

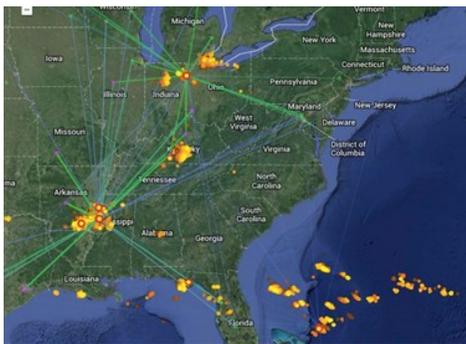
FLASH: WE ARE BUILDING A NETWORK TO DETECT LIGHTNING, BLITZORTUNG!

GARY SKUSE, KA1NJL—RARA VICE PRESIDENT

No one would deny that lightning is a hazard for everyone. If you have ever been caught outside without shelter in an unexpected lightning storm, perhaps on a golf course, or have ever flown through a lightning storm, you likely know the feeling of vulnerability. I remember many times when I was at work when a storm hit and I asked myself "did I ground my feedline the last time I operated?" I saw images of my house on fire, or worse yet my rigs damaged by the incredibly destructive force of lightning.

There is a growing national, international really, network of weather observers who are building and deploying lightning detectors. Locally there is only one online and we have the privilege of hearing from the leader of the team of hams who built it, Ned, W2NED.

A group of German weather enthusiasts has put together a kit so that anyone can build a lightning detector. Well, not anyone because the "kit" consists of several bags of parts, a few circuit boards and pictures of how it should look when it is done. It isn't your typical Heathkit. Consequently the skill level and attention to detail needed to complete the kit is above average and Ned and his team have built one that is online and reporting lightning from around the country.



You can see a map of lightning in the US here <http://www.lightningmaps.org/realtime?lang=en>. The yellow dots represent lightning and the lines show the connections between the lightning events and the amateur monitors that detect them which are distributed around the country. You can access maps of other countries via links on the upper left hand side of that page. Our monitor is currently installed at the southern shore of Lake Ontario.

There are a number of fascinating aspects of this upcoming program. The mere act of coordinating such a complex project is a lesson for many of us but we will also learn about how the detectors work, what it is like to build a functional device from bags of parts and how the growing network will benefit us now and as it continues to grow.

Please join us at the next RARA meeting on Friday September 5th at 7:00pm at the usual venue, the Henrietta Fire Company #1, located at 3129 East Henrietta Road near Lehigh Station Road.

SEPTEMBER 2014
VOLUME 67, ISSUE 1

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PREZ SEZ

GARY SKUSE, KA1NJL—RARA VICE PRESIDENT

There are a lot of things happening at RARA, we do indeed live in exciting times. Last month I commented about how great our club is after spending a wonderful day at the RARA picnic chatting with other members. Now after worrying about whether the club would survive the upcoming election we have had a number of members step up to fill vacant positions on the Board of Directors and among the four officer positions. The nominating committee vetted the volunteers and has come up with a ballot of nominees who will capably steer the club throughout the coming year. I am completely confident in their ability to do so. Really, we do have a great club.

A few weeks ago our hard working Secretary, Len, KC2PCD stepped away from his position due to a number of factors including a death in his family. For several years Len worked arduously to keep minutes of the BOD meetings, update our telephone hotline, compose monthly press releases and perform a host of other duties that he did well and relentlessly. We'll miss Len's faithful commitment to the club and I personally wish him luck and joy as he pursues his lifelong passion, art.

With the fall looming in the not too distant future we can look forward to the annual RARA tailgating party, affectionately known as "The Thrill Before the Chill", on September 13th at the Damascus Shriners facility on Bay Road in Webster. That popular event will take place from 7:00am until noon and will give all of us a chance to pass on some of our radio-oriented possessions to others (i.e. dump some of the clutter in our shacks/basement/attics and garages), see each other again and enjoy some of the great food to be served for breakfast and lunch. RARA promotes this event each year for the sole benefit of the Shriners, 100% of the money made at the gate and through food sales goes to the Shriners so they can continue to provide quality health care for children at their network of hospitals across the country. I cannot imagine a better cause and a better opportunity to enjoy our friends in the local ham radio community.

While we are on the topic of enjoying our friends in the ham radio community, the annual RARA banquet is scheduled for Friday September 26th at the Burgundy Basin Inn. Not only will we have the usual good food, opportunities to continue and renew friendships and a cash bar (note to self, in the future there ought to be free drinks for the interim president) but also this year we have a guest speaker. Ed Gable, K2MP, will give a presentation about radio that is likely to be unequalled anywhere. If you haven't heard Ed speak before you are missing something special. If you have heard him then you know that he is articulate, engaging and the depth of his knowledge about anything radio is profound. I always enjoy the banquet but I am certain that this one will be extra good because of Ed's talk. You can learn more about the banquet and reserve your tickets on the club's website at rochesterham.org.

It has been a busy month but all things are looking positive for RARA's future. I encourage everyone to enjoy club activities like the annual banquet and the Thrill Before the Chill and to consider other ways you can participate in our club's many community-oriented functions. It is a great club, in many ways unlike any other and we should be proud to be members.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- SEPTEMBER 5TH** - RARA General Meeting
7:00 PM at Henrietta Fire Co. #1, 3129 East Henrietta Rd
- SEPTEMBER 10TH** - RARA Board of Directors
5:30 PM RIT Engineering Hall, Room 2110
- September 13th** – Thrill Before The Chill
7AM – Noon Damascus Shriners, 979 Bay Rd, Webster
- September 20th** – RARA VE Testing
10:00 AM RIT Gleason Hall, 9-3139
- OCTOBER 3RD** - RARA General Meeting
7:00 PM at Henrietta Fire Co. #1, 3129 East Henrietta Rd
- OCTOBER 8TH** - RARA Board of Directors
5:30 PM RIT Engineering Hall, Room 2110

Coming To A Parking lot Near You

Swap Meet 2014

Thrill Before The Chill



Shriners Hospitals
for Children™

Saturday September 13, 2014

Damascus Shrine Center

979 Bay Rd, Webster, NY 14580

Just off the Rt .104

7AM till Noon

A \$5 entry donation will go to help fund the
Shriners Hospital for Children.

<http://damascusshrinemasons.org/location-contact-us/>



Proudly display to your family and friends, the
new to you gear you purchase—as happy as a
cat who just caught a mouse!

RARA BANQUET

September 26, 2014

7:00 PM

Burgundy Basin Inn

1361 Marsh Road

Pittsford, NY



Join us for the annual RARA Banquet! Catch up with friends, meet RARA Board of Directors members, and enjoy guest speaker Ed Gable, K2MP!

Don't forget to buy your tickets!

Members : \$15

Non-members : \$20

or

30 Membership Points



Nominating Committee Report

July 30, 2014

Mr. Leonard Crellin, KC2PCD
Secretary, Rochester Amateur Radio Association, Inc.
P.O. Box 93333
Rochester, NY 14692-8333

Dear Len,

On behalf of the members of the Nominating Committee I am pleased to place the following names in nomination as Officers and Directors of the corporation for the 2014-2015 term.

President:	Frank Schramm, WB2PYD
Vice-President:	Gary Skuse, KA1NJL
Secretary:	Wendy Tascione, KD2DYW
Treasurer:	Betsy Tascione, KD2DYU
Directors:	Kenneth Hall, W2KRH
	James Stefano, W2COP
	Anand Choudri, KC2KPG
	Marisa Ashour, KC2VMM
	Ross Mazzola, KC2LOC
	Forest Shick, WA2MZG
	William Mullaney, KC2VSJ

This completes the work of the Nominating Committee and I wish to thank Kevin Carey, WB2QMY, and Lloyd Caves, N2PU for their work on the committee and their help in preparing this report.

Sincerely,



Richard A. Goslee, KG2I
Chairman, 2014-2015 Nominating Committee
Rochester Amateur Radio Association, Inc.

BIOGRAPHS OF CANDIDATES FOR OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE ROCHESTER AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION

Frank Schramm, WB2PYD Candidate for President

Most of you already know me, but for those of you who may be relatively new to the club let me introduce myself and tell you why I am qualified to be your President. First, I'd like to welcome you and thank you for joining us! I have the experience, and proven track record to innovate and manage RARA while continuing to provide members with increasing benefits of membership. Since 2007 I have twice served as your Vice-President, and three terms as your President; I currently maintain the RARA website, and have taught the General class licensing course for many years. Professionally, I bring to the table business development, business management, human resources, finance, accounting, sales, and marketing skills. I hope you'll find my experience in office and my skillset valuable to the club administration.

To all readers of the RAG, members and non-members alike, let me share my vision for the immediate future of the club: I see RARA as having two primary reasons to exist. First is as a force to foster and promote amateur radio, and be a resource for support and growth to the existing hams in the 5 county area. The second reason is as a fraternal organization providing compelling benefits to its dues paying membership base. Benefits I would like to add, to those already in place for our members, is to restore and expand the once popular "RARA Academy" with courses being free to members. Another item I feel very strongly about is providing members with access to a **physical** HF operating station. A large contingency of hams in the area do not, for many reasons, have access to an HF station; the physical club station would also serve as a valuable teaching tool.

One of my first tasks in office will be to address Hamfest production. I do have a plan... more to follow.

With your support, as President of RARA I will reinstate the innovative momentum I left two years ago and do my best to make membership in RARA compelling to every Amateur in the area. I do value your input, so feel free to contact me at any time: WB2PYD@gmail.com

Oh yeah: I'll see what I can do about the parking situation at the meetings.

73's
Frank Schramm
WB2PYD

Gary Skuse, KA1NJL Candidate for Vice President

I was born in East Irondequoit and earned a BA in Biology from the University of Rochester before continuing my education in Syracuse and Boston. I returned to Rochester in the mid 1980's to raise my family and I am currently a Professor of Biological Sciences at RIT. At the age of 10 my dad and I built an Eico Space Ranger shortwave receiver (which I still own) that ignited an interest in all things radio that persists to this day.

With the help of a Heath licensing course I earned my novice ticket in 1985 and over the next year I upgraded to General and Advanced and retained that license class for more than 20 years. In 2009 I upgraded to Extra and have been a member of the RARA VE team since. I have also served on the RARA Board of Directors and have been Vice President of RARA since 2012.

My broad interests in radio range from HF to VHF and UHF and, as a past member of AMSAT, extend into space. Due to an intense interest in many things digital, I served as chair of the Rochester Amateur Packet Society, I am the founder of the Digital Communications Association of Perinton and the trustee of the KA2AIR club station. Recently I worked with the DCAP folks to put the KB2VZS DStar repeater on the air and on the network. I am an avid SWL and I voraciously monitor airband communications and ADS-B transmissions. In my spare time I provide radio and data telecommunications support for Airsupport, LLC, a local company involved with airshows nationwide.

Wendy Tascione, KD2DYW

Candidate for Secretary

My name is Wendy Tascione, KD2DYW, and I became licensed as a Technician in 2013. As I learn more about the art and science of radio, I am running for the position of Secretary.

I became involved with amateur radio as a means to emergency communications. Shortly after earning my ham license, I joined the Monroe County ARES/RACES group. I'm gathering equipment sufficient to make me a blessing in the event of an emergency and listening on the air to learn more about the hobby. I attended my first Field Day event this year and met a lot of new friends. To bolster my general skills and meet others in the community, I took both CERT and SKYWARN trainings.

I'm the former co-organizer and Board Member of a local social/educational group with, at the time, over 1600 members. As such, I was responsible for arranging for monthly meeting topics and speakers, moderating the group's online forum, and co-organizing the group's annual picnic as well as other public events. I have extensive secretarial experience including responsibility for dealing with "Hotline" voice-mails, customer grievance communications and mediation. I am detail-oriented and organized to a fault.

It would be an honor and a privilege to serve.

Betsy Tascione, KD2DYU

Candidate for Treasurer

My name is Betsy Tascione, KD2DYU. I am a lifelong Rochesterian, wife, homeschooling mother, and Treasury Analyst for Unity Health System (now Rochester Regional Health System).

As a homeschooler, I am always looking for ways that my family can learn together. My family joined RARA in early 2013 and began taking the classes that spring after hearing about RARA from our teachers at CERT training.

Thanks to RARA's committed instructors and support staff, we now have a Tech (Wendy - KD2DYW), a General (Natalie - KD2DYV), and two Extras (Bill - KD2DYR and me)!

As a family, we also attended SKYWARN training with NOAA's National Weather Service and became weather spotters. I joined Monroe County ARES/RACES this year because my passion is in emergency communications.

I would love to help bring more women and families to our hobby and into RARA. I hope to offer insight into how we can encourage and interest many new members.

As I watch, listen, and learn how to help serve in emergency communications and gain knowledge in ham radio as a hobby, I would like to thank the dedicated RARA members that have generously offered their time, knowledge, and wisdom to help foster an interest in our hobby and bring in new hams.

I cannot think of a better way to be a useful member of RARA than to offer my experience in Finance and serve as your Treasurer. I am eager to serve and will bring careful oversight to the finances of this organization.

Kenneth Hall, W2KRH

Candidate for Board of Directors

Born in Buffalo and raised in Orchard Park, I joined the Army in 1963 was trained in electronics, served in Turkey, Japan, Vietnam and CONUS and was discharged in 1970 with the rank of Chief Warrant Officer.

Began working for a small systems company, STA, Inc., in 1970 working on an automated order wire ground station system for the Intelsat Telecommunications satellite system. In 1971 I went to work for Xerox Corporation where for the next 35 years I held a number of positions beginning as a Technical Representative and ending as a Technical Specialist Product Manager.

I have had a lifelong interest in electronics and Amateur Radio and was finally licensed in 1998 as KC2DTT. Then I joined the Xerox Amateur Radio Club where I was elected President. In 2007 I upgraded to General and then Extra and became a VE with RARA where I am now the VE Team Leader. I am also a member of SIARC and Ontario County RACES. I am interested in Software Defined Radios and digital modes of communication.

I have served RARA for a number of years on the BOD as member then Secretary and now Treasurer (stepping down per the Bylaws). Standing for election to the BoD I will represent the members of the club to the best of my ability and will seek input from the RARA membership. Thank you for your vote.

James Stefano, W2COP

Candidate for Board of Directors

I'm a lifetime resident of the Rochester area and I've been a Ham now for the past 40 years. My primary interest has been VHF/UHF communications, repeater building and digital communications.

In 1992 I became involved in Packet Radio, making my first contact with the International Space Station. For the past few years I've helped out with the ARISS programs for local schools helping students make contact with astronauts on-board the International Space Station. I'm also an active member of ARES/RACES and participate in several public service events every year through RARA. I've also helped with the Rochester Hamfest and served on that committee.

After retiring from 21 years in law enforcement I joined RIT as a computer Systems Administrator. I'm also the Advisor to the RIT Amateur Radio Club where we manage the APRS Internet Gateway for the Rochester area maintain a campus repeater with an IRLP link. For the past several years we've been fortunate in being able to accommodate space here at RIT for the RARA board meetings, license classes and Amateur Radio Exams. My current project with RaRa is high availability remote HF/VHF/UHF Radio/IP gateways accessible from the Internet for public service and emergency use.

I have served on the RARA Board of Directors in the past and would look forward to returning again in order to give the club direction in that capacity.

Anand Choudri, KC2KPG

Candidate for Board of Directors

I have been a Ham for twelve years and I have enjoyed the variety of things you can do in this hobby. I particularly like the RARA club where I learn a lot from our experienced members. The club, through its dedicated officers, prepared me for the license exams when I first joined the club and then later when I upgraded to General. The numerous activities that RARA conducts is truly remarkable and I believe it does not get the attention it deserves.

My Amateur Radio hobby is financed through my work at Medaille College as a Professor of Finance and Economics. Prior to that, I worked for a global Telecommunications company and also for a global Security Technologies company.

My primary activity in Amateur Radio is in public service such as Tour de Cure, Pumpkin Patrol, etc. I am a member of ARES/RACES and have participated in Monroe County RACES drills. I want to get more involved in HF and CW, which I know the club will somehow help me accomplish those.

For the last twelve years I have relied on others to do the work of keeping RARA alive. I just enjoyed the fruits of their labor. Then, I read a recent RARA Rag in which Ross, KC2LOC wrote of the dire circumstances that we, as a club, were in. For selfish reasons I would not like to see the club go defunct, so I have decided the time has come for me to continue my public service, this time as a Board Member of RARA. I promise to do the best I can to continue the tradition of excellent work that the past members have done. I hope that you will give me the opportunity to serve you as a Board Member of your club.

Thank you.
Anand Choudri, KC2KPG.

Marisa Ashour, KC2VMM

Candidate for Board of Directors

My name is Marisa Ashour, and my call is KC2VMM. I'm 20 years old, and I will be going into my final year of Electrical Engineering this fall at RIT. I am originally from Staten Island, NY, which is also where I was first licensed in 2009, after being encouraged to by a mentor of my FIRST robotics team.

The aspect of amateur radio that I most enjoy is contesting, but I also like foxhunting and antenna design. Since coming to Rochester, I've become more active in amateur radio through my participation in K2GXT, The RIT Amateur Radio Club. This past academic year, I served as the club's President, and I will be the Vice President for the 2014 - 2015 academic year. In addition, I have served on the RARA Board of Directors this past year, and I would greatly enjoy bringing new ideas and perspectives to the Board of Directors for another year.

Ross Mazzola, KC2LOC

Candidate for Board of Directors

I want to thank the members of RARA for considering me to serve another term on your Board of Directors. It has truly been an honor to have been a part of this very worthwhile organization for the past several years and I hope you will give me the opportunity to continue to do so.

I have been licensed as an Amateur Extra for 11 years now. During that time, I've gotten to know a lot of members who have helped me in one way or another to learn and grow in this great hobby of ours. I have had a chance to try packet and other digital modes, DXing and I've had the pleasure to serve as a volunteer at numerous public service events. It's the excitement and service aspect of these events that have led to my primary interest in Emergency Communications.

In addition to my membership in RARA, I am also a member of Monroe County ARES and Monroe County RACES. I really enjoy using the skills and knowledge that I've acquired in amateur radio to help our community by providing contingency communications in the event of a disaster or emergency. I have even expanded my participation in EmComm activities by joining US Army Military Auxiliary Radio Service (MARS) where I currently serve as the New York State Emergency Operations Officer. If you're interested in learning more about either one of these organizations, feel free to send me a message or stop and see me during one of our monthly meetings.

My most important job, however, is representing you the members of Rochester Amateur Radio Association. Please don't hesitate to let me or any other Board member know what you're thinking and how you think we're doing. Constructive criticism is always welcome but for what I get paid as Board member (hi hi) I'm willing to listen to any kind of criticism! Seriously though, I've learned much, met some terrific people and had a lot of fun being a member of RARA. Won't you please allow me to continue to be your voice and help RARA continue to its long tradition of being one of the best amateur radio clubs in the country?

Forest Shick, WA2MZG

Candidate for Board of Directors

I am currently on the RARA Board of Directors and I am the editor of the RARA RAG. Last winter I taught a 6 week course for RARA members titled "Very Basic Electronics".

I have been interested in electronics since I was 12 years old. I have been a ham for over 40 years. I have a BSEE from Indiana Institute of Technology in Fort Wayne, Indiana. My electronics career started at Motorola Communications Division where I worked on UHF & VHF land mobile and rail transit radios. Next I worked at Harris RF Communications in the VHF / UHF land mobile radio group. Finally ending up at a small company designing battery operated, microprocessor controlled instruments for monitoring: power, toxic gas, air quality and other parameters.

It was during my first year at IIT that I became a ham. First I passed the Technician test so I was able to operate the club station while improving my code speed to pass the Advanced license test. I held an Advanced class license until I recently passed my Extra class exam.

My ham radio interests lean more towards building and experimenting than rag chewing, although I would really like to build up my code skills to operate CW once more.

I offer my technical background to help further RARA's goals of expanding amateur radio in the Rochester area. I believe our hobby / passion has drifted away from the hands on operating. As a member of the Board of Directors I hope to inspire more people to "get their hands dirty" and build and experiment.

William Mullaney, KC2VSJ

Candidate for Board of Directors

My name is William Mullaney, my call-sign is KC2VSJ. I'm currently 33, grew up in Connecticut, but now live in Henrietta. I came to Rochester in 2000 to attend RIT and I still haven't left yet. Currently, I work in Global Information Systems at CooperVision as their Senior Network Engineer.

As a kid I had my first experience with radio with my grandfather on CB. During college I worked at Microwave Data Systems with former League editor/author Rus Healy (K2UA) where I was able to learn more about RF in general, and along with the help of Tim Guyot (KB1POP) and Dave Snyder (KC2REO) got into amateur radio and was licensed in the summer of 2009. Around 15 or so of my friends and colleagues from RIT ended up getting licensed which made for some fun times on the VHF/UHF bands, including one nine car, 23 person, highly-coordinated ski trip to Quebec. In the past, I've served in the field and/or as Net Control for Tour de Cure, Bike MS, ARI Red Ribbon Ride, and the Rochester Marathon, along with having some involvement with the local ARES/RACES group. I'd love to further my knowledge by learning more about HF and digital modes, along with seeing how we can use HAM radio with member's other hobbies to increase overall interest and activity.

Outside of RF, I'm an avid alpine skier, usually with my HT, a newly converted cyclist, and generally enjoy getting out of the house in the company of friends whenever I have some free time. I serve as a range safety officer and instructor at Rochester Brooks in Rush and participate in a variety of shooting disciplines there. I'm looking forward to meeting and working with all the people at RARA and hope to serve as an effective voice and representative for the 25-40 year old group, and to increase membership by that demographic.

STILL TIME TO SIGN UP FOR LICENSE CLASSES

Pam Kasperkoski, W2PHK, RARA Education Coordinator

RARA sponsored license classes will be starting up September 9th. If you want to explore the world of Ham radio or upgrade your current license, now is the time. Do you have a General or Extra license that has expired? New ARRL rules allow you to get privileges back just by passing the Tech exam again. Classes are a great way to brush up on current technology, share tips and make new friends.

Classes will be held at the RIT campus in Henrietta on Tuesday evenings from 6:30 to 8:30 PM, and will run for 10 weeks. Classes are FREE to RARA members and students. Manuals can be obtained through the club at a discounted price of \$22.50. As an added incentive for new hams, RARA helps subsidize the cost of a small two-way radio for Technician course graduates.

So, what are you waiting for? Sign up now or get more information by e-mailing pamelakasper@frontiernet.net.

CLEANING UP, AND CLEANING UP AND CLEANING UP

Bill Hopkins, AA2YV

Cleaning Up 1

Well, it's been summer time, and the basement's getting a much needed make-over. This also means cleaning up the rat's nest of Ham Gear and peripherals (i.e., *Junque*). I can't believe how many of those little blue plastic mushroom trays I filled up with parts from forgotten and unfinished repair projects. And then the old boat anchors! Wow, also can't believe how many I have carted home in the last two years. Big hopes, folks - not long on reason. So I'm cleaning up (out!).

Cleaning Up 2

And in the process I found some goodies. Right there, hiding on a top shelf was an E.F. Johnson "Speed-X" hand key, in its beautiful crinkly black paint. This kind of stuff is now getting rare. I'll be sending it off to Ciro Martinelli (IZ8LFK / K2LFK), who recently gave a great presentation at RARA on emergency preparedness around Mt. Vesuvius. (Ciro should be with us this coming spring once again.) I had to clean it up and get it ready to send off.

Then I remembered that Speed-X semi-automatic bug I had bought at a RARA Hamfest. Also dirty. After unwisely disassembling it without taking notes and then washing the base and polishing the chrome, I finally got it back together. It sports that same characteristic black crackle finish. It's now lined up along with my modest MFJ-564 paddle, the computer mouse (a stand-in for the entire computer) and the old hand key - all plugged in and ready for immediate CW use. Each is hooked in through my homebrew CW breakout box that can provides output to eight rigs. All four CW creation modalities are neatly lined up in the shack, like a set of used cars on a lot at the edge of town.



Not Cleaning Up 3

Well, I'll not be cleaning up in any sweepstakes or other contest on the air. I don't have that sort of stomach. I mainly play around with the monthly NAQCC QRP contest sprints, and that's great fun. I cleaned up on that 2 hour run only once. If you join, you can use only a wire antenna, a hand key and 5 watts max. Computer-driven CW is out, a keyer is out and, yes, my (new) Speed-X bug is out as well. Only the hand key is permissible.

And what about your stash? Who knows. Maybe you'll be able to: 1) clean up and put something back in service; 2) gift it; or 3) CLEAN IT OUT!

HELLO TO ALL IN ROCHESTER

Frank Cataldo, N2DKI

Although I have been living in Henderson Nevada for the past 12 years I still often think of all of my Amateur Radio Friends. I do occasionally connect to Tim Magee WB2KAO via EchoLink. He has been keeping me posted on some of the Amateur activity in Rochester and the area. I would like to hear from some of my old contacts. I can be reached via email at frank@N2DKI.com or Echolink via K7RSW repeater in Henderson, NV.

I have attached a picture of my Ham Shack. I am proud of the work I have done. Being retired-disabled has given me a lot of time to work on Ham stuff.

Please take care and I miss you all.
Frank



Frank Cataldo, N2DKI
225 West Basic Road
Henderson, NV 89015
WWW.N2DKI.COM

Monitoring:
52.525 Mhz
146.550 Mhz
448.875 Mhz

NEW VE SESSIONS STARTING IN SEPTEMBER

Beginning Saturday, September 20th and repeating the third Saturday of each month through May 16th RARA is pleased to conduct no cost VE sessions in Room 9-3139, in the Gleason Building on the RIT campus. Sessions will begin at 10AM and prior registration is not required. If you feel you are ready just arrive on time.

For those who will be taking the Technician exam please be aware that the QP (Question Pool) has been updated effective July 1st and the exams will be based on that QP. Both the ARRL and W5YI have updated license books available. RARA will be conducting license classes this fall and we offer a reduced cost for the ARRL manual.

Should you have any questions please contact the VE Team Leader Ken Hall, W2KRH at ken@w2krh.com I look forward to seeing you this fall.

Membership Renewal

It's that time of the year again... time to renew your membership in RARA. Memberships expire on September 30th 2014! Don't let yours expire; if you do, all your Membership Rewards points will be lost on October 1st.

Benefits of RARA Membership:

FREE admission to the Rochester Hamfest

FREE admission to our exclusive members only auction in November

FREE admission, food, and drink for you and your family at our Summer Picnic

FREE admission, food, and drink for you and your family at our Winter Cabin Party

FREE amateur radio licensing courses—upgrade or a use as a refresher

FREE amateur radio license testing

FREE classified advertising in our newsletter—the RARA *Rag* with over 8,000 readers!

25% Discount on our Fall Banquet (September 26th)—make reservations TODAY, just [click here](#).

50% Discount on radios for new licensees – to get you on the air ASAP.

Monthly meetings—featuring an educational and entertaining presentation by guest speakers with refreshments and a great opportunity to meet your friends and make new ones!

Earn points for volunteering—redeemable towards dues, dinners, and other club items.

Renewal is fast and easy! Just point and click! No forms to fill out - Remit via PayPal / Credit Card or redeem your Membership Points. Just [click here](#) to renew. Not a member? Join now! Just [click here](#) to join. It's as easy as 1-2-3 and you too can be the recipient of all the benefits listed above.

Don't wait... click NOW!



RARA RAGS OF THE PAST

Ed Gable, K2MP – RARA Club Historian

20 YEARS AGO, SEPTEMBER, 1994

At the last Annual Meeting members elected the following Officers and Directors: President Roger Harnaart WB2BWQ, VP Chris Reich WB2DYJ, Secretary James Hood N2HHV, Treasurer Richard Goslee K2VCZ. To the Board of Directors: Lloyd Caves WB2EFU, Neal Eckhardt WB2EKP, Keith Freeberg N2BEL, Ed Holdsworth N2EH, Joe Hood, K2YA, George Muller WA2IEO and James Shipkowski, WB2WWV.

New to amateurs this month, and high tech for many, was the announcement of antenna modeling software for the average Amateur with a typical home computer. Yagi Optimizer would plot gain, F/B data and let you play "what if" until the cows come home.

"What's a Duathlon?" you might ask before volunteering. Well, it's a 3.5 mile run, followed by an eleven mile bike ride and then running an additional 1.5 miles. The event is September 11th and Dave Payne KA2J, will sign you up for communications duty. Sherwood Snyder (sk) W2KUF, Attorneys at Law, remained a long term advertiser.

40 YEARS AGO, SEPTEMBER, 1974

First month on the job and your new Vice President and Program Chairman, Bill March, WA2CER, wrote to announce the September program with a familiar face and voice, that of Mr. Len Gessin, WA2ZNC. Len, who was the Assistant Superintendent "up on the hill" at County/City Radio Central, will tell why effective one-way radio communications is so important. And speaking of new officers in new jobs, voted into office for the 1974/75 RARA season were: President Joe Hood K2YAH, V-P Bill March WA2CER, Secretary David Holtz WB2HTH and Treasurer Len Gessin WA2ZNC. To the Board of Directors you elected: Jim Collinsworth WB2EDT, Ed Holdsworth (sk) WA2EKR, Bob Lauzon (sk) WB2NSD, Robert Phelps (sk) WB2DPT, Ray Roberts (sk) WA2SSU, John Schooley (sk) W2BLU and Harold Smith WA2KND.

Dave Hassett (sk) K2SQI, wrote to announce that he and Bob Lauzon (sk) WB2NSD, will be conducting RARA's Code and Theory classes at a place so far unknown. Last year's RIT classroom went from zero to twenty dollars a night. Gone almost unnoticed at the '74 Hamfest was the new engraving machine and a group of RARA members volunteering to sell name badges and to perform the engraving. Several ruined badges later the crew got the hang of it and the funds went into the RARA account rather than paying an outside vendor. And thus "K2JD Engraving" was born.

Over the Summer the FCC gave us a gift that did go noticed and that was the relaxation of logging rules. No longer was it necessary to log every unanswered CQ, nor was it necessary to log every call to a station that didn't come back to you, to say nothing of those numerous "testing, testing" transmissions.

From the Want Ads you could buy a 500 watt HF transmitter from Orv Bauer W2TEX, for \$150.00. Glenwood Sales of Hague Street in Rochester remained a long time commercial advertiser.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS OFFICER'S RESPONSIBILITIES

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

NEWS FROM 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, September 25, 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.monroecountyemcomm.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 2015.

ROCHESTER RADIO REPEATER ASSOCIATION, RRRRA

RRRA will be starting up its 3rd Friday of the Month meeting beginning on September 19, 2014. The meeting will be held at the Pittsford Town Hall Basement starting at 7:30 pm. The 2014 officers are Bob Shewell, N2HJD President, Rob Bruno, KD2GCG Vice President, Ed Wilkonski, KC2WM Secretary, and Joel Rossbach, N2EZV Treasurer. Hope to see you there.

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.

The next regular meeting will be on September 10th at 7:00PM.

GENESEE VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO ASSN.

We had a great turnout for testing on Field Day June 28th. We had 9 people show up to test. Of those 9, we had 7 take the Tech exam, 6 passed, and of those 6, two also passed their General exam. Of the other two, 1 attended to take their General exam and the other to take their Extra exam, both were successful. It was the best turnout we have had for testing yet! We were told by 2 people that traveled from Lancaster, we were the closest in the state and the last to offer an exam session before the new question pool for tech went into effect.



We were set up for Field Day at Vitale Park in Lakeville. This proved to be a great spot! We had 3 radios operating, 2 HF and 1 VHF/Digital Station. Many people visiting the park also stopped to see what we were doing and were impressed with Amateur Radio. One person who passed his exams that day came back later in the evening and sat with us for a few hours taking it all in.

Our next two meetings are September 28th and October 26. We are planning on presentations at both of these on home

brewed antennas. If you would like to show off your antenna, with directions on how to build the antenna, contact Billy Boyd, N3DSP, at n3dsp@lafireline.net

Have a safe summer and hope to catch you on the air!

DRUMLINS AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Our meetings are held the third Wednesday of each month. Doors open at 7:00pm, meeting starts at 7:30pm at the Wayne County EOC, 7376 Route 31, Lyons. VE sessions held before the meeting on even months. Talk-in before meeting on 146.685-.

ROCHESTER VHF GROUP

The Rochester VHF Group holds monthly meetings on the second Friday of the month between September and June. Meetings begin at 7:30 PM and are held at the Spencerport Wesleyan Church, 2653 Nichols St. (NY Route 31) in Spencerport. Visit our website www.rvhfg.org for details.

The Rochester VHF Group sponsors an informal On-Air Net every Monday at 2100 local time on 144.260 MHz USB and a 6 Meter Net every Thursday at 2100 local on 50.200 MHz USB.

More club information can be found by visiting www.rvhfg.org or just calling in any Monday or Thursday night. All are welcome to check in to these nets.

Microwave Update 2014

The annual Microwave Update (MUD) conference will be held on October 24-25, 2014 in Rochester, NY.

The Rochester VHF Group (RVHFG) is hosting MUD 2014 at the Rochester Marriott Airport Hotel. Microwave Update is an annual technical conference and includes presentations by leading amateur radio microwave experimenters. Attendees from all over the world have the opportunity to discuss the latest technical developments and operating achievements taking place in the 902 MHz-and-up amateur radio frequencies. There will be test equipment for measurements including noise figure up to 47 GHz. The conference will conclude with the Saturday evening dinner banquet. For early arrivals on Thursday, there will be a tour at the nearby Antique Wireless Association (AWA) Museum.

For full details and registration, go to the Microwave Update 2014 website www.microwaveupdate.org .

The call for papers and presenters also appears on the website.

ROCHESTER DX ASSOCIATION, RDXA

The next RDXA meeting is Tuesday September 16th starting at 7:30PM. The meeting will be at the Monroe County EOC, 1190 Scottsville Rd.

AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION OF THE SOUTHERN TIER, ARAST

The Amateur Radio Association of the Southern Tier is proud to announce their 39th annual hamfest Saturday September 27, 2014. Doors open for the Flea Market at 6:00 AM .

Looking to buy from one of our vendors? The doors open for the inside vendors at 8:00 AM.

As usual everything you've come to expect from our hamfest is included: Free parking, one flea market slot per admission ticket ,a fox hunt is planned, FCC Exams(Walk-ins accepted), Food will be available (breakfast will be served around 7:00AM) with a great time to be had by all.

Admission is \$6.00 in advance and \$8.00 at the gate the day of the event. More details are on our website : www.arast.org

Camping is available for a small fee (County Regulations and we have no control on that).
 Advance tickets are available from any board member and should be available at the September RARA meeting.
 Prizes haven't been announced as of this writing so go to the website for all the updated information.

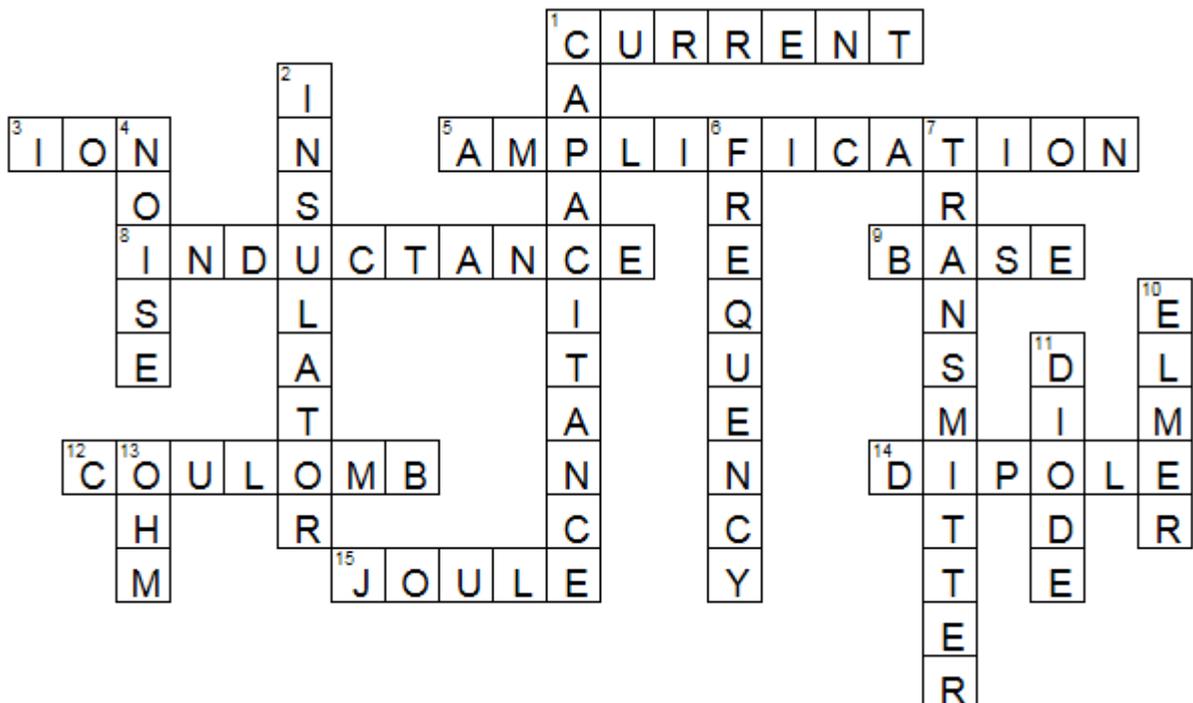
So save the date Saturday September 27, 2014 for the Elmira Hamfest at the Chemung County Fairgrounds in Horseheads NY.

Talk-In available on the 147.36 (+) (no tone required).

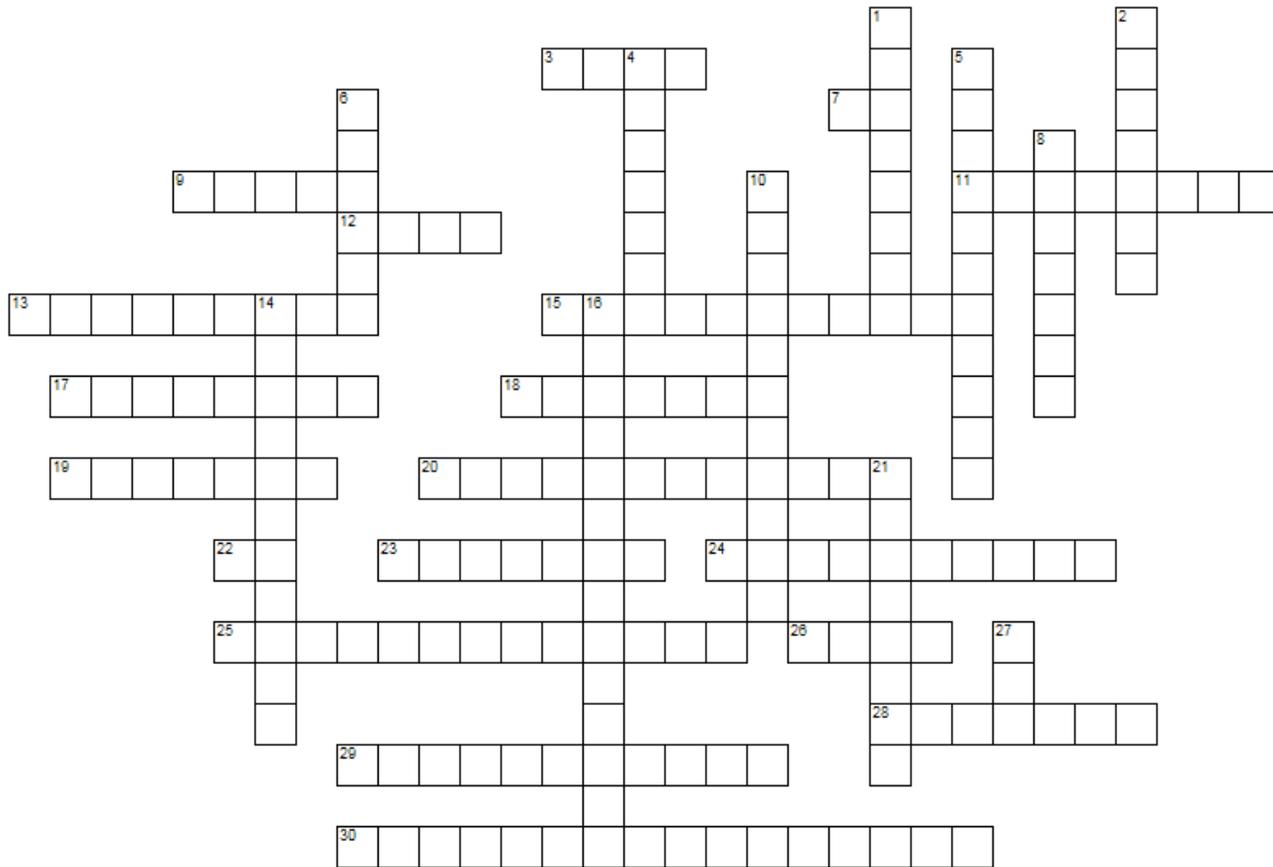
Need more information visit our website at www.arast.org , Click on the fall hamfest link.



Solution to August 2014 Crossword Puzzle



September Puzzle



ACROSS

- 3 Nickel cadmium
- 7 Frequency modulation
- 9 Converts between balanced and unbalanced loads and lines
- 11 Routing a portion of the output signal back to the input
- 12 Audio frequency shift keying
- 13 The reciprocal of time
- 15 mA
- 17 A non linearity in amplification in which a signals amplitude can no longer be increased
- 18 Place 1 analog stage after another to combine their effect
- 19 A resistive load across the output of a power supply filter
- 20 3000,000,000 meters per second
- 22 3.141592654
- 23 5 element vacuum tube
- 24 Lambda
- 25 A circuit that oscillates between 2 states
- 26 DC current gain of a bipolar junction transistor
- 28 A device that does not require power to operate
- 29 The reciprocal of resistance
- 30 CCW

DOWN

- 1 Model using numerical methods, usually on a computer
- 2 dB
- 4 XTAL
- 5 OOK
- 6 Base 2 number system
- 8 Ferromagnetic ceramic
- 10 Base 16 number system
- 14 NF
- 16 ID
- 21 TTY
- 27 Root mean square

THE AMATEUR'S CODE

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

THE RADIO AMATEUR IS:

- CONSIDERATE** Never knowingly operating in such a way as to lessen the pleasure of others.
- LOYAL** 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.
- PROGRESSIVE** With knowledge abreast of science, a well built and efficient station and operation beyond reproach.
- FRIENDLY** 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.
- BALANCED** Radio is an avocation, never interfering with duties owed to family, job, school or community.
- PATRIOTIC** 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) 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.

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OCTOBER RAG DEADLINE

SEPTEMBER 15, 2014



**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](#)

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Jim Sutton, N2OPS: jim@otrym.org

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THE RARA RAG

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