

The Rochester VHF Group

The VHF



Journal

Volume 64, Issue 8

April 2012

The next regular meeting of the Rochester VHF Group will be Friday, April 13<sup>th</sup> 2012 at 7:30 PM at McGreggor's on Jefferson Rd near RIT. Come at 6:00 PM for a bite to eat before the meeting

Map and directions on last page

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**Topic:** Beacons update, MUD

## The Chairman Speaks! John Stevens WB2BYP

**Groupers:** The next meeting of the Rochester VHF Group will be held at MacGregor's located at 300 Jefferson Road, near RIT. Map at end. A fairly large table has been reserved starting at 1800, so it may be a little busy around us for the early evening, but that should be manageable. This is an experiment, so let's try it and see. This is meant to be a fairly informal event. The Board is going to meet early enough to get dinner and have a Board meeting. All are welcome to join us for dinner, or just come and join us for a bite to eat, a soda or brewed beverage.....**Continued....**

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# The Chairman Speaks! continued...

.... We have a fairly loose forum planned, with only the topics of the upcoming joint RDXA-RVHFG dinner, the status of the Beacons at AWA, status of MUD 2014 planning, and suggestions on a slate for the Board of Directors of the RVHFG for 2012-2013. We will do a round of who's doing what to whom and with which, so bring your recent accomplishments, observations, plans and thoughts for the future.

Please keep the cards and letters coming...or at least the emails with your suggestions and constructive criticisms as to how we can make the club bigger and better in 2012!

73,  
John WB2BYP

## Secretary Report

Tom Jennings, KV2X

### Rochester VHF Group Meeting Minutes for March 2012

John, WB2BYP, called the meeting to order at 1942. John made a short welcome speech and asked everybody to introduce themselves and relate what we did with vhf ham radio this past month. There was some discussion on the 144.205 activity and it was pointed out that KA1ZE has an email newsletter called "205MorningReport". You can get it by sending KA1ZE an email requesting to be added to the list.

WB2GFZ motioned to accept the secretary's report as written in the Journal. K2OS seconded the motion.

W3OAB made a motion to accept the treasure's report as written in the Journal. K2DH seconded the motion.

**Attending:** AB2YI, W2UAD, WB2GFZ, K2OS, K2BCM, AC2HJ, AF2K, W2CNS, W3OAB, WB2BYP, Gloria Butterworth, K2DH, K2TER, KV2X

#### Old business

**Beacons:** Ready to put up antennas at AWA soon when the weather is nice. John will ask for volunteers when the antennas are ready to put up. A lot of people miss the beacons.

#### New Business

Joint RVHFG/RDXA Banquet is Saturday, April 21<sup>st</sup>. Please let John know ASAP if you can go. John adjourned the meeting at 2015

**Program:** K2DH gave a very interesting talk on "Converting the Harris Platinum Amplifier to 6 Meters."



K2DH's Platinum Amp and Power Supply

## Rochester VHF Group Treasurer's Report

### CHECKING ACCOUNT

**Previous Balance** (as of 03/09/2012):

**\$2006.09**

Income:

\$ 0.00

**Current Balance**

\$2006.09

*Respectfully submitted,  
Tom Jennings, KV2X, Treasurer*

Ladies and Gentlemen, All Members of RDXA and RVHFG:

### Announcing the RDXA/RVHFG Joint Annual Awards Banquet! Saturday 21 April 2012

If you have been to the RDXA/RVHFG events in years past, you know it is typically a fun evening with the awards and camaraderie of both clubs represented. This year's event will be held at Lilian's Restaurant and Party House in Penfield, 2200 Penfield Road, (585) 377-1300 in the "Pen Fair" Plaza (See the map below for detail on the north-east corner of Rt. 441 and Rt. 250.) Lilian's is next door to the restaurant formerly known as Napaginos, (where she formerly worked) that is now Mike's Sports Bar. Now running the show in her own place, Lilian has the same easy-to-get-to location, well-lit parking, and reputation for great food.

**RDXA and RVHFG**

invites you to  
**Annual Awards Banquet**

Choice of 8 entrees with soup/salad, beverage and dessert. Tax & and gratuity included... all for \$20

6:00 p.m. Cocktails - 7:00 p.m. Dinner

*NYQP Award presentations  
Club Awards  
KE2WK presentation*

- Lilian's Italian Restaurant -  
- Penfair Plaza, Penfield -  
(corner of Rt. 250 & 441)  
Saturday, April 21, 2012

R.S.V.P. to John Stevens, WB2BYP  
Email: [storyavenue@hotmail.com](mailto:storyavenue@hotmail.com)

Red Poster by AF2K



Here is a link to Lilian's web site: <http://www.liliansrestaurantpartyhouse.com/>

This is a long-standing yearly tradition that both the RVHFG and RDXA are proud to continue. The Bar will be open at 6:00 PM, and dinner should begin about 7:15 PM.

Hope to see you there!

John WB2BYP  
Rochester VHF Group Chairman 2011-2012

## ***FCC Seeks Public Comments on Emergency Communications by Amateur Radio and Impediments to Amateur Radio Communications***

In response to the [Congressional directive](#) to prepare a study to assess Amateur Radio's role in emergency and disaster communications and the impact of private land use regulations on the amateur community's ability to provide such communications, the FCC issued [DA 12-523](#) soliciting comments from the public. You can view the notice at <http://www.fcc.gov/document/commission-seeks-comment-amateur-emergency-communications>. The period for public comment runs until May 17, 2012.

"As part of the study contained in [Public Law No. 112-96](#), the Commission has opened a 45 day period for comments to be filed on the issue," said ARRL Regulatory Information Manager Dan Henderson, N1ND. "Because of the short deadline for the study to be completed and presented to Congress -- before the end of August -- the ARRL and the amateur community must quickly mobilize their response."

The FCC *Public Notice* focuses on two specific areas for comments. The first is the role that Amateur Radio has played and continues to play to support emergency and disaster relief organizations, such as FEMA and local/state emergency management agencies. The second is to determine impediments to enhanced Amateur Radio communications. This would include the impact that private land-use regulations -- such as deed restrictions and homeowner association covenants -- have on the ability of licensed amateurs to fully participate in providing support communications to the served agencies.

"This study is not about zoning ordinances or regulations adopted by the local or state governments," Henderson explained. "Amateurs already have the limited protection of [PRB-1](#) to assist them with those situations. The areas of concern here are the limitations that are placed on a property when it is purchased, either as part of the deed of sale or by restrictions imposed by the neighborhood/homeowner's association. Those restrictions -- sometimes referred to as CC&Rs -- are not currently covered by the FCC's PRB-1 decision from 1985."

To allow the ARRL to quickly collect and collate relevant information from the amateur community to help support the filing it will make with the FCC on this issue, a website has been setup. The site -- [www.arrl.org/ccr-study-information](http://www.arrl.org/ccr-study-information) -- provides details about what kind of information is needed by the ARRL.

Also on the site, you will find links to two online data collection forms. The first form allows you to provide information about specific emergency communications in which Amateur Radio has played a role since January 2000. The second form asks for specific information on the CC&Rs/deed restrictions that control your property. It also asks you to provide information on how those restrictions have impacted your ability to fully support emergency communications.

"Whether you are an ARRL member or not, your information and situation are important to helping us make the case for all amateurs," Henderson said. "Whether your support communications are with ARES®, RACES, SKYWARN, CERT or other emergency and disaster groups, your voice should be heard. If you cannot operate effectively from home during an emergency because CC&Rs prohibit adequate antennas on your property, that is important to document and quantify. This issue affects all of Amateur Radio, not just ARRL members."

Henderson said that due to the short timeframe that the FCC has allotted for public comment, time is of the essence. In order to allow the ARRL to develop its comments, the ARRL asks that all information sent by the amateur community be received at the ARRL no later than April 25, 2012: "We realize this is a very short turnaround asking for your response, but this is based on the time provided by the Commission for the comment window."

From ARRL, <http://www.arrl.org/news/fcc-seeks-public-comments-on-emergency-communications-by-amateur-radio-and-impediments-to-amateur-ra>

## **26<sup>th</sup> Annual Drumlins Hamfest Saturday, April 14, 2012**

**Vendors: 7AM**

**Public: 8AM**

**Talk in: 146.685**

**Electronics – AMATEUR RADIO GEAR – Computers**

**Breakfast – GRAND PRIZE – Door Prizes**

**Admission \$5.00**

**Tables (6 ft.) \$5.00 Tailgaters \$3.00**

**FREE Amateur License Exams will be  
held at the Hamfest site**

**Registration & Testing from 10am**

**Walk-ins accepted Doors open at 9:30 AM**

See <http://www.drumlinsarc.org/hamfest.htm> for more hamfest details details.

**Marbletown Firehall, Newark, NY**

**From Rte. 31, 1 mi. south on rte.88**

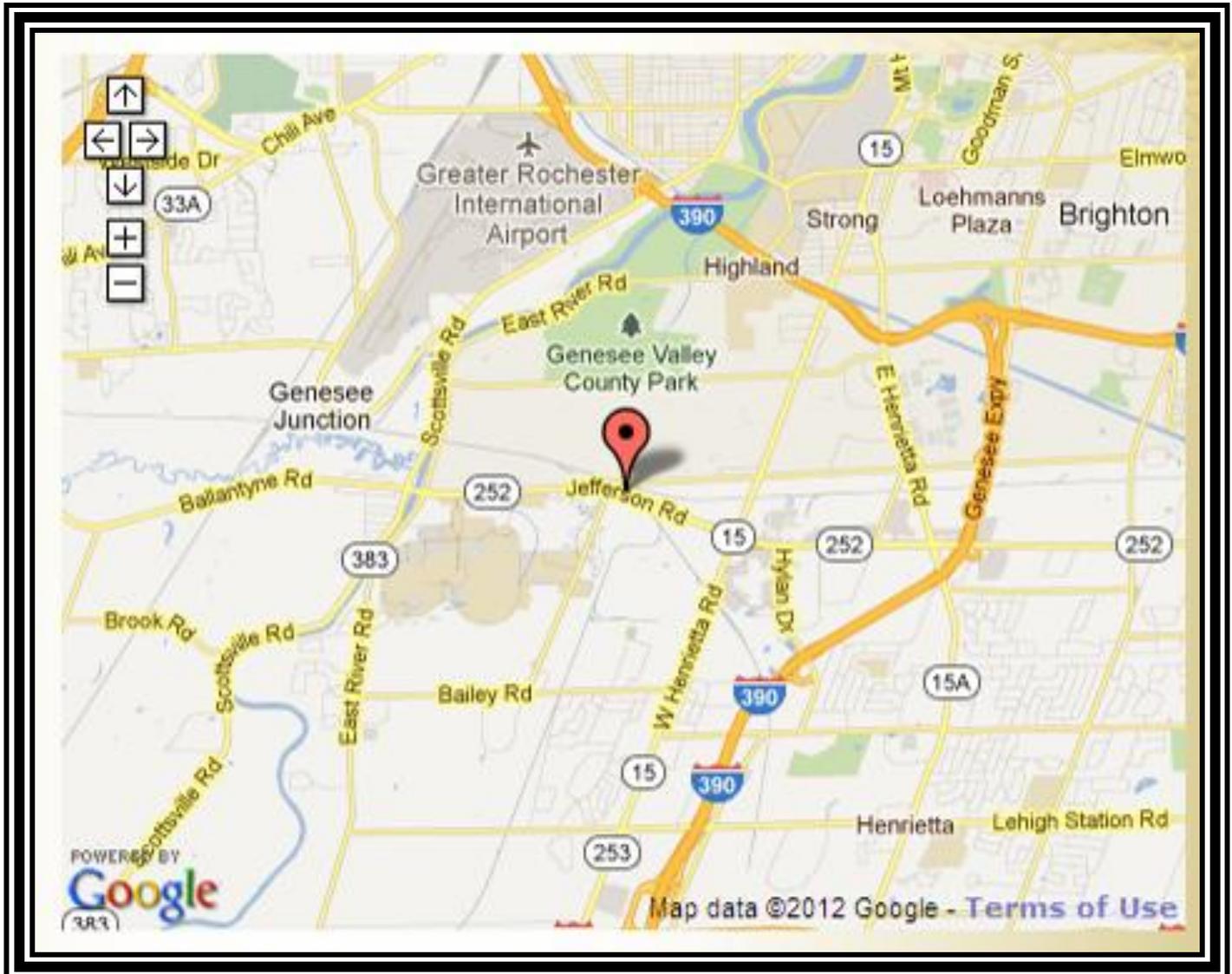
**To Silver Hill Rd. turn left.**

**1 mi east to Fire Hall, Should be a sign**

## **Classified Listings**

None this month

# Meeting Location and Directions



**MacGregor's at 300 Jefferson Road, Henrietta, NY**

<http://www.macgregorsgrillandtaproom.net/locations.asp>