

**History of the Rochester DX Association 1947 – 2007**

**for**

**The Rochester Amateur Radio Association 2/2/2007**

**Chris Shalvoy K2CS & Ed Gable K2MP**

**ARRL DX Advisory Committee**

**ARRL DX Honor Roll – Field Checker**



1<sup>st</sup> Transatlantic Amateur  
Amateur QSO **11/27/23**

Fred Schnell (K) 1MO to  
Leon DeLoy (F) 8AB in  
France

CW at ~ 3 Mcs SW

A vintage ARRL 1MO QSL card. The top left features the ARRL logo. The text reads: "AMERICAN RADIO RELAY LEAGUE", "Amateur Radio Station", "282 Fern Street, West Hartford, Conn.", and "1MO" in large letters. Below this, "Radio" is followed by the handwritten call sign "3ADN". The card contains fields for "This will confirm communication with you on" and "Your Signals were heard on", both with handwritten dates and times. At the bottom, it says "Will be glad to give you a description of 1MO if you want it, OM. Hw?", "Best 73," followed by a signature, and "F. H. Schnell 'FS' Traffic Manager, A.R.R.L." and "Operator".

**Fred Schnell 1MO ARRL  
Traffic Manager**



**Leon DeLoy F8AB**



Early DX'ers

Rochester's

Al Balling  
8ALY

&

Bill DeWitt

8 BRD



Bill DeWitt

Al Balling

~1930's, 10 meter Phone, 203 oscillator, loop modulated, SG Rcvr





Bill DeWitt

As W2DD

~ 1980

World famous

for Color SS

Television DX





Rare DX was becoming more and more common



Russia was illusive and mysterious – a nice catch in 1930's



No. 246.

**ZS6ML**

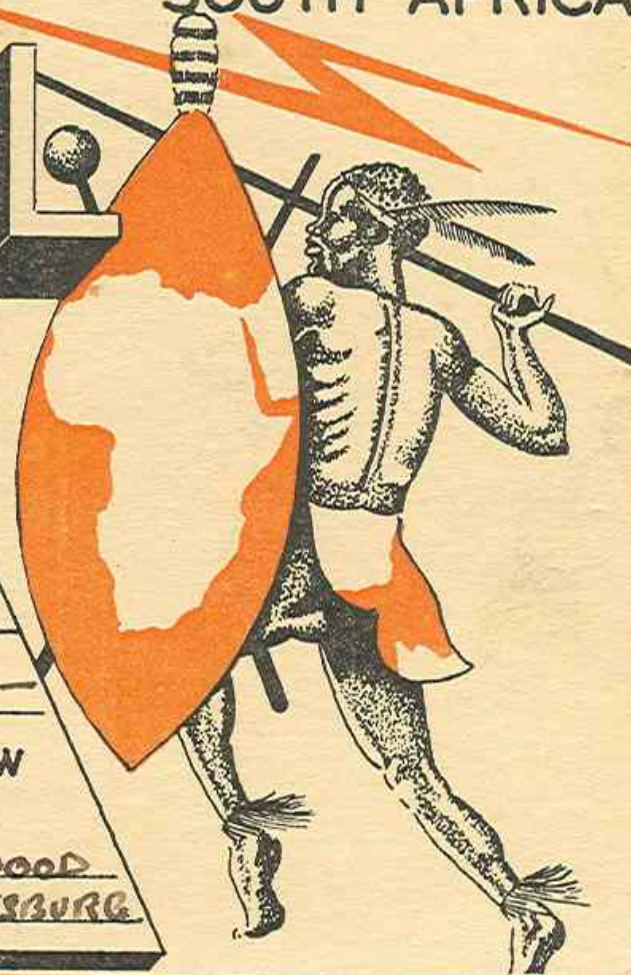
**SOUTH AFRICA**

TO RADIO W2QCP  
UR c/w SIGS RST 599 ON 14 Mc  
AT 07.55 SAST DATE. 18<sup>th</sup> Jan 1948.  
QRM ~ QRN ~ QSB ~  
MNI TNX FER THE QSO OM




RX Howard 450A ANT 66' 71  
TX 646-807-807 IPT 45 W

**R. B. GUNN,**  
72 READ RD WYCHWOOD  
MALVERN JOHANNESBURG





Rochester **RDX** Association

		<b>DEUTSCHE KURZWELLEN-AMATEURSTATION</b> (German-short-wave-amateurstation)	
QRA: HANNS HESS DE 1603 N			
TO RADIO: W2ICE QRA: USA QRB:		ULM a. Donau Schadstr. 24	
UR SIGS: 14000 Khz QRG: 14000 TONE: t QSA: QRK: r QSB: to r QRM: VY QRN:		XMTR: 14MC MO-PA QRH: 14 CKT: 70 INPT: 70 OUTPT: 35 RDN: 35 ANT: 29mL, cps 9m	
UR SIGS: 14000 Khz QRG: 14000 TONE: t QSA: QRK: r QSB: to r QRM: VY QRN:		RXVR: Schnell CKT: 1/1 ANT: 2-3 of XMTR WX: vy cold DX: 6 Cont., 43 Countr.	
REMARKS: I thank you very much for your card which I received just via <b>WAC</b> -PSE- QSL via D ASD DASD TNX			
VY 73's ES BEST DX DR OM! OP: <i>Hanns Hess</i>			



To RADIO... **W 8 A C Y** ...  
Confirming our... **Fone**... QSO  
on... **14**... mc.  
on **November 1st/1939**..  
at **9:57**.. P.M, Manila Standard Time

**KA1LZ**

LUIGI ZAVATTERO

100 MANGA AVENUE, MANILA

YOUR SIGNALS WERE R... **Q 5**... S... **R 7**... T... ~~-----~~... PSE, QSL,  
My Xmtr... **MOPA** { CW... **1KW**... WATT TNX, QSL,  
PHONE... **1KW**... WATT

RECEIVER: RME69—DB20

ANTENNA: DIRECTIONAL ROTARY BEAM  
4 Element Bassett Rotomatic

MANILA  
PHILIPPINES

*Luigi* Vry 73 S

**KA1's were Philippines, not New England - USA**



ET2US



MARS  
ASMARA

ARRL  
ERITREA

MARS AND AMATEUR RADIO CLUB OF KAGNEW STATION

APO 843, NEW YORK, N. Y.



TO RADIO was yv CONFMG QSO 10/27/47 RST 529... FREQ 14 Mc

**NAVAL AIR STATION**  
ARGENTIA, NEWFOUNDLAND

**VO2AX**

PSE QSL

J. F. MALOOF  
Lieut. USN





**PARAGUAY**

"THE HEART OF SOUTH AMERICA"

**Z P 5 C N**

UNITED STATES ARMY MISSION

c/o UNITED STATES EMBASSY

ASUNCION - PARAGUAY

OPERATOR: JOHN

طنجة

KT1DD

DON DROEGEMEYER

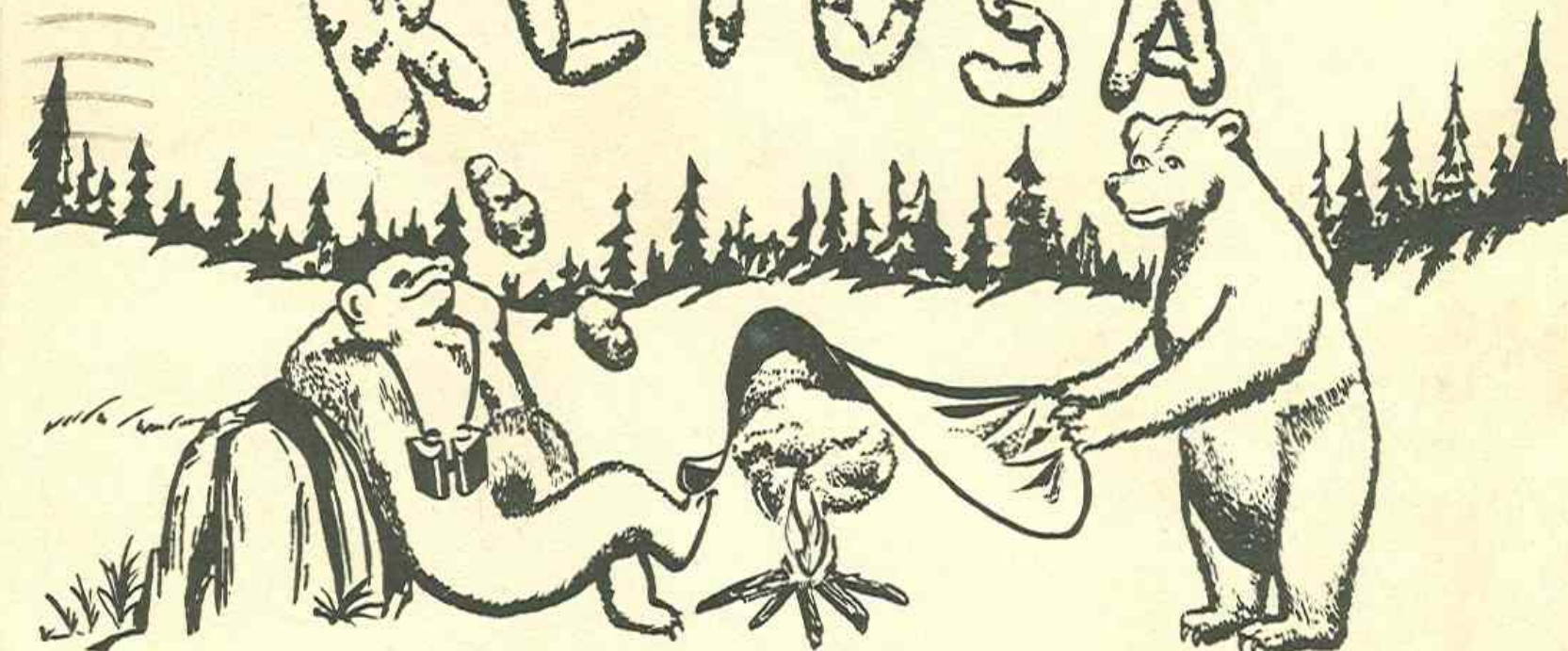
34, RUE MOUJAHEDINE

*Tangier Morocco*



UNITED STATES ARMY ALASKA

KL7USA





Scientific  
Surveys were  
on the Rise  
World-Wide

Department of Terrestrial Magnetism Carnegie Institution of Washington

**MAGNETIC  
OBSERVATORY**

To RADIO  
*W2 QCP*

TNX FOR  
QSO OF  
*20 Feb 1947*  
*1310* G.M.T.  
*1400*

From RADIO  
**VK6MO**

**WATHEROO**  
Western Australia

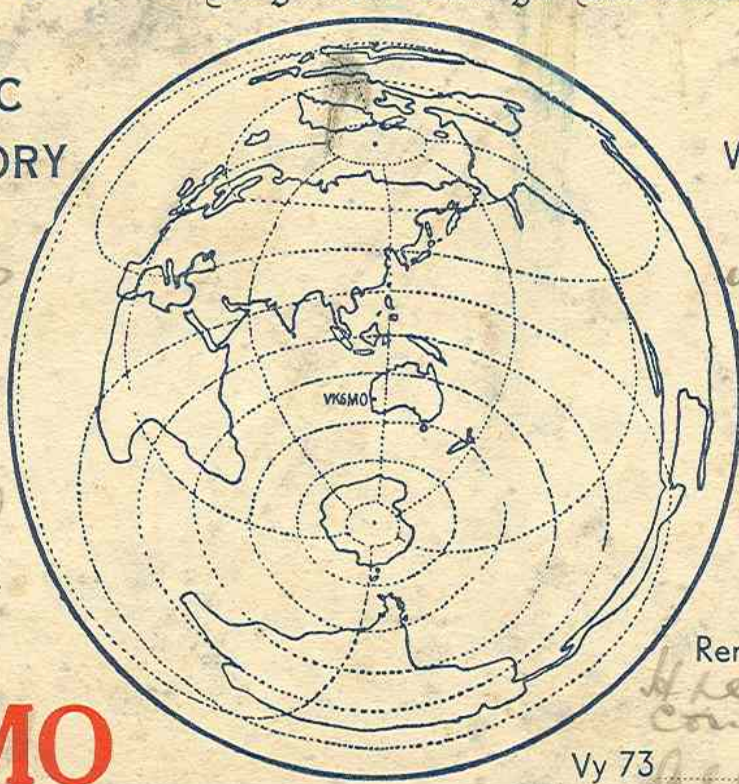
Xmitter: *300w*  
*100-110mc*

Rec'r:

QSA *5*  
QRB *5*  
QRM *1*  
QRN *1*  
QRB *1*

Remarks: *He can when*  
*cond. is on.*  
*Billie*

Vy 73 *Billie* Opr







**Lots of Scientific Research  
Starting on the Poles.  
Mostly US Navy Support  
Personnel**



Post WW2 Surplus  
Equipment Made get-  
ting on-the-air much  
easier and far less  
expensive.

See 813 tube for \$6.75

In the 30's a 400 watt  
tube would be several  
hundred Dollars

**COLLINS AN-ART-13 XMTR \$7500**



A real bargain — famous Collins quality in a transmitter covering 1500 KC to 18 MC — in A-1 used condition. — complete with tubes. Shipping weight, 90 pounds.



**BARGAIN**  
for  
**BEGINNERS**  
**BC-187-A**  
**XMTR**  
**\$9.95**

Rugged MOPA style ideal for experimenters. Designed for 2.4-3.7 mc; easily converted to 80-meter band. No new Ham should miss this buy. Shp. wt. 40 lbs.

**BC-221 AK FREQUENCY METER**



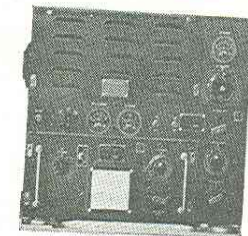
Fundamental ranges are 125-250 and 2000-4000 kc. Complete with tubes, original crystal and calibration charts. Built-in modulation. Excellent condition. Order today!

The BC-221 makes an exceptionally fine VFO — W7NU tells how in March QST.

**\$7950**

**AAF XMTR BC-375-E**

A special buy brings you this favorite at a greatly reduced price. Basic xmtr unit and tubes, plus one hand-calibrated tuning unit and detailed data on easy modification to 110-volt a-c operation. Made by G.E.; used but in good condition.



**\$17.50 NEW LOW PRICE**

**CO-AX CABLE SETS**

100-foot RG-8/U co-ax cable with PL-259 connectors \$1.95 each end

100-foot RG-8/U cable with two 50-foot PL-259 connectors \$3.90 each end

**SUPER SPECIAL BRAND NEW 807's**  
Westinghouse  
JAN-inspected

**80¢ each**

**THE BUY OF A LIFETIME**



Speed delivery and save C. O. D. charges — send full amount with order. 50% deposit required on all C. O. D. orders.

**GOVERNMENT SURPLUS TUBES**

Type	Net	Type	Net	Type	Net
2AP1A	\$5.25	809	1.79	957	.75
2C34	1.12	811	1.95	958	.75
2C40	2.62	813	6.75	959	.75
2D21	.60	836	1.50	954	.75
VR105	.75	840	2.70	955	.75
VR150	.75	866A	.75	9001	1.05
3B24	3.00	872A	2.25	9002	.90
5CP1	3.37	874	1.95	9003	1.05
5CP7	5.25	914	5.62	9004	.90
3BP1	3.00	860	3.00	9006	.60
5BP4	3.37	923	.45	832	2.25
6AK5	.90	931A	1.87	(VT118)	
6C21	13.50	1619	.75	826	2.25
8005	\$3.15	1624	.90	(VT222)	
8000	6.00	1625	.75	2X2A	.90
801	1.72	1626	.60	815	2.25
803	9.00	1651	.75	(VT287)	

**RECEIVER \$4.95**  
**06-A** with tubes



**SHURE SW-109 HAND MIKE**

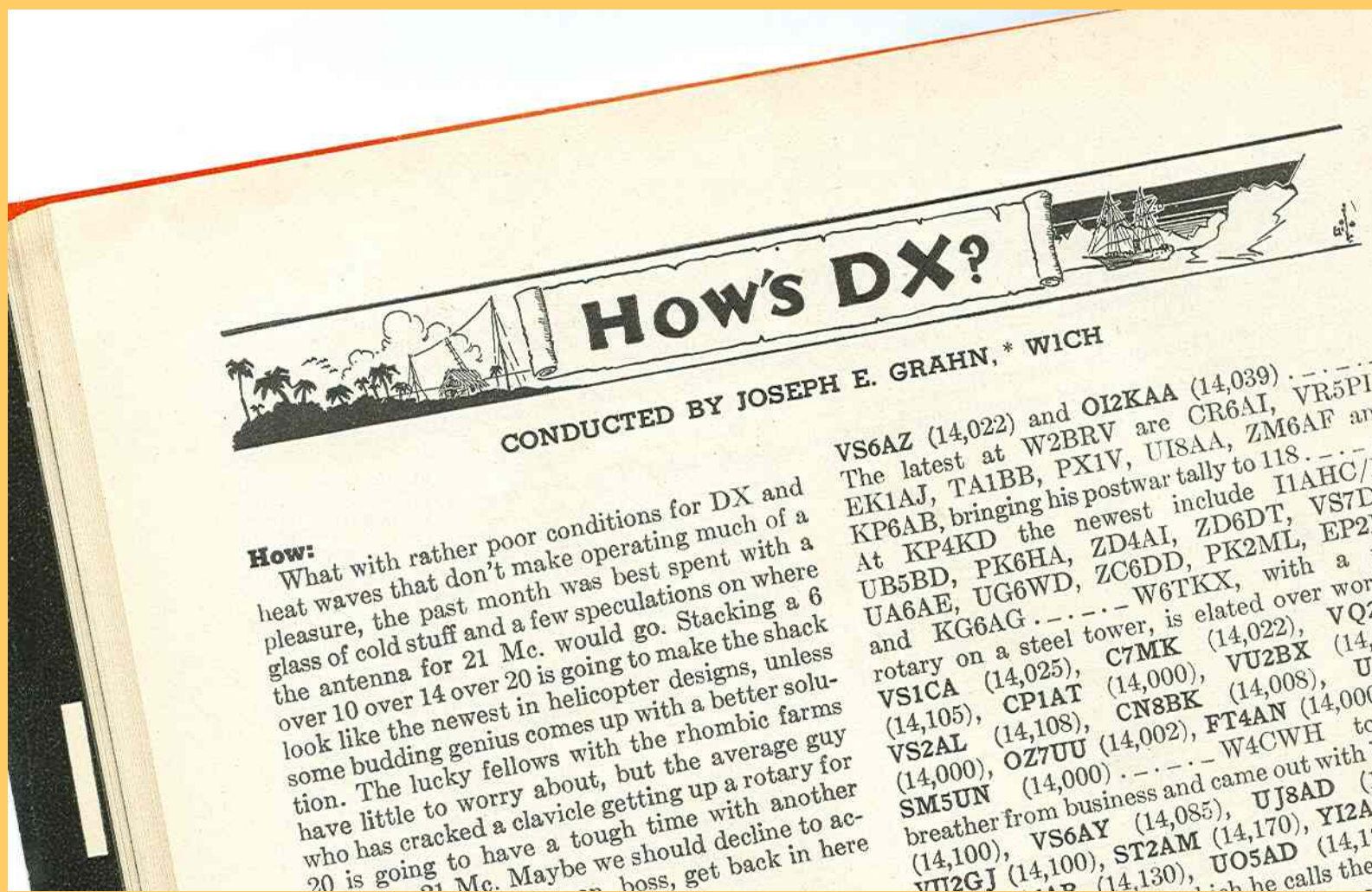


Brand new single-button carbon mike with press-to-talk switch, cord and plug. A rare chance to get a fine hand mike under a dollar.

**only 98¢**



## How's DX, a very popular QST Column, then & Now





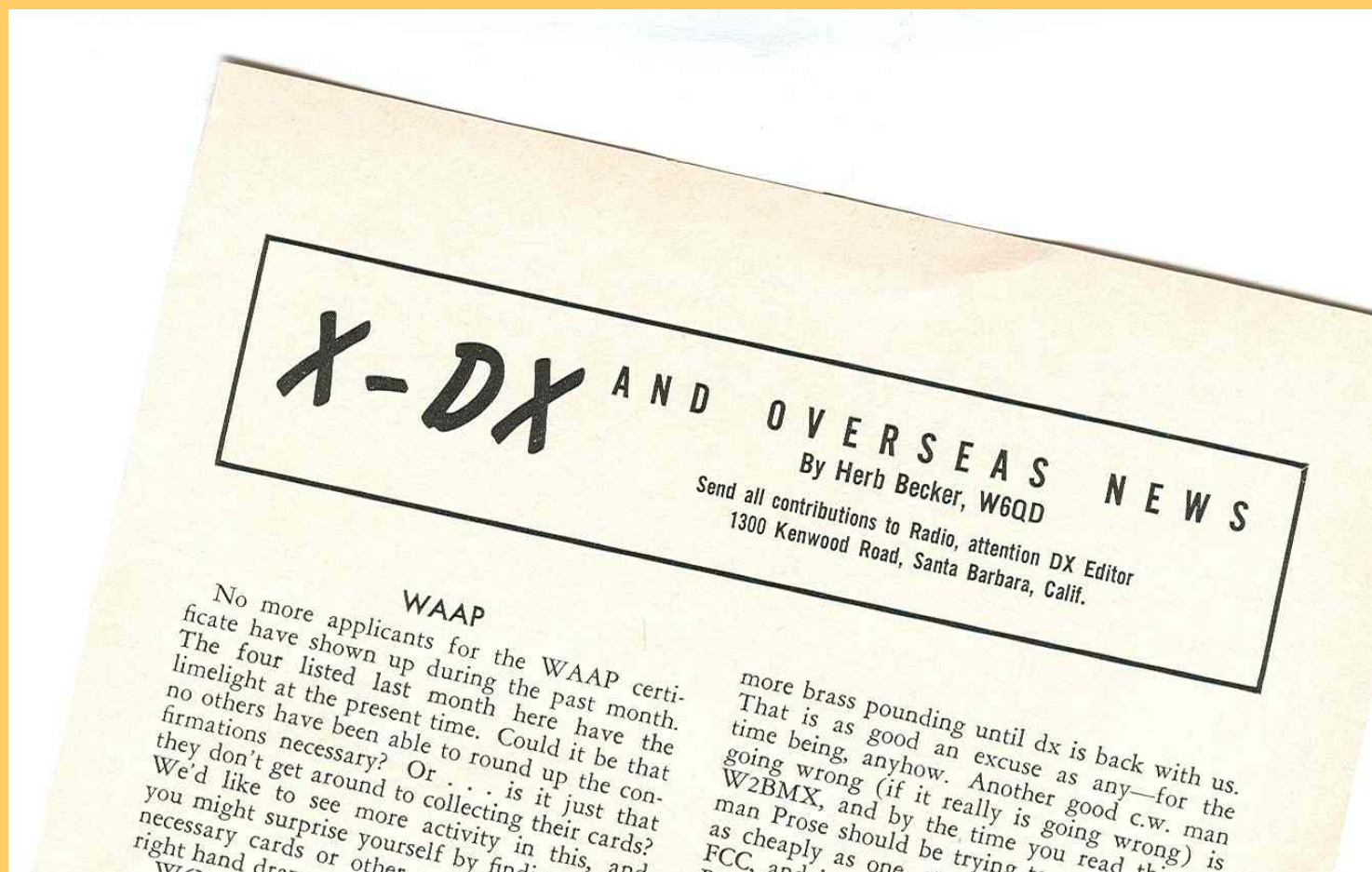
**CQ Magazine started  
a DX Column too.**







**And *Radio Magazine*, too**



**Anybody catch it ??**

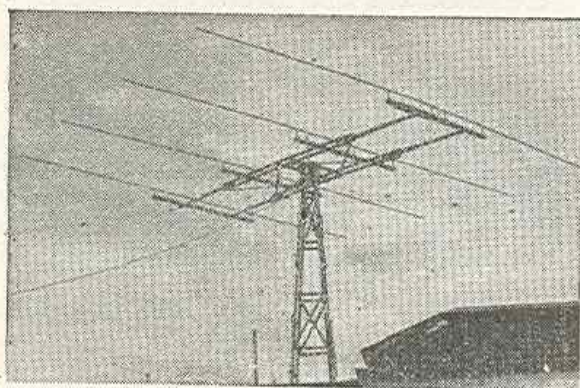


## The Yagi allowed Gain Antennas for the Average Ham



### *Corulite Elements for Light-Weight Arrays*

*Unusual Strength — Telescoping  
For Adjustment — Easy To Handle*



*See your radio jobber. If  
he cannot supply you,  
write direct*

Designed to meet the need for light-weight but sturdy elements for use in horizontal arrays and similar applications, Premax Corulite Elements are unusually light in weight and their special corrugated or reeded design provides exceptional strength and rigidity so essential in horizontal arrays. Available in 5' to 17' extended lengths or in special 10 and 20 meter kits. Fully telescoping and adjustable over 5' length.

***Premax Products***

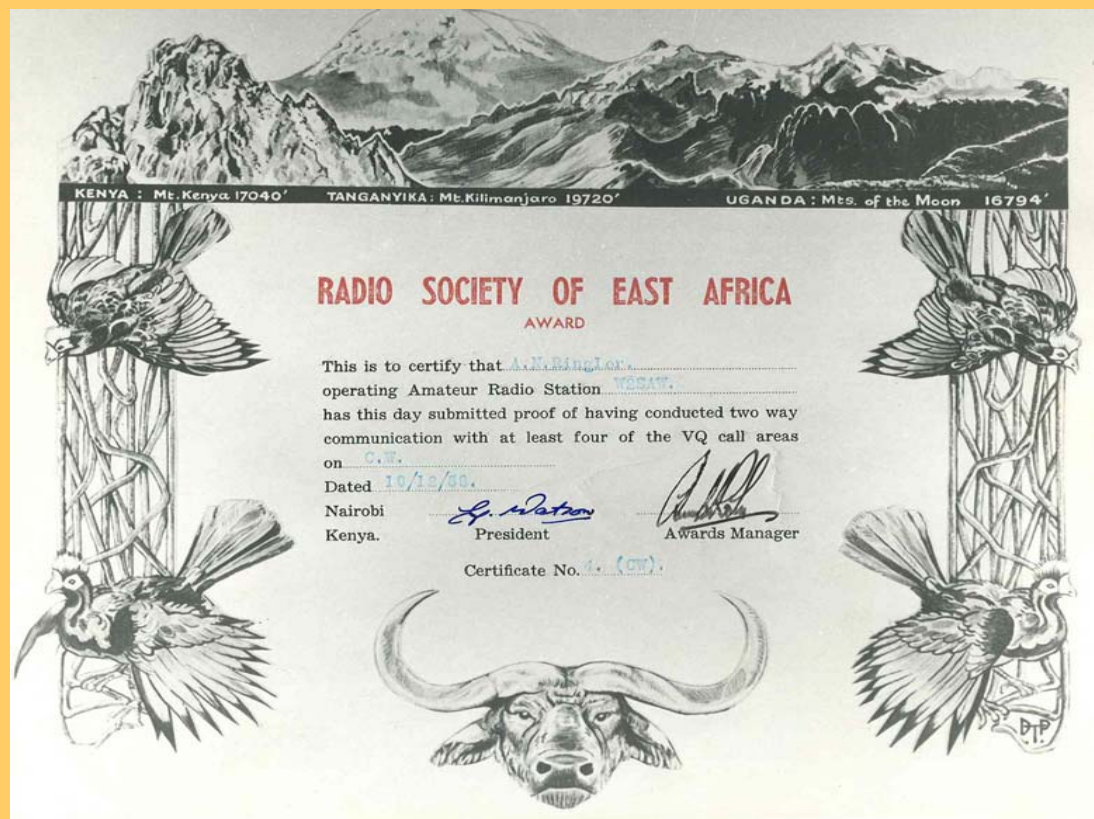
DIV. CHISHOLM-RYDER CO., INC.  
4812 Highland Ave.    Niagara Falls, N. Y.





Operating Awards became popular and offered incentives to work DX.

The **ARRL DXCC** Program began in September of 1937





Prior to RDXA, “DX Men” met for Dinners





June 9, 1947



the Rochester “DX Men”

formed the RDXA



OFFICERS and EXECUTIVE BOARD

— — —

June 1947 - June 1948

Chairman: "Dick" Talpey, W2FUD, ex-W1KWW, W8JQV.  
Asst. Chairman: "Al" Grabb, W2DOD, ex-W8DOD, (WHAM)  
Sec. - Treas. : "Ollie" Sinclair, W2PYW, ex-W8NOL.  
Board: "Al" Keltz, W2TXB, ex-W8TXB, (WHEC)  
Bruce Kelley, W2QCP-W2ICE, ex-W8ACY.

## First Officers of the RDXA

Note use of Pre- and Post-war Callsigns





## Charter Members RDXA





# The **CW** Gang



**W2QCP**

**W2CNT**

**W2FBA**

**W2SYV**

**W2QJM**

**W2UPH**

**W2BJH**

**W2PHT**

**W2PUD**

**W2MA**

**W2REF**

**W2BEN**





# The **Phone** Gang



W2EDE W2RTX **W2PYW** W2FBA W2PUN W2RGA W2QAA W2TTQ

W2BZN **W2QCP** W2SYV W2MA W2UPH W2QM



**Dinner Meeting format was very popular**







## As Were Summer Picnics at Member QTH's





## Summer Picnics featured door prizes from Ham Dealers







The success of any organization can be tied to their Bulletin.

The RDXA Historically had good Bulletins with local DX News

Here's a Sample from 1949

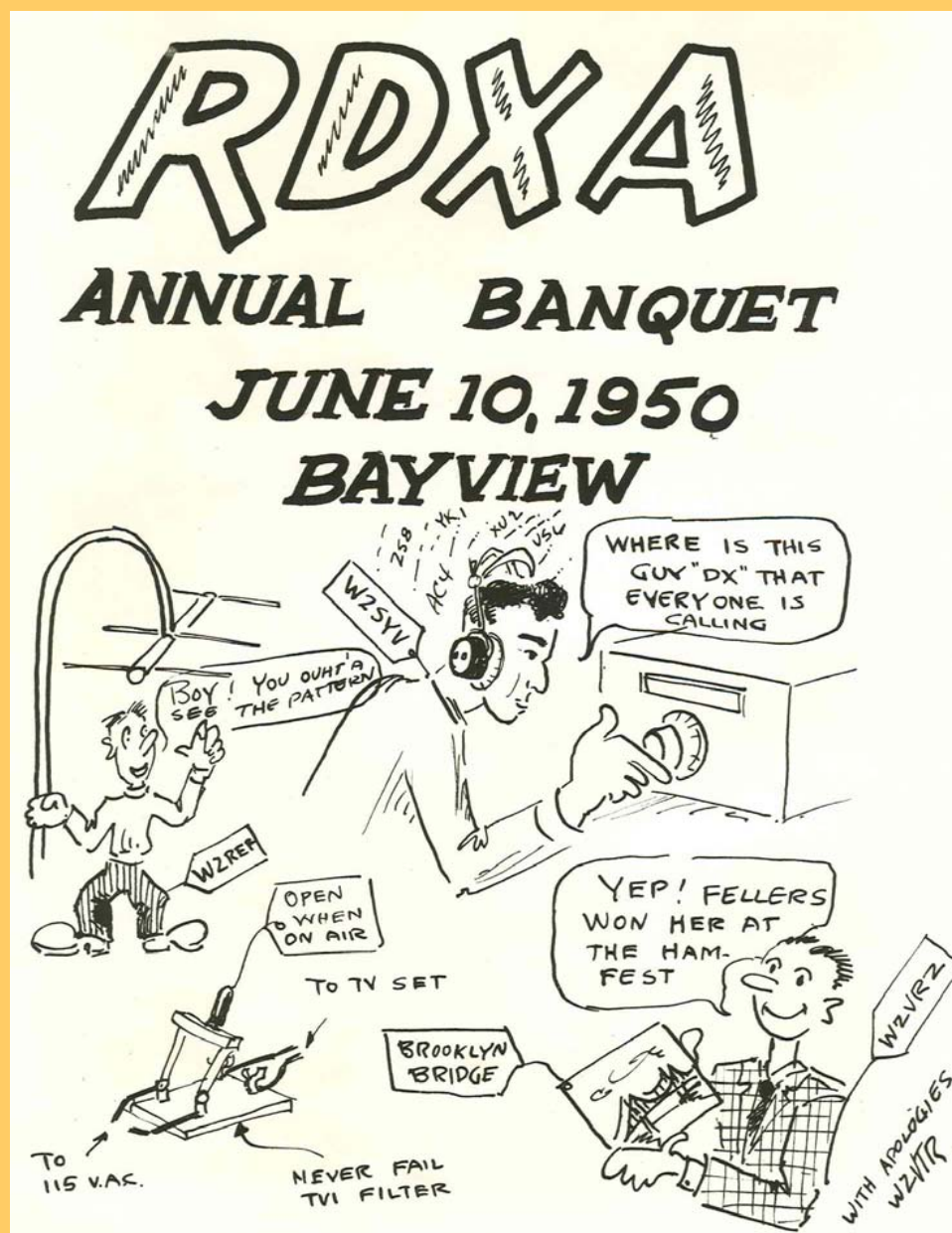




Here's another from 1950

This announces the RDXA Annual Banquet which has been a long tradition.

Artist was Bruce Ellie  
W2VTR





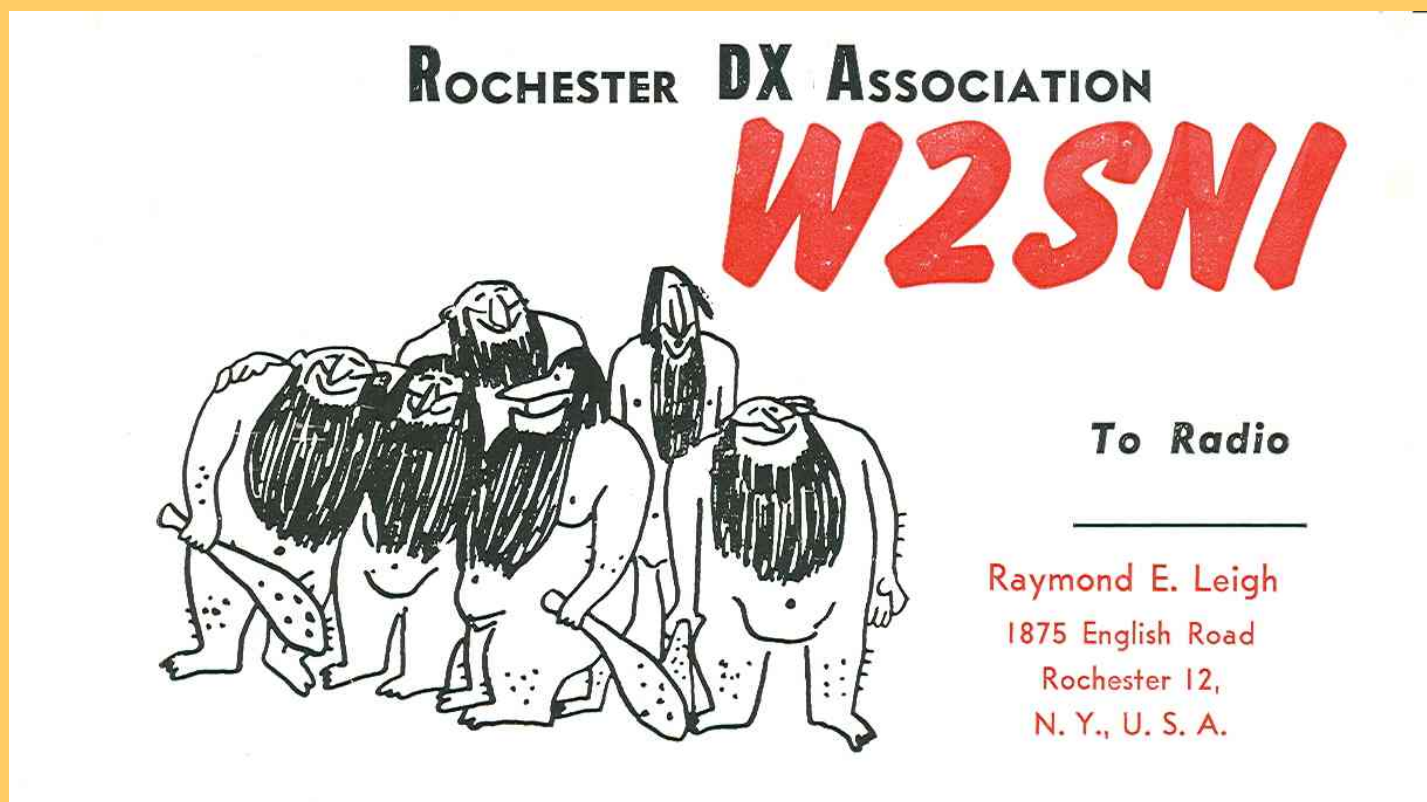


The RDXA Bulletins often featured local DX Men. Shown is Sax Ringler, W2SAW



The RDXA Logo is the “Cavemen”





**“Cavemen” Shown on RDXA Sponsored QSL Card**



Contesting, then as now,  
was an important activity

1948 was the first time  
RDXA entered as a Group  
and had Sectional winners  
in both phone & CW

A.R.R.L. DX Contest Results

February - March

1948

This is the first DX Contest that the club has entered as a group. It is obvious that many didn't participate - but, regardless, for a small group, and a new one at that, our "Grand Score" wasn't too bad.

W2FBA, the 1947 CW winner for the RDXA and Western New York, came thru again on top with a vy fb score. "Bob" had very close competition from W2PUD until the very end at which time W2FBA made a "kill" on 3500 kc. and jumped well in the lead.

The phone contest was equally interesting. Our assoc. member W2AFQ went all out to run up the tremendous score of 142,200 points. "Jim" had very little competition in the RDXA or Western New York and ended up with one of the highest scores in the country. Again W2FBA was a high scorer with W2PUN as operator. (The CW contest was enough for Bob - hi !)

In passing comment, the "Gang" is proud to have with them, for two years in succession, the A.R.R.L. DX Sectional Winners - both Phone and CW. It puts the Rochester "Gang" on the map !!





# The American Radio Relay League, Inc.

COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT — WEST HARTFORD, CONN., U. S. A.

Twenty-Second ARRL DX Competition, February-March 1956



## CLUB AWARD

**This is to Certify** that Addison N. Ringler operator of Amateur Radio Station W2SAW has received this award, in consideration of his accomplishment in making 305 contacts and a multiplier of 161, thus obtaining a score of 147,315 points.

*THIS ALSO CERTIFIES AND ACKNOWLEDGES* that by his performance in this DX Competition the above named operator is entitled to this award, in recognition of the fact that his is the foremost participating C.W. station in The Rochester DX Association which was represented by 18 in this competition.

Sept. 14, 1956  
Date

Club President or Activities Manager

  
Communications Manager, A. R. R. L.











# The American Radio Relay League, Inc.

HEADQUARTERS, NEWINGTON, CONNECTICUT, U. S. A.



## Charter of Affiliation



25 YEARS

**Whereas** it is the desire of the American Radio Relay League to establish bonds of affiliation with non-commercial amateur radio organizations of kindred aims and purposes to make possible unity of action in matters affecting the welfare of Amateur Radio and lend mutual strength; and **Whereas**

ROCHESTER DX ASSOCIATION

has declared its sympathy with and allegiance to the aims and policies of the League in its efforts to strengthen and advance Amateur Radio Communication and Experimentation, and has expressed its willingness and desire to coöperate therein:

**Now Therefore,** under the policies of its Board of Directors, the American Radio Relay League as of this date hereby declares the said organization to be an affiliated body, and issues this charter in token thereof.

MARCH 9, 1948  
Affiliated

Secretary

President





The RDXA had a nice  
50 year celebration  
with a special event...

**W2RDX/50**

This is the QSL Card

Designed by **K1PY**  
with **AF2K** as QSL  
Manager

## Celebrating 50 Years of DX Achievement

The Rochester DX Association is pleased to confirm  
your contact with **W2RDX/50** during the  
celebration of the 50th Anniversary of our founding.

AA2DT	K2ZQ	KA2X	N1OKL	N2ODK	W1ZR	W2TZ
AA2LQ	K2ZR	KB2KJV	N2BEG	N2ODN	W2EZ	W3FL
AA2MU	K2ZS	KB2RNG	N2CK	N2RD	W2FE	W8JW
AA2PH	K2ZT	KB2SCA		N2SNL	W2FU	WA2CBU
AA2SU	K4KFH	KB2TTG		N2TWI	W2HE	WA2QDP
AF2K				N2UB	W2IC	WA2WVL
K1PY						WA2ZNC
K2CS						WB2BNJ
K2DB						WB2CGF
K2FR	K4VOS	KB2TXP				WB2JMX
K2FX	K8FC	KF2LF		N2UIO	W2IMO	WB2JXI
K2MP	K9EEE	KF2XC		N2UM	W2LB	WB2KAO
K2SKO	KA2AAP	KN2Q		N2WK	W2LC	WB2RGK
K2SZE	KA2BOK	KS2I	N2KKB	NA2X	W2OMV	WJ2O
K2TYG	KA2IYB	KU2N	N2LW	NG2P	W2RW	WT2J
K2WN	KA2PHQ	KX2H	N2NEP	W1TY	W2SAW	WY2Z

QSL Design: K1PY

QSL Manager: AF2K

# W2RDX/50

Confirming QSO with	Mo/Day/Yr	UTC	MHz	Mode 2x	RST

Thank you for the 250...73 es qnd DX

Rochester, New York USA  
Monroe County FN13 Zone 5



RDXA is 60 Years Old

Let's Celebrate





## **Celebration Plans:**

**W2RDX/60 On-Air Functions**

**Banquet with VIP Guests**

**Magazine / Media coverage**

**More..... Your Ideas ?**



**RaRa . . . . . 1931**

**RDXA . . . . . 1947**

**RVHFG . . . . . 1949**

**RRRA . . . . . 1970**

**Rochester, New York**

**Ham Radio at it's Best**





THE END