



## ANTENNAS? WHAT ANTENNAS?

GARY SKUSE, KA1NJL—RARA VICE PRESIDENT

Nowadays it seems like there are antenna restrictions in way too many neighborhoods. Whether they come from restrictive covenants that apply to everyone in the neighborhood or from a significant other or family member who doesn't appreciate the true beauty of a well-tuned aluminum radiator; they are restrictions nonetheless.

Just because your dream of having four stacked five element 80M monobanders mounted atop a 100ft tower may never come true it doesn't mean that you are destined to operate only on the VHF and UHF bands forever. There are many very clever, very functional "stealth" antenna designs out there and one of them is likely to suite your needs and appease, or downright hide from, whoever is restricting your ability to operate.

This month Bill Rogers, K2TER, will tell us all about stealth antenna farms. Whether you suffer from the aforementioned restrictions or you are simply interested in learning how many clever hams have figured out how to skirt the rules and successfully operate HF you are likely to learn something from Bill. In my limited experience, there are designs out there that make me ask "how does that thing even work" yet they do. Their ability to get out and enable the operator to actually communicate, often to dx stations, makes me think that those laws of physics we all learned are really just suggestions after all.

At the April RARA meeting we'll learn from someone who has been there, done that and has the log entries to prove it. Bill will teach us about his experiences and I'm confident we'll all learn a thing or two. The meeting will be held on Friday April 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7pm in the usual location, the Henrietta Fire Company #1, located at 3129 East Henrietta Road near Lehigh Station Road. I hope to see you there so we can all not see images of Bill's antennas.

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# PREZ SEZ

FRANK SCHRAMM, WB2PYD—RARA PRESIDENT

Last month I reported that our resident “Keebler Elf” Tom Austin, KA2GXX, was working hard to overcome some health issues. And I’m very saddened to report that the day after the last RAG went out, Tom passed away. Normally SK announcements are reported elsewhere in the RAG, but I wanted to take a moment and remind everyone of the unsung hero Tom was in the operations of RARA . He brought refreshments to every monthly meeting since... well longer than I can recall; and he was also an instrumental contributor to Peter “W2SKY” Fournia’s annual Hamfest parking army for decades. Tom was always quiet, reserved, and the first to volunteer. His contributions, or lack thereof, will impact the club for a long time.

On a more pleasant note, the WinterFest was a great success despite the trying weather. Nearly 50 members and family attended, and some recounted the horrific driving conditions they endured to attend... as long as the crock pots got there with their contents intact; the mission was accomplished. Hi-Hi. We had 10 crock-pot entries ranging from the exotic (a lovely Gumbo) to basic comfort food (Mac & Cheese). Our three most popular dishes, as voted on by those in attendance are: #1 “Italian Meatballs in Sweet Sauce” presented by Tim Brown, WB2PAY. Tim will receive 50 membership rewards points for 1<sup>st</sup> place. #2, worth 30 points was “Mac & Cheese” presented by Wendy Tascione, KD2DYW. And #3, receiving 10 points was “Gumbo” presented by Carol Spath. All the entries were awesome and voting was so close that one vote typically separated each dish. I have to throw a special shout out to Tim Magee, WB2KAO, and his XYL Cheryl for their Kielbasa and Beans. Tim arrived just after judging concluded, but that didn’t stop the masses, including myself, from enjoying the entry. I must admit I am a sucker for a good sausage... Polish, German, Italian... I’m easy.

We also had eight dessert entries! Running the gambit from cookies and brownies, through custard, to candy with a brief stopover at something called “Twix Squares” Presented by Brad Allen’s daughter, or should I say Connor Morris’ mom since everyone knows Connor! As the name implies, it was chocolate covered caramel with a cookie base.

So all attendees arrived safely, most were able to leave and not get stuck in the park, and we were all kept warm and very well fed! Oh yeah... we had some HF operating stations going too. I was too busy eating and socializing to be distracted by that but some attendees appeared to be enjoying themselves. I enjoyed listening to 5 year-old Connor tell his “Poppa”, Brad, how the various knobs worked.

Mark your calendars now for our next gastronomic event: The summer Picnic will be on July 11<sup>th</sup> at Wadhams Lodge in Powder Mills Park! Hots, Hamburgs, and who knows what else! Ok, I’ve made myself hungry writing this... I need to go find something to graze on until dinner is ready. TTFN

73 and happy DXing,

Frank  
WB2PYD

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- APRIL 3<sup>RD</sup>** - RARA General Meeting  
7:00 PM at Henrietta Fire Co. #1, 3129 East Henrietta Rd
- APRIL 9<sup>TH</sup>** - RARA Board of Directors  
5:30 PM RIT Engineering Hall, Room 2110
- APRIL 18<sup>TH</sup>** - RARA VE Testing  
10:00 AM RIT Gleason Hall, Room 9-3139

# **ATTENTION** **HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS**

## **ROCHESTER AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**

This annual award is given to a licensed Amateur Radio operator pursuing a degree at any accredited post-secondary school. The individual must be a member of RARA and a resident of New York State. The award is for one individual for one year, but the recipient may reapply for subsequent years. Download a [RARA Scholarship Application](#) at [www.rochesterham.org](http://www.rochesterham.org).

Please answer all questions on the application completely. If any question is not applicable to your situation, enter N/A in the blank. Feel free to use annotated addendum sheets to explain your responses more fully. This award is based on a combination of need, scholastic achievement, contributions to Amateur Radio, extra-curricular activities and community involvement. All information provided on the application will be held in the strictest confidence. No personal information will be released without the approval of the applicant.

The deadline to submit your application is April 15, 2015, so please do not procrastinate in completing the application and getting it mailed in! The winner of the Rochester Amateur Radio Association Memorial Scholarship will be announced in June, 2015. Good luck to all applicants!

Please submit all applications to:

**Rochester Amateur Radio Association**  
Memorial Scholarship Committee  
P.O. Box 93333  
Rochester, New York 14692-8333

## **NO ANTENNAS - NO AMATEUR RADIO!**

### **HR-1301**

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

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

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

# DUAL-BAND HF WIRE ANTENNA PROJECT

Presented by John Viggiano, NV2K – The time and date will be announced at the April 3rd meeting and again in the next RAG.

This hands-on RARA academy course will be to construct a dual band (20m and 15m) dipole wire antenna. We will complete the activity in approximately three hours on a Saturday afternoon at RIT. The cost of materials will be \$25.00 per attendee/antenna. This includes the cost of wire, end insulators, SO-239 connector, and miscellaneous hardware. It does not include feedline, balun, rope, or any discharge/lightning protection.

This antenna will be only 34' long so it should fit on the most modest parcel of land and will be an excellent opportunity for all you General class operators to finally get on HF! 20 meters is THE place to be baby...

The class will be limited to only 20 participants so register ASAP! Registration can be done at the next meeting and will require payment of \$25.00 for the course materials. New: We can now take credit cards at the meetings for your convenience. If the class does not fill up at the April 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting, we will also take registrations at the May 1<sup>st</sup> meeting.

## Silent Key

Thomas C. Austin  
KA2GXX  
February 22, 2015

## Silent Key

John B. Murphy  
K6ILN  
February 27, 2015

## Silent Key

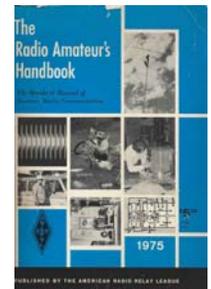
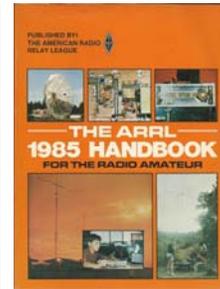
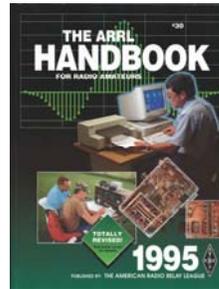
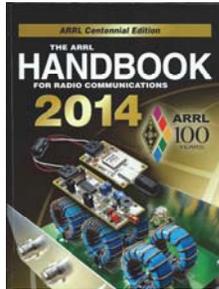
Wilfred D. Rhodes  
K2FRT  
March 1, 2015

# PEAK THE GRID

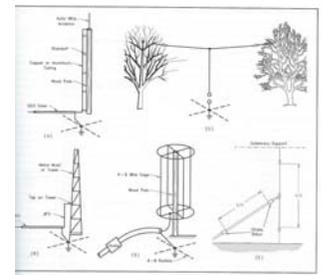
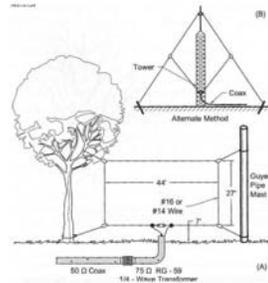
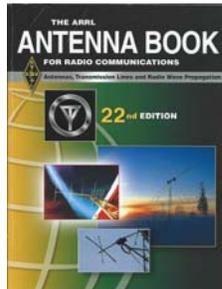
Forest Shick, WA2MZG

Last month we took a brief look at some OLD Amateur Radio books. This month let's take a peek into some of the newer books that I have acquired in the process of building / updating my library of amateur radio resources.

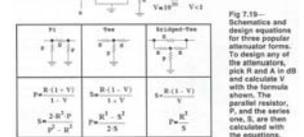
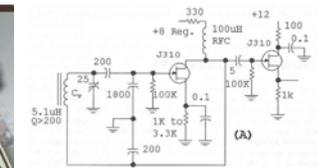
**ARRL Handbook** – Every Ham should own this book! It is loaded with information. If you are interested in the history of amateur radio – acquire some of the older issues – they detail how electronics and amateur radio has advanced through the years. These books touch almost every subject area in amateur radio. If you are looking for a starting point – this is it. Now let's be reasonable – they do not cover anything in real depth, but they get you started.



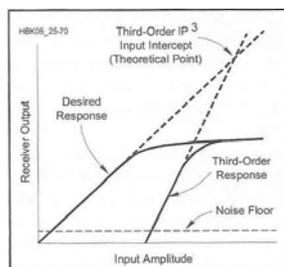
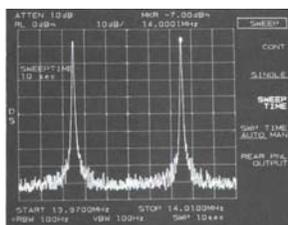
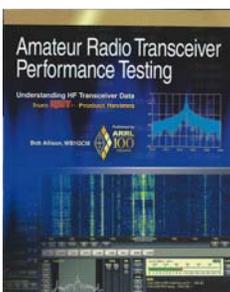
**ARRL Antenna Book** – another required book for your Ham Radio bookshelf. It is also interesting reading. I flip through the pages and dream about antennas to build. Occasionally there is a question I need answered or a formula I need to verify – a handy resource.



**ARRL Experimental Methods in RF Design** – I am only in the middle of reading chapter 4 but if experimenting and home brewing are your interest – this book is loaded with easily understood theory and practical circuits.



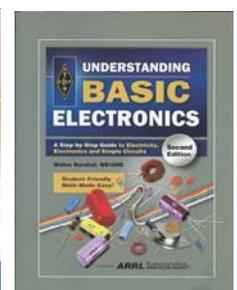
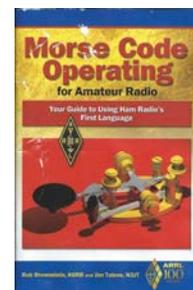
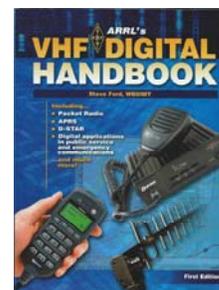
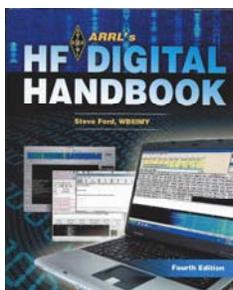
**Amateur Radio Performance Testing** – What do all those specifications mean and how do you measure them? This book answers those questions. With the assistance of these 4 books you might be able to home brew your own station from power source to antenna and be able to rate your success.



The above are my "A" list of books – must have books – never throw away or donate books!

Moving on to my "B" list. The following books are interesting. They are worth owning – if you are interested in that specific topic.

**ARRL HF Digital Handbook**  
**ARRL VHF Digital Handbook** - The HF and VHF Digital Handbooks provide a description of many digital modes.



**ARRL Morse Code Operating** - Lots of useful information from learning to operating to the history of Morse Code.

**ARRL Understanding Basic Electronics** - Now that you have your license, do you really want to learn some electronics? Start here!

Next my "C" list. These books probably should have been free pdf's. Good information but not worth their price.

**ARRL ABC's of Software Defined Radio**

**ARRL Antenna Tuners**

**ARRL Low Power Communications** - Why would you want to pay for a book that has the assembly manual for a radio, that when you buy the radio you get the manual for free?

These last 2 books I rated as "F". Up to this point, the books had a purpose but not these 2.

**ARRL Radio Science** – I read it from cover to cover. Nothing!

**Build Your Own Transistor Radios** – I never finished reading this one – not even as a bathroom book! By the way, this is not an ARRL publication.

Well those are my opinions and I will state that one more time - they are MY opinions. Needless to say, you will have your own view of these books if you have the opportunity to read them. Which brings up the question of how do you know what book to buy?

There is no simple way to preview most amateur radio books. They are not in Barnes and Noble, there is no Ham radio supplier in town, libraries probably do not have many, if any, of these books. There is no place to sit down and flip through the pages and decide if you really want to spend \$50.00 on "Build Your Own Transistor Radios". The best you can do is ask around, maybe a friend has a copy they can loan you. If you like it, buy it.

If it crossed your mind that I am getting a commission from ARRL for mentioning their books. I'm not. That just happens to be where I started my library. When I finish reading "Experimental Methods in RF Design", I will be looking for another interesting book.

The pictures of the book covers and related figures are from the books being mentioned in this article.

As a little humor for April, I created this chart of the 14 books mentioned above. You can do the math and rate the books by pages per dollar or ounces per dollar or total square inches per dollar. HINT: The ARRL Handbook wins!

TITLE	RATING	COST	PAGES	OZ	H	W	T	CD
2014 ARRL Handbook	A	\$ 49.95	1312	90.3	10.8	8.2	1.61	X
ABCs of Software Defined Radio	C	\$ 22.95	64	5	9	7.5	0.16	
Amateur Radio Transceiver Performance Testing	A	\$ 22.95	128	7.9	9	7.25	0.23	
Antenna Book	A	\$ 49.95	936	65.8	10.8	8.2	1.15	X
Antenna Tuners	C	\$ 22.95	160	13.4	10.8	8.2	0.31	
Build Your Own Transistor Radios	F	\$ 50.00	496	29	9	7.3	0.95	
Experimental Method in RF Design	A	\$ 49.95	512	40.7	10.8	8.2	0.99	X
HF Digital Handbook	B		208	12.5	9	7.25	0.4	
Low Power Communications	C	\$ 27.95	312	18.4	9	7.25	0.56	
Morse Code Operating	B	\$ 17.95	77	4.1	9	6	0.17	
Radio Science	F	\$ 24.95	192	11.7	9	7.25	0.38	
Short Antennas for 160M Radio	D	\$ 22.95	64	5.6	10.9	8.3	0.13	
Understanding Basic Electronics	B	\$ 32.95	386	30.7	10.9	8.2	0.73	
VHF Digital Handbook	B	\$ 19.95	176	14.2	10.8	8.2	0.34	

# AWA SPRING MEET and **BIG** AWA AUCTION

**Saturday May 2, 2015**

**Bloomfield, New York**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

## 2014 Volunteer Achievement Award from the American Diabetes Association in Rochester



RARA was the recipient of the 2014 Volunteer Achievement Award from the American Diabetes Association in Rochester. We had some 50 volunteer hams assist them with their events last year, primarily the Tour de Cure. They raised over \$1 million.

# VE TEAM

In March we had 19 successful candidates resulting in 2 Extra, 4 General and 13 Technician class licenses either as upgrades or newly issued. The Dominguez husband and wife team were back and he upgraded to Extra and she to General - nice going. It's good to see family involvement. The brothers Haag were back, one receiving his Technician and the other upgrading to General.

At the end of 2014, there were 136,405 Amateur Extra, 169,524 General, and 357,236 Technician class licensees in the United States, for a total of 726,275 -- all record numbers.

The April VE session will be on the 18th. Study up and come by for an upgrade or new license. Hope to see you there.

If you have any questions please contact Ken Hall [ken@w2krh.com](mailto:ken@w2krh.com).

Katherine Dominguez	KD2HTS	G	<b>Daniel Probst</b>	KC1DHC	T
Miguel Dominguez	KD2HTR	E	<b>Christopher Reepmeyer</b>	KD2IAK	T
<b>William Fanelli</b>	KD2IAG	T	<b>Joshua Singh</b>	KC1DHD	T
<b>Matthew Filmer</b>	KD2IAH	T	<b>Jordan Skiff</b>	KD2IAL	T
Nathan Grossman	KB1VGZ	G	<b>Julia Thayer</b>	KC1DHE	T
<b>Timothy Haag</b>	KC1DHB	T	<b>Philip Tifone</b>	KD2IAM	T
Benjamin Haag	KD2HET	G	<b>Philip Visall</b>	KD2IAN	T
William Kommritz	KB1SQX	G	David Wagner	KD2HWM	E
<b>Donald McKeown</b>	KD2IAI	T	<b>Keith Williams</b>	KD2IAO	T
<b>Jasmine Pazer</b>	KD1IAJ	T			

New licensees names are in BOLD

# RARA RAGS OF THE PAST

Ed Gable, K2MP – RARA Club Historian

## 20 YEARS AGO, APRIL, 1995

RARA Members were used to seeing Ed Holdsworth, N2EH, actively involved in a wide variety of RARA functions, but this time you would hear him as well. Ed was the guest speaker at this month's meeting where he told of, as well as made a live demonstration of, the operations of the K2JD Engraving Team. Lloyd Caves, WB2EFU, wrote for the Rochester Hamfest telling of the programs for the three day hamfest to be held May 19-21. Lloyd's program list included Scott Bauer, WA2LCC, moderating a DX Forum, David Hallidy, KD5RO, conducting a VHF/UHF Microwave Seminar, Dave Schiwtttek, NW2T, speaking on Weather Fax, ARRL's Ed Hare, KA1CV, talking on antenna feed lines, and many more. RARA License Exam Team of Barbara AA2CX and George, AA2FO (sk), announced that eight new hams entered our ranks including a future RARA Board member and AWA Museum Secretary Bill Hopkins, AA2YV. Bruce Kelley, W2ICE, wrote an interesting article on RARA fifty years ago (1945) when Amateurs were allowed post-war on-air activities again. The FCC just announced that Docket 93-305, was signed into law and would forever be known as the Vanity Call Sign System. Come and get 'em!

From the Want Ads you could buy a 27" Sylvania color TV from Neal, WB2EKP, or trade for a pin ball machine. Glenwood Sales on Hague Street remained a long term advertiser.



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### LIVE DEMONSTRATION FEATURED AT APRIL MEETING

On April 7th, our own Ed Holdsworth, N2EH, will be the speaker. Ed wears many hats, too many for me to keep track of, but one of the most visible functions in which he is involved is the director of K2JD Engraving, the outfit that makes badges, hats, jackets and other items for personal identification.

Ed will show all of the steps required to create the ubiquitous ID badges. From Ed's own description of how he is going to present the topic, it promises to be a VERY entertaining evening; I won't spoil it by letting anything out of the bag.

"Volunteers" (don't worry, they've already been chosen) will show the complete process of making an ID badge, almost from the raw plastic ore direct from the mines. This is a process only known by a few individuals, so this is a "must see."

If you belong to another organization that could benefit from membership identification services, why not bring along an official?

Thanks to Bill Thompson for the talk on the ARRL field organization at the March meeting. At least one member who had let his League membership lapse has told me that he intends to "re-up" in the ARRL as a result of Bill's talk. I have a copy of the Bill's notes and projections; if anyone would like a copy, contact Chris Reich, WB2DYJ. Depending on the number of copies requested, I may need to ask for the cost of the copies to be defrayed.

Bring a friend to the April meeting.

### HAMFEST TESTING SCHEDULE

Amateur radio exams during the hamfest weekend will be at 111 Westfall Road. The exam registration will be at 12:30 PM, with exams starting at 1:00 PM. Pre-registration is requested, but walk-ins will be accommodated as space permits.

### RaRa MEETING

April 7th, 1995  
8:00 P.M.  
Henrietta Fire Hall  
3129 East Henrietta Road  
Live Demonstration

### NEW BINDINGS AVAILABLE FOR RaRa DIRECTORIES

For those of you that got new directories, and don't have binders for them, a new service will be available to RaRa members. At the April meeting, we will have a machine to put plastic rings on your directory. This service will only be available at the meeting, so don't forget to bring the directory with you.



"SPEAK UP" Cara Benedict questions astronaut Fredrick Gregory, KCSMGA, pilot of the Space Shuttle "ENDEAVOR", through Ham Radio operator Russ Harris, N2IZV. Students of Plank Rd. Elementary school in Webster, NY were chosen to communicate with a member of the shuttle crew on a one to one basis. Six of the seven astronauts on board had ham licenses.

## The RARA RAG

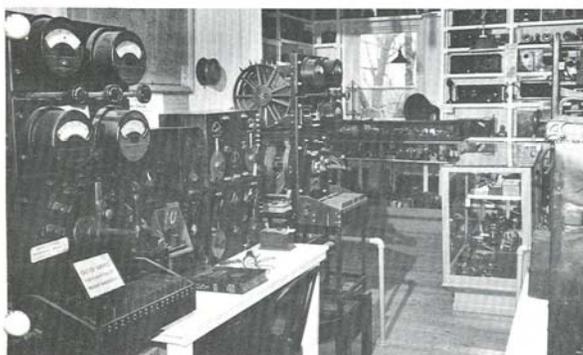
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Partial view of one of nine display areas in new A.W.A. Museum. In the foreground are several WWI commercial spark transmitters and in the background a "1925 radio store".

### --- OLD TIMERS NITE --- REGENERATIVE CIRCUIT SUPERHETERODYNE FM

The development of the three basic principles of radio reception and the life of its tragic inventor, Major Armstrong, will be featured Friday, April 4. Rare photographs and recordings beginning in 1912 to the multi-dollar lawsuits of the 50's will tell the fascinating story of the world's greatest radio inventor.

The program should appeal to young and old alike. Old timers will recall the use of the efficient regenerative receiver and present-day amateurs may for the first time learn about the early days of FM.

The evening will be climaxed with an award to the "Grand Old Man" which of course is a guarded secret until the last moment. See you April 4th at the regular meeting place, the Monroe County Farm and Home Center, 249 Highland Avenue. Meeting time is 8 p.m.

### A.W.A. To Open Public Museum

For the past 25 years members of the Antique Wireless Association have stored their collection of old gear in W2ICE's carriage barn. All this will change Sunday, May 4, when the group opens its public museum in the old Bloomfield Academy, East Bloomfield, New York, under arrangements with the Bloomfield Historical Society which owns the building.

The new headquarters consists of several spacious rooms with 25,000 artifacts making it one of the most impressive radio-electronic displays in the country. A large room has been set aside for amateur equipment where replicas of several early stations will operate under the call W2AN. This area, by the way, will not be open to the public until later in the year. The Association also has in its new location an extensive library which will be available for research.

The Museum will be open to the public Sundays from 2 to 5 P.M. and Wednesdays from 7 to 9 P.M., May through October. Radio clubs, school and engineering groups will be accommodated by special appointment.

A.W.A. is an international amateur historical organization which started in the Rochester

(Continued on page 2)

## 40 YEARS AGO, APRIL, 1975

April was the typical date for Old Timer's night hosted by the Antique Wireless Association, and this was no exception. Bruce Kelley, W2ICE, Curator of the AWA Museum and co-founder of the AWA, printed a picture of the first museum at its Route 259, in N. Chili, location. He then went on to describe the museum's new location in Bloomfield, New York, a home that would last for 38 years until the move to the current location in 2013. Printed in this issue was the result of RARA's committee work on response to FCC Docket 20282, the so called Licensing Restructuring docket. In a new venture, it was decided to set up a RARA booth at the Monroe County Fair. Headed by Harold Smith WA2KND, and Bob Phelps WB2DPT, the goal was some good PR and to pull in students for the RARA Novice class. It was a huge success and the Novice Class size grew to 50 or more. RARA also announced a special group air rate for Dayton was established at \$67.47 for a round trip. From the Want Ads you could buy a Swan 250 from Bill, WA2MCH, for \$250.00. CFP Enterprises in Lansing, New York, a Central Electronics dealer, remained a long time advertiser.

# RARA CALENDAR

Tim Barrett, K9VB

~ April 2015 ~						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			<b>1</b> ROC City Net 8pm 3.826 MHz	<b>2</b> QRP Fox Hunt  ARES/RACES 7:00pm	<b>3</b> RARA Club Meeting 7:00pm	<b>4</b> SP DX Contest UBA DX Contest (Belgium) MS, MO & MT QSO Parties
<b>5</b> SP DX Contest UBA DX Contest (Belgium) MS, MO & MT QSO Parties	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> QRP Fox Hunt	<b>8</b> ROC City Net 8pm 3.826 MHz  SIARC 7:00pm	<b>9</b> QRP Fox Hunt RARA BoD Meeting 5.30pm XRX 6:00pm	<b>10</b> RVHFG 7:30pm	<b>11</b> J1DX CW Contest NM & GA QSO Parties
<b>12</b> J1DX CW Contest GA QSO Party WAB Data Modes HU Straight Key	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> ROC City Net 8pm 3.826 MHz  Drumlins ARC 7:30pm	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> Holyland DX Contest TARA Digital Skirmish  RRRA 7:30pm	<b>18</b> RARA VE Testing 10:00am Drumlins Hamfest Holyland DX Contest ES Open HF NE, ND, ON QSO Parties YU DX Contest
<b>19</b> NE, ND, ON QSO Parties YU DX Contest ARRL Rookie Roundup SSB	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> RDXA 7.30pm	<b>22</b> ROC City Net 8pm 3.826 MHz	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> SP RTTY DX Contest Helvetia Contest FL QSO Party
<b>26</b> 10-10 Digital Contest SP RTTY DX Contest Helvetia Contest FL QSO Party	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> ROC City Net 8pm 3.826 MHz	<b>30</b>		

Print this calendar and leave it by your radio.

# NEWS FROM AREA CLUBS

## MONROE COUNTY ARES / RACES NEWS

The Monroe County Amateur Radio Emergency Service, Inc. holds its meetings on the fourth Thursday of each month. Anyone interested, members and non-members, are welcome to attend. The next ARES Meeting will be held on: **Thursday, April 2, 2015, at 7:00pm.**

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

**ARES NET:** Monroe County ARES/RACES meets on the air every Thursday of the month at 8:00 pm, on the 146.61 MHz (-) 110.9 Hz PL repeater. The only exception to that are nights when we hold our regular meeting, generally on the 4th Thursday of the month.

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

**NBEMS:** Want to learn about Narrow Band Emergency Messaging System (NBEMS)? It's the latest and easiest way to "Go Digital!" Bring your laptop computer and 2-M handheld transceiver. We will conduct an NBEMS clinic after every meeting through June 2015.



## ROCHESTER RADIO REPEATER ASSOCIATION, RRRRA

The Rochester Radio Repeater Association, RRRRA invites you to attend it's April 17th 2015 meeting. Meetings are held on the 3rd Friday of the month in the Pittsford Town Hall Basement starting at 7:30 pm. No program was determined when this article was written. The meeting program will be posted on RRRRA's web site at [K2RRRA.org](http://K2RRRA.org).

I would like to thank Dick and Ed for volunteering to be our auctioneers again this year. Even if you didn't buy anything at our auction, their presentation is worth going to see.

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

## SQUAW ISLAND AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, SIARC

The Squaw Island Amateur Radio Club (SIARC) meets every second Wednesday of the month at 7:00PM at the Ontario County Safety Training Facility, 2914 County Road 48, Town of Hopewell. We have License Exam Testing every other month which begins at 6:30PM with the regular meeting beginning at 7:30PM. There will not be testing at the April meeting. The April meeting will be a tour of the new 911 Center on Ontario St. We will meet at 7pm, instead of 7:30pm, directly at 74 Ontario St, Canandaigua. Please arrive a little early, so we can all enter the building at one time.

## DRUMLINS AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Our meetings are held the third Wednesday of each month. Doors open at 7:00pm, meeting starts at 7:30pm at the Wayne County EOC, 7376 Route 31, Lyons. VE sessions held before the meeting on even months. Talk-in before meeting on 146.685-.

## ROCHESTER VHF GROUP

The Rochester VHF Group holds monthly meetings on the second Friday of the month between September and June. Meetings begin at 7:30 PM and are held at the Spencerport Wesleyan Church, 2653 Nichols St. (NY Route 31) in Spencerport. Visit our website [www.rvhfg.org](http://www.rvhfg.org) for details.

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

More club information can be found by visiting [www.rvhfg.org](http://www.rvhfg.org) or just calling in any Monday or Thursday night. All are welcome to check in to these nets.

## ROCHESTER DX ASSOCIATION, RDXA

RDXA meetings are held on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at 7:30pm. The meetings are held at the Monroe County EOC, 1190 Scottsville Rd. The next meeting is April 21st.

AGC and other interesting things...

"If people knew how to use their AGC..." I heard something on that from Andy KØSM at Field Day, and thought I'd certainly like to hear more about it. So at the April RDXA meeting, Andy will expound on that and other things "that would be interesting." If you've heard Andy previously, you *know* he knows what he's talking about! Don't miss the meeting.

## XRX AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

The next meeting of the XRX Amateur Radio Club will be 6PM Thursday, April 9, at the Webster Recreation Center. The program will be Fox Hunting 101. Speaking of Fox Hunts, our next Fox Hunt is tentatively scheduled for May 9, so keep the date open. As usual, keep up-to-date on our website <http://xarc.us>

## AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION OF THE SOUTHERN TIER

Mark your calendars for the Elmira Hamfest coming up on September 26<sup>th</sup>.

Our main repeater(147.36 +) is still not installed yet but is going up as soon as we can get to the site (last time they went up there was several inches of snow inside the gate).

One of the events that we handle in conjunction with the KLARA, Keuka Lake Amateur Radio Association, is the Wineglass Marathon. This is a 26 mile run from Bath to Corning. It takes a tremendous amount of volunteer work to put this all together. We, the Chemung County Amateur Radio Emergency Services and KLARA, could use your help. If you are interested in working this event, it is the first Sunday of October, October 4th. More information on this event can be obtained from the Emergency Coordinator: [emergencycoordinator@arast.org](mailto:emergencycoordinator@arast.org)

## Is There A Hamfest In Your Future?

Drumlins Hamfest, April 18th, Palmyra VFW

Dayton Hamvention, May 15 - 17, Hara Arena  
<http://hamvention.org/>

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

Elmira Hamfest, September 26th

## FOR SALE

Jay Golden has the following items for sale:

- ⇒ Heathkit V-7A VTVM           \$15.00
- ⇒ Radio Shack PRO-2025 Dual Trunking Scanner   \$20.00
- ⇒ MFJ-1702C Two position coax switch in original package   \$20.00

Contact Jay at:

[igolden577@rochester.rr.com](mailto:igolden577@rochester.rr.com)

585-766-8872

# 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](http://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](mailto:editor@rochesterham.org).

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# RARA OFFICERS

## OFFICERS

<b>President:</b> Frank Schramm, WB2PYD	(585) 270-1045	<a href="mailto:wb2pyd@gmail.com">wb2pyd@gmail.com</a>
<b>Vice-President:</b> Gary Skuse, KA1NJL	(585) 223-1511	<a href="mailto:ka1njl@arrl.net">ka1njl@arrl.net</a>
<b>Treasurer:</b> Betsy Tascione, KD2DYU	(585) 458-6546	<a href="mailto:kd2dyu@rochester.rr.com">kd2dyu@rochester.rr.com</a>
<b>Secretary:</b> Wendy Tascione, KD2DYW	(585) 704-5385	<a href="mailto:kd2dyw@rochester.rr.com">kd2dyw@rochester.rr.com</a>

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Anand Choudri, KC2KPG	(585) 377-0759	<a href="mailto:achoudri@rochester.rr.com">achoudri@rochester.rr.com</a>
Ken Hall, W2KRH	(585) 289-3801	<a href="mailto:ken@w2krh.com">ken@w2krh.com</a>
Ross Mazzola, KC2LOC	(585) 247-8323	<a href="mailto:kc2loc@arrl.net">kc2loc@arrl.net</a>
William Mullaney, KC2VSJ	(585) 749-7363	<a href="mailto:kc2vsj@arrl.net">kc2vsj@arrl.net</a>
Forest Shick, WA2MZG	(585) 721-1653	<a href="mailto:wa2mzg@arrl.net">wa2mzg@arrl.net</a>
Jim Stefano, W2COP	(585) 270-1911	<a href="mailto:w2cop@arrl.net">w2cop@arrl.net</a>

## DEPARTMENT HEADS

<b>Awards/ Raffle Administrators</b>	Jay Hamill, KC2TCM	
<b>Club Historian</b>	Ed Gable, K2MP	
<b>Club Station Trustee</b>	Jim DiTucci, N2IXD	<a href="mailto:n2ixd@arrl.net">n2ixd@arrl.net</a>
<b>Education Coordinator</b>	Pam Kasperkoski, W2PHK	<a href="mailto:pamelakasper@frontiernet.net">pamelakasper@frontiernet.net</a>
<b>Hamfest Producer</b>		
<b>License Testing Coordinator</b>	Ken Hall, W2KRH	<a href="mailto:ken@w2krh.com">ken@w2krh.com</a>
<b>Membership Secretary</b>	Tim Barrett, K9VB	<a href="mailto:tim.k9vb@gmail.com">tim.k9vb@gmail.com</a>
<b>Media Communications</b>	Jim Stefano, W2COP	<a href="mailto:w2cop@arrl.net">w2cop@arrl.net</a>
<b>Public Service Coordinator</b>	Jim Stefano, W2COP	<a href="mailto:w2cop@arrl.net">w2cop@arrl.net</a>
<b>RARA RAG Editor</b>	Forest Shick, WA2MZG	<a href="mailto:editor@rochesterham.org">editor@rochesterham.org</a>
<b>Refreshments Coordinator</b>		
<b>Webmaster</b>	Frank Schramm, WB2PYD	<a href="mailto:wb2pyd@gmail.com">wb2pyd@gmail.com</a>

## MAY RAG DEADLINE

APRIL 15, 2015



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

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

**[Get Directions](#)**

**[Rochester Area Repeater Listing](#)**

## ROCHESTER AREA RADIO CLUB CONTACTS

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

**Drumlins Amateur Radio Club Ltd. (DARC)**  
Glen Bruemmer, KC2YGH: [glenbruemmer@gmail.com](mailto:glenbruemmer@gmail.com)

**Fisherman's Net Amateur Radio Club**  
Jim Sutton, N2OPS: [jim@otrym.org](mailto:jim@otrym.org)

**Genesee Valley Amateur Radio Assn.**  
Bill Boyd, N3DSP: [N3DSP@lafireline.net](mailto:N3DSP@lafireline.net)

**Monroe County ARES**  
Jim DiTucci, N2IXD: [n2ixd@arrl.net](mailto:n2ixd@arrl.net)

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

**Rochester Amateur Radio Association (RARA)**  
Frank Schramm, WB2PYD: [wb2pyd@gmail.com](mailto:wb2pyd@gmail.com)

**Rochester DX Association (RDXA)**  
Chris Shalvoy, K2CS: [cshalvoy@att.net](mailto:cshalvoy@att.net)

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

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

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

**XRX Amateur Radio Club**  
Ned Asam, W2NED: [w2ned@frontiernet.com](mailto:w2ned@frontiernet.com)

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