

THE ANTIQUE WIRELESS ASSOCIATION

Gary Skuse, KA1NJL – RARA Vice President

Traditionally the May RARA meeting is affectionately called “Old Timer’s Night” and it is a time when the old timers can reminisce and the younger hams can learn about the rich history of radio. I have come to appreciate the ingenuity of those who overcame the limited technology available back in the day to magically communicate through the ether. I have also come to appreciate the wealth of knowledge some of our members have about those days when radios were large and glowed in the dark. One such member is Ed Gable. His contributions to the hobby are immeasurable and his knowledge about all things radio is all that and more. At the May meeting we are privileged to welcome Ed back to share his knowledge as he talks about another local treasure, the Antique Wireless Association (AWA) Museum. He provided the following description of his presentation.

"RARA is pleased to present its annual Old Timer's Night where we celebrate the past history of some aspect of ham radio. As in years past this night has been hosted by the Antique Wireless Association (AWA) of nearby Bloomfield, NY. The early years brought AWA co-founder Bruce Kelley, W2ICE, to the floor where his booming voice, charm, wit and never ending knowledge of amateur radio history entertained everyone who listened. After Bruce became a silent key in 1995, Ed Gable, K2MP, took over and hosted the meetings and entertained and educated RARA members with original research into matters of historical interest to hams. The AWA has operated a radio museum, first in Spencerport and then Bloomfield, NY, for over 60 years. Slowly, over time, the museum's collection grew from locally obtained remnants of ham basements to what is now one of the finest such collections in the world today. Last August, after being housed for the last twenty-five years in a small, cramped, 2nd and 3rd floor, non-handicapped accessible building, the AWA Museum has opened a new facility at 6925 Rte 5 & 20, in Bloomfield. Ed will take us on a photographic tour of the new facility, talk a little bit about how it all came about and introduce the hard working volunteers that make it happen. He will also invite people to the annual AWA Spring meet, Saturday May 3rd, across the street from the museum location where there will be a radio flea market, a radio auction similar to the well liked RARA auction, and sales of excess museum items not part of the collection. See you there."

Whether you are young or old I can promise that you will learn something and be entertained at the same time. Please join us for the next RARA meeting.

MAY 2014
VOLUME 66, ISSUE 9

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

MAY PROGRAM	1
PREZ SEZ	2
CALENDAR OF EVENTS	2
2015 HAMFEST ANNOUNCED	3
RARA'S SUMMER PICNIC	3
2014 MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP	3
RFI MITIGATION	4
MIS-INFORMATION	7
VE TEAM	7
PEAK THE GRID	8
CHET ALBRECHT	9
HELP WANTED	10
W1AW/2 SPECIAL EVENT	10
OFFICER'S RESPONSIBILITIES	11
RAGS OF THE PAST	12
SPRING FOX HUNT	13
HAMFESTS	14
NEWS FROM AREA CLUBS	16
AMATEUR'S CODE	18
WEBSITE INFORMATION	18
RARA MARKETPLACE	19
RARA OFFICERS	20
AREA CLUB CONTACTS	21

RARA MEETING

May 2nd, 7PM

Henrietta Fire Co. #1

3129 East Henrietta Rd.

PREZ SEZ

Bill Marinucci, WB2GHC – RARA President

The theme for our May RARA meeting is 'Old Timers' Night', so I'll take a moment to remember my early days in ham radio. I was 12 years old when I got my Novice license, which was only good for one year and not renewable. Those were the days when Morse Code was mandatory. My first station consisted of a 'slightly used' Heathkit DX-35 transmitter, and a borrowed Hallicrafter's S-85 receiver. The receiver also had an outboard Q-multiplier added to it. I had to be sure to turn on the receiver about half an hour before actually getting on the air, due to frequency drifting until it was 'warmed up'. I didn't have an electric antenna relay then, so I used a knife switch to transfer the antenna from the receiver to the transmitter. There was also a toggle switch on the receiver which had to be flipped in order to not overload the receiver's front end. I used a vertical antenna with a bottom loading coil with multiple taps for the various bands I would be using. Yes, I had to go outside and physically change the tap when I wanted to switch bands. Did I mention that a Novice's transmitter had to be crystal controlled? No VFO's were allowed back then. Since all novices were crystal controlled, it was necessary to tune the receiver up and down from the frequency that I was using to hear someone that might be answering my CQ. My dummy load consisted of a light socket, a 60 watt bulb, and about 5 feet of 50 ohm coax that I would connect to the transmitter, and tune for maximum brightness. Then I needed to remove it and reattach the vertical antenna to my DX-35. Later, I used a neon bulb with about a 5 inch circle of wire between the center and ground side, then tune the transmitter for maximum brightness of the bulb. Not long thereafter I used a Radio Shack Field Strength Meter and tuned for maximum output. Despite all of this, I had a fantastic time making contacts, and each one was a thrill, especially if it was a new state, etc. My favorite band then was the 40 meter band, which was very populated with other novice operators. Did I mention the RF burns???

Quickly the technology evolved, AM transmitters became more efficient, then Single Sideband became very popular, and the avid AM'ers were not thrilled about it! Transceivers made their way in and they too became very popular, almost everything in one box. Digital modes came along, and computer technology was used, both internal and external to the transceiver. Look at the sophisticated gear that we have today, along with software defined radio, and see just how far we have come. Mind boggling!

The one thing that has not progressed at the same rate as our gear is the antenna, in my judgment. Dipoles were the antenna of choice for most operators. There were yagi antennas (beams) like the Mosley TA-33 available at that time as well, and that was a big step to move up to one... a tower, rotator, etc. were not in a 13 year old's budget! . Verticals were also popular, especially for those hams that did not have enough real estate for a dipole. Some of the 'big guns' on 40 meters used phased verticals, with the Hy-Gain 14AVQ being the most popular vertical to phase. They did work very well for chasing 40 meter DX. Looking at today's antennas, the yagi hasn't changed much, dipoles are the same, verticals are a little more sophisticated but the basics are still the same. There are a few verticals that have all kinds of 'do dads' attached on them, but many of them lack XYL approval. Why? These antennas are very strange looking to say the least!

One can only imagine what the future holds as far a technology goes. It seems like technology is still growing exponentially, with no end in sight. One thing that you can count on, it will work its way into ham radio of the future.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

MAY 2ND - RARA General Meeting

7:00 PM at Henrietta Fire Co #1, 3129 East Henrietta Road

May 3rd – Antique Wireless Association Spring Meet

May 3rd – Auburn Annual Swap Meet

MAY 7TH – RARA Board of Directors

MAY 15TH – June RAG Deadline

MAY 17TH – RARA VE Testing

10:00 AM RIT Gleason Hall, Room 3139

ROCHESTER HAMFEST 2015 ANNOUNCED

Bill Marinucci, WB2GHC



RARA's Board of Directors is most pleased to announce our Rochester Hamfest for 2015. The Rochester Hamfest 2015 will be held on Saturday, June 6, 2015 and by popular demand, will return to the Barnard Firemen's Field. We have had hamfests at this venue in the past with a great deal of success.

The next step that needs to happen in a timely fashion is to establish a Hamfest Committee, consisting of a Hamfest Coordinator, and several Team Captains who will take on the various tasks needed to organize and execute this event. Team Captains will also solicit volunteers to serve on the various teams.

If you are willing to serve as the Hamfest Coordinator or one of the Team Captains, please contact any of the current Board members and make it known. Your help is needed, and most appreciated. Working together, we can make this one of the best hamfests around.

RARA 'S SUMMER PICNIC

Len Crellin, KC2PCD

This year the first Friday in July happens to be on the 4th so at the April meeting members voted to hold the "meeting" at the annual picnic instead. The date is Saturday, July 12, 2014 and the location is once again the Stewart Lodge at Mendon Ponds Park. The grill gets ready around noon and the burgers and hots look really good soon after that.

We invite you to bring a dish to pass so we can have a real buffet to choose from. If there are any announcements to make we will try to keep the "meeting" part very brief. Hopefully there will be some operating positions available and maybe you can even start your own tailgate flea market in the parking lot. Please bring along your favorite picnic games or table games and don't hesitate to take part in good old rag chewing. Fun is strongly encouraged.

So please spread the word that there is no meeting at the fire hall on July 4th. You will need to buy your own donuts I'm afraid.

Also, we still need people to help with this event. Like most club activities, making events happen takes effort and the club relies on volunteers. Please contact me or any Board member to let us know you will help out RARA with this position so we can continue having these great social gatherings each year. We can't do it without your help!

RARA 2014 MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Bill Marinucci, WB2GHC

I am very disappointed to announce that there were no applications received for the RARA Memorial Scholarship, 2014. There are several young people in RARA that are eligible to apply for it, but this year, no one took advantage of this award. Sadly, it is an example of the hundreds of thousands of scholarship dollars that go unclaimed across the country each year. We will be offering the RARA Memorial Scholarship again in 2015, with hopefully, different results.

RFI MITIGATION IN RHEEM RGFG HIGH EFFICIENCY FURNACE

Don Kiser, AC2EV

Through innovation and modern design techniques today's home furnaces contain a multitude of electronics and technology. Gone are the days of a single phase 110VAC motor, a few relays, and thermal switches. Today's furnaces use on board computers that utilize high speed data networks, continuously variable gas valves and 3-phase motors all of which are suspect to produce RFI. In this article I will show you the methods I used to locate and mitigate the main source of RFI in my furnace.

Legal

I am not a HVAC installer. Your situation may vary from mine. Your first action should be to contact your installer and have them contact the manufacturer to see if they offer an RFI kit to suppress the noise. If you find that you want to do it yourself, you agree to hold me harmless. I take no liability for any information you find here. Always use good engineering practices and common sense. Do not defeat any safety mechanisms in your furnace.

My Experience

When I first experienced this issue I immediately contacted my installer. They were responsive at first but I found my concerns soon fell on deaf ears with both my installer and the furnace manufacturer.

It was only after I contacted the manufacturer of the suspect devices that I was able to get useful information. However, you should always start with your installer and escalate from there. The OEM manufacturer typically does not have the resources to assist the homeowner. They make and sell the motor; they don't know how their customers (furnace manufacturer) will use them.

In my case, Rheem used a 3-phase motor on a single phase furnace. This implementation was not the responsibility of the motor manufacturer.

You may find that the part numbers on the devices do not match the manufacturer's part numbers so be very careful in making assumptions as to what device you have.

What is RFI

Radio Frequency Interference (RFI) is radiated or conducted electrical energy that causes undesirable effect on nearby equipment. Conducted RFI is typically 10 kHz to 30 MHz (160-10 meters). Radiated RFI is 30 MHz to 10 GHz (VHF and above).

Reading Material

Some helpful links you may or may not have read. Don't worry there won't be a test.

<http://audiosystemsgroup.com/RFI-Ham.pdf>

http://www.nccc.cc/pdf/ferrites_rfi-nccc.pdf

https://www.osha.gov/SLTC/radiofrequencyradiation/electromagnetic_fieldmemo/electromagnetic.html

<http://www.arrl.org/radio-frequency-interference-rfi>

http://www.nsrc.ca/hf/rfi_rev_a.pdf

RFI Suppressing Tools

- Ferrite EMI Suppression Cores: Fair-rite Mix 31
- Mouser PN 623-0431164181
- Mouser PN 623-2631102002
- Power Line Filters
- Corcom PN 20AYO1 – 20 Amp 3 phase WYE
- Corcom PN 20EP6 – 20 Amp Single Phase

RFI Sources

There are many potential sources for RFI in a modern day furnace; the likeliest culprits involve the modulation of data or electric signals of which there are many. In my furnace these boiled down to the following possibilities:

- Rheem RHC-TST412MDMS Communicating Thermostat
- White Rodger 36J27-503 Modulating Gas Valve

- Gentec¹ ECM 3.0 1/2HP 120/240V Variable Speed Blower Motor
- Fasco² 70920285 3-phase Inducer

RFI suppressing methods

Locating the source of the noise can be the most difficult thing. I use the divide and conquer method. Start at the main panel in your home and begin turning off the breakers until you locate the one that reduces the RFI of interest. You may find that you have several RFI sources in your home.

With regards to locating what exactly in the furnace is causing the RFI, this will be an exercise in trial-and-error. Maybe you'll get lucky and fix it the first time or maybe like me, you'll end up trying several things to find the one that works best.

At this point I must stress good engineering techniques and common sense are necessary. It is very important to think about what you are doing and what may happen. *Hypothetically speaking*, one should not simply disconnect the power to the draft inducer when the furnace is running as this could cause the furnace to lose draft and result in a flame rollout. Flame rollout could cause the thermal fuses to trip. Some thermal fuses are one time use and can be expensive to replace. Others are resettable. Depending on your furnace, you may be able to disconnect the draft sensor which should disable the igniter loop and gas valve. Be safe, refer to the legal disclaimer.

These are guidelines, not absolutes, so feel free to experiment:

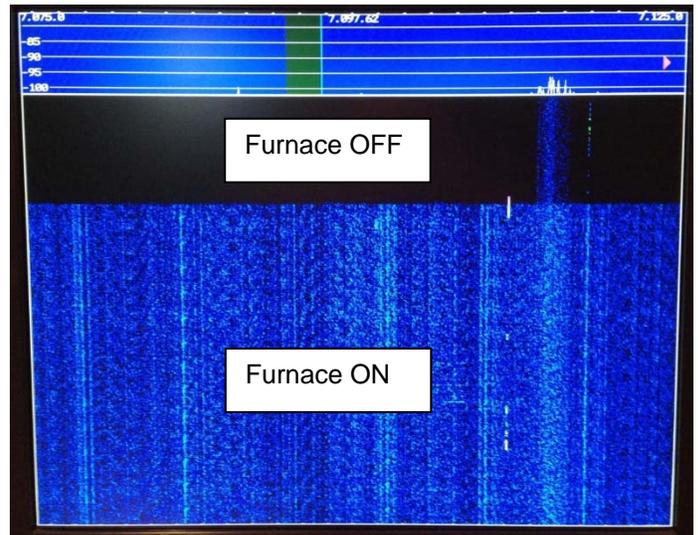
- Place the power line filter closest to the control end to reduce the antenna effect of the wiring to the device.
- Twist the wires from the filter to the motor. This will help to balance the electromagnetic fields and reduce RFI.
- Ferrite chokes on individual wires to reduce noise. Remember the choking impedance increases by the square of the turns. At HF this will require on the order of 5 turns or more. The more turns the better. Get a bigger ferrite if needed or use several in series.
- Use shielded wire where possible. Try grounding the shield at one end leaving the other shield un-connected or connect both ends. Try terminating the shield to the chassis vs the ground wire.

My RFI

Below is a picture of the RFI from my furnace. The lower part of the image is when the furnace was running. The middle part is when I flipped the main power on the furnace from on to off. I think we can all agree that something in the furnace was generating RFI.

This noise covered just about the entire 40 meter band and could be heard all the way up to 20 meters. At first I suspected the main blower motor, a Genteq variable speed blower. To test this, I simply started up the furnace then pulled the power connector off the blower. Result: The noise level was unaffected.

Next on the list was the gas valve. This also proved not to be the culprit. At this point I was out of ideas as I was unaware the draft inducer was 3-phase and still waiting on word back from my installer.



I then reached out to the manufacturer of the motor. A few days later, I received an email from a very nice guy who turned out to be a fellow ham. I provided him the pertinent information on the motor and a few days later he replied with what he found. It turns out the draft inducer was actually a 3-phase motor. We surmised that the furnace was generating a 3-phase signal to run it. As such the signal was probably full of harmonics.

I looked again at the schematic on the furnace panel and found the inducer control board. Like everything else in the furnace it was unshielded and the motor control wires were in the same bundle as everything else.

So, I turned on the furnace and looked at my Panadapter. The noise was there. I held my breath and disconnected the power to the motor. I then saw the Panadapter go black. I found the culprit. Now I had to figure out how to make it quiet.

¹ Owned by Regal-Beloit America

² Owned by Regal-Beloit America



Unused Hole with Cable Gland Installed

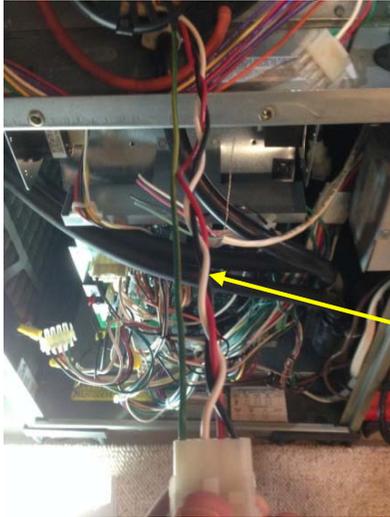
I picked up a 3-phase line filter, Molex pins, a couple of Molex connectors and some shielded 4-conductor wire from various sources on the internet. Once I had all the parts I proceeded to make a plan.

Next to the OEM cable assembly I found an unused hole that was capped. I removed the cap and found a suitable cable gland.

Note: Having a high efficiency furnace means there is isolation between the combustion side and circulation side. You must ensure that you maintain this isolation otherwise you run the risk of allowing Carbon Monoxide into your home. After installing the cable gland I ran 4-conductor shielded cable through the gland and attached the Molex connectors on each end. Routing of the wire depends on your furnace. Take care to avoid the sharp edges of the furnace metal. Some molex pins are better than others. I found that the female molex pins I purchased were not manufactured to the highest tolerance. I had to use a small awl or screwdriver to open up the male molex ends so that they make contact in the female sockets. A bad connection could cause erratic operation and even more RFI.

Originally I had wired this through a 3-phase power line filter but found that this caused the inducer control board to fault and not drive the inducer motor. This was evidenced by a red blinking LED on the inducer control board.

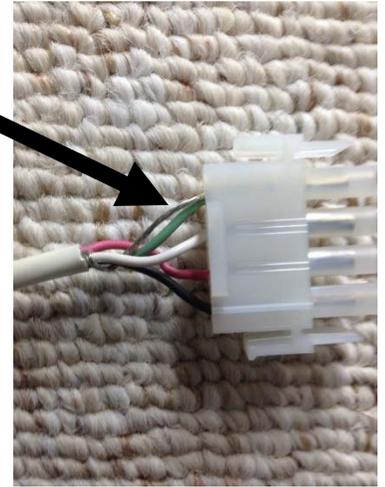
With the 4-conductor wire in place and the furnace back together I turned the power back on and started the furnace. The RFI from the furnace was gone. Now on to tackling the next RFI source.



Inducer Power Connector

Shield and ground are attached. Try it without shield too (at one end). One way may work better

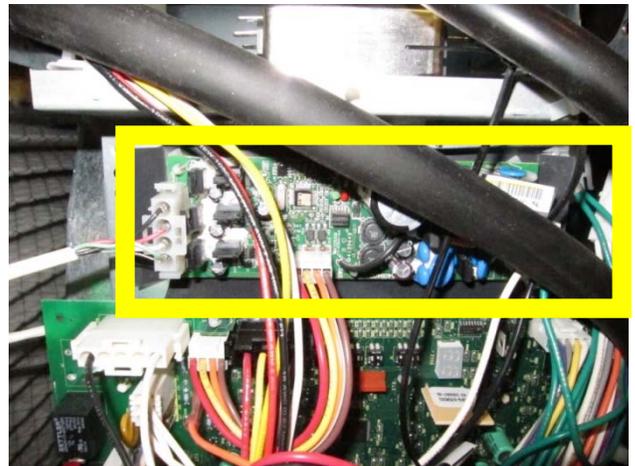
Braid the power wires to balance the currents and reduce noise and antenna effect



4 Conductor Shielded Cable



New Wiring, Old Connector Abandoned In Background



Inducer Control Board, New Connector on Left

MIS-INFORMATION

William Kasperkoski, WB2SXY

Questions about RARA? Go directly to the source. Asking a question on an email reflector, Facebook or a chat room MAY get you a lot of OPINIONS, but your best and most accurate response will be from a RARA Officer. See the webpage at www.rochesterham.org. It holds many correct answers.

For Questions about:

Membership Application, Roster, Call Changes: Tim Barrett, K9VB timbarrett@frontiernet.net
Public Service Events: Joe Walker KA8WJH ka8wjh@arrl.net
Monthly Program Activities: VP Gary Skuse KA1NJL ka1njl@arrl.net
Articles, Sample Rag, Subscriptions: Forest Shick fshick@atriatechnologies.com
Club Comments, Suggestions, Logo Items: Secretary Len Crellin KC2PCD kc2pcd@rochester.rr.com
Donations, Scholarship, Treasurer: Ken Hall W2KRH ken@w2krh.com
Club Station Trustee, Calls: Jim DiTucci jim.n2ixd@gmail.com
RARA History: Ed Gable K2MP egable@rochester.rr.com
RARA Email Reflectors: Bill Kasperkoski WB2SXY wb2sxy@arrl.net

'When All Else Fails' contact our President: Bill Marinucci WB2GHC wb2ghc@arrl.net

VE TEAM INPUT

Ken Hall, W2KRH

The March VE session was well attended with 12 applicants achieving new or upgraded licenses: 4 Technician, 6 General and 2 Extra. A father and two sons all took both the Technician and General exams with two General licenses and one Technician being granted. Congratulations to the Koelle family. Additionally we had 2 other family groups the Fioravanti's and the Timmons'. Congratulations to all.

There will be a test session in May on Saturday the 17th at our usual location at RIT.

Michael Downes	KD2FXU	T	Hans Haller	KC2TCF	G
Patricia Fioravanti	KD2FXV	T	Joshua Koelle	KD2FXX	G
Gabriel Koelle	KD2FXW	T	Scott Koelle	KD2FXY	G
LeeAnn Timmons	KD2FYA	T	Scott Phillipe	KD2FXZ	G
James Gambacorta-Hoffman	KD2DTJ	G	Bernard Fioravanti	KD2BEB	E
Paul Getman	KD2FLA	G	David Timmons	KD2DYX	E

PEAK THE GRID

Forest Shick, WA2MZG

Don't Just Do Something – Sit There!

AHHHH! The frustrated words of my Dad when I should have been mowing the lawn or shoveling the driveway but instead I was practicing my guitar, playing baseball or tinkering with a radio. Jump ahead a “few” years and I get the same frustrated feeling as my Dad did when I wonder what it will take to inspire RARA members to be active participants in their organization instead of being bystanders.

Over the last few years we have licensed or upgraded the license of 150+ hams. We have over 600 dues paying members and we are lucky if 60 attend a meeting. Where are all these people? It is obvious they like being a member of RARA – they pay their dues, participate in public service events, some occasionally attend meetings.

- What is taboo about our monthly meeting?
- Where are the volunteers to join the Board of Directors or run for office?
- Where are the volunteers to organize the hamfest, cabin parties, or other RARA social events?
- What would make you participate?
- How could the meeting be improved?
- Is there an activity from the past that we should resurrect?
- Is there a new activity we should initiate?

I would like to be the focal point for your thoughts and ideas on these issues. Please send an email to:

editor@rochesterham.org providing your thoughts on this. I will summarize your ideas in a report to the Board of Directors.



MEETING RAFFLE

During the April 2014 RARA meeting we raffled off a Ten-Tec general coverage receiver kit, Model 1056. At the May meeting, in addition to our regular raffle, we will offer a RockMite II crystal controlled CW transceiver for 40M. Here is a link to the QRPMe web site:

<http://www.qrpme.com/?p=product&id=RM4>.

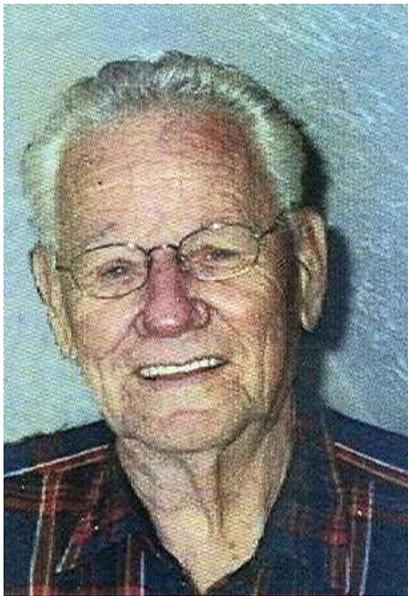
The tickets will be \$3 each or 2 for \$5. The kit is all through-hole construction. The instructions are available on line as pdf's. The instructions are very well written and easy to follow. It is a very unique design as it uses a crystal for the front end receiver filter!

Most of the necessary hardware is included in the kit: BNC, jacks for power, key and headphones. You will have to make or buy your own case.



CHET ALBRECHT WB2MDO

Ed Gable, K2MP



With the passing of Chet Albrecht, the Rochester area Amateur community lost a loyal, hard working man who was a friend to everyone. Chet was not a super ham with titles such as DXCC, WAS, VUCC and the like. Those were not important to him, but what he did earn was the respect and admiration of all who knew him. He dedicated his ham activities to those tasks that would serve others. A member of RARA, RRRA, RACES, ARES, SkyWarn and others tell the story of Chet's contributions. If there was a public service event happening, he was there: Stuart Horse Trials, Walnut Hill Driving Competition, Empire State Games, any walk or run for this or that, and one of his favorites the STPR road rally. Chet was a long time, hard working member of Holdsworth's Coolies who, for many years, transformed the empty Dome Arena into a venue for the Rochester Hamfest that was enjoyed by so many.

Chet will also be remembered for his expertise at machine work, where he made countless parts for local hams and club projects. Now that the statute of limitations is up, I can say he made most of the hardware for the difficult 28/88 antenna project at Kodak Office by using his position as a machinist at Kodak for thirty years. His efforts coined the phrase "Lake Avenue Hardware Store."

Chet grew up in this area at both a farm (recently sold to allow traffic pattern changes to allow the new Cosco Store) and at the Hillside Children's Center on Monroe Avenue. He left the area for stints in the CCC and Marine Corps. Chet liked his WW2 era military experience but was not exactly a model soldier. He spent more time stealing beer from the Navy than in combat. He said that his stripes were attached with Velcro to keep up with his ever changing rank. Chet was a private pilot and really enjoyed flying out of the old Hylan Airport in Henrietta. There was a persistent story of a young pilot who flew under the Route 15 bridge at 490, and upon landing, found the FAA inspector with his hand out. Evidently his pilot's license was also with Velcro. Years later I would ask Chet about that, and he would just smile and not confirm or deny.

In later years, when ham radio became difficult, he spent time on EchoLink chatting with old friends. Although embracing new technology, he had some difficulty with it and good friend and golfing partner Lloyd Caves, N2PU, was always there to tell him again where the "anykey" was located.

His last year was spent comfortably at the Edna Tina Center on Island Cottage Road where he was lovingly cared for by his daughter Elaine. Chet had a way of making everyone feel as if they were his best friend. Those friends, today, are saddened by the passing of this 96 year old veteran, but are keenly aware of a wonderful life full of giving and caring.

RARA WANT ADS – HELP WANTED

Rochester Hamfest 2015: **Hamfest Coordinator** is needed to lead a committee of volunteer staffed individuals that will serve as Team Captains for the many functions needed for a successful hamfest. Contact any RARA Board member if you are willing to fill this position. (See last page of the RAG for contact information).

Rochester Hamfest 2015: **Team Captains** needed for Marketing, Vendor Solicitations, Tickets / Ticket Sales, Gate Captain, Programs/Presenters, Talk-In station and operators, Special Events Station, etc. The tasks for each position are to plan and organize the issues to be addressed and then build a team of volunteers to bring them to fruition. Contact any RARA Board member if you are willing to fill one of these positions. (See last page of the RAG for contact information).

RARA Academy: **Coordinators** wanted to organize RARA Academy sessions on various topics for both 'newbies' as well as 'seasoned' hams. The Coordinator will find presenter(s) for the session. These sessions will most likely be held at RIT on Saturday mornings. Our target is for 3 sessions (summer, fall, and winter). Contact any RARA Board member if you are willing to fill any of these positions. (See last page of the RAG for contact information).

RARA Summer Picnic: **Volunteers**. Several volunteers are need to help set up tables, etc. on the day of the picnic (July 12, 2014). Grill tenders also needed to cook them hot dogs and flip them burgers! Come join the fun! Contact any RARA Board member if you are willing to fill any of these positions. (See last page of the RAG for contact information).

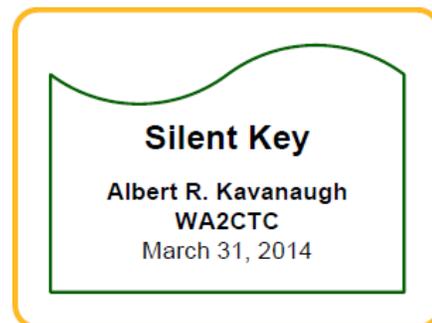
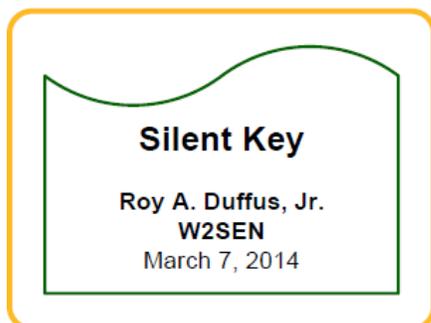
RARA Board of Directors: **Candidates** for the 2014-15 RARA Board of Directors, Officers and Members at Large positions will be up for election in September, 2014. The new Board will take effect on October 1, 2014 and will be installed at our RARA Banquet on September 26. A Nomination Committee will be named in the near future, so watch for more information to come. Responsibilities of the club officers are found in the RAG.

W1AW/2 SPECIAL EVENT IN ROCHESTER!

The ARRL is 100 years old and having a special event with their Centennial Celebration. The Rochester DX Association, (RDXA club) is working the special W1AW/2 event Wed, May 21 - Tues May 27. Paul Mackanos, K2DB, will be the main coordinator for RDXA members to sign up and operate 2 hour blocks for that special event. Very generously, RARA has been approached and asked if K2JD would like to operate a team inside this special event.

There are many modes and time slots that could be organized, and experienced and newer folks of course would be welcome to check in with K2JD to operate some of the time slots available. This would be a great experience.

Interested RARA members, let me know WB2SXY@arrl.net



BOARD OF DIRECTORS OFFICER'S RESPONSIBILITIES

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

RARA RAGS OF THE PAST

Ed Gable, K2MP – RARA Club Historian

20 YEARS AGO, MAY, 1994

This issue announced the program for May as the annual Old Timer's Night hosted by Bruce Kelley, W2ICE. Bruce brought recordings of old time ham operations using vintage gear with poor selectivity, no split operation for DX and regular QRM from, of all things, street cars. Roger Harnaart, WB2BWQ, invited RARA members to "get lost in the hills" by joining in on the fun at the Susquehannock Trail Pro Rally (STPR). This SCCA sanctioned road rally brought professional rallyist and cars from all over the country to run in the hills of Pennsylvania. The rugged mountainous area was a real challenge for amateur communications using two meter FM. You could sign up for this event by seeing Lloyd, WB2EFU or Chet, WB2MDO. Harold Smith, K2HC, General Chairman of the 1994, Rochester Hamfest and Computer Show, wrote to describe this year's Dome Center event where 7,500 attendees are expected. Fred Gern, KB2SE, writing for the Rochester VHF Group told of their plans for the June VHF contest. This year the group will operate from the home of Wayne, N2WK, instead of their previous Gannett hill QTH. Irv, AF2K, RARA's Membership Chair reported that membership stood at 795. As customary, this issue was filled with the biographies of candidates for RARA officers and directors. Results of the election will be published here next month. With regret Paul Alpeter, N2BUL, was reported as a Silent Key. From the Want-Ads you could buy an ICOM SM-10 Desk Top Microphone from Irv, AF2K. A long term commercial advertiser was Patrick C. Moyer, N2AIW, Attorney-at-Law.



the **RARA RAG**

Published by
ROCHESTER AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION, INC.

VOL. 46

MAY 1994

NO. 9

SCENES AND SOUNDS OF THE PAST

The club's historian, Bruce Kelley, W2ICE, will entertain us at our May meeting with an illustrated talk on early amateur radio, covering both local and DX stations. To enliven the program, he will play a few recordings of the past that will make you wonder how one could work anyone in the qrm (noise!).

Bruce has been heard recently over the PBS network telling of early broadcast and TV history, and the AWA Museum has been featured in several radio publications.

HAVE FUN! —

GET LOST IN THE PA. MOUNTAINS!!

Do you like to go to the hills of Pennsylvania? Do you like the challenge of making a good 2 meter contact under trying conditions? Do you like to work public service events? If you fit the above conditions AND are willing to drive to Wellsboro, Pennsylvania, spend the whole day AND maybe part of the night in the forest, have we got a deal for you.

The Susquehannock Trail Pro Rally (STPR) will be held the first weekend in June, in Wellsboro. This is an SCCA event, where well prepared cars travel over the forest roads, which are closed to unauthorized traffic, at speeds up to 100 miles per hour. Radio Amateurs are called in to supply all of the communications for the event. It is written in the SCCA rules that if we lose communications in a section of the rally, it is shut down until communications are resumed, or else that section is not run.

If you think that you would like to help with this project and want to know more, please contact Chet, WB2MDO; Lloyd, WB2EFU; Ed, K2MP; or Roger, WB2BWQ at 292-6665. A 25 watt mobile with a 5/8 wave antenna is a minimum.

Last year was our 18th year doing this rally, and so far we haven't PERMANENTLY lost anyone. —RH

RaRa ANNUAL MEETING

May 6, 1994
8:00 p.m.

Henrietta Fire Hall
3129 East Henrietta Road

Elections of Officers
Old Timers Night

HOW TO WIN ON THE HILL

If you have no idea how a bunch of Hams put all of their resources and talents together to reach a common goal then you should see the Rochester VHF Groups' video "Winning On The Hill". Those of us who were at the April meeting had the opportunity to see this effort and to hear from the producer, Vic Gauvin, K1JUL, some of the lesser known facts of its making and production. An effort of this size is not just a thrown together mess. The guys had a plan from the beginning and from the looks of the scores at the end, they stuck to it. Again, Thanks to Vic for presenting this show, and for bringing the video projector to put it on the big screen, which was squished by the Good Friday early closing of the rental store. Irv Goodman came to the rescue by heeding a last minute plea, and bringing in his projection screen. This is twice that he has saved the day, but he says that next time it will cost us. We've gotta get on the ball!! Thanks Irv.

SILENT KEY

PAUL A. ALTPETER

N2BUL

March 23, 1994

40 YEARS AGO, MAY, 1974

The Rochester Hamfest was the news back then as well with a welcoming article introducing the Hilton Inn on the Campus as the 1974, Hamfest Headquarters. You could have gotten your combined ticket and banquet ticket for nine dollars from ticket chairman Ernie Crewdson, WA2FVG. RARA VP and Program Chairman, Joe Hood, K2YAH, introduced Ray Williams, WA2RYT, who spoke on the topic of frequency synthesis at the last regular RARA meeting. Memorial Day weekend was the first RARA Camp Out for the season. You could sign up by seeing Rich Koehn, WB2SNA. Featured in this issue was a photo of sixteen past RARA Presidents who attended the April Old Timers Night. A sustaining advertiser was Adirondack Radio Supply of Amsterdam, NY, who was featuring a new Yaesu FL-2100 kW amplifier for \$339.00.

2014 XEROX ARC SPRING FOX HUNT

Bob Karz, K2OID, rkarz@rochester.rr.com

Have you ever been on a fox hunt? No, not the red furry animal. This is ham radio. We hunt hidden radio transmitters (better known as "foxes") like the one pictured here.



Xerox ARC "Fox" In Its Natural Habitat

does not guarantee victory. In fact, in one year a team from RIT finished first using only handhelds. In addition to radio gear, each team should bring a good map of Webster and surrounding towns as well as a cell phone in case the hunt masters need to contact you during the hunt.

The hunt will involve 4 transmitters all within 10 miles of North Ponds Park. Your hunt masters (Brian Donovan, K2AS, and Bob Karz, K2OID) will provide the transmitting frequency of the first fox. Each fox will have the frequency of the next fox on removable numbered tags attached to it. Each team should remove only the highest number of the tags remaining and leave the rest for subsequent hunters.

Your score is the sum of the numbers on your tags. The highest score wins.

At the end of the hunt, we all meet for lunch at a local establishment (announced via the Xerox 2M repeater or by cell phone calls) to share stories about the hunt and congratulate the winners.

Experienced hunters know how much fun a fox hunt can be. If you are new to fox hunting or haven't been on one lately, you should try it.

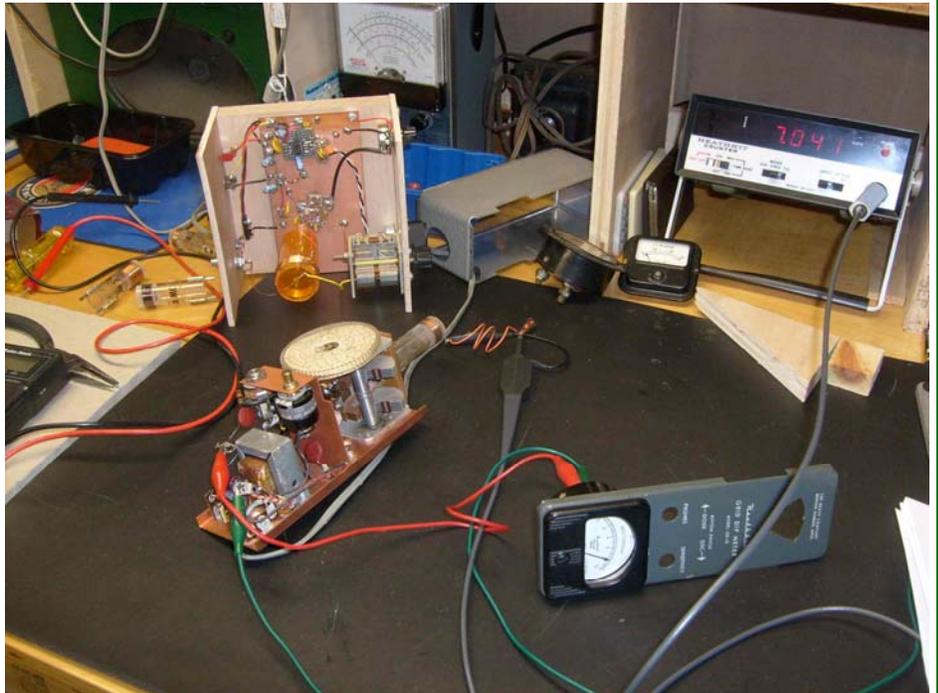
AWA'S "SPRING MEET" AND MUSEUM TOURS

Bill Hopkins, AA2YV

If you want to feel warm sun on your back, turn the knobs and maybe buy it, you know where you will be on Saturday morning, May 3: out in Bloomfield NY at the now famous **AWA Spring Meet**. I know: you already own a mower, and it has knobs, but that's for later Saturday afternoon.

Here's why you want to be present: First, this is the first year the Spring Meet will truly be an "AWA Museum event." No other AWA event ties the Museum so closely in proximity to a gathering made for hams and general radio enthusiasts alike. We're literally "across the street."

Second, while hamfests and flea markets are most always only-one-in-the-family affairs, you can now show your life partner or best friend a class-act Museum that caters to all genders and numerous cultural interests. After all, people bought / buy radios and TV's as furniture, to beautify and fill their living rooms. And, they'll want to come back, I bet you my next Heathkit Grid-Dip Meter.



Heath Grid-Dip Meter purchased 2013 from AWA: repaired! "Up and Running"

Third, it doesn't start at that unholy hour of 6 a.m. (If you're selling, come at 7'ish or later to set up). Be there at 8:00 for coffee and all those handshakes you've been missing this past winter.

Fourth, you want to sell? You can do it all morning outdoors or in, or else put it up for auction (4 items max per seller, please). Auction off your "better" stuff, maybe.

Yes, *elves* will be helping Ed Gable sell "overflow" equipment at auction out of the Museum's stash, starting at 10:30. This is gear you can afford, repair and enjoy.

Remember, Roy Wildermuth is slated to give us the annual Spring Meet presentation at 9:30: "**Stealy Flattery: How Stalin Copied the U.S. ART-13 Transmitter.**"

So come see your AWA Museum. Here's the skinny again: \$5 entrance fee, tables available inside or tailgating outside for an additional \$7 and \$5 Museum entrance (i.e., reduced!). If you are an AWA member, admission to the Museum is always FREE. There WILL be tours. The Museum opens at noon.

From Rochester, go on 444 south out of Victor and right through Bloomfield, to U.S. 5/20. Turn left (watch the crazy traffic!) and we'll be there, just 150 yards on the left. Can't miss us.

AUBURN'S 2ND ANNUAL SWAP MEET

Saturday May 3rd (first Sat. in May)
7am to noon

Located at the old GE plant parking lot
GPS: 357 Genesee Street Auburn 13021

This location is next to the McDonalds Restaurant

Admission is \$3.00 at the gate or a bag of (unexpired) canned goods. All proceeds will be donated to a local Food Pantry.

Come join us at a great little Saturday morning Swap Meet.

There are no shelters, food or bathrooms.

However, McDonalds is 100 ft. east of the Swap Meet.

Hot coffee and rest rooms are available next door. If it rains, plan accordingly.

FOR SALE

Delta Design Environmental Chamber
Model 6400 with Instruction Manual
Outside Dimensions: 19.125" x 32.94" x 30"
Test Volume: 12" x 20" x 16"
Power Requirements: 120VAC, 50/60Hz,
Single Phase, 20A
Temperature Range: -54°C to +315°C
Cooling: Liquid Carbon Dioxide
\$50.00 or Best Offer

Contact: Forest Shick, WA2MZG
fshick@atriatechnologies.com



NEWS FROM OTHER AREA CLUBS

MONROE COUNTY ARES / RACES NEWS

The Monroe County Amateur Radio Emergency Service, Inc. holds its meetings on the fourth Thursday of each month. Anyone interested, members and non-members, are welcome to attend. The next ARES Meeting will be held on: **Thursday, May 22, 2014, at 7:00 PM.**

Meetings are held at the **Greater Rochester Chapter of the American Red Cross HQ, 50 Prince Street, Rochester, NY 14607.** (Located behind the Rochester Auditorium Theatre, 885 Main St. E.)

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

WEB: www.monroecountymcomm.org

NBEMS: Want to learn about Narrow Band Emergency Messaging System (NBEMS)? It's the latest and easiest way to "Go Digital!" Bring your laptop computer and 2-M handheld transceiver. We will conduct an NBEMS clinic after every meeting through 2014.



ROCHESTER VHF GROUP

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

Anyone and everyone is invited. It is a great way to check out your equipment as well as meet up with other VHF/UHF operators in the area. The Net usually takes less than an hour, giving everyone a chance to check in for a signal report, and let others know what is new in your shack, on the roof or tower for antennas, or any interesting upcoming events.

Both nets are often a good demonstration how much further distance stations can work on narrow-band modes, even with modest antennas. We routinely have check-ins from Batavia, Buffalo, Auburn, Syracuse, Binghamton area, even Ohio, Michigan and Ontario Canada. On 6 Meters, Florida and Texas have checked in when the band opens up. It is a great time to see how that HF+6M rig works on the "Magic Band", and a good way to see how VHF propagation changes with weather, temperature, season and antenna orientation. We occasionally adjourn to higher bands like 222, 432 and 1296 MHz, as we prepare for those upcoming VHF Contests and Sprints.

More information can be found by visiting www.rvhfg.org or just calling in any Monday or Thursday night. Give it a try!

SQUAW ISLAND AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, SIARC

The Squaw Island Amateur Radio Club (SIARC) meets every second Wednesday of the month. May's meeting is NOT at the usual location. It will be held at 3019 County Complex Drive, HR Department, Rooms 204 & 205, 7:30PM after the VE session at 6:30PM.

VE sessions are held before the meetings on odd months.

GENESEE VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO ASSN.

May Meeting will be May 18th at 6:30pm in Room 205 of the Livingston County Govt. Center 2 Court St., Geneseo. To be discussed is where we will setup for Field Day this year. We are also looking for a Program Topic for the night. If anyone has an idea or a topic they would like to present to our small group, please contact me, Billy Boyd, N3DSP@Lafireline.net.

Testing will be at 5:30pm, prior to the meeting.

In the fall we hope to have a couple of meetings where we scratch build some antennas. Possibly a Buddy Pole one meeting and another antenna in October. Anyone with antenna building experience, we are open to ideas.

DRUMLINS AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Meetings are held the 3rd Wednesday of each month at the Wayne County EOC, 7336 Rt. 31, Lyons, NY. The meeting begins at 7:30PM.

VE sessions are held before the meetings on even months.

RIT AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Imagine RIT is just around the corner, and the RIT Amateur Radio Club, K2GXT will be exhibiting! Imagine RIT is an annual festival held on RIT campus to show off student innovation and creativity. This year, K2GXT will be showing off the past, present, and future of Amateur Radio. You will have the opportunity to learn and transmit morse code to a friend on the other side of our exhibit, and we'll also have a showcase of various radios throughout history, from early ones based on vacuum tubes to the most recent radios that are controlled entirely by computers! Our exhibit is located in the Clark Gym; we'd love to see you there!

Imagine RIT is on May 3rd from 10 AM to 5 PM and is free and open to the public with displays for all ages. To find out more about our exhibit, please visit: <http://www.rit.edu/imagine/planyourday14/exhibit.php?id=388>

ROCHESTER RADIO REPEATER ASSOCIATION, RRRRA

The Rochester Radio Repeater Association, RRRRA, invites you to attend its May meeting. The date is May 16 and the place is the Pittsford Town Hall basement starting at 7:30 pm. Refreshments will be served.

The Newbie Net brought to our attention that Hams have questions concerning Voice Over IP and APRS. RRRRA's May meeting will discuss and hopefully demonstrate IRLP, Echolink, and APRS. RRRRA will also be accepting nominations for next year's officers. Please help support RRRRA and consider getting involved with Rochester's only open club dedicated to amateur repeaters.

The RRRRA Board hopes those that attended RRRRA's ATV presentation now know what it is and how easy it is to get into. George, N2UIO and Bob Shewell, N2HJD plan to put up an ATV repeater soon. Now is the time to start looking for ATV equipment.

N2HJD/R has lost its Frontier Tower site which was the hub of the Megaplex. Let's thank Frontier for giving us that location rent free for almost 9 years. Please bear with RRRRA and N2HJD as we locate and move the Hub to a new site. During the transition IRLP / Echolink, 6 meters, and 10 meters will be down. All the N2HJD/R remote locations will act as standalone repeaters. If anyone has connections or knows of an available site please let N2HJD know. The site should be hopefully rent free, high in height, and be able to reach the six N2HJD/R remote repeater sites.

THE AMATEUR'S CODE

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

THE RADIO AMATEUR IS:

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

VISIT THE RARA WEBSITE!

Did you know that your club's website (www.rochesterham.org) offers these features and more?

- Photos of meetings & events (you might be in there!)
- Info on upcoming meetings/programs
- Rochester Hamfest information!
- Online membership & renewal
- Track and redeem your Reward Points
- Public service info & sign-up
- VE testing info
- Back issues of the *Rag* in PDF
- Officer contact
- List of past presidents
- Online membership directory
- Order RARA logo products
- Useful Internet links
- Ham Radio 101 – tons of tutorial info, plus net & repeater listings



RARA MARKETPLACE

Your commercial ad could be here! The RARA Rag can help spread the word on your business at very reasonable rates. Contact us for details at editor@rochesterham.org.

Michele A. Jamison, MD
Office Hours
by Appointment

Jamison Eye Care

www.JamisonEye.com
90 Erie Canal Drive | Rochester, NY 14626 | P: (585) 225-5883

ATRIA Technologies Inc
MICROCONTROLLERS & KITS

LEARN
CREATE
EXPLORE
BASIC ON BOARD!

The Heart Of Your Design
www.AtriaTechnologies.com

ELECTRICAL WORK • TELEPHONE JACKS • CABLE TV
BURGLAR ALARM SYSTEMS • PADDLE FANS



MARTIN IPPOLITO
Master Electrician

Call 585-266-6337

P.O. Box 17438
Rochester, NY 14617
N2HEG

Piano Keyboards  Organ Accordion

Music Lessons
Beginners Welcome

Call: 585-266-6337
MARTIN IPPOLITO
N2HEG

P.O. Box 17438
Rochester, NY 14617



Get your message through!
Advertise in the RaRa RAG -
Read by over 8,000 radio enthusiasts each month.
For more information: Editor@RochesterHam.org

RARA OFFICERS

OFFICERS

President: Bill Marinucci, WB2GHC	(585) 889-9008	wb2ghc@arrl.net
Vice-President: Gary Skuse, KA1JNL	(585) 223-1511	ka1njl@arrl.net
Secretary: Len Crellin, KC2PCD	(585) 267-9805	kc2pcd@rochester.rr.com
Treasurer: Ken Hall, W2KRH	(585) 289-3801	ken@w2krh.com

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Marisa Ashour, KC2VMM	(646) 236-9009	msa2984@rit.edu
Jim DiTucci, N2IXD	(585) 426-7956	n2ixd@arrl.net
Bill Kasperkoski, WB2SXY	(585) 381-6552	wb2sxy@arrl.net
Ross Mazzola, KC2LOC	(585) 247-8323	kc2loc@arrl.net
Forest Shick, WA2MZG	(585) 721-1653	fshick@atriatechnologies.com
Matthew Smicinski, KC2TNR	(803) 386-7663	mjs7769@rit.edu

DEPARTMENT HEADS

Awards/ Raffle Administrators	Jay Hamill, KC2TCM Sabrina Hamill, WD2STK	
Club Historian	Ed Gable, K2MP	
Club Station Trustee	Jim DiTucci, N2IXD	n2ixd@arrl.net
Education Coordinator	Pam Kasperkoski, W2PHK	pamelakasper@frontiernet.net
Hamfest Producer		
License Testing Coordinator	Ken Hall, W2KRH	ken@w2krh.com
Membership Secretary	Tim Barrett, K9VB	timbarrett@frontiernet.net
Media Communications	Len Crellin, KC2PCD	kc2pcd@rochester.rr.com
Public Service Coordinator	Joe Walker, KA8WJH	ka8wjh@arrl.net
RARA RAG Editors	Marisa Ashour, KC2VMM Forest Shick, WA2MZG	msa2984@rit.edu editor@rochesterham.org
Refreshments Coordinator	Tom Austin, KA2GXX	
Webmaster	Frank Schramm, WB2PYD	wb2pyd@arrl.net

JUNE RAG DEADLINE MAY 15, 2014



**RARA meets at 7PM on the
first Friday of each month;
come join us at:**

Henrietta Fire Co. #1
3129 East Henrietta Road
Henrietta, NY 14467

[Get Directions](#)

ROCHESTER AREA RADIO CLUB CONTACTS

Antique Wireless Association (AWA)
Lynn Bisha, W2BSN: lbisha@rochester.rr.com

Drumlins Amateur Radio Club Ltd. (DARC)
Glen Bruemmer, KC2YGH: kc2ygh@yahoo.com

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

Genesee Valley Amateur Radio Assn.
Bill Boyd, N3DSP: N3DSP@lafireline.net

Monroe County ARES
Jim DiTucci, N2IXD: n2ixd@arrl.net

Orleans County Amateur Radio Club (OCARC)
Terry Cook, K2EYS: k2eys@ocarc.us

Rochester Amateur Radio Association (RARA)
Bill Marinucci, WB2GHC wb2ghc@arrl.net

Rochester DX Association (RDXA)
Mark Hazel, K2MTH: mthazel2151@yahoo.com

Rochester Radio Repeater Association (RRRA)
Bob Shewell, N2HJD: bshewell@frontiernet.net

Rochester VHF Group (RVHFG)
John Stevens, WB2BYP: wb2byp@arrl.net

Squaw Island Amateur Radio Club (SIARC)
Steve Benton, WB2VMR: sbenton2@rochester.rr.com

XEROX Amateur Radio Club (XARC)
Ned Assam, W2NED: w2ned@frontiernet.com

THE RARA RAG

Published by

Rochester Amateur Radio Association, Inc.
P.O. Box 93333, Rochester, NY, 14692-8333
Hotline – (585) 210- 8910

Website – <http://www.rochesterham.org>