

# THE RARA RAG



May 2026



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## Inside This Issue

- Year In Space Preview
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- Public Service
- RARA Academy
- April Meeting Raffle Winners

**JUNE 2026**

SUNDAY MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY

Save the Date for the 2026  
Rochester Hamfest

14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

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# ROCHESTER HAMFEST 2026

Door Prizes



QSL Checking



Free License Exams



Country Store

On Site Parking

Flea Market Opens: 8AM  
Vendor Entry: 7AM



Clubs Welcome

Flea Market

RAFFLE PRIZE  
IC-7300 MK2



RVs Welcome

Food Vendor

TechTalk Tent

Coffee Vendor



Saturday **June 20, 2026**  
Barnard Fire Field  
410 Maiden Lane  
Rochester, New York 14616

Admission:  
RARA Members: FREE  
Non-members: \$10  
Student with ID: FREE  
Under 18 years of age: FREE  
Flea Market Space: \$5

<https://www.rochesterham.org/hamfest.htm>

Talk-in: TBD



# THE RARA RAG

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

May 2026  
Volume 78, Issue 9

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## MAY PRESENTATION: THE YEAR IN SPACE WITH DAVID BISHOP

JEFF FULLER KE2ELI, RARA VICE PRESIDENT

David Bishop returns to RARA for a presentation on astronomy news and events at our May meeting. He will be reviewing significant events from the past year with plenty of high-resolution pictures and video.



David is an FPGA designer at L3Harris and is the Vice President of ASRAS, the Astronomy Section of the Rochester Academy of Science. He has presented several times at RARA, and his presentations have always been very interesting and well-received. Every year remarkable things happen in astronomy and space activities that the national news does not always cover, but David finds them.

Please join us on May 6, 2026 at 7:00 PM, at the Boy Scouts Headquarters at 2320 Brighton Henrietta Townline Road, Rochester, New York 14623 or online at [https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_5vRnKIUkTWy63WAXqqHmtw](https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_5vRnKIUkTWy63WAXqqHmtw)



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# BOARDZ BUZZ

RICH BISHOPP KD2UBJ, PRESIDENT

I hope everyone is doing well and looking forward to the summer. I sure am. The deadline for the RAG snuck up on me this month and I have little to write for a Boardz Buzz. Hopefully I won't bore you much more than I normally do. So, what's the Buzz about the Board?

The tri-fold pamphlet that can be found on the website is being updated. The finishing touches are taking place and by the time you read this the new version should be ready for use on the website. The pamphlet is used to help people know more about us and includes the membership application. I like to have a few on hand to give out when people ask about amateur radio. Feel free to print off a few and hand them out. You never know you may be the reason someone gets interested in amateur radio.

The board has been discussing the equipment we acquire from Silent Key estates or other donations. The auction in November and the hamfest country store have been the places for members to be able to purchase this equipment at very reasonable prices. The amount of this gear seems to grow even after the sale of many items, and we are looking at options to reduce the inventory without just sending things to a landfill. Ideas can be sent to the board. Certainly, we will continue to have it available at the auction but some items that have not sold at past auctions keep getting moved back and forth from storage to auction or hamfest. By the way, the storage I am speaking of is two of our members' garages and basements. Cost of storage units at well over \$100 a month, we would need more than one, which exceeds the value of the gear we have so it makes more sense to find a new home for each piece instead of storing it.

The board also accepted Karl Heinz Kremer's (K5KHK) resignation from teaching the technician license classes. Karl Heinz has been doing this for the past six and a half years twice a year. That is a lot of students and a mind-boggling number of hours. Thank You Karl Heinz you have been an incredible asset and Elmer to our amateur radio communities' newest members. Who knows how many students this adds up to be? If you have the answer let me know. It's math I don't do that.

Dr. John Viggiano (NV2K), our education coordinator, will announce a replacement instructor once he and the new teacher are ready. Freddy Sulyma (WB2GFZ) and Dr. Viggiano have been teaching their courses for quite some time as well. I'm glad they are continuing with the General Class and Amateur Extra courses to help our members upgrade as they wish. I'm excited that RARA will continue to offer license classes to the community.

On the topic of education don't forget the upcoming new hams academy May 16th. Please get in touch with Dr. Viggiano at [education@rochesterham.org](mailto:education@rochesterham.org) and be an Elmer for our new hams or old hams that want to see something new. FT2 anyone? That's just ridiculous.

A member sent us an idea for possible outreach of amateur radio at local fire departments open houses. I think this is an excellent opportunity to show off some of the cool things we do. If someone is interested in helping to coordinate this we would certainly appreciate the assistance. Other outreach ideas are welcome as well. Amateur radio fades away if we let it. We shouldn't let it. Clearly, we see the value, or we would just be watching reruns of Gilligan's Island on TV.

Have you all heard about our Hamfest coming up? The venue, Barnard Fire Dept field, is the same as last year but will be expanded in area. More flea market space and more parking. June 20<sup>th</sup>. See you there.

The board, at the last meeting, set the price of the banquet ticket at \$45. The banquet committee presented the cost breakdown to the board so that we had all information needed to make a decision. There will be a speaker again this year, yet to be determined, and I think the committee is looking again for local ideas and topics. Have someone in mind? Send an email to Suzanne at [W2SUZ@rochesterham.org](mailto:W2SUZ@rochesterham.org). Mark your calendars for September 17, 2026, at Agatina's in Gates. There will be limited seating so be ready to purchase your ticket at the hamfest. The hamfest will be the first opportunity to purchase these tickets.

Two final and very important things for you to consider are the nominating committee and the board of directors. The nominating committee helps to find members who may be interested in a board of directors' position. This is a short-term function, and a new committee is formed each year. So, you don't have to fear to be committed to a long-term role.

This September I will be done as president having served the max terms allowed per the bylaws. Also, the Secretary, Mike Moore (KC2NM), will have maxed out his terms. We have one open board seat right now and may have three or four come September. We need to have at least seven. New faces keep things moving and reduce the same old thing year after year. Contact [secretary@rochesterham.org](mailto:secretary@rochesterham.org) if you have interest in helping out here. Also contact the secretary or any board member if you are interested in being a board member. Maybe visit and observe a board meeting. Seven is the minimum and 11 is the max. Like they say, more is better.

Have you noticed the upgrades to the RARA RAG. I think it looks great. Thank You Forest for the hard work you clearly put into the process of creating the RAG each month. Check out the advertising opportunities in the RAG. Years ago, there was advertising and then it faded away. Well, it's back and this gives you another option to sell the gear you no longer use or is in the way. Don't worry, no one will tell your partner what you really paid for that radio.

Well, I'm sure I missed a thing or two but you can see we do have a few irons in the fire. If you're curious about something feel free to ask one of the board members or me. Or join a board meeting if you want. Email [secretary@rochesterham.org](mailto:secretary@rochesterham.org) for link.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**Wednesday May 6, 2026 - RARA Meeting 7:00 PM.** In Person at Boy Scouts Headquarters, 2320 Brighton Henrietta Townline Road, Rochester, NY 14623 and Online at this link

[https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_5vRnKIUKTWy63WAxqqHmtw](https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_5vRnKIUKTWy63WAxqqHmtw)

**Thursday May 7, 2026 - RARA Board of Directors Meeting**  
6:30 PM - Online

Email request for link to [secretary@rochesterham.org](mailto:secretary@rochesterham.org)

**Saturday May 9, 2026, 10:00 AM Elmers Corner**

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89478401962?pwd=XjgYqZGCihsvu6nERFPbLuw1gHGNP.1>

# MEMBERSHIP NEWS

TIM BARRETT K9VB, RARA MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

We have several new members this month, so please welcome the following to RARA!

- John Hammond, KE2HZW
- Tom Haynes
- Andrew Krasinski
- Brian Krasinski
- Mete Turhan, KE2HSB
- Mark van Cleve

Also, please look out for new members at RARA events and introduce yourself and make them feel welcome!

Membership is now at 414 and it is still growing, it's good to have passed the 400 mark and thanks to all of those of you who have renewed or joined recently!

If you haven't renewed yet or wish to join, please do so that we can get those numbers back up to our end of 2024/5 year number of 532!

You can check your membership status at the [renewal page](#) on our website, and if necessary you can also renew from there.

When an associate member gets their license we upgrade them to full member at no extra cost, but the FCC does not inform us automatically. We often spot an upgrade but not always, so if you are recently licensed, please check that we have your call.

A reminder that many of the automated emails from our membership system seem to be deposited in the receiver's spam folder. If you are expecting an email from us and don't see it, check your spam folder! If you want to check if your renewal was made, please just go to the [renewal page](#) on our website.

73 and Good DX!

Tim Barrett, K9VB [membership@rochesterham.org](mailto:membership@rochesterham.org).

# APRIL MEETING REVIEW

JEFF FULLER KE2ELI, RARA VICE PRESIDENT

## A JOURNEY THROUGH COMMUNICATION HISTORY

Our April meeting was a resounding success, with a fantastic turnout of **43 attendees** joining us in person for "Old Timers Night." It was great to see such a packed room and feel the collective enthusiasm for the history of our craft.

### A Walk Through the AWA Museum

Our guest speaker, **Lynn Bisha (W2BSN)**, Curator of the Antique Wireless Museum, took us on a fascinating guided tour—via presentation—of the "Communication Technologies Museum" in Bloomfield. Lynn shared insights into the museum's massive collection, which chronicles over 200 years of electronic evolution, from the earliest telegraphs to the birth of the computer age.

### The Spark That Started It All

The undisputed highlight of the evening for me was the discussion of the **spark-gap transmitter**. Lynn's detailed discussion on these primitive yet powerful machines—the very first devices used to demonstrate radio communication—captured everyone's imagination. Understanding the raw physics behind how early pioneers literally "threw sparks" to bridge the gap between distances was a powerful reminder of our hobby's roots.

A huge thank you to Lynn Bisha for making the trip and sharing his expertise with us. If you haven't had a chance to visit the museum in Bloomfield yet, Lynn's presentation made it clear that it is a must-see for any amateur radio enthusiast.

### Preserving Our Legacy: The Annual Past Presidents Photo

A highlight of every Old Timers Night is the gathering of the leaders who have helped shape our club into what it is today. This year was no exception, as we took our annual Past Presidents photo, capturing a wealth of experience and dedication in a single frame. It is an honor to have so many of our former leaders still active and engaged in our community, offering their mentorship and wisdom to the next generation of hams.

### A Presidential Scavenger Hunt

To celebrate our history, we've done something a little different with this month's issue of the RAG. Scattered throughout these pages, you will find various images of our past presidents—some from the archives and some from more recent events. Think you can spot them all? Happy hunting!

# PUBLIC SERVICE REPORT

MIKE MOORE KC2NM, PUBLIC SERVICE COORDINATOR

For May, I want to present the operations of a typical event command center. This may be located in a tent, shelter, or building. In our W2EOC (Emergency Operations Center) configuration, the command center acts as the central nervous system for event safety and logistics. For an event like a charity bike ride, the workflow is a high-speed cycle of communication, logging, and dispatching. A block diagram showing the command center elements follows the description.

Here is how the operations typically flow through your specific equipment setup:

## 1. Intake: The VoIP Phone Bank

The **VoIP Phone Bank** serves as the primary gateway for incoming requests from the public or event staff who aren't using handheld radios.

- **Mechanical Support:** A rider calls the "SAG" (Support and Gear) hotline for a flat tire. The VoIP system allows multiple operators to handle a high volume of calls simultaneously without a busy signal.
- **Lost Riders:** Family members or course marshals call in to report a participant who hasn't reached a checkpoint.
- **SIP Trunking:** Using the **Cellular Modem** as the data backbone, the VoIP bank remains operational even if local landlines are down, ensuring the command center is reachable from any cell phone on the course.

## 2. Documentation: Event Logging Workstations

As soon as a call is answered, the information is processed at the **three computer workstations**. These are networked together so all operators see real-time "live feed" of the event status.

- **Data Entry:** Operators log the rider's bib number, GPS location (or nearest mile marker), and the specific nature of the problem (e.g., "Broken chain" or "Last seen at Rest Stop 2"). APRS locations are used to find SAG or Sweep vehicles near the participant.
- **Resource Tracking:** The software tracks which SAG vehicles or medical units are currently busy and which are "Clear" for the next assignment.

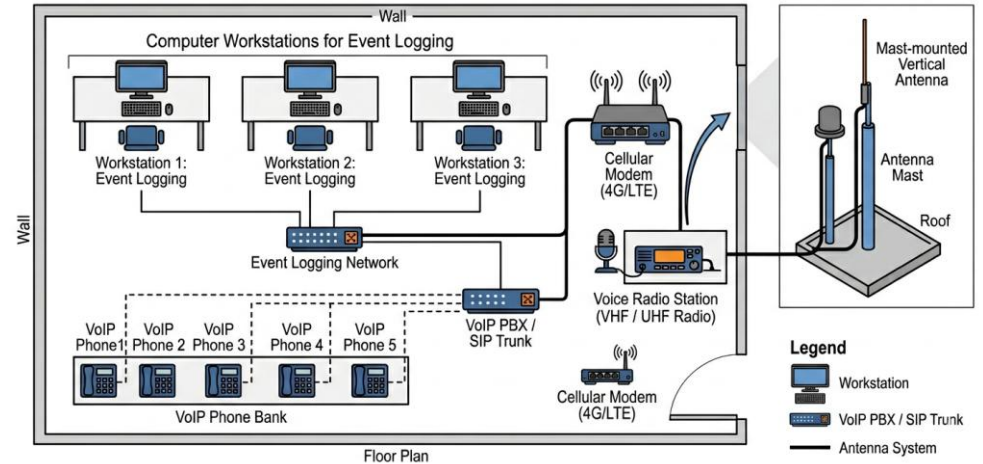
## 3. Dispatch: The Voice Radio Station

Once a request is logged and prioritized, it moves to the **Voice Radio Station**. This is the bridge between the digital command center and the physical field.

- **VHF/UHF Coordination:** The radio operator uses the high-gain **mast-mounted vertical antenna** to broadcast over the entire course area.
- **Tasking:** The operator calls the mobile unit nearest to the incident: "SAG 1, we have a mechanical at Mile 24. Participant 402 needs a tube change."
- **Critical Safety:** If a "Lost Rider" report comes in, the radio operator can instantly alert all course marshals and sweep vehicles on a single frequency to begin a coordinated search.

By using the **Cellular Modem**, this entire operation may be set up remote from the internet backbone. If the command center needs to move to a different segment of the event, the network (VoIP and Logging) stays intact as long as there is a cellular signal to provide the "cloud" connection for the phones and data sync.

## W2EOC HAM RADIO COMMAND CENTER DIAGRAM



Our 2026 event schedule is shown on the next page. Visit [https://rochesterham.org/public\\_service.htm](https://rochesterham.org/public_service.htm) for more information or to sign up to work an event.



Robert Hobday N2EVG

# 2026 RARA Public Service Events

## May

Tour de Cure	Stokoe Farms	Saturday	Jun. 6, 2026
Adirondack Expo	Mendon Ponds	Saturday	Jun. 13, 2026
MS Roc the Ride Great Lakes	Lakeside State Park	Saturday	Aug. 8, 2026
Mammoth March	Letchworth State Park	Saturday	Aug. 8, 2026
ILLW Day 1	Charlotte Genesee Lighthouse	Saturday	Aug. 15, 2026
ILLW Day 2	Charlotte Genesee Lighthouse	Sunday	Aug. 16, 2026
Wilmot Warrior Weekend	Xerox Webster	Sunday	Sep. 20, 2026
Fairport Liftbridge Regatta	Perinton Park	Saturday	Sep. 26, 2026
JOTA and/or CTC	Camp Cutler Naples	Saturday	Oct. 17, 2026
Pumpkin Patrol Oct 30	Overpasses of the New York State Thruway	Friday	Oct. 30, 2026
Pumpkin Patrol Oct 31	Overpasses of the New York State Thruway	Saturday	Oct. 31, 2026
Maker Faire	Gordon Field House RIT?	Saturday	Nov. 14, 2026



Peter Fournia W2SKY

# HELLO FROM THE 2026 ROCHESTER HAMFEST COMMITTEE!

It's official, we'll be back for another year at the Barnard Fire Department Park, 410 Maiden Ln, Rochester, NY 14616 from 7:00AM to 2:00PM.

We need you to make it happen!

Volunteering includes a food voucher as well as a RARA T-Shirt.

Volunteers who are not RARA members will also receive free admission to the festival.

Assignment preference will be given in the order that people sign up. Do so today to get your preferred assignment!

Here are some areas where we will need volunteers:

Friday

- A few hours in the afternoon
- Arranging Tables and Chairs in the various tents
- Marking out flea market and free parking areas
- Running power and setting up PA systems

Saturday

- Various shifts from 5:30am to 4:00pm
- Ticket sales
- Traffic and Parking guidance
- Raffle Desk
- Country Store
- Teardown and Cleanup



Please use this form to sign up: <https://forms.gle/Lcj1jsay5Zstgsqy9>

Note: For VE, Talk-In, or TechTalks, please only sign up for those areas if you have been in touch with the captains of those areas.

Please mark all times or tasks for which you are available and leave a comment such as "Interested in working one 2-hour shift. Prefer morning". We'll try to honor your preferences, especially for those who sign up soonest. A few weeks before the event, we'll send an e-mail to all volunteers to confirm that they are okay with their slots.



A big component of our education program is our RARA Academy, run by Aaron KE2DYI. His accompanying articles describe our recent outreach effort at the University of Rochester, as well as several upcoming academies on satellite operations and digital modes. If you have an idea for a workshop or in-depth discussion of a particular topic, please contact Aaron at [academy@rochesterham.org](mailto:academy@rochesterham.org).

Aaron also coordinates our *Elmer's Corner*, a two-hour online forum for questions, answers, sharing experiences, and exchange of information. See his article on Elmer's Corner for a recap of the most recent, and information about the upcoming Elmer's Corner.



## HANDS-ON EVENT FOR NEW-ISH HAMS: SATURDAY 16 MAY

For those who recently earned their license or are curious about some aspects of this hobby that's really 99 hobbies, this event is for you. How recent? It's entirely up to you.

And if you have a skill to share with fellow hams, please consider being a presenter or demonstrator. In the past, we've had people demonstrate how to get on HF, working portable, digital modes, fox (transmitter) hunting, antenna construction and deployment, and Morse. Need your handheld radio programmed? We can program it with Rochester area repeaters.

We'll be holding this event on Saturday, 16 May, 11 AM until 2 PM at East Lodge in Mendon Ponds Park. (That shelter is only one of two at Mendon Ponds that has both parking and is one that we can activate POTA from.) Please email [education@rochesterham.org](mailto:education@rochesterham.org) if you'd like to find out more, whether as a new-ish ham, a presenter, or both. And, as we said earlier, we leave it up to you to define "new-ish."

## LICENSING/UPGRADE COURSES

RARA holds free, regular courses to assist those seeking their initial license in the Amateur service, as well as courses for licensed amateurs who wish to upgrade their license to General and Amateur Extra. Our licensing and upgrade courses are held using Zoom. Internet connections are more robust with respect to our Western New York winters than the public highways; since we switched to online courses in 2020, we haven't had a single weather-related cancellation!

Our courses have finished for the season. We'll be starting them back up in the fall. Typical meeting times (on Zoom) are 6-8 PM, with the entry-level Technician course meeting Tuesday evenings, General on Thursdays, and Amateur Extra on Mondays. Watch this space in the coming months for updates.

## LICENSING AND UPGRADE TEXTS

Technician: *The ARRL Ham Radio License Manual*, new edition coming out late spring

General: *The ARRL General Class License Manual*, 10th edition

Amateur Extra: TBD

We offer texts for our courses at discounted prices. We currently have copies of the texts for our General course available for the discounted price \$25 each (the cost from ARRL is \$38, including shipping). At this price, we can't deliver them, so to get the discounted price, you must acquire them at a monthly RARA meeting or arrange to pick one up. When the new edition of the text for the Technician course becomes available, we shall order a few copies and offer them at the same discounted price. Information regarding the text for the Amateur Extra upgrade course will be provided soon.

Interest in a RARA Academy session focused on **satellite operations** continues to grow following recent discussions during an Elmer's Corner. I've connected with **Greg Golden (WB2YZG)**, who is active with the **Radio Amateur Satellite Corporation (AMSAT)** community in Upstate New York. Greg has expressed interest in helping coordinate a hands-on session once the weather warms up. Operating satellites is often a portable activity, and Greg brings practical experience that should make for an engaging and educational session for anyone curious about working satellites.

**Call to Action:**

If you'd like to participate in a future **satellite-tracking Academy session**, please email [academy@rochesterham.org](mailto:academy@rochesterham.org). Let us know if you're interested in learning the basics, operating satellites for the first time, or helping demonstrate equipment.

**Update:** Thanks for your emails! With the weather looking up, I'm planning to get something together.

**ADS-B BUILD WITH U OF R MAKERS — A HUGE SUCCESS!**

Members of RARA had an incredible time partnering with the University of Rochester Makers on April 12 for a hands-on ADS-B build session that was equal parts learning, experimentation, and pure fun. Aviation in Rochester (AIR) also joined in, bringing even more energy and collaboration to the room.

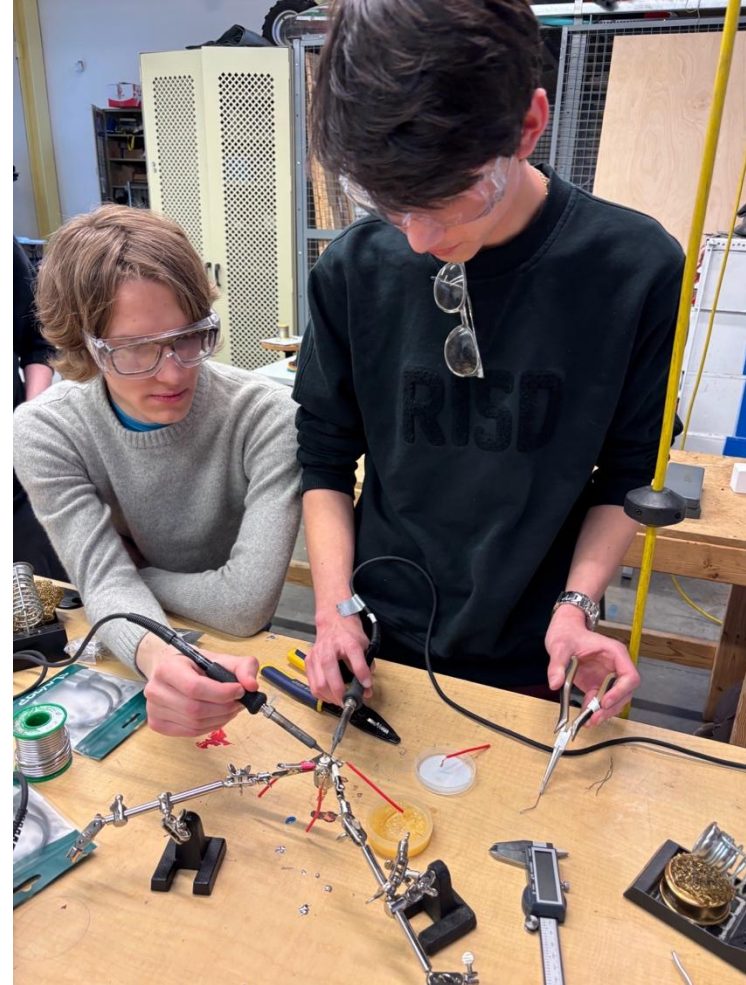
We kicked things off with an introduction to amateur radio—covering licensing, the purpose of RARA, and how newcomers can get involved—before diving into ADS-B fundamentals. A key takeaway for everyone in attendance: whether you're working



Aaron Rombaut – KE2DYI giving a presentation.

HF, VHF, or 1090 MHz... *an antenna is an antenna*. The same core principles apply, and this event brought those concepts to life in a very real way.

For many of the students, this was their first time ever picking up a soldering iron—and they jumped right in.



Two students holding soldering irons on an N-Type panel mount connector

What made this session especially memorable was the true “maker spirit” on display. The group quickly discovered that the available tools weren't ideal—only pencil-tip irons and plumbing solder were on hand. Not exactly what you'd spec for RF connector work. But instead of slowing down, the team adapted, improvised, and pushed forward.



In true maker fashion, they engineered a solution and made it work.

Despite running into material limitations—including not having enough solder and lacking optimal tips—grit and perseverance carried the day. The end result? A fully assembled antenna and a room full of *excited* participants who not only learned something new but *built something with their own hands*.

#### **SPECIAL RECOGNITION**

This event *would not have been possible* without the outstanding support of **Mark Thompson (K2AY)**. Mark brought far more than just equipment—providing a NanoVNA, building materials, detailed images, EZ-NEC models, and deep technical knowledge. His willingness to mentor, guide, and engage with participants made a lasting impact on everyone in the room. Simply put, having Mark there elevated the entire experience.

#### **WHY YOU SHOULD JOIN THE NEXT RARA ACADEMY SESSION**

If you weren't there—you missed a great one!

But more importantly, you missed:

- Hands-on RF learning
- Real antenna builds
- Collaboration across multiple clubs
- The chance to experiment, fail, adapt, and succeed

The good news: this is just the beginning. RARA Academy is continuing to build momentum with more sessions planned, including digital radio training and additional maker-style workshops.

Come out, get involved, and be part of it next time!

#### **FROM THE COMMUNITY: DIGITAL RADIO LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES**

There has been strong interest in **Paul Conaway's (KD2DO)** offer to host additional digital radio training sessions. I will work with Paul to coordinate upcoming sessions. While there has been discussion of holding classes at the Antique Wireless Association classroom in Bloomfield, several members have also expressed interest in a remote option. This would allow participants to join using collaboration tools and operate directly from their own stations.

#### **CALL TO ACTION (CONTINUING)**

If you would like to see a **RARA Academy session focused on digital radio**, or if there is a specific topic you would like to learn more about, please *continue to* contact: [academy@rochesterham.org](mailto:academy@rochesterham.org)

Let us know which topics interest you most so we can begin organizing upcoming digital radio workshops.

**ELMER'S CORNER**  
AARON ROMBAUT KE2DYI

#### **WHAT IS ELMER'S CORNER?**

Elmer's Corner is an informal, discussion-based forum intended to support learning, mentoring, and shared experience within Amateur Radio. In ham radio tradition, an Elmer is an experienced operator who helps guide others—whether newcomers or seasoned hams—by sharing practical knowledge, operating techniques, and historical perspective.

The sessions are designed to be conversational rather than instructional, encouraging questions, storytelling, and peer-to-peer learning across all license classes and areas of interest.

Elmer's Corner is hosted and moderated by Aaron (KE2DYI) and is open to all members.

## APRIL ELMER'S CORNER RECAP

### BOTTOM LINE UP FRONT

Elmer's Corner was an informal, discussion-driven session focused on practical antenna/feedline design, current operating trends (notably reduced repeater activity), and upcoming club/maker events, especially the ADS-B build. The session emphasized hands-on learning, experimentation, and community knowledge sharing over formal instruction.

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This Elmer's Corner session unfolded as a conversational exchange among experienced operators, blending practical RF guidance with reflections on how the hobby continues to evolve. A central thread was hands-on antenna and feedline design, where participants worked through real installation challenges—routing coax, transitioning to ladder line, and selecting appropriate materials for outdoor use. The guidance was grounded in field experience: stranded ladder line is preferred for durability, wider conductor spacing reduces loss, and it is often better to deploy a simple solution first and refine it later. The discussion reinforced a recurring theme in amateur radio—real-world performance and incremental improvement matter more than theoretical perfection.

The conversation also highlighted a noticeable shift in operating patterns. Travel-based monitoring revealed that VHF/UHF bands, once highly active, are now comparatively quiet, with most repeater traffic limited to automated beacons. Participants attributed this decline largely to the ubiquity of mobile phones, which have displaced casual radio communication. However, there was agreement that activity still spikes around events such as hamfests, where shared enthusiasm and new equipment naturally drive on-air engagement. In contrast, APRS continues to demonstrate strong adoption and infrastructure density, even across regions, underscoring its ongoing relevance for tracking and data exchange.

A forward-looking portion of the session focused on community outreach and education, particularly the ADS-B maker event. This effort represents a collaborative, multi-group initiative aimed at introducing RF concepts through a receive-only project—building antennas, using SDR (Software Defined Radio), and exploring filtering techniques. The approach reflects a deliberate strategy: lower the barrier to entry, emphasize experimentation, and connect theory to observable results. By comparing DIY builds against commercial off-the-shelf solutions, participants aim to create a measurable, engaging learning experience for students, many of whom have strong engineering backgrounds.

Throughout the session, the tone remained consistent with the spirit of Elmer's Corner—peer mentoring, shared problem-solving, and practical knowledge transfer. Whether discussing feedline losses, band activity trends, or historical context from

organizations like the AWA, the underlying value was clear: learning is most effective when it is collaborative, experience-based, and immediately applicable.

### KEY TAKEAWAYS

#### RF / TECHNICAL

- Use **stranded ladder line outdoors**; solid conductors will fatigue and break.
- **Wider conductor spacing** → lower loss in feedlines.
- Start simple (e.g., ladder line), then iterate (e.g., upgrade to 600  $\Omega$ ).
- **Band-pass filters are critical** for SDR (RTL-SDR) due to wideband front ends and adjacent interference (e.g., cellular, paging).

#### OPERATING TRENDS

- VHF/UHF voice activity is significantly lower than past decades.
- Events and gatherings still drive localized spikes in activity.
- **APRS remains widely deployed and active**, even internationally.

#### PRACTICAL SETUP

- Routing coax externally with proper transition (balun outside) is preferred.
- Temporary/portable antenna setups (non-permanent mounts) are viable and common.
- Environmental factors (wind, moisture, grounding) matter more than ideal theory.

#### COMMUNITY / EDUCATION

- Hands-on builds (ADS-B, antennas) are highly effective for engagement.
- Cross-club collaboration increases participation and impact.
- Teaching RF concepts without requiring transmission (receive-only) is a strong entry path.

#### JOIN THE CONVERSATION

Elmer's Corner meets on the **Saturday following the general meeting each month at 10:00 AM Eastern** and is open to anyone interested in learning more about amateur radio. Whether you are newly licensed or have decades of experience, the session provides a place to share ideas, ask questions, and explore the many aspects of the hobby.

#### DISCLAIMER:

This summary was generated by analyzing an audio transcript that was provided and processed using ChatGPT. It is based solely on the text content of that transcript and may not fully reflect tone, nuance, or context beyond what was captured in the recording.

## MAY ELMER'S CORNER

The next Elmer's Corner is scheduled for Saturday, May 9, 2026, at 10 AM.



**Topic:** RARA Elmer's Corner

**Time:** May 9, 2026, 10:00 AM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

### Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89478401962?pwd=XjgYqZGChsvu6nERFPbbLuw1gHGNP.1>

**Meeting ID:** 894 7840 1962

**Passcode:** 471392

## ELMER'S CORNER – GOING FORWARD

**Frequency:** Elmer's Corner will continue monthly.

**Primary Schedule:** When general club meetings are in session, Elmer's Corner will be held on the **Saturday following the general meeting.**

**Fallback Schedule:** During months without a general meeting, Elmer's Corner will be held on the **second weekend of the month.**

**Participation:** All members are encouraged to attend, bring questions or discussion topics, and consider participating as **guest contributors** to help broaden discussion and engagement. Please email [elmerscorner@rochesterham.org](mailto:elmerscorner@rochesterham.org) to be added to the mailing list today!



Keith Freeberg N2BEL



Reprinted Courtesy May 1935 QST

### Silent Key

FRED L SHIPPEY  
WA2BQA  
March 29, 2026

## MORSE CODE TRAINING

DAVE WILSON WA2HOY, RXCWG COORDINATOR

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

### MORSE PRACTICE FOR ALL LEVELS ON ZOOM

Tim Brown WB2PAY, hosts code practice for all levels on Monday evenings at 7:00 PM.

Register by emailing: [tjbrown@rochester.rr.com](mailto:tjbrown@rochester.rr.com)

Those wanting to start into CW QSOs and Morse Code can schedule coaching sessions on Zoom. Contact Peter Fournia W2SKY for further details.

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

CW Elmers			
Name	Call	Area	Email
Ned Asam	W2NED	Pittsford	<a href="mailto:w2ned@frontiernet.net">w2ned@frontiernet.net</a>
Tim Brown	WB2PAY	Ogden	<a href="mailto:tjbrown@rochester.rr.com">tjbrown@rochester.rr.com</a>
Pete Fournia	W2SKY	Penfield	<a href="mailto:pfournia@gmail.com">pfournia@gmail.com</a>
Bill Hopkins	AA2YV	Brighton	<a href="mailto:whopkin4@naz.edu">whopkin4@naz.edu</a>
Bob Karz	K2OID	Webster	<a href="mailto:rkarz@alum.mit.edu">rkarz@alum.mit.edu</a>
Joe Rowe	AG2Y	Webster	<a href="mailto:ag2y66@gmail.com">ag2y66@gmail.com</a>
Harry Williams	KF2TV	Kingsland, GA	<a href="mailto:harryw7872@gmail.com">harryw7872@gmail.com</a>

RADIO ELMERS			
Name	Call	Area	Email
Tim Brown	WB2PAY	Ogden	<a href="mailto:tjbrown@rochester.rr.com">tjbrown@rochester.rr.com</a>
Dave Carlson	N2OA	Batavia	<a href="mailto:kdcarlso@gmail.com">kdcarlso@gmail.com</a>
Lawrence Hill	N2AJX	Henrietta	<a href="mailto:lawrence.hill@rit.edu">lawrence.hill@rit.edu</a>
Rich Hoffarth	K2AXP		<a href="mailto:rhoffarth2000@yahoo.com">rhoffarth2000@yahoo.com</a>
Bill Kasperkoski	WB2SXY	Pittsford	<a href="mailto:wb2sxy@gmail.com">wb2sxy@gmail.com</a>
Don Kiser	AC2EV	N Greece	<a href="mailto:dkiser100@gmail.com">dkiser100@gmail.com</a>
Karl Heinz Kremer	K5KHK	Chili	<a href="mailto:k5khk@khk.net">k5khk@khk.net</a>
Tim Magee	WB2KAO	Greece	585-704-5747
Mike Moore	KC2NM		<a href="mailto:mikemoore14534@gmail.com">mikemoore14534@gmail.com</a>
Peter Schuch	WB2UAQ	Perinton	<a href="mailto:pschuch@rochester.rr.com">pschuch@rochester.rr.com</a>
Forest Shick	WA2MZG	Webster	<a href="mailto:fshick3@gmail.com">fshick3@gmail.com</a>
Dave Timmons	W2DST	N Greece	<a href="mailto:dstimmons@gmail.com">dstimmons@gmail.com</a>
Steve Verzulli	KA1CNF	Walworth	<a href="mailto:verzulli@yahoo.com">verzulli@yahoo.com</a>
Dan Waterstraat	W2DEW	Henrietta	<a href="mailto:higreen@rochester.rr.com">higreen@rochester.rr.com</a>

W1AW On The Air CW Practice						SLOW - 5, 7 1/2, 10, 13 and 15 wpm
Time	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	
9 AM		Fast	Slow	Fast	Slow	FAST - 35, 30, 25, 20, 15, 13 and 10 wpm
4 PM	Fast	Slow	Fast	Slow	Fast	
7 PM	Slow	Fast	Slow	Fast	Slow	FREQ(MHz) - 1.8025, 3.5815, 7.0475, 14.0475, 18.0975, 21.0675, 28.0675, 50.350, 147.555
10 PM	Fast	Slow	Fast	Slow	Fast	

VE Test Results							
<b>Christopher Bigelow</b>	T					<b>Robert Brumfield</b>	G
Jeffery Fuller	E	KE2ELI				Ralph Lyman	E KE2HMG
<b>Nick Martin</b>	T					<b>Ronald Torrelli</b>	T
Mete Turhan	G	KE2HSB				<b>Prabhu Pranav</b>	T
Robert Brumfield	E	KE2RDB				Richard Conley	G KE2CFF
Michael Carrier	E	AD2MT				Vincent DiPrimo	E AD2MU
Michael Enes	G	KB3YRH				<b>Benjamin Giordano</b>	T
Nick Martin	G	KE2ICV				<b>James Mitchell</b>	T
<b>James O'Neil</b>	T					Mete Turhan	E AD2MV
John Young	G	KE2GGM					

NEW LICENSEES' NAMES ARE IN **BOLD**

**VE TESTING**  
DON KISER AC2EV

Our room has been confirmed, and we will be testing at our "normal" location this season.

The session will be held in the Skalny room located in the Schmitt Interfaith building.

- Testing starts at 10:00 AM.
- Be sure to bring
  - Photo ID
  - Pen
  - Pencil
  - 4-function calculator (no phones)

You can sign up at Hamstudy.org. This ensures you have a FRN and have a spot reserved. Failing to pre-register may result in your exam not being submitted at the session.

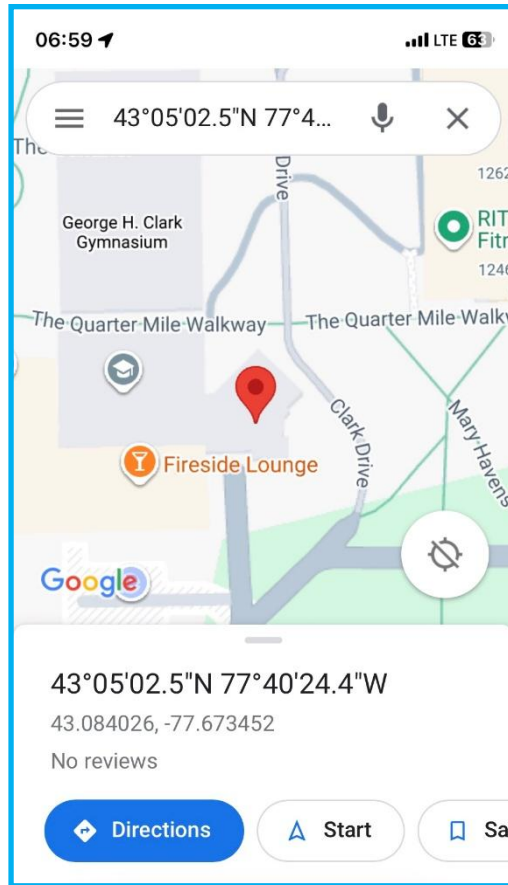
<https://hamstudy.org/sessions>

And search by Zip code 14624

Testing sessions are:  
3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of each month  
September - April

Sign up for the exam at:

<https://hamstudy.org/sessions/68b6d15e3ab72ac0e25bbfd0/1>



**April Meeting Raffle Winners**



Stan Hazen K2SSB

# BOB KESTER, K2JJT, SK

GARY SKUSE KA1NJL

It was with profound sadness that I read of the passing of Bob Kester, K2JJT. Bob was a regular at the DCAP Saturday morning breakfasts in Fairport for decades and a founding member of that club. I first met Bob in the late 1980's when packet radio was demonstrating how we could communicate digitally via amateur radio, CW notwithstanding, and we were all abuzz with excitement over the prospect of accessing information wirelessly from anywhere. Bob was active in that phase of the hobby and before long it was clear to me that he was an incessant experimenter. In my eyes, he embodied what I consider to be a real ham, tinkering with anything and everything and perpetually curious. Before he stopped joining our breakfast group some months ago because of his failing health, he would routinely mention challenges he was facing with his computers at home. It wasn't uncommon for Bob to say something like "I have a computer at home that boots into MS DOS, Windows XP, Windows 95, Windows10 and four different distributions of Linux and I'm having trouble accessing the USB port from one of those OSs". I didn't ask him why he made things so complicated because it was clear that he was likely to respond "why not?"

Bob had been retired from Gleason Works when I met him but he occasionally talked about his work there. Once, he told me that the mainframe computer at Gleason wouldn't do what the company needed so he wrote a new operating system for it that addressed their needs. Why not? Bob was an incessant experimenter. His attitude was "if it doesn't work, I'll make it work". I learned a long time ago that when Bob talked, I should listen because I was almost certainly going to learn something. I've missed Bob for months because he couldn't join our weekly gatherings but I held out hope that I would see him again. That didn't happen but now I am confident that his health issues are behind him and as a Silent Key he is somewhere else experimenting with something or other and enriching others with the bottomless wealth of knowledge he possessed and generously shared.



Rick Wells W2RW

Pass it forward  
by donating your radio  
or accessory to RARA.



We will make sure it finds a good home.  
You will get a tax-deductible receipt  
and the satisfaction that comes with  
doing good for others.

Call 585-210-8910 or email  
[Secretary@RochesterHam.org](mailto:Secretary@RochesterHam.org).

RARA is an IRS 501.c.3 non-profit      Consult with your tax advisor.



## the RARA RAG

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MAY 1986

NO. 9

### PUBLIC/EMERGENCY SERVICE - 1986 ARES/RACES

by Ed Holdsworth, N2EH

The annual rush is on! We have already received ten requests for assistance with communications for the months ahead and I anticipate a few more before the end of the year. We will be working on several repeats from past years and a new one that was recently added.

The events we will be working on as of this issue of the RAG are:

Susquehannock Pro Road Rally	June 7-8
Mendon Pony Club Rally	June 14-15
Scotch Bonnet Yacht Race	June 20-21
Walnut Hill Driving Competition	Aug. 14-17
Empire State Games (Buffalo)	Aug.
GINNA Pre Drill	Aug. 30
Palmyra Canal Town Days	Sept. 13-14
Diabetes Bike-A-Thon	Sept. 21
10K Human Race/JCC	Sept. 21
GINNA Drill	Sept. 10

I already have many people signed up to work on these events but there is still room on most if you would like to participate. I am sure that we will have an enjoyable time on all as we usually do, so if you have not worked on one before - sign up now don't be disappointed.

I also want to point out that the staff of the local ARES/RACES organization have been working on many things in addition to Public Service Events, to maintain our ability to respond in any emergency. We have continued to maintain our liaison with the American Red Cross. All local hospitals and the local Office of Emergency Preparedness.

The Section Manager for Western New York, Bill Thompson, W2MTA, with the Section Emergency Coordinator, Chuck Johansen, KB2KW, conduct a meeting at least once a year for all WNY Section ARES/RACES officials. This meeting is to keep local appointees apprised of happenings in the section as well as what has been going on in the Emergency Services around the division.

### CABLE TV TOPIC OF RARA MEETING ANNUAL MEETING - MAY 2nd

*Cable TV Leakage, the Two-Way Street* is the topic of the program for the May meeting of RaRa, Friday, May 2nd, 8 p.m. at the 40/8 Club, 933 University Avenue.

Earl Houseknecht, Vice-President of Greater Rochester Cablevision will present this interesting and informative program and lead the discussion that is sure to follow. This is one area that is beginning to affect all Hams, so don't miss this one!

Also at this annual corporation meeting, we will be voting for officers and directors and for the dues structure for next year.

We will also have our monthly awards program and our resident chef, George Muller, WA2IEO, will dazzle us with his spread of coffee, cocoa and donuts. Don't miss this last meeting of the season. And don't forget that Hamfest tickets will be available at the meeting! See you there.

Pictured below are those that attended the latest meeting held in Vestal, NY on Saturday, April 5, 1986.



Back row: N2EH, K2UW, WA2UGE.  
Front row: K2MP, KA2J, WA2CER.  
Missing: WB2UTI



## the RARA RAG

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VOL. 58

MAY, 2006

NO. 9

### Projects, Annual Vote and Summer Public Service

By Bill Kasperkoski, WB2SXY  
Vice-President, RARA

All of us have bread-boarded a circuit to test it now and again. Some of us do this scientific test better than others; Dr. Jerry Svoboda, KB2QIU, has made an art form of bread-boarding. When not working QRP CW, KB2QIU builds. You've seen the highly varnished single tube transmitters, receivers and power supplies that Jerry has built at the auctions, hamfests, and on the cover of the October, 1999 /QST/. Now you can see his latest projects up close while KB2QIU discusses his process and ideas about the projects.

RARA's Annual Meeting, the election of your Board of Directors and Officers occurs this May 5th; nominations will be taken from the floor, or if you or a friend would like to run for office, please leave a message at 764-0312.

This summer's public service events will be discussed and all will have a chance to question Keith Freeberg, N2BEL, on their pet public service project.

Come to the RARA General Membership and Annual Meeting: 7:30pm May 5, 2006 at the Henrietta Fire Station #1 - Lehigh Station and East Henrietta Roads in Henrietta.

### RaRa Annual Meeting

May 5, 2006  
7:30 P.M.

Henrietta Fire Hall #1  
3129 East Henrietta Road  
Public Service by N2BEL &  
Bread Board Circuits by  
Dr. Jerry Svoboda, KB2QIU

### Joint Comedy RARA & RRRA Summer Picnic

By Bill Kasperkoski, WB2SXY  
Vice-President, RARA

CQ all hams, XYL's and Harmonics to Ellison Park on June 17 for an afternoon of grilling, gaming and gaffawing. This year's theme is: "Stand-Up (to the Mike) Comedy Time," so all you W2-area jokesters (and wannabees) bring your latest material - or use ours - to tryout on a (semi-?) friendly crowd! I know, I know, five thousand comedians out of work and we'll have all of them right there at the picnic!

This year's get-together will be at Creekside Lodge, one of our favorite spots. Hots, condiments, munchies and soft drinks will be provided. We ask that you bring a dish to pass (salads or deserts etc.) Frisbees, entertainment and doorprizes will be available starting at 12 Noon local time. Talk-in on the '88 repeater system, and in-park on 146.52.

### Monroe County LEPC

The next meeting of Monroe County Local Emergency Planning Committee will be held on Wednesday morning May 10, 2006 at 8:30 AM at the Public Safety Training Facility, 1190 Scottsville Road in the OEP, Suite 200.

The meeting is open to the public and all are welcome. Please sign in as an amateur radio guest; coffee and doughnuts will be served.

Rochester Hamfest  
June 2-3-4, 2006

RaRa Hotline  
(585) 442-0587  
24 hours a day

## 20 Years Ago, May 2006

We again hear from Bill Kasperkoski, WB2SXY, as he dominates the front cover, telling what greets members at the next meeting and beyond. He leads off this issue by introducing Dr. Jerry Svoboda, KB2QIU, who will entertain and educate all attendees on something he has turned into an art form: breadboarding electrical circuitry. Many of you have seen Dr. Svoboda's work on display at previous meetings, hamfests, and the like. Rarely do we have in our midst a magazine cover winner, but see the Cover of the October 1999 QST, and there we are. Don't miss this one. The May 5<sup>th</sup> meeting at the Henrietta Fire Hall is also scheduled as RARA's Annual Meeting, where the election of Officers and Board of Directors will take place. Nominees were announced in this issue of the Rag, and nominations will be taken from the floor. Finally, on this busy night, RARA's Public Service Manager, Keith Freeberg (sk) N2BEL, will discuss planned activities for the year.

I, your author, missed this gathering, but I think it could have been a lot of fun. Bill Kasperkoski WB2SXY, continues his writings, announcing RARA's Summer Picnic, an always-popular event. This year is a try-out for a new picnic venture, as the theme is "Stand Up (to the Mike) Comedy Time." There, all of you stand-up comedy wannabes can bring your latest material and try out in front of a semi-friendly crowd. Rotten tomato throwing might have been a secondary happening. Creekside Lodge is the venue where good food is guaranteed, along with summer fun and frolic, and maybe a Frisbee or two.

The RARA nominating committee offered the following slate: Vice-President James DiTucci N2IXD, Treasurer George Masny KA2GPJ, The following were nominated to the RARA Board of Directors: James Stefano W2COP, Ross Mazzola KC2LOC, Raj Dewan N2RD, Larry Wallnau W2ZEY, Peter Pryzlock K2LOL, and John Kueken KE2QJ. Each nominee had a Biography published. Election results will be published next month when the results have been tabulated.

This year's annual AWA Spring meet will be on May 6<sup>th</sup> 8:00 a.m., at the Bloomfield Elementary School, wrote Ed Gable K2MP/W2AN, then Curator of the AWA Museum. The full-day event offered indoor and outdoor Flea Markets, an auction, talks and demonstrations, and continuous screening of vintage films. Twenty years later, this event is still going strong, always on the first Saturday in May, across the road from the museum.

Raj Dewan N2RJ, RARA Testing Director, wrote to announce there would be no testing in May as previously announced. The reason, you ask. It turns out Dayton, Ohio scheduled to have a little event on the same day, of all the nerve, and Raj let them have it.

There were no Silent Keys listed in this issue, nor were there any Want Ads, due to printing space issues with all the included Biographies. Glenwood Sales at 594 Hague Street, selling new and surplus electronic parts, remained a long-time supporter of RARA with their years of paid advertising.

## 40 Years Ago, May 1986

Program Chairman Dick Goslee (sk) K2VCZ, observed that common coffee table and workshop conversations often contained the phrase or topic of Cable Television. We all heard of it, we all wanted it, but common, shareable knowledge of the subject was lacking. "I'm gonna fix that," Goslee said, and found that knowledge in the person of Earl Houseknecht, Vice President of *Greater Rochester Cablevision*. Who would become the speaker at the May 2<sup>nd</sup> RARA meeting, also scheduled as RARA's annual business meeting.

The main business topic was always the election of Officers and Board members for the following year. This year's nominating committee, consisting of Bill March (sk) WA2CER, as Chairman, along with Irv Goodman AF2K and Ed Gable K2MP, offered the following slate. Vice-President Bud Young (sk) WA2UGE, Secretary Keith Freeberg (sk) N2BEL and Dave Bernheisel N2DPF as Treasurer. Just a reminder as to why the membership never votes for the new President. The RARA By-Laws state that the person who is voted in as Vice-President will automatically be named President the following year. This is done to assure continuity in leadership from year to year and seems to have worked well for 95 years.

Ed Holdsworth (sk) N2EH, RARA Activities Chairman, penned a lengthy article telling of planned events for the year, and it will be a busy calendar for the many RARA members who partake in public Service work. Ed told of these gatherings: STPR road rally in Pennsylvania, Mendon Pony Club, Scotch Bonnet yacht race, Walnut Hill horse trials, Empire State games, Ginna Drill, Diabetes bike-a-thon and the JCC 10k Human Race. This is an amazing list of significant public service events that RARA should be proud to be a major part of.

RARA has always been a supporter of Amateur Radio's leadership organization, the American Radio Relay League. This year the ARRL's annual League meeting of Field Officials was held in Vestal NY where local ARRL officials from Western New York gathered to conduct business. The meeting was called by ARRL WNY Section Communications Officer Bill Thompson (sk) W2MTA. Those officials participating from this area included Ed Holdsworth (sk) N2EH, Ed Gable K2MP, Rich Koehn K2UW, Bud Young (sk) WA2UGE, David Payne KA2J, Bill March (sk) WA2CER, and Gil Chapin (sk) WB2UTI.

The ARRL announced that RARA, designated by them as a *Special Service Club*, was authorized to recommend to them the appointment of a local Card Checker to administer ARRL operating awards of WAS and VUCC. RARA appointed Ed Gable K2MP, to that position and he has been performing that role for 40 years. Later, his position was elevated to entrust his work with the DXCC award, and yet again, a little later, to administer 160-meter cards within the DXCC system, both positions requiring high trust and dedication.

Ed Kohl WA2UBD, wrote telling of plans for the RARA Memorial Day Camp out to be held at the Canandaigua KOA campground on May 23 through the 26<sup>th</sup>. At this time, RARA had a rather large group of campers who enjoyed each other's company and companionship, but no mention of radio was ever made.

There were no Silent Keys listed, nor were there any Want Ads or commercial advertising. Just wasn't a thing yet.

# RARA CALENDAR

TIM BARRETT K9VB, RARA VICE PRESIDENT & MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

## May 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					<b>1</b> K1USN Speed Test AGCW QRP/QRP Party RCC Cup	<b>2</b> <b>AWA Spring Meet / Auction</b> ARI DX Contest (Italy) Microwave Spring Sprint SBMS 2.3GHz and up Contest 7 <sup>th</sup> Call Area QSO Party IN, DE, New Eng QSO Parties F9AA Cup, PSK
<b>3</b> ARI DX Contest (Italy) Microwave Spring Sprint SBMS 2.3GHz and up Contest 7 <sup>th</sup> Call Area QSO Party IN, DE, New Eng QSO Parties F9AA Cup, PSK WAB 7 MHz Phone	<b>5</b> <b>AWA Net 145.110 MHz, 7pm</b> <b>VHF Group 9pm 144.260 SSB</b> ICWC Medium Speed Test OK1WC Memorial WW Sideband Activity Contest ARS Spartan Sprint	<b>5</b> Phone Weekly Test	<b>6</b> <b>RaRa Monthly Mtg BSA &amp; ONLINE 7pm</b> <b>ROC City Net ~3.830 MHz, 7p</b> A1 Club AWT CWOps Test VHF/UHF FT8 Activity Contest Mini Test 40, 80 Walk for the Bacon Contest	<b>7</b> <b>RARA BoD Mtg 6:30pm</b> <b>ARES Net 146.610 MHz, 7pm</b> <b>VHF Group 9pm 50.205 USB</b> NRAU 10m Activity Contest SKCC Sprint (Europe) NCCC FT4 Sprint Weekly RTTY Test NCCC Sprint	<b>8</b> K1USN Speed Test	<b>9</b> Volta WW RTTY Contest CQ-M Int DX Contest SKCC Sprintathon 50MHz Spring Sprint Canadian Prairies QSO Party
<b>10</b> Volta WW RTTY Contest CQ-M Int DX Contest SKCC Sprintathon 50MHz Spring Sprint Canadian Prairies QSO Party	<b>11</b> <b>AWA Net 145.110 MHz, 7pm</b> <b>VHF Group 9pm 144.260 SSB</b> ICWC Medium Speed Test OK1WC Memorial WW Sideband Activity Contest RSGB 80m Club Champ, SSB	<b>12</b> Phone Weekly Test DARC FT4 Contest	<b>13</b> <b>ROC City Net ~3.830 MHz, 7p</b> A1 Club AWT CWOps Test VHF/UHF FT8 Activity Contest Mini Test 40, 80	<b>14</b> <b>ARES Net 146.610 MHz, 7pm</b> <b>VHF Group 9pm 50.205 USB</b> NCCC FT4 Sprint Weekly RTTY Test NCCC Sprint QRP Minimal Art Session	<b>15</b> <b>Dayton Hamvention</b> K1USN Speed Test	<b>16</b> <b>Dayton Hamvention</b> UN DX Contest NZART Sangsterr Shield CW EU PSK DX Contest King of Spain Contest, CW AR QSO Party Feld Hell Sprint Baltic Contest
<b>17</b> <b>Dayton Hamvention</b> UN DX Contest NZART Sangsterr Shield CW EU PSK DX Contest King of Spain Contest, CW AR QSO Party Baltic Contest Run for the Bacon QRP Contest	<b>18</b> <b>AWA Net 145.110 MHz, 7pm</b> <b>VHF Group 9pm 144.260 SSB</b> ICWC Medium Speed Test OK1WC Memorial WW Sideband Activity Contest RSGB FT4 Contest	<b>19</b> Phone Weekly Test	<b>20</b> <b>ROC City Net ~3.830 MHz, 7p</b> A1 Club AWT CWOps Test VHF/UHF FT8 Activity Contest Mini Test 40, 80 RSGB 80m Club Champ, Data Walk for the Bacon Contest	<b>21</b> <b>ARES Net 146.610 MHz, 7pm</b> <b>VHF Group 9pm 50.205 USB</b> NTC QSO Party NCCC FT4 Sprint Weekly RTTY Test NCCC Sprint Walk for the Bacon Contest	<b>22</b> K1USN Speed Test	<b>23</b>
<b>24</b> QRP ARCI Hootowl Sprint Real Time Contest	<b>25</b> <b>AWA Net 145.110 MHz, 7pm</b> <b>VHF Group 9pm 144.260 SSB</b> ICWC Medium Speed Test OK1WC Memorial WW Sideband Activity Contest QCX Challenge	<b>26</b> Phone Weekly Test	<b>27</b> <b>ROC City Net ~3.830 MHz, 7p</b> A1 Club AWT CWOps Test VHF/UHF FT8 Activity Contest Mini Test 40, 80	<b>28</b> NCCC Sprint NCCC FT4 Sprint Weekly RTTY Test RSGB 80m Club Champ, CW	<b>29</b> K1USN Speed Test	<b>30</b> <b>CQ WW WPX Contest, CW</b>
<b>31</b> <b>CQ WW WPX Contest, CW</b> Romanian Diaspora SSB Cst	Print this calendar and leave it by your radio.					

## EDITOR'S NOTE:

This is the return of a RAG feature that disappeared due to lack of use.

I am hoping these ads will encourage members to use this free opportunity to pass along no longer needed equipment.

This section is for Amateur Radio and related equipment – ONLY. If you are unsure – ask the editor! A 3d printer or laser might be considered related equipment.

If you wish to include an ad, please provide:

- Item name
- Sell price
- Condition of device
- Description
- Contact information
- Picture if appropriate

The information must be received by the editor no later than the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month.

There is **NO CHARGE** for the ads.

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# 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. The meetings are in person at 6:00 PM at the county EOC in even months and at the Red Cross in odd months. They are also available via Zoom. Please check our website for any schedule changes. Prospective members can request an invitation by email to: [secretary@monroecountyemcomm.org](mailto:secretary@monroecountyemcomm.org).

Monroe County ARES®/RACES meets on the air every Thursday of the month at 7:00PM, on the W2ARM 146.61 MHz (-) 110.9 Hz PL and 444.45 MHz (+) 110.9 Hz PL repeaters. Our club call sign is WB2EOC. On the nights when we hold our regular meeting, the net is at 5:30PM.

WEB: [www.monroecountyemcomm.org](http://www.monroecountyemcomm.org)

Facebook: Monroe County Amateur Radio Emergency Service, Inc.  
X@MCARESNY

## ROCHESTER DX ASSOCIATION, RDXA

Please check our website [www.rdxa.com](http://www.rdxa.com) for up-to-date information regarding meeting locations and requirements, if any.



## 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 7:00 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/>.

## XRX AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

The XRX Amateur Radio Club is meeting quarterly at the Webster Recreation Center. Dates, time, and Zoom meeting info, when available, is sent out to our mailing list. How to subscribe and up-to-date information is always on our website at <http://xarc.us> We have a System Fusion repeater south of the city on 145.290, and another on 444.825 west of the city. An XLX reflector, XLX927, and YSF reflector are typically bridged to the 145.29 machine, as well as Wires-X Room 21704. The system is DMR capable pointing your hotspot to XLX927.

## AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION OF THE SOUTHERN TIER, ARAST

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 on the first Tuesday of the month at the same location. Both organizations serve amateurs in Chemung County and the surrounding counties in New York and Pennsylvania. All are welcome to attend our meetings, which begin at 7PM. All monthly meetings are held both in person and on Zoom.

Don't forget to check out our repeaters when you visit the area. Currently, N3AQ 147.36 (+) and W2ZJ 146.70(-) (both PL 123.0) are our principal 2-meter repeaters. The former can also be accessed via Echolink node 574415 with the call sign KD2QND-R. A full list of repeaters in the Twin Tiers area can be found at [https://arasth3.org/arast\\_website/public/repeaters.php](https://arasth3.org/arast_website/public/repeaters.php).

Save the date: September 26, 2026, we will again be sponsoring the Elmira Hamfest at the Chemung County Fairgrounds in Horseheads. See <https://www.arasth3.org/hamfest/> for details.

## 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 7 PM. 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 8 PM (winter) and 9 PM (summer) - 0100 UTC Monday - on 147.585 simplex, and we host the Thursday Night Social Net, Thursday at 8:30 PM 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.

## KEUKA LAKE AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION, KLARA

Just an update on what KLARA is up to:

- KLARA hosts several nets – come join the fun! See [KLARA.us](http://KLARA.us) for details.
  - The KLARA Weekday daily SSB net – Daily at 8 AM 3.896 MHz.
  - The KLARA CW Practice net – M/Th 7 PM 3.541 MHz.
  - The KLARA Sunday Night 2-m net with Trivia – Every Sunday at 8 PM on the KLARA repeater system.
  - The KLARA 2-meter Wednesday Night Rag Chew Net – Every Wednesday at 8 PM on the KLARA repeater system.
- August 12-15: Bath Fair – KLARA will be hosting an information booth. Stop by for a chat!
- August 16: KLARA Hamfest in Howard. Come get those ham treasures!
- August 23: KLARA End of Summer Picnic, POTA activation, and Fox Hunt at Keuka State Park.
- September 10: Meeting: BoD and KLARA Officer elections.
- October 8: KLARA meeting: (Tentative) Presentation by Joel KC2VAW to present: How to Use USGS Topographic Map
- October 11: Repeater Roundup with the contest scheduled to run from Noon until 4:00 PM. See [KLARA.us](http://KLARA.us) for details.
- November 12: KLARA meeting: (Tentative) presentation by Ron K2TJW on ARES.
- December: KLARA Christmas Party!

Best 73!  
ANDY JACKSON K2CRV  
KLARA PRESIDENT

See our website for details [KLARA.US](http://KLARA.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](mailto: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 50.205 USB

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

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 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.

## ORLEANS COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

The Orleans County ARC meets every 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of the month at the Orleans County Emergency Operations Center, 14064 West County House Road, Albion, NY 14411. Doors open at 6:00 PM, meeting starts at 7:30 PM. 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 9:00 PM 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.

## SKENOH ISLAND AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, SIARC

The Skenoh Island Amateur Radio Club (SIARC) 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 on Wednesday, May, 13th. There will be license testing.

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.

## ROCHESTER RADIO REPEATER ASSOCIATION

The Rochester Radio Repeater Association will be having its next meeting on Friday May 15. It will be held at the Pittsford Town Hall meeting room in the basement at 7:30pm. The entrance is at the back of the building. If you can't make it in person, please plan to attend via zoom.

Current information and zoom login can be found on our RRRR Club web site. <http://www.k2rra.org>

Club officers are Bob Odell N2BZX - President, Bob Shewell N2HJD - Vice President, Jay Stewart W4JPS - Secretary, and Jerry Powell KC2YSY - Treasurer / Membership Chairman.

RRRA also accepts donations to the club. If you are not currently a member and want to support RRRR, you can join at our monthly meeting or join on our <http://www.k2rra.org> web site using PayPal.

## THE AMATEUR'S CODE

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

### THE RADIO AMATEUR IS:

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

# RARA OFFICERS, DIRECTORS AND COORDINATORS

## OFFICERS

<b>President</b> Richard Bishopp KD2UBJ (585) 766-5631 <a href="mailto:president@rochesterham.org">president@rochesterham.org</a>	<b>Treasurer</b> George Adams K4GWA (585) 704-8198 <a href="mailto:treasurer@rochesterham.org">treasurer@rochesterham.org</a>
<b>Vice President</b> Jeff Fuller KE2ELI (585) 355-5964 <a href="mailto:vicepresident@rochesterham.org">vicepresident@rochesterham.org</a>	<b>Secretary</b> Mike Moore KC2NM (585) 721-0011 <a href="mailto:secretary@rochesterham.org">secretary@rochesterham.org</a>

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## ACTIVITY COORDINATORS

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<b>Club Station Trustee</b> Dave Enright K3WHD <a href="mailto:denright1228@gmail.com">denright1228@gmail.com</a>	<b>QSL Manager</b> Dave Enright K3WHD <a href="mailto:denright1228@gmail.com">denright1228@gmail.com</a>
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<b>Membership Secretary</b> Tim Barrett K9VB <a href="mailto:membership@rochesterham.org">membership@rochesterham.org</a>	<b>Webmaster</b> Scott Theis W2LW <a href="mailto:webmaster@rochesterham.org">webmaster@rochesterham.org</a>
<b>Online Meetings</b> Scott Theis W2LW <a href="mailto:sa_theis@hotmail.com">sa_theis@hotmail.com</a>	

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## Community Amateur Radio Club (CARC)

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## Digital Communications Association of Perinton (DCAP)

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## Drumlins Amateur Radio Club Ltd. (DARC)

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## Livingston Co Amateur Radio Emergency Services (LCARES)

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## Keuka Lake Amateur Radio Association (KLARA)

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## Monroe County ARES / RACES

Dave Timmons W2DST: [secretary@monroecountyemcomm.org](mailto:secretary@monroecountyemcomm.org)

## Orleans County Amateur Radio Club (OCARC)

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## Rochester Amateur Radio Association (RARA)

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## Rochester Institute of Technology ARC

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## Rochester Radio Repeater Association (RRRA)

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## Rochester VHF Group (RVHFG)

Jarred Jackson: [chairman@rvhfg.org](mailto:chairman@rvhfg.org)

## Skenoh Island Amateur Radio Club (SIARC)

Steve Benton WB2VMR: [sbenton2@rochester.rr.com](mailto:sbenton2@rochester.rr.com)

## XRX Amateur Radio Club

Brian Donovan K2AS: [k2as@outlook.com](mailto:k2as@outlook.com)

## Rochester Makerspace

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**JUNE 2026 RAG DEADLINE**

**MAY 15, 2026**

**RARA MEETS AT 7 PM ON THE FIRST**

**WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH.**

**JOIN US IN PERSON**

**OR**

**ONLINE AT:**

[https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_5vRnKIUKTWy63WAxqqHmtw](https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_5vRnKIUKTWy63WAxqqHmtw)

Contact [Webmaster@rochesterham.org](mailto:Webmaster@rochesterham.org) for Support

**Rochester Area Repeater Listing**

**THE RARA RAG**

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# HAMFESTS

Plenty of Free Parking

Come and Learn about Amateur Radio



RV Camping Available \$38 Charged By Chemung County

## 2026 Elmira HAMFEST Saturday September 26<sup>th</sup>

Flea market gate opens 6.00am Vendor building open 8.00am  
Admission ticket includes 1 free Flea Market spot.

**Chemung County Fairgrounds  
Grand Central Ave Horseheads  
NY 14845**

Major Door Prizes throughout the Day

**Get your tickets early and save  
\$8 in advance / \$10 at gate**

Food on site, Huge Flea Market, Demonstrations,  
50/50 Raffle, Bunny Hunt ( Hidden transmitter)  
FCC Exams VE Testing 10.00am ( Walk ins welcome)



More information visit [www.arasth3.org](http://www.arasth3.org)

## BATAVIA HAMFEST



## HAM RADIO HAMFEST

\$10 Admission Includes Free Tailgating  
And Free Indoor Spaces

6 AM - ? (Get There Early)

**July 18, 2026 - Saturday**

Being held at the "Alexander Fireman Grounds"

10708 ALEXANDER RD. Route 98

One Mile South of Route 20. Alexander NY 14005

Amateur License Exams will be held at the Hamfest site  
(Contact John Maxwell @w2jm@arrl.net RSVP for info)

- \* Food and Refreshments
- \* Talk In 147.285 , PL141.3 ,Batavia Repeater
- \* Giant Area for Tailgating
- \* Rain or shine !!
- \* Outdoor flea market /Buy /Sell Ham Radio Gear



**Tickets available in advance \$8.00 until  
June 30,2026**

**Order via PayPal to [treasurer@w2so.org](mailto:treasurer@w2so.org)**

**Be sure to include your mailing address.**

**Tickets will be sent by US mail**

Questions can be addressed to Luke N2GDU Luke48@gmail.com  
Overnight Option, Camping, RV, Hookup at your expense

## LANCASTER AMATEUR RADIO CLUB



## HAM RADIO HAMFEST

\$10 Admission and Free Tailgating  
7am - ? (Get There Early)

Plenty of outdoor space

**Sept. 12, 2026 - Saturday**

Being held at the "Transit Drive In"

6655 S. Transit Rd. Lockport , NY

Vendors 6 AM - Gates Open to public At 7 AM

- \* Food and Refreshments
- \* Talk in - W2SO 147.255 pl 107.2
- \* Giant Area for Tailgating,  
Buy/Sell Ham Radio Gear
- \* Door Prizes !!!
- \* <http://w2so.org> for more Information



**Tickets available in advance \$8.00 until  
August 31, 2026**

**Order via PayPal to [treasurer@w2so.org](mailto:treasurer@w2so.org)**

**Be sure to include your mailing address**

**Tickets will be sent via US mail**

Questions can be addressed to Luke N2GDU Luke48@gmail.com

Q Signal and Abbreviations	Meaning
<b>QRL</b>	Is the frequency busy? The frequency is busy.
<b>QRM</b>	Interference from other signals.
<b>QRN</b>	Interference from natural or human-made static.
<b>QRP</b>	Shall I decrease power? Decrease power.
<b>QRS</b>	Shall I send more slowly? Send more slowly ( _ wpm).
<b>QRT</b>	Shall I stop sending or transmitting? Stop sending or transmitting.
<b>QRZ</b>	Who is calling me?
<b>QSB</b>	Signal fading.
<b>QSL</b>	Did you receive and understand? Received and understood.
<b>QSO</b>	Abbreviation for a contact.
<b>QST</b>	General call preceding a message addressed to all amateurs.
<b>QSY</b>	Change to transmission on another frequency (or to _ kHz).
<b>QTH</b>	What is your location? My location is _.
<b>73</b>	Best Regards
<b>88</b>	Love & Kisses
<b>CQ</b>	General call for a QSO
<b>DE</b>	From
<b>DX</b>	Long distant contact
<b>FIST</b>	Unique characteristic of an operator's sending of CW
<b>GMT</b>	Greenwich Mean Time
<b>HI HI</b>	Laughter
<b>OM</b>	Old man (experienced operator)
<b>RX</b>	Receiver
<b>SKED</b>	Schedule
<b>SWL</b>	Short Wave Listener
<b>TX</b>	Transmitter
<b>UTC</b>	Universal Time Coordinated (GMT)
<b>WPM</b>	Words per minute
<b>WX</b>	Weather
<b>XTAL</b>	Crystal
<b>XYL</b>	Wife
<b>YL</b>	Young Lady
<b>Zulu (Z)</b>	GMT or UTC (all the same)

RST System			
	Readability	Signal Strength	Tone
<b>1</b>	Unreadable	Faint signals, barely perceptible	Sixty cycle A.C or less, very rough and broad
<b>2</b>	Barely readable, occasional words distinguishable	Very weak signals	Very rough A.C., very harsh and broad
<b>3</b>	Readable with considerable difficulty	Weak signals	Rough A.C. tone, rectified but not filtered
<b>4</b>	Readable with practically no difficulty	Fair signals	Rough note, some trace of filtering
<b>5</b>	Perfectly readable	Fairly good signals	Filtered rectified A.C. but strongly ripple-modulated
<b>6</b>		Good signals	Filtered tone, definite trace of ripple modulation
<b>7</b>		Moderately strong signals	Near pure tone, trace of ripple modulation
<b>8</b>		Strong signals	8--Near perfect tone, slight trace of modulation
<b>9</b>		Extremely strong signals	Perfect tone, no trace of ripple or modulation of any kind

**Tone** - If the signal has the characteristic steadiness of crystal control, add the letter X to the RST report. If there is a chirp, the letter C may be added to so indicate. Similarly for a click, add K. The above reporting system is used on both CW and voice, leaving out the "tone" report on voice.

International Telecommunications Union Phonetic Alphabet			
<b>A</b>	Alpha	<b>N</b>	November
<b>B</b>	Bravo	<b>O</b>	Oscar
<b>C</b>	Charlie	<b>P</b>	Papa
<b>D</b>	Delta	<b>Q</b>	Quebec
<b>E</b>	Echo	<b>R</b>	Romeo
<b>F</b>	Foxtrot	<b>S</b>	Sierra
<b>G</b>	Golf	<b>T</b>	Tango
<b>H</b>	Hotel	<b>U</b>	Uniform
<b>I</b>	India	<b>V</b>	Victor
<b>J</b>	Juliet	<b>W</b>	Whiskey
<b>K</b>	Kilo	<b>X</b>	X-Ray
<b>L</b>	Lima	<b>Y</b>	Yankee
<b>M</b>	Mike	<b>Z</b>	Zulu

**E** = IR = Volts  
**P** = IE = Watts  
 $\lambda = 300 / F_{\text{MHZ}} = \text{Meters}$   
 $L \approx 468 / F_{\text{MHZ}} = \text{Feet (Length of a dipole)}$   
 $^{\circ}\text{C} = (^{\circ}\text{F} - 32) (5/9)$   
 $^{\circ}\text{F} = ^{\circ}\text{C} (9/5) + 32$

**Constants**  
 $\pi = 3.1415926535$   
 Speed of light in a vacuum  
 $c = 299,792,458 \text{ m/s}$   
 or  $300,000,000 \text{ m/s}$   
 $= 983,571,056 \text{ f/s}$

**FM Calling Frequencies (Simplex)**  
 29.600MHz  
 52.525MHz  
 146.52MHz  
 223.40 – 223.52MHz  
 446.00MHz

**New York is CQ Zone 5**  
**New York is ITU Zone 8**  
**Maidenhead Grid Square Locator**  
[https://www.levinecentral.com/ham/grid\\_square.php](https://www.levinecentral.com/ham/grid_square.php)

Digital Modes Typical Frequencies in MHz				
FT8	JT65	PSK31	RTTY	SSTV
1.840		1.838		
3.573	3.576	3.580	3.57 – 3.6	3.640
7.074	7.076	7.080	7.08 – 7.125	7.170
10.136		10.140	10.13 – 10.14	10.132
14.074	14.076	14.070	14.07 – 14.095	14.230
18.100		18.100	18.10 – 18.105	
21.074	21.076	21.080	21.07 – 21.11	21.340
24.915		24.920	24.92 – 24.925	
28.074	28.076	28.120	28.07 – 28.150	28.680
		50.290		50.950

**PRINT THIS PAGE AND KEEP NEAR YOUR RADIO**

Please send any additions, corrections to:  
[editor@rochesterham.org](mailto:editor@rochesterham.org)

# US Amateur Radio Bands

**US AMATEUR POWER LIMITS** — FCC 97.313 An amateur station must use the minimum transmitter power necessary to carry out the desired communications. (b) No station may transmit with a transmitter power exceeding 1.5 kW PEP.

Copied from the ARRL  
[Frequency Charts](#)



## KEY

**Note:**  
CW operation is permitted throughout all amateur bands.

MCW is authorized above 50.1 MHz, except for 144.0-144.1 and 219-220 MHz.  
Test transmissions are authorized above 51 MHz, except for 219-220 MHz

- = RTTY and data
- = phone and image
- = CW only
- = SSB phone
- = USB phone, CW, RTTY, and data
- = Fixed digital message forwarding systems only

E = Amateur Extra  
A = Advanced  
G = General  
T = Technician  
N = Novice

See [www.arrl.org/band-plan](http://www.arrl.org/band-plan) for detailed band plans.

## ARRL We're At Your Service

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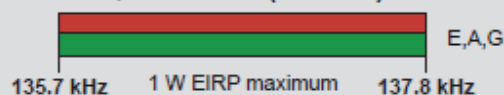
Getting Started in Amateur Radio:  
Toll-Free 1-800-326-3942 (860-594-0355)  
email: [newham@arrl.org](mailto:newham@arrl.org)

Exams: 860-594-0300 email: [vec@arrl.org](mailto:vec@arrl.org)

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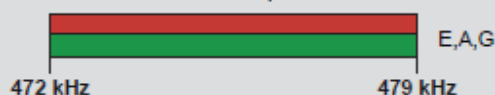
Amateurs wishing to operate on either 2,200 or 630 meters must first register with the Utilities Technology Council online at <https://utc.org/plc-database-amateur-notification-process/>. You need only register once for each band.

### 2,200 Meters (135 kHz)



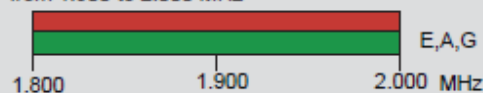
### 630 Meters (472 kHz)

5 W EIRP maximum, except in Alaska within 496 miles of Russia where the power limit is 1 W EIRP.

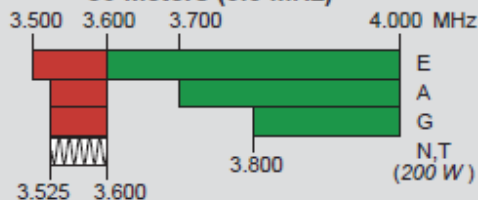


### 160 Meters (1.8 MHz)

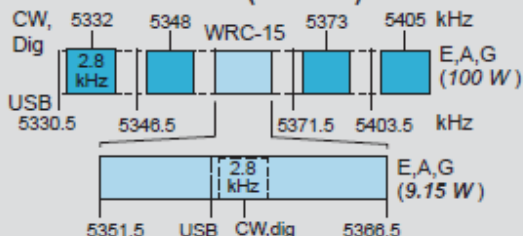
Avoid interference to radiolocation operations from 1.900 to 2.000 MHz



### 80 Meters (3.5 MHz)

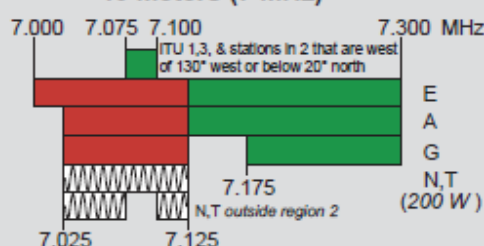


### 60 Meters (5.3 MHz)



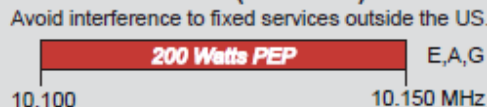
General, Advanced, and Extra licensees may operate on a secondary basis with an operating bandwidth of 2.8 kHz, maximum ERP of 100 W (relative to a half-wave dipole antenna) on individual channels. As February 13, 2026 the WRC-15 band 5351.5 to 5366.5 kHz is available with a max. ERP of 9.15 W.

### 40 Meters (7 MHz)

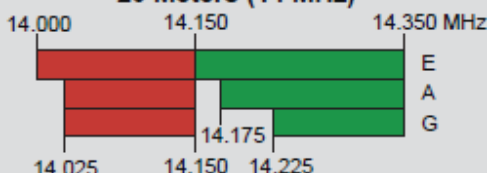


See Sections 97.305(c), 97.307(f)(11) and 97.301(e). These exemptions do not apply to stations in the continental US.

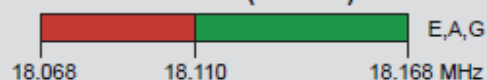
### 30 Meters (10.1 MHz)



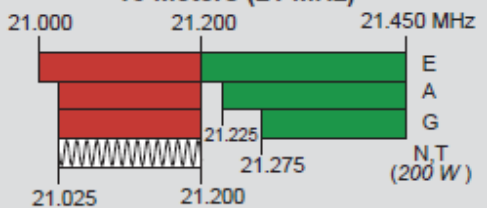
### 20 Meters (14 MHz)



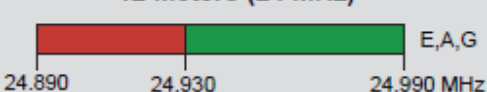
### 17 Meters (18 MHz)



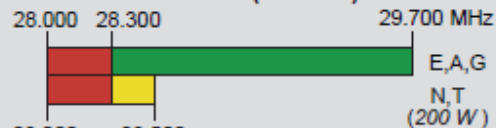
### 15 Meters (21 MHz)



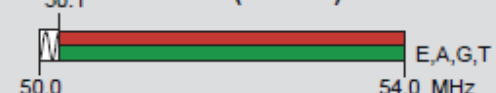
### 12 Meters (24 MHz)



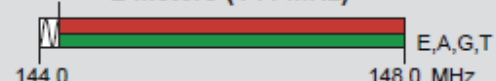
### 10 Meters (28 MHz)



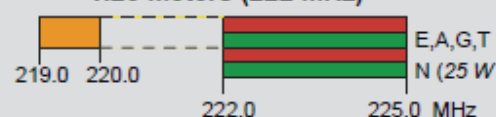
### 6 Meters (50 MHz)



### 2 Meters (144 MHz)

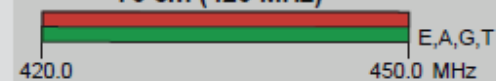


### 1.25 Meters (222 MHz)

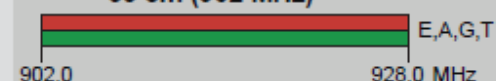


\*Geographical and power restrictions may apply to all bands above 420 MHz. For information about your area, See FCC 97.303 Frequency sharing requirements.

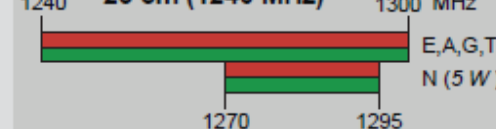
### 70 cm (420 MHz)\*



### 33 cm (902 MHz)\*



### 23 cm (1240 MHz)\*



All licensees except Novices are authorized all modes on the following frequencies:

2300-2310 MHz	10.0-10.5 GHz ‡	122.25-123.0 GHz
2390-2450 MHz	24.0-24.25 GHz	134-141 GHz
3300-3450 MHz	47.0-47.2 GHz	241-250 GHz
5650-5925 MHz	76.0-81.0 GHz	All above 275 GHz

‡ No pulse emissions