

The VHF



Journal

Volume 65, Issue 6

February 2013

The next regular meeting of the Rochester VHF Group will be Friday, February 8th at 6 PM at MacGinny's located at 2246 East River Rd. off Jefferson near RIT

Map and directions on last page

In this issue:

The Chairman Speaks!
Secretary Report
Treasurer's Report
Classified

Topic: General ham radio talk.

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: Our January meeting was a small but interesting group session, mostly discussing the pending VHF Contest, and plans for activity in what has traditionally been a fun albeit cold weather closed band test of equipment, persistence, heating systems and rotor lubrication. Did you get on and make a score? Quite a few in the area did, and had a lot of fun. Yes, six meters finally did open up briefly, and provided a very welcome infusion of grids into the logs of many of the participants. Otherwise, it seemed pretty flat on the higher bands with a noticeable drop in overall representation from NY in particular.

Our conversation also went into an area we periodically discuss, that is, where has the activity in general gone over the past few years. Even FM activity on the local simplex and repeater frequencies is down.

...Continued....

Published by
Rochester VHF Group
PO BOX 92122
Rochester, NY 14692
Editor: Tom Jennings, KV2X

The VHF Journal is published by the Rochester VHF Group monthly except June-August. The subscription price is included in the membership dues. If you elect to receive the PDF version by downloading it from our website, dues are US\$10 per year. In this case, you will be notified by email the day it is available for download. If you choose to receive the hardcopy Journal by Postal delivery, the dues are US\$15.00 per year. Articles and comments should be submitted to journal@rvhfg.com

The Chairman Speaks!

Continued... Admittedly with the distractions of our work and families taking necessary priorities, it does seem like ham radio operating, the sport of VHF-UHF contesting and overall experimentation has dwindled, for reasons that range from loss of key "spark plugs" in the community, the general graying of our demographic, and the easy substitution of the internet connection for the socialization we humans need in our work and play.

Some bright spots on the horizon, are the steady growth of ham licenses reported by the FCC, indicating that the hobby is not dying off, but perhaps evolving upward. Just as technology advances are making more of the tools smaller and highly integrated with PC/tablet/phone applications, it is providing dazzling performance capabilities built into newer commercial equipment and software defined radio products.

I can't say there are any conclusions or solutions that came out of the discussions other than keeping an open mind and focusing on the core aspects that have drawn us all to the hobby. I encourage all in the VHF/UHF community that may be pondering this, to set an example of what you believe to be most fun and rewarding, and share your experiences in some way, be it on the air, on line or in print.

Our RVHFG Monday and Thursday at 2100 local 2M and 6M Nets on 144.260 / 50.200 continue to have a good turn-out and make for a good way to check out gear with a pretty consistent crowd. Let us know how you made out in the Contest!

Come to the meeting and share what you have been doing!

John
wb2byp

Secretary Report

Tom Jennings, KV2X

Rochester VHF Group Meeting Minutes for January 2013

Meeting called to order 1933 by WB2BYP. K2OS motion to accept the December minutes as published in the Journal and W2CNS seconded motion. K2DH made motion to accept treasurer's report as published in the Journal, K2OS seconded the motion.

Attending: KV2X, K2OS, K2DB, W2CNS, K2DH, WB2BYP, N2VTC, WB2QCJ

Old business:

- Mudd Update: RIT has the weekend we want reserved so no hotel rooms are available but they are willing to rent the facilities. Dave is working with a nonprofit organization to help us find a venue. We should hear next week.
- Beacons seem to be working fine since repair. Thanks to both W3OAB for repair and to the AWA for hosting the beacons.

New business

- Banquet plans are to combine with RDXA and the plan is to have it at Lillian's. Details are forthcoming.
- We Discussed ways of attracting people to meetings and get more activity.
- It was noticed the 2m beacon frequency as published is wrong. Should b 144.298 MHz
- W discussed ideas for future meeting topics. It was decided to investigate an EME demo and invite other clubs to the demo. We need to find a good date for moon rise. Also need to set up an EME sked with somebody to make the demonstration more exciting and real.
- Another idea was have an N1MM logging program demo/tutorial at a future meeting

WB2BYP made a motion to adjourn the meeting and was accepted at 2112.

Program: January contest discussion.

Rochester VHF Group Treasurer's Report

CHECKING ACCOUNT

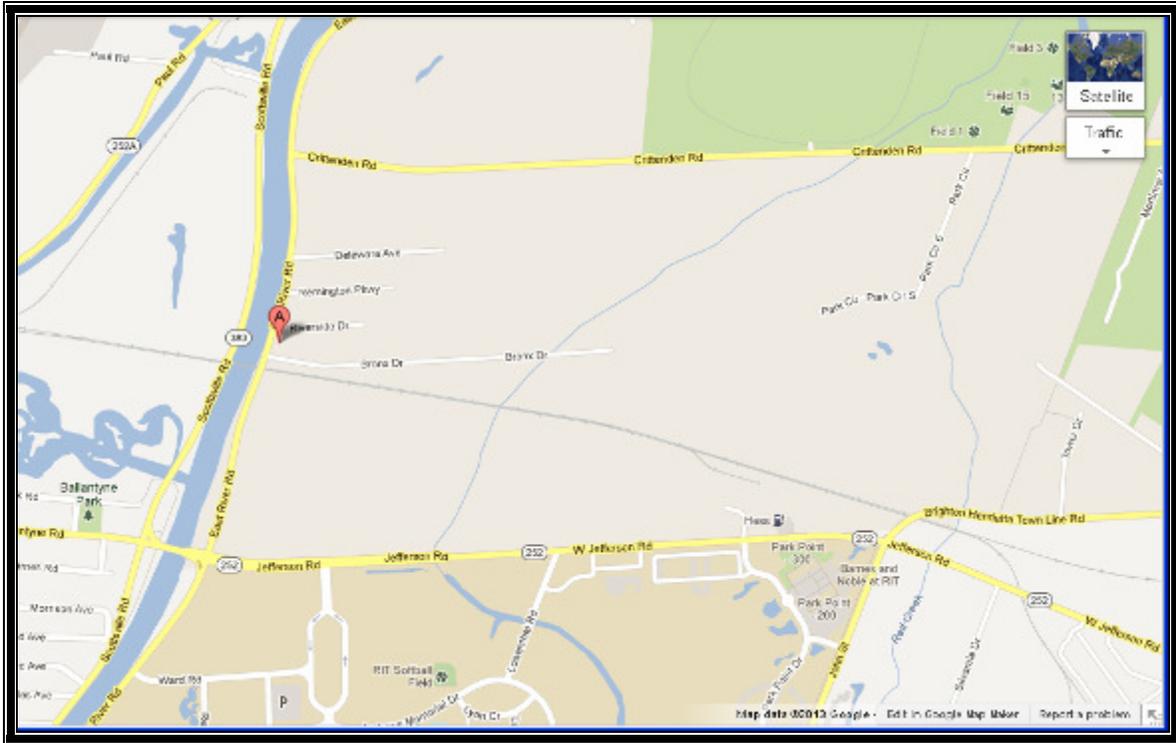
<u>Previous Balance</u> (as of 1/14/2013):	\$2038.09
Income:	\$0.00
Expenses:	\$0.00
<u>Current Balance</u>	\$2038.09

*Respectfully submitted,
Tom Jennings, KV2X, Treasurer*

Classified Listings

None this month

Meeting Location and Directions



If heading west on Jefferson Rd, turn right just before the river and Macginnys is on the right just past the railroad tracks. 2246 East River Rd.