

The VHF



Journal

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March 2016

The next regular meeting of the Rochester VHF Group will be Friday, March 11th at 7:30 PM located at **Spencerport Wesleyan Church 2653 Nichols St., Spencerport**. Come early, enjoy snacks, and talk about Ham Radio. **Map and directions on last page**
In this issue:

- The Chairman Speaks!
- Secretary's & Treasurer's Report
- Vice Chairman's Report.
- Three Hamfests
- Contest Calendar
- Classifieds
- Topic: 222 Construction Night

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

Beacons Hosted at AWA Museum

W2UTH 6 meter Skimmer

<http://www.reversebeacon.net/dxsd1/dxsd1.php?f=0&c=W2UTH&t=de>

The Chairman Speaks!

Tom Jennings KV2X

Groupers: The program for the March meeting that Jarred has planned will be exciting, as we will be splitting up into teams to build a 222 transverter along with a 222 cheap yagi. Personally, I would like to be on the cheap yagi team. With the June VHF contest not far off, it would be a good time to use them.

Do you want to take an active part in running the RVHFG? Or do you know someone who be a great leader for the group? Please let one of the board of directors know or nominate yourself or present a name at the March meeting. Elections occur at the May meeting.

The annual RVHFG/RDXA Awards banquet will be April 16th at Lilian's in Penfield. Participation RVHFG Mugs will be passed out and hopefully Worked all Rochester Awards. Be sure to make plans on attending. Details to be announced shortly.

Hope to see you all at the meeting and bring a friend!
 73, Tom Jennings, KV2X

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Secretary Report

Freddie Sulyma, WB2GFZ

Rochester VHF Group Meeting Minutes for 12 February 2016.

Jarred (KF2MR) called the meeting to order at 1936L. Jarred welcomed everybody and asked for a motion to accept last month's treasurer's report as written in February's journal. Dave (AE2DM) motioned to accept and Frank (K2OS) seconded. Freddie (WB2GFZ) asked for a motion to accept the meeting minutes from last month as written in February's journal. Harry (W2HRY) motioned to accept and Jarred (KF2MR) seconded. Old Business & New Business discussed. See below for details. Ken (N8KH) presented a motion to close the meeting and Jeff (K2EHF) seconded.

Attending: Freddie (WB2GFZ), Harry (W2HRY), Jarred (KF2MR) Dave Malecki (AE2DM), Frank (K2OS), Jeff (K2EHF) & Ken (N8KH).

Old Business:

- Beacons at the AWA – Freddie (WB2GFZ) indicated he contacted Duncan (K2OEQ) to schedule a visit to AWA. Duncan is Snow Birding in Florida and suggested a contact with Lynn. Freddie to schedule a meeting at AWA with LYNN (2/16/2016, Tuesday). Jarred indicated he would help with the Beacon evaluation.
- The 220 MHz Transverter project was brought up. Jarred indicated that Dave (K2DH) has established this Transverter and added a PA & Low Noise amplifier.
- The RVHF group is hosting the annual Banquet this year (16 April 2016). The venue will be Lillian's in Penfield and Jarred (KF2MR) is investigating and will provide details.
- The Worked All Rochester award was highlighted and all were encouraged to consider participation.
- The idea to award any RVHF group members who submits a January contest log a commemorative coffee mug is going forward and Jarred presented the mug (White on outside with club logo & blue inside).
- Jarred indicated that a survey on the RVHFG (For Yahoo News Group) was tested and would be presented to obtain a better understanding of the interest of local hams.

New Business:

- Jarred spoke with Bill (W2EB) regarding a booth at this year's Rochester Hamfest to promote the RVHFG. Bill indicated he would provide a space but indicated he would have to bump us if an abundance of Commercial vendors attended. He also requested some sort of presentation that would help inspire Ham Radio activity. Jarred to follow up and suggestions of a Laser supported QSO was presented. There was talk that Irv has the RVHFG Banner. Other presentation material should be available.
- Next schedule meeting will include nominations for the RVHFG board members.
- Harry (W2HRY) talked about the ARRL Field Day (June 25 & 26) and extended an invitation to attend (Nazareth College).

Program:

The program highlighted member activity in the form of show and tell as described below. Members were able to discuss the activities and share thoughts and ideas.

Dave (AE2DM) demonstrated an SDR dongle, including an embedded extension within Google Chrome that has drivers to interface with the radio

Frank (K2OS) presented a slideshow of his 80/160m vertical antenna project.

Jeff (K2EHF) provided a demonstration in simple laser communications.
 Freddie (WB2GFZ) demonstrated his custom LabVIEW software interface to his FT-991
 Jarred (KF2MR) brought his rover transverter platform describing the switching and configuration for 222/902/1296/2304.

Rochester VHF Group Treasurer's Report (01/31/2016)

CHECKING/CASH ACCOUNT

Previous Balance (PP = \$22.64, Cash = \$333.83Cash, \$2119.60 Checking):	\$2476.07
Income:	
Dues Ken (N8KH, \$10)	\$ 10.00
Dues Ev (W2EV), Spencer (KB2IRH), Ethan (KB2IRK) & David (KA2OQZ) PayPal 9.41 ea. (\$37.64)	\$ 37.64
Expenses: None	
Current Balance (PP = \$60.28, Cash = \$343.83Cash, \$2119.60 Checking):	\$2523.71
Members paid up for 2015 – 2016 are as follows	

AB2YI, David Muller	K2TER, Bill Rogers	W2CNS, Bob Nezelek
AE2DM, David Malecki	KA2OQZ, David Carlson	W2EV, Ev Tupis
AF2K, Irv Goodman	KB2BLS, Bill Hanes	W2GMT, Gary Terrana
K2AXX, Mark Hoffman	KC2PCD, Len Crellin (2017)	W2LT, Joe Hoodak
K2DH, Dave Hallidy	KD2DCC, Ed Pendzik	W2UAD, Ken Evans
K2EHF, Jeff Luce	KD2IRH, Spencer Tupis	WA2QAU, Robert Roberts
K2GAB, Gloria Stevens (2017)	KD2IRK, Ethan Tupis	WB2BYP, John Stevens (2017)
W2HRY, Harry Ramos	KF2MR, Jarred Jackson	WB2GFZ, Freddie Sulyma
K2OEQ, Duncan Brown	KV2X, Tom Jennings	WB2QCJ, Dean Keyser
K2OS, Frank Pollino	N2BEG, Doug Stewart	WB2SQS, Mike Gioka
K2MPE, Al Cook	N2HEG, Martin Ippolito	WB2YJH, Jim Reilich
K2STF, Steve Fleming	VE3DS, Dana Shtun	WO2P, Fred Miller (2017)

*Respectfully submitted,
 Freddie Sulyma, WB2GFZ, Treasurer*

Vice Chairman's Report

By Jarred Jackson, KF2MR

This Friday (3/11) is 222 Construction Night. The plan is to have four teams assemble two 5W transverters and two 6-element “cheap” yagis. I am looking forward to this and hoping we will walk away with two fully functioning 222 transverter stations. Even if something does not go as planned, I am sure we will have fun anyway. At the end of the night, we will auction off the equipment with a starting price equal to the material cost.

The RVHFG club members pulled off quite an impressive cumulative score for the January VHF contest. Claimed scores exceed 140,000 points, which is certainly something to be proud of doing. Unlike the distant past where one or two stations scored most of the points, this year's scoring was done through the efforts of a large number of club members.

Though some portions of the RVHFG interest survey were not as easy to use as I had hoped, most people had the patience to work through it and provide some insightful results. While the survey is still open and I have not completed the analysis of results, the table below provides a sneak peak of

some of the data obtained from the survey. If you have not yet participated, please find the link on www.rvhfg.org in the forum area or you can type in the address shown below. I should have the full results available next month.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ZYC88SP>

Which of the following activities have you participated in within the last 5 years?	Response Percent	Response Count
Used a soldering iron for simple repairs or wiring changes	100.0%	26
VHF/UHF/Microwave Contests (for example ARRL June VHF Contest)	96.2%	25
Construction of an antenna from scratch or a kit	88.5%	23
Checked into a VHF SSB or FM Simplex Net two or more times	76.9%	20
HF Contest (for example, ARRL November Sweepstakes)	65.4%	17
Configured and used rig control software or interfaced logging software to a radio	57.7%	15
Took my amateur radio equipment camping, backpacking, or hiking	53.8%	14
Operated with a club or on home emergency power during field day	53.8%	14
Construction of a transceiver, transverter, or amplifier from scratch or a kit	42.3%	11
Checked into a VHF Repeater Net two or more times	42.3%	11
Configured a Software Defined Radio	42.3%	11
Public / Emergency Communications Service	34.6%	9
Actively working toward awards/certificates or collection of QSL cards - DXCC, VUCC, WAS, etc.	34.6%	9
Attended a VHF/UHF/Microwave conference or event outside of the local area	34.6%	9
Checked into a HF Net two or more times	30.8%	8
Developed software to support amateur radio activities	26.9%	7
Operated APRS or Packet	23.1%	6
Fox Hunting / Direction Finding	19.2%	5
Moonbounce / EME Communications	15.4%	4
Used a satellite to make a contact	11.5%	3

Second Chautauqua County Hamfest

You are invited to the Second Chautauqua County Hamfest in Bemus Point, NY. @ Shore Acres Boat Yard sponsored by Dick Sparling - K2EY.

When: Saturday April 23, 201 Doors open at 8:00am.

Where: Shore Acres Boat Yard, 3979 Route 430 Bemus Point, NY 14712

Free Admission & Free Tailgating

Dick is retiring from business and QSYing south. So after 60+ years of Hamming, the Junk Box is overflowing! There will be hundreds of HAM items available at BARGAIN prices. High Power (HP) Tubes, Building Components, Coax Relays, many small parts, Home Brew (HB) Amps & Power Supplies. Lots of Antenna & Tower parts as well. Come on out and help make Dick's QSY easier.

RARA ROCHESTER HAMFEST

The Rochester Amateur Radio Association (RARA) is pleased to announce that the 2016 edition of the Rochester Hamfest will be taking place on Saturday, May 28 at a NEW location: Eastman Business Park (a.k.a. Kodak's Theater-on-the-Ridge), 200 West Ridge Rd., Rochester NY. WE ARE NO LONGER at Barnard Fireman's field.

Flea Market parking slots are only \$5 each. General parking (no selling) is FREE.

Admission to the Flea Market and BRAND NEW indoor venue is \$5 per person. RARA members and those under 18 years of age are FREE.

All adult admissions include a FREE raffle ticket and we will be offering FREE QSL card checking for ARRL awards chasers!

Because this is Memorial Day weekend, we are in the midst of planning some family events that are sure to captivate the non-hams in your family. Those wishing to arrive early may book a discounted room at the Hampton Inn; where you can enjoy complimentary hot breakfast, 24-hour coffee, WiFi and heated indoor pool! Look for the link on the web site.

Other amateur radio clubs are ENCOURAGED to attend and setup a table or tent (stakes not allowed) in the tailgate area. This is a great opportunity to showcase your special interests and sign up new members! Clubs that provide an approved FREE activity or service to other attendees will be upgraded to "premium space" at no additional cost!

Hamfest Flyer:

http://www.RochesterHamfest.org/RARA_Rochester_Hamfest_2016_Flyer.pdf

Hamfest Website: <http://www.RochesterHamfest.org>

Hamfest Contact: RochesterHamfest@gmail.com

Hamfest Sponsor: <http://www.RochesterHam.org>

RRR/Barnard Hamfest

The Rochester Radio Repeater Association, RRRR, and the Barnard Fire Department invite you to attend their 5th Barnard Hamfest.

Date and time is Saturday June 4, 7 AM to 5 PM at the Barnard Fireman's Field 360 Maiden Lane Greece, NY.

From the Thruway, I-90, get off at exit 46 and take I-390 North to exit 24A, Ridge Rd. Rt. 104. Head East on Rt.104 0.8 mi. to Mt. Read Blvd North. Go 1.3 mi. to Maiden Lane and turn right, East. The Hamfest will be on your left after 0.4 mi.

General admission is \$5 at the gate.

Outdoor flea market space and vendor admission is \$13 or \$15 if you want electric. Covered Vendor space is \$39.

ARRL-VEC testing session from 9:30-11:30 (Cost \$15). Check web site for details:

<http://barnardfire.org/hamfest/>.

Food and drinks available for purchase.

Free Friday night, June 3rd parking / camping.

Talk in on linked 146.925 N2HJD/R, 110.9 Hz PL.

Contact info: Barnard Fire Department 3084 Dewey Ave. Rochester, NY 14616, Phone # 585-621-1440

email: hamfest@barnardfire.org

VHF+ Contest Calendar

Event	Date	Local Time	Notes
144 MHz Spring Sprint	4/1/2016	7-11PM	https://sites.google.com/site/springvhfupsprints/ Get on the air before and after the RVHFG net
222 MHz Spring Sprint	4/19/16	7-11PM	ON4KST used for Spring Sprints
432 MHz Spring Sprint	4/27/16	7-11PM	
902 MHz and Up	5/7/16	8AM – 2PM	Great chance to exercise the microwave gear before the big contest is June
50 MHz Spring Sprint	5/14/16	7-11PM	
ARRL June VHF Contest	6/11-6/12/16	2PM Sat. - 11PM Sun.	http://www.arrl.org/june-vhf This is the next big one for RVHFG. Let's plan for a busy weekend. What band can you add?
ARRL Field Day	6/25 – 6/26/16	2PM Sat – 2PM Sun	http://www.arrl.org/field-day 6m – 70cm commonly used. Give CW and PSK31 a try on VHF for extra points
CQWW VHF	7/16 – 7/17/16	2PM Sat – 5PM Sun	http://www.cqww-vhf.com/
ARRL August UHF	8/1 – 8/2/16	2PM Sat – 2PM Sun	http://www.arrl.org/august-uhf
10 GHz and Up Weekend #1	8/20 – 8/21/16	See rules	http://www.arrl.org/10-ghz-up Amazing what can be done on these bands – come out and see !
ARRL September VHF	9/10 – 9/12/16	2PM Sat – 11PM Sun	http://www.arrl.org/september-vhf
10 GHz and Up Weekend #2	9/27 – 9/28/16	See rules	http://www.arrl.org/10-ghz-up
NY QSO Party	10/15/16	10AM – 10PM	Look for updates on NYQP.org later in the year. Similar to field day, we can run the bands using all different modes for extra points.
EME Weekend #1	10/22 – 10/23	See Moon	http://www.arrl.org/eme-contest
EME Weekend #2	11/19 – 11/20	See Moon	http://www.arrl.org/eme-contest

Classified Listings

Free Equipment

375 W VHF Micor base station

I have a 375 watt Moto Micor base station rack with 2 PAs and 2 power supplies that's looking for a new home. One PA converted to 2 meters.

I also have a UHF Micor PA based on an Eimac cavity. No power supply. Also free.

I have a 6-foot diameter grid dish that is looking for new home. Did I mention free?

Diameter - 6'

Focal Length 2.25'

Grid Spacing 1.125"

f/D 0.375

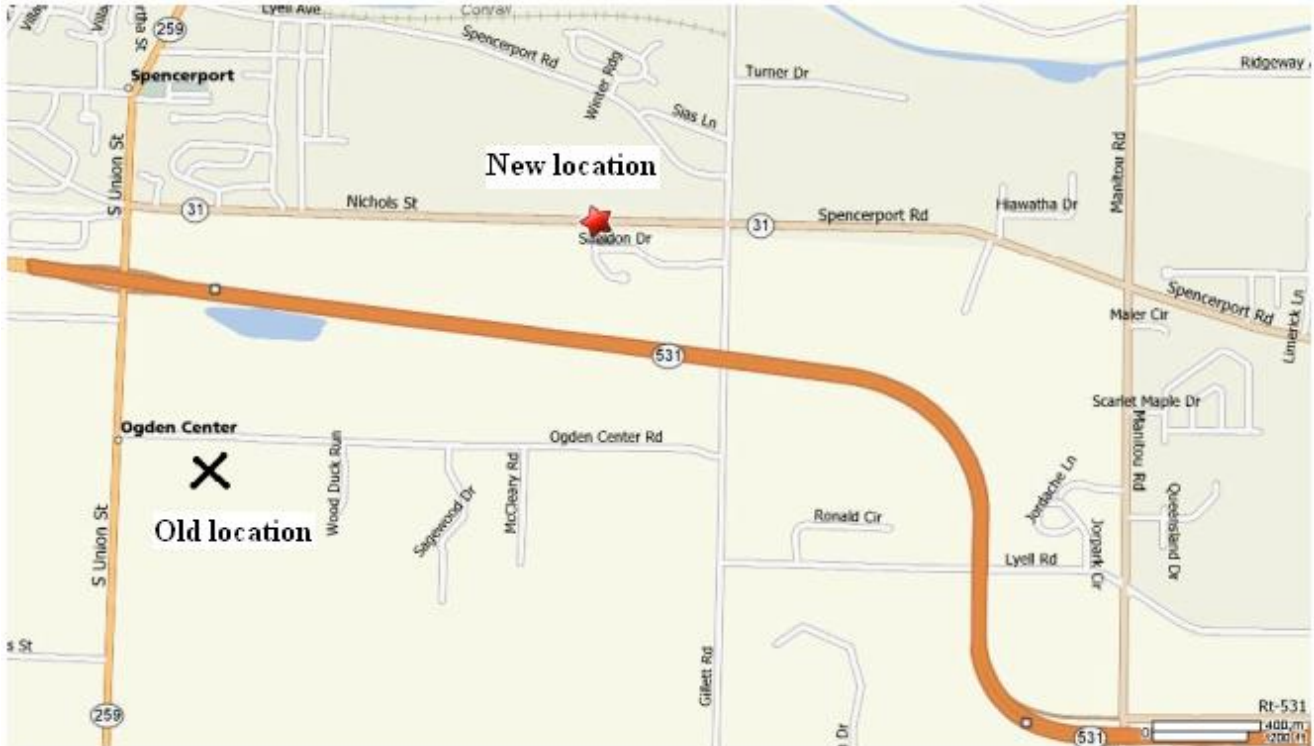
I also have 4 940-960 MHz feeds from Kathrein Paraflectors.

Mark - AE2EA

Located in Hemlock, NY.

Contact info on QRZ

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.