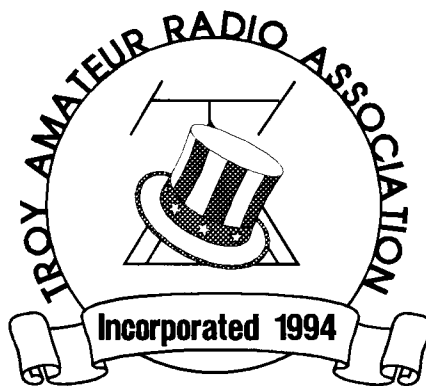


Copy

TARA

"Home of the
FULL SERVICE
Repeaters"



147.27/R
145.17/R
444.225/R

NEWS

Volume IV NO. 12 An Award Winning Publication of the Troy Amateur Radio Association, Inc.

December 1994

CREME DE LA CREME SOURS !

On Sunday night November 21, 1994, in the heat of passionate contesting, it happened! The elite fell!

Yes, it's true, the icons of Amateur Radio representing both clubs were apprehended by Officer Ohoh of the Radio Police.

In the search for a new QSO and two more points, The following stations WD2K, Dave; NY2U, Bill; and WB2FOB, Glen were cited by an Official Observer for working out of band.

So, how close can you operate to the band edge ?
PHONE: Several factors are involved in determining how close to a band edge an amateur may operate. Amateurs commonly consider full-carrier, double side-band AM signals to be about 6kHz wide and single-sideband, suppressed carrier signals to be about 3 kHz wide. Those bandwidths are probably only about 6dB down. The FCC is concerned about the occupied bandwidth at the 40-dB down level. To determine where to set your VFO in relation to the band edge (or sub-band edge for a particular class of license), first determine where your signal is attenuated 40dB. Don't assume that the occupied bandwidth of an SSB



transmission is 3 kHz; that may be fine if the shape of the band-limiting filter is sharp enough to attenuate the signal from -6 to -40 dB. If you're going to operate as near as possible to a band edge, do so after carefully reviewing your equipment specifications. An alternative is to carefully measure the attenuation if you have access to sophisticated lab equipment. Allow an extra margin of safety for

any possible inaccuracy of your frequency readout.
CW: Transmitter keying-envelope rise and fall times determine the bandwidth of a CW signal and the maximum speed at which an amateur can send and still be received properly. Once set, the rise and fall times (not the keying speed) determine the bandwidth. If the rise and fall times are 5 ms, a signal will have a bandwidth of about 150 Hz, in which case an amateur would have to stay at least 75 Hz from a band edge. If the rise and fall times are 2 ms (fairly typical of commercial transceivers), the bandwidth would be 375 Hz, indicating that you should stay at least about 187.5 Hz from the band edge. excerpt from QST July 1994

73's de N2LBZ

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T.A.R.A. 3rd Annual Holiday Bash

DATE: December 20, 1994

TIME: 7:30PM

LOCATION: Green Island Municipal Center

Please make arrangements so that you and your family may attend our 3rd Holiday Bash, on December 20, 1994. For those that would like to bring a pot luck dish to the party, or need an idea of what to bring, please contact June, KA2VEK, at (518) 664-4521, evenings please.

Those that would like to partake in the Grab Bag are asked to bring a present (\$5.00 range). Remember you DO NOT have to participate in the Grab Bag to attend the party.



November Sweepstakes Strikes Again

Now that the rigs have cooled down and your neighbors are once again on speaking terms with you, it's time to get those logs mailed in. Again this year sweepstakes was able to take the first time contesteer as well as the season contesteer, on a roller coaster ride, one that we'll all talk about for months. For many it seemed that by about 11:00PM EST on Saturday evening it was going to be a total washout. I know I hear a number of the club members speaking the same words, "time for bed." Yes, with condition poor at best, it seemed the best thing one could do was check in early and return in the morning and try their luck then. Some of us did just that. But a couple very dedicated contesters just wouldn't hear of such a thing. In fact patience once again paid big dividends for Glenn, WB2FOB, and Ben, KF2LW, who waited until the wee hours for that all important "band opening." Both were able to pad their log sheets to an all time personal high as a reward for their patience. This year Glenn, WB2FOB, logged more than 525 QSOs (SSB), and his partner across town Ben, KF2LW, strutted his stuff to the tune of 700 + QSOs (SSB)!! Ben was the only one within TARA that recorded a "clean sweep" this year. Congratulations to everyone on a fine club effort!

We still have a lot of other stories to share with you, plus a break down of all the members that participated in upcoming issues of the TARA News. TN

Club QSL Cards

After months of canvassing the membership it looks like we'll soon be ordering club QSL cards. George "Spuds," N2YXC, has put many hours trying to catch up with many of us to get some input on this topic. The next step will be to get a few price quotes and get a firm commitment from those needing QSL cards. Of course the larger the order the cheaper the cost per person. As soon as George comes back with the final draft we'll let you know. Until then if there are any new members that haven't been contacted please don't feel left out. You can contact George, N2YXC, on the club 145.17MHz repeater or you make contact him at home (449-2472) for additional details. TN

Dayton HamVention

The "always on the last weekend in April" will now become the third weekend in May. The Dayton Amateur Radio Association announced last week that starting in 1996 the HamVention will be three weeks later.

The new dates are: (for 1995 no changes - April 28, 29, and 30) but for 1996: May 17, 18, and 19; for 1997: May 16, 17, and 18; 1998: May 15, 16, and 17.

W1AW CW Practice

coming soon on the TARA repeater

Preliminary plans are being made so that the TARA 145.17MHz repeater can provide the Capital District area with W1AW CW code practice from Newington CT. W1AW nightly bulletins would come on the air automatically with CW (from 5 to 18wpm) at a set time and disable the link between 145.17MHz & 444.225MHz repeaters, leaving the 440MHz side available for use by club members. We'll have more information at the next regular meeting for TARA. TN

Repeater Upgrade Raffle

TARA's Repeater Upgrade Raffle officially kicked off at the November monthly meeting. The goal of this fund raiser is to provide additional funding toward repeater projects that haven't yet been budgeted by TARA. The BoD at their October meeting thought a raffle would be the best way to raise the needed funds to upgrade the present TARA repeater system (145.17MHz & 444.225MHz), without completely draining the treasury. All the money raised through this raffle will go directly towards upgrading the repeater system.

Tickets are obtainable by contacting any member of TARA. Each raffle ticket will cost just \$1.00 and the drawing will take place Sunday, January 15, 1995 at the Annual Pizza Party. You do not have to be present to win any of the raffle prizes.

The following prizes will be awarded:

•**1st Prize**...Microsoft Office (upgrade package)

This package includes: Powerpoint, Mail, Excel and Microsoft WORD. (Value of this package is \$300.00)

•**2nd Prize**...144-148MHz mobile antenna and magnetic mount. This package includes: 5/8 wave mobile antenna for 144-148MHz and Comtelco MGAS-33 magnet mount assembly. (Value of this package \$60.00)

•**3rd Prize**...The 1994 North American Callbook

This package includes: Listings for over 500,000 licensed radio amateurs. Including North

America, Greenland, Bermuda etc. (Valued at \$30.00)

Turkey Hunts has set back

Last month our RDF Chairman regretfully reported that he wouldn't be able to finish the work on the club owned fox transmitter. Plans have been made so that Bill, N2UIE, can complete this project. We apologize for any inconvenience this has caused and we hope to have this ready for the first meeting of the new year. As always, please check on the repeater system for Steve, N2PZP, prior to the meeting for details.

Our RDF Chairman will hide the old buzzard prior to the monthly meetings (approx. 6:30 PM) and the first person that can find it before the meeting starts wins.

The winner of the monthly Turkey Hunt will win a gift certificate worth \$10.00, redeemable at any local Price Chopper Market. Who says it doesn't pay to attend the TARA meetings. TN

TARA Invades G.I

Members from TARA turned out in full force Saturday, November 5, 1994 for the Annual Run for Hunger in Green Island. This race each year raises desperately needed funds that goes toward filling the food pantries of Watervliet and Green Island.

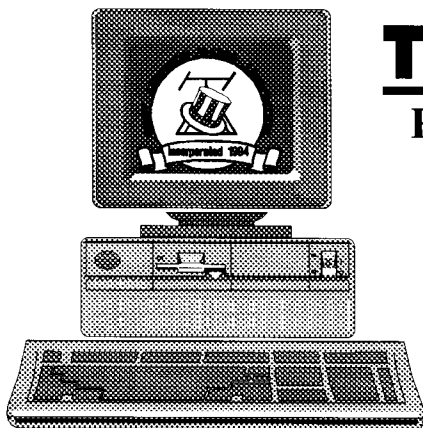
Village fathers were extremely pleased with the number of members that turned out. Kenny, KB2KFV, made sure TARA members were welcomed with hot coffee and doughnuts at the police station prior to the race.

The following volunteered their services:

1. KB2KFV, KENNY
2. KB2JZI, MARILYN
3. N2TTD, RITA
4. N2PZP, STEVE
5. N2VQO, CARL
6. KB2LSQ, CLAYTON
7. N2RXO, KEN
8. KF2WA, STEVE
9. KE2XF, SKIP
10. N2JZK, RUDY
11. KB2LGA, DOROTHY
12. N2PEO, ED
13. N2PEK, MARGARET
14. N2YNP, Hollywood

ATTENTION.....Troy T.N.T. Trader Net Moved

As of October 6, 1994 the TNT Trader Net moved from the 147.27/MHz repeater to the TARA club repeaters 145.17MHz & 444.225MHz (linked). We hope this move will in no way inconvenience anyone and it's hoped that we'll attract a few new people to the TARA repeater system. If you know of somebody that is unable to make it into our repeater system please contact Dennis, N2USN, or Mr. Bill, NY2U. Please tell your friends about this change and we hope to see you on the TARA "Full Service Repeaters."



TARA COMPUTER CORNER

Featuring computer tips and advise for IBM users.

Written By: Tom Remmert, N2TTA

HamWindows

This month we continue our discussion of computer control of HF rigs. I've used HamWindows for a few month's now and have found it fun to use and also rather interesting. I haven't explored all of it's modules yet, but I've done quite a bit. If you've looked at HamWindows more than about a year ago, a lot has been added. The version I use is HamWindows Plus 3.0. It's no longer exclusively for Kenwood.

In order to use HamWindows, you need at least 2 COM ports available PLUS a mouse. In order to accomplish this, I ordered a special RS-232 board from SeaLevel systems. It has two serial ports and can be configured for many different interrupts. This way, COM3 and COM4 don't have to share interrupts with COM1 and COM2. Windows 3.1 supports this (use Control Panel).

HamWindows uses one COM port to control your HF rig and the other COM port to control your VHF TNC. Now why would anyone want to run packet and HF at the same time? Well, with DX season returning, HamWindows lets you monitor your DX cluster while controlling your rig. In fact, the normal HF logging screen has a small packet screen built into it. When a DX spot comes across the cluster, it appears in the TNC portion of your screen. If it looks interesting, all you have to do is point to that line on the screen with your mouse and click. HamWindows tunes your rig to the frequency, enters the call sign in the appropriate field on the log, checks to see if you have that country yet, (it beeps if you need it), tells you what country it is, reads the S-meter on your rig and inserts that into your Rx RS(T) report and checks to see if the coffee is ready yet. Once you make contact, you record the other QSO information and "write" the info to your log. You can optionally print a QSL label if your printer is set up.

If you have an electronic call book from HamBase, Buckmaster or SAM, HamWindows will interface with it. When a call sign is entered in the Log Window, the related information from the call book is entered in the name and QTH fields. You can also have the information automatically copied into the comments field.

While you're in the log window, when you click on the country name, it pulls up the Almanac window with ham related information as well as non-classified CIA information about type of government, etc. Awards for DXCC, WAS and WAZ are tracked. If you click on DXCC, for instance, it shows a chart with countries listed in rows and HF Bands across the top. It tracks, CW, voice, and digital for each band. It tells you if the country is logged only or confirmed. For instance, you might find that you have Peter Island on 80 meter RTTY but still need it on 80 meter CW. Similar displays are used for WAS and WAZ.

A multitude of logging features are included. You can search your log for call signs to see if you've worked someone before. Comments can be recorded in your log. A portion of your log entries appears in the Log Window. You can scroll this part of the window, and then click on an entry to see all the details. This window can be sorted by date/time, call sign, name or QTH. Other features include maps to show you where that rare DX is located, a gray-line map display so you can see who's still in the dark, a nifty HF scanning utility called a SunSpot breaker. (It scans a range of frequencies and records which ones have signals above a user determined S-meter setting. When the scanning is done, you click on the frequencies in the display to hears what's there.) For packet, you can control separate TNC's for HF and VHF. There is enough VHF TNC control in the Log Window to operate a DX cluster.

HamWindows is supported on CompuServe, their own BBS and via voice and fax lines. There was mention on their BBS of creating an interface to various sound boards to allow keying the transceiver and transmitting different recordings. This would be better than any of the digital voice keyers on the market. HamWindows is a product of California Software, Suite #220, 2121 E. Pacific Coast Highway, Corona del Mar, CA 92625. Phone numbers (all area code 714) are voice: 726-4222, fax: 644-6277, BBS: 729-4237. A 486 or better computer with 8 MB of RAM is recommended. I ran it fine on an 80386DX/33MHz with 8 MB but the speed increase on my new 80486 was noticeable. TN

The All New

Hooray for Hollywood

Written By: Bill "Hollywood" St.Jean, N2YNP



In the months to come I'll be writing this all new section of the newsletter simply called "Hooray for Hollywood." The intent and purpose of this section is to inform you of events and happenings of the club members/families, such as; birthdays, anniversaries, new births, deaths, achievements, etc. maybe even a little fun/gossip. Remember always that this is a family oriented club.

At the next monthly meeting I'll be handing out a questionnaire for each of you to fill out. Please take a moment to fill this form out and hand it back, or you can mail it to, Hooray for Hollywood, c/o Editor - TARA, 3 Oxford Circle, Troy, New York 12180. Hopefully this section will be successful and a lot of fun.

In order to hear the best news/gossip..oops, you must, shhh! be vewy, vewy, quiet. Heh-heh-heh-heh!

Free Packet Radio Class

Submitted By: Stephan, WA3RKB

A new "Introduction to Packet Radio" course will be held on Saturday, December 17th, starting at 10:00 AM, in the second floor auditorium of the Schenectady Museum and Planetarium, located at Nott Terrace Heights in Schenectady. This session of this FREE packet course will be held all in one day and last about six hours, with a one hour break for lunch. The course is sponsored by SMARA, the Schenectady Museum Amateur Radio Association and will be taught by Stephan Anderman, WA3RKB. Like the first two courses offered earlier this year, this class will be non-technical in nature and VERY informal. Talk-in will be available on the 147.06 repeater. Pre-registration is required due to room size limitations and so that adequate course materials may be prepared. For more information or to register, contact WA3RKB on packet @ WA2UMX, on various local repeaters, or via landline evenings after 8:30 PM at 518/877-7374.

Club Historian Needed

We're still looking for any individual(s) that would be interested in becoming the club historian. Even for such a young club we have several pieces of documentation and pictures that need to be protected and saved for the future of the club. Also if there are any members that have any photographs of past events or members we would be greatly interested. If you're interested please call Mr.Bill, NY2U at (518)273-9248 or see him at the meetings.

TARA RTTY Sprint

For all of you that participated in the 3rd Annual TARA RTTY Sprint we thank you. This year's RTTY Sprint was a huge success and stations from around the world participated. Please make sure you mail your logs to: W.J. Eddy, NY2U, 2404 22nd St., Troy, NY 12180-1901 by January 25, 1995.

This year we had a very exciting development when WF1B, designer of RTTY contest software, announced our club contest along with the introduction of his latest software upgrade.

CQ Magazine Prepares To Unveil 50th Year Issue

The January golden anniversary of CQ Magazine looks like a keeper; the editors call it the "first comprehensive ham radio history since 1936." Longtime CQ writers Bill Orr, W6ASI, and Joe Lynch, N6CL, recount, in a 72-page special section, Amateur Radio's growth since 1945, "from the rebirth of Amateur Radio after World War II through the development of single sideband and transistors to today's miniaturized, computer-controlled transceivers."

CQ calls it "the first compilation of ham radio history since Clinton B. DeSoto's classic, 200 Meters and Down, was published in 1936."

The issue also includes greetings from President Clinton, Vice President Gore, FCC Chairman Reed Hundt, and ARRL Executive Vice President David Sumner, K1ZZ. A second series of articles, by Richard Moseson, NW2L, runs parallel to those on ham history and reviews world and technological history since 1945. And current and former CQ editors, publishers and columnists share their recollections of the magazine's first half century in print.

The ARRL Letter

The Bubba Report - December, 1994

Written By: Thomas "Bubba" Remmert, N2TTA

580 Mallard Drive

Sumter, SC 29150

Well, it looks like Murphy's Law works in 4-land, too! The move to the new QTH came in the middle of the November ARRL Sweeps. To make matters worse, Bubba missed the deadline for the November TARA News! Well I hope everyone had a nice Thanksgiving Holiday. We had some relatives from the tundra, I mean Upstate New York, visit. This gave us some incentive to get most of the house unpacked. I'm still working on setting up the ham shack. I've got the computer unpacked and hooked up so I can meet the December deadline for the TARA News. Bubba's been busy getting started on applying for tax exempt status for the Sumter Amateur Radio Association (sound familiar?). The Sumter hamfest was a success. We had almost 700 paid admissions. Adding in vendors and guests, I'm sure we topped 700 attendees. We were also host to the 1994 South Carolina ARRL state convention.

After unpacking the shack, the next item is getting the 2 meter beam and the 2m/440 omni mounted on the roof. After that, it's on to the wire HF antennas. I've got a sling shot and some fishing weights, so we'll see how that works. Fortunately, we have some strategically located pine trees on the lot. I'll give a report on my success with antennas next

month. I plan to put up a sky wave loop first. We'll see how that works to the North on 75 meters. If necessary, we'll add a 40/80 meter dipole oriented for North/South coverage.

I sure wish I could pick up those DX spots off the TARA repeater system. Maybe I can hook up with Bucky on HF. With that fancy, dual VFO rig, he can keep me on one frequency while working the DX on the other VFO.

I'm looking forward to a trip up North sometime in January or February. If I can get hold of the Sumter ARA field day potato cannon, I may try to make it up to the annual rumble. Since the potato cannon doesn't come under federal firearms laws, I should be able to sneak it into the rumble.

Hope to hear y'all on HF soon. Hi to all the new members; I hope to at least meet you on the air my next trip up North. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all!! One last thing, who the hell is this Pataki guy David Letterman keeps talking about?

In Memory Of Mr. Carl Storm

We are saddened to announce the untimely passing of Mr. Carl Storm on November 14, 1994. Mr. Storm lived in Johnsonville, NY and was the father to Kenny, N2VLS.

Those wishing to send a card or note may send them to: Kenneth Storm, P.O. Box #2, Johnsonville NY 12094.

Welcome New Members

The membership of TARA is proud to announce its newest members to join our organization: Carl, N2VQO and Barney, KB2KDY.

Hopefully you will always find TARA to be a friendly, and caring club. Thank you for your support.

TARA & Rippers Meet On Neutral Turf

Annual Pizza Party - Summit Meeting

On Sunday, January 15, 1994, at 6:00 PM TARA and RVWARS will set aside all their difference's for a evening of togetherness.

Reservations have been arranged by the Rippers for us to meet at the Four Brothers Pizza Restaurant in Valatie, New York. This is the same restaurant we've used for the last two years and they have plenty of parking available and it's handicapped accessible. The management will be gracious enough to allow us to order any item directly from their expansive menu selections.

Anyone that needs direction are asked to contact either Dave, WD2K, at (518)753-7532 or Mr. Bill, NY2U, at (518)273-9248. Talk-in will be provided on the 145.17MHz (Full Service Repeater) and 147.21MHz (Generic Repeater will be cross-banded to channel 19 for Rippers only!).

Letters from the TARA Mailbag

TARA • P.O. Box 584 • Latham, NY 12110

This month we have a couple letters that we thought you would enjoy reading. Please feel free to drop us a note from time to time, just to let us know what you think of your newsletter, or what's on your mind. We always appreciate your input.

6 North Court
Scotia, NY 12302
November 14, 1994

Dear Bill:

Just a note to congratulate you, personally, the Troy Amateur Radio Association, and the Albany/Troy VE Team for the professional manner in which the FCC exam session was conducted and administered at RPI on November 12, 1994. The attention to detail, the spirit of cooperation, and the consideration of anxieties of the candidates was certainly much appreciated by myself and, I am sure, all who took the exams.

Please pass on my good wishes to all and especially to my VE team (WA2IWW, N2LBR, and WB2KDD).

Good Luck and 73

Stan Gordon, KB2CYU

Mrs. Irene Cooper
179 Milner Avenue
Albany, NY 12203

November 29,

1994

Dear Bill:

Many thanks for the delightful get-well card from the members of TARA. To all who signed, my gratitude for caring, it meant a great deal to me! I hope soon to be well enough to go downstairs to the radio room to say hello.

Ernie Mills, WM2U
9 Morningside Drive
Ballston Lake, NY 12019-1531

Hello Mr. Bill.

Many thanks for the complementary copy of the TARA News. I am really impressed. It is really well put together with interesting articles and a caring theme for various member groups and interests seems to be maintained throughout the publication. The latter, I feel is so important for the cohesion of any club, but alas often missing.

There is one point that hit me that I would like to comment on and that's from: "Survey measures young hams' interest" section 2. Although I did vote NO on no-code license implementation, it never-the-less distresses me greatly to think that a dislike for no-code technicians actually exists. I have not witnessed it myself as I only worked the HF bands where one would not normally meet no-code types anyway and only recently began to explore the VHF possibilities of my hobby.

I would therefore like to offer any help I can to our no-code friends and suggest to them that Digital Ham Radio could open a whole new world for them.

There are a surprising number of hams from all over the world that can be talked to, real time, on the Internet, many of them are DX Novices as well as US no-code hams. If you know any ham who is having trouble 'getting on' the net I am more than willing to walk them through it.

Hey! lets not keep moaning about it, lets do it...enjoy.

73 - *Ernie Mills, WM2U*

RVWARS VHF/UHF Sprint

Have any of you have been looking for something challenging to do on these cold winter nights? If you answered yes, please read on. On January 8, 1995, RVWARS will sponsor their Winter VHF/UHF Sprint from 6:00 PM until 10:00 PM (local time). This contest is designed to help out the new contester and low power operators. Logs should be mailed to, Wayne, N2ROR, by February 10, 1995. Full details can be had by contacting Dave Watrous, WD2K, on the 147.21MHz, 145.17Mhz repeaters or by calling (518) 732-7532

Federal Communication Commission

Amateur Radio Call Signs

Issued as of December 1, 1994

Radio District	Group "A" Extra	Group "B" Advanced	Group "C" Tech/Gen	Group "D" Novice
0	AA0UA	KG0RD		KB0PLX
1	AA1LH	KD1XS	N1TKM	KB1BLE
2	AA2UO	KF2YO		KB2SKX
3	AA3IY	KE3PW	N3TSG	KB3BFG
4	AD4ZD	KS4HB		KE4SMC
5	AB5YQ	KK5EK		KC5KPV
6	AC6GZ	KO6KX		KE6NVP
7	AB7FV	KJ7FF		KC7GMT
8	AA8QX	KG8MV		KB8VMB
9	AA9MW	KF9QI	N9YZZ	KB9JBE
N.Mariana Is.	KH0O	AH0AN	KH0DO	WH0AAX
Guam	WH2H	AH2CY	KH2LO	WH2ANG
Johnston Is.	AH3D	AH3AD	KH3AG	WH3AAH
Midway Is.		AH4AA	KH4AG	WH4AAH
Hawaii		AH6NQ	WH6ZC	WH6CRX
Kure Is.			KH7AA	
Amer.Samoa	AH8L	AH8AG	KH8BJ	WH8ABB
WakeW.Peale	AH9C	AH9AD	KH9AE	WH9AAI
Alaska		AL7PV	WL7YU	WL7CHV
Virgin Is.	WP2P	KP2CD	NP2HR	WP2AHU
Puerto Rico		KP4XS		WP4MUA

Microsoft Introduces
"Windows 95"

Software giant Microsoft® did what everyone expected they would. They introduced "Windows 95" at the Comdex/Fall '94 show held in Las Vegas. That convention drew some 200,000 people.

And if you thought the introduction of Windows 3.1 was big, just wait for Windows™ 95. A new global branding campaign will feature massive television print, direct mail and in-store promotions. Windows 95 is expected to hit the stores in the first half of next year. Most industry analysts agree, however, that Windows 95 will not overtake sales of Windows 3.1 until 1996.

And as predicted here, Microsoft is bundling a free subscription to its new on-line service— now officially called "The Microsoft Network" — with its updated operating system. At least 30 million copies of Windows 95 is expected to be sold. That means 30 million people get entry into Microsoft Network. that's fifteen times greater than the largest consumer on-line service operating today! Microsoft Network is due to begin operating next year in 35 countries and 20 languages creating the first global on-line consumer service. For competitive reasons, Microsoft is not saying how much the new service will cost subscribers, but our understanding is that it will be less than the \$10.00 a month average charged by competitors. We heard a \$5.00 and an \$8.00 monthly rate being tossed around. Microsoft will use more than 200 Digital Equipment servers to run its on-line network. AT&T and Sprint will handle the telecommunications.

W 5YI Report

Beacon turns up the power!

A tiny Caribbean island covering only 36 square miles, Anguilla is known for its white sandy beaches and great DX (VP2E) location. However amateurs on Anguilla and St.Maarten (PJ7/FS5) are very concerned that might come all to and end...or worse! The British government has granted an international broadcast license to Caribbean Beacon Limited and agree to improvements that will increase their radiated power from 50,000 watts into a non-directional antenna to a staggering 200 kilowatts! (KF2LW must be behind these guys)

Now "The Beacon" - as it is known - wants to expand to reach a worldwide audience. they will be increasing power and adding international shortwave broadcasting to reach most of South, Central and North American continents. They recently purchased a medium wave folded dipole antenna (from Kintronics Labs) that will be supported on four 300 aluminum towers. The overall gain of the antenna is 12.5db gain above isotropic, that calculates out to an ERP of 3.5 megawatts on 1610! Their HF antenna will be a long periodic designed and

manufactured by British-based Technology for Communications International. The 14.5db gain antenna consists of two 145 foot towers which support two horizontally polarized log curtains aimed at Central and North America. The ERP of the log periodic in the direction of the main beam will be 2.8 megawatts. W5YI Report

AARA Provides Communications

Submitted By: Jack, WA2YBM

S.U.N.Y. at Albany was the site of the New York State Public High School Athletic Association Cross Country Champion 5k (3.1 miles) races on November 12, 1994. There were 6 divisions, three each for females and males. The first race went off at 10:00 a.m. and one every half hour thereafter. The winning girls time was just over 18 minutes, the boys was just over 15 minute, both being track records.

A.A.R.A. provided communications on an ideal day which was marred by one of the participants collapsing at the finish line from dehydration. Making matters worst was there was no ambulance at this location. Albany County ARES/RACES repeater (147.12MHz, WB2ZCM) autopatch was pressed into service by simply pressing 91*, which directly connects you to Albany County dispatch. Albany County dispatchers immediately responded by dispatching an ambulance to the race site. The young person was taken to St. Peters hospital along with her parents. She was treated for the dehydration and released the same day.

The local Hams who provided our usual excellent communications were: Dave, WB2EAR, who was net control, Chris, N2ZHR (Dave's daughter), Craig, N2UID, Bill, KA2OWW, Gus, WA2QAD, Bob, KA2MBA, Don, W2CJO, and Jack, WA2YBM.. Marbry Ganzle was the race coordinator.

Annual Equinox Turkey Day

Submitted By: Jack, WA2YBM

The Albany Amateur Radio Association provided communications this year for the Annual Equinox Thanksgiving Dinner, sponsored by the First Presbyterian Church in Albany. Both a base station and mobile operations were used for the three days prior to Thanksgiving Day. There were three vehicles assigned to picking up the large amount of donations from various groups and organization in the area. Each vehicle was dispatched via amateur radio to different locations throughout the city and rerouted as appropriate, saving precious time on a tight schedule. This year's donations amounted to over 3000 pounds of turkey, more than 1000 pounds of potatoes, 400 eight inch pies, 600 individual pies, over 25 boxes of apples, plus other ingredients, all to be served on Thanksgiving Day by volunteers. A total of seventy seven man hours, over three days, were volunteered by Don, W2CJO, Marc, N2XLC, Vince, KA2DKN, Ben, N2VGK, and Jack WA2YBM, most of whom were there for all three days of the operation.

If you have never seen an operation this size, your participation next year would be more than welcomed. Thank you to all who were there this year.

SMARA Sponsors Award

William G. Broughton, W2IR - New Amateur of the Year

Submitted By: Stephan Anderman, WA3RKB

The Schenectady Museum Amateur Radio Association proudly announces the William G. Broughton, W2IR, New Amateur of the Year Memorial Award.

This new award shall be presented next April to a deserving new ham radio operator, licensed during calendar 1994, jointly by SMARA, the Schenectady Museum & Planetarium, and the Estate of the late William G. Broughton, W2IR. Nominations shall be solicited from, and submitted by, licensed amateurs in the community, not related to the nominee.

Award presentation will be made at the April meeting of the Schenectady Museum Amateur Radio Association. Amateurs licensed during the previous calendar year and residing in the Greater Capital District shall be eligible. Nominations for the award shall be presented in writing. A person may not nominate himself nor be nominated by an immediate family member.

Nominations will be opened on December 1st. Official nomination forms and full instructions will be made available to the amateur community

through local clubs after that date. Completed nomination forms shall be mailed, must be postmarked no later than January 31st, and received by the Awards Committee no later than 5:00 PM on February 10th.

The presentation shall be a cash award or a gift certificate so that the recipient may further their amateur radio activity. The decision of the Awards Committee shall be final. Judging criteria, rules, and instructions will be included in the nomination form, which will be available December 1st

News Of Our Neighbors

R.V.W.A.R.S.

Rip Van Winkle Amateur Radio Society
Club Repeater: 147.21/R WB2UEB

Many members from RVWARS are still in total disbelief and searching for answers as to why WD2K, Dave Watrous, was working stations illegally during the recent November Sweepstakes (SSB). Dave, WD2K, RVWARS answer to Mr. Roger's, was found guilty of out of band transmissions by W2CC, David Popkin (OO), in New Jersey on the evening of November 21. It seems "Mr. Pure" was caught red handed working WU3M and couldn't resist the temptation of working another multiplier for a "clean sweep."

Now in all fairness Dave wasn't the only local ham to receive such notice. But, unlike the other guilty parties he tried to cover up his illegal transmissions and the fact he too received an official notice. It was only after hours of intense interrogation on the 145.17MHz repeater he finally broke down and admitted his guilt. All of us from TARA can only hope you find it in your hearts to forgive such a criminal. For information about RVWARS, please call Dave, WD2K, at (518) 732-7532 evenings. TN

Albany County Emergency Services
Club Repeater: 147.12/R WB2ZCM

A.C.E.S.

On December 6, 1994 Albany County RACES celebrated the holiday season with their annual party at Charlie Weavers Restaurant in Menands. A good time was had by all and certainly the mild temperatures were an added bonus.

Hopefully after the first of the year we can try and have a joint meeting with Albany.

Bob, WB2ZCM, and the RACES group will have a few more new hams on the air soon that were graduates from their most recent NoCode Technician Class in Green Island. Every Tuesday evening at 7:00 PM Albany Co. RACES hold their weekly training session on the 147.12MHz repeater in Albany. These formal nets provide an excellent opportunity to familiarize yourself with RACES officials and receive on the air training.

If you're not quite sure what RACES has to offer or how to join, why don't you take a moment and call Chief Radio Officer Bob, WB2ZCM, at (518) 237-8473. TN

S.C.R.A.

Saratoga County R.A.C.E.S. Association
Club Repeater: 147.24/R WA2UMX

On December 10, 1994 RACES finished up this year's schedule for VE exams at the county Solar Building. This group should be congratulate for the outstanding job they do each year at providing these exam sessions on a regular schedule. In addition to these exam sessions RACES also provide the region with study classes for those wishing to enter this hobby and those wishing to upgrade. For those of you out on the highways during the winter months remember to keep the Saratoga repeaters in your memory channels. Both of these repeaters (147.00MHz and 147.24MHz) have excellent coverage down into the Capital District and cover a large amount of the north country. Also in case of emergency the 147.24MHz repeater does have an autopatch available directly into the Saratoga County Sheriffs Department. If you need to find out more about this organization please contact President - Jim Polewczak, KG2H, at (518) 695-6878. TN

Schenectady Museum Amateur Radio Assoc
Club Repeater: 147.06/R K2AE

S.M.A.R.C.

As of December 4, 1994, around 7:00 PM, the all new SMARA sponsored 2 Meter repeater hit the air waves, high on top of the Helderburg Mountains. This repeater system is running on the assigned frequency of 147.375MHz under the call of KA2QYE. Frank, KA2QYE, built this complete repeater and will remain owner/control operator. It still is to early to see what kind of range this system will have but early tests are diffidently impressive. Please try this system out while you're traveling in and throughout the Capital District and forward your reports to Frank.

Monthly meetings for SMARA are held the third Wednesday of each month at 7:00 PM on the second floor of the Schenectady Museum and Planetarium, Nott Terrace. If you would like additional information regarding SMARA, please contact Peter Harvey, WB2FWK on the 147.375MHz repeater. TN

News Of Our Neighbors

R.C.RACES.

Rensselaer County ARES/RACES Club Repeater: 147.18MHz/R WS2B

At the November monthly meeting it was decided by the membership to change the weekly emergency training net from its present schedule on Wednesday evening, to a new time slot on Tuesday evenings at 9:00 PM. It was pointed out by their Equipment Manager, KA2VBI, that each month they lose one training session due to it being scheduled on the night of their monthly meetings. So please mark your calendar for Tuesday evenings at 9:00 PM on the Grafton Mountain repeater system (147.18MHz, 146.76MHz and 442.200MHz LINKED). There still is some needed work on the 442.200MHz link system and John, KA2VBI, will let us know when the repairs have been completed. Until then the link can be used but low audio problem may be noticed on the 146.76MHz side. John can be reached at his home at 235-9321.

To find out more about RACES/ARES call Chief Radio Officer, George Bowen, N2LQS, on the 145.37MHz repeater or John, KA2VBI, at 235-9321. TN

A.A.R.A.

Albany Amateur Radio Association Club Repeater: 145.19MHz/R KM2H

On the front page of the latest issue of B-PLUS (Albany's club newsletter) they proudly show Albany's new club logo that Ernie Popp, KA2HTU, designed while relaxing at home. Although Ernie might not have that much spare time left if everything goes right for him at the next monthly meeting. It seems Ernie has placed his name into nomination for President of AARA along with WB2YLR, Dave, V.Pres., K2XA, Saul, Treasurer and N2AIF, Seymour "Ruthless" Miller, running for Secretary for 1995. Those that are running for a Directors seat are WA2BAH, Stan, and WA2YBM, Jack.

Albany meets the second Friday of each month at the Colonie Community Center, 1653 Central Avenue. Meetings start with a social gathering at 6:45, followed by the regular meeting beginning at 7:45 PM. To get more information about Albany A.A.R.A. please call Ernie Popp, KA2HTU, at (518) 477-9581. TN

S.A.R.A.

Schenectady Amateur Radio Association Club Repeater: 147.06MHz/R K2AE

It was brought to our attention that we made an error in reporting N2OJY's wife name was Tina, N2XXX, in our last newsletter. We apologize for this error and just for the records her name is Wendy, N2XXX. Sorry about that Wendy.

Goodies, Goodies and more Goodies was the main theme to the December meeting of SARA on December 5, 1994.

This is the annual meeting where Lentini's Communication from Newington, CT. bring all those tempting radio goodies just in time for the holidays. Also Wendy, N2XXX, Refreshment Chairperson, was extremely busy serving all those delicious goodies of her own. We don't have an exact head count but everyone said the place was filled. Great job SARA!!

Those needing additional information about SARA are asked to contact President, KB2HQ, Phil Bradway, on the 147.06MHz repeater. TN

So.V.A.R.C.

Southern Vermont Amateur Radio Club Club Repeater: 145.39MHz/R WA1ZMS

It looks like the new SoVARC 2 Meter repeater will be located at the home site of Walt, AA2KM, in Hoosick Falls, NY. Already they have an 80 ft. Rohn tower installed at Walt's place with the help of KB2QPS, N1MGA, K1DLK, K1DEU, N2QSQ, N1HSJ and N1JIF.

On the RF side of things they now have in their possession a GE Master Pro that use to belong to WA2WNI, Dana. The exact frequency pairing hasn't yet been determined but Mickey, N1JIF, is in the process of filing all the necessary paper work with UNYREPCO. SoVARC also has a pair of 4" cavities, with approximately 35db attenuation and they're looking for at least 54db more of isolation through cavities or using vertical separation between antenna's. Hopefully they will let us know if our club can be of any assistance.

SoVARC meets on the fourth Tuesday of every month at the Bennington Free Library. TN

OFFICERS

President: Bill Eddy, NY2U 273-9248

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Secretary: June Smith, KA2VEK 664-4521

Treasurer: Jack Culliton, N2LBZ 271-6763

Sergeant at Arms: Skip Wilson, KE2XF 664-4521

Newsletter: Editor-in-Chief Perry White

Editor: Jack Culliton, N2LBZ 271-6763

Assistant Editor : Bill Eddy, NY2U

Assistant Editor : Ellen Culliton

Copier: REM Printing

Please send all correspondence to Editor-TARA
at 3 Oxford Circle, Troy, NY 12180 or via
packet at WA2UMX-5 144.950
or E-mail N2LBZ@aol.com

DIRECTORS

Rudy Ault, N2JZK 271-7282

Marilyn Davis, KB2JZI 272-0112

Bud Hovey, WF2B 283-2337

Dave Pascale, WB2HKR 785-5040

Steve Watson, N2PZP 272-7470

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UHF/VHF Contest Coordinator: Jerry , N2QIP

Assistants:

Dennis, N2USN

Art Ceas, KB2JZJ

VE Team Contact Bud Hovey, WF2B

Troy Amateur Radio Association

PO Box 584

Latham, NY 12110

place

label

here

Bill

NEXT MEETING:

December 20, 1994

Green Island Municipal Bldg.

7:30 PM