

ROCHESTER

DX

ASSOCIATION

rdxa.com



Regular Meeting

April 18th 19:30 local

300 Jay Scutti Boulevard
Gander Mountain
Meeting Room

WA2CBU/AF2K Gibraltar DXpedition

DXpeditions have certainly changed over the years; witness the recent half-million dollar 3YØ trip to Peter I. To return to reality, we'll have the pleasure of hearing from two local DXpeditioners who made a trip to ZB / Gibraltar...way back in 1978! This will give us a unique perspective on how things have changed.

Russ McKay, WA2CBU (now W2RMM) / ZB2EM, and Irv Goodman, AF2K / ZB2EN, will relive their journey for us with maps, slides, and recollections of the unique thrill of "being DX."

Come hear their first-hand account at the April 18th RDXA meeting.

XX

Social after the Meeting

Scotch & Sirlain
Winton Plaza

President's Soapbox

By Dave Wright - N2CK



Here we go again, writing my column on Friday of the last day of submission. Sorry about this Mike! Having edited the newsletter in the past, I know what an annoyance it is waiting for articles to arrive.

First some bad news, due to a miscommunication, we need to find an alternative site for the May meeting. Some background here, when I took office in

September last year, one of my first duties was to call Gander Mountain to arrange for the lodge for 2006. With the exception of July and August. I was told it was ours. This was done over the phone, and not in person (something to remember for later!). When I arrived for the March meeting, and went into the lodge to start setting up for my DX4WIN presentation someone approached me from the front desk. It seems that they had someone else booked for March and that we weren't "in the book". I sat with a manager, and explained that I called in Sept of 2005, and that we had met there September - February with the exception of December. They ended up finding an alternative spot for the other group who "was in the book" for March. Irv, with his usual tenacity, worked with the manager to make sure we could use the site this month. However now we need to find something else for May. One idea we floated at the Board meeting was to have it at Mendon Ponds Park, at the shelter we are going to again use for Field Day. As May is typically Field Day planning, it seemed appropriate. As of this writing, nothing concrete has been decided. We'll keep you apprised via email as to the new meeting location. I believe we'll also have a conflict with the October and November meeting as well. But hopefully that's far enough out we can get that resolved with an acceptable solution for everyone.

Have you ever thought you might want to get more involved in the inner workings of the Club? Ever wondered just exactly what goes on at Board meetings? Ever want to help focus the direction of the Club? Well, if you answered yes to one or more of those questions, we've got an opportunity for you. After many combined years of service to the club Paul, N2OPW, Gene, W2LU, and Paul, K2DB are stepping down from the Board of Directors (hmmm, perhaps I'm working them too hard!). Please join me in thanking them for their dedication and service to the Club. Now this is where you the reader, come in. Consider making next year one to get involved. The time required is not excessive. Our Board meetings are usually the week prior to the regular meeting, and consist of part business, part socialization, and just plain fun. Yes, there is an occasional assignment to a task, but for the most part we're a highly sociable group and BOD meetings are an extension of the socialization side of this fine group of people. It is my understanding (as of this writing) that Vic and Charlie are planning on another term, as am I, so this is a real good opportunity to step up and participate a little more in-depth in your club.

I'm going to throw out one more final plea for the combined RVHF/RDXA Banquet, to be held April 22nd, at the Pineview restaurant in Spencerport. See Irv, or Paul either at the regular meeting, or Friday social at the S&S to get your ticket(s). There

will be door prizes, and we will have a CD loaded with ham-related software for all hams in attendance. Seeing K2CS and K2AXX enjoying themselves during the award presentations is a show in itself. It is my understanding that the RVHF group will be awarding the W2UTH Memorial Award. Additionally, our group will present the KE2WK award this year to a very worthy recipient. Please make the effort to attend.

That's it for now. The clock on the machine tells me that lunch is over. Time to zap this off to Mike, who by now is probably flooding my home email with requests (or demands?) for my column.

April Contests

Kids Roundup; SSB----- 1, 2 April
EA RTTY ----- 1, 2 April
SP DX, CW, SSB----- 1, 2 April
Japan Int'l. DX; CW ----- 8, 9 April
Holyland DX; CW, SSB----- 15 April
ES Open HF Championship; CW, SSB ----- 15 April
SP DX RTTY ----- 22, 23 April

More Contest Info <http://www.sk3bg.se/contest/index.htm>

May Contests

ARI Int'l. DX Contest, SSB, CW, RTTY -----6, 7 May
Alessandro Volta RTTY DX Contest, RTTY----- 13, 14 May
FISTS Spring Sprint, CW ----- 13 May
U.S. Counties QSO Party, SSB-----20, 21 May
CQ WW WPX, CW-----27, 28 May

DX Logbook

Chris Shalvoy - K2CS
Atlantic Division DXAC

If you're planning to attend this year's Dayton event, here's a reminder that DXCC staff and approved card checkers will be checking cards at the Dayton Hamvention from May 19-21, 2006. Checking will be done during all operating hours of the convention. Here are some guidelines that will help make processing go quick and easy.



- There is a 120 card limit per applicant. Larger applications may be checked as time is available after all other applications are finished.
- Cards must be sorted first by band, then by mode. Cards with more than one QSO should be placed together at the end of the application. Do not sort cards alphanumerically.
- Prepare all paperwork ahead of time.
- The record sheet is required when submitting cards at Dayton. Use the latest application form available at www.arrl.org/awards/dxcc. Fill in all fields on the record sheet.
- Write clearly and concisely.
- There are no restrictions on what can be checked. (Cards for 160 meters, deleted entities and cards more than ten calendar years old can be checked.)

- We will not bring applications with cards back to ARRL HQ. All cards must be checked and claimed in Dayton.
- For those submitting a hybrid application (LoTW and paper credits combined), the LoTW application must be in the LoTW system by 7:30 AM EDT Monday morning, May 22.
- If you do a hybrid application, you must note on the LoTW application that a paper application is being made. You must also note on your paper application that you will be submitting a LoTW application by checking the appropriate box.
- We will check cards for other ARRL awards, WAS, VUCC, WAC.

Elsewhere in this issue of the newsletter you will find a listing of confirmed QSOs for DXCC for W2RDX. At present we have 53 entities confirmed. We still are awaiting one more for WAS.

Propagation *AD5Q's notes from Cycle 22, Apr 1995*

Solar Flux Range-----67 – 92

Declining Solar Flux - As I write this, solar fluxes are in the low 70s as we look for seasonal improvement in the polar windows on 20m. There is a big difference between a 70 and a 90 flux, and we can still anticipate periods each month when the numbers are closer to the 90 level. Eventually we will get used to them being in the low 70s most of the time. In any case, we look forward to 20m conditions in late Spring because they are the best we will get for the next few years. This is the peak season for nightpath work on higher frequencies. At the high end of the cycle, this is when 15m becomes an awesome night band. Now it is almost totally dead.

Low Bands - Late April and May is when the evening paths really open up. When fluxes are at rock bottom, the window into deep (southern) Asia is only about a half hour long. Paths to Russia and Siberia become quite reliable. Any improvement in flux will broaden the coverage of this band opening as well as its duration. Since it is still early spring, 20m closes down soon after sunset unless we get some help from the solar flux. This means DXers move back to 40m and 80m for their prime time DX. Signals are weakening on 80m, and the shorter nights are affecting the duration of northern latitude openings on 40m. The sunrise sweep across Russia and Europe happens earlier in our evening and no longer occurs after midnight. This is when signals peak.

High Bands - In the morning we get the other end of the 20m window. There is some daypath activity to Europe with good polar conditions to Russia and Siberia. As the season progresses, the grey line will tilt increasingly toward the west and open a nice path to the far east. Some Asian stations are already workable in the morning, but not in great quantity. We tune for the exotic stuff, ideally zone 26. During the summer, morning signals from BV and VS6 will become quite common.

There is still hope for 15m, but only on days when flux levels rise above the 70s. Openings to Europe are usually marginal. A better daypath band is 17m, and many DXers are already moving there after the windows close on 20m in the morning. The 30m WARC band is good to check out for long haul openings in the evening, after 20m dies.

73, de Roy - AD5Q / Houston
<http://www.qth.com/ad5q/>

Ever wonder about the origin of "Gin" in gin pole? "Gin" as in enGINE comes from Middle English and refers to any mechanical device that transfers energy into movement. The term "gin pole"

refers to a device used to lift or hoist heavy loads, derived mostly from those used in mining. (Thanks, Bill K4XS)

Twenty-seven Day Space Weather Outlook Table

Issued 2006 Apr 11

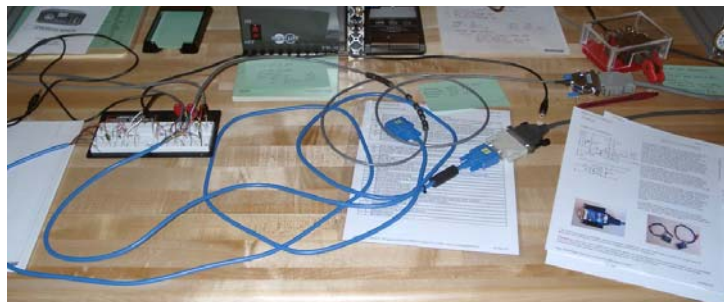
US Dept. of Commerce NOAA

UT Date	10.7cm Radio Flux	Planetary A Index	Largest Kp Index
2006 Apr 12	80	8	3
2006 Apr 13	85	10	3
2006 Apr 14	85	25	5
2006 Apr 15	80	30	5
2006 Apr 16	80	20	4
2006 Apr 17	80	15	3
2006 Apr 18	75	10	3
2006 Apr 19	75	5	2
2006 Apr 20	75	5	2
2006 Apr 21	75	7	2
2006 Apr 22	80	7	2
2006 Apr 23	85	7	2
2006 Apr 24	95	8	3
2006 Apr 25	100	8	3
2006 Apr 26	100	8	3
2006 Apr 27	100	5	2
2006 Apr 28	100	5	2
2006 Apr 29	100	8	3
2006 Apr 30	100	8	3
2006 May 01	100	8	3
2006 May 02	100	20	4
2006 May 03	100	12	3
2006 May 04	95	10	3
2006 May 05	90	5	2
2006 May 06	90	25	5
2006 May 07	85	15	3
2006 May 08	80	8	3

For more see: <http://www.sel.noaa.gov/Data/index.html#alerts>

In the Shack

As the saying goes, "A picture is worth a thousand words." With this in mind, we continue our *In the Shack* column this month with more photos of RDXA members' shacks, antennas, etc. Note that I did receive a hard copy photo from one member, and just did not have the time to convert to electronic form for inclusion this month. My apologies. I will get this in next month's issue. Herewith, more RDXA shacks, as well as an interesting photo submitted by K2CS. Ed.



Mike, N1OKL: Work in progress in the N1OKL shack. I'm in the process of building a 'universal' PC interface for rig control, FSK, PTT, and CW keying for MMTTY and N1MM Logger. It's running great on the breadboard and the next phase is to transfer it to a pc board and enclosure...without breaking it!



Dave, N2CK: Dave's setup includes an IC-765 with 250 Hz CW filters. Amp is a Heathkit SB-200. Computer is a N2VJB "special."



N2CK yagi: On the roof of the house is a Mosley Classic 33 tribander. I purchased a longer mast because I intend to either make or buy a rotatable dipole for 12/17 meters which I want to mount above.



N2CK shack grounding: On the antenna ground panel, top to bottom are the tribander, vertical, and alpha-delta wire antenna. Down in the lower right is the polyphaser for the rotor which is not (yet) hooked up.



N2CK vertical: The Gap Titan on his garage roof gives Dave 10-80m coverage, including the WARC bands, and low-angle takeoff for DX.

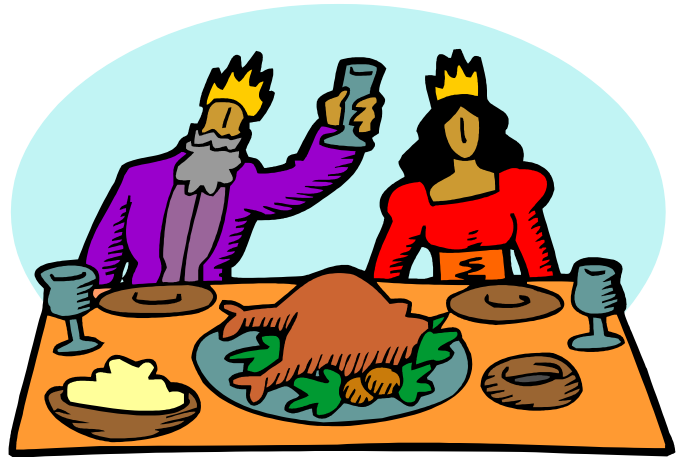


Chris, K2CS: in the early 80s at the Miller Brewing Company, Baldwinsville (Syracuse) NY. The dishes are 10GHz and were built by RCA to transmit line of site video signals to cameras around the brewery. Ironically enough, I spied these dishes many years later at one of the hamfests I attended, as they made their way into the ham radio VHF world.

Combined RDXA - RVHFG Banquet Announcement

We've reserved the same place as last year: the Pineview Family Restaurant in Spencerport, and we held the line on prices; it will be \$20 per person, as it was last year. The date is Saturday, April 22. The cash bar begins at 18:00, with dinner at 19:00. Both clubs will be presenting awards, and we expect to have a great selection of door prizes, as well! Plan to bring your spouse/significant other. I think the spouses had as good a time as the hams at last year's banquet! Tickets are now available; see Paul N2OPW, Irv AF2K, or any other club officer for tickets. Don't wait till the last minute. The place can hold 80 people, and once both clubs have sold 80 tickets, that's it!

Rochester VHF Group And Rochester DX Association Annual Awards Banquet



Saturday, 22 April 2006

Pineview Family Restaurant

2139 N. Union Street

Barefoot Landing Plaza

Spencerport, NY

1 ½ miles North of Rte. 259/531 interchange.

Union St. is Rte. 259

18:00 local - Cash Bar

19:00 local - Buffet Dinner

Awesome Door prizes Drawing!

Tickets \$20 per person

Available from AF2K and N2OPW

Prefix	Entity	Prefix	Entity	Prefix	Entity	Prefix	Entity
1A0	Sov. Mil. Order of Malta	CP	Bolivia	JT-JV	Mongolia	TU	Cote d'Ivoire
1S	Spratly	CT	Portugal	JW	Svalbard	TY	Benin
3A	Monaco	CT3	Madeira Is.	JX	Jan Mayen	TZ	Mali
3B6, 7	Aqalega & St. Brandon I.	CU	Azores	JY	Jordan	UA-UI1,3,4,6	European Russia
3B8	Mauritius	CV-CX	Uruquay	K.W.N, AA-AK	U S A	UA2	Kaliningrad
3B9	Rodrigues I.	CY0	Sable I.	KG4	Guantanamo Bay	UA-U18,9,0	Asiatic Russia
3C	Equatorial Guinea	CY9	St.Paul I.	KH0	Mariana I.	UJ-UM	Uzbekistan
3C0	Annobon I.	D2-3	Angola	KH1	Baker & Howland I.	UN-UQ	Kazakhstan
3D2	Fiji	D4	Cape Verde	KH2	Guam	UR-UZ, EM-E0	Ukraine
3D2	Conway Reef	D6	Comoros	KH3	Johnston I.	V2	Antigua & Barbuda
3D2	Rotuma I.	DA-DR	Fed. Rep. Of Germany	KH4	Midway I.	V3	Belize
3DA	Swaziland	DU-DZ	Philippines	KH5	Palmyra & Jarvis	V4	St. Kitts & Nevis
3V	Tunisia	E3	Eritrea	KH5K	Kingman Reef	V5	Namibia
3W, XV	Vietnam	E4-43	Palestine	KH6,7	Hawaii	V6	Micronesia
3X	Guinea	EA-EH	Spain	KH7K	Kure I.	V7	Marshall I.
3Y	Bouvet	EA6-EH6	Balearic I.	KH8	American Samoa	V8	Brunei Darussalam
3Y	Peter	EA8-EH8	Canary I.	KH9	Wake I.	VE, VO, VY	Canada
4J, 4K	Azerbaijan	EA9-EH9	Ceuta & Melilla	KL7	Alaska	VK	Australia
4L	Georgia	EL-EJ	Ireland	KP1	Navassa I.	VK0	Heard I.
4P-4S	Sri Lanka	EK	Armenia	KP2	Virgin I.	VK0	Macquarie I.
4U ITU	Geneva	EL	Liberia	KP3,4	Puerto Rico	VK9C	Cocos-Keeling I.
4U UN	United Nations HQ	EP-EQ	Iran	KP5	Desecheo I.	VK9L	Lord Howe I.
4W, 44	Timor - Leste	ER	Moldovia	LA-LN	Norway	VK9M	Melish Reef
4X, 4Z	Israel	ES	Estonia	LO-LW	Argentina	VK9N	Norfolk I.
5A	Libya	ET	Ethiopia	LX	Luxembourg	VK9W	Willis I.
5B	Cyprus	EU, EV, EW	Belarus	LY	Lithuania	VK9X	Christmas I.
5H-5I	Tanzania	EX	Kyrgyzstan	LZ	Bulgaria	VP2E	Anquilla
5N-5O	Nigeria	EY	Tajikistan	OA-OC	Peru	VP2M	Montserrat
5R-5S	Madagascar	EZ	Turkmenistan	OD	Lebanon	VP2V	British Virgin I.
5T	Mauritania	F	France	OE	Austria	VP5	Turks & Caicos I.
5U	Niger	FG	Guadeloupe	OF-OI	Finland	VP6	Pitcairn I.
5V	Togo	FJ, FS	Saint Martin	OH0	Aland I.	VP6	Ducie I.
5W	Samoa	FH	Mayotte	OJ0	Market Reef	VP8	Falkland I.
5X	Uganda	FK	New Caledonia	OK-OL	Czech Republic	VP8, LU	South Georgia I.
5Y-5Z	Kenya	FK/C-45	Chesterfield I.	OM	Slovak Republic	VP8, LU	South Orkney I.
6V-6W	Senegal	FM	Martinique	ON-OT	Belgium	VP8, LU	South Sandwich I.
6Y	Jamaica	FO	Austral I.	OX	Greenland	VP8, LU	South Shetland I.
70	Yemen	FO	Clipperton I.	OY	Faroe I.	VP9	Bermuda
7P	Lesotho	FO	French Polynesia	OZ	Denmark	VP9	Chagos I.
7Q	Malawi	FO	Marquesas I.	P2	Papua New Guinea	VR	Hong Kong
7T-7Y	Algeria	FP	St. Pierre & Miquelon	P4	Aruba	VU	India
8P	Barbados	FR/G	Glorioso I.	P5	DPR of Korea	VU	Andaman & Nicobar I.
8Q	Maldives	FR/J, E	Juan de Nova	PA-PI	Netherlands	VU	Lakshadweep I.
8R	Guyana	FR	Reunion I.	PJ2,4,9	Bonaire, Curacao	XA-XI	Mexico
9A	Croatia	FR/T	Tromelin I.	PJ5-8	St. Maarten, Saba, St.	XA4-X14	Revillagigedo
9G	Ghana	FT5W	Crozet I.	PP-PY	Brazil	XT(39)	Burkina Faso
9H	Malta	FT5X	Kerquelen I.	PP0-PY0F	Fernando de Noronha	XU	Cambodia
9I-9J	Zambia	FT5Z	Amsterdam & St. Paul I.	PP0-PY0S	St.Peter&Paul Rocks	XW	Laos
9K	Kuwait	FW	Wallis & Futuna I.	PP0-PY0T	Trindade & Martim Vas I.	XX9	Macao
9L	Sierra	FY	French Gulana	PZ	Suriname	XY-XZ	Myanmar
9M2, 4	West Malaysia	G, GX	England	R1FJ	Franz Josef Land	YA	Afghanistan
9M6, 4	East Malaysia	GD, GT	Isle of Man	R1MV	Malvi Vysotskii I.	YB-YH	Indonesia
9N	Nepal	GI, GN	Northern Ireland	S0	Western Sahara	YI	Iraq
9O-9T	Dem. Rep of Congo	GJ, GH	Jersey	S2	Bangladesh	YJ	Vanuatu
9U	Burundi	GM, GS	Scotland	S5	Slovenia	YK	Syria
9V	Singapore	GU, GP	Guernsey	S7	Seychelles	YL	Latvia
9X	Rwanda	GW, GC	Wales	S9	Sao Tome & Principe	YN	Nicaragua
9Y-9Z	Trinidad & Tobago	H4	Solomon I.	SA-SM	Sweden	YO-YR	Romania
A2	Botswana	H40	Temotu Province	SN-SR	Poland	YS	El Salvador
A3	Tonga	HA, HG	Hungary	ST	Sudan	YT-YU, YZ	Serbia & Montenegro
A4	Oman	HB	Switzerland	SU	Egypt	YY-YY	Venezuela
A5	Bhutan	HB0	Liechtenstein	SV-SZ	Greece	YV0	Aves I.
A6	United Arab Emirates	HC-HD	Ecuador	SVA	Mount Athos	Z2	Zimbabwe
A7	Qatar	HC8-HD8	Galapagos I.	SV5	Dodecanese	Z3	Macedonia
A9	Bahrain	HH	Haiti	SV9	Crete	ZA	Albania
AP-AS	Pakistan	HI	Dominican Republic	T2	Tuvalu	ZB2	Gibraltar
BS7-11	Scarborough Reef	HK, HJ	Colombia	T30	W. Kiribati (Gilbert I.)	ZC4	UK Sov. Base on Cyprus
BV	Taiwan	HK0	Malpelo I.	T31	C. Kiribati (British)	ZD7	St. Helena
BV9P -12	Pratas I.	HK0	San Andres & Providence	T32	E. Kiribati (Line I.)	ZD8	Ascension I.
BY	China	HL	Republic of Korea	T33	Banaba	ZD9	Tristan da Cunha & Gough
C2	Nauru	HO-HP	Panama	T5	Somalia	ZF	Cayman I.
C3	Andorra	HO-HR	Honduras	T7	San Marino	ZK1	N. Cook I.
C5	The Gambia	HS, E2	Thailand	T8, KC6	Palau	ZK1	S. Cook I.
C6	Bahamas	HV	Vatican	T9	Bosnia-Herzegovina	ZK2	Niue
C8-9	Mozambique	HZ	Saudi Arabia	TA-TC	Turkey	ZK3	Tokelau I.
CA-CE	Chile	I	Italy	TF	Iceland	ZL-ZM	New Zealand
CE0	Easter	ISO, IM0	Sardinia	TG, TD	Guatemala	ZL7	Chatham I.
CE0	Juan Fernandez I.	J2	Diibouti	TI, TE	Costa Rica	ZL8	Kermadec I.
CE0	San Felix&San Ambrosio	J3	Grenada	TI9	Cocos I.	ZL9	Auckland & Campbell I.
CE9/KC4	Antarctica	J5	Guinea-Bissau	TJ	Cameroon	ZP	Paraguay
CM, CO	Cuba	J6	St. Lucia	TK	Corsica	ZR-ZU	South Africa
CN	Morocco	J7	Dominica	TL	Central Africa	ZS8	Prince Edward & Marion I.
CP	Bolivia	J8	St. Vincent	TN	Congo (Republic of the)		
CT	Portugal	JA-JS	Japan	TR	Gabon		
CT3	Madeira Is.	JD1	Minami Torishima	TT	Chad		
CU	Azores	JD1	Ogasawara				



ROCHESTER DX ASSOCIATION

W2RDX rdxa.com

This Bulletin is the official organ of the Rochester DX Association and is published monthly, September through June. Email your articles, tidbits, ham ads, etc. to Mike, N1OKL at the addresses below by the first Tuesday of the month for inclusion in that month's issue.

All those with an interest in amateur radio and DXing and contesting are cordially invited to any meeting and to join RDXA. Meetings are held at 19:30 local time on the 3rd Tuesday of each month, September through June.

President-----Dave Wright – N2CK
n2ck@arrl.net

Vice President-----Vic Gauvin – K1PY
k1py@frontiernet.net

Sec/Treasurer-----Charles Kuhfuss – WB2HJV
wb2hvj@rochester.rr.com

Board of Directors

Paul Meyers – N2OPW----- n2opw@qsl.net

Gene Fuller – W2LU----- w2lu@rochester.rr.com

Paul Mackanos – K2DB----- paul@prohomeinspector.net

Rick Mintz – W1TY ----- w1ty@arrl.net

Appointed Positions

DX Chairman ----- Chris Shalvoy, K2CS

Packet Cluster Sys Op ----- Bob Hunter, NG2P

Webmaster ----- Scott Hoag, K2ZS

NG2P Packet Cluster----- 144.910 MHz

Telnet: 66.67.220.251 / Port 7300

Newsletter Editor

Mike Rundle, N1OKL ----- rundlem@kpgraphics.com

Alternate email: n1okl@pcilearn.com

Dues (\$15 / year) and Correspondence to:

Charles Kuhfuss, WB2HJV

55 Stoney Path Lane

Rochester, NY 14626

Professional Home Inspection

Paul Mackanos - K2DB
20 Sumac Way
Fairport, NY 14450



Paul - K2DB

www.paulmackanos.com

800.822.7579
585.223.4230