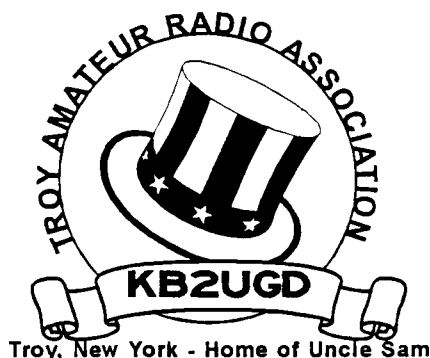


TARA

"Home of the
FULL SERVICE
Repeaters"



147.27/R
145.17/R
444.225/R

NEWS

Volume V NO. 6

An Award Winning Publication of the Troy Amateur Radio Association, Inc.

June 1995

THANKS....

...for the privilege of being the editor of the Tara News for the past 30 months. I have been fortunate to have the help and support of many people during my tenure as editor.

For everyone who has contributed articles in the past, thanks. Without your input, any newsletter quickly becomes boring. For any new members, it's not that hard to write an article for the Tara News, try it, you may even like it.

The past 30 months have brought many changes to our newsletter, including a name change from the *Tarable Facts* to the current name of the *Tara News*, an increase in circulation from 30 copies per month to the 75 copies we currently make each month, a new club logo, and the masthead of this newsletter.

As with any new undertaking, I am sure our new editor will also have some changes that will change the face of the *Tara News*. I am confident of your support of the new editor.

The accomplishment of which I am most proud is the recognition by the Amateur Radio News Service of the high quality of our newsletter. For the past two years, the *Tara News* has been judged Superior and Excellent in a national contest of amateur radio newsletters.

A special thanks to Bill, NY2U, for doing the tedious task of typing for the newsletter on a monthly basis.

Last, but certainly not least, a special thanks to my wife Ellen. Putting up with the monumental task of proof reading each edition prior to the final printing has not been easy. Many times I took the corrected sheets to the *Tara News* offices and began retyping, but there was so much red correcting ink on the rough copy that I could barely read it.

To the new editor and staff of the *Tara News*, Good Luck !

de N2LBZ,

Jack

Inside This Issue:

Repeater Moved	2	Thanks WNYT	3	Nobody Talks To Me	7
Bubba Report	2	Tara Computer Corner	4	Field Day '95	8
Yearly Dues	2	Tara Annual Award	4	The Washington Beat	9
Club T-Shirts	3	Hooray for Hollywood	5	Future of 5 GHz	9
VHF/UHF Digital News	3	Club Nominations	6	News of Our Neighbors	10

THE BUBBA REPORT - June 1995

Written By: Thomas "Bubba" Remmert, N2TTA

Well Field Day is almost here. Hope y'all are ready. I'm looking forward to seeing everyone at Frear Park. I'll probably arrive in town Wednesday or Thursday before Field Day. Gotta be good on my diet before the usual TARA feast!

Well, it looks like I'll be working in Columbia, S.C. by the time you read this. Things are pretty slow here in Sumter, so I'm going to work for a CPA firm in the big, capital city. Actually, Columbia is a lot like Albany except they talk funny and there are a lot of war monuments with "CSA" on them, whatever that is.

Remember, your dues are due by July 1. Why not send in the money now so you don't forget. Believe me, it makes the treasurer's job a lot easier. The worst part of the job is sending out second notices on dues, so pay early and pay often!

With the job in Columbia, I'll be on the road quite a bit so I'm looking into going HF mobile. If you have any experiences with this, I'd love to hear from you. We can get together at Field Day, or you can drop me a note on packet. I would really appreciate it. We have quite a few guys here in Sumter on mobile HF, but it seems they all use different antenna types. Some

have Hustlers, others the new screwdriver type and some the single band Hamstick type antennas.

The Sumter ARA special event station was on during the annual Iris Festival. The bands were dead until 20 meters opened up during the last two hours. We had a total of 197 contacts on 20 meters with 130 of those from 1200 to 1400 EDT on the last day. There were a few contacts on 10 meters but, with storms in the area, we didn't get much on 40 or 80 meters.

Looking forward to seein' y'all at Field Day.

TARA Repeaters Moved

On Saturday June 10, 1995 the TARA repeaters 145.17MHz and 444.225MHz were moved to their new location high on top of the Sycaway Water Tower. The repeaters were pulled from service around 8:00AM and were back on the air around 1:30PM, that same day. The hardest problem the group encountered was trying to locate which hardline went to each antenna on top of the tank.

This move had been in the planning for months, however the recent bout with intermod at our Defrestville site expedited this move. With some extremely fast planning by our Technical Director, John Pritt, WA1YXQ and Repeater Manager, Dennis Bulger, N2USN, this move was completed in just one week!

Dennis and John were quick to praise those that volunteered their services for the transportation and installation of the repeater equipment. Those that assisted are: Paul, N2UZR, Kim, N2ZLA, Ray, N2VLY, Bill, N2UIF, Roy, N2OWC, John,

WA1YXQ and Buddy (Wells Communications).

Jack, N2LBZ, was kind enough to make sure the work crew keep nourished by bringing them submarine sandwiches and goodies, up to the tower site. Later it was learned that we pretty near had a strike on our hands because Kim and Ray wouldn't send any food up the tower to Bill and Buddy. And if that wasn't enough they managed to scratch Roy's custom painted pickup truck and proceeded to bust out Buddy's rear window from his Bronco. All this is just a matter of hours!

Please keep your fingers crossed that this site works out for our club. Over the next few weeks feel free to give it a good work out and please inform either John or Dennis of any signal reports. We hope to have a more detailed report at the monthly meeting. Also we must thank the many of you that have given us reports back already, in particular Craig, N2UID, and Skipper, KE2XF, who drove all over the place on Saturday relaying back signal reports.

Yearly Dues

It's that time of year again when all of us must dig down deep into the pockets and pay are dues for another year.

The dues for TARA are \$25.00 single membership and \$35.00 family, per year.

Please remember that everybody must pay their dues by July 1, 1995 regardless of when you first joined.

If you just joined two months ago, you don't owe the full \$25.00 dues again. You are prorated for those months so we keep everyone on the same dues schedule.

Anyone that has any doubt if he/she owes anything or not, are asked to contact Jack, N2LBZ. Remember you DONT have to pay the whole amount at once. You can make arrangements with our Treasurer that will be accommodating for everyone. Jack will be accepting payment of dues at the June meeting, please get there early before the meeting starts.

Club T-shirts

Anyone that has ordered club t-shirts are asked to please contact Mr. Bill, NY2U, and make arrangements for payment. Nobody will receive their t-shirts unless they are paid-in-full prior to Field Day. Please keep in mind that the club hasn't fronted any of the money needed for either the deposit or t-shirt order, it all came out of Mr. Bill's pocket. There are a very limited number of extra shirts and hats still available, call now if you want one.

Thanks to George "Spuds", N2YXC, for volunteering his courier services.

QSL Cards Available

The all new TARA QSL Cars are now available in groups of 250 by contacting George "Spuds", N2YXC, at (518)449-2472. These handsome cards are printed locally by REM Printing of Albany, and sport the TARA logo. Presently there are three versions that are available, plus stickers you can affix to the cards you presently own.

VHF/UHF Digital News

Are there any members of the club that would like to get together for a building and discussion group regarding VHF/UHF digital communications? We need to get a more of our members actively involved in this changing world so we're not left behind guarding yesterdays digital technology. How many of our group have the desire or capability of doing 9600baud? Right now TARA has several of its members that are presently populating 145.07MHz using 1200baud packet, with plans for 9600baud by Summer's end, are there others interested in this? This same group is providing a verity of Maildrops, Callbook Servers, DIGIs, Gateways and Nodes all up on the air and running.

Our members are more than willing to help new individuals that would like to try Packet Radio for the first time or experiment on something new along the lines of digital communications.

If the membership accepts a proposal that will be brought up at the next meeting, TARA will have its first DIGI/MAILDROP operative in just a couple weeks. This system will operate under the club callsign KB2UGD. Our club also has several 440MHz GE Data Radios at our disposal that are capable of doing 9600baud, which could be repackaged and installed up on the hilltop.

As in the past we have many projects just like this one. However for this project to be successful we still need more than just a few bucks and some radio equipment. What our club needs most in order for this project or any of its projects to flourish, is YOU!

T.N.T. Trader Net

Mr. Bill reports that the T.N.T. Trader Net has increased tremendously over the last month. Not only has the number of stations checking into the net increased but the amount of people making equipment listings has steadily increase each week.

Please remember that the net will continue all summer long at 9:00PM Thursday evenings, on the 145.17MHz and 444.225MHz repeaters.

So, gather up a few of those trinkets that you've been kicking around all winter and bring them on into the net. If

Thanks Channel 13 WNYT

All of us from TARA would like to thank our friends from Channel 13 WNYT for use of the 147.27MHz WA2SPJ repeater, on Bald Mountain. The Channel 13 engineers were the first group that officially allowed our club to use their repeater and we called it home. Over the years their repeater provided our group with a with outstanding wide coverage and reliability.

As our club approaches Field Day we would like to extend a hearty welcome to each of you to come join us in Frear Park for the Annual Spaghetti Diner on Saturday June 24, around 6:00PM. And of course you're more than welcome to come operate the many stations we'll have up and running for the complete weekend.

AIM Computer

Advanced Idea Mechanics, Inc.
754 New Loudon Road
Latham, NY 12110
Ph. 786-6960 Fax: 786-6956

- Custom Built Computers
- Professional Repair Service
- Upgrades
- Friendly Sales Staff
- Packet Specialists

June Special:

486 66MHz System \$1299.00

520mb Hard Drive

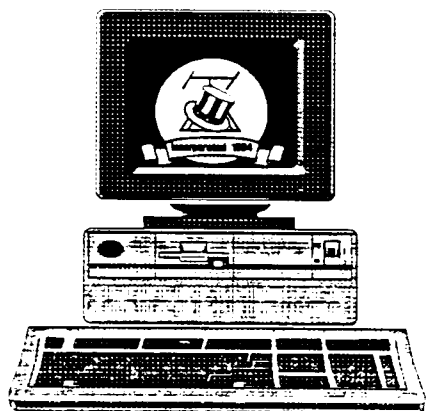
8mb RAM

1.44mb Floppy Drive

VLB Video Card

14" SVGA Monitor

MS DOS/Windows



TARA COMPUTER CORNER

Featuring computer tips and advice for IBM users.

Written by: Tom Remmert, N2TTA@KD4HTU.#SUM.SC.USA.NA

COMPUTER CORNER - JUNE 1995

Remember to bring your questions to Field Day. I need them for a Q&A format column to be published in a future issue. The person with the dumbest question gets free food at Field Day (excludes Rippers, how could anyone ask dumber questions than those guy!?!).

Look for Microsoft's "Plus Pack" for Windows 95 to be released about the same time as Win95. Plus Pack will include some flashy screen savers, a World-Wide Web browser, enhanced disk compression utilities, a background task scheduler and access to Internet mail via Microsoft Exchange. Plus Pack requires a 486 or better with at least 8 MB of RAM. You will also need a display capable of 256 colors to take advantage of most of the screen savers.

Plus Pack's DriveSpace 3 is, supposedly, much improved over Microsoft's previous attempts at disk compression. You can vary the amount of compression, depending on whether you wanted more space or better performance.

The System Agent lets you schedule system maintenance utilities such as the Disk Defragmenter or ScanDisk. They can be run at certain times or when the system is idle for a certain amount of time.

PlusPack is expected to be released either with Win95 or shortly after in late August. The expected price is under \$50.00.

I'd like to use one month's column for a question and answer format. Please send questions to me via packet at the address above or give them to me at Field Day. I may even be up in time for the regular June meeting. Even if you've already figured out the answer to your question, send it in anyway (with the answer). Someone else may be having the same problem. TY

Author's comment: I have to wonder why these things weren't just included in Win95. Did they pull these things out to make it more likely to meet the Win95 ship date? Are they just looking for more money by charging extra for these items?

TARA ANNUAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

At our last monthly meeting held on May 16, 1995 the membership cast their ballots for this year's TARA Achievement Award recipient. Only members of TARA were permitted to vote and the results have been kept hermetically sealed in an old mayonnaise jar by Kim, N2ZLA, and Ray, N2VLY, until June 24 at the Annual Field Day Diner.

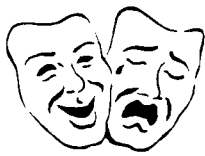
This award was first presented last year to Thomas Remmert, N2TTA, who has since moved to

Sumter, SC. Tom was our Treasurer and the driving force behind many of TARA's projects, most notably his efforts at getting us established as a nonprofit organization.

Tom, N2TTA, is making every attempt to drive up from Sumter, SC to be on hand for this special presentation. We hope as many of you as possible will also make plans so that you may attend this informal diner presentation.

Seeking New Authors

The TARA News is presently seeking anyone that would like to share an article, or two with us. We're looking for such articles as Antenna Design, Computer Software Reviews, Digital Communications, HF Contesting, VHF/UHF Communications, Traffic Handling, DX Reports, Propagation, New/Old Equipment Reviews, Construction Projects, QRP Operation, Book Reviews....etc, etc. Better yet, maybe somebody would be interested in writing a monthly column in the newsletter. If writing for the newsletter sounds like fun or if you would like to help out in some way with the monthly publication of the TARA News please contact Mr. Bill, NY2U, at 273-9248.



The All New

Hooray for Hollywood

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



BIRTHDAYS:

Jim Rubino, N2PEM, 5/16
Cathy Warner, N2XLD, 5/23
McDonald "Rebel" Smith, KB2SPM 6/10
Ester Hovey, 6/17
David Addario, N2SBA 6/25
Matthew Pasquini, 6/25

ANNIVERSARIES:

Rudy Ault, N2JZK, & Dorothy Ault, KB2LGA 5/1
George "Spuds" Smith, N2YXC, & Jane Smith 5/4
Harry "Bud" Hovey, WF2B, & Ester Hovey 5/11
Walt Legowski, WA1KKM, & Sue Rothchild, N2LBR, 5/11
McDonald "Rebel" Smith, KB2SPM, & Karen "Red" Smith, KB2UUC 5/27
Ken "Chief" Davis, KB2KFV, & Marilyn Davis, KB2JZI 6/7
Bill "Hollywood" St.Jean, N2YNP, & Carla St.Jean 6/22

Note: Due to a glitch in the Mr.Bill's computer, our article for last month was sent to that other land of the Labyrinth for awhile. We may have been lost but it was very, very interesting there. We saw and heard a lot! Now that we're out, we can continue on. So let's go.

Repeaters of the Stars:

The TARA repeater is a.k.a. the repeater of the stars, which is courtesy of John Farina, WA2QCY. It seems that there are three competitors for the title of "Hollywood." Bill, N2YNP, is the original, but there are two more trying for the title. It was noticed that while a hockey game was being broadcasted on TV a certain TARA member Jack, N2LBZ, jumped out in front of the camera, and wouldn't move out of the way. Is it true that they had to get security? Also, Don, Bulger, WB2VJC, was seen staring in a commercial for local automobile dealership. Have you received your new Rolls Royce yet? So it is safe to say that there is two sequels: Hollywood part deux and Hollywood part trios.

Send in the Marines:

On Saturday March 25, 1995 USMC Pvt. Michael Bulger, graduated from basic training at Paris Island, South Carolina, for his Advance Individual Training (A.I.T.). Congratulations Jeff! We are proud of you. "SEMPER FY" Jeff is the son of Dennis, N2USN, and Rose, Bulger.

VHF/UHF teams aren't saying very much lately. They are awfully quiet. It is said that there is a double agent among them. At the May meeting the facts will

be released and disputed. I understand that there is a very angry VHF team captain. Watch Out!

We would like to express our deepest and sincerest sympathy to Craig Wood, N2UID, and family for the passing of his father Joseph C. Wood, on April 2, 1995.

Michael Pascale son of David, WB2HKK & Anne Pascale has received the most holy sacrament of his First Communion on May 13, 1995 at St.Ambrose Catholic Church in Latham, NY. Congratulations Michael and God be with you. Your parents are very proud of you and so are we.

What do you think of someone who sneaks off and doesn't let anyone know what they did until they get back? well our very own Uncle Bud Hovey, WF2B, did just that! He and his wife Ester (lovely lady) went on a cruise through the Caribbean for their anniversary. The real reason was to watch the bikinis on ship. Man overboard! We are glad that you're back but you could have told me so I could have hidden your luggage.

Rich Graham, KB2TRZ, is now working for the US Postal Service. Now when we here that famous quote "it must have gotten lost in the mail." it won't be a lie. Hi Hi! Congratulations "TRZ", we hope that you will like your new position.

Service with a smile:

The TARA, Inc. has been known over the years as "The Evil Empire," "The TARA-ist," as well as the "BEARS" (Bill Eddy Amateur Radio Society) and surely a few that we cannot print. We have always felt honored that others gave us these names because of our might and power. Each and everyone of us had to do something to receive such honorable recognition. Well recently this all changed when we given yet another new name, "The GUMMY Bears." How humiliating! It seems that one of this illustrious group forgot to put his/her teeth in before going to work. Hummmm I wonder who that might have been?

That's all for now but please remember to pick up and fill out a questionnaire for future editions of "Hooray for Hollywood." Remember always that this is a family oriented club and that the harassing of others is only done in fun. When using the repeaters please be courteous and share the repeater equally with others. Don't forget Field Day and the pie in the face contest. This is going to be great! In order to hear the best news/gossip oops! You must be shhh very, very quiet!

February	March
11	11
April	May
15	13
June	July
28	26
August	September
23	20
October	November
14	11

A.T.V.E.T. Exam Schedule

ATVET (Albany/Troy Volunteer Examiner Team) is celebrating their 11th year of administering FCC amateur exams in the Capital District. ATVET still remains the largest volunteer examiner team found in the Northeast.

The next exam date will be Wednesday, June 28, 1995. ATVET exams are held in the C.I.I. Building (Center for Industrial Innovations), Room 3051, on the Campus of R.P.I. in Troy and the doors open at 6:20 PM, with exams starting at 7:00 PM. NOBODY will be admitted into the exam room after the 7:00 PM starting time. No pre registration is required for any of ATVET's exams. A test fee of \$5.90 either cash or check is required for those taking any elements above Element -2 or Element -1A. Make sure you bring two proofs of identification, with one being a picture ID. Also bring any of your original documentation (current license, CSCEs...etc.) along with photo copies, calculators, pens and pencils to the exam session. Anyone needing special handicap arrangements are asked to call in advance. The CII Building is handicapped accessible.

The following exam dates are the complete schedule for 1995. Cancellations if needed will be announced on both the Capital District Repeater Net (Nightly on 146.94MHz at 6:30 PM) or WGY - 810 AM.

Club Nominations '95 & '96

The following members have been nominated by the membership for office during '95 and '96.

TARA OFFICERS:

President: William J. Eddy, NY2U
V.Pres: Kenneth T. Davis, KB2KFV
Treasurer: Jack T. Culliton, N2LBZ
Secretary: June Smith, KA2VEK

TARA DIRECTORS:

Rudy Ault, N2JZK, '95-'97
Marilyn M. Davis, KB2JZI, '95-'97
**William St.Jean, N2YNP, '95-'96
(** Special Board of Director seat for outgoing president, term one year)

Elections will be held on June 20, 1995 at our monthly meeting, starting at 7:30PM. Only those that are current ('94 & '95) with their dues are eligible to vote. If you have any doubt about your membership status please contact Jack Culliton, N2LBZ, at 271-6763 as soon as possible.

Nominations will be accepted from the floor on the night of elections. Please make it a point to make this meeting and show your support of these candidates.

Newsletter Notice

There will be NO July issue of the *TARA News*. Instead we'll have a special July/August Field Day edition that will be published and mailed during the first week in August.

During this short break we are hoping to update our publishing software and reorganize the newsletter a bit.

Two pieces of software we will be looking at are Aldus Page Maker, and the new Ami-Pro Publishing software. Presently the *Tara News* is published using Ami-Pro 3.0.

Volunteers Needed

The *TARA News* is in search of a couple volunteers that would like to take on the responsibilities of folding, stapling, and affixing postage to the newsletters each month. In the past either Mr.Bill, or the Board of Directors provided this service but we now need additional help from the membership. If you could provide this valuable service please contact Mr.Bill, NY2U, at 273-9248.

Nobody Talks to Me!

By Steve Ford, WB8IMY

ARRL Assistant Technical Editor

From QST Magazine - 10/93

You just bought your first 2-meter FM transceiver, but you seem to be doing more listening than transmitting. What's wrong?

All revved up and no place to go. You know the feeling . . . and so do I. You just unpacked your first 2-meter FM transceiver and you're dying to use it. You punch in the frequency of the local repeater and listen. Silence. This is the moment of truth. You key the microphone and, in your most confident voice, announce, "WB8IMY listening."

The repeater transmits for a few seconds, then stops. Surely someone is reaching for their microphone. They'll call you in just a few seconds . . . won't they? The seconds stretch into minutes. "WB8IMY listening," you announce again, this time with added urgency. Still nothing.

Again the lonely minutes pass. Maybe you just picked a bad time. You'll try again in an hour or so. As you reach for the POWER switch, the repeater suddenly comes to life.

"WB8ISZ this is WB8SVN. You around, Dave?"

"WB8SVN from WB8ISZ. I'm here. Did you just get off work?" Now you feel a new emotion—anger! It's a safe bet that one of these two guys were listening before. Why didn't they answer you? Is it because you're a new ham?

The Shy Communicators

Hams pride themselves on their ability to communicate, yet there is an odd contradiction: many hams are painfully shy! If you don't believe this, go to any hamfest. Chances are, you'll see hams whose call signs you recognize—hams who are constantly chattering on the local repeaters. So why are these same hams wandering around so quietly? When you approach them, why do they seem so ill at ease and reluctant to talk?

The answer lies in the nature of Amateur Radio itself. With the exception of visual modes such as ATV, no one can see you when you're on the air. You could be holding a conversation with someone while wearing little more than your underwear. They'd never know! In other words, ham radio allows us to hold the world at arms length while still maintaining contact. It acts as a filter and a shield for those who are uncomfortable with close, personal communications. Breaking through the shyness barrier to communicate with a stranger is difficult. Think back to your school days. When the teacher asked for student volunteers for a project, why did you hesitate? Perhaps you wanted to see if

anyone else was willing to join you. No one wants to be the first to raise their hand! A similar situation occurs on repeaters. When you announced that you were listening, a dozen people may have heard you. No one recognized your call sign, though. You're a stranger, an unknown. It's as though the teacher just got on the repeater and asked for volunteers to speak to you. Who will be the first to step forward?

For many hams, the familiar line of reasoning is, "Hmmm . . . I don't know this guy. What would I say to him? Nah . . . I'll wait. I'm sure someone else will give him a call." The problem is, when all the hams on the repeater feel this way, no one replies!

And so it goes on repeaters throughout the country. The problem isn't you perse, it's that fact that you're a stranger. So how do you make the transition from stranger to friend?

Breaking the Ice

If you keep announcing that you're "listening," someone is bound to come back to you eventually. This could take a long time—especially if you're trying to start a conversation during less popular hours. To really break the ice and shed your "stranger" label, you need to assert yourself on the air. That is, you need to become part of an existing conversation. Listen to the repeater during the early morning and late afternoon. That's when it's likely to be used the most. As you hear stations talking to each other, listen for an opportunity to contribute something—even if it's just a question. Let's say that you find two hams discussing computers . . .

"KR1S from WR1B. Well, I'm definitely going to pick up some extra memory at the show tomorrow. I figure I need at least 2 megabytes."

"I don't know, Larry. I think 4 megabytes would be a better choice for the kind of software you're running."

Even if you don't own a computer, I bet you can think of a question that will give you an excuse to join the conversation. In the pauses between their transmissions, announce your call sign.

"WB8IMY"

"Well, there's a new voice. Ah . . . WB8IMY . . . I think it was . . . this is KR1S. How can I help you?"

"Hello. My name is Steve and I live in Wallingford. I'm thinking about buying a computer for my Amateur Radio station, but I'm a little confused. You guys seem knowledgeable. Can you give me a recommendation?"

Perfect! Stroking a person's ego is the best way to get them talking. With luck, these fellows will be more than happy to show off their expertise. Just keep the questions and comments coming.

If you engage in enough of these conversations on the same repeater, you'll gradually melt through the shyness barrier. In time, your call sign will be as familiar as any other. When you say, "WB8IMY listening," you'll have a much better chance of getting a response. After all, they'll know you.

Getting Involved

Another way to establish yourself is to become involved in club activities. Look for a local club that's active in public-service events. Attend the meetings regularly and be prepared to volunteer whenever they ask for help. Don't worry about your lack of experience in public-service operating. Believe me, it isn't that difficult. You'll be told exactly what to do and, in most cases, a experienced ham will be nearby.

My first public-service activity was a canoe race in my home town of Dayton, Ohio. I was the new face in the club and I was new to ham radio. When they asked for volunteers, it took a great deal of courage to raise my hand. Boy, am I glad I did! The race organizers needed "checkers" at various points along the river. It was our task to make sure that each canoe passed our checkpoint safely. I was stationed with my FM transceiver at an isolated rural bridge over the Miami river. As each canoe passed beneath me, I checked it off my

list and relayed the information to the net-control station. The sun was shining, a gentle breeze was blowing through the trees and I felt terrific! Here I was, an Amateur Radio operator, doing an important job with my fellow team members.

After the race, we all met at a local pizza restaurant and swapped stories. Someone asked if I wanted to be part of the communications team for the March of Dimes walk-a-thon the following weekend. Why not? After participating in several public-service events, everyone knew me by name and call. There was never a shortage of someone to talk to on the repeater.

Some Tips to Try

If you announce that you're "listening" and no one responds, wait and try again a few minutes later. You'll have better luck during the commuting hours in the morning and afternoon. And don't forget about the shyness factor. If no one replies, it's not that they don't like you, they just don't know you.

Try asking for a signal report rather than simply stating that you're "listening." A report request gives an otherwise shy ham an extra incentive to call you.

Join a club that's active in public-service activities. Volunteer for as many events as possible.

Active contest clubs are also good prospects. Offer your time to assist in several major contests at the club station.

Whatever you do, don't let social fears keep you from enjoying Amateur Radio to its fullest. If the locals are too shy to talk to you, reach out and contact them. You'll both benefit from the experience!

Field Day '95 Report

By: Steve Kopecky, KF2WA

Well this is it! Last call! Final Notice!!! Field Day 1995 is just around the corner, with on air operations beginning at 2:00PM local time, Saturday, June 24, at Frear Park. TARA will be operating from the Frear Park Pavilion at the corner of Frear Ave. and Park Rd (maps will be available at the next meeting). Set up begins at 9:00AM Saturday morning and we'll need all the help we can get to get all the antenna's and stations up. On air operations will wrap-up at 2:00PM Sunday and we'll need help afterwards to get everything back down and packed up.

This is an excellent opportunity for amateurs of all classes and experience to come on out and operate all bands and modes! Please, don't feel you can't come out and get on the air because you "don't have the right license" or "you don't have the experience." ALL ARE WELCOME! This is the perfect chance to get that experience alongside some of the "old pros"! Since we will be operating around the clock, we'll need all the help we can get to man the stations (one operator and one logger per station).

This year we'll be operating 3 HF stations, a Packet station, VHF/UHF (2 meters, 440, and 6 meters), as well as trying our hand at one of the satellites. Food will be plentiful and good (our chefs are top notch)!

If you need any additional information you can contact me on packet at KF2WA @ WA2UMX, or at my maildrop on 145.07MHz, KF2WA-4. I can also be reached on the 145.17MHz repeater. And if all else fails, at 273-3632. CU at FD95.

The Washington Beat

Tnx: W5YI Report

Public Announcements

Most announcements (Public Notices, news releases, speeches, Daily Digest) and FCC actions (NPRMs, Orders, etc.) are available on the internet. You can use any of these Internet tools:

FTP: <ftp.fcc.gov>

Log in as "anonymous" and use your e-mail address as the password. Publications are in the /pub directory. Identify files by downloading the index.

Gopher: <gopher.fcc.gov>

...or use any gopher to get to "all the gophers in the world" then "U.S." then "D.C." then "FCC."

World Wide Web: <http://www.fcc.gov>

GPO's Document Sales

Want your own copy of the Communications Act? It is available along with other pertinent communications law from the Government Printing Office, Washington, DC 20402. Cost of the 518-page book is \$19.00. The GPO's Document Sales Office accepts credit card orders at

FCC Form 610-V

The FCC form 610-V application that will be used to choose up to 25 amateur service station "Vanity call signs will not be available for at least 60 days. And it could be longer depending upon the result of four Petitions for Reconsideration of the Vanity Call Sign System guidelines.

The Future At 5 GHz

In its tireless quest for spectrum for new services and additional spectrum for existing services, U.S. industry has zeroed in on the 5 GHz band. The spectrum is currently used for microwave landing systems for aviation and military radar systems.

Satellite operators want to use this spectrum for links to low-Earth orbiting satellites above 1 GHz, such "Big LEO" satellites will proliferate over the next several years in the microwave bands, and will offer data and voice telephone service anywhere on Earth on the high seas or on land, as long as the country the user is in approves.

The construction and launch costs for some of these satellite systems run into the billions of dollars each. The FCC has licensed three companies, Motorola, TRW and Globalstar, to build these satellites. The FCC and international authorities have not, however, settled on all of the frequencies to be used in the service, some of which may include 5 GHz.

Two proponents are petitioning the FCC for new non-satellite services in this

band anyway. They believe their new uses will not interfere with satellite or aviation use. The Wireless Information Networks Forum (WINForum), a trade association, requested 5.1 to 5.35 GHz for SUPERNet, a Shared Unlicensed Personal Radio Network.

"SUPERNet will support wireless local area networking and computer-to-computer communications at short distances with data rates of at least 20 million bits per second," the trade group said. "At that rate, SUPERNet will surpass the speed of many wired local area networks and will be able to transmit a 1000 page single spaced document in a little over three seconds. As proposed, SUPERNet devices would not need to pay any airtime charges to use the devices. SUPERNet deployment should be both as wireless access for a wired infrastructure and as an ad-hoc network of nomadic devices anywhere and at any time."

The SUPERNet products would be limited to 1 watt transmit power. SUPERNet is similar to Hiperlan (High

Performance Radio Local Area Network) getting underway in Europe; however, we expect major disputes over such issues as the required minimum data rates, whatever centralized control will be allowed to delay or stop computer data traffic in the system.

"SUPERNet will provide all users an onramp to the information superhighway, freeing them from being tethered to a jack in an office, business, health care facility or school," WINForum said.

Apple Computer, Inc. also has announced it will petition the FCC to use a smaller amount of spectrum to be used for the National Information Infrastructure Band. Instead of primarily indoor, short-range use, Apple will support the use of this spectrum for longer-range, unlicensed community data networking. The service would connect schools, libraries, homes and businesses with BBS systems and the Internet without telephone or airtime charges.

News Of Our Neighbors

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

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

Members from the Rip Van Winkle Radio Society will again be setting up Field Day operations at the Chatham Fair Grounds in Chatham, New York. If you're out traveling around please drop in and visit the gang, the coffee pot is always filled. The Rippers have a real comfortable location from this location and it allows the club members to experiment with a wide variety of antennas. Last year the Rippers tried to erect a husky loop on 75 meters, but old Mr. Murphy ruled and it never worked as they had planned. We're sure they'll try again this year.

When you're out traveling around the country side through Southern Rensselaer County or Columbia County why don't you try the 147.21MHz repeater. This repeater has excellent coverage to the south and into the Capital District. On Tuesday evenings Columbia County RACES uses this repeater for their emergency training net. Also it's used for many of the clubs public service events. For information about RVWARS, please call Dave, WD2K, at (518) 732-7532 evenings. TN

Albany County Emergency Services Club Repeater: 147.12MHz/R WB2ZCM

A.C.E.S.

The crew from Rensselaer County RACES brought the county communications van over to the last meeting at the VA Hospital. This provided an opportunity for RACES members to see first hand what this van has to offer. On board they were shown the full compliment of VHF/UHF radios and the complete mobile packet station, not to mention the many other features of this mobile command post. If a disaster should arise, RACES members now have a better idea of what they could expect from this communication van. Let's hope there are many more such joint ventures as this! Bob, WB2ZCM, and the educational team from both Albany and Troy have just completed an 8 week Technician course held in Green Island. There are many new graduates that will soon have their call signs, so please welcome them to our clubs.

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

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

S.C.R.A.

This year Saratoga award two outgoing officers with their "Amateur of the Year Award." The award recognizes contributions to Saratoga County RACES Association, Inc. and amateur radio and is not necessarily awarded each year. The Club was proud to recognize the many contributions of the outgoing President, Jim Polewczak, KG2H. Jim has been a club member since getting his license in the late 1970's.

The award was also bestowed on another outgoing officer, Treasurer Ron Feeny, KC2KL. Ron is one of those members that is very active behind the scenes always giving 110% to the organization. Ron first was licensed in the 1980, under the call KA2KYD. All of us from TARA salute the both of you for a job well done!

If you ever need additional information about this organization please contact President - Jim Polewczak, KG2H, at (518) 695-6878. TN

Schenectady Museum Amateur Radio Assoc Club Repeater: 147.375MHz/R KA2QYE

S.M.A.R.C.

SMARA will purchase a new answering machine for the purpose of providing amateurs and potential amateurs with the latest information about SMARA.

Bill, KE2XB, and Steve, WA3RKB, were appointed by the Chairman to develop needed amendments to the SMARA Constitution.

On March 15, Dick Frey, WA2AAU, spoke to the club on the topic of antenna grounding, a subject certainly not new to him. Dick is well known throughout the world for his extraordinary contest efforts with the Mount Greylock Expeditionary Force - W2SZ/1. Dick works for General Electric Research and Development at the Earth Station located on Crawford Hill in Schenectady. 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

The Rensselaer County Communication Van was on display at the recent monthly meeting for Albany County RACES, at the V.A. Hospital. This opportunity allowed members from Albany RACES to jump aboard the communications van and experience first hand just what Rensselaer County has available, if it were ever needed. Those that responded with the communications van included Clayton, KB2LSQ, Steve, WA3RKB, and Acting Radio Officer John, KA2VBI. Also Joe Hoffman, KA2AXN, (Ex Chief Radio Officer) was on hand for this display/training session. Anyone that is a member of Rensselaer Co. RACES and would like to get trained on the communications van are asked to contact John, KA2VBI, at the phone number given below.

To find out more about RACES/ARES call Chief Radio Officer John, KA2VBI, at 235-9321 or you may leave a message on KA2AXN-4 BBS (145.09MHz) or KA2VBI-4 (145.07MHz) personal mailbox. TN

A.A.R.A.

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

AARA Field Day activities will be held at Thacher Park, Rt. 157 Altamont. This year AARA's FD team will be spearheaded by Jim, N1CC. Tower setup starts 2:00PM Friday and on Saturday starting at 8:00AM they will begin raising the antennas and tents.

AARA again provided communications for the Corporate Challenge 3½ mile race in Albany on Thursday May 18, 1995. On Saturday May 21, 1995 AARA provided communications for the East Greenbush Rotary run in Schodack. The volunteers for this event were: Fred, KB2CT; Don, W2CJO; Ben, N2VGK; Gus, WA2QAD; and Jack, WA2YBM. If anyone is interested in public service events please contact Jack Donnelly, WA2YBM at 869-1074.

AARA meets each month September through May at the Colonie Community Center, Central Avenue, Albany. For info call Ernie Popp, KA2HTU, at 477-9581 TN

S.A.R.A.

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

SARA held their yearly election of officers at their last monthly meeting and the following officers are: Pres. Dick Arthur, WV2F; V.Pres. Dan Whelen, WB2WHD; Treasurer, John Dombrowski, N2OJY; Secretary, Bob Nicoletta, WB2FLX; Directors, Rob Leiden, KF2PJ, Paul Seimers, WY2F, and Ray Wemple, KA2DVM. Congratulations from all of us from TARA!

SARA has chosen the new QSL card design that was submitted by Steve Kotanski, KB2DLY. Anyone that is interested in these cards are asked to contact Wendy helm, N2XXX.

Tim Long, WB2SPN, will again head up Field Day operations on behalf of SARA. The club will setup operations at the Glenville Hills Fire Station, Church and Ridge Roads in Glenville.

To find out more about the Schenectady Amateur Radio Association, please contact Phil Bradway, KB2HQ or V.Pres. Ray Wemple, KA2DVM. TN

So.V.A.R.C.

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

SoVARC welcomed their newest member Robert Dawson, WB1HAE, at last monthly meeting. Micky, N1JIF, reported that the club made \$52.85 at the NoBARC Flea Market by selling equipment that was donated by Skip, N1RRW, from his father-in-law's estate.

Starting this year SoVARC has raised their yearly dues to \$20.00 per year.

There have been a few members from SoVARC that have expressed a concern that the new club repeater wasn't being used enough. An open discussion was opened about simplex operation and repeater operations. Everyone was quick too point out that they were extremely fortunate to have such a fine repeater at their disposal. A hardy thanks went to Walt, AA2KM, for all his efforts.

SoVARC meets on the fourth Tuesday of every month at the Bennington Free Library. You may also call Randy Gates, N1GWL, at (802) 375-1263. TN

OFFICERS

President: Bill Eddy, NY2U 273-9248

Vice President: Ken Davis, KB2KfV 272-0112

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

Repeater Manager: Dennis Bulger, N2USN

Repeater Technical Advisors:

Dave Edwards, WA2GBO

John Pritt, WA1YXQ

Membership Committee: Bruce Roberts, KA2HRM

Refreshment Committee: June Smith, KA2VEK

Equipment Manager: Jerry Jackson, N2QIP

RDF Chairman: Steve Watson, N2PZP

NOTICE: THE EDITOR OF THIS NEWSLETTER ASSUMES
NO RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE CONTENTS, ACCURACY OR
READABILITY OF THIS PUBLICATION, HOWEVER, BY READING
THIS NOTICE IT BECOMES THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE READER
TO HELP IMPROVE THE OPERATING PROCEDURES FOUND ON
THE AIRWAYS.

HF Contest Chairpeople: Walt Legowski , WA1KKM
Sue Rothschild , N2LBR

Events Committee: Ken Collis, N2RXO

UHF/VHF Contest Coordinator: Jerry , N2QIP

Assistants: Dennis, N2USN
Art Ceas, KB2JZJ

VE Team Contact Bud Hovey, WF2B

Troy Amateur Radio Association
PO Box 1292
Troy, NY 12181-1292

place

label

here

Bill

NEXT MEETING: **ELECTIONS**

June 20, 1995

Green Island Municipal Bldg.

7:30 PM