

The Rochester VHF Group

The VHF



Journal

Volume 65, Issue 9

May 2013

The next regular meeting of the Rochester VHF Group will be Friday, May 10th, 2013 at 7:30 PM at **Spencerport Wesleyan Church**
2653 Nichols St., Spencerport

Map and directions on last page

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Classified

Topic: Elections. Show and Tell

RVHFG's Beacons	
Band	MHz
6m	50.078
2m	144.298
1.25m	222.050
70cm	432.300
23cm	1296.257

The Chairman Speaks! John Stevens WB2BYP

Groupers: Last month's meeting at Bob Nezelek's, W2CNS, home was a great success, with many of the regulars (and a few of the irregulars?) showing up at Bob's home, a couple of hours before moon-set. Bob has an impressive setup for EME on digital modes as well as CW, on 144 and 432 MHz. Some new faces appeared too, and expressed interest in the topic and the club.

Our next meeting will be on Friday 10 May 2013, where one of the topics will be the ***RVHFG Board Elections for 2013-2014***. There is a slate of officers being put together as we speak, and should be complete at that point. This is a good chance to support your club, and we welcome all members to come and participate in the meeting. We will have an informal meeting following, with a ***Hardware Show and Tell*** of some of the projects that we have been working on over the past couple of months. If you have something to show off and talk briefly about, bring it on in. It is an education for all of us. ...Continued....

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The Chairman Speaks!

Continued... The ***RDXA/RVHFG Joint Awards Banquet*** was held on Saturday, April 20th at Lillian's Restaurant in Penfield. Thanks to the RDXA for arranging for the event this year, and Paul K2FX for doing the leg work and scheduling. Lillian did a great job on the food, and the space was perfectly sized for the event.

Progress report on the W2UTH 6M Skimmer:

The computer and is now set-up with Windows 7, a wireless card, a 124 dB dynamic range sound card and the skimmer software. Paul K2DB and I set it up with an HF Softrock receiver and it worked! For a brief time W2UTH appeared on the Reverse Beacon Network, spotting stations on 40 Meters, and at least the software was verified, along with the path to the network, and compatibility with the existing structure.

We are now on to making a 6M version of the receiver functional. Mark Oliver, W2FE has loaned us a set of built-up receivers, and that is this week's project towards the goal. I hope to have the hardware for demonstration at the meeting on Friday.

We have the antenna and feed-line all set to go, and will announce the installation date soon. Stay tuned to the reflector and the RVHFG website for more info. Anybody anywhere should be able to log in and look for 6M spots.

As we have said before, there are not many examples of 6 Meter Skimmers at play around the world, so in some ways this project is quite an intriguing experiment. With the preponderances of beacons on the band, and the sporadic nature to the propagation, this tool may prove to be an interesting way to monitor and alert for band openings. There have been several good openings the past week on 6, so the season is starting and may prove to be a good one.

As always, look for the RVHFG on the Monday and Thursday Night 144.260/50.200 Nets at 2100 local for more info. We have had a bunch of new check-ins due to some good publicity in the RARA newsletter, for which we send a tip of the hat to our sister club here in Rochester.

See you at the meeting! And by the way, it has been my distinct pleasure to be your Chairman for the past two years, and I look forward to next year in a the consulting role of Past Chairman.

Thank You!

John Stevens wb2byp

For reference:

Par Electronics: <http://www.parelectronics.com/index.php>

ASUS Sound Card: http://usa.asus.com/Multimedia/Audio_Cards/Xonar_Essence_ST/

Softrock Receiver: <http://wb5rvz.com/sdr/>

Reverse Beacon Network: <http://www.reversebeacon.net/>

Rochester DX Association: <http://nyqp.org/wordpress/meeting-info/>

Rochester Amateur Radio Association: <http://www.rochesterham.org/>

Secretary Report

Tom Jennings, KV2X

Rochester VHF Group Meeting Minutes for March 2013

The meeting went right into the program with W2CNS talking about how his station is used for EME operation. Later we had a short business meeting where WB2BYP asked if there was a motion to accept the minutes from the last meeting as printed in the Journal. W2CNS made the motion to accept and K2TER seconded. WB2BYP asked if there was a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report from the last meeting as printed in the Journal. K2OS made the motion to accept and K2DH seconded.

Attending:

K2DH, WA2ZNC, WA2CHV, AF2K, K2TER, KV2X, K2OS, K2DB, WB2BYP, WB2QCJ, WB2GFZ, KC2VCK, AB2YI, W2CNS, K2GAB, K2KDU, N2PHB.

Old Business:

WB2BYP asked K2DH and K2OS to chair the committee to plan MUD and they accepted it. Both were involved in the planning of the last MUD conference held in Rochester.

New business:

The May meeting is when the next slate of RVHFG officers are elected. WB2BYP announced that he and K2TER will begin to ask people if they will be interested in serving.

Everybody was encouraged to attend The ***RDXA/RVHFG Joint Awards Banquet*** to be held on Saturday, April 20th at Lillian's Restaurant in Penfield.

Progress of the 6 meter skimmer was discussed.

It was asked that if anybody has an interesting topic or project they may consider hosting a meeting or presenting at our regular meeting place

Program: Digital EME or Moon bounce with WSJT Software



W2CNS explaining his impressive setup for EME

Rochester VHF Group Treasurer's Report

CHECKING ACCOUNT

Previous Balance (as of 4/10/2013):	\$2038.09
Income:	\$0.00
Expenses:	\$0.00
Current Balance	\$2038.09

Respectfully submitted,

Tom Jennings, KV2X, Treasurer

June VHF Contest

By Tom Jennings, KV2X

The ARRL June VHF Contest is only 4 weeks away and it is the second full weekend in June. Begins 1800 UTC Saturday, runs through 0259 UTC Monday (**June 8-10, 2013**). I hope everybody is making plans for an exciting contest as home station, multi-op, or rover stations. Hopefully the 6 meters will have an opening providing a ton of grid square multipliers. Ken, KA2LIM, and his crew is getting the **K2LIM** contest station up and running. Please point your beams to FN12mg to work bands with them. They will be able to do SSB, CW, and FM. Don't forget about updating your favorite computer logging program. Give FM a try on all the FM simplex frequencies. You can try FM only or single operator portable. Single Operator Portable station power is 10 W PEP output or less using portable power source, portable equipment and antennas must operate from a location other than a permanent station location and may not change locations during the contest period outside of the original 500-meter diameter permitted circle. If you know any new hams, encourage them to operate, or better yet organize a small multi op station as an introduction to VHF contesting and a way of getting some on air experience. Most of all go out and have some ham radio fun!

Rochester 2013: The HAM-o-Rama!

When: June 15, 2013 (7am - 4pm)

Where: [Rochester Institute of Technology Campus \(Click for directions\)](#)

Highlights:

- The Widest variety of breakfast and lunch selections ever offered!
- Outdoor tailgating on pavement.
- FREE VE Testing!

Featuring:

- Talk-in on: 146.61 (-600 pl 110.9)
- \$500.00 Grand Prize Raffle
- Close to the Thruway
- [Onsite Hotel for out of town travelers](#)
- Side trips for the family while you're "Hamming it up":

Tickets and Attendance

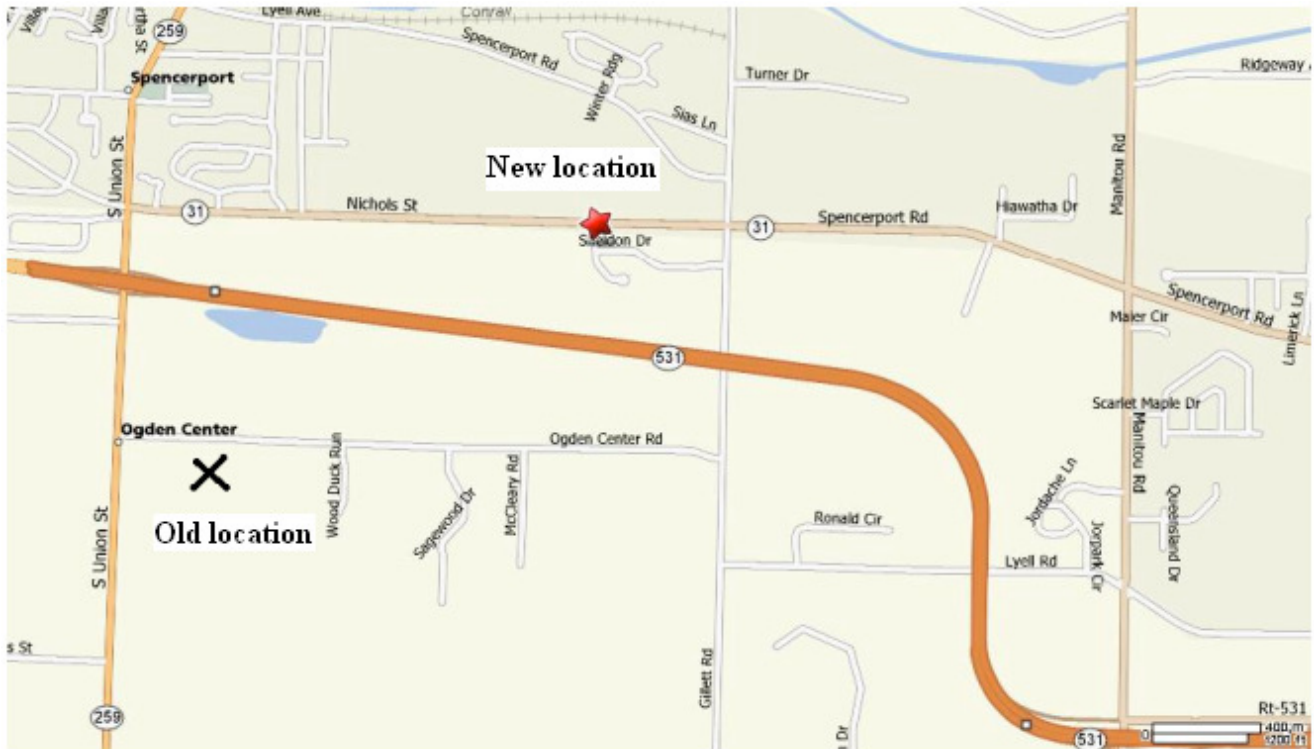
All at the same low prices!

- Admission: \$5 (FREE for RaRa members & kids)
- Outdoor Tailgating: \$5 per space - (standard size parking spaces)

Classified Listings

None this month.

Meeting Location and Directions



Spencerport Wesleyan Church on 2653 Nichols St. (actually Hwy. 31).

Directions from Rochester:

531W exit RT. to 259N

259N turn Rt. on 31E (first Rt. at traffic light)

Look for Spencerport Schools Bus Garage on left

Take first Rt. on Sheldon at A-framed church, park in rear lot.

Enter gray metal door under fire escape.

