



THE RARA E-RAG

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HF Terrain Assessment

By Bill Marinucci, WB2GHC
Vice-President, RARA

We really have three primary criteria that we wish to accomplish as ham radio operators: hearing, being heard, and having a good time doing both! Our equipment has become extremely sophisticated in both receive and transmit capabilities. New modes have been developed to enhance our ability to hear others and have them hear us. Equally important, some say the main ingredient, is the antenna system(s) that we use. Using the right antenna for the right band to get the desired results tops the list of ham radio operators when setting up their stations. There are volumes of literature written about antenna design, radiation patterns, matching transmission lines, gain and directivity, antenna efficiency, SWR, etc. There are other factors worth exploring as well. Here's yet another.....

Ken Boasi, N2ZN, has graciously agreed to come to our September RARA meeting and do a presentation titled "HF Terrain Assessment (by N6BV)". His presentation will elaborate on how your location and its surrounding terrain affect your HF signal. Once you know this, an antenna system can be designed to maximize your signal! This session will be very informative and there's something in it for all of us.

Ken is an avid DXer and holds DXCC Mixed, CW, and SSB, WAS Mixed, CW, SSB and RTTY, WAC, and WAZ! He is also an accomplished contester, working as one of the operators of W2FU, K2NNY, W2RDX, N2WK, and W2CCC.

Let's give Ken a warm RARA welcome on Friday, September 03, 2010, our first RARA meeting for the 2010/2011 year.



This month in the RaRa e-RAG...

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The Prez Sez

By Frank Schramm, WB2PYD
President, RaRa

Where did the summer go? And what a summer it's been! Even with threatening weather everyone seemed to have a good day at our Hamfest. Then in mid-July, the club Picnic was attended by a record number of members and their families. It's always great to reunite and meet with the XYLs and "harmonics". Kids as well as many adults had a lot of fun fox hunting with Peter Fournia, WB2SKY, leading the pack.

In early August we had our "Cruise Night" at Bill Grays in Henrietta; yet another opportunity to casually socialize with friends and family. Being only our third cruise night it was really great to see the families in attendance. While none of the attendees had anything close to "HamSexy" our winner for most technological vehicle was Jim Stefano, W2COP. Some of his vehicular resources included U/VHF RF, a PC, and broadband internet. Combining these with various applications and interfaces Jim is capable of receiving DC to Daylight, transmitting on any frequency either directly or via remote control, and advanced amateur operations like APRS and packet. All while reading his e-mail and checking stock quotes. Installation was sleek and neat very "un-hamsexy". Well done Jim! If you didn't see his setup at cruise night, see Jim at our next meeting for a tour.

Back in early July I received some disappointing news: Dick, KG2I, has resigned as the RaRa RAG Editor. After many long years this is his last edition. I'd like to thank Dick profusely for all his efforts to publish the RAG every month. I know firsthand how much work it is because I've done it a few times when Dick went on vacation. So I also know how much more free time Dick will have on his hands without that task. I have plans to fill that void and keep him busy. (Two coats of wax please Dick)

As Dick steps down, Kevin Carey, WB2QMY, will be overseeing the publication of the RAG. Kevin brings to the post a long standing career as a professional writer specializing in technology and radio. I'm excited to see where Kevin's skills and new energy will take the RAG. Good luck and thanks for stepping up to the task Kev!

For our September meeting program my friend Ken Boasi, N2ZN, will be talking about "Terrain Analysis". I confess to have seen him make this presentation before and knew you all need to see it, so Ken has agreed to come and enlighten you. You may be VERY surprised at how the ground around your antenna (out to a mile or more) affects your signal pattern! I recommend you come prepared to take notes. I predict you'll race home after the meeting to perform an analysis on your QTH!

73,
Frank
WB2PYD

Calendar of Events

- Sept 3** RaRa General Meeting – 7:30 PM
Henrietta Fire Hall,
3129 E. Henrietta Rd
- Sept 8** RaRa Board of Directors
5:30 PM, RIT
Bldg-17, Room 2110
- Sept 17** RRRRA – 8:00PM, Fall Auction at
Pittsford Town Hall
- Sept 18** RaRa VE Testing sessions
10:00 AM, RIT
Bldg-9, Room 3139
- Sept 21** RDXA Regular Meeting - 7:30 PM
EOC, 1190 Scottsville Rd.
- Sept 25** Elmira Hamfest
Horseheads, NY



RARA Picnic 2010

New Era for RARA Rag

We're changing the way your RARA Rag is delivered to you! Our longtime editor, Dick Goslee (KG2I) has announced his retirement from the newsletter after a long and devoted record of service to RARA. We thank Dick for his excellent contributions to the *Rag* and wish him the very best in the future. With this change comes necessary changes in the way we prepare and deliver your *Rag* to you.

Starting with the October issue, the *RARA Rag* will change to an all-electronic delivery format (you're reading it right now). This option has been available to all members since February 2008, and has proven to be very popular. It will now become the primary method of delivery for the *Rag*. It allows full color imaging, longer articles, more pictures, embedded hotlinks, and virtually instant delivery to your e-mail address.

If you're reading this, you already receive the electronic *Rag* and no further action is necessary. For anyone who is still reading the paper *Rag* the registration process is simple. Just send an e-mail request to:

Editor@RochesterHam.org.

For anyone not online, a limited number of printed copies will still be available for pickup at club meetings for the next three months, upon request. Just ask one of the club officers at a meeting if you require a printed copy. After that, the *Rag* will only be available by electronic delivery. For anyone needing assistance in accessing the *Rag* online, we'd be glad to help. The only thing necessary is access to a computer (available free at most public libraries), and a free e-mail address. See any club officer for further assistance. If there's enough interest, we may offer a "mini-session" on the topic at an upcoming club meeting. *Nobody will be left out of getting their club newsletter!*

While change can be difficult, we think these changes will improve the quality and timeliness of the *Rag*, and offer many other benefits to our readership. As always, your comments and suggestions are very welcome, and we appreciate your continued participation in RARA.

RAG Editor Retires

By Dick Goslee, KG2I
Editor, RARA RAG

With this issue I say "Good Bye and Thank You". I am retiring as Editor of the RAG and turn over the keyboard to Kevin Carey, WB2QMY, as the new Editor.

It has been my pleasure to serve as the Editor for these last 6 years since the untimely passing of Ray Pickens, WA2MYG in 2004. I have enjoyed working on the RAG and I want to thank all of you who have sent in articles each month. Without your support it would not have been possible to do this job.

I look forward to seeing you all at the regular meetings and talking to you on the air. I have also cut back on working at my regular 9-5 job to 3 days a week and now I can spend more time with my wife and traveling with her to new places around the world. Perhaps I can also get my boat in the water more and enjoy chasing the fish around the Finger Lakes.



RaRa Hotline
(585) 210-8910
24 Hours a Day

**RaRa Amateur Radio
License Testing is held on
the 3rd Saturday of each
Month, September through
April.**

**Registration begins at
10:00AM in RIT Building 9,
Room 3139**
[\(click for map\)](#)

**Contact Ken Hall, W2KRH
for space reservations.**

Public Service 2010

By Duane Fregoe, K2SI
RARA Public Service Coordinator

Through the end of August we have participated in 5 public service events. That's the good news. The better news is there is still plenty of time to participate in an event this year as we still have 5 events on the calendar. Public service could really use your support.

The Rochester Marathon has recently taken on some new importance. We have received word that the Federal Government may be observing this event to see how well we can communicate between the various organizations involved in the event. This will require a sizable ham radio force and be a great opportunity for the local ARES/RACES group to make a positive impression.

Below is the list of local events that are being coordinated by local hams. Go to www.rochesterham.org and click on "Public Service". A complete listing of events and details on each event are there. Click on the "Sign Up" button and fill in the boxes. Highlight the events you like and click on "Submit". I will receive an email with your information and will reply to you acknowledging that I have received it.

Rochester Arthritis Foundation Marathon – Sun, September 12, 2010

Barktoberfest: Lollypop Farm – Sat, September 25, 2010

Fairport Lift Bridge Regatta – Sun, September 26, 2010

Jamboree on the Air (BSA) – Sat & Sun, October 16 & 17, 2010

NYS Thruway Pumpkin Patrol – Sat & Sun, October 30 & 31, 2010

Ham Radio Helps at Thruway Crash

On Saturday, July 24th at about 7 PM, there was a one-car motor vehicle accident on the NYS Thruway near milepost 308. Glen, KC2YGH witnessed the incident and immediately radioed his report to other hams on the 145.11 (WR2AHL) repeater. This report was then relayed to the proper authorities. With help on its way, these hams (Larry, W2LB and Steve, WA2EKL) remained on frequency to monitor the situation, and Glen was able to provide follow-up information for the authorities. (By the way, Glen had only been licensed for about 3 months at the time of this incident.)

The event highlights the importance of having working gear in your car, a reliable repeater (the incident was about 50 miles east of the Rochester area), and alert operators who stepped in to assist. Ham radio is, and should be, an enjoyable activity, but let's never forget the serious side of our hobby, and the potentially lifesaving role that we can play in emergency situations.

TNX Steve, WA2EKL

Silent Keys

William K. Murphy, WA2QLT

July 16, 2010

William A. Brown, (ex) AK2D

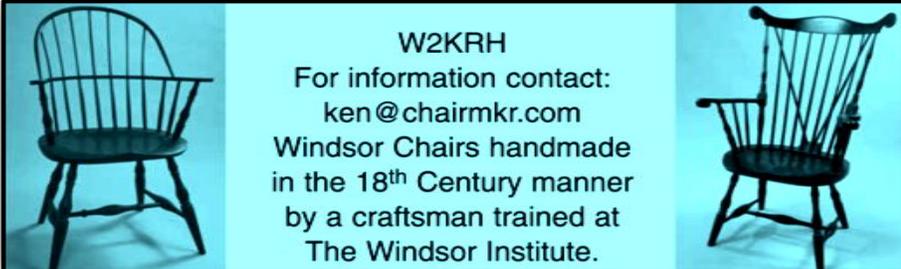
July 20, 2010

James M. Bower, K2IAV

July 24, 2010

Edward C. Elliott, WA2ENW

July 25, 2010



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Awards Thoughts

By Dan & Sue Waterstraat, W2DEW & KC2SUE,
Awards Chairpersons

Hello and welcome back to another great upcoming RARA season. Our first prize this year is for all our new Technicians in the audience. Winter is a great time to upgrade to the General Class and we have the latest ARRL General Class License Manual. This has all the General questions and answers and good explanations of all General topics. Our second prize is a magnetic mount 2 meter - 70 cm mobile antenna. It is 18 inches long and covers 144-148 MHz & 440-470 MHz. It comes with 12 feet of RG-58 coax and a PL259 connector. For the shack, we have a set of 300, 4", nylon cable ties. This contains 100 black (good for outdoors as they are weather resistant), 100 natural for general use, and 100 colored (Green, Red, Yellow, Blue) good for color coding your cables. If you would like to suggest prizes for future raffles, just drop me a line at higreen@rochester.rr.com anytime. So stop by and see either Sue or me for raffle tickets. We're right next to the donuts.

License Classes – Fall 2010

By Frank Schramm, WB2PYD
President, RARA

Courses: For the FCC Technician Class, and General Class Amateur Radio License [See www.rochesterham.org]

When: Nine Thursdays, September 23th through November 18th
License testing available Saturday November 20st

Time: 6:30 PM – Classes lasting for about 2 hours

Location: RIT Campus, Building 9
Rooms: 9-1139 & 9-1149
Use Parking Lot F or J
See map at: <http://facilities.rit.edu/campus/maps/general/general.pdf>

Registration: Contact WB2PYD@ARRL.org

Tuition: **Non-Members:**
Courses cost \$15.00.

RARA Members:
All courses are FREE for existing RARA members.

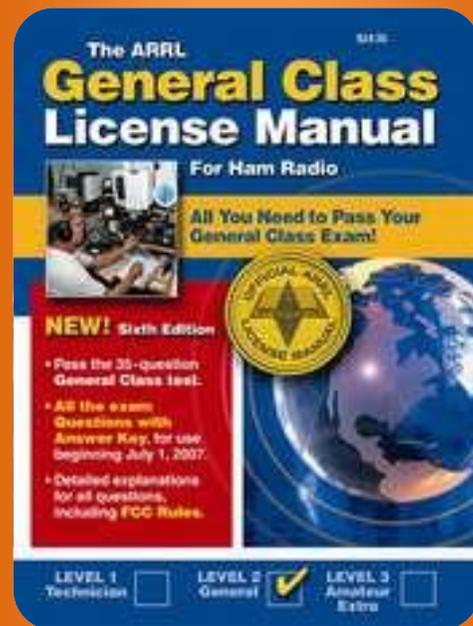
Textbooks: We use the ARRL licensing manuals. You can purchase texts directly from the ARRL or from the instructor on the first day of class for \$24.00. (Or note one of our raffle items.)

Payment at time of registration. Make check payable to
Rochester Amateur Radio Association.

Walk-ins are welcome but it is strongly recommended that you reserve a seat to be certain there are enough course materials to go around.

Contact WB2PYD@ARRL.org

Septembers Raffle Items:



Sign On

A message from your new Editor

By Kevin Carey, WB2QMY

The *RARA Rag* has always held a special attraction for me. It was while reading a complimentary issue given to me at the Fair many years ago, that I learned of RARA Licensing classes, and enrolled to earn my first ticket as WB2QMY in 1977. Looking back on my years in the hobby, I believe that getting started in ham radio was one of the best decisions of my life.

In the mid-1980s, while reading the latest issue of the *Rag*, I learned of a Technical Writer Trainee position at a local HF radio firm. That opportunity led to a 25-year (and counting!) career in technical writing at various companies around Rochester. I could go on and on about all of the interesting, and informative things I've learned while reading issues of the *RARA Rag*.

I'd always thought it would be interesting to work on the *Rag* in some capacity, but I envisioned myself doing it later in life when we all (supposedly) have more free time at our disposal. Nevertheless, with the retirement of our longtime and very capable editor, Dick Goslee, KG2I, I was recently asked to assume the Editor's role in a much sooner timeframe than I ever expected!

I've agreed to the job, with the understanding that I must evaluate how it fits into my many other demands toward family, community, and job responsibilities. I'm committing to a full year of service, at which point I will evaluate how it is working out. The level of difficulty will be directly related to the amount and timeliness of article contributions from our membership.

In addition to our excellent lineup of regular contributors, I'm looking for new material that will interest our readers. Have an interesting project, an informal review, or a tip/modification you'd like to share with fellow members? Write it up, and we'll do our best to get it in print for the *RARA Rag*. I've received many suggestions for new material, including a "member picture & profile" page, trivia challenges for identifying obscure gear, and perhaps new columns on award chasing, digital modes, QRP, vintage radio, or other specialties within the radio hobby.

So how about it folks? Anyone have an interest in contributing these, or other original works to our newsletter? You don't need to be a polished writer to undertake such a task. Simply write up the basics and we'll work with you to prepare it for publication. Photos are always a plus, and you can expect to see a lot more of them going forward. Send your ideas and submittals to me at wb2qmy@arrl.net.

Starting with the next issue, we'll be changing to all-electronic (PDF) delivery of the *RARA Rag*, as approved by the Board of Directors at its July meeting. Change is not always easy, but it also brings new opportunities. In this case, it allows us to run more photos and illustrations (in full color), eliminates concerns over article length, and allows us to "embed" electronic links within articles, where you can visit a specific website or generate an e-mail message with the simple click of a mouse. No more typing of long addresses from your paper copy!

Finally, you will receive your *Rag* virtually instantly, as soon as it is sent, with no delays incurred in the postal mail system. Hams have always been leaders in technology, and e-delivery seems like a natural way to move forward.

The future looks bright for RARA, and I look forward to supporting the *Rag* in this modern delivery format. After all, was it the paper and ink that made it a success, or the *content* of each issue that built the legacy? With your help, we will continue the fine tradition of *Rag* publishing, and continue to expand your membership value.

Kevin Carey, WB2QMY



RARA Academy

By Duane Fregoe, K2SI

A small group of hams have been meeting since this past spring discussing how to attract more hams, keep the new hams engaged, and show all the fun you can have with a Technician class license. The group is focusing on 2 items: 1) The creation and growing of school clubs and 2) Educational presentations on specific topics geared towards the new ham. Item #2 is the RARA Academy.

The plan for the Academy is to have presentations on 3 specific topics. The Academy would run from 9:00am until noon with each presentation lasting about 45 minutes. Topics that we are looking at are: Introduction to repeaters and HT programming, IRLP, Echolink, 2M antenna project, 10M and 6M use, Logbook of the World, eQSL, How to setup your QRZ page, and QSL card creation web sites. We will also raffle off some free door prizes for those in attendance. The initial plans are to have an Academy every 3 months with new topics.

The first Academy is being planned for this fall. The exact date and the 3 topics are still being finalized as I write this article. Watch your mailbox, the Yahoo reflector sites, and Facebook for the specifics of the 1st RARA Academy. It will be open to anyone with an interest in ham radio.

K2JD well on way to WAS and DXCC

By Bill Kasperkoski, WB2SXY

Operating our rigs and communicating with people on the other side of the county, or the other side of the world, is what makes Hams different from just about any other type of hobby.

Do you remember the QSL Card display board at 111 Westfall? For many years Irv AF2K worked as the K2JD QSL manager and had well over 23 states and 50 countries credited, mostly 'via W2 Buro' with many, many multiple band entries. Many thanks to Irv AF2K for maintaining the existing logs and QSL's for the organization's K2JD contest station.

We have not totaled them all up yet but will be submitting them for your club's K2JD WAS and DXCC awards. Remember, this includes some deleted countries such as EAST and WEST Germany, and KA6 Japan. This is sifted down from a VERY TALL STACK of QSL cards! Thanks again, Irv, nice job!

In the call for old K2JD logs, Vic K1PY, located five very special contest logs with very productive printouts: '94 CQWDX SSB (210 Q's) and the '95 ARRL DX SSB (257 Q's). On entering these into LoTW we have about 10% hits including Swaziland! We still have a lot of LoTW data to enter: '95 CQ WPX SSB (532 Q's), '94 ARRL SS CW (621 Q's) and '94 ARRL SS SSB (761 Q's). Hopefully these will be just as productive as the others. We need to locate any other old logs you may have stored away too.

See you on the bands and hope you can work, and work from, K2JD for some extra contest points and countries soon.

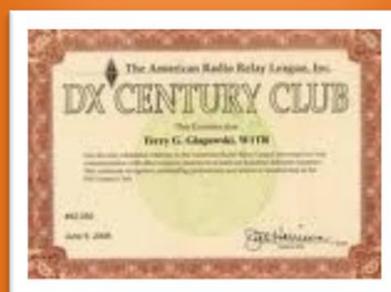
Contact station trustee Jim DiTucci N2IXD@arrl.net for a time slot to use the club's callsigns (any band, any mode): K2JD during your next favorite contest, and the club's memorial N2EH call for casual operating. Just make sure you get the logs to RARA!

New Directory Binders Available

(The Directory won't fit your old one)

\$3.00 at Meetings
\$8.00 via Priority Mail

For mail: Send check to
PO Box 93333
Rochester NY 14692



How I Spent my Summer Vacation

By Bill Marinucci, WB2GHC

Ouch, I can hardly believe that our September meeting is just a few weeks away! Now the meeting itself isn't painful, but what comes to mind simply is the fact that Labor Day weekend is the unofficial end to summer. I vividly remember my first days back to school, which always included getting up in front of the class and reading my first homework assignment, an essay entitled "How I Spent My Summer Vacation". That's probably true for most of us.

This summer provided many opportunities and challenges for to the local ham radio operators. Six meters had some strong band openings while eighty and forty meters had some frustratingly high noise levels. Ten meters often had a surprise or two for us with band openings that unpredictably appeared. Then there's twenty meters, the band that was usually more consistent, where contacts were made anywhere from short distances to around the world. Even two meters had some ducting events.

Listening to the local repeaters, I heard many of us taking advantage of the weather by working on our antennas, whether it be putting up new ones or tuning up our existing ones. Personally, I put up antennas on cold, windy winter days... that's when they work best says the myth. I also heard many fellow amateurs who were either on vacation in this area or driving by here to a vacation destination. Many had portable / mobile HF gear with them as well, for what would a vacation be without ham radio!

Then there was the grand daddy of them all for summer ham radio fun, Field Day. This year was no exception. Tuning across the bands proved that Field Day is alive and well. Talk about crowded bands; just try to find an unused frequency! We'll be hearing more about it as results come in and scores tallied

The RARA Hamfest was a huge success again this year, a great time had by all. We're back on track. Congrats to the new hams and those that upgraded over the summer. Hamfests are always part of summer ham radio fun, and seeing our hobby grow is always great news.

Summer also provided many opportunities to do some Public Service by providing communications for local events. Thanks to all who got involved! But fear not, there are a lot more opportunities this fall for us to get involved in.

Then there is the challenge of trying something new. After all, ham radio has so many facets to it. This summer, I began exploring the world of satellite communications, something I have never attempted before. Fascinating, to say the least. I had some fun with QRP as well, requiring a whole new style of operating.

When we gather for our first meeting of the year, we'll all have a lot to talk about while enjoying coffee and doughnuts. Dare I say it? Yes, much of our conversations will be centered on "How I spent my summer vacation"!



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RaRa Rag 20 Years Ago, September 1990

By Ed Gable, K2MP
RaRa Historian



This issue kicked off the 1990/91 RaRa season with a program on contesting. The speaker for the evening was Warren Stankiewicz, NF1J, Assistant Editor for QST's Contest Corral column, coming all the way from ARRL headquarters. Also kicking off their new season were the recently elected RaRa officers and Board members. You voted for: Neal Eckhardt WB2EKP, president, Peter Secrist WB2SUN, Vice-President, Bernard Agins KD2CU, Secretary and Richard Goslee K2VCZ, as Treasurer. On the Board of Directors: Keith Freeberg N2BEL (sk), Roger Harnaart WB2BWQ, Robert Hobday N2EVG, Ed Holdsworth N2EH (sk), Ronald Nelson KA2GLG, John Schooley K2NC (sk) and Bud Young WA2UGE (sk).

President Eckhardt also served as co-editor of the Rag along with Jack Dempsey KA2PJN. Also given credit on the mast head were department heads: Public Service Coordinator Ed Holdsworth N2EH, License Testing Coordinator John Schooley K2NC, Licensing Course Director Ed Gable K2MP, Hamfest General Chmn Harold Smith K2HC and K2JD Engraving Dir. Robert Lauzon K2RL.

Ed Holdsworth, N2EH, wrote a long article covering public service and ARES/RACES. Ed cited that there were 900 members of RaRa, who represented 30 % of the total Rochester / Monroe County licensed Amateurs, and that of those 900 members only 81 were enrolled in ARES/RACES and of the 81 enrolled, only 50 were active. Ed used those points to plea for more participation in public service.

Ed Gable, K2MP, penned an article describing the Fall start up of the Licensing Classes. In starting his article, Gable wrote "In continuous operation for 34 years, RaRa is pleased to announce the formation of its Fall 1990 Code and Theory classes." Thirty-four years, now 54 years, that is really something for RaRa to be proud of.

With regret it was reported that John LaForest, WB2UTX, was reported a Silent Key. From the Want Ads you could buy a Kenwood TH-201A five-watt hand held for \$350.00, from Rick, WA2RBO. Patrick Moyer, N2AIW, Attorney and Counselor-at-Law, remained a long term advertiser.

RaRa Club LOGO Items



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<http://www.rochesterham.org/logo.htm>

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ARES News

By Jim DiTucci, N2IXD

Monroe County Amateur Radio Emergency Service holds its meetings on the fourth Thursday of each month at the Rochester Chapter of the American Red Cross. We do not meet during the months of July, August, and December. This month the ARES Meeting will be held on: **Thursday, September 23, 2010 Time: 7:00 PM**

Meetings are held at Red Cross HQ, 50 Prince Street, Rochester. Prince Street is just west of the Auditorium Theatre and runs south from East Main St. Although the address of the chapter is on Prince, the parking lot is on College Ave. on the north side of the building. Park in the lot and enter the big building at the main door.

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

I hope that everyone enjoyed the short summer break. If you were looking for Amateur Radio activities to satisfy your EmComm craving during the summer break, you had several events to choose from and participate in including the Civil Preparedness Communication Drill on July 13.

Six months of planning, pre-drill meetings and tabletop exercises, culminated in a seven hour exercise specifically designed to test RACES interoperable communications capabilities using both Amateur Radio and County communications systems.

The event was a great success because of the effort of a team of 35 ARES/RACES members who participated in the planning, training and execution of the exercise. We received stellar marks from Monroe County and NY State observers who were impressed with the high level of professionalism and communication expertise shown throughout the exercise; not to mention the MacGyver-like heroics of a few of our members who overcame obstacles with a never-say-no determination to get the job done.

How did we do? What did we learn? We will devote some of our meeting time on an after-action review to help us understand what went right, what went wrong and what we can do better next time. Oh yes, there will be a next time... We are in an early planning stage for another exercise late winter or early spring, so if you missed this one you will have another chance to hone your EmComm skills. .

ARES/RACES members and anyone interested are welcome to attend meetings. Please join us for an interesting night of discussion on past, present and future ARES/RACES activities. Additional information on ARES/RACES activities in this area can be found at www.monroecountyemcomm.org



If you are still craving for more EmComm action, there is one more event to participate in before we meet again in late September: Mark your calendar for an action packed day on Sunday, September 12. We will once again be the primary communications team for the MVP Health Care Rochester Marathon 2010 (to benefit the Arthritis Foundation).

This is a seven hour event beginning at 7:30 am. There is need for communications at several water stops and relay checkpoints throughout the race circuit and foot patrol needs along the canal path throughout the day. We will be providing ATV (video) from points along the route. This event will be observed by one of the three-letter federal agencies who will assess communications interoperability between participating agencies providing communications for the event. As you know ARES/RACES plays an important role in the Monroe County Public Safety Communications plan. Here is another opportunity for us to shine in that role. Hand-held radios should be sufficient for most activities and a gain antenna will be useful in remote areas. Can't devote an entire day? There are four-hour shifts available. Contact the event captain for details. Satisfy your EmComm craving and provide a valuable public service for your community.

You can sign-up for this event and others listed on the website by visiting www.rochesterham.org and clicking on the "Public Service" button in the left pane. Find "Rochester Arthritis Foundation Marathon" and click on the "Sign-up" button.

You can address questions or concerns regarding your role in this event directly to the event captain, Dave Snyder, KC2REO. dave@mail.rit.edu

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RDXA News

By Scott Hoag, K2ZS
RDXA President

The Rochester DX Association will be kicking off its new season in September and the first meeting of the year is approaching quickly. Our summer break has passed quickly and it has been a very hot summer with many varied band conditions. Sunspots are up and we have enjoyed glimmer of hope with openings in the upper bands increasing in frequency, pardon the pun. Why not join us for our first meeting of the year and share some of your summer's operating tales with us.

The Rochester DX Association meets the 3rd Tuesday of every month from September thru May at the Monroe County Emergency Operations Center located at 1190 Scottsville Rd, Suite 200, Rochester, NY 14624. The Sept. Meeting will be held on the 21st. beginning at 7:30PM.

Elmira Hamfest

The Amateur Radio Association Of the Southern Tier (Elmira) announces the 35th annual Hamfest/Computerfest Saturday the 25th day of September 2010 at the Chemung County Fairgrounds located in Horseheads New York.

We feature a large outdoor flea market (one free spot per admission ticket); lots of free parking; FCC exams. If you haven't upgraded yet now is the time. Remember no Morse code exams are required. Walk ins always welcome. Dealer displays and a whole lot more.

Advanced Sale tickets are \$5.00 (\$6.00 at the gate). Tickets and indoor vendor tables are available through the website www.arast.org or by contacting: ARAST, Inc.-Tickets,P.O. Box 614, Horseheads NY 14845-0614

Advanced tickets requests will be available via the web and /or US Mail until September 17, 2010 for mailing. Any prepaid orders received after that time will not be mailed, but will be available at the vendors/flea market gate at the Fairview Road entrance the morning of the event.

Talk-In is on the N3AQ repeater: 147.36(+) no pl tone required. Any additional information and directions may be obtained by visiting our website at www.arast.org. So remember to mark your calendars for Saturday September 25, 2010 for the 35th annual Elmira Hamfest and computer fest. It will be a great time for one and all.

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RaRa meets on the first Friday of each month
from September through May. Come join us at:

Henrietta Fire Company No.1
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[Get Directions](#)

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October Rag Deadline
September 8, 2010

