



THE RARA RAG

Newsletter of The Rochester Amateur Radio Association, Inc.
Founded in 1931

MARCH 2022
VOLUME 74, ISSUE 7

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

MONTHLY PROGRAM	1
HAMFEST	2
BOARDZ BUZZ	3
CALENDAR OF EVENTS	3
MEMBERSHIP	4
EDUCATION	5
ELMERS	6
MARCH RAFFLE	7
HAM QUIPS	7
PUBLIC SERVICE REPORT	8
MY FIRST YEAR AS A HAM	9
WINLINK	10
W2AN/1BCG	11
RAGS OF THE PAST	12
VE TEAM	14
RARA CALENDAR	15
NEWS FROM AREA CLUBS	16
AMATEUR'S CODE	18
HAMFEST SUPPORTERS	20
RARA OFFICERS	21
AREA CLUB CONTACTS	22

THE INVERTED-L: GET ON 160M THE EASY WAY

SCOTT THEIS, W2LW, RARA VICE PRESIDENT

We are back in-person at the Seneca Waterways Council, Boy Scouts of America (BSA) in Brighton. In addition, we will be performing a live broadcast of the meeting via GoToWebinar.

We will still have to follow BSA rules. Bring your mask - we'll let you know if wearing it is required at the meeting.

Our March speaker, Kevin Carey, N2AFX, will take us where many of us don't have enough space to house an antenna: 160 meters.

The program will cover his experience in building and using a simple wire antenna for 160 meters. The emphasis will be on practical building of this antenna in an afternoon and how to get on the band with a respectable signal. The most important requirement is to have a vertical attachment point 25-30 feet above the ground. The rest is similar to what you've encountered when building any wire antenna. Tired of compromised or ineffective antennas to get on the 'Top Band' with a mediocre signal? Try the Inverted-L!

As a bonus, this antenna can also be used as an effective receiving antenna (in quiet areas) for 190-535 kHz beacon chasing. We'll cover what's on that part of the spectrum, changes taking place on the band, and how you can tune in on the fun.

Kevin was licensed in 1977 as a Novice operator (RARA graduate!) and is now Extra-class. Main mode of operation is CW with some SSB, AM, and occasional data modes. He enjoys QRP, QRPP, restoring (and using) vintage gear, reading classic radio books, and exploring the longwave radio spectrum (0-500 kHz). Kevin currently serves as the Publisher of The Longwave Club of America's LOWDOWN journal (www.lwca.net).

Please join us on Wednesday, March 2nd, 2022, 7:00PM either at the Boy Scouts Headquarters at 2320 Brighton Henrietta Townline Road, Rochester, New York 14623 or online by registering at:

<https://attendeegotowebinar.com/register/4155305551190438413>



FREE VE TESTING

FREE QSL CHECKING

Rochester Hamfest 2022

ROCHESTER AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION

SATURDAY JUNE 4TH 2022

HILTON EXEMPT CLUB, 137 SOUTH AVE. HILTON, NY 14468

FOR MORE INFORMATION

VISIT [HTTPS://ROCHESTERHAM.ORG/HAMFEST.HTM](https://rochesterham.org/hamfest.htm)

NON-MEMBER ADMISSION: \$7 PER PERSON

TALK-IN: N2MPE REPEATER

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BOARDZ BUZZ

MIKE KENNERKNECHT, N2MAK, RARA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

As I write my first Board Buzz, I can't help but reflect on the last year. On February 20, 2021, I passed my Amateur Extra Exam, which concluded four intense months of study and testing to pass all three exams.

Like the many others who became hams during the COVID-19 pandemic, I had no in-person interaction with others, aside from when I would meet Tim Brown, WB2PAY, to purchase a manual for the next exam.

My son Ben, W2BMK, and I couldn't wait for the RARA Hands-On Academy last May and I feel like we had it on the calendar for months. It was the first time we'd be able to meet many of the other hams we'd spoken to on Nets or learned from or alongside of on Zooms. It was the first time I got to help build a dipole and see and touch radios other than mine.

Over the last year, Ben and I have enjoyed going out to in-person events, such as local hamfests, Field Day, the RARA picnic, volunteering at the Bike MS event, and even grabbing lunch or breakfast with a group from one of the Nets. Being able to spend time together with other hams has helped us learn, have fun and make amazing friends.

That's why I'm so excited to be able to help planning future events for RARA. I might still be a rookie ham, but I can easily see the value and enjoyment of doing things in-person, as opposed to being on the other side of a computer screen.

The Board of Directors has been working hard on planning a number of events and I hope you're looking forward to them as much as I am. Our Hamfest will return on June 4 and we're planning the picnic in July too. We're also talking about doing the banquet, which like the Hamfest, was not done in 2021.

This spring, we're also hoping to do another RARA Academy hands-on event. Speaking from experience, this is a great event for new hams, such as those finishing up the Technician and General courses.

By the way, we're still looking for somebody to coordinate our RARA Academy sessions. If you're interested in helping out or have questions, please send an email to education@rochesterham.org.

The RARA meeting on March 2nd will be in-person and it'll be my first in-person meeting too. I'm looking forward to seeing many of you there and at upcoming events.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

WEDNESDAY MARCH 2, 2022 - General Meeting In Person and On-Line
7:00 PM - AT THIS LINK

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/4155305551190438413>

THURSDAY MARCH 3, 2022 - RARA Board of Directors Meeting
6:30PM ON LINE

Email request for link to secretary@rochesterham.org

SATURDAY MARCH 5, 2022 - Elmers Corner
10:00AM ON LINE

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83484674667?pwd=MG5DZXd6SFovN3lXa0NNTzZM5UnBLUT09>

SATURDAY MARCH 19, 2022 - VE TESTING
10:00AM Rochester Institute of Technology, Bldg 16
Schmitt Interfaith Center, Skalny Room

Saturday June 4, 2022 - RARA Hamfest

Membership – Time to Renew!

- RAG Circulation ~5,000
- RARA Membership ~400
- RARA is the 6th largest ARRL affiliated club
- **Let's make it the largest!!**
- Renew or join [here](#)
- If you have a problem renewing, please email us at:
membership@rochesterham.org



Don't Delay, Renew Today!



EDUCATION

Karl Heinz Kremer, K5KHK, Education Coordinator

RARA LICENSE COURSES

Karl Heinz Kremer, K5KHK, License Class Coordinator

The current **Technician** and **General** license class are past their midway point.

By the time this edition of the Rag gets published, the “**Amateur Extra** Without the Math Anxiety” class will have started as well.

We do not currently have any plans for license classes in the spring or summer. If you are interested in taking one of our next classes in the fall, please send an email to education@rochesterham.org and we will put you on the list.

New Technician Question Pool

The current Technician license test is being retired at the end of June and replaced with a new test with new and modified questions. If you've been working on getting your Technician license, now is the time to get serious about it and finish studying for the test and take the test before that deadline. Otherwise, you will have to start over with the new question pool.

Deep Discounts on Technician License Manuals

I have two license manuals for the current version of the Technician license test available. We are not teaching any more classes before they expire, we are selling them for \$10. You would have to pick up the book(s) in Chili. If you are interested, please send an email to education@rochesterham.org

License Manuals

Even though we are not teaching any classes over the summer, we still have the license manuals available if you want to study on your own. The current

editions of the General and Amateur Extra license manuals are available to our members at a discount for \$25. If you are interested, please send an email to education@rochesterham.org

RARA ELMERS' CORNER

Suzanne Bishopp, W2SUZ

Rich Bishopp, KD2UBJ

Elmers Corner Coordinators

Our last Elmers' corner was well attended by many experienced and new members. We talked noise – what might be the cause and how do we fix it. I think everyone had something to share. Hopefully we will see you all on March 5th at 10 AM for the next Elmers' Corner. Use the link below to join. Grab a cup of coffee, and check in.

Bring a question to ask about ham radio or share nifty tips and tricks. This is an open forum for general Q&A.

You can submit questions early if you would like, this way we can give our Elmers' a chance to prepare. Submit those early questions to: elmerscorner@rochesterham.org.

Elmer's Corner is for ALL hams! Beginners and experienced hams.

Even If you can't make it on the first Saturday of the month to the zoom meeting, let us know if you have a specific topic you would like to learn more about. We will do our best to find the right Elmer to get the answers to your questions. We record each meeting, so you can watch it whenever you have the time.

Thanks, and see you at the March Elmer's Corner!

March ELMERS CORNER

Saturday, March 5th from 10AM – 12PM

Join Zoom Meeting

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83484674667?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83484674667?pwd=MG5DZXd6SFovN3lXa0NNTzZM5UnBLUT09)

[pwd=MG5DZXd6SFovN3lXa0NNTzZM5UnBLUT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83484674667?pwd=MG5DZXd6SFovN3lXa0NNTzZM5UnBLUT09)

Meeting ID: 834 8467 4667

Passcode: 786545

RARA ACADEMY WORKSHOPS

HELP WANTED

We are still looking for somebody to coordinate our RARA Academy sessions. If you are a happy participant of any previous sessions (either as a presenter, or as an attendee), and you want these sessions to continue, please consider volunteering your time.

You do not have to be an expert on any of the topics that might be taught during a RARA Academy session, this is about collecting potential topics and organizing the sessions.

If you want to learn more about the role, please get in touch with me: education@rochesterham.org

Until we have somebody to take over this task, if you have an idea for a potential Academy session, please let me know as well, and I will try to find a presenter.

MORSE CODE TRAINING

DAVE WILSON, WA2HOY, RXCWG COORDINATOR

The RXCW Group assists Hams wanting to learn Morse Code or to develop their CW skills.

BEGINNERS MORSE CODE ZOOM CLASSES

Peter Fournia, W2SKY, hosts Morse Code classes on Thursday evenings 7pm. No experience required.

Join the group at any session.

Register at: pfournia@gmail.com

MORSE PRACTICE FOR ALL LEVELS ON ZOOM

Tim Brown, WB2PAY, hosts code practice for all levels on Wednesday evenings at 7pm.

Register at: tjbrown@rochester.rr.com

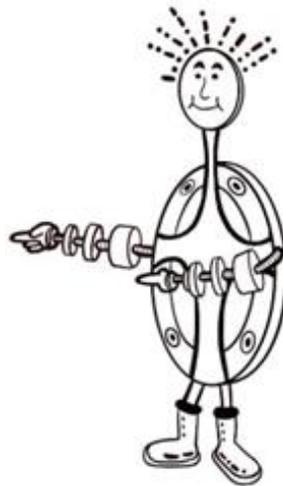
MORSE PRACTICE ON AIR

Tim Brown, WB2PAY, hosts on air practice on Tuesdays at 2PM on 6M at 50.250MHz.

W1AW - <http://www.arrl.org/w1aw-operating-schedule>

To set up a cw sked, contact Peter at pfournia@gmail.com or Tim at tjbrown@rochester.rr.com

ARRL members, the January-February issue of "On the Air" magazine has a cover feature on "Demystifying Morse Code." It's a good introduction showing



the differences between straight keys, paddle keys, which one to use, and another article about why CW works so well.

W1AW Code Practice MP3 Files: <http://www.arrl.org/code-practice-files>

Time	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
9 AM		Fast	Slow	Fast	Slow
4 PM	Fast	Slow	Fast	Slow	Fast
7 PM	Slow	Fast	Slow	Fast	Slow
10 PM	Fast	Slow	Fast	Slow	Fast

SLOW - 5, 7 1/2, 10, 13 and 15 wpm

FAST - 35, 30, 25, 20, 15, 13 and 10 wpm

FREQ(MHz) - 1.8025, 3.5815, 7.0475, 14.0475, 18.0975, 21.0675, 28.0675, 50.350, 147.555

RADIO ELMERS

Name	Call	Area	Email
Tim Brown	WB2PAY	Ogden	tjbrown@rochester.rr.com
Dave Carlson	N2OA	Batavia	kdcarlso@gmail.com
Lawrence Hill	N2AJX	Henrietta	lawrence.hill@rit.edu
Rich Hoffarth	K2AXP		rhoffarth2000@yahoo.com
Bill Kasperkoski	WB2SXY	Pittsford	wb2sxy@gmail.com
Don Kiser	AC2EV	N Greece	dkiser100@gmail.com
Karl Heinz Kremer	K5KHK	Chili	k5khk@khk.net
Tim Magee	WB2KAO	Greece	585-704-5747
Mike Moore	KC2NM		mikemoore@ieee.org
Peter Schuch	WB2UAQ	Perinton	pschuch@rochester.rr.com
Forest Shick	WA2MZG	Webster	fshick3@gmail.com
Dave Timmons	W2DST	N Greece	dstimmons@gmail.com
Steve Verzulli	KA1CNF		verzulli@yahoo.com
Dan Waterstraat	W2DEW	Henrietta	higreen@rochester.rr.com

CW ELMERS

Name	Call	Area	Email
Ned Asam	W2NED	Pittsford	w2ned@frontiernet.net
Tim Brown	WB2PAY	Ogden	tjbrown@rochester.rr.com
Pete Fournia	W2SKY	Penfield	pfournia@gmail.com
Bill Hopkins	AA2YV	Brighton	whopkin4@naz.edu
Bob Karz	K2OID	Webster	rkarz@rochester.rr.com
Joe Rowe	AG2Y	Webster	ag2y@rochester.rr.com
Harry Williams	KF2TV	Webster	harryw7872@gmail.com

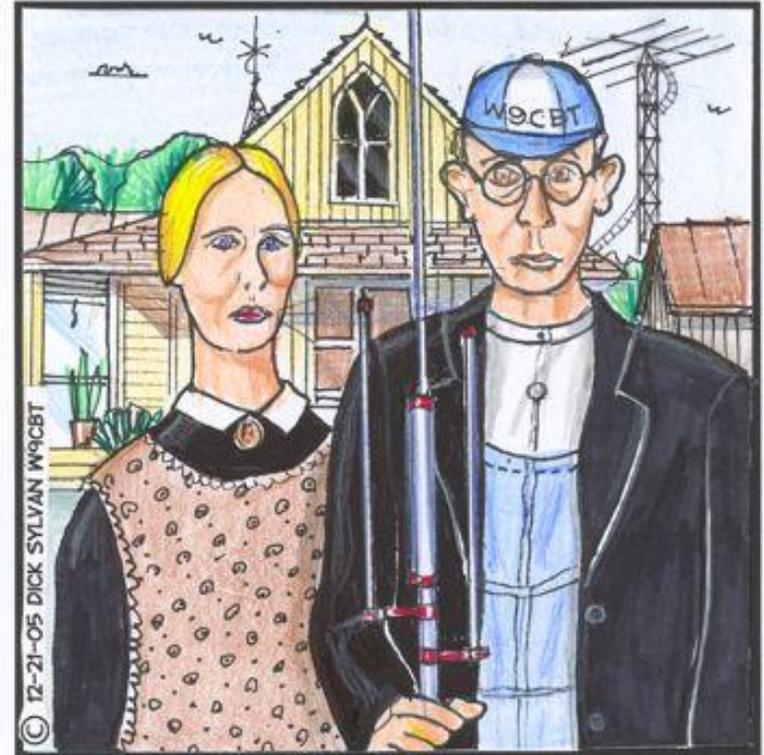
MARCH RAFFLE PRIZES

- Low Cost Small Scope
- ARRL Handbook
- CQ Digital Subscription

Coming in April

- Drone

HAM QUIPS AMERICAN GOTHIC VERTICAL



YOU BETTER NOT GET ANY MORE HOLES IN THE ROOF WHEN YOU MOUNT THAT VERTICAL ANTENNA UP THERE. THE ROOF LEAKS NOW!

Dick Sylvan, W9CBT, is a very accomplished ham radio cartoonist and his work appeared previously in the K9YA Telegraph and also appears in the NAQCC Newsletters. His book "HI - HI - A Collection of Ham Radio Cartoons" is available at www.lulu.com

PUBLIC SERVICE REPORT

MIKE MOORE, KC2NM, PUBLIC SERVICE COORDINATOR

Organizing Amateur Radio Communications for a Public Service Event

Amateur Radio has long been recognized as providing emergency communications during public service events and natural disasters. Public service events such as the Tour de Cure, Roc the Ride, Fairport Liftbridge Regatta, and Pumpkin Patrol require communications volunteers and make a superb training exercise for handling communications in an actual disaster scenario. There are many similarities between a disaster scene and a public service event. In fact, the ARRL Public Service Handbook characterizes the public service events as “planned catastrophes” in that they both involve large numbers of people and a great deal of chaos requiring many people to show up at a given time needing food, water, shelter, and instructions.

Planning to Serve an Event - Planning is the key to executing a successful event. RARA maintains a good working relationship with our served agencies. We start with a written plan of what is required from each participating organization. This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is shared with and signed by RARA and the served agency.

Resource Requirements - Once we have agreed on what the agency needs and expects from RARA we then answer the following questions.

- How many stations are necessary for the event?
- Where should they be located?
- What capabilities are needed?

With the answers to these questions in hand, we can develop routes, maps, and plans. The plans will include repeater information, frequencies, and lists of tactical call signs.

Event Logistics - With resource requirements defined we define an Operations Net with a net control station for primary and secondary amateur radio frequencies. The net control station will include in-person communication as needed with the served agency. It will also include internet workstations for event weather and a telephone set up for communication with emergency services.

Volunteers - Volunteers make the event happen. Recruiting is accomplished using email contact with last year's volunteers, meeting and newsletter announcements, and talking up the event on local nets. We collect volunteer information using a Google Form linked from the RARA website.

Creating an Information Package - An information packet is prepared for each volunteer for each event with assignments, event contact information, and a list of frequencies. When appropriate, the information package will include route maps and locations of rest stops and support information.

Safety - Physical safety of the participants and volunteers is job one. Safety is addressed in the event information package and in a safety briefing prior to the event.

Managing Event Communications - Event communications are the reason for our involvement in the event. Some events use a directed net requiring communication to be directed to net control. Pumpkin Patrol uses a roll call net where the net control operator polls each station asking for a status report.

We will continue to work with our served agencies about what the coming year will bring. For up-to-date information about all of our Public Service events take a look at our RARA website https://www.rochesterham.org/public_service.htm.

Please mark your calendars for our upcoming RARA Public Service Events

Event	Location	Day	Date
Tour de Cure	Xerox, Webster	Saturday	June 11, 2022
MS ROC the Ride	TBD	TBD	TBD
Fairport Liftbridge Regatta	Canal, Fairport	Saturday	Sept. TBD 2022
Pumpkin Patrol	Bridges of NYS Thruway	Sunday, Monday	Oct. 30, 31, 2022
Holiday Science and Technology Days	Rochester Museum and Science Center	TBD	TBD

MY FIRST YEAR AS A HAM

SUZANNE BISHOPP, W2SUZ

It was a year ago this month that I took my test. I had spent 10 weeks learning from Karl Heinz (K5KHK) and let me tell you...he taught me everything! I didn't know anything about this hobby, other than my husband Rich (KD2UBJ) loved it and wanted me to get my license. I passed the Technician and the General test the same day and well...that was just the start!

As you might remember from an article Susan (W2SBA) wrote, POTA (Parks on the Air) grabbed my attention...this combined Rich's and my love for camping and the outdoors, with our new hobby. My very first contact was the Tuesday after the test when I got my callsign (KD2VYO). I printed my license, signed it and Rich handed me the mic and said – go! It was Bill (K4NYM) and he was, of course in a park doing a 2fer, K-4646 (Withlacoochee State Forest) and K-3627 (General James A. Van Fleet State Trail). Calling CQ was a different story, I had quite the mic fright. Rich got me to talk on a net and listen, listen, listen. While we camped at Fairhaven Beach State Park, I answered a few Park to Park calls and watched Rich call CQ making contacts as far as Belgium with our new Wolf River Coil and his Icom IC-7300. I didn't activate that park because I was still too timid...Rich however did.

After the Academy we had last May, I got my nerve up. All the Elmers that were there really made me feel like I could do it. We had a camping trip coming up in the Adirondacks, and that was my first activation! I finally did it! I know Rich was surprised when I grabbed the mic and started calling CQ and working the pile up. It was intense, but I sure learned quickly.

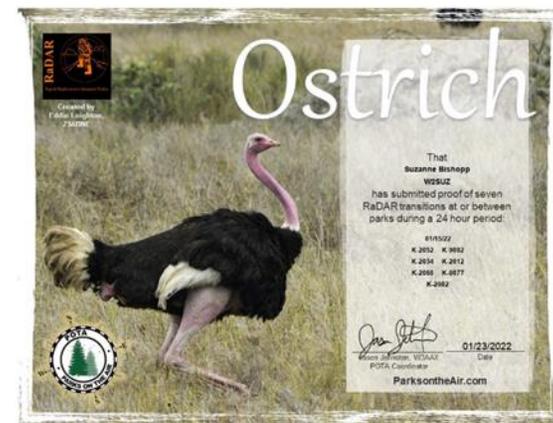


We now had to take the radio equipment with us EVERY time we went camping. But that wasn't enough. As I got more comfortable with playing radio, I

started to want those pretty awards from POTA. Those RADAR (Rapid Deployment Amateur Radio) awards looked like something we could do as a goal, and they serve as great practical experience for real life emergencies.

The summer came and went, we camped and played radio, and I racked up my QSOs and parks, and now it was time to plan those RADAR attempts. Rich planned our first outing – not to do a RADAR, but to practice. We were going to visit our friend out in Madison County, and it just so happened to be Fall Support Your Parks weekend, JOTA and NY QSO party Saturday. So why not see if we can do this with our set up. If anyone remembers, Saturday is rained...and not just rain, it was like monsoon weather, and that's the day we wanted to go out and play radio in the beautiful outdoors. *sigh* Rich said "In an emergency, you aren't going to wait for 75 degrees and sunny skies", so we did it. We dressed for the weather and protected our equipment as best we could in the wind and the rain, this time leaving the IC-7300 at home and used our new FT-891. We switched out the WRC for an end fed halfwave, with the WRC as a backup. We activated 4 parks in total that day and we were drenched and tired and cold when we were done. We got home knowing we could do this, and it was a great feeling.

The next weekend, we met up with Karl Heinz and Susan to activate Sampson State Park while Rich and I were camping. Karl Heinz suggested we check the requirements to see if we qualified for a RADAR award, it is mostly the distance between parks that we needed to check. So, following the advice of my Elmer, I did. AND WE DID!! So, the practice run ended up being a Rhino award (3 parks)!



But that wasn't enough, I wanted to beat that! I wanted to try for a Cheetah award – 5 parks. On one of the coldest days of the year, which just happened to be Winter Support Your Parks weekend as well as the VHF QSO contest. We bundled up and started our rove at Fair Haven Beach State Park – it was -2 degrees. We played radio all along the lake that day. We had already figured out the activations in the cold – no need to sit outside for the winter, we stayed in the car for this round. Thanks to Mike (N2MAK) and my Tech classmate Michael (W2NVP) for the tip on putting the Wolf River Coil on a mag mount, making it easier for us to rove quickly. We didn't have to pack everything up, we kept the radio on the dash and only needed to grab the Wolf River Coil off of the top of the car and then we were off again. We used 17 AH of our 20 AH lithium battery and we did it all on 40 meters. But, as the day went on, we decided to go for our stretch goal – 7 parks. Yep, we made it, we activated 8 parks total, and qualified for an Ostrich Award (7 parks)!

So what's next you ask? Well, since POTA is my thing, I've made a goal to activate a park once a month – so far so good. I also want to do a RADAR rove on every Support Your Parks weekend. The next one is in April, and I've mapped out a 10 park rove... looking for that Leopard RADAR award. That's a lot of parks, and a lot of QSOs! I think we can do it, but even if we don't we will have fun.



Rich is so happy I like to play radio. He keeps trying to get me to hunt the parks from home...but does he really want me in his shack every evening? Things to think about for my 2nd year as a ham.

<https://parksontheair.com>



PAUL CONAWAY, KD2DO

As many of you know there are now two Winlink stations operating in the Rochester area. The VHF one is located on the top of the Public Health Building at 111 Westfall Road. The 10-digit grid square is: FN13ec57mi. It runs 80 watts answering to both Packet and VARA-FM modes. The (prototype) HF station is running from my QTH in Perinton. It puts out about 30 watts into a G5RV. It listens to frequencies on 80m, 40m, and 20m. Currently it is only running the VARA protocol, but it is licensed and parked in portions of the bands that allow 2300 Hz wide signals from unattended digital stations.

Last month I listed several groups that run a Winlink day. These are often HF operations but it doesn't matter how you get your message into the system. VHF works as well. One main difference is that on HF you sometimes have the option of working one to one, person to person, or as they call it peer to peer, abbreviated P2P. The objective of these groups is to get you used to sending and receiving Winlink messages. These groups do this by saying, for example, "every Wednesday send the controller a simple message with your name call and location."

I have started a similar sort of thing but sort of in reverse, that I call

Winlink Workday

It is different in that whatever day you want to Work on your Winlink is the day that you send me a message. Then once a week, it has been on Thursdays lately, I will list the people who participated and will summarize the comments that they have sent me. Then I will issue a new request for replies. You can reply on any day you want. Not any specific day.

To keep this exercise local, I am targeting those hams who have accessed the 145.03 Winlink station. In Winlink terms the station is called a Radio Message Server or RMS.

There are currently 8 or 9 regular users in the area. As of this writing I have sent out four little Winlink Workday messages to this group. If you would like to be included in this distribution list, send me an Email (KD2DO@arrl.net) or better yet as a Winlink message to KD2DO.

To keep the interest up I am asking that people give me their location as Lat & Lon coordinates. Using Google Earth you can then compute the distance to the RMS at 111 Westfall Rd. Upcoming tasks will be to find their location with other means such as the military MGRS system, or 10-digit grid square, or using What3Words. If we get more users or even reports of locations where the RMS can be heard, I will plot these on google earth to produce a coverage area map.

There are a great number of forms built into Winlink including most of the ICS forms. Over the coming months we will be practicing writing, reading and replying to message forms.

I and all the other Winlink users are willing to help anyone get started with Winlink either on HF or VHF. Chances are if you are having a problem that one of us have had the same difficulty and have managed to get through it.

By the way you know that voice is permitted on 145.03 as well as digital. So if you are in simplex range you can also talk to the person you are helping.

W2AN/1BCG ON-THE-AIR AGAIN FOR TWO-WAY QSO'S

ED GABLE, W2AN

After a successful AWA on-air sending of the historic 1921 Trans-Atlantic message in December of last year, using the AWA replica of the 1921 transmitter, plans are now in place to do it again only this time to offer two-way QSO's with all stations wishing to participate.

The QSO party begins on Saturday evening, February 26, at 6:00 p.m. EST, or 23:00 GMT. AWA operators at the museum site in Bloomfield, NY will begin calling CQ on 1.821 MHz, CW, and will listen on or about that frequency for callers. We will work as many folks as we hear in order received and continue to do so until all amateur stations on the planet are in the log or propagation goes away, whichever happens first!

No QSL's are required for you to receive a nice full sized color certificate confirming your QSO with W2AN/1BCG. Simply send your QSO information via email to egable@rochester.rr.com and the personalized certificate will be sent to the sending email address.

Warm regards and hope to put you in the log.

RAGS OF THE PAST

ED GABLE, K2MP, RARA HISTORIAN

20 Years Ago, March 2002

The meeting was introduced by using kind and true words describing the presenter, Bernie Fuller, N3EFN, who was then our ARRL Atlantic Division Director. In this article Bernie was described as talking on more than one subject when making a presentation. Further, wrote Marykay Vescoe, KC2DPG, "Bernie is a dynamic speaker who provides a very descriptive and frank understanding of the topics." Continuing, Marykay revealed the subject of Bernie's talk would be Amateur Radio and Paleontology. And there's the problem. Twenty years later this writer has no clue how Amateur Radio and paleontology, the study of fossil animals and plants over time, came together at a RARA meeting. I'm sure it was good, as Marykay alluded to, but I am at a loss for words to describe the subject matter. Does anyone out there remember? President Peter Fournia, W2SKY, in his Prez Says column spent most of his word count on the Radio Coaches program. Peter reported that the coaches, in their seventh year of teaching 6th grade students at Thomas Jefferson Middle School in matters of ham radio, were upbeat about the program and the positive responses of the students. Unfortunately, on the negative side was the loss of budgeting by the school resulting in the loss of bus travel money effectively halting field trips by the students. John Rogers, W2JTR, wrote an article announcing the RARA Board's decision to experiment with a Silent Auction at each regular RARA meeting. The program encouraged members to bring in an item to auction and attach a tag with their name and a description of the property. The items were then left on a separate table where members could write a bid on the tag prior to the start of the meeting. At the end of the meeting the winners would be announced. Lloyd Caves, WB2EFU (N2PU), wrote part two of a four-part article announcing continuing process in planning for the 2002, Rochester Hamfest. New programs firmed up include a hands-on antenna construction program, a meeting of Traffic Handlers with Bruce Zeller, KA2GJV, as the forum leader, A RACES gathering with Frank Fallon N2FF and Ken Goetz, N2SQW and a meeting of members of the National Weather Service where Judy Leven N2TEZ and Bob Hamilton N3QOT, will lead a discussion on current changes and operating plans. Bill Kasperkoski, WB2SXY, was a busy guy twenty years ago this month by writing three columns in this issue. Bill's feature article centered on JOTA (the scouting Jamboree on the Air) activities already in the planning stage for the Fall of this year. If it's JOTA and RARA you can bet there will be scouting and ham radio activity going on, says six-year veteran and team leader John Van Griethuysen, N2BNE, along with Bill Kasperkoski, WB2SXY. Their special event callsign this year will be K2O. 3,000 scouts are expected to gather in the Hills of Naples, together with thousands of others Nationwide. With regret it was reported that Joe Favata, KA2AQM and Kenneth Gardner, W2BGN, were reported as Silent Keys. Ken Gardner is remembered as the first Chief Radio Engineer at pioneering radio station WHAM. Ken was also active in RARA and the Antique Wireless Association where he held several offices in both organizations. There was one Want Ad in this issue where you could buy a TS-700A Multi-Mode two meter radio and a Mirage 150 watt amplifier from Ed Gable K2MP, for \$195.00. Sherwood Snyder, W2KFU, Attorney at Law, remained a long-term commercial advertiser with offices on Rochester's East Main Street.



the RARA RAG

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Amateur Radio And Paleontology

Marykay Vesco, KC2DPG

We have a very special guest speaker this month traveling all the way from Saegertown, Pennsylvania. That is Bernie Fuller, N3EFN who is our ARRL Atlantic Division director. Bernie usually talks about more than one single topic when he does a presentation, so he will address us on several topics relating to amateur radio and ARRL. Bernie is involved with many topics that we read about in QST. This is a chance for a very special and insightful perspective on our hobby.

Bernie is a dynamic speaker who provides a very descriptive and frank understanding of the topics. We are fortunate to have him as our guest. Please spread the word that everyone is welcome to attend our monthly meeting. This includes hams, non-hams, club members and non-club members. The only requirement is that you have an interest in the hobby of amateur radio.

RARA Meeting

March 1, 2002

8:00 PM

Henrietta Fire Hall,
3129 E. Henrietta Rd.

Amateur Radio And Paleontology

Presented by
Bernie Fuller, N3EFN
ARRL Atlantic Division Director

Hamfest Programs – Part II

Lloyd R. Caves, WB2EFU

Last month was the first of a four part series on the Rochester Hamfest Programs. It is now time for part two of this series. This information is for your use in knowing ahead of time, which programs you would like to attend.

Hands On Antenna Construction:

As a follow-up to one of the programs listed last month on Computer Aided Antenna Designs, Ed Hare, W1RF1, the ARRL Laboratory Supervisor, shows you how to build a 2-meter Yagi beam using parts and materials you can buy at Home Depot or your local hardware store! It can't be that hard — Ed actually builds the antenna with a blowtorch while wearing a tie, all the while telling you all about how he designed this simple antenna that actually works on the air. If he is as good as he says he is, he will have plenty of time to answer your antenna questions. See if you can "Stump the Speaker" by asking him questions he can't answer!

Traffic Handling:

Traffic Nets can be found on all bands at different times during the day. They are very useful in getting general traffic passed from one person and location to another. These NETS are always active and practicing their skills so that they will be able to handle any emergency traffic should the need arise. When that time comes, and it does all too often, this group of dedicated Hams is very professional and expedient in helping with the emergency communications requirements. Bruce Zeller, KA2GJV, Western New York Section Traffic Manager will be holding a forum on general information relating to the NETS. The purpose is to ex-

(Continued on page 6)

VE TEAM

Testing on Saturday March 19, 2022
At a NEW LOCATION
Returning to RIT
ROCHESTER INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

Building 16 - **Schmitt Interfaith Center**
 43.08402626755475, -77.6734520379509

Parking: **U-Lot**
 43.08261562973969, -77.6739921659069
 It is off Andrews Memorial Drive

Room: **Skalny Room (SMT-A500)** there is an access door by the dock marked by the blue arrow.

Mark Allen Sr	KD2YUI	T	Stephen Armstrong	KD2YUJ	T
Erik Erkelens	N2EPE	E	Andrew Hughes	KD2VRR	G
Robert Kennell	KD2YUK	T	Joseph LaPlaca	KD2YUL	T
Robert LeSuer	WA2BTC	G	Erin Platteter	KD2YIV	E
Jacob Randell	K2BEF	G	John Sarazyn	KD2YUM	T
Adam Zaffram	KD2YUN	T			

Pre-registration is required visit:

<https://hamstudy.org/sessions/14612/inperson> to find the latest session.

Masks and Distancing IS Required

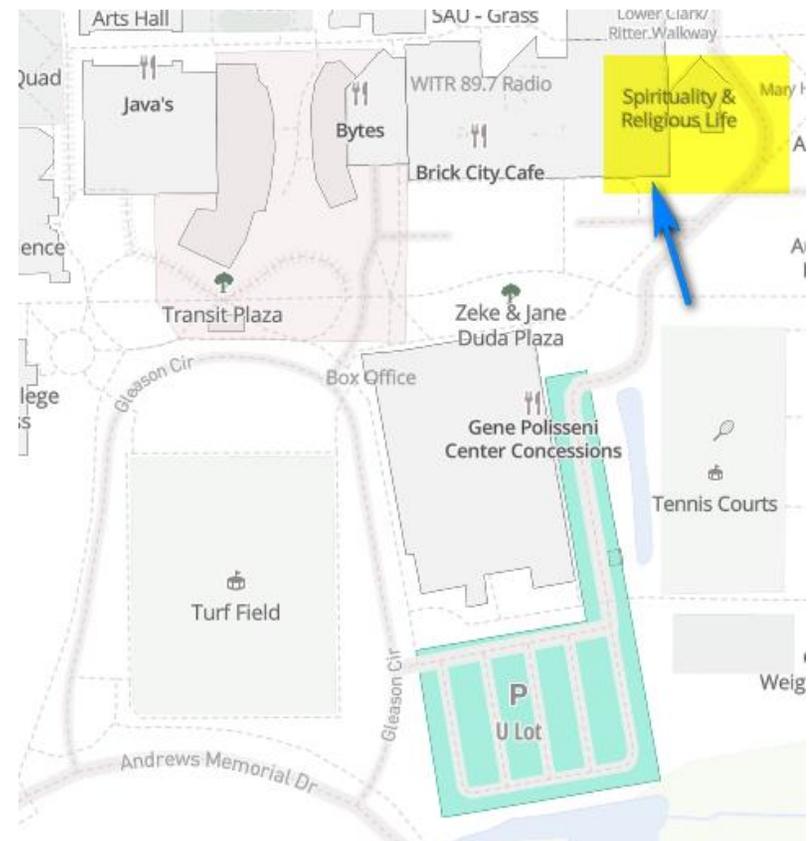
More information is available on the RARA website:

https://rochesterham.org/license_testing.htm

Applicants must supply their own PPE (Mask is a minimum), pen, pencil, calculator and be COVID negative and symptom free

Testing begins at 10:00AM.
 Testing is free!

New licensees' names are in BOLD



RARA CALENDAR

TIM BARRETT, K9VB, MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

March 2022						
	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	
		1 RTTYOPS Weeksprint Phone Weekly Test – Fray AGCW YL-CW Party	2 RaRa Monthly Mtg BSA & ONLINE 7pm ROC City Net ~1.91 MHz, 7 pm A1 Club AWT CW Ops Test V HF-UHF FT8 Contest UKEICC 80m Contest AWA John Rollins DX Contest	3 RaRa BoD 6:30pm ONLINE ARES Net 146.610 MHz, 7pm VHF Group 9pm 50.200 USB SKCC Sprint Europe CWOps Test NRAU 10m Activity Contest RTTYOPS Weeksprint NCCC Sprints EACW Meeting AWA John Rollins DX Contest	4 K1USN Slow Speed Test Walk for the Bacon QRP Contest	5 AWA John Rollins DX Contest Novice Rig Roundup Wakeup QRP Sprint Ukraine RTTY Contest ARRL Inter.DX Contest SSB
6 AWA John Rollins DX Contest Novice Rig Roundup Wakeup QRP Sprint Ukraine RTTY Contest ARRL Inter.DX Contest SSB UBA DX Contest, CW NSARA Contest WAB 3.5MHz SARL Sim. Emer. 40M Contest	7 AWA Net 145.110 MHz, 7pm VHF Group 9pm 144.260 SSB RSGB 80M Club Champ, Data OK1WC Memorial WW Sideband Activity Contest ARS Spartan Sprint	8 RTTYOPS Weeksprint Phone Weekly Test – Fray	9 ROC City Net ~1.91 MHz, 7 pm A1 Club AWT CW Ops Test V HF-UHF FT8 Contest	10 ARES Net 146.610 MHz, 7pm VHF Group 9pm 50.200 USB RTTYOPS Weeksprint NCCC Sprints EACW Meeting	11 K1USN Slow Speed Test	12 YB RTTY DX Contest AGCW QRP Contest RSGB Commonwealth Contest South America 10M Contest Stew Perry Topband Challenge F9AA Cup, SSB OK, ID DIG QSO Parties Tesla Memorial HF Contest SKCC Weekend Sprintathon
13 RSGB Commonwealth Contest South America 10M Contest Stew Perry Topband Challenge F9AA Cup, SSB OK, ID, WI, DIG QSO Parties Tesla Memorial HF Contest SKCC Weekend Sprintathon	14 AWA Net 145.110 MHz, 7pm VHF Group 9pm 144.260 SSB OK1WC Memorial WW SSB Activity Contest	15 RTTYOPS Weeksprint Phone Weekly Test CLARA Chatter Party	16 ROC City Net ~1.91 MHz, 7 pm CLARA Chatter Party A1 Club AWT CW Ops Test V HF-UHF FT8 Contest RSGB 80M Club Contest, CW	17 ARES Net 146.610 MHz, 7pm VHF Group 9pm 50.200 USB RTTYOPS Weeksprint NCCC Sprints Walk for the Bacon QRP Contest NTC QSO Party BCC QSO Party EACW Meeting	18 K1USN Slow Speed Test	19 CLARA Chatter Party BARTG HF RTTY Contest Russian DX Contest VA QSO Party Feld Hell Sprint F9AA Cup, SSB
20 CLARA Chatter Party BARTG HF RTTY Contest Russian DX Contest VA QSO Party F9AA Cup, SSB UBA Spring Contest, SSB	21 AWA Net 145.110 MHz, 7pm VHF Group 9pm 144.260 SSB Run for the Bacon QRP Contest OK1WC Memorial WW SSB Activity Contest Bucharest Digital Contest	22 RTTYOPS Weeksprint SKCC Sprint Phone Weekly Test	23 ROC City Net ~1.91 MHz, 7 pm A1 Club AWT CW Ops Test	24 ARES Net 146.610 MHz, 7pm VHF Group 9pm 50.200 USB RTTYOPS Weeksprint NCCC Sprints RSGB 80M Club Contest, SSB EACW Meeting	25 K1USN Slow Speed Test	26 FOC QSO Party CQ WW WPX Contest, SSB
27 CQ WW WPX Contest, SSB	28 AWA Net 145.110 MHz, 7pm VHF Group 9pm 144.260 SSB QCX Challenge OK1WC Memorial WW SSB Activity Contest RSGB FT4 Contest	29 RTTYOPS Weeksprint Phone Weekly Test	30 ROC City Net ~1.91 MHz, 7 pm A1 Club AWT CW Ops Test UKEICC 80M Contest	31 ARES Net 146.610 MHz, 7pm VHF Group 9pm 50.200 USB RTTYOPS Weeksprint NCCC Sprints EACW Meeting		

NEWS FROM AREA CLUBS

MONROE COUNTY ARES / RACES NEWS

Monroe County Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES)® is an amateur radio public service organization based in Monroe County, New York, and is open to all licensed amateur radio operators. Monroe County Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (RACES) is a program of the Monroe County Office of Emergency Management. We participate in training and emergency exercises so that we can serve other agencies during times of communication failure.



The Monroe County Amateur Radio Emergency Service, Inc. holds its meetings on the fourth Thursday of each month except in July, August, November and December. Anyone interested, members and non-members, are welcome to attend.

Until further notice, our meetings are via Zoom. Please check our website for any schedule changes. Prospective members can request an invitation by email to: secretary@monroecountymcomm.org.

Monroe County ARES/RACES meets on the air every Thursday of the month at 7:00 PM, on the N2MPE 146.61 MHz (-) 110.9 Hz PL and 444.45 MHz (+) 110.9 Hz PL repeaters. Our club callsign is WB2EOC.

There is no net on nights when we hold our regular meeting, generally on the 4th Thursday of the month.

WEB: www.monroecountymcomm.org

Facebook: Monroe County Amateur Radio Emergency Service, Inc.

Twitter @MCARESNY

Severe Weather Alerts: Winter may bring severe weather in the form of heavy snow storms, strong winds, and flooding. If you experience severe weather, especially when accompanied by damage to property in your area, listen to your local ARES/RACES repeaters for information. While official ARES/RACES activation could be a possibility, it is more important that we open a spontaneous net simply to share information about weather conditions in your immediate area. Don't wait for someone else to do it. Pick up the microphone and start a net. Have each check-in station give you a situational awareness report and emergency power report. If you don't have a copy of the directed net protocol, you can find one at the WEB address listed above. (Activities/ARES Net/ Net Script/ Downloads). We encourage all amateur radio operators to take a free Skywarn TM class offered by the National Weather Service. The schedule of classes can be found at <https://www.weather.gov/buf/skywarn>

Monroe County ARES
George Adams IV, Net Control - cq@k4gwa.net

ROCHESTER DX ASSOCIATION, RDXA

Please check our website at RDXA.com for up to date information regarding meeting locations and requirements, if any.

All are welcome.
Check our web site: www.rdxa.com.



ROCHESTER RADIO REPEATER ASSOCIATION

The Rochester Radio Repeater Association, RRRRA will be having its regular meeting on March 18th at the Pittsford Town Hall's meeting room. Masks are encouraged. March is a special month because it's RRRRA's Annual Auction. Set up and socialization will start at 7:00 pm. As usual, 10% of the sold value is paid to the Club by the seller. You do not need to be a member to attend but we could use your support by becoming a member. Ed Gable will be our auctioneer. Watching the auction is always entertaining. Hope to see you at our auction.

Our new bylaws allow us to use any and all electronic means to communicate with our membership. Future meetings will be held on Zoom and in person or just zoom if our regular meeting place is not available.

Stay tuned to our web site, www.k2rra.org for current information on any changes to our meeting place or meeting presentation subject. Until RRRRA elections are held officers for 2022 are, Bob Shewell, N2HJD, President, Bob ODell, N2BZX, Vice President, and Bob Smith, NS2B-Treasurer / Membership Chairman. We are currently looking for a new club Secretary. If interested you can reach out to any of our club officers or just come to our meeting. RRRRA also accepts donations to the club. If you are not currently a member and want to support RRRRA, you can join at our monthly meeting or on our web site using PayPal. www.k2rra.org

XRX AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

The XRX Amateur Radio Club is not having in-person meetings at this time. We are having online meetings usually on the second Thursday of the months Sept-June. Get the latest updates at <http://xarc.us>

ROCHESTER VHF GROUP

You are invited to join us on-line & on-the-air! We're here to help you to use the license that you worked so hard to get.



Check out what we do by visiting our website at <http://RVHFG.org> to start.

Join our e-mail group by sending a message to RVHFG+subscribe@groups.io.

Join our weekly on-the-air nets on SSB:
2 meter band - Monday 9 PM 144.260 USB
6 meter band - Thursday 9 PM 50.200 USB

No VHF SSB radio (yet) to join the nets?
Log-in to Echolink [ka2ene-L #23426](https://www.echolink.org/databases/usa/ka2ene-L)

We can help to answer the question, "What radio should I buy?" Here's a list of HF+++ radios, those with the HF bands and at least three VHF bands, giving you access to all sorts of VHF fun. Research each one to see which serves you best. Ask questions on our email list. We're here to help!

Yaesu FT-100D	Yaesu FT-817	Yaesu FT-818
Yaesu FT-847	Yaesu FT-857	Yaesu FT-897
Icom IC-706MKIIG	Icom IC-7000	Icom IC-7100
Icom IC-9100	Kenwood TS-2000	

Some are older models and some are newer models, but all provide access to the 6 meter, 2 meter, and 70 centimeter bands using both traditional FM and the exciting narrow-band SSB mode that supports unexpectedly long-distance (100's of km's routinely and 1,000's of km occasionally) VHF communication. These are good all-around radios no matter what club you end up affiliating with later. We hope its us.

AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION OF THE SOUTHERN TIER, ARAST

Currently, ARAST meets the third Thursday of every month at the Emergency Communications Center on Harris Hill in Big Flats, next to the National Soaring Museum. Our Chemung County ARES (CCARES) organization meets the first Tuesday of the month except February at the same location. Both organizations serve amateurs in Chemung, Steuben and Schuyler counties in New York and Bradford and Tioga counties in Pennsylvania. All are welcome to attend our meetings.

NOTE: Both CCARES and ARAST monthly meetings are now being held both in person and online. Check out the Upcoming Events at our website, www.arast.info, for the latest details.

Don't forget to check out our repeaters when you visit the area. N3AQ 147.36(+) and the W2ZJ 146.70(-) are the principal 2-meter repeaters. The latter can also be accessed via Echolink node 574415 with the call sign KD2QND-R. A full list of repeaters that can be heard in the Twin Tiers area surrounding Chemung County can be found at http://www.arast.info/arast_website/public/repeaters.php.

We also invite you to check out our new 6 meter net on Wednesday evenings at 9 p.m. local time on 50.200 MHz USB. The net usually lasts approximately one hour. Operators are encouraged to check in and participate in the round table discussions or simply stop by from time to time. Topics are wide-reaching and are not confined to 6 meters--although discussions tend to center around 6-meter equipment, antennas, propagation, latest band openings and grid squares worked, as well as AM, FM and FT-8 use of the 6-meter band. We would welcome more participation from the western part of our area.

COMMUNITY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, CARC

If you are interested in being a part of this forward thinking and active club, visit us at a meeting or join us on one of our weekly nets. We meet at the Hoag Library (134 S. Main St. Albion, NY) on the first Saturday of each month at 7PM. Each meeting has a brief training/refresher period with upcoming topics including: net protocol, repeater set-up/maintenance, and digital signaling. The club holds a net every Sunday evening at 8pm (winter) and 9PM (summer) - 0100 UTC Monday - on 147.585 simplex, and we host the Thursday Night Social Net, Thursday at 8:30PM on 147.285+. We'd love to hear you check-in!

DIGITAL COMMUNICATIONS ASSOCIATION OF PERINTON, DCAP

DCAP members continue to experiment with leading edge digital communication modes. We were formed in 1994 to foster the development of local and regional packet radio networks using AX25 and TCP/IP. Today we have members using the club sponsored DSTAR repeater (KB2VZS on 444.8MHz), several personal and publicly accessible DSTAR hotspots, Yaesu System Fusion systems on non-club repeaters and DMR systems through repeaters and personal hotspots. DCAP members meet for breakfast at 7AM nearly every Saturday morning at Rikki's Family Restaurant in the village of Fairport and everyone is welcome to join us. Talk in is on the KB2VZS analog repeater on 146.715MHz with a PL tone of 110.9Hz.

DRUMLINS AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

The Drumlins Amateur Radio Club meets every third Wednesday of the month at 7:30 PM at the Wayne County EMO/Sheriff's Office 7376 State Hwy 31 #1000, Lyons, NY 14489. Doors open at 7 pm, meeting starts at 7:30 pm. Announcements will be made on the 146.685 repeater. The Drumlins ARC website address is <http://drumlinsarc.us/>

KEUKA LAKE AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION, KLARA

Hello from Keuka Lake Amateur Radio Association. We have had a cold snowy winter this year and been very busy with Ares snow reports during the storms. Winter Field Days was held at the Campbell Rest area on Route 86. Our banner was hung up so all could see who we are. At one point a young person saw the antenna in the yard and asked his dad what it was. They walked over and our operator was happy to share their knowledge. It is always a wonderful thing when you can share Amateur Radio with others especially young people. They are our future. Some of our members stayed home but fun was had by all. Since it was bitter cold lots of hot coffee and cocoa was on the menu.

We are working on a Hamfest scheduled for April 30th at the Almond Community Center. Free admittance and small fee to set up a table. Pancakes, sausage, doughnuts, and coffee are on the menu for donation. Contact W2RMT Rick Torrey for more information or email KLARA and I will make sure he gets the email. VE testing will be offered that afternoon.

Join in on our Monday through Friday morning HF net. 8:30 is check in time with net starting at 8:45 on 3.896. It generally lasts about an hour starting with introductions in a round robin format then onto what ever topic anyone wants to discuss.

Sunday mornings we also have the same net check in at 8:30 net starts 8:45.

Sunday evening at 8pm is our 2 meter net on the KLARA repeater system and Echolink. Check in and join us for trivia.

ORLEANS COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

The Orleans County ARC meets every 2nd Monday of the month at the Orleans County Emergency Operations Center, 14064 West County House Road, Albion, NY 14411. Doors open at 6:00PM, meeting starts at 7:30PM. Anyone with an interest in amateur radio is welcome. Program topics vary from month to month.

The club has an open two meter net every Tuesday night at 9:00PM local time on the club repeater, WA2DQL/R (145.27 -600KHz offset, 141.3 tone). Everyone is welcome to check in.

See the club website <http://ocarc.us> or contact club Secretary Ron Craig, N5BNO for more information.

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.

SKENOH ISLAND AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, SIARC

The Skenoh Island Amateur Radio Club meets every second Wednesday of the month at 7:30PM 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. The next meeting will be Wednesday, March 9th. There will be license exam testing starting at 6:30 PM. Masks and social distancing may be required even if vaccinated.

Check the SIARC website for updates. <http://www.siarc.us/>

SIARC is also holding a Health and Welfare NET Monday through Friday each week at 2000 hours on the SIARC 146.820 repeater (located in Canandaigua, NY), Tone 110.9. This net is to pass along general information and keep hams in touch. All hams are invited to participate.

GENESEE VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION

Email n3dsp@lafireline.net for details.

INTERLOCK ROCHESTER - K2HAX - ROCHESTER'S HACKERSPACE

Visit our website at <http://www.interlockroc.org/>, contact us at info@interlockroc.org, or find us in #interlock on Freenode IRC.

ROCHESTER MAKERSPACE

For more information visit <https://www.makerspacerochester.org/hamradio>

ASTRONOMY SECTION ROCHESTER ACADEMY OF SCIENCE

For more information visit <http://www.rochesterastronomy.org/>

RAG ARTICLE LAYOUT HINTS

- Orientation - Landscape
- Main Text Box H - 7.7, W - 10.4
- 2 columns, 0.3 spacing between columns
- Font: Arial
- Title: 20 pt, Bold, Small Caps
- Author: 10 pt, Bold, Small Caps
- Main Text: 10 pt
- Single space after periods
- Text Alignment: Justified
- Title & Author Alignment: Centered
- No special formatting
- Try to limit pictures to the width of a column
- Picture Format: jpg or png
- Document format: Microsoft Word compatible or text. No special embedded formatting.

RARA HAMFEST SPONSORS PLEASE SUPPORT OUR HAMFEST SPONSORS



RARA OFFICERS, DIRECTORS AND COORDINATORS

OFFICERS

President: Tim Barrett, K9VB	(646) 496-5015	president@rochesterham.org	Treasurer: Mike Moore, KC2NM	(585) 721-0011	treasurer@rochesterham.org
Vice-President: Scott Theis, W2LW	(845) 774-9809	vicepresident@rochesterham.org	Secretary: Karl Heinz Kremer, K5KHK	(585) 210-0840	secretary@rochesterham.org

DIRECTORS

Paul Conaway, KD2DO	(585) 506-5538	ConawayNY@aol.com	Mike Kennerknecht, N2MAK	(585) 754-2444	makennerknecht@gmail.com
David Enright, K3WHD	(585) 737-3657	denright1228@gmail.com	Brian O'Connor, KA2CGB	(585) 721-2346	ka2cgb@gmail.com
Tim Guyot, KB1POP	(585) 406-3163	timguyot@gmail.com			

ACTIVITY COORDINATORS

Club Historian	Ed Gable, K2MP	egable@rochester.rr.com	Public Service	Mike Moore, KC2NM	publicservice@rochesterham.org
Club Station Trustee	Dave Enright, K3WHD	denright1228@gmail.com	QSL MANAGER	Dave Enright, K3WHD	denright1228@gmail.com
Education Coordinator	Karl Heinz Kremer, K5KHK	education@rochesterham.org	Raffle Administrators	Forest Shick, WA2MZG Jeff Sonstein, KD2RRB	wa2mzg@arrl.net
Elmers Corner	Richard Bishopp, KD2UBJ Suzanne Bishopp, W2SUZ	elmerscorner@education.org	RARA Academy	Your Name Here	Please Volunteer
Hamfest Co-Producers	Tim Guyot, KB1POP Mike Moore, KC2NM Dave Mitchell, KD2RAF	hfproducer@rochesterham.org	RARA RAG Editor Proof Readers	Forest Shick, WA2MZG Susan Aiello, W2SBA Dave Wilson, WA2HOY Mark Pedersen, KC2UES	editor@rochesterham.org
License Class	Karl Heinz Kremer, K5KHK	education@rochesterham.org	Refreshments	Rich Hoffarth, K2AXP	rhoffarth2000@yahoo.com
Media Communications	Tim Guyot, KB1POP	timguyot@gmail.com	Reward Points Administrator	Tim Barrett, K9VB	membership@rochesterham.org
Meeting Audio	Joe DiVincenzo, AD2DB Scott Czeck, KC1GHT	joedy58@gmail.com scottczeck@gmail.com	Telephone Hotline	Scott Theis, W2LW	sa_theis@hotmail.com
Meeting Webinar	Scott Theis, W2LW	sa_theis@hotmail.com	VE Team	Don Kiser, AC2EV	dkiser100@gmail.com
Membership Secretary	Tim Barrett, K9VB	membership@rochesterham.org	Webmaster	Scott Theis, W2LW	webmaster@rochesterham.org

ROCHESTER AREA RADIO CLUB CONTACTS

Antique Wireless Association (AWA)

Lynn Bisha, W2BSN: lbisha@rochester.rr.com

Amateur Radio Association of the Southern Tier (ARAST)

Reiner Dieg, N2PEZ: n2pez@arri.net

Astronomy Section Rochester Academy of Science

Mark Minarich: mminaric@rochester.rr.com

Community Amateur Radio Club (CARC)

Joe Gangi, AC2NB: ac2nb.carc@gmail.com

Digital Communications Association of Perinton (DCAP)

Gary Skuse, KA1NJL: ka1njl@arri.net

Drumlins Amateur Radio Club Ltd. (DARC)

drumlinsarc@gmail.com

Fisherman's Net Amateur Radio Club

Jim Sutton, N2OPS: jim@otrym.org

Genesee Valley Amateur Radio Assn.

Bill Boyd, N3DSP: N3DSP@lafireline.net

Keuka Lake Amateur Radio Association (KLARA)

Jim Caneen, W2JTC: jcpilot@localnet.com

Monroe County ARES / RACES

Dave Timmons, W2DST: secretary@monroecountymcomm.org

Orleans County Amateur Radio Club (OCARC)

Terry Cook, K2EYS: k2eys@ocarc.us

Rochester Amateur Radio Association (RARA)

Tim Barrett, K9VB: president@rochesterham.org

Rochester Institute of Technology ARC

Jim Stefano, W2COP: wireless@mail.rit.edu

ROC City Net

Joe Merolillo, K2ZX: k2zx52@gmail.com

Rochester DX Association (RDXA)

Chris Shalvoy, K2CS: cshalvoy@att.net

Rochester Makerspace

David Duckles: rocmakers@gmail.com

Rochester Radio Repeater Association (RRRA)

Bob Shewell, N2HJD: bshewell@frontiernet.net

Rochester VHF Group (RVHFG)

Rus Healy, K2UA: chairman@rvhfg.org

Squaw Island Amateur Radio Club (SIARC)

Steve Benton, WB2VMR: sbenton2@rochester.rr.com

XRX Amateur Radio Club

Brian Donovan, K2AS: k2as@outlook.com

APRIL RAG DEADLINE
MARCH 15, 2022

RARA MEETS AT 7PM ON THE FIRST
WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH.

JOIN US IN PERSON
OR
ONLINE AT:

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/4155305551190438413>

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