

ROCHESTER **DX** ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

1947–2007 • 60 YEARS OF DX IN WNY

JUNE 2007

Regular Meeting

June 19th 19:30 local

300 Jay Scutti Boulevard
Gander Mountain
Meeting Room

June Program

Three days to Go - A brief review of our upcoming Field day operation. Will we have a 2-element, 40m beam at 85 ft.? Come find out.

The Best of YouTube (radio-wise). Tim Strong, K2CY spent hours scouring thousands of videos on YouTube.com to locate the few radio-related gems for our program. Come see what Tim found.

Plus - election of Officers and BOD and Constitution amendments.

Social after the Meeting

Scotch & Sirloin
Winton Plaza

“part of – but removed” from the flea market feel. Thanks to those who helped out with the scouting, negotiations and stake out of the site. Many thanks also to those who assisted setting up, or taking down the canopies. And let’s not forget those who manned the indoor booth. It’s one of those often overlooked tasks – but one usually sees quite a few folks. We also signed up a fair number of new members. I planned on sending out a welcome email to the new folks – but I turned the membership sheets over to Charlie last night! Oops. Due to the really warm conditions, having shade and a nice breeze made the Hamfest quite tolerable. I know some commented about the walking conditions of the stone in the parking lot – and observed that the parking and flea market should have swapped positions. I shudder to think how warm it would have been in the flea market had we been on fresh pavement. If they could roll out the stone which is there and layer a finer grade of stone on top, I’m sure it would be much better.

2007 – 2008 RDXA Officer & BOD Candidates

President – Vic Gauvin, K1PY

Vice President – open; no candidate

Secretary / Treasurer – Irv Goodman, AF2K

Board of Directors Doug Stewart, N2BEG
 Alan Masson, K6PSP
 Chris Shalvoy, K2CS
 Cary Magee, K2RNY

Dave Wright, N2CK, automatic BOD member as past President

The election will be held at the June meeting. As always, nominations from the floor are welcome.

President’s Soapbox

By Dave Wright - N2CK



Hello all,

June already – where did the Spring go? It seems like it’s been exceptionally hectic this past couple of months, but as we approach our summer break – I am ready to coast for a while.

I hope you all enjoyed the new arrangements at the Hamfest this year. It took a fair amount of pre-hamfest scouting,

combined with conversations (by a few folks) with Peter Fournia, W2SKY to score our site. Hopefully it provided the convenience factor we’ve previously enjoyed “up on the hill” as well as the

Also behind us is the start of the RDXA /60 celebration. For those who missed it, we met for a strategy meeting over breakfast on Saturday June 9th – followed by putting W2RDX/60 on the air at the Antique Wireless Museum Annex. We had an absolute **blast!** The pileup was pretty much nonstop with multiple people calling throughout our operating window of 13:00z to 19:00z. I would like to publicly thank our most gracious host Ed, K2MP for allowing this operation at the Annex. To be surrounded by so much vintage gear to touch and discover while we were operating really set the stage for what we were celebrating. One thing which amazed me was just how varied and extensive their collection is. Being able to touch equipment our founding DX Men probably used when they formed Rochester DX Association tied it all together for me. I know I’m not the only one who had that observation. All too soon

it was time to QRT, and make ready for the /60 dinner at NapaGino's. One more thing to note, we have been discussing another /60 event – possibly in February, with a focus on different modes. As we only ran SSB this time, we decided there needed to be an event where CW played a part.

As we gathered around the bar prior to entering the small private room, it was apparent some folks made the effort to dress for the period to further help us celebrate. The first order of business, once we got settled in the room, was to select those folk(s) who were dressed for the period. The folks receiving nominations were: John, W2JTR, Raj, N2RD, Chris K2CS and Gail, N2TWI. A very spirited and lively discussion followed regarding the candidates and their choice of attire and why one was being voted for, versus someone else (and yes – the YLs took part in the vote!). Irv was in charge of keeping track of the votes. In the end, a tie was declared with John, W2JTR and Gayle, N2TWI. By the way, there has been discussion to utilize NapaGino's for the combined RDXA/RVHF group awards banquet. After dinner Ed and Chris did a presentation on the history of the club. Ed said it best when he stated "Think of it – 60 years ago, on this very day, possibly this very minute, our Club was founded." (actually I think Ed stated it much more elegantly than that, but you get the gist).

As I wrap up my last column of my second term I would like to thank all of you for helping make this Club what it is. I have said, and will continue to state that RDXA is the premier club in the Rochester area. Our combined talent, passion, energy and determination is unmatched. I also want to thank those who have made my job easy, and those who have made the effort to contribute to the club newsletter or help out with a program. If you have been lax on submitting an article, I strongly encourage you to submit some words to our new newsletter editor, Gayle N2TWI. She's got some big shoes to fill taking over Mike's role. We all can make her job a little easier by submitting a short snippet here and there. Enjoy the summer months, play a little radio, and plan those fall antenna projects.

Hope to see you all at Field Day. Come out and support RDXA this year.

73, es gud DX

June Contests

SEANET Contest, all modes	-----2, 3 June
IARU Region 1 Field Day, CW	-----2, 3 June
ANARTS WW RTTY, RTTY	-----9, 10 June
All Asian DX Contest, CW	-----16, 17 June
SMIRK Contest, CW, SSB	-----16, 17 June
Kid's Day, SSB	-----16 June
Marconi Memorial Contest, CW	-----23, 24 June
ARRL Field Day, all modes	-----23, 24 June

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

July Contests

RAC Canada Day Contest, CW, SSB	-----1 July
DL DX RTTY Contest, RTTY, PSK31, PSK63	-----7, 8 July
IARU HF World Championship, CW, SSB	-----14, 15 July
CQ WW VHF Contest, all modes	-----21, 22 July

RSGB IOTA Contest, CW, SSB-----28, 29 July

August Contests

TARA Grid Dip, PSK, RTTY	-----4 June
European HF Championship, CW, SSB	-----4 June
WAE DX Contest, CW	-----11, 12 June
SARTG WW RTTY, RTTY	-----18, 19 June
Hawaii QSO Party, all modes	-----25, 26 June

September Contests

All Asian DX Contest, SSB	-----1, 2 Sept
IARU Region 1 Field Day, SSB	-----1, 2 Sept
WAE DX Contest, SSB	-----8, 9 Sept
YLRL Howdy Days	-----11-13 Sept
CQ WW RTTY DX	-----29, 30 Sept

Three Days to Go

The All-Out Effort for Field Day 2007

By Vic Gauvin - K1PY



As of the evening of the next meeting, we'll have three days to go before Field Day 2007! Whew! With the cleaning up of several of the antennas, the Antenna Tuneup, the Gizmo II activity and the follow-on flagpole pulley, we've already done way more than the typical preparations. But these are all one-time investments for future Field Days.

The "real Field Day" meeting, referring to the down to the power strips detailed planning meeting held at Raj N2RD's QTH this past Wednesday, took care of most of what we need.

So briefly (can you believe it), here's the lineup.

Phone, all bands, in the field with the infamous W2TZ wire beams for 80m and 40m, and a KT-34XA tribander on an AWA 50-foot Mil-mast. Also an 80m RX-only pennant. FT-1000MP with Inrad roofing and SSB filters provided by station captain K1PY.

80m/20m CW, in the commissary, with 80m inverted-vee and 20m 3-element monobander on another AWA 50-foot Mil-mast in the woodlot area. Also an 80m RX only pennant. FT-1000MP with Inrad roofing and CW filters provided by station captain AI2N.

40m/15m CW, in the commissary, with 2-element, 40m Yagi at 85 feet and a 40m inverted-vee at 65 feet, both on the flagpole. FT-1000MP with Inrad roofing filter and CW filters provided by station captain N2RD.

GOTA all band PSK31 (and perhaps RTTY) in VHF tent with an A4 tribander at 30 feet on the club aluminum tower, a 40-10m HyGain Patriot vertical, and an 80m inverted-vee at 30 feet. TS-850 digital-ready station interfaced with club GOTA computer provided by station captain K6PSP.

VHF 6m-to-light. all modes in VHF tent with too many antennas to enumerate, provided by K2TER/Rover and station captain N2OPW.

Spotting station in VHF tent with an 80m RX only pennant.

RDXAnet Ethernet, Admar Supply 25 kW diesel generator, good food, amenities, great company. Sounds like another great RDXA Field Day! See you there!

Field Day Antenna Tune-up Report by Vic Gauvin, K1PY

This is a reprint of the antenna tune up summary originally distributed via the club Field Day mailing list at Yahoo Groups.



What a great day! WX was perfect, great crew turned out, donuts all around: the old resurrected original Gizmo worked, and to top it off, all the beams got measured and tuned.

With saw horses to work on (thanks K6PSP and AI2N), the beams got assembled in pretty short order.

We had to refresh our memories on raising the original Gizmo, but it turned out just fine after a few tweaks. Had to cut some antenna stabilization lines from the 3/32 spool. These will be beam control lines for FD since the plan isn't to use the Gizmos. But we'll see.

First up was the 3-element, 20m monobander. This proved to be the challenge of the day. Went up the flagpole just fine to about 25 or 30 feet. I don't recall the sequence of adjustments, but first it was way out of band, and a couple gamma tweaks brought it at least to 20m. Now to get it to the CW portion. 14.500, 13.xxx, 14.400, back and forth. Sometimes it would be one value, come down, get adjusted, go back up, and be the same! We wondered about interaction with the flagpole and pulled it away somewhat, but were limited in how far we could do that.

Finally, with the gamma match so sensitive, the call was made to adjust the driven element length to tune in to the CW portion. After two tries we got close, and made just one more tweak to finalize it. Then it was time for a short sun-screen break. Redd got a good workout with, 10 or more ups and downs for this antenna.

Well, after all that, the A4 tri-bander got brought over with fingers crossed. Up she went, check 20m, 14.06x, with 15m and 10m both falling nicely in the CW/digital portion of the band. One shot! Great!

Finally, the 2-element 40-2CD Cushcraft 40m beam got lugged over. Even though it's a "shorty forty," it's still a pretty significant looking beam down on the ground. Trussing the boom took a little effort, but that achieved, up she went. And bingo! Right where we wanted it for 40m CW.

With the last two being a piece of cake, we disassembled them all, took a short break, then loaded everything for the trip to AF2K's. Irv's empty car port makes an absolutely perfect staging spot for all our nice aluminum until FD time. Thanks Irv!

So all went well, and a fun time was had by all. Many thanks to (in sign-up order) Ed K2MP with Carl KC2KPK, Redd AI2N, Alan K6PSP, Larry W2LB, Lloyd N2PU, Kevin KC2PKO, Ken N2ZN, Doug N2BEG, and Ben (Stewart) KC2JXP, and of course Irv AF2K for the use of his storage facilities.

The early rounds went well. Things are looking up and starting to get closer. Before you know it, we'll be hitting F1 or shouting CQ Field Day! (Remind me to get that voice keyer going.)

Propagation

AD5Q's notes from Cycle 22
June 1996

Solar Flux Range-----67 – 74

20 Meters – In recent months we have enjoyed a steady improvement in conditions on 20m. At the bottom of the solar cycle we look forward to this, because there is not much DX coming through on higher bands at any time of the year. Late spring openings on 20m provide us with our best opportunities for long haul DX. These DX windows are especially important when a needed country is activated in a remote corner of the world, and we always hope these expeditions occur when propagation is seasonally favorable. Such exotic openings are at their best right now, and will remain good through August. A VU4 would be nice.

With 20m open late into the evening and the sun continuously low in the sky over the pole, we expect daypath bands to open up nicely, but they don't, because the ionosphere is getting too much sun. Even at the top of the cycle, the usual daypath bands are dead to marginal. This is because the ionosphere is cooked: it is warmed by exposure to the sun, causing molecules to thin out and MUFs to drop. With the lowbands full of QRN and 10m and 15m in the doldrums, DX activity becomes concentrated on 20m.

As the ionosphere thins in the morning hours, it slows the daytime rise in the MUF and prolongs long haul DX openings on 20m. These pipelines extend to the Far East, where there is an evening DX window lasting several hours. In our evening, of course, the tables are turned and we work lots of Russians. The path to the Middle East is also open. These are usually difficult paths at the bottom of the cycle.

General – Where the slow rise in the MUF prolongs morning openings on 20m, it delays them on higher bands (if they open at all). Europe has been opening on 15m lately, but not until the afternoon. These openings have been marginal only because we are at the low end of the cycle, and are usually noticed only during contests. At higher flux levels the openings on 15m this time of year are spectacular, with big signals from Europe through the evening. With our low flux levels, we look for propagation on lower bands like 17m and 20m. Daypaths are marginally open on 20, well enough to keep the East Coast busy running Europe in the WPX CW.

Though nighttime QRN levels are now kinda high, 40m is still in much better shape than 15m. The DX windows aren't as broad as in winter, but much of the world is workable. There are good openings to the northeast around sunset and into the evening, and Asia comes through nicely in the morning. In the WPX there is a point advantage for lowband work, which makes this out-of-season band a very important factor.

It is June, and Field Day approaches. The Sporadic-E season is peaking for 6m and 10m short skip, which seems to be at its best at the low end of the cycle.

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

Forecast of Solar and Geomagnetic Activity 13 June – 9 July 2007

NOAA

Solar activity is expected to be at very low to low levels. C-class flares are expected during 13 - 14 June and 28 June – 09 July.

No proton events are expected at geosynchronous orbit.

The greater than 2 MeV electron flux at geosynchronous orbit is expected to reach high levels during 17 June and 20 June - 05 July.

Quiet to active conditions are expected during 14 - 15 June as a recurrent coronal hole high-speed stream affects the field. Quiet to unsettled conditions are expected during 15 - 18 June. **Activity is expected to increase to unsettled to minor storm levels during 19 - 22 June with major storm levels possible on 19 June due to a recurrent coronal hole high-speed stream. Activity is expected to decrease to mostly quiet levels during 23 - 29 June.** Quiet to active conditions are expected during 30 June - 01 July as another recurrent coronal hole high-speed stream affects the field. Mostly quiet levels are expected for the remainder of the period.

More at: <http://www.sec.noaa.gov/radio/>

Twenty-seven Day Space Weather Outlook Table

Issued 2007 June 12

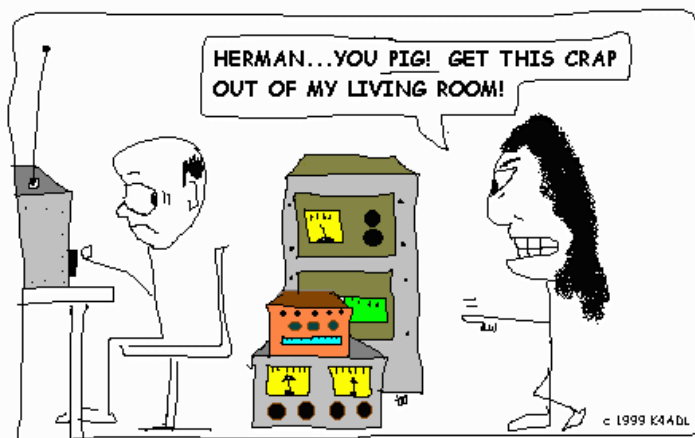
US Dept. of Commerce NOAA

UT Date	10.7cm Radio Flux	Planetary A Index	Largest Kp Index
2007 June 10	80	5	2
2007 June 11	80	5	2
2007 June 12	80	5	2
2007 June 13	75	5	2
2007 June 14	70	15	4
2007 June 15	70	10	3
2007 June 16	70	5	2
2007 June 17	70	5	2
2007 June 18	70	10	3
2007 June 19	70	25	5
2007 June 20	70	20	5
2007 June 21	70	15	4
2007 June 22	75	15	4
2007 June 23	75	12	3
2007 June 24	75	5	2
2007 June 25	75	5	2
2007 June 26	75	5	2
2007 June 27	75	5	2
2007 June 28	80	5	2
2007 June 29	80	5	2
2007 June 30	85	15	4
2007 July 01	85	15	4
2007 July 02	85	8	3
2007 July 03	80	5	2
2007 July 04	75	5	2
2007 July 05	75	5	2
2007 July 06	75	5	2
2007 July 07	75	5	2
2007 July 08	75	5	2
2007 July 09	75	5	2

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

Announced DX Operations From NG3K Web Pages <http://www.ng3k.com/Misc/adxo.html>

Looking for that rare one? Just want to try out that new antenna or amp? Trying for WAZ? Check out the listings you will find for active and announced DX operations on the NG3K web archive. Point your browser to the URL above for up-to-date DXpedition info. Ed.



THE REAL ORIGIN OF THE TERM "HAM RADIO."

Courtesy of K4ADL - <http://www.qsl.net/k4adl/>

To the Top of the Pole

By Vic Gauvin - K1PY
Photos by Alan Masson - K6PSP

It's truly a pretty cool idea. Loop something over the top of the Webster Park flagpole that's strong enough to hold whatever antennas, including beams, that we might want to raise to the top. Last month we outlined the plan in the article "To the Top of the Pole." Here's the picture version of the actual installation, thanks to Alan K6PSP.

First, photo 1 shows the Gizmo II, a tight rope web woven by Paul N2OPW. This hangs from the top of a mast that's affixed to the existing pulley rope on the flagpole.



Photo 1: Gizmo II flanked by (L to R) Ken, N2ZN and Paul, N2OPW.

The mast is positioned such that its lower half is firmly secured to the pulley line, while its top half is left free. The highest attachment point is just to the right of the flagpole, as in photo 2.

When pulled to the top, the free portion of the mast with the basket is able to extend beyond the pulley. (You'll recall that the pulley is approximately 10 feet below the top of the flagpole.) Photo 3 shows the Gizmo II basket even with the top of the flagpole.

We'd like to say "with just a flick of the line, it went over the top!" In reality it took a lot of jockeying around and pulling and tugging, but at least we can still say the important part: it went over the top! Photo 4 depicts our success.



Photo 2: Gizmo II mast with pulley line at midpoint, with top half free.



Photo 3: Now at the same level as the top of the flagpole, the Gizmo II is ready to "top the pole."



Photo 4: Success! Gizmo II goes over the top!

This was to check whether it reached, how it fit, etc. The "test run." Now it's just a matter of adding the lines needed to pull up the antennas.

This seemingly simple last step was the first indication that we needed a bit more design work, shown in photo 5.



Photo 5: Gizmo II mast not supporting all the pulley lines.

But that wasn't what proved to be our undoing. It wasn't anything about the Gizmo that couldn't be corrected. It was the wimpy ball at the top of the pole.

Go back to photo 4, showing Gizmo II at the top of the pole. Upon raising it up off of the decorative ball to bring it back down, we also lifted the ball at the top of pole out of position, leaving it askew. See photo 6.



Photo 6: The “tuned” flagpole ball. You can’t tell, but it’s pointed Northeast, straight toward Europe.

We ultimately decided that even though we could have gotten Gizmo II in place and that it would have done the job, its success was based on the presumption that the ball at the top would stand the load. So, even though we did make it to the top of the pole, it wasn’t the success we required. It didn’t take all that long, however, to decide to move on to Plan B.

Before going on, though, we do need to recognize that we **did** do it, thanks the Gizmo II Crew, shown in photo 7.



Photo 7: the Gizmo II crew: (L-R): K1PY, W2LU, N2CK, N2OPW, N2ZN, N2PU, and invisible photographer K6PSP.

We Did It Again; Plan B

By Vic Gauvin - K1PY
Photos by Dave Crawford - K2DPC

“Plan B,” although not referred to as such at the time, had already been alluded to in an earlier article about utilizing the flagpole. It was the rhetorical question of why, after all these years of attempting to get to the top with the original Gizmo, and then Gizmo II, we didn’t just ask the Webster Fire Department to come back again so we could install a new pulley, this time at the top.

So, staring up at the askew artifact of our earlier empty victory (it’s not often you can string a phrase like that together in a ham radio article), we simply resolved to just do it.



West Webster ladder truck arrives at the site, ready for action.

The Club’s Webster contingent played the major roles in the effort, without question. First, Gene W2LU, one of the Club’s nautical folk, researched marine pulleys and line, and we purchased a top-of-the-line pulley that will last forever, and some nice 3/8 inch line. In the meantime, Lloyd N2PU made contacts with people he knew in the Webster Fire Department, including Jeff KC2GXY and Jim KC2KNJ. Quite the coincidence, it was Jeff who installed the first pulley that we replaced several years ago (and who can attest to the story of how it came to be 10 feet from the top). Finally, Irv AF2K, was the Webster Park liaison who got the Park to agree to our doing it and arranged access.



The new, “lifetime” marine pulley assembly gets a final check out.

Now it was just a matter of figuring out how to do it! The problem was we didn’t know the diameter of the flagpole at the top where we wanted to attach the pulley. And we didn’t think a single hose clamp, the immediately obvious solution, would suffice.

After a few ideas were batted around, we came up with using a piece of the aluminum angle cut from one of the original Gizmos (two were built). Although one hose clamp wouldn’t suffice, we thought four might. But just in case, and since we had it, we added an insurance loop consisting of cable pirated from the original Gizmo and used as the base of the web basket in Gizmo II.



An impressive sight! The Webster ladder truck extends to the top.



Work commences to attach the new pulley assembly.

We had to work to the availability of the fire department, and that turned out to be quicker than we thought once we gave them the go-ahead. So we scrambled to Webster Park on Sunday morning, the 10th of June, and rendezvoused with Ladder 120 from the West Webster Fire Department.



Working without a net; attaching the new pulley assembly, this time, at the very **top** of the pole. Notice that the ball has been restored to it's original and correct position.

Seeing a 95-foot ladder pivot around to position itself, then in an almost eerie near-silence extend all the way to the top of the flagpole was a very impressive sight to behold.

The fixture was prepped to install easily, and we provided all the tools to expedite the installation, such as a cordless drill with a bit to tighten the hose clamps. So once the bucket was at the top, it was pretty straightforward for the guys to attach the pulley.

So, with thanks to all involved, **it's up there!** We finally did it!

Proposed RDXA Constitution and By-Laws Changes By Vic Gauvin - K1PY

*The following describes the changes to the RDXA Constitution **proposed** by the Board of Directors, and to be discussed at the May regular membership meeting and voted upon at the June regular membership meeting.*

Article 4 – Officers and their Duties

SECTION 1.

Define start/end of term as starting July 1 and ending June 30, to allow new slate of officers to have authority to appoint Chairmen, call planning meetings, etc. Add to end:

"..., commencing July 1 and ending June 30."

SECTION 5.

Point 1: The purpose of the outgoing President becoming a member of the Board of Directors (BoD) is to utilize their expertise as a consultant to the new officers. However, since elsewhere it's stated that all members of the BoD are elected positions, this position should be more properly defined as a consultative post.

Remove the second and third sentences, as follows: "The outgoing President automatically becomes the fourth Director at the end of

his/her term. Should the President be re-elected, the fourth Director is then elected from eligible members.”

To implement the consultative position of the outgoing President, replace the preceding with:

“The outgoing President automatically becomes a non-voting consultant to the Board of Directors for a term of one (1) year.”

Point 2: To encourage greater membership participation in the governance of the club, a three consecutive year term limit is suggested for Directors. Add after the last sentence:

“The maximum sequential years of service of a Director shall be three (3) years. After a year, a member is again eligible to serve as a Director.”

Article 5 – Meetings

SECTION 1.

Point 1: To distinguish membership meetings from BoD meetings, add the words in italics to the first sentence:

“The RDXA shall hold regular monthly membership meetings, September through June, at a suitable location selected by the officers or a delegated committee.”

Point 2: Since the ARRL has eliminated meeting attendance as a requisite for submitting contest scores in club events, the second sentence of Section 1, which was added to ease the accommodation of this requirement, should be deleted, as follows:

“Meetings may include the Rochester Hamfest, RDXA Banquet, RDXA Field Day and/or Picnic.”

SECTION 3 (NEW)

Point 1: To define BoD meetings, the following new Section 3 is proposed:

“The Officers and Directors shall hold regular monthly business meetings at times and locations determined by the Board of Directors. Meetings shall be announced in advance and be open to all members. Meetings during the summer months, July through August, are optional at the discretion of the Board of Directors. Business meetings shall be conducted in accordance with Robert’s Rules of Order.”

Point 2: To ensure that the maximum number of voting members is involved in any discussions and deliberations on a proposal requiring a vote, it is proposed that the minimum quorum for voting be two-thirds the voting members, as follows:

“The quorum for voting on any proposal shall be two-thirds of the membership of the Board.”

Article 6 – Amending the Constitution

SECTION 1.

To clarify, change “regular meeting” at end of the paragraph to: “regular monthly membership meeting.”

SECTION 2 (NEW)

Similar to the preceding Board of Directors meeting quorum, a quorum for Constitutional amendments similarly should be required. Current wording indicates two-thirds of members present. This at times could be a very small number. By-Laws Article B, Section 3 provides for mailed ballots for Constitutional amendments. To ensure adequate member representation, it is suggested a new SECTION 2 be added, to read as follows:

“At a meeting at which a Constitutional vote is to be taken, the meeting quorum shall be a minimum of one-third of the eligible

membership at the time of the meeting. The quorum may be fulfilled by mailed ballots received by the Secretary-Treasurer prior to the meeting in lieu of personal attendance.”

RDXA By-Law changes

Per By-Laws Article B – Rules of Conduct, SECTION 2, the By-Laws may be amended, as deemed necessary, by a two-thirds vote of the Board of Directors.

At the Board of Directors meeting on 14 March 2007, the following changes were implemented by unanimous vote of the Board.

Article A – Dues and Assessments,

SECTION 4.

Removed the following:

“The Bulletin mailing label shall indicate membership term” as the primary means of distribution is now electronically via e-mail notice and posting on the club Web site.

Article B – Rules of Conduct

SECTION 2.

To achieve general agreement on changes to the By-Laws, changed vote for By-Law amendment as follows:

...from majority to two-thirds.

SECTION 3.

Mail ballots for Constitutional or Impeachment proceedings are specified in this section, but it was not specified how they should be handled. The change specified the Secretary-Treasurer as recipient for mailed ballots for Constitutional or Impeachment votes, to be counted at a regular monthly membership meeting.

SECTION 4 (NEW)

To ensure all members of the BoD are provided with the opportunity to hear directly and personally all information and arguments in support of or against any proposal put to a vote, and similarly have the opportunity to participate in all discussions and deliberations, the following new Section 4 was added:

“To vote in an informed manner at regularly scheduled Board of Directors business meetings, an Officer or Director must be physically in attendance. No other means of voting is authorized.”

Article C – BOD Vacancies

SECTION 1.

If it is near the end of the term, vacancies may be impractical and unnecessary to fill. Thus, the following was added at the end:

“...at the discretion of the Board of Directors.”

Article D – Duties of Club Activity Chairmen and Editor

SECTION 3.

Since these are no longer utilized, the following was eliminated at the end of the section:

“..., and provide mailing labels for the current membership list to the Bulletin Editor.”

SECTION 6.

Regarding monthly meeting programs,

“...meeting.” at the end was changed to “...regular monthly membership meeting.”

The following new article was implemented and identified as Article E since there was no current Article E between Articles D and F:

Article E – Discretionary Spending (NEW)

SECTION 1.

Members of the Board of Directors are authorized to make a single Club-related purchase of up to Fifty Dollars (\$50.00) on their own discretion. The expended amount is to be reimbursed upon reporting it to the Board of Directors and submittal of receipt(s) to the Secretary-Treasurer. Once used, this authority must be renewed by the Board of Directors.

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An annotated copy of the Constitution & By-Laws with the above proposed Constitutional changes and updated By-Laws highlighted in yellow is available for viewing at the RDXA Web site at <http://www.rdxa.com> in the RDXA Library under General Information and entitled DRAFT Constitution 10 May 07 (flagged as members only, so you must log in)

Annotated copies will also be available at the June regular monthly membership meeting.

W2RDX/60

By Chris Shalvoy - K2CS

June 9, 1947, the RDXA began.

As I've been told, several members of RARA decided to start an organization whose primary interest would be DXing. The parent organization was and still is a general purpose club, enjoying all forms of Amateur Radio.

An outstanding year it was. The Yankees won the World Series, Notre Dame won the NCAA Championships, Toronto defeated Montreal for the Stanley Cup.

Harry S. Truman was President, India and Pakistan gained independence from Britain and Miracle on 34th Street was on it's way to becoming an all time Christmas classic.

The Diary of Anne Frank was released and food preparation was to forever change with the invention of the microwave oven.

The Voice of America began transmitting propaganda to the Soviet Union.

WB6ACU is born (Joe Walsh of the Eagles).

As with any year, many historical events were taking place, far too many to list here.

The "DX Men" as they were called have left us with a fine and respected organization, one of the oldest DX-only clubs in North America I'd bet.

With that, the Club decided a few months ago to honor and celebrate the Club's history with the W2RDX/60 operating event and Banquet.

Ed Gable, with the help and blessings of the Antique Wireless Museum in Bloomfield, NY allowed us to operate in the museum "annex", a building full of every true ham's dream equipment.

Radios and audio equipment representing every decade the Club has been around are plentiful throughout this historical "warehouse".

A small station was set up on the Organization's "workbench" with several RDXA operators ready to hand out a few QSOs.

After a early morning breakfast, the modern day "DX Men" hit the airwaves at 1300z, Saturday June 9, 2007, exactly 60 years from the inception of the RDXA.

20m SSB was chosen to afford as many stations as possible a contact.

From the first "QRZ" to the Operation's "QRT" at 1900z, there was not a moment that stations weren't calling. All told, 200 QSOs made the logs.

That evening, the gang gathered for a commemorative dinner and presentation by Ed Gable, K2MP on the history of Amateur radio in Rochester, NY and a discussion on the RDXA.

A contest for "era" dress was held with Gayle Shalvoy, N2TWI and John Rogers, W2JTR winning top honors.

Look for other W2RDX/60 events throughout our 60th anniversary year as well as another /60 operating event in February of 2008!

Best DX and 73

W2RDX/60 Special Event and Banquet

Photos by Dave Wright - N2CK

The day begins at the AWA Museum with the W2RDX/60 Special Event operation...



Ed Gable, K2MP our AWA host, operating an antique laptop PC.



K1PY working the crowds and N2BEG logging.



K2DB working the pileups and K1PY logging the QSOs. A venerable Bird wattmeter keeps an eye on the power output.



K2CS operating and AF2K checking the log while K1PY looks on. A view of the AWA shop and workbench in the background. It takes a well-equipped shop to keep all the boatanchors in operation.



Paul Mackanos x 2. L: Harmonic Paul Jr., K2DB and R: Fundamental Paul Sr., WB2LSI.

A brief look around the AWA museum reveals one of almost every conceivable piece of radio equipment on display...



A view of some of sets from the earliest days of radio on display at AWA.



A 1917 Spark gap transmitter.



Where would radio be without inductors? Coils, coils and more coils, some fixed, some variable, all interesting antiques.



Here's one for the RTTY Rangers, an antique RTTY station. Compare this to our modern computer-based RTTY gear!



Part of the extensive AWA collection of tubes and valves.



Keys, keys and more keys. It seems like everyone and their brother got into the telegraphy key manufacturing business at one time or another.

All too soon, W2RDX/60 was QRT, and then it was on to the banquet festivities...



L to R: K2CS, N2TWI, K2DB, N2RD, and N2OPW enjoy the evening's events.



Winners of the 1947 period dress award, John Rogers, W2JTR and Gayle Shalvoy, N2TWI.



Ed Gable, K2MP, curator of the AWA Museum reviews the history of Amateur Radio in Rochester, NY and RDXA.



The RDXA DX men and women of 2007.



The best of the period dressers: W2JTR, N2RD, N2TW1, and K2CS.

Goodbye

By Mike Rundle - N1OKL

This edition of the RDXA Bulletin will be my last as your Editor. I have enjoyed working with you all over the years to edit and publish our newsletter. Though some may bemoan the transition from a hard copy to an electronic edition, I believe this change has generally been a good one. It has provided the opportunity for adding color without the need for color printing. And, it has eliminated the sometimes difficult task of making sure that the page count was always an even number, so that the space for the mailing label would fall on the back page. All in all, the transition to an electronic edition has made my job as Editor much easier, and I hope you all have found the format change beneficial.

Over the years I have taken some good-natured ribbing about the changes I sometimes make in submitted articles. It's true, I do edit articles; that's part of the job. Let me take a minute and make a few comments on this point. Mostly, I edit for clarity and consistency. For example, everyone seems to have a different idea about how to handle the nomenclature for the ham bands. Some capitalize "Meters", some don't. I try to make this consistent throughout the newsletter, either spelling out the word without capitalizing, or abbreviating it with the lower case letter "m".

Then there is the instance of pluralization, as in QSOs, QSLs, MUFs, etc. Interestingly, most submissions I receive use an apostrophe before the "s". This would suggest the possessive case, so I generally remove the apostrophe, unless the case should indeed be possessive. What can I say? I was an English major.

I also edit for fit. "What," you say? Well, this is a time-honored tradition in the news business. Or, to paraphrase the slogan of the New York Times, it's, "All the News that Fits." When I edit for fit, I am trying to make the article fit the page, so that the overall layout of the page is pleasing and balanced. I have spent my entire professional career in the graphic arts, so I am possibly a bit more sensitive than most to having a good-looking graphic layout.

Finally, I make edits to change things I don't like, typographically. Among these are two spaces at the end of a sentence. This is an old convention from typewriters, where all characters occupied the same amount of horizontal space, and it was useful to have an extra space at the end of a sentence to improve readability. Today however, with programs like MS Word, etc., all the characters are unit-spaced; that is, they take up only the space needed for the character. Thus, two spaces at the end of a sentence are not needed. Plus, the program itself knows that a space following a period is an end of sentence space, and adds a small amount of *additional* space automatically. I also eliminate all caps used for emphasis, changing whatever was capitalized to **bold** or *italics*, or both, as I think is appropriate. Again, the all caps convention is a left over from typewriter days when this was the only means of calling attention to a word or phrase. Today, we have the full range of typographic conventions available for indicating emphasis, so all caps are not needed. I also delete multiple end-of-sentence punctuation marks, as one exclamation point or question mark is sufficient to convey the desired meaning, and multiples give a cluttered look. This stuff all comes from my graphic arts and typography training and background. Though it probably seems trivial to most, think of it as the graphics equivalent of good engineering practice.

Enough about my editorial idiosyncrasies though. Beginning in September, Gayle Shalvoy, N2TW1 will be taking over the duties of editor and publisher of our newsletter. Please welcome Gayle to the job, and support her efforts with your articles, photos, and other submissions that keep our newsletter an interesting and informative publication for RDXA members.

QRU

Thanks for all the support

-30-



QSL from an RDXA-sponsored DXpedition to Revilla Gigedo many years ago. Note the Cavemen watermark in the background.

IT IS A GREAT PLEASURE TO CONFIRM YOUR QSO WITH		SOCORRO ISLAND IS ONE OF THE REVILLA GIGEDO GROUP, OWNED BY MEXICO, AND LOCATED ABOUT 400 MILES WEST OF MANZANILLO, MEXICO IN THE PACIFIC OCEAN.	
X E 5 L			
TO _____		THE XE5L DX-PEDITION WAS MADE POSSIBLE THROUGH THE GREAT EFFORTS AND ASSISTANCE OF XE1L AND THE MEXICAN NAVY. "CAVEMEN" THROUGH COURTESY OF ROCHESTER DX ASSN.	
FOR QSO OF			
DECEMBER 12 13 14 1965			
GMT:	RST:	EQUIPMENT	
BAND: 15 20 40 80		SSB: DRAKE TR-4, COLLINS 755-1	
MODE: CW 2XSSB		15-20 MTR ANT: HY-GAIN TH-3-JR	
TNX QSL ES 73		40 MTR ANT: THE TOWER	
		80 MTR ANT: WIRE	
		CW: DRAKE TR-3, DRAKE RV-3,	
		WATERS ELECTRONIC KEY.	
		15-20-40 MTR ANT: HY-GAIN	
		14AVQ VERTICAL.	
OPERATORS			
XE1L, ALEJANDRO LEON L.			
WA2WVL, FLOYD KOONTZ			
WA2HOK, ROGER BETTIN			
K2LAF, ELMER SCHWITTEK			
W2SAW, "SAX" RINGLER			

The back of the XE5L QSI with details of the operation.

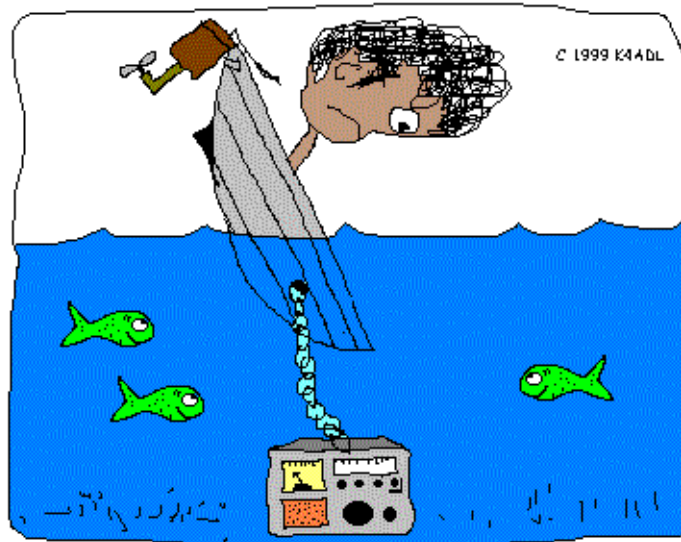
An Historical Similarity

By Doug Stewart - N2BEG

With a sharp eye for historical symmetry, Doug, N2BEG noticed something familiar about the sight of the Gizmo II raising. Ed.



The "boatanchor" cartoon below from K4ADL seemed uniquely appropriate for this issue of the Bulletin. Ed.



HOWARD LEARNS THE HARD WAY TO ADOPT A LESS LITERAL INTERPRETATION OF THE TERM "BOAT ANCHOR."

Courtesy of K4ADL – <http://www.qsl.net/k4adl/>

Senate Bill Calls on FCC to Investigate BPL Interference Potential

Excerpt from the ARRL Web

Write your Senator and Congressman in support of these Bills. Ed.

Senator Mark Pryor of Arkansas filed a bill yesterday in the US Senate calling on the Federal Communications Commission to conduct a study on the interference caused by broadband Internet transmission over power lines, otherwise known as BPL. Sen Pryor is a member of the Senate's Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

If passed, **Senate Bill 1629** would require the FCC to "conduct and submit to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives, a report on a study of interference potential of systems for the transmission of broadband Internet services over power lines."

The bill states that there are to be four required areas of study.

- The variation of field strength of BPL service signals with distance from overhead power lines, and a technical justification for the use of any particular distance extrapolation factor.
- The depth of adaptive, or 'notch,' filtering for attenuating normally permitted BPL service radiated emission levels that would be necessary and sufficient to protect the reliability of mobile radio communications.
- A technical justification for the permitted, radiated emission levels of BPL signals relative to ambient levels of man-made noise from other sources.
- Options for new or improved rules related to the transmission of BPL service that, if implemented, may prevent harmful interference to public safety and other radio communication systems.

This bill calls for the same studies to be performed as **House Bill 462**, introduced January 12, 2007 by Rep Mike Ross, WD5DVR, of Arkansas.



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 second 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.

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