Yoda would have said it, "Meet I need to go to. "

Well, this "Spring" there is indeed a "Meet." In fact, it's been a Spring Meet for more than half my life anyway, at the Antique Wireless Association in Bloomfield, NY, a town founded in 1789, the year of the French Revolution (no connection). The AWA is only 62 years old now, but still, there is enough tradition there. (Mini-quiz: how old is RARA?).

For this spring especially (if that's your choice), you can bring your prized wireless-junque and wirey-jokes down to Bloomfield, hardly a Grande-Java slurp away from Rochester. We'll all be there, either to buy, to sell or just jawbone.

When, you ask? Well, it's May 3, the first Saturday of the month. Come at 7 a.m. if you want to set up and sell but at 8 a.m. if you want to shop, buy, visit, listen, admire.

What's extra, you say? (Let me straighten my bow tie.) It's the NEW AWA Museum, open for you. And, we always have a special presentation (see below). And a bucket load of items on sale from the AWA super-stash overage. The Museum Gift Shop will also contain quality items. And a great Auction, hawked by who else?: Ed Gable (W2MP). AND, Museum tours (yes indeed, a replica of the Titanic Radio Room is here).

Just a small story now to introduce Roy Wildermuth's (W2IT) presentation at 9:30 a.m., titled "**Stealy Flattery: How Stalin Copied the U.S. ART-13 Transmitter.**" So what's my story? Well, in 1967, I was a language student in Kochel am See, a German village snuggled into the Alps, where the Allies had tried during WWII – without success – to bomb a major hydro-electric power plant. One plane was shot down and skidded to a stop in the marshes below Kochel Lake. The next morning the plane had vanished! Into the mud. And it's still there. More planes than that vanished. Roy is going to tell you all about it. He'll have real transmitters buzzing at his presentation, all AWA Museum "goodies." But which ones exactly? Ah, that's the question. Come hear Roy before he vanishes at 10:30 a.m., just before Gable's Auction gets underway and lasts until 12 noon, right when the Museum opens for visitors.

Come sell your stuff, tailgating outdoors or better still, indoors on a table, or put the gear up for auction with Ed (4 pieces max of honorable, useful equipment please). Ed asks that sellers at auction will need to disclose their minimum price and the condition of the item on a form to be supplied. The AWA will assess a 10% fee of the selling price up to a maximum of \$50. (This fee is for the Auction event only.)

So where, you ask? Yes, that will be in Bloomfield. From Rochester drive through Victor on Highway 96. Flip right (south) at the traffic light onto 444 and up Boughton Hill past the Gonandagan historic Indian site, straight towards Bloomfield, then through its traffic light and on over the rise where you hit US 5/20. Turn left there, eastward (watch the crazy traffic!), and the Spring Meet will take place at the former Old Museum Annex about 150 yards on your left. Watch for the sign out front. (It's 7 miles from Victor to the destination.) Our (Your) New Museum is on the right, by the way.

The cost, you ask? It'll be \$5 entrance fee, tables available inside or tailgating outside for an additional \$7 and \$5 Museum entrance (i.e., reduced!). If you are an AWA member, admission to the Museum is always FREE. Yes, there will be tours. Remember, the Museum opens at noon.

Now, aren't you excited? I am.

# DRUMLINS HAMFEST

\*\*\*\*\*  
**NEW LOCATION**  
 \*\*\*\*\*

Contact person: Dave Taylor KB2KBY  
 (315) 597-4293  
 Palmyra VFW Post 6778  
 4306 Route 31, Palmyra, NY  
 3 miles east of Palmyra  
 5 miles west of Newark

**28<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL  
 DRUMLINS  
 HAMFEST**



**APRIL 5, 2014**  
 Venders 7am  
 Public 8am Till

Electronics – **AMATEUR RADIO GEAR** – Computers

Breakfast – **GRAND PRIZE** – Door Prizes  
 Admission \$5.00  
 Tables (6 ft.) \$5.00 - Tailgaters \$3.00

**FREE Amateur License Exams** will be held at the Hamfest site  
 Registration & Testing 9am - 11am  
 Walk-ins accepted Test Doors open at 8:45 AM  
 For more info call or email Sabrina  
 Tel: 585-727-2091, Email: WD2STK@yahoo.com

**CLUB TRUSTEE WA2AAZ**  
 David Taylor, KB2KBY  
 228 W. Jackson St.  
 Palmyra, NY, 14522  
 Tel: (315)-597-4293  
 Email: kb2kby@rochester.rr.com  
 For Tables  
 Dave Taylor, KB2KBY  
 (315) 597-4293  
 Email: KB2KBY@rochester.rr.com

**VENDORS Contacted**  
 KJI ELECTRONICS, Cedar Grove, NJ  
 www.kjielelectronics.com  
 QuickSilver Radio Products  
 www.qsradio.com  
 Sauder Electronics  
 www.sauderselectronics.com  
 For a more up to date list, please visit:  
 www.drumlins.arc.us/hamfest.htm

## AUBURN'S 2<sup>ND</sup> ANNUAL SWAP MEET

Saturday May 3rd (first Sat. in May)  
 7am to noon

Located at the old GE plant parking lot  
 GPS: 357 Genesee Street Auburn 13021

This location is next to the McDonalds Resturant  
 Admission is \$3.00 at the gate or a bag of (unexpired) canned goods. All proceeds will be donated to a local Food Pantry.

Come join us at a great little Saturday morning Swap Meet.

There are no shelters, food or bathrooms.

However, McDonalds is 100 ft east of the Swap.

Hot coffee and rest rooms are available next door. If it rains, plan accordingly.

## NEWS FROM OTHER AREA CLUBS

### MONROE COUNTY ARES / RACES NEWS

The Monroe County Amateur Radio Emergency Service, Inc. holds its meetings on the fourth Thursday of each month. Anyone interested, members and non-members, are welcome to attend. The next ARES Meeting will be held on: **Thursday, April 24, 2014, at 7:00 PM.**

Meetings are held at the **Greater Rochester Chapter of the American Red Cross HQ, 50 Prince Street, Rochester, NY 14607.** (Located behind the Rochester Auditorium Theatre, 885 Main St. E.)

**ARES NET:** Monroe County ARES/RACES meets on the air every Thursday of the month at 9:00 pm, on the 146.61 MHz (-) 110.9 Hz PL repeater. The only exception to that are nights when we hold our regular meeting, generally on the 4th Thursday of the month.

**WEB:** [www.monroecountymcomm.org](http://www.monroecountymcomm.org)

**NBEMS:** Want to learn about Narrow Band Emergency Messaging System (NBEMS)? It's the latest and easiest way to "Go Digital!" Bring your laptop computer and 2-M handheld transceiver. We will conduct an NBEMS clinic after every meeting through 2014.



### ROCHESTER RADIO REPEATER ASSOCIATION, RRRRA

Hope all that attended RRRRA's March auction enjoyed themselves. Thanks to Dick and Ed for being our auctioneers.

On Friday, April 18th RRRRA's meeting will be on Amateur Television (ATV). The location is the Pittsford Town Hall basement starting at 7:30 PM.

George, N2UIO and Bob, N2HJD are planning on putting up an ATV repeater at the N2HJD/R 147.225 site in Brockport. The repeater will have its input in the 440 band and have its output in the 900Mc band. To spark interest in ATV, George and Bob will be demonstrating both 440Mc and 900Mc fast scan amateur TV at the RRRRA meeting. They will be showing both dedicated ATV hardware and repurposed equipment that can be used for ATV. George will also discuss the program material he plans to display on ATV. Hope you can attend and become interested in ATV.

### SQUAW ISLAND AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, SIARC

The Squaw Island Amateur Radio Club (SIARC) meets every second Wednesday of the month at 7:00PM at the Ontario County Safety Training Facility, 2914 County Road 48, Town of Hopewell. If we have VE testing we meet at 7:30PM with VE testing starting at 6:30PM. We will be meeting at 7:00PM on 4/9/14.

### GENESEE VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO ASSN.

The Genesee Valley Amateur Radio Association's April meeting has been cancelled. Testing will take place starting at 5:30PM.

### DRUMLINS AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

The Drumlins ARC Hamfest is on Saturday, April 5th. Doors open at 7:00 for vendors, 8:00 for the general public. It is taking place at the Palmyra VFW Post 6778, 4306 Route 31, Palmyra. Admission is \$5.00, outdoor tailgating is \$3.00. For directions and map, visit <http://drumlinsarc.us/hamfest.htm>.

### AUBURN

The Auburn 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Ham Swap Meet will be held Saturday May 3rd from 1AM till noon. Located in the old GE Powerex parking lot, next to the McDonalds Restaurant. For GPS location use 357 Genesee Street, Auburn, NY 13021. Admission is \$3.00 at the gate or a bag of (unexpired) canned food. All proceeds will be donated to a local Food Pantry.

# THE AMATEUR'S CODE

Originally written by Paul M. Segal, W9EEA (1928)

## THE RADIO AMATEUR IS:

<b>CONSIDERATE</b>	Never knowingly operating in such a way as to lessen the pleasure of others.
<b>LOYAL</b>	Offering loyalty, encouragement and support to other amateurs, local club, and the American Radio Relay League, through which Amateur Radio in the United States is represented nationally and internationally.
<b>PROGRESSIVE</b>	With knowledge abreast of science, a well built and efficient station and operation beyond reproach.
<b>FRIENDLY</b>	With slow and patient operation when requested, friendly advice and counsel to the beginner, kindly assistance, co-operation and consideration for the interests of others. These are the hallmarks of the amateur spirit.
<b>BALANCED</b>	Radio is an avocation, never interfering with duties owed to family, job, school or community.
<b>PATRIOTIC</b>	With station and skill always ready for service to country and community.

## VISIT THE RARA WEBSITE!

Did you know that your club's website ([www.rochesterham.org](http://www.rochesterham.org)) offers these features and more?

- Photos of meetings & events (you might be in there!)
- Info on upcoming meetings/programs
- Rochester Hamfest information!
- Online membership & renewal
- Track and redeem your Reward Points
- Public service info & sign-up
- VE testing info
- Back issues of the *Rag* in PDF
- Officer contact
- List of past presidents
- Online membership directory
- Order RARA logo products
- Useful Internet links
- Ham Radio 101 – tons of tutorial info, plus net & repeater listings



# RARA MARKETPLACE

Your commercial ad could be here! The RARA Rag can help spread the word on your business at very reasonable rates. Contact us for details at [editor@rochesterham.org](mailto:editor@rochesterham.org).



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# RARA OFFICERS

## OFFICERS

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<b>Refreshments Coordinator</b>	Tom Austin, KA2GXX	
<b>Webmaster</b>	Frank Schramm, WB2PYD	<a href="mailto:wb2pyd@arrl.net">wb2pyd@arrl.net</a>

## MAY RAG DEADLINE

APRIL 15, 2014

### CARTOONISTS – WANTED!

We would like to publish one original Ham Radio related cartoon each month.

Contact: [editor@rochesterham.org](mailto:editor@rochesterham.org)



**RARA meets at 7PM on the first Friday of each month; come join us at:**

Henrietta Fire Co. #1  
3129 East Henrietta Road  
Henrietta, NY 14467

**[Get Directions](#)**

## ROCHESTER AREA RADIO CLUB CONTACTS

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