



THE TARA NEWS

Affiliate of the American Radio Relay League

Volume 14 © **Issue 10**

October 2003

ELECTIONS IN HUDSON DIVISION

★ **Please Vote** ★

Ballots for the Hudson Division Director election will begin arriving in your mail box around October 1. As ballots are sent bulk mail some may take weeks to dribble out to you. Please make your decision and send you ballot back in time to be counted in late November. If you have not received a ballot by November 1, please contact HQ for a replacement.



TARA SUPPORTS

PSK RUMBLE - The Fall Classic October 4, 2003



FRANK FALLON

for

Hudson Division

Director

Once again the time is upon us to get down and RUMBLE. That rights folks, the TARA Sponsored PSK RUMBLE will be held this year on October 4, 0000 UTC - 2400 UTC.

This year TARA has changed it's contest format and now hosts four (4) digital mode contests called the Four Seasons Contest, the RUMBLE is now only held once a year and is #2 on our tournament contest calendar venue.

At the end of the 4th season contest TARA will tally up the points and crown our first Tournament World Champion.

For further information about contest rules and our all-new contest event schedule, please look at our Web site:

www.n2ty.org/seasons/tara_seasons.html

73 de KC2HNC

Ed

kc2hnc@mhccable.com



More than a Club



We're a Family



Pumpkin Patrol 2003

October 30 & 31, 2003

If anyone is interested in working the Pumpkin Patrol 2003, it will be held on 2 nights, Thursday, Oct. 30th and Friday, Oct. 31st. the times are usually 6 p.m. until 10 p.m. We are looking for anyone who would like to work either night or both nights. If you have any questions, you can contact me, Karen at 273-6594, anytime on the repeater or E mail at:

KB2UUC@n2ty.org

Thanks,

Karen KB2UUC

We Always Need Volunteers



TARA's "New" Four Season's Digital Contesting Program

I hope all of you are making those finally preparation before the cold winter months come rolling in. Of course you lucky souls in the warmer climates, you must ready your station's too for the onslaught of digital contests coming up this fall/winter.

The next contest we need all of you to ready yourself for is the TARA Rumble, which is the second in a series of 4 contests under our "New" Four Season's Contesting Program. It will have a major bearing on who's going to be crowned as this year's "World Champion" under our TARA Tour'ney. If you haven't read up on this new Tour'ney please go to our website and read up on it immediately http://www.n2ty.org/seasons/tara_tourney.html . If you'd like additional information on the Tour'ney Rules/Regulation we ask you to direct your E-mail to Ernie Mills, WM2U at wm2u@n2ty.org

This year there will only be just one Rumble, The Fall Classic on October 4th. In year's past we sponsored both The Fall Classic in October and the Spring Wakeup in early April. However, under our Four Season's Contesting Program the Spring Wakeup has been replaced by the "Skirmish" Digital Prefix Contest (http://www.n2ty.org/seasons/tara_dpx_rules.html) on April on April 17, 2004. This contest has a new manager and it's Chris, N8PSK, who I'm sure many of you have worked over the last few years on PSK. Chris is looking for a lot of support from all of us digital testers and he is more than willing to answer any of your questions you might have. You can drop him a message at skirmish-manager@n2ty.org

Okay, I hope all of you will come join us on October 4th for the next PSK contest that started them ALL, the "Rumble!" Over the year's this ever popular contest has continued to blossom and the amount of new participants we see each year is very encouraging. Not to mention the many faithful participants that have stayed with us right from the very beginning. Regardless if you're NEW or OLD to contesting--you'll find this contest to be the #1 PSK Contest of the season! Come join us, you'll quickly discover why so many are having fun!! Check out the complete Rules & Regulations at: http://www.n2ty.org/seasons/tara_rumble_dl.html If you need additional information about this contest please direct your questions to Ed Eades, KC2HNC at: rumble-manager@n2ty.org

Again, the date for the next TARA Rumble is October 4, 2003! Please be ready to Rumble!!

Thanks!

N2U "Mr.Bill"

Chicken

with 40 Cloves of Garlic

Chicken with 40 Cloves of Garlic *Courtesy of Rival*

Ingredients

2 sprigs fresh thyme
2 sprigs fresh rosemary
2 sprigs fresh sage
2 sprigs fresh Italian parsley
40 cloves garlic, unpeeled
1-tsp. salt
1/4-tsp. ground black pepper
4-lb. whole chicken, rinsed well
2 stalks celery, rinsed and sliced
1 loaf French bread, sliced, toasted

Directions:

Place 1 sprig each of thyme, rosemary, sage and parsley in chicken cavity. Place celery in bottom of stoneware pot. Put chicken on top of celery. Add garlic around chicken. Chop remaining herbs; sprinkle herbs, salt and pepper over chicken. Cover and cook on Low setting, 8 - 10 hours or on High setting, 4 - 6 hours. To serve, place chicken, garlic and celery on serving platter. Squeeze roasted garlic out of skins onto toasted French bread slices and spread with a knife.

This succulent chicken dish is one from Rival's recipe collection. With a [Rival Crock-Pot](#) and a few easy steps, it cooks while the kids are in school and you are at work, ready at the end of the day. Roasting in their own skins, the cloves of garlic become buttery-sweet as they cook.

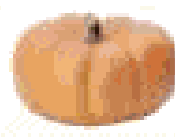
W1AW to shift 160-meter Transmission Frequency

Newington, CT September 19, 2003

Starting Monday, September 29, W1AW will shift its 160-meter code practice and bulletin transmission frequency from 1818 kHz to 1817.5 kHz, starting with the 4 PM EDT (2000 UTC) code practice run.

The frequency shift not only brings W1AW's Top Band frequency in line with those the station uses on other bands, it also should help to eliminate possible interference from broadcast station harmonics and birdies--something that's more likely on an integer (ie, whole number) frequency.

W1AW has been conducting code practice and bulletin transmissions on 1818 kHz since 1982. Prior to that, W1AW transmitted both CW and phone bulletins on 1835 kHz.



Power Standard & Wire Size

Always use the same size, properly-sized conductor for both positive and negative leads in any electronic hook-ups that you may be considering for your shack or vehicle

Some people say they don't see any problems with using different sized wires as long as both are adequately sized for the current. In Practice you may get away with it, but you may be leaving yourself wide open with your insurance carrier.

This idea may ok, BUT it is a poor engineering practice. If decide that you must use smaller wire, make sure the fusing protecting the circuit is sized for the smaller of the two conductors.

The only time this is permitted, by code, is for neutral conductors in 220 or 3-phase power sources and grounds. I would refer you to the **National Electrical Code** for specifics. Remember, that the **National Electrical Code** does apply to what we do as amateur radio operators, even with antennas being specifically addressed. Violation of the code could make your homeowners fire insurance not applicable in the event of a fire attributable to a violation. Then, you become liable for the loss. Always refer to the ARRL Amateur Radio Handbook when setting up your shack and also refer to the **National Electrical Code manual** concerning any wiring and grounding in your shack or vehicle or you may be left holding the bag with your insurance company.

73 from Ken KB2KfV

A.T.V.E.T. Fall 2003 EXAM Schedule

ATVET will be moving from the C.I.I. Building, due to renovations on Campus. **Just go to the old Room CII 3051 and someone will be there to give you directions to the new room on campus.** Examination room doors will open 40 minutes prior to the exam time, with exams starting at the times indicated above. NOBODY will be admitted into the exam room after the starting time. ATVET never requires any pre-registration for any of their exams. A **"NEW"** test fee of \$12.00 either cash, or check (payable to [ARRL-VEC](#)), is required for those taking any of the exam elements offered by this team.

Make sure you bring two proofs of identification, with one being a picture ID. Also bring all of your original documentation (current license, CSCEs...etc.), along with photocopies, calculators, pens and pencils to the exam session. Anyone needing special handicap arrangements is asked to call in advance. The CII Building is handicapped accessible.

Cancellations, if needed, will be announced on both the Capital District Repeater Net (Nightly on 146.94MHz at 6:30 PM) and WGY - 810 AM. Talk-in on the 145.170 repeater.

October 11, 2003 (Sat.) 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM (doors open 9:20 AM)

November 8, 2003 (Sat.) 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM (doors open 9:20 AM)

ATVET CONTACT: Nels Williams wb2sbo@aol.com or 518-439-7357

ATVET LIAISON: Gerald Murray, atvet@n2ty.org or 518-482-8700

A.T.V.E.T.

Frank's Funnies

By: Francis X. Ryan - KC2JRE

1. I signed up for an exercise class and was told to wear loose-fitting clothing.

If I HAD any loose-fitting clothing, I wouldn't have signed up in the first place!

2. When I was young we used to go "skinny dipping", now I just "chunky dunk".

3. The early bird still has to eat the worms.

4. The worst thing about accidents in the kitchen is eating them.

5. Don't argue with an idiot; people watching may not be able to tell the difference.

6. Wouldn't it be nice if whenever we messed up our life we could simply press 'Ctrl Alt Delete' and start all over?

7. Stress is when you wake up screaming and then you realize you haven't fallen asleep yet.

8. My husband says I never listen to him. At least I think that's what he said.

9. Why is it that our children can't read a Bible in school, but they can in prison?

10. If raising children was going to be easy, it never would have started with something called labor!

11. Brain cells come and brain cells go, but fat cells live forever.

PanAmerican Lighthouse Expedition

Steve, W2GB, and I participated in PanAmerican Lighthouse/Lightship Weekend 2003 sponsored by the Amateur Radio Lighthouse Society (ARLHS) on August 2-3, 2003. We operated from my 23-foot Grady White Gulfstream boat as a multi-operator, single station signing WM2Z/Marine Mobile and using my ARLHS member number of 133. We traveled about 75 miles in the waters east of Long Island and activated eight different lighthouses, all of which are accessible only by water. We logged a total of 832 contacts in about 18 hours of on-air time, of which 342 were with other ARLHS members and 49 were with other lighthouses. We worked many stations from multiple locations, but only PARC's own Rock, N2MY, worked us at all locations. Propagation and operating conditions were excellent on the open seas far from noise and interference sources, and we enjoyed working the seemingly endless pileups on 20 meters. We experienced very low noise conditions most of the time, even with one of both of the Yamaha outboard engines running, so we were able to work many of the weaker signals heard.

The rig was an Icom IC-706MKIIG powered off the boat's auxiliary battery. Running the engines occasionally kept the battery fully charged and output of the rig at 100 watts. The antenna was a 23-foot Shakespeare Style 390 marine fiberglass whip erected on a homebrew wooden support. The support consisted of a horizontal member mounted across, and U-bolted to, the stainless steel safety railings forward of the helm and cabin. A braced vertical member of the support held the antenna erect and was guyed fore and aft for stability. The antenna was tuned using an Icom AH-4 automatic tuner mounted at its base. A 1-1/4 wide copper strap run across the underside of the horizontal wooden base provided a good, low impedance connection between the tuner's ground terminal and the railings which served as the counterpoise for the antenna. As luck would have it, the rails were somewhat longer than a half-wave on 20 meters.



There was no DC connection between the railings and the boat's electrical system, and no RFI problems were experienced with any of the boat or engine electronic systems. We had a 20-foot length of the copper strap connected to railings and hanging in the salt water while anchored, but we found that it was not necessary and did not use it after the first two stops. The antenna support, while not very nautical looking, was sturdy enough that we could leave it erected with the antenna mounted as we transited from site to site at normal cruising speeds and in sometimes rough waters. We brought along another IC-706 and a stripped-down Cushcraft R6000 as backups and for a possible second station, but neither was required or used.

Steve and I departed my slip at the Port of Egypt marina in Southold at 0745 EDT on Saturday morning. Weather at the time was foggy with light winds. Using radar and GPS, we made our way to Little Gull Island Lighthouse (USA-440) at the western side of the Race, anchored in the Long Island Sound very near the lighthouse and logged our first contacts with the regular 75-meter gang beginning at 0839 EDT. After that, a few "CQ Lighthouse" calls on 20 meters got the ball rolling, and it was nonstop action from then on. After a few hours at Little Gull, the fog had mostly cleared, so we moved to the east side of the Race and operated from Race Rock Lighthouse (USA-681). We worked the pileups there for about an hour, and then went QRT for about an hour and a half to check in at the Fisher's Island Yacht Club (FIYC) where we would spend the night. Once we were assigned our slip and had the fenders and docking lines all set, we went back out. The next stop was Latimer's Reef Lighthouse (USA-1049) in Fisher's Island Sound at the eastern end of Fisher's Island. From there we went west to North Dumpling Island Lighthouse (USA-552) just north of Fisher's Island, our last stop for the day. (Continued on Page 6)



PanAmerican Lighthouse Expedition

We called it quits as darkness approached and went back to FIYC for and a little relaxation and food. After dinner, Steve got back on the air, but by that time 20 meters was not too active, so we secured for the night at 2143 EDT.



After a good night's sleep, a hot shower ashore and breakfast onboard, we went back into operation on Sunday morning. The weather was quite pleasant with just a little haze and light winds. After a brief set of contacts on 75 meters from the marina beginning at 0816 EDT, we revisited North Dumpling, Race Rock and Little Gull as we made out way back west. After an on-air discussion with Ted, W8TTS, keeper of the official ARLHS Lighthouse List, we determined that the ruins of the former Gardiner's Island Point Lighthouse (USA-1046), was a valid operating point for ARLHS events, so that was the next stop. By then, the winds were beginning to pick up, making operating more difficult.

The next stops were in Plum Gut where we activated Orient Point Lighthouse (USA-636) and Plum Island Lighthouse (USA-606). By this time it was quite windy, so we headed for home through the choppy waters of Gardiner's Bay. We made a brief and final stop at Long Beach Bar Lighthouse (USA-448) at the entrance to Greenport Harbor. The last contact was logged at 1730 EDT, and we were back at Port of Egypt by 1800 EDT.

This expedition was our first of this type and a huge success by any standard. Special thanks go to Phyllis Raymond, W7ASW, who donated the 23-foot whip antenna, to Steve, K2CX, who supplied the copper strapping and to Mort, KA2UIU, for the R6000. As of this writing, I have responded to almost 250 QSL requests with separate cards for each location featuring a color photo of the lighthouse. Steve and I had such a great time on this expedition that we are already thinking about next year, possibly activating the lighthouses from New London, CT east to Watch Hill, RI in addition to some of the Long Island lights activated on this trip.



*Editors Note: I would like to thank Warren WM2Z and Steve W2GB
For this fantastic article that they provided for our newsletter.*

73 de Warren, WM2Z

The North American Ragchewer's Net

The North American Ragchewer's Net, which was organized in March 2003 meets each night, 7 nights a week, 365 nights of the year, at 9:00 PM, (2100 Hrs.) Eastern time on an amateur radio frequency of 3.906-MHz. for the purpose of good old fashion "Ragchewing" and general amateur radio enjoyment.

When you check into the North American Ragchewer's Net, you'll, certainly, be made to feel comfortable and welcome. Usually, the net lasts for approximately 3 hours. Therefore, if you work the "late shift", and don't arrive home, until around Midnight, you'll probably stand a good chance of being able to check into the North American Ragchewer's Net, upon your return home. So, if you hold a General Class, or higher, class Amateur Radio license, feel free to check into the North American Ragchewer's Net. We'll be waiting to welcome you aboard!

Frank Casey, WB2HKU

frcasey@nycap.rr.com



ROHN Files for Chapter 11 Protection

September 16, 2003 -World Headquarters

ROHN INDUSTRIES, INC. FILES FOR CHAPTER 11 PROTECTION; \$9.5 MILLION DEBTOR-IN-POSSESSION FINANCING SECURED; BOARD MEMBERS RESIGN

PEORIA, IL, September 16, 2003 — ROHN Industries, Inc., (OTCBB: ROHN), (the "Company") a provider of infrastructure equipment to the telecommunications industry, announced today that the Company and five of its direct and indirect subsidiaries have filed voluntary petitions for Chapter 11 relief in the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of Indiana (the "Bankruptcy Court").

The Company also announced that, concurrent with the Chapter 11 filing, it has entered into a \$9.5 million debtor-in-possession ("DIP") line of credit with the lenders that are party to the Company's Amended and Restated Credit Agreement, subject to the approval of the Bankruptcy Court, which will include funds that will be rolled forward from the Company's current credit facility. Subject to the provisions of the Bankruptcy Code, the Company remains in possession of its assets and properties, and continues to operate its business. The Company said that the objective of the Chapter 11 proceeding is to maximize recovery to creditors by facilitating an orderly sale of assets. The Company is currently in discussions with an unrelated third party regarding a proposed sale of the assets of the Company.

Upon the filing of the bankruptcy petition of the Company, but following the approval by the Board of Directors of the Chapter 11 filing, Stephen Gorman and Jordan Roderick each have resigned from the Board of Directors of the Company. Currently, Horace Ward, the Chief Executive Officer of the Company, is the only remaining director of the Company.

Commenting on today's announcement, Mr. Ward said, "Our immediate goal is to stabilize the Company's financial situation and utilize the Chapter 11 process to enable the Company to conduct normal business operations as the Company works to complete a sale transaction."

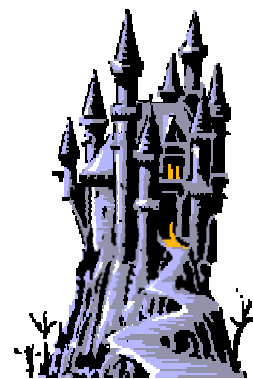
The Company has retained the Indianapolis law firm of Ice Miller to act as its legal counsel in the bankruptcy proceedings. The Company has also retained Silverman Consulting, a national turnaround consulting firm.

About the Company

The Company is a manufacturer and installer of telecommunications infrastructure equipment for the wireless industry. Its products are used in cellular, PCS, radio and television broadcast markets. The Company's products include towers, poles, related accessories and antennae mounts. The Company also provides design and construction services. The Company has a manufacturing location in Frankfort, IN along with offices in Peoria, IL and Mexico City, Mexico.



Happy Halloween



TARA OFFICERS: 1 YEAR TERMS

President: Bill Eddy, NY2U.....273-9248
 Vice President: Karen Smith, KB2UUC...273-6594
 Secretary: Marilyn Davis, KB2JZI.....272-0112
 Treasurer: Nick Demos, NW2D.....383-3983

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 Mac Smith, KB2SPM.....(02-04).....273-6594
 David Fritts KC2IBF.....(03-05).....765-5147
 Roy Warner N2OWC.....(03-05).....283-8485
 Randy Stein, KA2TJZ.....(03-05).....498-7838

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 Dave Edwards, W2GBO.....235-6801
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TARA HF CONTESTING:

Bill Eddy, NY2U.....273-9248

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 Mac Smith, KB2SPM.....273-6594
 Robert Jones, WB2SWA.....273-3072

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THE TARA NEWS

Troy Amateur Radio Association, Inc.

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Troy, New York, 12181-1292



Visit us on the Internet

At <http://www.n2ty.org/>

Next Meeting

Tuesday, October 21, 2003

7:30 p.m.

Green Island Municipal Center

Intersection of

George St. & Hudson Ave.

Green Island, New York

Ample Parking

Parking Lot on Hudson Ave.

Troy's Full Service Repeaters

145.170/R

444.225/R