

MAY 2015
VOLUME 67, ISSUE 9

AND NOW FOR SOMETHING ENTIRELY DIFFERENT A FIELD TRIP

GARY SKUSE, KA1NJL—RARA VICE PRESIDENT

It's spring and while the weather is changing and life is returning to our area it's time to do something different. Nolan Stephany, N2EAW, has invited us to hold our May meeting at the WXXI AM transmitter site on French Road. I'm told that we'll see the new 5KW solid state transmitter and the 1955 "all glass" RCA which is at the site and still works. I guess it's true, they don't build them like they used to.

This change of venue is not without cost. Parking will be along French Road and it is not likely that the site will be wheelchair accessible. I apologize for any inconvenience that this may cause our members but these inconveniences come in exchange for the opportunity to see this mainstay of Rochester broadcasting.



WXXI AM provides 24 hour broadcasting on 1370KHz with a circular daylight coverage area of approximately 40-50 miles around Rochester. After sunset the broadcast pattern is modified to a more directional pattern, as required by the FCC, so that it reaches the city of Rochester and its northern and southern suburbs. Like many things nowadays, programming can be streamed live on wxxi.org and archives of many shows are available for download.

WXXI is more than 40 years old, having begun TV broadcasting with a limited schedule in September of 1966 after waiting five years for a license. The AM broadcasts on 1370KHz started in July of 1984. Over the years WXXI has become known for excellent programming from NPR, PBS and a host of locally produced shows on AM and FM radio and on over the air and cable television. More details of the history of this priceless local resource can be found on their website [here](http://wxxi.org). I cannot imagine being deprived of the WXXI shows I watch and listen to every day.

Our May RARA meeting will give us all a chance to see how professional broadcasters do it. I can't wait to see what a "real transmitter" looks like and to chat with Nolan about the technical challenges involved with keeping it on the air.

The May meeting, scheduled for Friday May 1st, **WILL NOT** be held at the usual venue. Instead we will meet at WXXI AM transmitter site located at 560 French Road in Brighton and it will start promptly at 7:00pm. Here is a [link](#) to a map to help you find it. I'm looking forward to seeing the transmitter and all of you at this unique RARA meeting.

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PREZ SEZ

FRANK SCHRAMM, WB2PYD—RARA PRESIDENT

60... 61... 62...

Each month I write my column for the RAG and send it off to the Editor. The process is typically: Write, save, review, save, re-review, save and then e-mail the Word file. Last month, and oddly, also the month before I received a reply from the Editor stating that I sent the wrong file. One was the wrong month (he said it looked familiar; so I'm glad someone reads these) and the other was the right month from a few years ago! So I decided to look and see just how many columns I have... This makes my 42nd Prez Sez column, and I have 20 program announcements beginning in Sept 2007 as a freshman Vice President; oh if I only knew what I was getting into. When I was in school I used to sell old term papers; I wonder if there's a market for old RAG columns? Maybe one of these months, when I'm feeling lazy, I'll try and recycle an old column... see if any of you notice.

Well it looks like most of the snow is gone and that means it's time to get our antennas back in working order. Winter snow, wind, and ice always seem to take a toll on our antennas. Remember: Use caution at all times. It's always best if you can solicit the assistance of a friend or two – at least have someone watching with 911 in the speed dialer! No, seriously, climbing trees and ladders, overhead wires and slippery roofs are the obvious dangers – don't ask why people still fall and get electrocuted if they're so obvious - that's the topic of a whole other diatribe. But take into consideration possible injury of less obvious elements like sharp edges and the wrong end of a screwdriver atop a ladder or forty foot tower. Some of us aren't as flexible or dexterous as we once were. Assess the situation, make a plan, employ (or bribe) your friends to help and then enjoy some summertime DXing.

And what better way to welcome back summer than with a stroll through the **Rochester Hamfest**? We're "Back at Barnard" starting at 7am on Saturday June 6th. Details and advanced ticket sales are available at: www.RochesterHamfest.org

The hands-on **RARA academy course** to construct a dual band (20m and 15m) dipole wire antenna will be approximately three hours long on **Saturday May 16th at RIT**. The cost of materials will be \$25.00 per attendee/antenna. This includes the cost of wire, end insulators, SO-239 connector, and miscellaneous hardware. It does not include feedline, balun, rope, or any discharge/lightning protection. This antenna will be only 34' long so it should fit on the most modest parcel of land. There's room for only 15 more attendees so register ASAP by sending an e-mail to Secretary@RochesterHam.org.

73 and happy DXing,

Frank
WB2PYD

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- MAY 1ST** - RARA General Meeting
7:00 PM at 560 French Rd - WXXI Transmitter site
- MAY 14TH** - RARA Board of Directors
5:30 PM RIT Engineering Hall, Room 2110
- MAY 16TH** - RARA VE Testing
10:00 AM RIT Gleason Hall, Room 9-3139

May RARA Meeting

Friday May 1st

SPECIAL LOCATION

WXXI AM Transmitter Site

at

560 French Road

NO ANTENNAS - NO AMATEUR RADIO!

HR-1301

The Amateur Radio Parity Act of 2015 -- H.R.1301 -- has been introduced in the US House of Representatives. The measure would direct the FCC to extend its rules relating to reasonable accommodation of Amateur Service communications to private land use restrictions. US Rep Adam Kinzinger (R-IL) introduced the bill on March 4 with 12 original co-sponsors from both sides of the aisle -- seven Republicans and five Democrats.

What this means in plain English is that all amateurs would have rights, within reasonable limits, to put up a radio antenna. Home Owner Associations (HOAs) would not have the automatic power to ban any antenna as they do at present. This is a major (and growing) problem for many amateurs across the country.

You can support this bill by writing to your US House representative. Please take a few minutes to complete the draft letter and follow the directions that can be found [here](#).

WHAT DID YOU DO LAST WEEKEND?

William Kasperkoski, WB2SXY

I talked to a lady in Serbia, in Morse Code.
I worked 30 states and countries in a Digital Contest.
I chatted about my antenna with a guy in South Africa.

The Rochester (NY) Amateur Radio Association -RARA- is in the process of firing up a Ham Radio Venture Crew, a Boy Scout program aimed at radio- and electronics-centric coed youth and adult activities. As you already know, knot-tying, tent-setting and Dutch-oven-cooking Scouts are very hands-on oriented and the Venture Crew program will have the same "Let's do this!" approach.

With infrastructure, programs, projects, field trips and adult Advisors in place, RARA is working closely with the Seneca Waterways Council to complete the adventure. All coed youth - 14 to 20 years old - in the area are invited to learn all they can from our experienced teams about their favorite activities, using radio-electronics as the focal point for their continuing adventures. All the hams in the area, clubs with their activities, and other organizations supporting our youth, are invited to help in this exciting BSA and RARA venture.

Contact:
wb2sxy@arrl.net
k2srf@rochester.rr.com
edwin.theetge@scouting.org

WHAT DID YOU DO

LAST WEEKEND?

VENTURING IS • Coed • High adventure • Fun with friends
• Leadership • Service

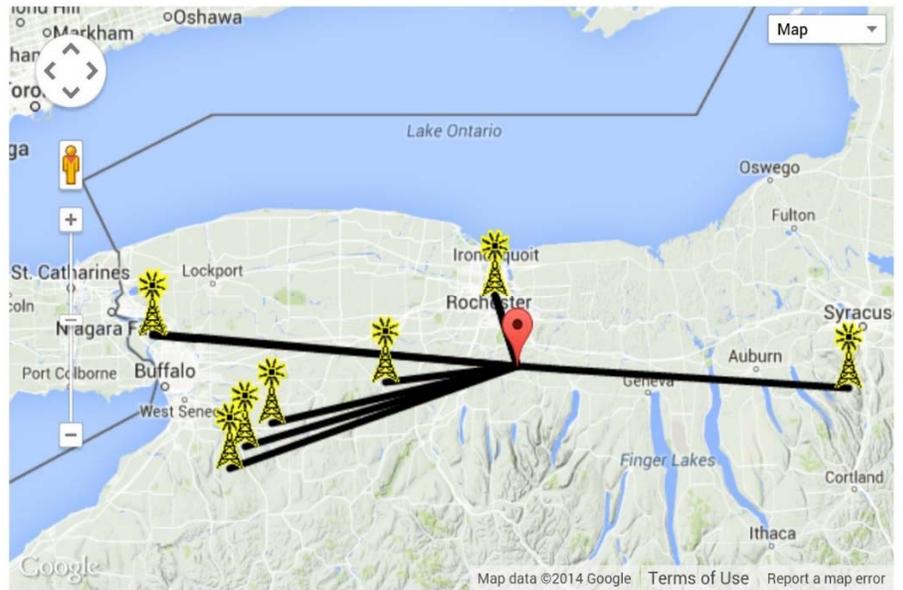
www.scouting.org/venturing

SOLAR RADIO TELESCOPE - IONIA DTV CHANNEL MAP

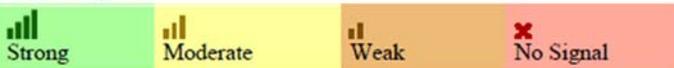
Martin Pepe

At some point in our Radio Telescope development future we will begin a site survey of potential interfering RF emitters. Please find (below) a map of the WNY DTV stations, their locations, and compass heading (right) compared to our site in Ionia, NY.

Each Yel/Blk marker (below) is a DTV station in WNY and Canada. They are characterized (next page) by signal strength (**Green** - being Strong, **Yel** - Medium, **Tan** - Weak, **Red** - No Signal). Each Channel listing 'box' has their call sign, assigned channel, actual frequency (MHz), relative compass direction (to the Ionia, NY site), approximate received power (- dbm), transmitted power (Estimated Radiated Power - Kw) and a link to their antenna map profile. I think this will come in handy this summer when we start our detailed site survey. Five of the 6 strong (**Green** ones - LEFT Column) are to our North, but Ch 51 is to our **West** & may be our 'problem child' at sunset. We think Ch 43 (Syracuse east) is too weak.



Signal Legends



Call sign	Network	Virtual Channel	Band
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	WROC	CBS	8-1	UHF
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Network: CBS

Channel: 8 (RF 45) **659 Mhz.**

Receive Power: -27 dBm **1000 Kw ERP**

Compass Direction to Tower: N (352)

[Gain/Loss Map](#)

	WXXI	PBS	21-1	UHF
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Network: PBS

Channel: 21 (RF 16) **485 Mhz.**

Receive Power: -33 dBm **180 Kw ERP**

Compass Direction to Tower: N (352)

[Gain/Loss Map](#)

	WHEC	NBC	10-1	Hi-V
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Network: NBC

Channel: 10 (RF 10) **195 Mhz.**

Receive Power: -33 dBm **18.1 Kw ERP**

Compass Direction to Tower: N (352)

[Gain/Loss Map](#)

	WHAM	ABC	13-1	Hi-V
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Network: ABC

Channel: 13 (RF 13) **213 Mhz.**

Receive Power: -33 dBm **10.5 Kw ERP**

Compass Direction to Tower: N (352)

[Gain/Loss Map](#)

	WPXJ	ION	51-1	UHF
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Network: ION

Channel: 51 (RF 23) **527 Mhz.**

Receive Power: -34 dBm **455 Kw ERP**

Compass Direction to Tower: W (273)

[Gain/Loss Map](#)

	WUHF	FOX	31-1	UHF
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Network: FOX

Channel: 31 (RF 28) **557 Mhz.**

Receive Power: -43 dBm **320 ERP**

Compass Direction to Tower: N (352)

[Gain/Loss Map](#)

Ref: <http://www.fcc.gov/encyclopedia/antenna-height-above-average-terrain-haat-calculator>

	WNYO	MYTV	49-1	UHF
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Network: MYTV

Channel: 49 (RF 49) **683 Mhz.**

Receive Power: -73 dBm **175 Kw ERP**

Compass Direction to Tower: W (267)

[Gain/Loss Map](#)

	WTVB	CBS	4-1	UHF
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Network: CBS

Channel: 4 (RF 39) **623 Mhz.**

Call sign	Network	Virtual Channel	Band
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Receive Power: -74 dBm **700Kw ERP**

Compass Direction to Tower: W (260)

[Gain/Loss Map](#)

	WGRZ	NBC	2-1	UHF
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Network: NBC

Channel: 2 (RF 33) **587 Mhz.**

Receive Power: -76 dBm **480 Kw ERP**

Compass Direction to Tower: W (263)

[Gain/Loss Map](#)

	WNLO	CW	23-1	UHF
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Network: CW

Channel: 23 (RF 32) **581 Mhz.**

Receive Power: -80 dBm **1000 Kw. ERP**

Compass Direction to Tower: WNW (285)

[Gain/Loss Map](#)

	WUTV	FOX	29-1	UHF
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Network: FOX

Channel: 29 (RF 14) **473 Mhz.**

Receive Power: -85 dBm **1000Kw ERP**

Compass Direction to Tower: WNW (285)

[Gain/Loss Map](#)

	Network: ABC	7-1	UHF
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Channel: 7 (RF 38) **617 Mhz.**

Receive Power: -89 dBm **358 Kw ERP**

Compass Direction to Tower: W (259)

[Gain/Loss Map](#)

	WNED	17-1	UHF
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Network: PBS

Channel: 17 (RF 43) **647 Mhz.**

Receive Power: -89 dBm **156 Kw ERP**

Compass Direction to Tower: WNW (285)

[Gain/Loss Map](#)

	WNYS	43-1	UHF
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Network: MYTV

Channel: 43 (RF 44) **653 Mhz.**

Receive Power: -99 dBm **680 Kw ERP**

Compass Direction to Tower: ESE (105)

[Gain/Loss Map](#)

AWA SPRING MEET and **BIG** AWA AUCTION

Saturday May 2, 2015
Bloomfield, New York

As part of this year's AWA Spring Meet, the AWA will hold a very special, a very **BIG** auction of duplicate items from the Museum's collection. The **BIG** auction will be held in the afternoon at Rhonda's Auction House just down the street from the Spring Meet and the Museum. Don't miss this very special, very **BIG** auction. A partial list of items to be auctioned will be posted on the AWA web site as they are set aside for the auction.

Come early in the morning to the Spring Meet and enjoy the flea market (better yet, bring items to sell), the bargain table Museum sale, Dan's doughnuts and coffee, and at 10:00 am, visit the Museum. The **BIG** auction will begin at 1 pm with Rich Estes auctioneering.

The auction preview will be open at Noon at Rhonda's Auction House. Also, take some time for lunch and browse for antiques at Rhonda's Antique Center.

And, enjoy all this for only a \$5 admission ticket. If you are not an AWA member and want to visit the Museum, buy a Spring Meet/Museum admission combination ticket for only \$10 (a \$2 discount for admission to the Museum)

The tentative schedule for this **BIG** day:

7:00 am	Flea Market opens	Veteran's Park
8:00 am	AWA Museum Bargain Table Sale	Annex Building, Veteran's Park
10:00 am	Antique Wireless Museum open until Noon	
Noon	Auction pre-view	Rhonda's Auction House
1 pm	Rich Estes starts the BIG AWA Auction	

Because of the nature of the auction this year, AWA will not be able to accept member's items to be auctioned at this event. But, please bring them to the AWA Convention to be held August 11 to 15 at the RIT Conference Center.

BEGINNERS ARE WELCOME AT THE SPRING HIDDEN TRANSMITTER HUNT

Jon Dickson, N2JAC

Saturday May 9th will be XARC's famous Spring Foxhunt hidden transmitter hunt. We'll have a special fox just for beginners, and if you tell me you're coming, I can try to provide a lesson and/or mentor for the hunt. Talk-in will be on the 145.29 repeater, which now requires a 110.9 tone. Bring your 2 meter HT and a couple of kids for family fun. We'll start at 9 am at Dryer Rd. Park, 7405 Dryer Road in Victor with registration and practice, 9:30 for real hunting, and lunch around noon. But don't arrive before 9 or you will be disqualified.

Please RSVP to me so I can plan for mentors, lunch, prizes, etc. jondickason@yahoo.com



UV-5R Programming

Forest Shick, WA2MZG



I haven't owned a hand held, 2M FM radio in about 20 years. Back in the old days I had an ICOM IC2AT. What a nice, simple radio it was! Straight forward, everything in front of you, well labelled and easy to read – white letters on a black or dark green background.

You dialed in the frequency with thumb wheel switches on the top of the unit: 1MHz, 100kHz and 10kHz. There was a slide switch for 5kHz steps. There were volume and squelch controls and a slide switch for power ON/OFF.



On the back of the unit there were 3 slide switches for selecting simplex or duplex operation, repeater offset in duplex and high or low power. The 5 other switches in the picture may have been for PL tone selection but I am not sure as my radio did not have this option.

Well – that radio is gone!



This winter I wanted to see what all the hoopla was over the Baofeng UV-5R. How much radio can you get for \$30? Turns out you get a lot of radio for \$30. Maybe it is not the best but for \$30, it works! It has a few unusual features such as a white LED to use as a flashlight (it also blinks) and you can listen to FM broadcast stations.

The keypad is small, which is not a real problem except when you try to read the blue letters on the black keys. To compound the blue letter problem they put 4 letters on some keys (STEP, SAVE, SCAN, BEEP). NOTE: All keys have at least 1 larger white character. Then they buried all the functions, including squelch control, in a menu accessible through the front panel keypad. AHHH - the wonders of the microcontroller!



I had heard grumbling about how difficult the radio was to program and that you needed to purchase a programming cable and software to do the work for you. So I purchased the software and cable. I don't know if the software was a help because my computer would not recognize the CD with the program on it.

I tried following the instructions in the manual – to no avail! I searched the web and found 2 documents that do a great job of walking you through the programming procedure for setting up the memory channels. I believe these were created by KC9HI, KB5ELV and KK4ITX. The most important instruction was “The following steps must be followed exactly. Do NOT skip steps along the way.”

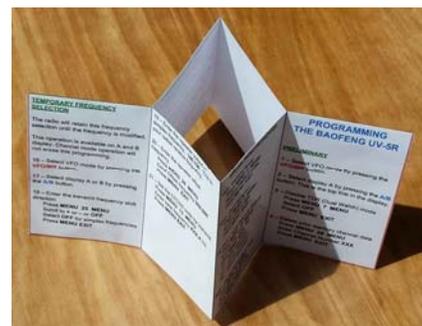


I have condensed this information into a credit card size booklet that is easy to carry in your wallet, purse, glove box, go bag, etc. for those times when you need to change / add a channel. The document describes adding repeater and simplex frequencies as memory channels and also as temporary frequency selections.



The following page contains the document which should be printed. This is an 8 page booklet. Follow the instructions for cutting and folding the document carefully. If your fingers are like mine, the folds do not come out perfectly – but it works!

1. Print out the document
2. Cutout the document following the red outline
3. Fold along the black and blue dashed line so the text is on the outside
4. Fold along the black vertical lines. Reverse the folds.
5. Using a sharp knife, slit along the blue dashed line only.
6. See the picture for folding into a booklet



<p>PROGRAMMING THE BAOFENG UV-V5-5R</p> <p>PRELIMINARY</p> <p>2 – Select display A by pressing the A/B button. This is the top line in the display.</p> <p>3 – Disable TDR (Dual Watch) mode Press MENU 7 MENU Select OFF Press MENU EXIT</p> <p>4 – Delete prior memory channel data Press MENU 28 MENU Enter Channel Number XXX Press MENU EXIT</p>	<p>PRELIMINARY</p> <p>1 – Select VFO mode by pressing the VFO/MR button.</p> <p>2 – Scan Resume Method Press MENU 18 MENU Scroll to TO, CO, SE Press MENU EXIT TO – Time Operation CO – Carrier Operation SE – Search Operation</p> <p>ABR – Display Illumination Time Press MENU 9 MENU Scroll OFF to 10 seconds Press MENU EXIT</p>	<p>PRELIMINARY</p> <p>8 – Enter the repeater output frequency, 146.700. This is your radios receive frequency.</p> <p>9 – Store the receive frequency Press MENU 27 MENU Enter the Channel Number XXX Press MENU EXIT</p> <p>NOTE: Memory Channel Numbers are 000 to 127.</p> <p>10 – Press *SCAN button. This displays your radios transmit frequency.</p> <p>11 – Store the transmit frequency Press MENU 27 MENU Enter the same Memory Channel Number as above. XX Press MENU</p> <p>12 – Press *SCAN EXIT</p>	<p>PRELIMINARY</p> <p>13 – Set the transmit frequency shift direction to OFF for simplex frequency operation. Press MENU 25 MENU Scroll to OFF Press MENU EXIT</p> <p>14 – Enter the simplex frequency, 146.520. This is your radios transmit and receive frequency.</p> <p>15 – Store the receive frequency Press MENU 27 MENU Enter the Channel Number XXX Press MENU EXIT</p> <p>HINTS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clear the desired memory channels first. Step 4. • To program multiple memory channels repeat steps 5 – 12. • If you need to back out of the programming sequence, press EXIT. • Always verify that you have successfully added your new Memory Channel by selecting channel mode and then the desired memory channel. Verify the receive frequency. Press the PTT button to verify the transmit frequency. BE SURE to give your call sign. • Keep a log of your channel number vs frequency vs tone vs offset.
<p>REPEATER CHANNEL PROGRAMMING</p> <p>5 – Enter the repeater offset frequency. Press MENU 26 MENU Enter Offset frequency 000.600 Press MENU EXIT</p> <p>NOTE: 600 KHz (000.600) for 146 MHz and 5 MHz (005.000) for 440 MHz.</p> <p>6 – Enter the transmit frequency shift direction Press MENU 25 MENU Scroll to + or - Press MENU EXIT</p> <p>7 – Set the CTCSS code for transmit Press MENU 13 MENU Enter tone frequency XXX.X Hz Press MENU EXIT</p> <p>NOTE: The up and down arrow buttons with scroll the list of tones for selection. Tone OFF is one of the selections.</p>	<p>REPEATER CHANNEL PROGRAMMING</p> <p>8 – Enter the repeater output frequency, 146.700. This is your radios receive frequency.</p> <p>9 – Store the receive frequency Press MENU 27 MENU Enter the Channel Number XXX Press MENU EXIT</p> <p>NOTE: Memory Channel Numbers are 000 to 127.</p> <p>10 – Press *SCAN button. This displays your radios transmit frequency.</p> <p>11 – Store the transmit frequency Press MENU 27 MENU Enter the same Memory Channel Number as above. XX Press MENU</p> <p>12 – Press *SCAN EXIT</p>	<p>REPEATER CHANNEL PROGRAMMING</p> <p>13 – Set the transmit frequency shift direction to OFF for simplex frequency operation. Press MENU 25 MENU Scroll to OFF Press MENU EXIT</p> <p>14 – Enter the simplex frequency, 146.520. This is your radios transmit and receive frequency.</p> <p>15 – Store the receive frequency Press MENU 27 MENU Enter the Channel Number XXX Press MENU EXIT</p> <p>HINTS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clear the desired memory channels first. Step 4. • To program multiple memory channels repeat steps 5 – 12. • If you need to back out of the programming sequence, press EXIT. • Always verify that you have successfully added your new Memory Channel by selecting channel mode and then the desired memory channel. Verify the receive frequency. Press the PTT button to verify the transmit frequency. BE SURE to give your call sign. • Keep a log of your channel number vs frequency vs tone vs offset. 	<p>REPEATER CHANNEL PROGRAMMING</p> <p>13 – Set the transmit frequency shift direction to OFF for simplex frequency operation. Press MENU 25 MENU Scroll to OFF Press MENU EXIT</p> <p>14 – Enter the simplex frequency, 146.520. This is your radios transmit and receive frequency.</p> <p>15 – Store the receive frequency Press MENU 27 MENU Enter the Channel Number XXX Press MENU EXIT</p> <p>HINTS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clear the desired memory channels first. Step 4. • To program multiple memory channels repeat steps 5 – 12. • If you need to back out of the programming sequence, press EXIT. • Always verify that you have successfully added your new Memory Channel by selecting channel mode and then the desired memory channel. Verify the receive frequency. Press the PTT button to verify the transmit frequency. BE SURE to give your call sign. • Keep a log of your channel number vs frequency vs tone vs offset.

8.4"

6.9"

Peak The Grid

Forest Shick, WA2MZG

I would like to acknowledge the many people who contribute to the RAG on a regular basis.

Our RARA President, Frank Schramm and Vice President Gary Skuse have a “mandatory” article every month. Our Club Historian, Ed Gable, provides a brief look back in time with his contribution of RARA RAGS OF THE PAST. Ken Hall keeps us up to date on the status of new and upgraded licensees with his VE TEAM report. Tim Barrett has joined this fantastic group of regular contributors by providing a monthly calendar.

There are 2 other regular contributors who help me but their work is largely unknown – but not unnoticed: Pam Kasperkoski and Irv Goodman. They proofread each RAG. As many times as I read and reread each issue, Pam and Irv manage to find more necessary “edits”: spelling, punctuation, grammar, even a little fact checking.

To this group we have to add all the contributors of articles and event information. This is a varied group of hams that I would like to acknowledge: Jim Stefano, Duane Fregoe, Bill Hopkins, Jon Dickason, Martin Pepe, Jim Sutton, Randy Rezabek,.... and many, many, many others. Their contributions range from many articles a year to just an occasional interesting article. Finally, let’s not forget the contributors from other local clubs that keep our NEWS FROM AREA CLUBS up to date.

SO – THANK YOU ALL – your contribution to the RAG is very important.

So now, let me propose another way many people can contribute to the RAG, to the club and to amateur radio. How about a new feature in the RAG titled **Ask Elmer**?

Many people have questions about different aspects of amateur radio. We have 10 - 20 new hams every month. RARA has many seasoned hams and many skilled electronics professional. This would be a simple way to bring the questions and answers together.

People would send their amateur radio related questions to editor@rochesterham.org. The questions would be published in the next issue of the RAG. People with reasonable / knowledgeable responses would send their responses to editor@rochesterham.org. The responses would be published in the next available issue of the RAG. The questions and answers would be numbered with the volume and issue number of the RAG that the question appeared in.

If the questions and responses become overwhelming, I will ask for a volunteer to be the Ask Elmer Editor.

OR

Someone could volunteer now and help me get this idea off the ground.

On the subject of volunteers, I have a couple of other ideas where people can help me out with the RAG:

- Puzzle Editor - occasionally provide input for a word search or crossword puzzle
- News Editor - provide an article on any important ham news such as HR-1301 or a new amateur radio satellite
- Advertising Editor - contact companies to advertise in the RAG
- Article Editor - Encourage people to write about their projects or experiences

If someone would like to volunteer for these opportunities, contact me, we can discuss them further.

On the following page is an example of the Ask Elmer feature.

ASK ELMER

This Month's Questions

67-9-1 Who is Elmer?

67-9-2 What is a Wouff Hong?

67-9-3 Do I need lightning protection on my antennas?

67-9-4 Should I disconnect my FM rig from my antenna during a lightning storm? What if I'm not home?

67-9-5 Who or what is a "Lid"?

Answers

67-9-1 Who is Elmer?

Elmer is someone who provides guidance to would be and new hams. The following link from the ARRL provides some information regarding Elmer. <http://www.arrl.org/elmer-award>

67-9-2 What is a Wouff Hong?

From the ARRL web site: A Wouff Hong is a fictional tool used to "punish" Amateur Radio operators, who demonstrate poor operating practices. You can read more about the Wouff Hong at <http://www.arrl.org/ham-radio-history> and here is another link <http://amfone.net/WouffHong/wouff.htm>



The other questions may be answered in future issues.

VE TEAM

We had 13 candidates this month one Extra, two Generals and 10 Technicians. Terry Cook, K2EYS, volunteered to be a VE. Thank you Terry.

The May session will be on the 16th at RIT, Gleason Bldg, room 9-3139 at 10AM. Hope to see you there.

If you have any questions please contact Ken Hall ken@w2krh.com.

Terry Cook	K2EYS	E	Paul Kurrasch	KD2IHE	T
David Cross	KD2IHK	T	Mikenzie Kusenberger	KC3EOX	T
Jeffrey Fischer	KD2IHA	T	Lewis Lunn	KD2IHF	T
Michael Halpin	KD2HTU	G	David Malecki	KD2HEV	G
Robert Jobe	KD2IHB	T	Dennis Schumske	KD2IHG	T
James Knox	KD2IHC	T	Floyd Welker	KD2IHH	T
Ivan Kozlov	KD2IHD	T			

New licensees names are in **BOLD**

For Sale

24 hour wall mounted electric clock, 10" diameter \$20

Contact Jay Golden, K2JSG
jgolden577@rochester.rr.com

RARA RAGS OF THE PAST

Ed Gable, K2MP – RARA Club Historian

20 YEARS AGO, MAY, 1995

Enigma cipher machines and clandestine radios was the theme of this May, 1995, meeting with guest speaker Bruce Kelley, W2ICE, Curator of the AWA Museum. World War Two hardware was displayed and came with a show and tell that only Bruce could do. This meeting also brought the annual elections and I will report on those in a future issue. In the usual fashion the candidates for office had their bios printed in this issue. Rochester Hams had RARA, RDXA, RRRR and the Rochester VHF Group as staples in local ham radio clubs. Slowly and quietly emerging was another group following state-of-the-art advances in Amateur Radio, the Rochester Amateur Packet Society (RAPS). In a move to enhance local Packet activity RAPS offered a low cost, ready to play, Packet Modem for the modest amount of \$35.00, that included membership in RAPS. Quite good marketing. You could contact Freddie Sulyma, WB2GFZ, for details. Way before such things became commonplace, the ARRL had to announce their computer system was hacked. Further, ARRL bulletin ARLX004, stating that the ARRL petitioned the FCC to eliminate the code requirement for licensing, was false, and not originated at ARRL HQ! A smile producing photo was published showing K2JD club station in a DX contest operation. Shown was proud daddy Scott Bauer, WA2LCC, operating with daughter, Stephanie, on his lap offering encouragement and probably bits of QRM. From the Want Ads you could buy a TA-33 tri-band yagi from Ed, K2MP, for \$65.00. Ramsey Outlet store in Victor remained a long term advertiser.

40 YEARS AGO, MAY, 1975

Continuing on the "Old Timers" Night theme was Bruce Kelley, W2ICE, writing in this issue how ham radio emerged from 4 years of off-the-air time during WW2. It seems eager hams jumped the gun and dug out old equipment prior to the official start date and some humorous, if not quite legal, call signs were heard. How many do you remember? Here's the list of RARA office nominees for 1975: W2GV, WB2EDT, WA2ZNC, WA2EKR, WB2HTH, W2HXP, WA2MQX, WB2ZFM, WA2CER, W2BLU, WA2UGE, WA2KND, WA2LUE and WA2BQA. Some may remember this was the year of the Barge Canal break at Bushnell's Basin. Eleven local amateurs stood at the ready to provide communications. The then familiar RARA K2JD mobile van, the green and yellow 1962 Corvair van, was booked up thru May and June with 5 public service events. From the Want Ads you could buy a Hallicrafters SX-71 from John, W2BLU, for \$75.00. Ham Radio Magazine and the HR Report remained a long time advertiser.



the **RARA RAG**

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WW2 ENIGMA CIPHER MACHINE AND CLANDESTINE RADIO.....

will highlight the May 5 meeting when Bruce Kelley, W2ICE, will show and tell about unusual WW2 radio equipment. The subject is most appropriate since this year is the 50th anniversary of the end of WW2.

On display will be the highly secretive clandestine suitcase Mark II transmitter-receiver used by the British Intelligence behind the German lines. The operator was given 3 months survivor time and a revolver. Other objects include a Dutch underground receiver built in a gutted box camera, early aircraft transmitter and a common Command set. Although not shown, Kelley will tell about the German Enigma and Purple cipher machines.

ANNUAL MEETING IN MAY GET OUT AND VOTE

It's that time of year again. No, not Spring. It's Annual Meeting time for RaRa. That means use your power to help put the people in office that you want in office. Not only can you vote, but you will also have the opportunity to nominate persons for Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and Board member. Think about it! Use this meeting time to make YOUR voice heard. I know, from time to time we all gripe about something going on that we don't like, and can't do much about. Now, here is the time and place for you to make your voice heard.

RaRa ANNUAL MEETING

May 5th, 1995
8:00 P.M.

Henrietta Fire Hall
3129 East Henrietta Road
Election of Officers

Bruce Kelly on WW II Clandestine Radios

LOW COST PACKET MODEMS

Rochester Amateur Packet Society (RAPS) is proud to announce the availability of LOW COST PACKET. Previously over 200 packet modems have been distributed making packet affordable to all. RAPS has responded to numerous request for packet modems by making another build quantity available to the Amateur community. The package contains a built and tested 1200 Baud modem (IBM PC Ready), Baycom, PMP, Digicom software (5 1/4 or 3 1/2 Inch Disk), and documentation. An IBM PC (With Supplied Baycom or PMP) or a Commodore 64 (With Supplied Digicom) is required to make this package operational. Technical assistance will be provided by RAPS members. The package cost is \$35 which also registers you as a RAPS member and places you on the mailing list for the RAPS newsletter. The cost to existing RAPS members is \$30. In all cases shipping will be an additional \$5.00. Modems will be available at the Rochester Hamfest. Ask for details at the RAPS booth inside the Dome or

RARA CALENDAR

Tim Barrett, K9VB

~ May 2015 ~						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 RARA Club Meeting 7:00pm NCCC RTTY Sprint	2 AWA Spring Meet and Auction 10-10 Spring CW QSO Party ARI DX Contest IN, DE QSO Parties
3 ARI DX Contest IN, DE QSO Parties	4 RSGB 80M SSB	5	6 ROC City Net 8pm 3.826 MHz	7 RARA BoD Mtg 5.30pm NRAU 10m Activity Contest	8	9 Volta WW RTTY Contest CQ-M DX Contest XRX Foxhunt
10 Volta WW RTTY Contest CQ-M DX Contest	11	12	13 ROC City Net 8pm 3.826 MHz SIARC 7.30pm	14	15 Dayton Hamvention	16 Dayton Hamvention King of Spain CW Contest
17 Dayton Hamvention King of Spain CW Contest WAB 7MHz Contest	18 Run for the Bacon QRP Contest	19 RDXA 7.30pm	20 ROC City Net 8pm 3.826 MHz	21	22	23 EU PSK DX Contest Baltic Contest
24 EU PSK DX Contest Baltic Contest	25	26	27 ROC City Net 8pm 3.826 MHz	28	29	30 CQ WW CW WPX Contest
31 CQ WW CW WPX Contest						

Print this calendar and leave it by your radio.

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, May 28, 2015, at 7:00pm.**

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 8:00 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 June 2015.



ROCHESTER RADIO REPEATER ASSOCIATION, RRRRA

The Rochester Radio Repeater Association, RRRRA invites you to attend its May 15th 2015 meeting. Meetings are held on the 3rd Friday of the month in the Pittsford Town Hall Basement starting at 7:30 pm. No program was determined when this article was written. The meeting program will be posted on RRRRA's web site at www.k2RRRA.org. RRRRA will be taking nominations for board members. Without board members RRRRA will lose its non profit status and will have to go out of business. Please consider volunteering to becoming an officer of RRRRA. This club can't exist without members.

The 2014 officers are Bob Shewell, N2HJD President, Rob Bruno, KD2GCG Vice President, Ed Wilkonski, KC2WM Secretary, and Joel Rossbach, N2EZV Treasurer.

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. We have License Exam Testing every other month which begins at 6:30PM with the regular meeting beginning at 7:30PM. There will be testing at the May meeting.

NOTE: There is a change of location for the May meeting. The May meeting will be at the County Human Resources Building, 3019 County Complex Drive, Hopewell, NY.

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.

ROCHESTER DX ASSOCIATION, RDXA

The Moxon Rectangle antenna, designed by Les Moxon, G6XN, is a two-element Yagi with a smaller footprint than a traditional Yagi, yet it provides good gain and outstanding front to back ratio, greater than 30 dB! Plus it has a broad beam width. So what's "the Buzz?" The buzz will be at RDXA's May meeting on Tuesday, May 19th at 7:30, where we investigate this antenna as a potential Field Day antenna. It's an intriguing prospect – come see for yourself!



RDXA meetings are held on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at 7:30pm. The meetings are held at the Monroe County EOC, 1190 Scottsville Rd.

GENESEE VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION

Upcoming meetings for the GVARA Sunday April 26th and Sunday May 17th.
Testing begins at 5:30pm - We are an ARRL VE Team. Testing is \$15.
Meeting starts at 6:30pm.



Fields Day Event to be held at the Livingston Co Sheriff's Office Sand Pt. Sub Station at Vitale Park in Lakeville, NY.

We will have more details on our plans for Field Day in the June RARA RAG.

XRX AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

The XRX Amateur Radio Club has installed a System Fusion Repeater on 145.29. We plan on early May to finish the antenna installation. Fox Hunt scheduled for May 9. Check our website, <http://xarc.us> for details. Our next meeting is at 6PM on May 14 at the Webster Rec Center.

AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION OF THE SOUTHERN TIER

The 147.36(+) repeater has been installed and is once again on the air. A congratulation to the repeater committee for all of their hard work getting the repeater back online.

Hamfest coming in September. Tickets available from any board member and at various locations around the Elmira area. Don't forget to mark your calendars . Always the last Saturday in September.

Help still needed for the Wineglass Marathon. There are over 6000 runners so a lot of volunteers are needed to do this event. If you would like to help out , email emergencycoordinator@arast.org



March brought a new slate to office. Charlie KA2BED takes over as president followed by Barry N2EUS as vice president; Larry N2AMW as treasurer; and Albert KD2DGF as Secretary. Congratulations to the new officers

Is There A Hamfest In Your Future?

AWA Spring Meet, May 2nd

Dayton Hamvention, May 15 - 17, Hara Arena

<http://hamvention.org/>

Rochester Hamfest, June 6, Barnard Fireman's Carnival Grounds

Elmira Hamfest, September 26th

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

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RARA OFFICERS

OFFICERS

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Awards/ Raffle Administrators	Jay Hamill, KC2TCM Sabrina Hamill, WD2STK	
Club Historian	Ed Gable, K2MP	
Club Station Trustee	Jim DiTucci, N2IXD	n2ixd@arrl.net
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Refreshments Coordinator		
Webmaster	Frank Schramm, WB2PYD	wb2pyd@gmail.com

JUNE RAG DEADLINE

MAY 15, 2015



**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 Repeater Listing](#)

ROCHESTER AREA RADIO CLUB CONTACTS

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Fisherman's Net Amateur Radio Club
Jim Sutton, N2OPS: jim@otrym.org

Genesee Valley Amateur Radio Assn.
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