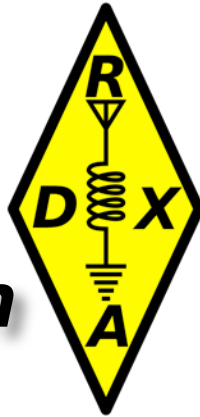


Rochester DX Association



January Meeting Presentation

Mike Sanchez, N2UJN, will do a presentation on the Rig Experts AA-54 antenna analyzer.

**Tuesday, January 21st, 7:30pm
Monroe County EOC
1190 Scottsville Road**

ROC City Net

**The premier HF net from
Upstate New York**

**Every Wednesday at
8:00 PM (0100 UTC) @
3826KHz +/-**

**And Now on 145.11 Bristol
Repeater,
Sunday @ 7:30 PM**

Join Us!

Have you lost or misplaced your yellow callsign badge?

Would you like to have a second one as a spare?

Are you a New member who hasn't ordered one yet?

NOW is the time to place the order. Prices will be going UP on Feb. 1st. For now, will remain the same...\$9.00 including 8% Sales Tax.

Will accept orders via e-mail and also at the meeting on January 21st. Don't put it off for too long.

As usual, no payment necessary until delivery.

Thanks and 73,
Irv Goodman — AF2K

Special Event Station at RMSC

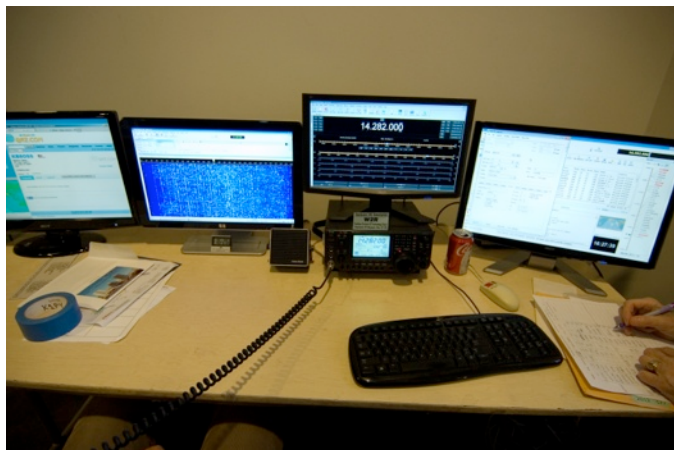
“CQ this is W2R, a special event station at the Rochester Museum & Science Center Holiday Science & Technology Days.”

This call resulted in many nice contacts (247) from across the country (41 states and 6 provinces) and 9 DX countries. The reason for making these contacts was twofold:

- The most important was to provide an opportunity for guests to have “an on-the-air contact with another radio station.” Obviously we tried to encourage families with kids in tow to stop by.
- Secondly we wanted to demonstrate the capabilities of ham radio with a modest station (an IC-746 -- many thanks to **Xerox ARC** -- to a G5RV). We pointed out it used only the amount of power needed to illuminate a light bulb, and a wire on the roof for an antenna. People in general were, as always, impressed with this.

This of course was the RDXA portion of the joint collaboration of the **Rochester DX Association** with the **Rochester Amateur Radio Association** at the Rochester Museum & Science Center. I've lost track of how many years this has been going on (Irv?), but can attest that it is as strong as ever, and was again very successful this year. Many thanks to the 23 volunteers from both clubs who put in the hours to promote our great hobby. Special kudos go out to the several stalwarts who were present for the entire time over all three days. All these folks are representatives of what makes our hobby great.

We tried a couple of new things to attract more attention to the station. I'd always thought that just a compact rig, like the 746, sitting by itself in the middle of a 6 foot table, looked rather lost and not particularly impressive. So the thought was to present a larger visual and more up-to-date image of the station by providing a backdrop of several LCD computer monitors. We had an array of four monitors, from one end of the table to the other, displaying as many colorful windows as we could practically squeeze on them.



With three of the monitors displaying a single (very wide) desktop, we displayed several of the windows provided by **Ham Radio Deluxe** (HRD). On the right, we had the logging, bandmap, packet cluster, and other utility windows; in the center, the very cool main radio control view of the IC-746, and on the left a waterfall display that we shifted between PSK and CW.

A fourth monitor displayed a very cool dynamically updated map of the locations of all the stations we'd worked up to that point. We wish it had been a plug-in to HRD, but unfortunately wasn't, and was updated by regularly exported ADIF files from HRD to software provided and updated by Dan N2DD during the entire event. See the final maps elsewhere in the article. With this we could point out our contacts to the folks that stopped by, and it made a nice impression. (That's the time when we threw in the light bulb/wire kicker.)

The fourth monitor also displayed another well received feature – the QRZ.com page of the station we were working at the moment. This was another great visual for the folks who were at the station at that time. Many stations have some pretty good photos of themselves and their stations, and we capitalized on these.

All in all, the effort for this acquitted itself pretty well, and we feel that it enhanced our (“radio’s”) overall presence at the exhibit.

Of course, the technology is cool, and very necessary in this super-connected gadget world, but is quite secondary to the most important facet of our



G5RV (provided by Doug N2BEG) on the roof. With the cold and blowing snow, we knew the antenna would work well come event day. So thanks to Doug N2BEG, his son Jack, Lynn W2BSN, and Peter W2SKY.

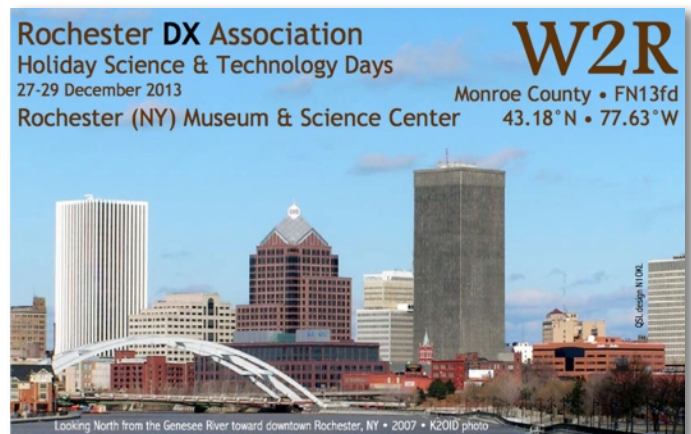
Thanks must also go to Peter W2SKY and RARA for the invitation to take part in this event, and for their extensive demonstration portion of it. Combined we had, in my estimation, one of the largest and most active exhibits of the entire event. It took us working together to pull it all off. Again, a testament to our hobby.

— Vic Gauvin, K1PY

portion of the exhibit – getting kids on the air. We were always watching for possible candidates as people strolled by, and were fairly successful in pulling them over. This is where all those contacts were justified in that we had someone on the air from somewhere else, and we could describe to our guests what was going on, and then have someone for our guest(s) to say hi to. Several ops were good at this, but we all had to admit that Max KC2SPY was the most successful. He was able to simply draw people over to the station while he's sitting in the operator's chair and get them involved. It was great. Thanks Max, and all the ops who did this.



We can't conclude this write-up without special thanks to the antenna crew who came to the museum the Tuesday before the event to put the



Field Day 2013 Recap



Let me start off this article by first giving a huge congratulations to the RDXA 2013 Field Day team! As we now know, RDXA is once again #1 in the 3A category. Of course, had my knowledge of the rules been more extensive, we probably would have known this a month or two ago. My apologies for that, but as always, our true Field Day expert, K1PY, got everything straightened out with the League and the results reporting.

In the end, our win for this year will always be memorable for a number of reasons. After two years of "laid back" action at FD, the proposal to operate it more like a contest this year was actually well received at the time. I had expected more opposition to the idea, but the BOD allowed us to run with the idea (providing, of course, that the FD committee could get it together in a month and a half!). Bill, K2TER, Vic and myself ended up having many meetings and tons of emails to get it all coordinated (truly, as I now have a "K1PY" folder set up in my email program specifically for Vic!). I am amazed at the amount of work that those two guys put in over that month and a half leading up to Field Day, and I will always be grateful for it.

So how did this year's plan differ from our previous efforts? In relation to the last two years, we would be actively operating this year, and pursuing the best score we could with the resources we had on hand. We wouldn't be going over the top with antennas, towers, and radios. The years competing with W9CA were exhilarating and exhausting all at the same time. This year we would try for more exhilaration than exhaustion.

Plans came together quickly out of necessity. We went back into the K1PY playbook and resurrected the station layout from several years ago. Radios were solicited at lightning speed, and mil-masts were pulled out of the mothballs to hold up the tribanders. The famous Cushcraft 40-2CD would make another appearance, a veteran of our winning effort in 2008, and would once again assume its position atop the flagpole at Webster Park. Operators were contacted, and a good roster started to form.

There was actually not a large difference between this Field Day and those in the past, in terms of logistics. The mil masts were erected with beams on top, the 40 meter beam hoisted up the flagpole, the wire antennas launched into the trees, and the operator tents set up. With the arrival of the rover and the setup of the GOTA station on Saturday, things were ready to go at 1800z, much as they had been the last time we staged a competitive effort. Some highlights:

Having NW2K and W2GN showing up with enough material to put up several Beverages-the first time we could use diversity RX on the low bands!

Watching N2UJN run his first pileup. 15 meters was practically endless all day on Saturday.

The return of AE2T and WJ2O after several years away. Still no AI2N, though! Maybe next year, Redd?

The addition of some new, capable CW ops to the FD team...guys like K2RNY, W2FG, W2GN, and NW2K...we will need you guys again in 2014!

Being the human rotator for the satellite array...it looked weird, but K0SM pulled it off again and made our satellite QSO'S just as the bird was fading. Is there anything that Dr. Flowers can't do?

Having W3OAB singlehandedly resurrect our generator (and probably our entire Field Day) after it had been malfunctioning all night.

Of course, there are many more, but those are some of the ones that jump right into my mind. The one thing that I was happy to see was a total team effort in all ways-everyone and anyone would just jump right in to take care of anything that needed to be done. I was also very happy to see all of our members having fun and taking pleasure in operating radio. Seeing that RDXA is a contest club,

I would think that our members would have fun and get pleasure out of operating contests. Sure, there are other things that can happen at Field Day that are fun, but my hope is that the simple act of getting on the radio and operating is fun to others. It is for me, and it shouldn't be relegated to a lowly status among us, especially in this club, and especially on Field Day!

So, what are our plans for 2014? Too early to tell yet, but of course, we want to expand on our success this year! The Field Day committee will soon have their inaugural meeting for 2014, and details will be forthcoming. Do we want to go bigger and badder? Maybe, but probably not. Do we want

to patch up some holes from last year and do a better job this year? Of course. Our goal in 2013 was to have a rebuilding year-start operating it like a contest again, and go from there. We didn't expect to win, but that is a nice side effect! (Secretly, I hoped we would win, of course). Our goal in 2014 may be similar; continue with the momentum we've built from 2013, and look to do better this year. But that remains to be seen. Until then, everyone should enjoy the feeling of being #1 in 3A again this year-an incredible feat for a deserving group of dedicated testers! Congratulations again to everyone on a superb effort!

— For the RDXA FD team, 73, Ken, N2ZN



RF Induced False Alarm Readily Solved



Kenwood TS-440S @ 100 Watts and...



Hamstick On A/C Unit (Stealth Antenna) EQUALS...



Fire Trucks (OOPS!!!!!!)



Because of This !

Neighbors Plug in (120 Volt + Battery operated CO2 Detector) Equals – Nice Neighbor who is letting me replace the CO2 unit I interfere with, with a battery only unit !! \$30.00 bucks is a cheap price to pay to stay on the air and keep the fire trucks in the firehouse.

(Notice that I have possession of the offending CO2 Detector !!!)

—Paul K2DB

Rochester DX Association

Club Station — W2RDX

Club Website — <http://www.rdxa.com>

This Bulletin is the official publication of the Rochester DX Association and is published monthly, September through June. Email your articles, tips, ham ads, etc. to Andrew, W2FG at alesny@rochester.rr.com 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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Appointed Positions

- WebmastersCarey Magee, K2RNY
Paul Mackanos, K2DB
 Contest/DX ChairmanChris Shalvoy, K2CS
 Membership ChairmanDan Guyor, N2DD
 Calendar Chairman.....Don Vlack, K2DV
 Newsletter EditorAndrew Lesny, W2FG
 Banquet CoordinatorNikki Hungate
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Daniel R Guyor
305 Wood Road
Rochester, NY 14626

Regular Membership	\$20.00
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Any other correspondence to: Irv Goodman, AF2K

