

The VHF



Journal

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December 2015

The next regular meeting of the Rochester VHF Group will be Friday, December 11th at 7:30 PM at **K2TER's QTH, 130 Angels Path, Webster, NY 14580**. Come early and enjoy some food & drink and talk about Ham Radio.  
**Map and directions on last page.**

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**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:** Many thanks to the AWA for providing the RVHFG a great place to have a meeting and a fantastic tour of radio history. The best part was when Ron (W2FUI) & Duncan (K2OEQ) showed us the VOA transmitter. Don't forget to check out the photos of the tour at <http://rvhfg.org/photos/7>.

Now that we are into December, it is time to start thinking about and preparing for the January VHF Contest. One way to prepare is to attend the RVHFG's annual Tune-up Clinic Bill Roger's (K2TER) QTH. Bring along your vhf/uhf/mw gear so we can check the noise figure and power. Bill will have pizza and wings, refreshments and snacks. Please come early (7ish) for pizza and feel free to bring something consumable to share.

As for the January contest, Jarred, KF2MR, has some great ideas for operating in his Vice Chairman's Report later on in this issue. One thing that Jarred recommends if you have a chance turn in a home log and a rover log. I took advantage of that the last couple of years as I was heading home from K2TER's I got on the air and worked a few stations on 6, 2, and 70cm using mag mounts verticals. I also turned in the logs! Also don't forget the rule changes the ARRL announced allowing the use of 146.52 MHz during the contests. It is hoped the change will attract more hams into VHF+ contesting. It's another way to increase activity during the January VHF contest and will also give everybody a further chance to obtain a Worked ALL Rochester Award!

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

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# Secretary Report

Freddie Sulyma, WB2GFZ

## Rochester VHF Group Meeting Minutes for 13 November 2015.

The meeting was called to order at 1929L by Tom (KV2X). Tom welcomed everybody and we all had an opportunity to give highlights of our recent ham radio activity. Tom (KV2X) asked for a motion that last month's meeting minutes be accepted as written in October's journal. Bob (W2CNS) motioned to accept and Len (KC2PCD) seconded. Tom (KV2X) asked for a motion that the Treasurer's report be accepted as written in October's Journal. Steve (K2STF) motioned to accept and Bob (W2CNS) seconded. A motion to close the meeting was offered by Duncan (K2OEQ) and Bob (W2CNS) seconded.

**Attending:** Tom (KV2X), Freddie (WB2GFZ), Bob (W2CNS), Steve (K2STF), Bill (KD2CZW), Duncan (K2OEQ) & Len (KC2PCD).

### Old Business:

- Worked All Rochester (WAR) event has been extended through June 2016.
- 6 M Skimmer's health was questioned and some have indicated that it's ok and other seem to think it is deaf.
- 220 MHz Beacon appears to be having problem. Dave (K2DH) to check it out.

### New Business:

Next meeting is Tune Up clinic to be held at Bill's (K2TER) QTH.

### Program:

Ron (W2FUI) & Duncan (K2OEQ) provided an informative tour of the AWA museum that includes the history of wireless equipment along with some history of the pioneers that were instrumental in forging our wireless world. The new addition that is in progress was presented and included a theater and the console/transmitter for the Voice of America exhibition.

## Rochester VHF Group Treasurer's Report (11/30/2015)

### CHECKING/CASH ACCOUNT

Previous Balance (PP = \$3.82, Cash = \$293.83Cash, \$2211.60 Checking):	\$2509.25
Income:	
Dues Steve (K2STF, \$10), Left over MUD shirt sale (\$95)	\$ 105.00
Expenses:	
Current Balance (PP = \$3.82, Cash = \$303.83Cash, \$2306.60 Checking):	\$2614.25

### Members paid up for 2015 – 2016 are as follows;

AB2YI, David Muller	K2TER, Bill Rogers	W2LT, Joe Hoodak
AE2DM, David Malecki	KB2BLS, Bill Hanes	WA2QAU, Robert Roberts
AF2K, Irv Goodman	KC2PCD, Len Crellin (2017)	WB2BYP, John Stevens (2017)
K2AXX, Mark Hoffman	KD2DCC, Ed Pendzik	WB2GFZ, Freddie Sulyma
K2DH, Dave Hallidy	KF2MR, Jarred Jackson	WB2QCJ, Dean Keyser
K2EHF, Jeff Luce	KV2X, Tom Jennings	WB2SQS, Mike Gioka
K2GAB, Gloria Stevens (2017)	N2HEG, Martin Ippolito	WB2YJH, Jim Reilich
K2OEQ, Duncan Brown	W2CNS, Bob Nezelek	WO2P, Fred Miller (2017)
K2STF, Steve Fleming	W2GMT, Gary Terrana	

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Freddie Sulyma, WB2GFZ, Treasurer*

# Vice Chairman's Report

By Jarred Jackson, KF2MR

As a special topic in advance of the January VHF Contest, we will be talking about and demonstrating computer logging software. Whether you use N1MM, Rover Log, VHF Log, or any of the other various software packages out there, please join us to share your likes and dislikes with the software. We will have a projector and laptop with some of these packages installed for you to take a look at and perhaps hear from those who use them. Better yet, if you are willing to demonstrate some of the tips and tricks to the software you use, please contact Jarred – KF2MR.

**Everyone can be a Rover... Yes, even you!** I have recently started using a great rule in the ARRL VHF contests that allows a station to submit separate logs for rover and home operation. The rule allows me (and you) to make contacts at home and then again with the same stations as a rover. This is a great way to “drive” local contest activity and contribute toward the cumulative club score for the Rochester VHF Group. The only caveat is that you must use different equipment in the car since sharing equipment between the stations is not allowed to take advantage of this concept.

When I say “Rover” do you envision a half dozen yagis mounted to someone's SUV with radios stacked from floor to ceiling? That's what interests me, but many people have no interest in the complexity or expense of building a competitive rover station. But everyone likes to have fun, put our radios to work, and support the club. Many people have a dual band FM mobile radio around and at least a mag mount antenna. While it's possible to head out looking for random contacts with such a system, many would exhaust the available contacts within a couple of hours having added perhaps a dozen contacts to the log. By coordinating on-the-air time as well as local rover activity, it could be a very different experience. For example, W2EV often promotes “Activate on the 8s” with the local FM crowd. I have used this to my advantage by getting to the four corners of Leroy shortly after 8am or 8pm and making a lap around the block with the four lower bands on FM. As I travel through Rochester on my way, I get on 2m to make contacts with anyone who might not be able to reach Le Roy. I use my Yaesu FT-8900 and Diamond tri-band mobile antenna for 6m, 2m, and 70cm with a TYT TH-9000D and 5/8 Mag Mount antenna on 223.5 MHz. With just two radios and two antennas, I can usually rack up over 30 contacts in about an hour stopping for about 10 minutes in each grid and making the lap just once.

Imaging adding to the mix a couple of rovers with 927 MHz and 1294 MHz FM radios with simple mag mount antennas and you can really drive up the score. While a 2m contact is worth 1 point, a 33cm contact is worth 4 points each in January. Plan to meet for breakfast or dinner to make things even more enjoyable.

I encourage you to give it a try and mark your calendar for the weekend of January 30<sup>th</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup>. On Saturday January 30<sup>th</sup>, get on the air from home and rack up the grids. Then take a short road trip to LeRoy on Sunday the 31<sup>st</sup> and try your hand as a Rover. During the January group meeting, I will bring enough loaner equipment to equip two simple FM rovers up to 1.2 GHz. Let's see if we can plan to meet up for a bite to eat and then hit the road. That is... if Jack Frost decides to be kind!

73,

Jarred - KF2MR

## World Radiocommunication Conference (WRC-15) Wraps Up

By Tom Jennings, KV2X

**Geneva, 27 November 2015** – The World Radiocommunication Conference 2015 (WRC-15) has concluded its deliberations as delegates sign the Final Acts that revise the Radio Regulations, the international treaty governing the use of radio-frequency spectrum and satellite orbits.

Around 3300 participants, representing 162 out of ITU's 193 Member States attended the four-week conference from 2 to 27 November. Some 500 participants representing 130 other entities, including industry, also attended the conference as observers.

“A great deal has been achieved in the last four weeks and the results will have a major impact on the future of the telecommunication sector in general and radio communications in particular,” said Mr. François Rancy, Director of the ITU Radio communication Bureau. “The outcomes of WRC-15 are aimed at maintaining a stable, predictable and universally applied regulatory environment that secures long-term investments for the multi-trillion dollar ICT industry.”

WRC-15 addressed over 40 topics related to frequency allocation and frequency sharing for the efficient use of spectrum and orbital resources. The outcomes ensure high quality radio communication services for mobile and satellite communications, maritime and aeronautical transport, air and road safety as well as for scientific purposes related to the environment, meteorology and climatology, disaster prediction, mitigation and relief. The ITU Radiocommunication Sector has been set an ambitious studies program for the next four years covering a wide range of services from amateur radio to broadcasting, mobile broadband, mobile satellite, fixed satellite, earth stations on mobile platforms, and space exploration services.

### **Amateur radio service gets new allocation**

New allocation for amateur radio service in the frequency band 5351.5 - 5366.5 kHz will maintain stable communications over various distances, especially for use when providing communications in disaster situations and for relief operations. The conference reached consensus on a new secondary allocation for Amateur Radio at 5351.5-5366.5 kHz with a power limit of 15 W effective isotropic radiated power (EIRP). Some Region 2 countries, but not the US, will be permitted up to 25 W EIRP. With this action — and despite conditions that are more restrictive than had been hoped at the start of the Conference — the Amateur Service has obtained its first new global HF allocation since 1979.

### **Microwaves**

Following the growing demand for spectrum for mobile broadband services, WRC-15 identified frequency bands in the L-band (1427-1518 MHz) and in the lower part of the C-band (3.4 -3.6 GHz). WRC-15 achieved agreement on some additional portions in other bands that were also allocated to mobile broadband services in order to be used in regions where there was no interference with other services.

Threats by the mobile telephone/broadband industry in the vicinity of 10 GHz and 24 GHz have been averted for the time being, but are expected to be raised again at WRC-19 and/or WRC-23. The 144 and 420 MHz bands were excluded from the WRC-19 agenda item addressing short-duration (3 years) small satellites.

Agenda Item 1.12, addressing the Earth Exploration Satellite Service (10 GHz EESS), was approved at plenary with footnotes relevant to certain Middle East countries. The EESS allocation was tailored to avoid the Amateur-Satellite segment and poses no threat to terrestrial ham radio use of the band.

The International Amateur Radio Union ([IARU \(http://www.iau.org\)](http://www.iau.org)) team at WRC-15 also focused its efforts on tweaking the agenda for WRC-19. Agenda Item 1.1 will consider 50-54 MHz harmonization in Region 1. A proposed agenda item to align the 160 meter allocation in Region 1 with the rest of the world did not make the cut.

### **Universal Time**

WRC-15 decided that further studies regarding current and potential [future reference time-scales \(http://www.itu.int/net/pressoffice/press\\_releases/2015/53.aspx#.VmHtIUZVcXg\)](http://www.itu.int/net/pressoffice/press_releases/2015/53.aspx#.VmHtIUZVcXg) are required, including the modification of coordinated universal time (UTC) and suppressing the so-called “leap second”. A report will be considered by the World Radiocommunication Conference in 2023. Until then, UTC shall continue to be applied as described in [Recommendation ITU-R TF.460-6](#)

(<https://www.itu.int/rec/R-REC-TF.460-6-200202-l/en>) and as maintained by the International Bureau of Weights and Measures (BIPM).

The information in this article was gleaned from these sources:

[http://www.itu.int/net/pressoffice/press\\_releases/2015/56.aspx#.VmHt7UZVcXg](http://www.itu.int/net/pressoffice/press_releases/2015/56.aspx#.VmHt7UZVcXg)

<http://www.arrl.org/news/it-s-a-wrap-wrc-15-concludes-in-geneva>

## VHF+ Contest Calendar

<b>Contest</b>	<b>Dates</b>	<b>Notes</b>
January VHF Contest	1/30-1/31	This is one of the big ones! Can we beat 12 logs from 2015 Use of 146.52 MHz Allowed

# Classified Listings

## Meeting Location and Directions

K2TER's QTH 130 Angels Path, Webster, NY 14580

